

EU greets Sheikh Hasina, pledges to take ties with Bangladesh to new height

STAFF REPORTER

The European Union (EU) Yesterday Thursday congratulated Sheikh Hasina on her reelection as the Prime Minister for fourth consecutive term and promised to take the partnership and cooperation with Bangladesh to a new height. EU Ambassador Charles Whiteley made the remarks while paying a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the latter's official Ganabhaban residence here this morning. "The existing facilities, which

are currently getting by Bangladesh in various sectors including environment, good governance, renewable energy and transportation under the Global Gateway facilities will be further enhanced in the days to come," PM's Deputy Press Secretary Md. Noorelahi Mina said quoting Whiteley. To this end, he said that the EU had already given Bangladesh 407 million Euro during the recent Global Gateway Forum summit at Brussels in Belgium. The EU envoy promised to continue the facilities given to

Bangladesh under EBA (Everything but Arms) facilities. He also pledged to give Bangladesh the GSP plus facilities. The EU ambassador also highly praised the initiatives taken by Sheikh Hasina government for the development of the people with disabilities and the marginalized people. The premier has expressed her satisfaction over the existing relations between her country and the European Union over the last 50 years. "This relationship between Bangladesh and European

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Yesterday Thursday European Union Ambassador to Bangladesh Charles Whiteley meets Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Ganabhaban —PID

'Madhu Mela' begins today Friday marking Madhusudan's birth anniversary

STAFF REPORTER

On the occasion of the 200th birth anniversary of the great poet Michael Madhusudan Dutt, the nine-day long 'Madhu Mela' will begin at poet's birth place Sagardari village under Keshabpur upazila in Jashore district today Friday. The 'Madhu Mela' will continue till January 27, an official release said here Yesterday Thursday. On January 25 in 1824, Madhusudan Dutt was born to landlord Raj Narayan Dutt and Janhabi

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Metro rail to run till night from tomorrow Saturday

STAFF REPORTER

The most effective and modern commuter for city dwellers 'Dhaka Metro rail' will operate on Uttara-Motijheel route from morning to night from tomorrow Saturday. "The metro rail will operate on Uttara-Motijheel route from 7:10 am to 8:40 pm," according to Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited (DMTCL) official notification issued Yesterday Thursday. Managing Director of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd MAN Siddique said that the first train will leave Uttara for Motijheel at 7:10am and it will continue until 8:30pm, while the last train will leave Motijheel at 8:40pm.

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A cholera outbreak in Zambia has caused more than 400 deaths and infected 10,000

APNEWS

Zambia is reeling from a major cholera outbreak that has killed more than 400 people and infected more than 10,000, leading authorities to order schools across the country to remain shut after the end-of-year holidays. A large soccer stadium in the capital city has been converted into a treatment facility. The Zambian government is embarking on a mass vaccination program and says it's providing clean water — 2.4 million liters a day — to communities that are affected across the southern African nation. The national disaster management agency has been mobilized. Cholera is an acute diarrheal infection caused by a

bacteria that is typically spread via contaminated food or water. The disease is strongly linked to poverty and inadequate access to clean water.



The outbreak in Zambia began in October and 412 people have died and 10,413 cases have been recorded, according to the latest count on Wednesday from the Zambia Public Health Institute, the government body that deals with

health emergencies. The Health Ministry says cholera has been detected in nearly half of the country's districts and nine out of 10 provinces, and the nation of about 20 million people has been recording more than 400 cases a day. "This outbreak continues to pose a threat to the health security of the nation," Health Minister Sylvia Masebo said, outlining it was a nationwide problem. The United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF, called the fatality rate of around 4% in the three-month outbreak "a devastatingly high number." When treated, cholera typically has a death rate of less than 1%. There have been recent cholera outbreaks in other southern African nations including Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. More than 200,000 cases and over

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COVID-19 vaccination campaign to be launched soon: DGHS

STAFF REPORTER

The National Covid-19 Vaccine Management Taskforce of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) today suggested launching vaccination programme as infection rate of COVID-19 has increased across the country. In a statement, the National Covid-19 Vaccine Management Taskforce made the suggestion issuing a fresh directive for launching vaccination campaign to immunize first, second and booster dose. According to the statement, initially booster dose (third and fourth dose of Pfizer vaccine) will be administered at eight hospitals in Dhaka city. The eight hospitals are Bangabandhu Sheikh

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TIB report is one-sided anti-government and unrealistic: Quader

STAFF REPORTER

Awami League (AL) General Secretary Abaidul Quader today said the report of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) is one-sided, anti-government and unrealistic. "They (TIB) advocate for a quarter. They speak in the language that BNP speaks. They are the agents of BNP," he told a press conference at the AL president's Dhanmondi political office here Yesterday Thursday afternoon. Quader, also road transport and bridges minister, said reality could not be found in the research that TIB conducts. "They (TIB) speak in the tune of BNP. History says they were

always against the Awami League. We did not find the neutrality in their research," he said. The AL general secretary said there is an organisation which has no registration but some media broadly cover its news. "Now suppose, if 100 people die in an accident, they will make the figure 500. TIB is one such organisation. They conduct research, but we do not find the reality in their research," he added. Responding to a question whether any legal action is going to be taken against TIB, Quader said he is talking about TIB and this is enough. The Awami League will not file a case against TIB even if it tarnishes the image of the government and the AL, he

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TIB report follows no int'l criteria: Arafat

STAFF REPORTER

Sharply criticizing a TIB report published last Wednesday State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat Yesterday Thursday said TIB (Transparency International Bangladesh) didn't follow any international criteria for making report on the 12th parliamentary election. "The TIB has done the research within 10 days of the national election and reached to many conclusions. I don't know how it is possible to conduct the research within a short period," he told reporters at a press briefing at his office at secretariat here. The state minister said the TIB claimed that they randomly selected 50 constituencies out of 299 for the research, but the report has no reflection of the actual facts of the



polling. "In fact, the stakeholders gave their opinions, not information. There are many discrepancies between facts and opinions," he added. Arafat said this is a huge flawed research report as they didn't even mentioned how many polling centers or booths came for the research. He said there were 42,350 polling centers and 2,61,565

polling booths across the country. TIB didn't mention in how many booths such anomalies were taken place, he said, adding that rather they reached to their conclusion based on the opinions of people of 51 percent constituencies, not voters of the booths. "It is not possible to reach any conclusion in the way the TIB

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46th BCS preliminary exam on March 9

STAFF REPORTER

The preliminary examination of 46th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) will be held on March 9 this year. A press release issued by the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (BPSC) in this regard on Yesterday Thursday. The two-hour multiple-choice test will be held from 10am to 12pm from 10 am to 12 pm simultaneously in Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chattogram, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Rangpur and Mymensingh. Information related to examination centres, seats, and other instructions are available at the commission's website and Teletