



PM assures support for waste-to-fuel technology

Staff correspondent

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman on Saturday assured support for a technology that could turn waste into fuel oil and help reduce Bangladesh's dependence on imported energy. He gave the assurance as a team of researchers led by Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (KUET) Professor Dr Md

Khalequzzaman briefed him on the technology at his office in Tejgaon, said a release issued by the PM's Press Wing. The technology uses a process known as hydrothermal liquefaction (HTL) to convert human waste, waste from sewage treatment plants, kitchen waste and agricultural residues into fuel oil. The researchers said they have been working on the technology for around

10 years and have achieved a 50–55 per cent biocrude yield in laboratory tests. They have also made progress in producing biocrude with a high diesel content. The next step is to set up a pilot plant capable of processing one to three tonnes of waste daily to assess the technology's efficiency, production costs and commercial

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Realising dreams of shaheed Jihad nation's responsibility: PM

Staff correspondent

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman today said building a self-reliant, secure and welfare-oriented state to realise the dreams of Shaheed Nazir Uddin Jihad and countless other martyrs is the nation's responsibility to honour their sacrifices.

"Democracy's renewed journey has begun in Bangladesh stained with Jihad's blood," he said in a message marking the 36th anniversary of Jihad's martyrdom, stressing the need to establish a self-reliant, secure and welfare-oriented state to fulfil the aspirations of those who sacrificed their lives for democracy and people's rights. Recalling the role of courageous individuals in the country's democratic struggles, Tarique Rahman said that whenever authoritarian rule had deprived people of their rights, people like Jihad had risen in fierce protest and sacrificed their lives for the cause. The prime minister prayed for the eternal peace of Shaheed Jihad's soul and paid tribute to his contribution to the movement for democracy and people's rights. Nazir Uddin

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Language proficiency, technical skills key to Bangladesh's trillion-dollar economy: Bobby Hajjaj

Staff correspondent

State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Bobby Hajjaj today said Bangladesh's economic progress depended on developing skilled human resources through the combined advancement of language proficiency and technical knowledge. "Language is not merely a means of communication; it is a vital tool for acquiring skills, exchanging knowledge and promoting social and economic progress," he said. He made the remarks as the chief guest at the award-giving ceremony of the fourth International Language League competition at North South University

(NSU) in Dhaka. The state minister stressed that skills development must receive the highest priority to achieve Bangladesh's goal of becoming a trillion-dollar economy by 2034. Bobby said language skills not only enabled people to express their thoughts but also broadened their social standing and opportunities. The ability to communicate clearly and convey ideas effectively played a crucial role in education, professional life and career advancement, he added. He emphasised that language education should go beyond examination results and serve as a practical tool for communication and skills development. Referring

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DNA of Two Arrested Matches Evidence in Rangpur. Family-of-Four Murder Case

Mohinul Islam Sujon, Crime Reporter

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has issued a positive DNA test report on evidence recovered in connection with the brutal murder of four members of the same family in the Machhuapara neighbourhood of Rangpur city. The DNA found on food items and a cigarette filter recovered from the scene matches exactly with the DNA of the two arrested accused, Mugdha Das and Siddhartha Das. On Thursday (October 8) evening, the CID handed over the report to the Rangpur Metropolitan Detective Branch (DB) Police. According to sources

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Bangladesh, UAE Sign Deal, DP World to Manage Chattogram Port's New Mooring Container Terminal

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) has officially awarded the operational and management responsibilities of the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT)—one of the primary facilities at Bangladesh's main seaport—to Dubai-based global port operator DP World under a 15-year agreement. The signing ceremony took place on Thursday (October 8). Rear Admiral Moniruzzaman, Chairman of the Chattogram Port Authority, and Essa Kazim, Chairman of DP World, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations. The event was attended by Minister for Shipping Sheikh Robiul Alam, State Minister Rajib Ahsan, UAE Ambassador to Bangladesh Abdullah Ali Al Hamoudi, and



Executive Chairman of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) Ashik Chowdhury, among other high-ranked officials. According to an official press release, the agreement is solely operational and managerial. The land, physical infrastructure, ownership, and sovereign control of the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) will remain entirely with the Chattogram Port Authority. Existing security and administrative protocols by

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BSF firing leaves Bangladeshi farmer injured along Kushtia border

Staff correspondent

A Bangladeshi farmer was injured when the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) opened fire along Jamalpur border in Daulatpur upazila of Kushtia on Saturday morning. The injured farmer is Sajul Hossain, 30, son of Sabaj Hossain of Jamalpur village. The incident occurred around 9:30 a.m. near main border pillar 152/10-S along the Jamalpur border. According to locals, Sajul was cutting grass near the zero line when a patrol team from BSF's 146 Battalion opened fire, leaving him injured.

A regular BGB patrol from Jamalpur BOP swiftly took position and returned fire in self-defense and to safeguard local residents, said a press release from 47 BGB Battalion. Patrols and surveillance have been intensified, with high alert declared along the border. Kushtia Battalion (47 BGB) Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Rashed Kamal Roni said the injured farmer was rescued and sent to a hospital while BGB per

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RDA Chairman Threatened by Building Owner

Md. Sohel Rana, Rajshahi Correspondent

The Rajshahi Development Authority (RDA) faced resistance from a building owner while attempting to demolish an unauthorized rooftop swimming pool built without approval on a 10-story building in the Terokhadia area of Rajshahi city. During the drive, allegations surfaced against building owner Abdur Rashid for threatening the RDA Magistrate and warning that he would "take care of" and "finish off" RDA Chairman Abul Kalam Azad Sweet.

The operation was conducted around 12:00 PM on Tuesday at Al Raisha Tower in the city's Terokhadia area. According to RDA sources and officials concerned, the swimming pool was constructed on the roof in

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Iqbal in the Sky of Light

Journalist M Badal Khandakar

Dedicated to Mr. Niamul Hossain Iqbal

Acting Editor, Daily Bangla Sky.

You are the bright Sky in the Bengali sky, You have no fear in search of truth. You are like a blessing, named Niamul, Flowers of truth bloom in your editing.

Your soul is noble in the ideal of Hossain, Your brilliance is bright in Iqbali consciousness. Your pen is thunder, your voice is fearless, Daily Bangla Sky is right in your hands.

You are not acting, you are a brave load-bearer, The newspaper is stable under your leadership. Speak of truth, beauty and justice, Remove darkness and walk on the path of light.

You are the editor, you are the conscience of the nation, Future emotion will awaken in your hands. I wish you a long life, Bangla Sky will fly holding your hand.

Balanced development for all upazilas, regardless of party or region: Moyeen Khan

Staff correspondent

Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan today said the government wants to ensure balanced development by prioritising the interests of people in all upazilas, irrespective of political affiliation or region. Balanced development must be ensured across all 503 upazilas, without giving any upazila facilities denied to its neighbours, adding that the elected government must implement development programmes in the interests of people in all areas.

The minister made the remarks while addressing a discussion meeting titled "Formulating Strategies for Installing Solar Power in Urban and Rural Areas through Cooperative Societies" as the chief guest at the Multipurpose Hall of the Cooperative Bhaban in Agargaon. State Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Mir Shahe Alam was also present at the event.

Mentioning that government officials are not merely employees but are engaged in serving the country's people, Moyeen Khan said the

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Shama Obaid ordered to collect information about 'Family Card' program through 100% neutrality in Faridpur

Biplab Kumar Das, Staff Reporter

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaid Islam Rinku has ordered the collection of information on the 'Family Card' program through 100% transparency and neutrality without considering politics or party identity. He gave this order in his speech as the chief guest at the training workshop for data collectors and supervisors of the 'Family Card' program organized at Nagarkanda Upazila Auditorium in Faridpur on Saturday (October 10) afternoon. Upazila Social Services Department organizes this program. In the speech of the chief guest, Shama Obaid said, "Prime Minister Tariq Rahman's government has launched the family card before the ink stains of the fingers you cast in February have dried. This is a landmark step by the BNP government, through which the empowerment of women will be ensured from the grassroots level."

Mentioning that no such initiative has been seen before in the history of Bangladesh, he further said, "The government has taken this project thinking about the poor families, especially the women. This family card will play an important role in making the poor women financially independent." Addressing the data collectors and supervisors who participated in the workshop, the state minister said, "If you love your family, you will perform your duty with 100% transparency. It is not your concern who is a supporter of any political party. The success of this program must be ensured by performing duty impartially."

Under the chairmanship of Upazila Executive Officer (UNO) Rizwana Afrin and moderated by Upazila Social Service Officer Kazi Nimeri, former general secretary of Nagarkanda Upazila BNP Saifur Rahman Mukul, vice president Mahbub Ali Mia, organizing secretary Shaikat Ali Sharif, joint general secretary of District Jubo Dal Taibur Rahman Masud and Helal Uddin Helal among

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News Desk.

Of Chattogram district, Sitakunda upazila, Bhatary Union No. 9, on the west side of Saleh Carpet. Mbia Khatun, mother of late Jahangir Member, Chairman of Mbia Group, has passed away (Last 08/10/2026) Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaichi Rajiun. All relatives, well-wishers, friends, acquaintances are requested to pray for the forgiveness of her departed soul. The youngest son of the deceased is Masud Rana



(Director, The Daily Bangla Sky), Classmate and friend of Md. Neyamul Hossain, Acting Editor of "The Daily Bangla Sky" Newspaper. We, The Daily Bangla Sky family, are deeply shocked. We pray to Almighty Allah Rabbul Alamin to grant the deceased Jannatul Ferdous. Ameen.



Teenage Girl's Body Recovered from Paddy Field in Cumilla, Police Launch Probe

Jannatul Tazmin, 15, was found dead in Lalmai; abandoned CNG auto-rickshaw recovered from the scene as investigators seek to determine the cause of death

By M A Khayer Emon, Cumilla Correspondent

Police recovered the body of a 15-year-old schoolgirl from a paddy field beside the Cumilla-Noakhali regional highway in Lalmai upazila of Cumilla district on Thursday morning. An abandoned CNG-powered auto-rickshaw was also recovered from the scene, raising questions about the circumstances surrounding the teenager's death.

Now arrested CNG driver from Chattogram victim Elder brother home & remanded. After as per low. The deceased was identified as Jannatul Tazmin, daughter of Abdul Alim, a resident of Chhatian Tola village

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Dhaka needs a plan that’s implementable

Socioeconomic inequality, waterlogging and frequent flooding, poor traffic coordination, broken public transport, and pollution of natural elements define Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh. Amid all this, citizens struggle to secure basic necessities and essential services. Meanwhile, as experts pointed out at a recent discussion, undeterred population

What we face now in Dhaka can be traced back to poor or irresponsible planning over the past several decades. Only three and a half weeks ago, in regard to a writ petition submitted by a human rights and social development organisation, the High Court issued a ruling asking the chairman of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha and other relevant authorities why.

growth is putting pressure on housing and driving the expansion of informal settlements, while weak enforcement of urban plans has allowed unauthorised buildings to emerge even on designated water bodies.

What we face now in Dhaka can be traced back to poor or irresponsible planning over the past several decades. Only three and a half weeks ago, in regard to a writ petition submitted by a human rights and social development organisation, the High Court issued a ruling asking the chairman of Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha and other relevant authorities why the capital’s Detailed Area Plan (DAP) has not been properly implemented and why the authorities’ failure to do so should not be declared illegal. The plan for

Dhaka itself has undergone a number of revisions since it was formulated in 2010. But it remains merely on paper while the city continues to rank as one of the world’s least liveable cities. Dhaka’s rapid and unplanned urbanisation, alongside the lack of rural development, is to blame for this. Water bodies have been filled up with sand and concrete, and the city’s boundaries are pushed further while lack of adequate government support for traditionally rural professions fuels immigration. Even a small amount of rainfall causes its major roads to flood, directly impacting citizens’ mobility, productivity and overall quality of life. With the effects of climate change being felt more strongly each year, heatwaves and non-seasonal rainfall hit Dhaka’s concrete jungle hardest. Every government over the last two decades has presented plans for Dhaka, but none have been implemented.

PM assures support

viability.The estimated cost of the pilot project is Tk 100–120 crore.

According to the researchers, the technology, if developed for commercial-scale production, could replace around 10–15 percent of imported crude oil and save foreign currency equivalent to Tk 6,500–13,000 crore annually.

However, the estimates would need to be validated through large-scale technical and economic assessments, they said.The researchers said the technology could also help reduce environmental pollution, improve waste management and create opportunities for developing a domestic fuel industry.The Prime Minister assured them of the government’s necessary cooperation in advancing the initiative.Power and Energy Minister Iqbal Mahmood Tuku, State Minister Anindya Islam Amit, University Grants Commission member Professor Abdullah Al Mamun, KUET Vice-Chancellor Professor Mohammad Masud and Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation Chairman Dr Mohammad Rafiqul Islam were present at the briefing.

Realising dreams of shaheed

Jehad, a leader of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal from Ullapara upazila in Sirajganj, was shot dead in Dhaka on October 10, 1990, during a protest against the then autocratic regime of Hussain Muhammad Ershad. His death came amid the anti-autocracy movement that gained momentum in the late 1980s and culminated in the fall of Ershad’s regime in December 1990. Jehad’s sacrifice became a symbol of the struggle to restore democracy, multiparty politics and people’s rights.

Language proficiency, technical

to China’s experience, the state minister said enriching scientific and academic terminology in the national language and creating opportunities to acquire knowledge in that language were important for developing a country’s skills and capabilities.Bangladesh, he said, needed to expand scientific and technological learning in the mother tongue while strengthening proficiency in international languages.“Such efforts would enhance the country’s capacity for knowledge exchange, international communication and global trade,” he said.Bobby said developing skilled human resources was essential to realising Bangladesh’s ambition of becoming a trillion-dollar economy by 2034.He called for expanding opportunities to acquire technical knowledge, communication skills and proficiency in internationally important languages, including English and Chinese.The state minister also urged the country to build on young people’s achievements in language learning as a foundation for broader skills development. He called on universities to play a more active role in the process.The programme was chaired by NSU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Abdul Hannan Chowdhury.NSU Board of Trustees member Benajir Ahmed, the Cultural Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in Bangladesh, and teachers and students from various educational institutions were also present.

DNA of Two Arrested Matches

from the CID and DB Police, on the night of August 21, the bodies of retired schoolteacher Ganapati Chakraborty, his wife, son and daughter were recovered from their residence in Rangpur. At that time, the Rangpur CID crime scene team collected 35 types of evidence from the scene, including eaten date seeds, a half-bitten cucumber and a cigarette filter. Police arrested Siddhartha Das and Mugdha Das on allegations of direct involvement in the murders. In their confessional statements recorded before the court under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, they also admitted to being directly involved in the killings.

Subsequently, the case’s investigating officer, Officer-in-Charge of the Rangpur Metropolitan DB Police, Jinnat Ali, sent the recovered evidence and DNA samples collected from the two accused, who were in prison, to the CID laboratory in Dhaka for DNA testing. After examining the evidence, the DNA profiles obtained from the crime scene matched 100 per cent with the DNA profiles collected from the accused.

Regarding the matter, Sanatan Chakraborty, spokesperson for Rangpur Metropolitan Police and Deputy Commissioner of the DB Police, confirmed receipt of the CID report. He said the evidence and DNA test results had conclusively established that the accused were present at the house at the time of the incident and had consumed the food items and cigarettes. He added that, after reviewing the entire matter, swift final action would be taken in the case.

World Mental Health Day

Who listens when mental health struggles disrupt daily life?

Md. Neyamul Hossain

reason to consider support, rather than simply a performance problem.The Bangla language has words for sorrow, worry and despair. The difficulty is whether those words are taken seriously, especially when someone uses them. Between dismissing distress as ordinary “mon kharap” and turning

Bangladesh has changed its legal language. The Mental Health Act, 2018 repealed the colonial Lunacy Act, 1912; Section 6 addresses rights including health, dignity and education, which is significant. But a person from a remote rural area or from a lower-middle-class group cannot take a statutory promise to a consultation. They need to know where to go, what it will cost, and whether they can return for the next appointment. There is another revealing detail. Section 5 specifies.

“pagol” into an insult, how much room do we allow a person to explain what is happening inside them?

A sleepless night is not automatically a disorder. Nor should someone have to arrive with a clinical diagnosis before being met with patience. Sometimes the first useful response is to give a person room to explain. This is more than a matter of finding kinder words. WHO’s 2020 assessment of Bangladesh documented widespread stigma and reliance on traditional and spiritual healers, particularly in the rural areas. An invitation to seek professional help means little if that help remains difficult to reach.Findings released from the 2019 National Mental Health Survey showed that 92.3 percent of adults and 94.5 percent of children identified with mental disorders received no treatment. These are survey findings from 2019, not a new measurement of Bangladesh in 2026. When the health minister cited the survey in parliament in July, the passage of time was itself unsettling. How much longer can an old finding remain the basis of our description of an urgent

development plans at the grassroots level, the minister said ensuring that ordinary people benefit from all government activities must be the primary objective of public representatives and government officials. They must also play an effective role in implementing Prime Minister Tarique Rahman’s grassroots-focused development plans, he said. Highlighting the potential of solar power, the LGRD Minister said the use of renewable energy must be expanded as conventional energy sources are becoming limited. Proper use of solar energy would benefit people, reduce costs and help improve their living standards, he said. He urged the concerned officials to work responsibly to implement the government’s plans and targets so that the benefits of solar power reach people across the country.On strengthening institutional capacity in the rural development and cooperatives sectors, Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan said the administrative structures, areas of responsibility and facilities of the relevant institutions would be considered for further improvement. Proposals raised by officials, including the proposal to upgrade the Rural Development Board to a directorate, would be reviewed seriously, he said.

Regarding cooperative societies, he said increasing the number of registered societies alone was not enough; they must be made effective and oriented towards public welfare. Noting that around 250,000 cooperative societies are currently registered in the country, he stressed the need to ensure their actual effectiveness.He urged the concerned officials to inspect the activities of cooperative societies in their respective areas and encourage them to work for people’s welfare.The minister also said the registration process for cooperative societies must be simplified so that ordinary rural people can easily form and operate them. Collective initiatives through cooperatives can help advance the rural economy and public welfare activities, he said.Speaking as a special guest, State Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Mir Shahe Alam expressed hope that solar power generation would soon turn into a social movement.He said a decision had already been taken to install solar panels on the rooftops of educational institutions under the Ministry of Education and institutions, markets and bazaars under the Ministry of Local Government. Installing solar panels through societies under the Rural Development and Cooperatives Division would also help address the country’s temporary electricity shortage, he said. He instructed cooperative and rural development officials to encourage rural people to generate solar power and provide them with the necessary support. The state minister also said Tk 390 crore had already been released to local government institutions for installing solar panels and procuring related services.Rural Development and Cooperatives Division Secretary Dr Rafiqul I Mohamed chaired the programme, which was attended by officials and employees of the ministry and its departments.

Shama Obaid ordered to collect

others were present in the workshop.

Teenage Girl’s Body Recovered

under Churamonkati Union in Jashore Sadar upazila. Tazmin had grown up in Cumilla because of her father’s employment and was known to have studied at Farida Bidyayatan, a local educational institution.

Her body was discovered in a paddy field in the Jagatpur (Manughura) area of Perul North.

BB outlines short-, mid-, long-term plans to reduce NPLs

Staff correspondent

The Bangladesh Bank has undertaken short, medium and long-term measures to reduce non-performing loans (NPLs) alongside strengthening credit discipline and improving governance in the country’s banking sector.

The central bank has taken a number of measures to accelerate recovery of classified loans, strengthen banks’ credit risk management and establish a more disciplined lending culture, according to a report presented at the fourth meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Finance.The committee, at its fourth meeting recently held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with its chairman Mushfiqur Rahman, MP, in the chair, stressed ensuring transparency, accountability and economic stability in the country’s financial

need?

Bangladesh has changed its legal language. The Mental Health Act, 2018 repealed the colonial Lunacy Act, 1912; Section 6 addresses rights including health, dignity and education, which is significant. But a person from a remote rural area or from a lower-middle-class group cannot take a statutory promise to a consultation. They need to know where to go, what it will cost, and whether they can return for the next appointment. There is another revealing detail.

Section 5 specifies the membership of district mental health review and monitoring committees: officials and a nominated psychiatrist or psychologist. It reserves no seat specifically for a person with lived experience, not assuring representation by the listed membership. Whose knowledge, then, are we building into oversight?A person who has navigated treatment can tell us what a service looks like from the receiving end: whether an explanation made sense, privacy felt secure, and a follow-up plan could fit around work and travel. These are questions worth putting beside clinical expertise when services are designed and reviewed.

Participation should come with influence, such as opportunities to help design services, paid roles where appropriate, and a way to see what changed

because of people’s contributions without undermining privacy.WHO’s campaign also calls for a planned shift from long-stay psychiatric institutions towards community-based care, with funding, services and support following people into their communities. For Bangladesh, the test should be whether care can become part of ordinary life: accessible, connected, and shaped by the people who use it.My friend needed that ordinary life to make room for him. He needed support while his ability to work was diminished. His years of contribution make the dismissal painful to recount, but they should not be the qualification for deserving care. Someone with no record of exceptional performance deserves consideration too. This year, as we observe World Mental Health Day, we should linger after the story has been told. After the panel ends, after the awareness post is shared, when a person still needs an appointment, an adjustment, a livelihood. A voice can fill a room for a moment. Making room for the person who owns it takes longer.

institutions, particularly banks.As part of its short-term plan covering one year, Bangladesh Bank will hold quarterly discussions with the senior management of banks where the classified loan ratio exceeds 10 percent. The discussions will identify obstacles to loan recovery and require the concerned banks to prepare action plans to address those problems.The central bank will also review the recovery progress of the top 20 defaulted or classified borrowers at every bankers’ meeting.It plans to formulate guidelines on NPL resolution strategy for banks with high classified-loan ratios and update the Credit Risk Management Guideline.The central bank also plans to implement loan classification and provisioning based on Expected Credit Loss (ECL) in line with IFRS 9. The measure aims to improve governance in banks’ loan management and mitigate credit risks.he legal aspects of publishing lists of defaulted and willful defaulters are also under review.When sought comments, World Bank Division Director for Bangladesh and Bhutan Jean Pesme said the discussion aims to encourage the progressive exit of forbearance. “We think that more needs to be done on the NPL to accelerate the NPL resolution mechanism by creating more incentives for the banks and the debtors to find out solution.”Under the medium-term plan ranging between two to three years, Bangladesh Bank will formulate a policy to provide special allowances to officials who work to recover classified loans and encourage them to intensify recovery efforts.It will also review and update the existing policy for identifying and providing incentives to good borrowers - those who regularly repay their loans - with the aim of developing a sound credit culture in the country.Under its long-term strategy ranging four to five years to contain the rising volume of defaulted loans, Bangladesh Bank plans to strengthen the overall credit management framework of banks and ensure greater discipline in loan sanctioning, monitoring, recovery and classification.

The long-term measures focus on addressing the structural weaknesses that contribute to the accumulation of non-performing loans rather than relying only on recovery drives after loans become classified.The need for such long-term reforms has become more urgent as defaulted loans reached Tk 5,81,237.56 crore, or 31.41 percent of total loans, as of June 30, 2026, up from Tk 5,64,105.64 crore, or 30.92 percent, on March 31, 2026. The amount increased by Tk 17,131.92 crore, while the ratio rose by 0.49 percentage point during the three-month period.In essence, the long-term strategy seeks to shift the banking sector from reactive recovery of already-defaulted loans toward preventive credit risk management, stronger governance, effective recovery mechanisms and greater accountability in lending.The presentation also outlined progress in amending and modernising laws considered necessary for strengthening banking governance and recovering defaulted loans.The draft Bank Companies (Amendment) Act, 2026 seeks to strengthen governance in the banking sector. A revised draft was sent to the Financial Institutions Division on August 24, 2026, following decisions taken at an inter-ministerial/stakeholder meeting on April 22 and instructions issued by the division on April 26.The latest inter-ministerial/stakeholder meeting was held on September 20, 2026.The authorities are also working to enact the Artha Rin Adalat (Amendment) Act, 2026, to improve loan recovery and related activities in the banking sector.An inter-ministerial meeting was held at the Law and Justice Division of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs on January 7, 2026, to discuss the modernisation of the law.Earlier, the Financial Institutions Division formed a committee headed by an additional secretary on January 19, 2026 to review the law. The committee prepared a draft proposal and sent it to the Law and Justice Division on January 26, 2026 for necessary action. A separate committee headed by an additional secretary of the Financial Institutions Division is currently working on preparation of the draft of the amended law.The authorities are also working on the Distressed Asset Management Act (DAMA), 2026 to improve the recovery of defaulted loans in the banking sector.In addition, the proposed Insolvency and Bankruptcy Act, 2026 seeks to modernise the existing Insolvency Act, 1997, align the insolvency regime with international best practices, strengthen the overall bankruptcy framework and support financial institutions in managing credit risks.With assistance from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the World Bank Group, the English draft of the new insolvency law has been finalised in a modern format. The authorities have requested IFC’s assistance in translating the draft into Bangla. After finalisation of the Bangla version, it will be sent to the Financial Institutions Division for further action.



Bangladesh seeks continued preferential market access to India after LDC graduation

Staff correspondent

The request was made on the opening day of the 16th meeting of the Bangladesh-India Joint Working Group on Trade in New Delhi, the commerce ministry said in a statement on Friday. Bangladesh also strongly pressed for the

removal of land port restrictions and non-tariff barriers affecting its exports to India. It also urged India to consider withdrawing anti-dumping duties imposed on Bangladeshi jute products and PET film, according to the commerce ministry statement. The two-day meeting, which began on October 8, is

discussing barriers to bilateral trade, the capacity of land ports and measures to make regional freight transport more efficient. Both Bangladesh and India put forward proposals to ease existing import and export restrictions and improve connectivity. Discussions also covered

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Rizvi stresses youth questioning, innovation for national progress

Staff correspondent

BNP Acting Secretary General and Prime Minister's Adviser Advocate Ruhul Kabir Rizvi today emphasized that encouraging youth to ask questions is fundamental to building an innovative society and driving national development. He made the remarks while speaking as the chief guest at "Idea Fest-2025," organized by the Ziaur Rahman Foundation, at the Muzaffar Ahmed Chowdhury Auditorium in the Social Science Faculty building of Dhaka University. Rizvi said the practice of questioning serves as the bedrock of knowledge, science, and philosophy. He stated that cultivating inquisitive minds among students and youth helps identify societal crises and yields valuable ideas for formulating effective state policies. Urging youth not to limit themselves solely to

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No shortage of food supply will happen during Ramadan: Minister

Staff correspondent

Food Minister Afroza Khanam, MP, said she is optimistic there will be no supply shortage during Ramadan, as food stocks are adequate. She stressed, however, that advance preparations are needed to account for higher demand, transportation costs, and volatility in the international market. Afroza Khanam made the remarks on Saturday (October 10) while briefing journalists after inspecting the Chattogram jetty and silo. She later visited the CSD warehouse in Dewanhat and inaugurated the conference room at the Halishahar CSD. The Minister said effective measures are needed to assess likely demand for food products, review the progress of imports and domestic procurement, and quickly resolve supply-chain obstacles. "Price pressures could arise from several factors, including the fuel oil crisis in the international market. The government is working to keep the market supply normal while taking the public's purchasing power

and interests into account," he added. Afroza Khanam stressed the need to resolve existing complexities in import operations and to ensure food arrives in the country on time, which requires better coordination among the relevant departments. She also called for realistic steps to address manpower shortages and administrative limitations within the Food Department. Noting that the country's stocks are adequate relative to demand, the Minister said food security also depends on proper storage, efficient management, and timely distribution. Officials must work in a coordinated way to keep supplies normal, prevent wastage, and make the best use of government resources during the coming Ramadan, she added. The food Minister added that plans must be realistic, based on the demands of different regions, warehouse-level stock, and supply capacity. Coordination at every stage, from procurement and storage to distribution, would help cut delays, transportation costs, and food

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Strict Security Measures Around Durga Puja: Special Directives Issued by Chattogram Range DIG

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

Oct 10, Chattogram Range Police held a special coordination meeting today to ensure a peaceful, safe, and joyous atmosphere during the upcoming Sharadiya Durga Puja 2026. The virtual meeting, aimed at reviewing overall security arrangements and the law and order situation across the region, was held at the conference room of the Chattogram Range Deputy Inspector General (DIG) office

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No Alternative to Sports in Eradicating Drugs and Social Decay, CMP Commissioner

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

Sports play an indispensable role in steering the youth away from social degradation, drug abuse, and criminal activities, helping shape them into good citizens. Such Under-18 tournaments will nurture the emerging cricketers of the future national team, remarked Chattogram Metropolitan Police (CMP) Commissioner Hasan Md. Shawkat Ali. He made these remarks as the chief guest on Thursday (October 8) morning while officially inaugurating the "Rafi Smriti Metropolitan Junior

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Lock of RMU Vice-Chancellor's Office Broken in Presence of Magistrate

Md. Sohel Rana, Rajshahi Correspondent

The lock on the Vice-Chancellor's office at Rajshahi Medical University (RMU) has been cut open. The lock was removed around 12:15 PM on Thursday (October 8) in the presence of Executive Magistrate Md. Arif Hossain. Subsequently, the investigating officer of the case collected necessary evidence from the room. Earlier, leaders and activists of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) brought the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jawadul Haq, from his residence in Upashahar to the university's temporary campus. Present at the time were Rajshahi City BNP Vice President Zainal Abedin

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Two Fugitive Convicts Sentenced to Seven Years Jailed in SRB-9 Raid in Sylhet

Naeem Ahmed, (Sylhet)

Two fugitive convicts sentenced to seven years in prison in separate drug cases have been arrested in a special operation conducted by Special Response Battalion (SRB)-9 in Sylhet. The arrests were made on Thursday night (October 8) during separate raids in two



locations under Shah Paran (R.) Police Station in Sylhet. According to SRB-9, a joint operational team from CPC-3, Sunamganj, and the Sadar Company conducted the first raid based on confidential information at the Al-Islah Trimukhi Point area under Shah Paran (R.) Police Station. At around 10:00 pm, the team arrested Md. Ziaur Rahman (36), a fugitive convict sentenced to seven years in a drug case filed with Zakiganj Police Station. He is the son of Abdul Mannan of Paschim Masimpur village in Dowarabazar Upazila of Sunamganj. In a separate

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One Arrested in Rajshahi Over Attempted Rape of a Child

Md. Sohel Rana, Rajshahi Correspondent

The Rajpara Thana Police of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP) have arrested a 50-year-old man named Md. Abul Kalam on charges of attempting to rape a 10-year-old child in the Basuabpara area of Rajpara Police Station in Rajshahi city. It is learned that the incident took place on October 8 at around 8:15 PM. According to police sources, tension flared up among the locals as news of the incident spread. Local residents then informed the Rajpara Police Station. Upon receiving the news, the police quickly reached the scene, rescued

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Government Plans to Construct 1,000 New Playgrounds Across the Country, Disaster Management and Relief Minister Asadul Habib Dulu

Mohinul Islam Sujon, Crime Reporter.

The government has adopted a plan to construct 1,000 new playgrounds across the country with the aim of revitalizing the country's sports sector, keeping young people away from drug addiction, and establishing sports as a profession. Disaster Management and Relief Minister Asadul Habib Dulu disclosed this information while briefing journalists after inspecting Lalmonirhat Stadium on Saturday (October 10) at noon. The minister said that Prime Minister Tarique Rahman had already issued several directives to overcome the long-standing stagnation in Bangladesh's sports sector. As part of these initiatives, steps have been taken to develop all playgrounds from villages to cities. He said that due to the lack of playgrounds for a long time, a section of young people and youths had become addicted to drugs. He believes that they can be brought back to sports by constructing new playgrounds to



keep them away from drugs.

The Relief Minister said that the Prime Minister's Gold Cup Football Tournament would be resumed at the initiative of the Prime Minister. There are also plans to continue organizing the tournament regularly. He expressed hope that this would increase young people's participation in sports and boost their enthusiasm and excitement on the playgrounds.

He further said that a decision was being taken to construct stadiums in those upazilas where stadiums had not yet been built. Regarding establishing sports as a profession, the minister said

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Crime Control Success: Chandina OC Nuruzzaman Named Cumilla's Best Officer-in-Charge

232 Arrested in September; 23 Drug Cases Filed, 70 Alleged Teen Gang Members Detained and Released on Bond



M A Khayer Emon, Cumilla Correspondent

Chandina Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Md. Nuruzzaman has been selected as the Best Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Cumilla District in recognition of his outstanding performance in maintaining law and order, combating drugs, arresting wanted and convicted criminals, preventing teen gang activities and curbing various forms of crime. He received the recognition on October 7, 2026, during the monthly law-and-order and crime review meeting for September 2026 held at the Cumilla Police Lines. His performance was evaluated on the basis of crime-control activities and overall policing during the month. The recognition comes amid intensified police operations in Chandina, where author-

ities have focused particularly on drug-related offences, wanted criminals, teen gangs, theft, robbery and other criminal activities.

35 Cases Filed in September According to statistics provided by Chandina Police Station, a total of 35 cases were filed in the station during September 2026.

Of these, 23 were drug-related cases, while the remaining cases included one arms case, one case involving preparation for robbery, one murder case, one child rape case, one road accident-related case, one case filed for assaulting police personnel and six other cases.

The figures indicate that drug-related offences accounted for a significant portion of the cases registered at the police station during the month.

232 Arrested in September Police statistics show that a total of 232 people were arrested or detained in connection with different cases and enforcement operations during September.

Among them, 14 people were arrested in GR cases, while six were arrested as convicted persons. In CR cases, 34 people were arrested in general cases and another six were arrested as convicted persons.

Police also arrested 29 people in drug cases, 12 in regular cases and another 12 people as suspects during investigations into regular cases. In addition, nine people were arrested under Section 34 of the Police Act, while 40 people were

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If fascism returns to Bangladesh again, the opposition party will have to take the responsibility

Shama Obaid

Biplab Kumar Das, Staff Reporter

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shama Obaid commented that if the opposition party does not play the role of the opposition party and the fascist forces rise again, then the Gupta Jamaat will have to take the responsibility for the return of fascism in Bangladesh.

He made this comment while addressing the chief guest at a protest march and rally organized by BNP at Nagarkanda in Faridpur on Friday evening against the creation of terrorism, anarchy and instability across the country.

Shama Obaid said, I have seen torture for 17 years, I have seen assault cases, I have seen disappearances. As the students have defeated the dictatorship and the country is moving towards stability, fascist forces are trying to rise again.

He also said that Awami League has committed the most cor-



ruption in the power sector. He commented that no work was done in this sector even during the Yunus government. Pointing out that the present government is trying to normalize this sector smoothly, Shama Obaid said that the government is emphasizing on power generation by using its own resources.

Calling on the party leaders and workers to be careful, Shama Obaid said that everyone should be careful so that dictatorial forces do not enter the party and do any harm. He said, BNP also stands against those who want to hide and insult the freedom fighters. The protest march organized by BNP took out from the Nagarkanda Sadar petrol pump and circled the main thoroughfare of the city. Later the program ended with a short rally at the Nagarkanda MN Academy ground.

Husband sentenced to life imprisonment for torturing and later killing wife for dowry demand in Faridpur

Biplab Kumar Das, Staff Reporter

Md Faridpur for the crime of brutally torturing his wife for the demand of dowry and then brutally killing her by forcing her to eat poisonous tobacco substance 'Gul'. The court sentenced a person named Zillur Molya to rigorous imprisonment for life. In addition to the prison sentence, the accused was fined 50,000 taka; Another year of imprisonment without labor was ordered in default. After seven and a half years of the incident, the trial of the case was completed.

Judge (District and Sessions Judge) Shamima Parveen of Faridpur Women and Child Abuse Prevention Tribunal announced this verdict on Thursday (October 8) afternoon. An arrest warrant has been issued against the accused Zillur Molya as he was not present in the court when the verdict was announced.

According to the details of the court and the case, the victim woman was married to Zillur Molya, son of Achat Md. Molya of Chardanga village of Alfadanga upazila of Faridpur. Since the marriage, Zillur had been physically and mentally abusing his wife for dowry. This often

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In Kalapara, late night poisoning of fish enclosures, loss of Tk 5 lakh is reported

Kalapara (Patuakhali) Correspondent

In Kalapara of Patuakhali, there has been an allegation of poisoning a fish enclosure and causing damage of around 5 lakh rupees. The incident took place in the enclosure of four acres of land adjacent to the embankment in Lemupara village of Baliatali union of the upazila.

According to the fish farmers, miscreants entered the enclosure sometime between 10:00 pm on Friday night to Saturday morning and applied poison. It kills various species of fish including roe, catla, glass carp, mrigel, shrimp, coral and boal. Besides, they have also complained of taking fish worth around Tk 2 lakh.

On Saturday, it can be seen on the surface, dead fish are floating in the surrounding water. Every now and then more fish are seen floating dead. The fish farmers have faced extreme losses.

Some locals said that like every year, Manju Sikder and Sajeev Talukder are farming fish in that area. They claim that after getting the news of the incident, they went to the fence and saw the fish floating dead. Later collected some fish.

Sajeev Talukder, a fish farmer of the enclosure, complained that while guarding the enclosure on Friday night, he suddenly heard the sound of something splashing in the water. He claims that he saw Baku Talukder, Musfiq Talukder, Jahangir Hossain, Forkan Majhi and Anwar Gazi surrounded by lights and applying medicine. Later the local called two others and tried to stop them. But they were forced to retreat as they had indigenous weapons in their hands. In the morning, he was shocked to see the dead fish floating in the enclosure. He demanded exemplary punishment for those involved in the incident.

Another fish farmer Manju Sikder said, they have been farming fish in that area for more than 20 years. They have a dispute with Baku Talukdar over land. He alleged that due to that dispute, fishes were killed by using poison in the enclosure. He claimed that even before this, Baku Talukdar had poisoned their compound and was threatening them at various times. He said that they have suffered a loss of around 5 lakh rupees in this incident.

Several attempts were made to contact Baku Talukdar on his mobile phone regarding the complaint but the phone was switched off. As a result, his statement was not available

Bangladesh seeks

social media, he encouraged them to engage in constructive discussions and debates on societal affairs among peers, drawing parallels to similar calls made by global leaders.Highlighting the humanitarian and social welfare activities of the Ziaur Rahman Foundation, Rizvi praised the foundation's resilience in continuing its activities. He recalled how the organization continued its initiatives-such as organizing virtual science exhibitions and managing public health efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic and dengue outbreaks-even under severe restrictions and challenging political environments in the past. Ziaur Rahman Foundation Executive Director Dr Farhad Halim Donar, Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr ABM Obaidul Islam, Central University Vice-Chancellor Prof Lutfor Rahman, along with prominent academicians and distinguished guests were also present.

Rizvi stresses youth

the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers to improve access to the Indian market, as well as other trade remedy measures. Another key issue was the continuation of tariff preferences for Bangladeshi exports after LDC graduation. In this regard, Bangladesh has sought consideration of retaining the benefits currently available under the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) agreement.It has also stressed the need to harmonise product standards, facilitate mutual recognition and simplify procedures for obtaining the required certification from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).xpanding freight transport opportunities was another priority for Bangladesh. The agenda included greater access for Bangladeshi freight trucks traveling to Nepal and Bhutan through Indian territory.The meeting has highlighted the need to improve infrastructure at India's land customs stations to facilitate uninterrupted trade through land ports.Bangladesh has proposed improving access routes, parking yards, warehouses and sheds, as well as cargo inspection and quarantine facilities. Increasing the capacity of border land ports and accelerating cargo clearance have also received attention.

India's agenda included removing restrictions on exports of cotton yarn and other products to Bangladesh through certain land ports. It also covered the removal of barriers to exports from India's northeastern states to Bangladesh.Discussions have also addressed ways to improve the effectiveness of trade routes, including the Akhaura-Agartala link, enhance Bangladesh-India rail connectivity and resolve issues concerning border haats.

A 10-member Bangladesh delegation, led by Additional Secretary to the Ministry of Commerce, Ayesha Akhter, participated in the meeting, added the statement.

No shortage of food

wastage, he added.Khanam said she conducted an on-site review of the existing infrastructure's functionality, the progress of project implementation, and the limitations of the storage system. Necessary action will be taken with the relevant departments and ministries to resolve the issues identified, she added.he said warehouses must be regularly maintained, stored food must be quality-checked, and essential equipment must be kept operational.

The Minister expressed hope that coordinated efforts would increase food storage capacity, reduce waste, and overcome existing supply-chain limitations. Director General of Food, officials of the Food Department, and senior officials of the district administration were present during the inspection.

Strict Security Measures

on Saturday.?Chattogram Range DIG Md. Abdul Kuddus Chowdhury, PPM, presided over the session. ?Speaking at the meeting, DIG Abdul Kuddus Chowdhury pledged that police administration would maintain maximum vigilance to enable the Hindu community to celebrate their largest religious festival without disruption.

?"Police will remain on high alert so that the Sharadiya Durga

Puja can be celebrated in an entirely uninterrupted and festive environment," the DIG stated.

?He instructed police officials to step up security at all puja mandaps, bolster intelligence surveillance, and maintain close coordination with local puja celebration committees.

?Superintendents of Police (SPs), Additional SPs (Administration & Finance, Crime, and DSB) from all districts under the Chattogram Range, along with the presidents and general secretaries of district-level Puja Udjapan Parishads, attended the virtual meeting.

?Expressing satisfaction with the comprehensive security blueprint outlined by the police, leaders of the Puja Udjapan Parishad assured full cooperation and pledged to remain vigilant against rumors or propaganda.

?Senior officials of the Chattogram Range office were physically present at the conference room to evaluate field-level security operations and mandap-specific safety plans.

Two Fugitive Convicts

operation the same night, at approximately 11:20 pm, the team raided a residential house in the Uttar Baluchar Notun Bazar area under Shah Paran (R.) Police Station. During the raid, another fugitive convict, Syed Rahim Ali, was arrested. He had also been sentenced to seven years in prison in a drug case filed with Zakiganj Police Station. He is the son of the late Md. Samir Ali of Lohajgram area in Jagannathpur Upazila of Sunamganj.

SRB-9 stated that both arrested individuals have been handed over to the respective police station for further legal proceedings.

The battalion also stated that its intelligence activities and operations will continue to maintain law and order and prevent criminal activities.

Government Plans to Construct

that emphasis must be placed on developing talented players to fulfill the expectations expressed by the Prime Minister. If proper attention is given to sports, players in the country will have opportunities to develop their talents at the national and international levels.

At the time, Lalmonirhat Superintendent of Police Md. Asaduzzaman, District Council Administrator A K M Mominul Haque, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Md. Russell Mia, Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mononita Das, District Sports Officer Md. Kamruzzaman, along with students, guardians, and leaders of political parties, were present.

No Alternative to Sports

(U-18) Cricket League 2026" at the Dampara Police Lines ground. The tournament is jointly organized by the Chattogram Metropolitan Sports Association and the CMP. Osman Gani Mansur, Editor and Publisher of The Daily People's View, addressed the event as a special guest, paying tribute to the memory of the late Rafi.

Speaking as the chief guest, CMP Commissioner Shawkat Ali added, "Sports not only boost physical fitness but also foster leadership, discipline, and a sense of mutual harmony among the youth. Chattogram has no shortage of talented cricketers, and these grassroots competitions serve as a vital platform for them." He urged all concerned to sustain such sports initiatives.

The inaugural function took on a lively festive atmosphere in the presence of top CMP police officials and distinguished sports personalities. Among others present were CMP Additional Police Commissioner (Traffic) Hossain Mohammad Kabir Bhuiyan, Additional Police Commissioner (Crime & Operations) Muhammad Faisal Ahmed, Deputy Police Commissioner (Headquarters) Md. Ferdous Ali Chowdhury (promoted to Additional DIG), and Deputy Police Commissioner (DB-South) Sheikh Shariful Islam (promoted to Additional DIG).

Additionally, Chattogram Press Club President Zahidul Karim Kochi and Chattogram Metropolitan Sports Association General Secretary Freedom Fighter Shahabuddin Ahammad Chowdhury, along with local prominent sports organizers, coaches, junior players, and their guardians, attended and enjoyed the opening ceremony.

Following the formal inauguration, the guests exchanged greetings with the young players and wished them success. Various junior cricket clubs and academies from Chattogram metropolis are participating in this tournament.

Lock of RMU Vice-Chancellor'

Shibly, City Jubo Dal Convener Md. Shariful Islam Joni, Volunteer Dal General Secretary Asaduzzaman Joni, former Chhatra Dal President Akbar Ali Jacky, General Secretary Emdadul Haq Limon, Senior Vice President Md. Abir, alongside other leaders and activists.

Executive Magistrate Md. Arif Hossain stated, "An outsider had locked the room. The lock was broken, and the room was handed over to the investigating officer. The law and order situation at the site is currently normal."

Jubo Dal Convener Shariful Islam Joni mentioned that, following central directives from the BNP and instructions from Rajshahi City BNP President Mamunur Rashid and General Secretary Mahfuzur Rahman Ritun, they respectfully escorted the Vice-Chancellor from his house to the university. He added, "The BNP and its associate organizations do not tolerate any form of extortion, grabbing, or terrorist activities. If any party leader or activist is found involved in that untoward incident, organizational action will be taken against them." Last Tuesday (October 6), allegations surfaced that Vice-Chancellor Professor Jawadul Haq was forcibly coerced into signing a document at the temporary RMU office. According to the VC, he was not allowed to read the document and was forced to sign out of fear of assault. He was subsequently driven out of the office.

A case was filed against 50 to 60 unidentified individuals regarding the incident. Police have arrested three people so far, with the latest arrestees identified as Md. Ali Akbar Hossain and Md. Delowar Hossain.

Police stated that several others involved have been identified by analyzing video footage and photographs of the incident. University Section Officer Md. Najmul Hossain mentioned that Land Minister Md. Mijanur Rahman Minu would escort the Vice-Chancellor to his office on Thursday evening, after which the VC is scheduled to address the media. Meanwhile, leaders from Jamaat-e-Islami, Chhatra Dal, Jubo Dal, and Ulema Dal visited the area starting in the morning to maintain a normal atmosphere on campus.

One Arrested in Rajshahi

the child, and detained the accused, Abul Kalam, taking him into custody.

The arrested Abul Kalam is the son of the late Rafiqul Islam of Basuabpara village.

It has been reported that a case has been filed against him regarding the attempted rape charge. Legal proceedings concerning the allegation are currently ongoing.

Crime Control Success

arrested through mobile courts during the month. At the same time, police conducted special drives against teen gangs in different areas of Chandina and detained 70 people, subsequently taking written undertakings from them.

Strong Focus on Anti-Drug Operations Anti-drug operations have remained one of the major priorities of Chandina Police.

Of the 35 cases filed in September, 23 were related to drugs. Police said the operations were conducted against suspected drug dealers and users as part of their continued efforts to prevent the spread of narcotics in the area.

Alongside filing drug cases, police also carried out operations to arrest accused and warrant-listed persons involved in different criminal activities.

The authorities said such operations would continue as part of

a broader strategy to maintain law and order and prevent criminal activities in Chandina.

Crackdown on Teen Gangs Police have also stepped up measures to prevent the activities of teen gangs in Chandina.

During September, 70 people were detained in anti-teen-gang operations and released after taking written undertakings, according to police sources.

Police said the operations are not limited to arrests or detention. Authorities are also working to raise awareness among parents and guardians so that teenagers can be kept away from criminal activities.

Police warned that individuals involved in teen gang activities, drug abuse and trafficking, mugging, eve-teasing and other criminal acts would face legal action.

‘Ensuring Public Safety Is Our Main Responsibility’ OC Md. Nuruzzaman said maintaining normal law and order and ensuring the safety of people and their property remain the primary responsibilities of the police.

“We are working day and night to maintain a peaceful law-and-order situation in Chandina. Ensuring the safety of people and their property is our main responsibility,” he said.

He said Chandina police have remained highly vigilant to prevent incidents of theft and robbery in the area.

“Regular patrols, law-enforcement drives and intelligence activities are continuing to prevent crime,” the OC said.

He further said police operations against drugs, teen gangs, theft, robbery and other crimes would continue.

“People’s cooperation is extremely important to further improve the law-and-order situation. We urge local residents to work with the police and provide information about criminal activities,” he added.

Local Residents Congratulate the OC

Following his selection as the Best Officer-in-Charge of Cumilla District, people from different walks of life in Chandina have congratulated OC Md. Nuruzzaman.

They expressed hope that the recognition would encourage Chandina Police to intensify their efforts against crime and make policing more effective in the area.

Local residents said the continued focus on drug control, prevention of teen gang activities, arrest of wanted criminals and prevention of theft and robbery could contribute to a safer environment for residents.

The recognition of OC Nuruzzaman has also been viewed as an acknowledgement of the collective efforts of Chandina Police in maintaining law and order and responding to criminal activities in the upazila.

With continued police operations and greater cooperation from local communities, residents expect the law-and-order situation in Chandina to improve further in the coming days.

Husband sentenced to life

caused a fierce conflict between the couple.

Later, on March 19, 2019, at around 3 pm, the relatives got information that the woman had committed suicide by eating 'gul' at her husband's house at around 1 pm. On hearing the news, the relatives went to the accused's house in Alfadanga and found the victim's body on the courtyard.

When a case of death and murder was filed at Alfadanga police station, the police investigated and got sensational information. The then Sub-Inspector (SI) of Alfadanga police station Nazimuddin took over the investigation of the case. A thorough police investigation and postmortem report revealed that the incident was not a suicide; Rather, he was systematically killed by force-feeding poisonous substances.

The autopsy report clearly states that the woman died of acute nicotine poisoning. The presence of tobacco 'gul' is found in the victim's respiratory tract and digestive tract. According to the final opinion of the doctor,He died tragically of severe respiratory complications due to poisoning and was an apparent homicide.

After the investigation, SI Nazimuddin filed the final charge sheet in the court accusing the accused Zillur Molya as a single accused. During the lengthy trial, the prosecution was able to prove beyond doubt the charges brought against the accused by presenting necessary witnesses and medical evidence.

Expressing satisfaction over the verdict, the public counsel (PP) advocate Golam Rabbani Bhuiyan Ratan said, "This judgment of the judge in the case of torturing and brutally killing housewives due to dowry is an exemplary step. This strict stand of the judiciary will send a very clear and positive message to the dowry lovers and torturers in the society."

Govt to create 20,000 agricultural entrepreneurs nationwide

Staff correspondent

The government has taken an initiative to create 20,000 agricultural entrepreneurs across the country to ensure processing and export of agricultural products. Of them, 60 percent will be women and 40 percent men. The initiative has been taken to ensure food security and employment by harnessing the potential of the agriculture sector.The initiative to create 20,000 agricultural entrepreneurs in 208 upazilas of 64 districts across the country has been taken under the Programme on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship and Resilience in Bangladesh (PARTNER) Project of the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM) under the Ministry of Agriculture.Officials of the Agriculture

Ministry said that under the project, initiatives have been taken to create entrepreneurs in various subsectors, including agriculture, agricultural product processing, seeds, nurseries, mushrooms, vermicompost, jute products and dairy products. An initiative has also been taken to form value-chain-based organisations for five important agricultural products under the project, they added.Entrepreneurs must be aged between 18 and 35 years.Through the project, entrepreneurs will receive on-the-job training and incubation support to promote employment creation and ensure the processing and export of five agricultural products. Value Chain Promotional Bodies will be formed for five agricultural products-potatoes, mangoes, jackfruit, tomatoes and aromatic rice. Officials concerned with the project said the policy for the Value Chain Promotional Bodies has already been approved by the ministry.The trained entrepreneurs will receive matching grant support. Under the matching grant, food-processing equipment will be provided at the household level. The project will provide a 70 percent subsidy for purchasing the equipment, while the entrepreneurs will bear the remaining

30 percent themselves.Agency Programme Director of PART-NER-DAM of the Department of Agricultural Marketing Dr Muhammad Abdullah Al-Farooq told BSS that work is underway to create entrepreneurs in various agriculture-based sectors, including mushrooms, nurseries, vermicompost, jute products and dairy products. So far, 6,875 people have received training, while the target is to train around 7,000 entrepreneurs this year, he said, adding that the programme is being implemented in 208 Upazilas of 64 districts across the country.

"The training is aimed not only at creating entrepreneurs but also at developing their business skills, management knowledge and linkages with markets," the official said.Incubation support is being provided to the trained entrepreneurs after completion of their training, Dr Farooq said, adding, institutions providing incubation support are working to identify and remove the barriers faced by the entrepreneurs in operating their businesses.Under the DAM, 767 such schools have already been established in different agriculture-dominated areas, he said. In this regard, the director said, "Market Actors Business Schools are being established focusing on the products that are produced more in a particular area. In the case of potatoes, 227 schools have been established. Another 335 schools are planned to be established this year."He further said farmers, traders, entrepreneurs, cold-storage owners, people involved in transportation and other market stakeholders are being brought under a common framework through these schools.As a result, it will be easier to identify the problems and potential of the entire market system of a particular agricultural product, Dr Farooq said. Describing entrepreneurs as the drivers of the country's future economic progress, PART-NER Project Coordinator Abul Kalam Azad told BSS that entrepreneurs not only become self-reliant themselves but also create opportunities for 10 other people in society to become self-reliant."To secure a respectable position in the global economy, Bangladeshi entrepreneurs should work with various new ideas and ensure their proper implementation," he said.The project coordinator said the creation of agricultural entrepreneurs through the project would help transform agriculture into a modern and dignified profession. "The trained entrepreneurs will enrich Bangladesh's economy through their vitality, enthusiasm for work and energy," he said.Tamima Akter Nancy of Gazipur has acquired theoretical knowledge and practical skills after receiving 12 days of training from the Department of Agricultural Marketing. Nancy, a resident of Sarkarpara village in Pirujali Union under Gazipur Sadar, felt the urge to do something on her own alongside her studies.Within a short time, she started processing agricultural products. After receiving positive feedback, Nancy began producing jam, jelly, pickles, jackfruit chips and fish chips and selling them on a small scale in the local market. Initially, Nancy faced some problems in properly producing, selecting and preserving the products, but her enthusiasm increased further after receiving training.With the assistance of the Gazipur Agricultural Marketing Officer, Nancy obtained all necessary licences, including a trade licence and health certificate. Four people are currently working at her establishment, 'Nancy Agro and Food'.Nancy is not alone; the government has taken the initiative to create entrepreneurs across the country to engage energetic and young people in income-generating activities.Analysts associated with the agriculture sector believe that agriculture is a promising sector for the country. However, the sector has lagged behind due to a lack of practical and comprehensive planning, inadequate modernisation and failure to create new entrepreneurs, they said.The agriculture sector can play a significant role not only in ensuring food security and creating employment but also in increasing the country's exports, the analysts said. Therefore, the incumbent government has taken the initiative to create agricultural entrepreneurs.

Quality education for the students must be ensured: Minu

Staff correspondent

Land Minister Mizanur Rahman Minu, MP, said that the students of Rajshahi Government Girls' High School have already established themselves at the national and international level. Quality education and a bright future for the present and future students must be ensured, he said. He added saying today's students are the future of the nation and will lead the country in the coming days.He said this while speaking as the chief guest at the inauguration ceremony of the newly constructed six-storey academic building of Rajshahi Government Girls' High School, built at a cost of Tk 9.36 crore, this noon.He made it clear regarding the teacher recruitment process that no influence or recommendation will be accepted in the recruitment process and teachers must be appointed only on the basis of merit and qualification. Land Minister Minu has given instructions for the infrastructural development of the school and protection of its overall environment.He said that the unused pond of the institution must be filled up quickly and brought under the specific boundary wall. He also warned that encroachment of the school's property or any kind of illegal activity will not be tolerated. He also advised planting various fruit trees including mango, blackberry and tamarind.



ESTD-2006

কর্মজীবী মানুষের সুবিধার্থে

জালালাবাদ চক্ষু হাসপাতালে



এখন প্রতি

শুক্রবার

বিকালে রোগী দেখবেন

চক্ষু বিশেষজ্ঞ ও সার্জন

ডা. আহম্মাদুল বারী

এম.বি.বি.এস, এম.এস (অপথালমোলোজী)
এমপিএইচ (ক্লিনিক্যাল অপথালমোলোজী)
পিএইচডি (অপথালমোলোজী)
সিনিয়র কন্সাল্ট্যান্ট ও সার্জন,
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সন্ধ্যা ৬টা থেকে রাত ৯টা



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ওয়াপদা গেট,
অক্সিজেন, চট্টগ্রাম

Humanitarian Eye Doctor

Free treatment is provided to helpless and extremely poor eye patients. Jalalabad Eye Hospital, Chattogram.

Voter list dispute fuels youth protests against Modi government



International Desk

Indian authorities detained thousands of protesters and imposed sweeping security restrictions across New Delhi on Saturday as the youth-led “Cockroach” movement intensified its campaign against a controversial voter list revision, fuelling criticism of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s government and election authorities.

Police intercepted demonstrators heading to Jantar Mantar, detaining activists, opposition lawmakers and movement leaders before the rally began. Barricades, checkpoints, tear gas-equipped vehicles and mobile internet restrictions were deployed across the capital. Police said permission was denied because organisers applied late. Movement leaders Abhijeet Dipke, Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka were

detained after arriving from Mumbai. Opposition lawmaker John Brittas was also detained, while journalists faced restrictions. The movement condemned the arrests as an attempt to suppress peaceful protests. Modi’s Bharatiya Janata Party spokesperson Sambit Patra dismissed the demonstration as a failure. The protests oppose the Election Commission’s Special Intensive Revision, which has removed more than 130 million names from voter lists. Opposition parties allege eligible voters, particularly their supporters, have been disproportionately affected. The commission and government deny manipulating voter lists, saying the exercise removes duplicate and ineligible entries. The movement gained prominence through protests over alleged examination paper leaks, prompting Modi’s education minister to resign in July. The latest unrest challenges Modi midway through his third term, ahead of state elections next year in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. National elections are scheduled for 2029.



CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke hands over protest leadership to Ajinkya Shinde after detention

International Desk

Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke has handed over the responsibility of leading the party’s protest movement to organisation in-charge Ajinkya Shinde following his detention by Delhi Police along with two other senior members. In a pre-recorded video posted on the party’s X account on Saturday, Dipke said Shinde would lead the protest until the detained leaders were released. “If you are watching this video, it means that I, Saurav Das and Ashutosh Ranka have been arrested. In our absence, Ajinkya will lead the protest and the CJP movement. Please follow him,” Dipke said. The video was posted shortly after Dipke was detained from a flight arriving in the Indian capital from Mumbai, where he and other CJP members had travelled to lead a protest against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. In a separate video statement, Shinde urged supporters to continue heading towards Jantar Mantar, the designated protest area, and stage demonstrations wherever police stopped them. “The government is scared of our unity. Please come to Jantar Mantar. If police stops you, turn that very spot into Jantar Mantar,” he said. Shinde, a Maharashtra-based activist, has been a close associate of Dipke for years. He

previously worked as a social media coordinator for the Aam Aadmi Party’s (AAP) Maharashtra team after leaving his corporate job to work full-time for the party. He reportedly first met Dipke in Goa in 2016 and later spent a year working for AAP during the Goa Assembly elections. Although the party failed to win any seat in the state, Shinde continued working with its Maharashtra team and reportedly travelled across every district in the state. He hails from Alibaug, a coastal town in Maharashtra. Several CJP leaders and protesters have been detained since Saturday morning ahead of the planned demonstration. Delhi Police had denied permission for the protest, saying the organisers had not sought approval sufficiently in advance. YouTuber Dhruv Rathee, a vocal critic of the Narendra Modi government, was also detained from his home in Gurugram on Saturday morning. Rathee had returned to India from Germany earlier this week and joined the CJP protest in Bengaluru on October 8. Tensions escalated around Jantar Mantar as police detained demonstrators attempting to reach the protest site. The detainees were bundled into police buses and taken to Chhatrasal Stadium in the capital. Police also arrested at least 400 protesters in an overnight crackdown across different parts of Delhi.

Gaza ceasefire stalls a year after US-brokered deal as Israeli strikes continue

International Desk

A year after a ceasefire agreement brokered by US President Donald Trump and Arab allies raised hopes of ending the war in Gaza, progress has stalled, with Israel continuing deadly strikes on the devastated Palestinian territory. The agreement halted major military operations, secured the release of all remaining hostages and improved humanitarian access.



However, key commitments, including establishing a new Palestinian administration backed by international forces, disarming Hamas and ending Israeli control over large parts of Gaza, remain unfulfilled. Reconstruction has barely begun. Israel has linked further progress to Hamas’ complete disarmament, while the Palestinian group and the Trump administration have argued that disarmament and other steps should proceed simultaneously. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hardened his position over the summer, openly rejecting an agreement announced by Trump, Israel’s most important ally, ahead of Israeli elections scheduled for later this month. The deadlock has left Gaza’s two million Palestinians facing an uncertain future. Most are living in overcrowded, rodent-infested tent camps, among the ruins of their former neighbourhoods or inside damaged buildings at risk of collapse. Early progress raised hopes for peace. The 20-point ceasefire agreement followed months of negotiations under the administrations of former US President Joe Biden and Trump. It halted major military operations and led to the return of all remaining hostages captured during Hamas’ October 7, 2023, attack

that triggered the war. Hamas-led militants killed around 1,200 people and abducted 251 others in the attack. Israel responded with extensive airstrikes and a ground offensive that has killed more than 74,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza’s Health Ministry. The ministry, which operates under the Hamas-run government, maintains detailed records and is generally considered reliable by UN agencies and independent experts. Its death toll does not distinguish between civilians and combatants, but the ministry says women and children account for about half of those killed. After the ceasefire was announced, Trump called for a new era of peace in the Middle East. “We have a once-in-a-lifetime chance to put the old feuds and bitter hatreds behind us,” he said at a summit marking the agreement. Key commitments remain unfulfilled. The agreement called for Hamas to transfer power to a committee of Palestinian administrators vetted by the Board of Peace, a new body chaired by Trump and tasked with implementing the ceasefire. Hamas formally dissolved its government in July but retained the civil service. The group remains the dominant force in the roughly 40% of Gaza not controlled by Israeli troops. Meanwhile, Israel has prevented the new Palestinian administration from entering Gaza through Egypt. Plans for an International Stabilization Force were announced in February, but the force has yet to be established. Indonesia, which pledged the largest contingent of 8,000 troops, suspended its plans last spring as international attention shifted to the war involving Iran. Israel was also expected to withdraw from Gaza under the agreement. Instead, it has taken control of additional territory, pushing the so-called Yellow Line of Control westward towards the Mediterranean Sea.

US imposes new sanctions on International Criminal Court

International Desk

The Trump administration has imposed sweeping sanctions on the International Criminal Court (ICC), escalating its campaign to dismantle the tribunal over investigations involving the United States and its allies, including Israel. Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced the measures on Friday, following the Nobel Peace Prize award to South African jurist Navi Pillay, a former judge at the ICC and other international courts. US President Donald Trump has long sought the prize. The sanctions cut the court off from US financial services, technology firms and dollar transactions, giving American companies and individuals six months to end their business dealings with the tribunal. Rubio called the ICC illegitimate and warned that Washington would continue efforts to dismantle it unless Americans were no longer threatened. The court condemned the measures as an attack on the rule of law and international legal order. Its President Tomoko Akane vowed to continue working independently and impartially, urging member states to defend the institution. Amnesty International also denounced the sanctions, urging countries to take concrete steps to protect the court. The Netherlands has discussed activating the European Union’s blocking statute to shield European court staff and businesses from the US measures.



Mamata, Kejriwal, Vijayan detained during protest in Delhi

International Desk

Former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and former Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan were among opposition leaders detained by Delhi Police on Saturday as they tried to join a protest near Jantar Mantar in the Indian capital. Trinamool Congress chief Banerjee was detained along with five of her party MPs, including Derek O’Brien and Dola Sen, from South Avenue in central Delhi after police stopped them from proceeding. Banerjee staged a sit-in at a bus stop with a bandage taped over her mouth before being taken away in a police bus. “The government is misbehaving with us,” she said in a video statement from inside the bus. “We the INDIA alliance will continue to fight to strengthen people’s voice,” she added. Kejriwal, whose residence had been surrounded by police since morning, was also detained when he tried to leave his home to join the protest. In a video message after his detention, the Aam Aadmi Party leader said the country’s youth would not be intimidated by the crackdown. “Youth of India will not be scared. We will fight against vote chori. Everyone should

come out and protest,” he said. Vijayan and Communist Party of India (Marxist) MP John Brittas were among those taken to the detention centre at Chhatrasal Stadium. Several other opposition figures and student leaders were also detained while attempting to reach the protest site. Banerjee arrived in Delhi on Friday to join the opposition’s demonstration against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. She was part of an INDIA bloc delegation that met President Droupadi Murmu on Friday evening, demanding Kumar’s removal. During the meeting, opposition leaders raised allegations of “vote chori” (vote theft), seeking Kumar’s resignation and the repeal of all Assembly elections held over the past two years. Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi later said he was “shocked” that the President had not denied the allegations of election theft. However, sources subsequently said claims suggesting that Murmu had accepted the opposition’s allegations were incorrect. Gandhi said opposition leaders would meet Chief Justice Surya Kant at the Supreme Court on Monday and submit a memorandum as part of their efforts to pursue all available options. The INDIA alliance has also announced a major protest on Monday over alleged irregularities by the Election Commission.

Trump reaches deal with Putin for Russian diesel, reversing US policy ahead of midterm elections

International Desk

US President Donald Trump has announced an agreement with Russian President Vladimir Putin to secure diesel supplies from Russia, marking a major shift in Washington’s long-standing policy of pressuring Moscow over its war against Ukraine. The move comes as the administration faces rising fuel prices ahead of the US midterm elections. Trump announced the agreement on social media Friday following a phone conversation with Putin, which was reportedly expected to focus on a suspected plague case in Russia. Instead, Trump said Russia would immediately provide more than 300,000 tonnes of diesel, followed by another 500,000 tonnes in November and 1 million tonnes shortly afterward. An additional 3 million tonnes would be delivered within a relatively short period, he added. The announcement appears to contradict a comprehensive Russia sanctions law Trump signed last month, which seeks to restrict Moscow’s oil and gas revenues that help finance its war against Ukraine. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy criticized the decision, describing it as a “weak decision by strong partners,” according to a statement issued by the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington. Trump revealed the deal while his special envoy, Steve Witkoff, and son-in-law, Jared Kushner, were meeting Ukrainian officials in Miami to discuss a possible plan to end the Russia-Ukraine war. Zelenskyy questioned the purpose of the discussions, suggesting that Ukraine’s negotiating team was being used as a distraction. He said such treatment was unfair and inconsistent with the conduct expected between partners.



The agreement has also raised questions about whether the White House will introduce further sanctions against Russia. Legislation passed by Congress with overwhelming support directs the administration to target countries that purchase Russian oil and natural gas. US lawmakers had recently urged the administration to use its available powers to support Ukraine. Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer, Senator Jeanne Shaheen, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Senator Elizabeth Warren, the leading Democrat on the Senate Banking Committee, condemned the agreement. They described it as a betrayal of Ukraine, European allies and US national security. The senators called on Trump to end the war involving Iran rather than provide financial support to Russia’s war effort. Global fuel prices have climbed as the conflict in Iran disrupts energy markets. Although diesel futures fell following Trump’s announcement on Friday, the average US retail price remained elevated at \$6.28 per gallon, according to AAA. The price had reached a record \$6.52 on September 22. Trump did not directly address Russia’s sanctions or its war against Ukraine. Instead, he said lowering costs for Americans, particularly farmers, ranchers and truck drivers, remained his highest priority. Later, as he departed the White House for a campaign rally, Trump expressed gratitude to Putin for the arrangement, saying substantial quantities of diesel were expected to enter the United States. He did not respond to questions about Zelenskyy’s criticism. Washington and Moscow provide limited details. The White House did not immediately clarify who would pay for the Russian diesel or when the supplies would become available.

According to a Kremlin statement issued Friday, Putin said the two leaders devoted considerable attention to prospects for resolving the Ukraine conflict. They also discussed the situation surrounding Iran and several aspects of bilateral relations. Putin confirmed Russia’s willingness to supply oil and petroleum products to the US and international markets, expressing confidence that the arrangement would benefit the global economy. However, Russian presidential aide Yuri Ushakov declined to say whether Washington had offered concessions or made other commitments in exchange for the fuel supplies. Agreement sparks criticism from US and Ukrainian officials. In a lengthy online statement, Zelenskyy warned that Russia would respond to the agreement with further aggression and deception. He argued that the deal could strengthen Moscow’s ability to continue its military campaign. According to the Ukrainian president, the arrangement would benefit Russia by allowing it to prolong the war, inflict further casualties and damage, and show less regard for the United States. Democratic Senator Richard Blumenthal, a co-sponsor of the Russia sanctions legislation, said the decision made the United States complicit in Putin’s war against Ukraine. Referring to the bipartisan legislation named after Republican Senator Lindsey Graham, a Trump ally known for his tough stance on Russia, Blumenthal called the agreement an embarrassment to the country and contrary to Congress’s intentions. Representative Don Beyer, the senior Democrat on the House Joint Economic Committee, also condemned Trump’s announcement, saying the decision reinforced concerns about the president’s reliability on Russia-related issues.

The sanctions law signed last month provides for penalties against Russian officials, banks and a network of tankers used to transport Russian oil. It also prohibits new US investment in Russia and restricts dealings involving Russian sovereign debt. Additionally, the legislation authorizes tariffs of up to 100% on the five largest importers of Russian oil or natural gas, with an exception for countries that import less than 15% of Russia’s natural gas exports and have made significant efforts to reduce those purchases. The United States stopped importing Russian oil and gas in 2022 after the Biden administration imposed a ban following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, according to the US Energy Information Administration. Treasury grants six-month relief from diesel sanctions. Shortly after Trump announced the agreement, the US Treasury Department issued a temporary licence permitting Russian diesel to be supplied to the global market. The authorization is the latest US measure concerning Russian fuel shipments since the Iran war began earlier this year. However, it marks the first extension of diesel-related sanctions relief beyond the usual 30-day period since Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Under the licence, US sanctions will not apply until April 2027 to Russian diesel shipments loaded onto tankers by Friday. The decision highlights how disruptions caused by the Iran conflict have created additional opportunities for Moscow to earn revenue from its energy exports. Experts question the impact on fuel prices. Energy specialists remain uncertain whether the arrangement will significantly reduce fuel prices. Clayton Seigle, an energy strategist and expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the agreement was unlikely to have a substantial effect on prices. Nevertheless, he



Chhayanaut’s Autumn 2026 programme celebrates

Entertainment Desk

Songs, dance and recitations featuring works by Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam marked Chhayanaut's Autumn 2026 cultural programme at St Joseph Higher Secondary School in the capital on Friday, bringing together students from four educational institutions and artistes of the cultural organisation. The programme, titled "Jog De Re Aj Soman Tane", was jointly organised by Chhayanaut and St Joseph Higher Secondary School on the school premises in Mohammadpur. Students from St Joseph Higher Secondary School, St Joseph International School and College, Excel Academy and Nalanda High School took part alongside Chhayanaut performers. The programme opened with a collective song and dance presentation of Rabindranath Tagore's "Shorote Aaj Kon Oitithi", with students from all participating institutions singing and Chhayanaut artistes performing the dance. The Nalanda High School segment featured a collective song and dance presentation of Tagore's "Alor Omol Komolkhani", followed by a group recitation of his "Shorot (Aji Ki Tomar Modhur Muroti)". Mehereen Fatema performed "Tomira Ja Bolo Tai Bolo", while Sudarshana Alokandanda Kundu sang "Bhorer Jhiler Jole", a composition by Kazi Nazrul Islam. The segment also included a group recitation of Sunimal Basu's "Sobar Ami Chhatra". Excel Academy presented a collective song and dance performance of Tagore's "Dekho Dekho, Dekho, Shuktara Ankhi Meli Chay", with students singing and Chhayanaut artistes dancing. Arunabha Dey performed "Tomar Mohan Rupe", while Epshita Sikdar sang "Shorot, Tomar Arun Alor Anjali", both by Tagore.

Students of St Joseph International School and College presented a group rendition of Tagore's "Kon Khepa Srabon Chhute Elo". Parthib Saha performed "Shiuli Phul, Shiuli Phul, Kemon Bhul", while Izmir Mustafiz recited Tagore's "Shorot (Esechhe Shorot, Himer Porosh)". Angkita Sarker, accompanied by Chhayanaut, sang "Omali Dhole Pale Legechhe". The segment also featured a group recitation of Nazrul's 'Kon Sharate Purnima-Chand'. Representing the host institution, St Joseph Higher Secondary School, students presented a collective rendition of Tagore's "Aaj Prothom Phuler Pabo Prasadkhani". Sarthok Saha sang Nazrul's "Esho Sharad Prater Pathik", followed by Badhan Kundu's performance of Tagore's "Hridoye Chhile Jege". Dibbomoy Desh presented Atul Prasad Sen's "Meghera Dol Bendhe Jay". Chhayanaut's segment featured a collective song and dance presentation of Tagore's "Ogo Shephaliboner Moner Kamona". Prema Dewanjee performed his "He Khoniker Oitithi", while Shatadru Sarker sang "Amar Nayan Bhulano Ele". The programme concluded with a collective song and dance presentation of Tagore's "Aaj Dhaner Khete", featuring singers from all participating institutions and dancers from Chhayanaut. The national anthem was also included in the programme. The event was part of Chhayanaut's continuing effort to take seasonal cultural celebrations to educational institutions and encourage younger generations to engage with the country's musical and literary heritage. The second day of this year's Autumn celebration is scheduled to take place at St Gregory's High School and College on Saturday, with participation from St Gregory's, Nalanda High School and Chhayanaut. The programme is scheduled to begin at 7:30am and will remain open to all.



Kusum returns with new original song

Entertainment Desk

Acting, producing and writing – Kusum Sikder has distinguished herself in various roles. However, her new song is yet again a reminder that she has a different journey as a vocalist. After a long seven years, the National Film Award-winning actress has returned with an original song titled 'Probal Ghor.' Kusum wrote the song herself. Kusum recently received praise for singing Nazrul Sangeet titled 'Hera Hota Hele Dule' and Rabindra Sangeet titled 'Kon Kanoner Phul.' This time, she is appearing with her own original song, 'Probal Ghor,' which has been composed and arranged by Mahmud Sunny. The recording of the song was completed during the Corona period in 2020. After all this time, an initiative was taken to release it by making a music video for the song. It was shot under the banner of Pahardanga Pictures in various picturesque locations of Cox's Bazar. Shah Rasel was the model along with Kusum Sikder. The video was produced by Nakul Sarkar. Kusum's comeback to singing after a long break is bringing her multi-dimensional artistry to the fore. She

released her last original song titled 'Nesha' in 2017. As such, she is once again appearing in front of the audience with her own songs after nine years. Regarding 'Probal Ghor,' Kusum Sikder told this correspondent, "Even now, when I go somewhere, some people talk about the song 'Nesha.' Many people encourage me to make new songs by referring to that song. I thought since I had a song recorded, I would release that one. Due to the Corona situation, I did not move forward with it at that time." Regarding release of the song in October, Kusum mentioned that her first full-length film 'Shoroter Joba,' directed by her, was released on October 11, 2024, on the occasion of Durga Puja. She also played the role of 'Joba' in it. Apart from that, she became 'Lux-Anandadhara Photogenic Champion' in October 2002. The music video for 'Probal Ghor' has been released on Friday. It can be seen on Kusum's Facebook page, Instagram account, and YouTube channel. Kusum's first film, Khalid Mahmood Mithu's 'Gohine Shobdo,' was released in 2010. Her second film, Swapan Ahmed's 'Lal Tip,' was released in 2012. Kusum won the National Film Award in the Best Actress category for the film 'Shankhachil' directed by Goutam Ghosh.



‘Be your own cheerleader’

Entertainment Desk

Bollywood actor Katrina Kaif recently spoke about the importance of protecting one's self-worth from the constant stream of opinions on social media, emphasising that confidence comes from accepting yourself rather than trying to please everyone. Following her appearance at an event, the actor reflected on how allowing criticism to dictate personal choices can hold people back from moving forward in life. During an event in the UK to celebrate her cosmetic brand's first anniversary, Katrina said it was important not to let online narratives influence how people perceive their own value, especially in a world where everyone seems to have an opinion.

Linkin Park documentary ‘Unshatter’ explores band’s emotional comeback

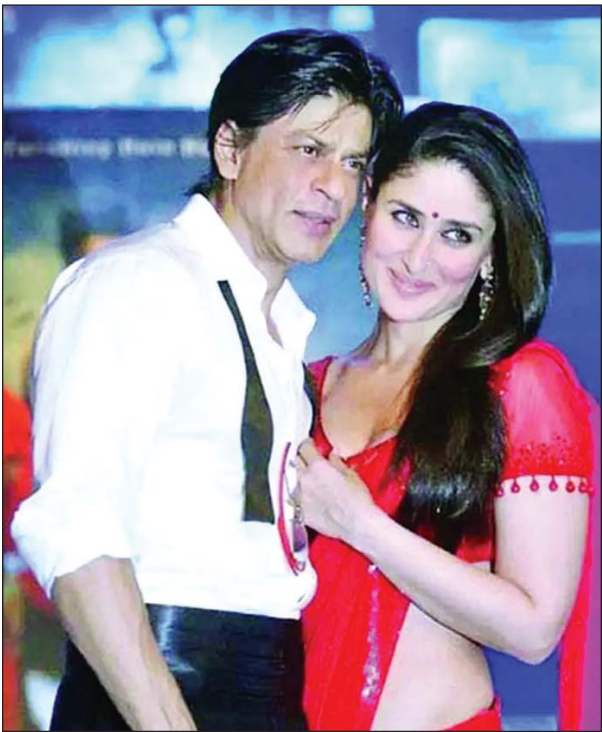
Entertainment Desk

Members of Linkin Park spent years uncertain about the band's future following the death of lead singer Chester Bennington. A new documentary, "Linkin Park: Unshatter," offers fans an inside look at their grief, doubts and creative challenges as they considered returning to music, featuring early recording sessions, personal conversations and experiments that eventually led to Emily Armstrong joining the group. Formed in Agoura Hills, California, in 1996, Linkin Park became one of the most influential rock bands of the 2000s by blending alternative metal, hip-hop and electronic music. The band achieved worldwide success with its diamond-certified debut album, "Hybrid Theory," released in 2000, followed by "Metemora." Both albums featured the distinctive combination of Mike Shinoda's rapping and Bennington's powerful vocals. Bennington died by suicide in 2017 after the release of the band's album "One More Light," leaving the group facing an uncertain future. Linkin Park returned in 2024 with Armstrong as co-lead vocalist, releasing the album "From Zero" and beginning a new series of world tours. In an interview with Armstrong and DJ and creative director Joe Hahn, Shinoda said he did not want to decide in advance what a possible reunion would look like or whether the group would continue under the Linkin Park name. "Emotional stuff aside, which was



very heavy," Shinoda said, he wanted to remain open to different possibilities, including having a female singer, working with multiple vocalists or even forming a different project. Shinoda met Armstrong, lead singer and co-founder of the band Dead Sara, in 2019. He said he immediately felt she should meet the other members. "I was like, 'Oh, I got it. She has to meet the band. Like I have to introduce them because she's cool. I love how she sings,'" he said, describing his initial reaction. Armstrong said watching the documentary's footage reminded her of the uncertainty she experienced during her first encounters with the

band. The film, which is now showing in theatres, was co-directed by Hahn and Mark Ritchie. She said she appeared more confident on camera than she actually felt while adjusting to a new band, different singing styles and feedback from other members. Armstrong acknowledged that the comeback involved creative risks, as the band could not be certain how fans would respond, but said they believed in the music they were making. Hahn said returning to music together also helped the members begin to heal, as they supported and encouraged one another throughout the process.



Entertainment Desk

Shah Rukh Khan and Kareena Kapoor Khan last acted together in the 2011 film 'Ra.One'. At that time, their chemistry was appreciated in songs like 'Chhamak Challo' and 'Criminal'. It has been 15 years since then. Finally, after a long break, they are appearing on screen together again. Kareena will be seen in a special song in Shah Rukh's new film 'King'. It is learnt that the song, composed by Sachin-Jigar, is likely to be titled 'Daddy Cool'. Shah Rukh-Kareena will be shooting for the song for five days in South Africa at the end of this month. According to a report by Pinkvilla, the song is being made on a very large scale. In it, along with Indian artistes, an international music star will also lend his voice. Shahrukh and Kareena will be seen in completely different looks in the song. The makers are expecting that this is going to be one of

Shah Rukh-Kareena together after 15yrs

the best songs of the year and a big surprise for the movie 'King'. Earlier, Kareena had starred alongside Shah Rukh Khan in films like 'Ashoka', 'Kavi Khushi Kavi Gham' and 'Ra.One', and also made guest appearances in films like 'Don' and 'Billu'. As a result, fans are happy to hear that the pair is back together after a long time. 'King' is being made on a grand scale under the direction of Siddharth Anand. Although this film with a budget of Rs 350 crore is primarily Shah Rukh-centric, one of its main attractions is Shah Rukh's daughter Suhana Khan. Suhana is making her big screen debut with this project. Apart from Deepika Padukone, the film also stars Abhishek Bachchan as the villain. It also stars Anil Kapoor, Jackie Shroff, Rani Mukherji, Arshad Warsi, Joydeep Ahlawat, Raghav Juwal and Abhay Varma. The film is scheduled to release worldwide on December 24, on the occasion of the Christmas.



What kind of person does Mimi want as life partner?

Entertainment Desk

The excitement of new movie releases is in full swing in Tollywood on the occasion of upcoming Durga Puja. To double that excitement, director Srijit Mukherjee's new film 'Emperor vs Sarat Chandra' is coming to theatres this Puja. Actress Mimi Chakraborty will be seen opposite actor Abir Chatterjee for the first time in this film. In addition to promoting the film vigorously, the star recently spoke openly about her career and various personal issues in an interview given to Indian media outlet Anandabazar. When asked what kind of future life partner she would like, Mimi said that her husband must be a good-hearted person. Mimi said, "He should be a very good friend to me, a joy-loving person. And just as I love to travel, he should also love to travel. But the most important thing is that he should love my pets very much."



Mobile Court Conducts Drive to Protect Mother Hilsa in Sitakunda. Two Wholesalers Fined Tk 10,000/-

Crime Reporter, Chattogram

The Upazila administration and the Upazila Fisheries Office conducted a raid on fish wholesale depots in Sitakunda, Chattogram, to ensure the protection and safe breeding of mother Hilsa during the species' peak breed-



ing season. During the operation, two wholesalers were fined a total of Tk 10,000 for stocking Hilsa fish. The drive was carried out on Thursday (October 8, 2026) across various fish wholesale depots in Sitakunda Upazila. As part of the "Mother Hilsa Conservation Drive-2026," the mobile court inspected the depots to monitor the stocking and preservation of Hilsa. Legal action was taken against two wholesalers found stocking Hilsa fish.



Dengue Awareness Campaign Held in Chagallniya Municipality to Prevent Aedes Mosquitoes

A.N.M. Nurul Amin Chagallniya Correspondent

An awareness campaign aimed at preventing Aedes mosquito bites and raising consciousness about mosquito prevention was conducted in various market areas of Chagallniya Municipality. The initiative was organized to educate local residents and shopkeepers about the dangers of Dengue fever and the importance of maintaining cleanliness in their surroundings to curb mosquito breeding. The awareness drive was attended by key local leaders, including Feni District Jamaat Working Council Member Professor Abu Yusuf, Feni District Agriculture and Cultural Secretary Mujibur Rahman Mujib, and Municipal Ameer Mufti Abdul Hannan, alongside other local municipal leaders. During the event, leaders and activists conducted public outreach across key points in local markets, distributing informational leaflets and urging citizens to eliminate stagnant water and use mosquito coils and nets for protection. Speaking at the campaign, the leaders emphasized community involvement and collective responsibility to combat the spread of Dengue, assuring continued efforts for public welfare in the municipal area.



Chhagalnaiya Police Hold Security, Harmony Meeting Ahead of Durga Puja

Jahangir Alam, Staff Reporter

Chhagalnaiya police hosted a coordination and view-exchange meeting on the police station premises to ensure a peaceful, secure, and festive atmosphere during the upcoming Sharadiya Durga Puja. Presidents, general secretaries of the five major puja mandaps in the upazila, and senior leaders of the Upazila Puja Udjapan Parishad attended the meeting. Discussions focused on maintaining law and order, reinforcing communal harmony, and ensuring absolute security throughout the festival. To prevent any untoward incidents and guarantee full protection for devotees, several key directives were issued during the session: CCTV Surveillance: Mandatory 24/7 operational CCTV cameras must be installed at all puja mandaps to maintain strict monitoring. Volunteer Deployment: Mandap authorities must deploy their own trained volunteer teams alongside law enforcement personnel to manage security and crowd control. Security of Devotees and Idols: Round-the-clock vigilance will be maintained around the mandaps and idols, alongside systematic arrangements to manage the smooth flow of visiting devotees. Leaders of the Puja Udjapan Parishad and the Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Chhagalnaiya Police Station assured each other of full cooperation. The meeting concluded on a positive note, with both sides expressing commitment to maintaining religious harmony and non-communal values for a seamless festival.

Subsequently, they were fined a total of Tk 10,000 under the Protection and Conservation of Fish Act, 1950. The mobile court was presided over by Md. Fazle Rabbi, Assistant Commissioner (Land) of Sitakunda Upazila. Md. Motasim Billah, the Sitakunda Upazila Fisheries Officer, conducted the prosecution during the operation. Officials stated that protecting mother Hilsa during the peak breeding season is crucial. If mother Hilsa can spawn undisturbed during this period, Hilsa production will increase, enriching the country's fisheries resources. Therefore, the administration has intensified surveillance across rivers, wholesale depots, and relevant markets to enforce the ban effectively. The Upazila administration and Fisheries Office announced that legal action would be taken against anyone violating government directives and bans regarding the catching, transporting, selling, or stocking of Hilsa. Such raids and mobile court operations will continue to ensure the safe breeding of mother Hilsa. During the drive, officials from the concerned department urged fish traders and wholesalers to comply with the government ban and requested them to cooperate with the administration in conserving mother hilsa.

BGB Seizes Large Quantity of Tapentadol Tablets and Narcotics in Rajshahi Border Operation

Md. Sohel Rana, Rajshahi Correspondent

In line with the directions of the Director General of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and following a "Zero Tolerance" policy against drugs, members of the Rajshahi Battalion (1 BGB) are conducting special anti-narcotics drives in the border areas. As part of these ongoing efforts, on October 9, 2026, at approximately 23:30 hours, an elite operational team of BGB received intelligence that a consignment of narcotics was about to be smuggled into Bangladesh. Based on this information, a smart operational team from the Talaimari BOP under Rajshahi Battalion (1 BGB) laid an ambush along the banks of the Padma River at the Jahaj Ghat area under Motihar Police Station in Rajshahi district to prevent the entry of the drug shipment. After waiting in ambush for a long time, the operational team spotted two individuals crossing the international border into Bangladesh territory. When the team immediately gave chase to apprehend them, the smugglers dropped the sacks they were carrying and managed to flee. However, the BGB team was able to identify the fleeing



Meeting on Cyber Security at Moulghar School in Fakirhat

S A Kalam Fakirhat, Bagerhat

A meeting on cyber security, child marriage, and mental health protection has been held at Moulghar Government High School in Fakirhat, Bagerhat. Organized by the Upazila Administration, the meeting took place on Thursday at 12 PM in the school's auditorium. The chief guest of the meeting was Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mo: Rokonnuz Jaman. The chair was held by Upazila Secondary Education Officer Mo: Golam Mostafa. The welcome address was given by the school's head teacher Munshi Shaharier Hasan. The meeting was conducted by Upazila Academic Supervisor Asaduzzaman, and other speakers included Upazila Women Affairs Officer Tahira Khatun, Assistant Programmer Mo: Alamgir Hossain, and others. Various teachers and students were present during this time. Fakirhat Upazila Nirbahi Officer Mo: Rokonnuz Jaman stated that the main objective of the awareness meeting on cyber security, child marriage, and mental health protection is to take a coordinated initiative to raise awareness among adolescents and the younger generation. It aims to inform about safe internet use and ways to avoid cyber crimes. It also seeks to raise awareness about the ill effects of social child marriage and its legal prevention.



suspects as Shahabul (32) and Mahbur (28) both sons of Jinnah Ali, residents of Charkhanpur village, Post: Middlechar, Motihar/Katakali Police Station, Rajshahi district. Subsequently, upon searching the sacks abandoned by the fleeing suspects, the BGB team seized: 2,000 pieces of Indian Tapentadol tablets 62 bottles of Indian Bull Fighter liquor 192 bottles of Indian Escuf syrup 98 bottles of Indian Coco syrup 161 bottles of Indian Bronkof syrup The estimated seizure value of the confiscated narcotics is BDT 4,73,400. The process of handing over the seized narcotics to Motihar Police Station and filing a case against the fugitive suspects is currently underway.



840 meters of illegal china duari nets were seized and burnt in Faridpur

Biplab Kumar Das Staff Reporter

The upazila administration and the upazila fisheries officer's office have seized about 840 meters of illegal Chinese duari nets in a raid at Barobigha chawk of Manikdah union of Bhanga upazila of Faridpur. The seized nets were later burnt and destroyed in public. The raid was conducted at Barobigha Chowk on Thursday (October 8). At this time, it was informed to continue the operation against the use of illegal nets in order to preserve and protect the fish resources. According to upazila administration and upazila fisheries officer's office, regular operations are being conducted to stop the use of prohibited and harmful nets to protect fishery resources and conserve aquatic biodiversity. In continuation of this, a large amount of China duari net was seized in a raid at Barobigha Chowk. Later, the seized nets were burnt and destroyed in public. Upazila Fisheries Officer Israt Jahan was present at this time. According to the authorities, such operations will continue in the future to conserve and protect fish resources.

Day laborer Ferdous left destitute after fire in Atrai; Upazila administration extends a helping hand

Nazmul Haque Nahid, Atrai (Naogaon) Correspondent

Ferdous Daftari, a day laborer in Atrai, Naogaon, has been left destitute following a devastating fire. Nothing remains for his family other than the clothes they were wearing. The incident occurred around 9 PM on Thursday (October 8) in Uttar Bil Durgapara village under the No. 8 Hatkalupara Union. The affected Ferdous is the son of Abdur Rashid Daftari from the same village. According to local sources, Ferdous had locked his house and gone to work in the fields on Wednesday evening. Upon returning home after work, he found his house engulfed in raging flames. Neighbors were already making desperate attempts to extinguish the fire. Although the fire was eventually brought under control, everything had already been destroyed. The house's corrugated iron roof, a television, cooking utensils, stored paddy and rice, 20,000 taka in cash, and all furniture were reduced to ashes. Speaking in an emotional voice, Ferdous said, "I couldn't save anything other than the clothes I am wearing. There isn't even a handful of rice left to cook a meal tonight." He stated that he suffered a loss of approximately four lakh taka due to the fire.



However, he could not explain how the fire started. He added that, owing no land of his own, he had been struggling to support his family through day labor. Given the situation, he has made an earnest appeal for government humanitarian assistance to secure a roof over his head. Regarding the matter, Atrai Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md. Moniruzzaman stated that the Upazila administration has immediately provided the affected family with two bundles of corrugated iron sheets, 6,000 taka in cash, and some dry food. Meanwhile, Atrai Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Md. Mahabub Alam stated that no written complaint regarding the incident has been received so far. Legal action will be taken subject to investigation upon receipt of a complaint.

120 liters of locally liquor recovered along with 1 motorcycle and 1 drug dealer arrested

Staff Reporter

In addition, 1 arrested under CR warrant and 1 arrested under Section 151 CrPC. Under the leadership of Officer-in-Charge of Jorarganj Police Station Mr. Mohammad Abdul Halim, SI (Unarmed) Mamun Hossain recovered 120 liters of locally made distilled liquor along with 1 motorcycle and arrested 1 drug dealer from on the paved road in front of Baburchi Bhaat Ghar of Karerhat Bazar, Karerhat Union No. 1 under Jorarganj Police Station at 08:20 AM yesterday, 08/10/2026. ASI (Unarmed) Md. Mamunur Rashid arrested accused Rasheda Akter, husband- Ziaul Haq Jewel, village- Ichakhali, PS- Jorarganj, District- Chattogram from Ichakhali area under CR warrant. Another accused Mainuddin



Ripon (39), father- Abul Kalam, mother- Samsun Nesa, village- Dakshin Azamnagar, Ward No. 2, Hinguli UP No. 2, PS- Jorarganj, District- Chattogram was arrested under Section 151 of the Code of Criminal Procedure to prevent a cognizable offence and sent to the learned court. The accused have been handed over to the learned court after taking appropriate legal action against them.

Two women killed in Jamalpur road accident

Jamalpur Correspondent

An elderly woman and her daughter-in-law were killed in a road accident on the Dhaka-Bakshiganj highway in Bakshiganj upazila of the district this morning. The deceased were identified as Ufeja Begum, 65, wife of late Maked Ali, and Farida Begum, 40, wife of Nur Islam. They were residents of Thakurpara village in the upazila.

One Person Missing from Shahjahanpur, Family Seeks Whereabouts

M Badal Khandaker

A person named Harun Sikder (54) has gone missing from the Malibagh Katabazar area under Shahjahanpur Police Station in the capital. According to police sources, he went missing from the Malibagh Katabazar area under Shahjahanpur Police Station at 17:30 hours on 16/04/2026. In this incident, his daughter Mst. Humayra Akter (21) has filed a General Diary (GD) with Shahjahanpur Police Station. GD No-330, Date-18/04/2026. According to the description of the missing person, Name - Harun Sikder, who is mentally unbalanced.



Chandina Administration Holds Meeting on Durga Puja Security

M A Khayer Emon, Cumilla Correspondent

A coordination meeting was held in Chandina, Cumilla, on Thursday to ensure the safe, peaceful and festive celebration of the upcoming Durga Puja-2026. The meeting was held at the Chandina Upazila Parishad Hallroom on October 8, with representatives of the Chandina Upazila Administration and Chandina Police Station meeting the presidents and general secretaries of all Durga Puja mandaps in the upazila, along with leaders of the Chandina Upazila Puja Celebration Front. The meeting focused on ensuring security at the puja mandaps, maintaining law and order, preventing any untoward incidents and ensuring smooth overall management throughout the festival. The participants discussed measures to maintain a peaceful and festive atmosphere at all puja venues and ensure the safety of devotees and visitors. The administration and police urged the puja committees to remain vigilant, maintain discipline at their respective mandaps and immediately inform the law enforcement agencies if any suspicious or untoward situation arises. Officials of the Chandina Upazila Administration and Chandina Police Station, along with leaders of the Puja Celebration Front and representatives of different puja mandaps, attended the meeting.

Doa Mahfil Held on the 36th Death Anniversary of Journalist M Badal Khandaker's Father Late M Nazim Uddin

Taslima Khandaker Nushrat (Sarail Upazila)

On the occasion of the 36th death anniversary of Late M Nazim Uddin, a distinguished philanthropist of Notun Habli village of Sarail Upazila in Brahmanbaria and father of journalist M Badal Khandaker, Ziarat, Doa Mahfil and discussion meeting were held at his grave. On Saturday, October 10, after Asr, this program was organized by Nazim Uddin Smriti Sangsad at the graveyard in Notun Habli village, Sarail Sadar UP. The program was presided over by journalist M Badal Khandaker, President of Nazim Uddin Smriti Sangsad, and was attended as the chief guest by freedom fighter Adv. Abdul Rashed, and as the main speaker by Sarail Sadar UP Chairman Abdul Jabbar. Also present were M Nazim Uddin Khandaker's grandsons M Zahid Hasan Khandaker (Tushar), M Sakibul Hasan Khandaker (Ifat), grandson-in-law Md. Billal Hossain, journalist Md. Hafizur Rahman Palash, National Daily Janakatha, Mr. Mukhtar Hossain Khandaker, Md. Monir Hossain Khandaker, and all members of the family. At that time, all members of Smriti Sangsad, dignitaries of the area, mosque imams, teachers and local media personnel were present. In the discussion meeting, speakers said that Late M Nazim Uddin was a kind-hearted, benevolent and pious man. He worked for the welfare of people throughout his life. His ideals still remain as an inspiration among us. At the end of the discussion, Ziarat of the deceased's grave and special prayers were offered seeking forgiveness for his soul. The munajat was conducted by the Imam of the local mosque.



Father - A. Wahab Sikder, Mother - Najmun Begum. Address - Ibrahim Sikder Bari, Satraj, 04 No. Dudhal Union, Police Station - Bakerganj, District - Barishal. Physical description: White-grey hair, complexion - dark, height - 5 feet 3 inches, weight - 60 kg, was wearing a blue lungi and a blue shirt. In this regard, the Officer-in-Charge of Shahjahanpur Police Station has informed the Officers-in-Charge of all police stations. Wireless Message No-16/2026, Date-28/04/2026. If any kind-hearted person finds the said missing person, he/she is requested to contact the nearest police station or Shahjahanpur Police Station, DMP, Dhaka.



Hazardous Harindhara-Gopalpur Road in Kaukhali, Vital Village Link at Risk of Being Swallowed by the Canal



Kaukhali, Pirojpur Correspondent

The road adjacent to the Harindhara ferry terminal located on the western bank of the Sandhya River in Amrajuri Union (No. 2) of Kaukhali Upazila, Pirojpur has become completely unfit for travel. This vital 800-meter-long road, stretching from the canal-side path at the ferry terminal to the Sardar Bari Bridge connecting West Gopalpur, is gradually being consumed by the canal due to erosion. An on-site inspection revealed that, due to a lack of necessary repairs and maintenance over a long period, large sections of the road have collapsed into the canal waters. The dilapidated and narrowing road is riddled with large potholes. There is a looming risk that the entire road could vanish into the canal at any moment unless durable piling and repairs are undertaken urgently. This road serves as a crucial transportation

link for Amrajuri Union. Hundreds of people from at least eight villages including West Amrajuri, Rongakathi, Gantab, Harindhara, Gopalpur, Hogla, and Betka rely on it for their daily commute. Every day, pedestrians, professionals, and students and teachers from local educational institutions risk their safety by traversing this broken road. It is the primary route for local residents to reach the Harindhara ferry terminal and cross the river to get to the Kaukhali Upazila headquarters. Local resident Md. Alauddin and former Union Parishad (UP) member Anil Chandra stated, "This road is vital for our entire area; it allows us easy access to the Upazila headquarters. However, given how the road is sinking into the canal, if repair and piling work does not begin immediately, the connectivity for these eight villages will be completely severed within a few days." Regarding the deplorable state of connectivity and the resulting public suffering, Mehedi Hasan the newly appointed Administrator of Amrajuri Union Parishad and Upazila ICT Officer stated, "I have just assumed charge as the Administrator of this union. I have begun assessing the condition of the various dilapidated and damaged roads here. The issues concerning the Harindhara-Gopalpur road will be examined, and prompt, appropriate measures will be taken."

Robbery at retired police officer's house in Mirsarai, gold ornaments and mobile phones looted



M. Oliullah Nizami, Chattogram District Correspondent

A robbery took place at the house of retired police officer Matin Ullah in Shekhertaluk area of Wahedpur Union, Mirsarai Upazila, Chattogram. The incident occurred at around 2:30 AM on Friday night (October 9). At that time, the miscreants looted gold ornaments, mobile phones and CCTV camera monitors from the house. This incident has created anxiety and panic among the local residents. According to local sources, the miscreants took away valuable items from the house in the incident that took place late at night. However, detailed information about how much gold ornaments and other goods were looted has not been available. It is also not confirmed whether it has been possible to identify the people involved in

the robbery. Crime increased after transfer of investigation center officer, locals complain. Several local residents claim that no robbery or theft incidents occurred in the area while Kamal Ahmed, officer of Nizampur Investigation Center, was in charge. They allege that after he was transferred elsewhere, incidents of robbery, looting and extortion are happening again in the area. Locals say steps need to

be taken. In particular, they have demanded to strengthen security at night, increase police patrols in crime-prone areas and increase surveillance on suspicious persons. Concern over law and order situation. Locals said that concerns about security have arisen among locals centering on allegations of theft, robbery, looting and extortion in various areas of Mirsarai. They complain that if effective initiatives are not taken to curb crime, insecurity among common people may increase further. The robbery incident at the retired police officer's house in Shekhertaluk area of Wahedpur Union has further increased that concern among locals. They have demanded a proper investigation of the incident, identification and arrest of those involved and recovery of the looted goods.

Awaiting the Arrival of Goddess Durga in Sherpur, Idol Artisans Busy Day and Night

Sherpur (Bogura) Correspondent

With Sharadiya Durga Puja ahead, final moment preparations for the festival are underway in Sherpur of Bogura. Idol-making work is now at its final stage in various puja mandaps of the upazila. After finishing the clay work, Goddess Durga and her family are taking shape with touches of colour and ornamentation. Local idol artisans are spending busy time day and night. Alongside, mandap decoration, pandal construction and lighting work are also going on in full swing. Widespread enthusiasm has been seen among the followers of Sanatan Dharma around the area centering the festival. Visiting various idol-making factories and mandaps of Sherpur upazila, artisans were seen busy with last-minute work. Some are giving touches of colour to the dried idols, while others are doing meticulous work of ornamentation on dresses. With skillful hands and talent, they are bringing out the full form of the Goddess. Srikanta Das, an idol artisan of South Shahapara Sholoana Temple of the upazila, said the work of making idols is now at the very end. After finishing the clay work, painting and decoration are now going on. To deliver all the idols to the mandaps within the scheduled time, the artisans are working day and night forgetting to eat and sleep. Several other renowned artisans are busy making idols in dif-



ferent areas of Sherpur. Obujh of Sokal Bazar, Tapas Tambuli of Bakultala, Chandan Sutradhar of College Road and Chand Sarkar of South Shahapara are working day and night. The artisans said, from bamboo-wooden structure to clay, paint and dress decoration every step requires a lot of time and attention. As the puja days are approaching, the workload has increased manifold. According to upazila administration sources, rice has been allocated by the government to increase the festive spirit on the occasion of Durga Puja and to ensure overall assistance to the assembled devotees. A total of 56,400 metric tons of rice has been allocated for 94 puja mandaps of Sherpur. This rice will be distributed at 600 kg per mandap. Strict security measures are being taken in Sherpur upazila to make the festival smooth and safe. As per the instructions of the Puja Celebration Council, besides installation of CCTV cameras in the mandaps, there will be regular patrol and surveillance by law enforcement agencies. Devi Paksha will begin through Mahalaya on 10 October. Later, the main festival will begin through Shashti Puja on 16 October and will end through immersion of the Goddess on Vijaya Dashami on 21 October. The people of Sherpur are now just waiting for the time to be filled with the beats of dhak, conch sounds and worship of the Mother.



Chandina Administration Launches Drive Against Footpath Encroachment, Illegal Parking

Authorities move to ease traffic congestion and ensure smooth movement of pedestrians
M A Khayer Emon, Cumilla Correspondent

The Chandina Upazila Administration has launched a drive against illegal occupation of footpaths and unauthorised parking in the upazila to ease traffic congestion and ensure the free movement of pedestrians. The drive was conducted on Thursday (October 8) at several important and busy points of Chandina. During the operation, people occupying footpaths for commercial purposes and vehicles parked illegally on roads were instructed to remove their belongings and vehicles. The administration also warned that legal action would be taken against anyone who continues to occupy public footpaths or park vehicles illegally on roads, causing obstruction to pedestrians and traffic. Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Chandina Police Station Md Nuruzzaman was present during the operation and performed his duties to maintain law and order and assist the administration in carrying out the drive. Police personnel were deployed at the operation sites to maintain order and prevent any disruption during the eviction campaign. Local residents welcomed the initiative, saying that footpath encroachment and illegal parking have long been contributing to traffic congestion in Chandina. In many areas, pedestrians are forced to walk on busy roads when footpaths are occupied by shops, goods and illegally parked vehicles. They urged the authorities to continue such drives regularly and ensure that the cleared footpaths are not occupied again. The upazila administration said the campaign is part of its efforts to restore discipline on roads, reduce traffic congestion and ensure safe and uninterrupted movement for pedestrians. Authorities further warned that strict action would be taken against individuals or businesses found occupying public footpaths or creating obstacles on roads through unauthorised parking. The initiative is expected to improve traffic management and bring greater convenience and safety to pedestrians and motorists in Chandina.



Abul Hossain Elected President, K.M. Limon General Secretary of Gowainghat Press Club

Naeem Ahmed, (Sylhet)

Abul Hossain has been elected president and Md. Karim Mahmud Limon, popularly known as K.M. Limon, has been elected general secretary of the executive committee of Gowainghat Press Club for the 2026-2028 term in Sylhet. Minhaz Mirza has also been elected joint general secretary. The election results were officially announced by Chief Election Commissioner Zakir Hossain on Friday (October 9), following voting and vote counting from noon until the afternoon. According to the Election Commission, direct voting was held for the posts of president and joint general secretary. Abul Hossain was elected president, while Minhaz Mirza was elected joint general secretary. Meanwhile, candidates for several important positions, including general secretary, were elected unopposed. The other candidates elected unopposed were Belal Uddin as vice-president, Abdul Aziz as finance secretary, Rafik Sarkar as publicity and publication secretary, Riazul Islam as library and office secretary, and Saidul Islam as sports and cultural secretary. Shyamal Kumar Roy, academic supervisor at the Gowainghat Upazila Secondary Education Office, served as the presiding officer to ensure a free, fair and orderly voting process. The election generated enthusiasm among the press club members. Following the announcement of the results, members of the press club congratulated the newly elected committee. Leaders of various local social, political and professional organizations also extended their congratulations and best wishes to the new committee.



World Sight Day Observed in Pirojpur

G.M. Adol, Pirojpur District Correspondent

A rally and discussion meeting were held at the Civil Surgeon's Office in Pirojpur on Thursday, October 8 marking World Sight Day 2026. The programme was organized to raise awareness about eye health, preventable blindness, and the importance of regular eye care among people. Dr. Md. Matur Rahman, Civil Surgeon of Pirojpur, presided over the programme. Dr. Shishir Ranjan Adhikari, Assistant Director of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Dhaka, currently attached to Pirojpur District Hospital was present at the event. Nursing officials, the Manager of BRAC Pirojpur, the Inspector-in-Charge of Pirojpur Nursing Institute, teachers and students of Pirojpur Nursing Institute, and other concerned individuals also attended the programme. The participants emphasized the importance of creating greater public awareness about eye diseases, timely treatment, and ensuring access to eye-care services for all.

Mizanur Rahman Suman, A Jubo Dal Activist Making Waves in Bagha Through Exceptional Public Service and Political Foresight

Md. Sohel Rana, Rajshahi Correspondent

Politics is not merely a contest for power or titles—its true beauty lies in standing beside party activists during times of crisis and sharing in the joys and sorrows of the general public. Living up to these ideals, Mizanur Rahman Suman, a dedicated activist of the Rajshahi District Jubo Dal, has been selflessly serving the public alongside his political duties. Moving beyond his political identity through personal initiatives and funding, he has now become a symbol of trust for the people of Bagha Upazila. A field inspection reveals that Suman's continuous humanitarian initiatives and uncompromising political role have sparked a positive buzz not only in Bagha, but across the entire Rajshahi district. Local sources report that Suman has set a unique precedent in environmental protection through his own efforts. He cleared years-old garbage dumps, planted trees in those areas, and created seating arrangements for the public. Furthermore, during a severe fuel crisis, he created a nationwide sensation in the political arena by providing free fuel in two phases to nearly 1,500 working motorcycle drivers in the upazila. Always at the forefront during the party's tough times to ensure the success of political programs, this Jubo Dal leader personally funded the bail of imprisoned party activists who faced attacks and false cases under the previous government. He also regularly checked on their families and provided financial support. During the last national election, he remained actively engaged in campaigning for the BNP candidate and resisting any counter-activities against the party. A major portion of Mizanur Rahman Suman's service is dedicated to the healthcare sector. He regularly provides underprivileged patients visiting the Bagha Upazila Health Complex with funds for purchasing medicine, paying for medical tests, securing advanced treatments, and covering emergency ambulance fees. During the COVID-19 pandemic, alongside delivering food to the homes of jobless families, he deployed round-the-clock volunteers to assist with medical care. To ensure emergency health protection in the area, he took the initiative to introduce oxygen cylinders, BP machines, oximeters, blood sugar monitors, and modern equipment like "anti-choking devices" to prevent choking in children and adults. Suman is also actively working to meet the basic needs of vulnerable people. He repairs



vans for poor drivers who lost their source of income, provides tin sheets to help the destitute renovate their homes, distributes sports gear to keep youth away from drugs, and offers educational materials and financial support to underprivileged, meritorious students. Additionally, he arranges Iftar gatherings during Ramadan, distributes food and meat during Eid, provides food aid to 300 flood-affected families, and installs tube wells to address clean water shortages. This young leader is also working on road and drainage issues through personal initiatives as well as in coordination with relevant authorities. Abu Bakkar, a resident over 60 years old from Ward No. 5 of Bagha Municipality, said, "Suman is not just a political activist; he is our refuge in times of trouble. From illness to poverty—he keeps track of everything. Such dedicated young leadership is the pride of our area." Local political activist Sujon Sarkar noted that from offering legal assistance to victims of attacks and lawsuits to being the first to arrive during any public crisis, Suman sets a rare example in Bagha's political arena. Reflecting on his humanitarian work and political journey, Mizanur Rahman Suman said: "Inspired by our beloved leader Tarique Rahman's call—'We will work, we will build the country, Bangladesh comes first'—and guided by the inspiration of Abu Said Chand, the leader of the oppressed in Charghat-Bagha, I carry out these activities as an ordinary activist of Rajshahi District Jubo Dal. Politics is for the welfare of the people. Rather than chasing posts or titles, I want to serve the people until my last breath, guided by public love and party ideals." It is worth noting that Mizanur Rahman Suman is a native of Dakshin Miliik Bagha village under Bagha Municipality. His father, Abdus Samad, was a renowned local footballer and a founding member of the Bagha Upazila BNP. This Jubo Dal activist has also been vocal in demanding public rights, including raising social awareness and forming human chains to demand the renovation of the Bagha Highway Road and the Central Eidgah Ground.

The Terror of the British, the Pride of Sarail - Revolutionary Ullaskar Dutta

M Badal Khandakar (District Representative) Brahmanbaria

Ullaskar Dutta, one of the pioneers of the anti-British independence movement of the Indian subcontinent and known as India's first bomb-maker, was born on 16 April 1885 in the village of Kalikachchha in Sarail upazila of Brahmanbaria district. His father's name is Dwijadas Dattagupta. Ullaskar was a student of Presidency College, Kolkata, and later obtained a degree in agriculture from the University of London. While studying in college, when English professor Russell made derogatory remarks about Bengalis, he assaulted him with shoes, for which he was expelled from the college. From this point, a change came in his life and he joined the Anushilan Samiti and Jugantar group. He was skilled in making high-grade explosives. In 1908, the bomb with which Khudiram Bose and Prafulla Chaki attempted to kill Kingsford in Muzaffarpur was made by Ullaskar Dutta, the son of Sarail. He was arrested in the Alipore bomb case. The Sessions Court sentenced him to death. Later on appeal, the High Court reduced the sentence to life imprisonment and sent him to the notorious Cellular Jail (Kalapani) in the Andamans. There, brutal torture was inflicted on him - electric shocks, starvation, solitary confinement. Attempts were made to drive him insane by hitting him on the head. Due to this torture, he lost his mental balance. In 1920, he was released from the Madras Lunatic Asylum as part of a royal pardon. There is an immortal love story in his life. His childhood sweetheart was Leela Pal, the daughter of revolutionary Bipin Chandra Pal. After 40 years of separation, in 1948, at the age of 63, ignoring all social barriers, he married Leela Pal, who was paralyzed and widowed. The revolutionaries had taken an oath not to marry until the country was free, and he kept that oath. After the partition of the country in 1947, he returned to his native village Kalikachchha (present-day Bangladesh). Later, in 1951, he moved to Silchar in Assam with his wife. There, in extreme poverty, he spent his life serving his paralyzed wife. He refused to accept the allowance for freedom fighters from the Government of India. Even after his wife's death in 1962, he believed she would return, so he slept with the door open. Finally, on 17 May 1965, this great revolutionary passed away in Kolkata. His writings "Amar Karajibon" and "Baro Bochorer Karajibon" are invaluable documents in the history of the revolution.

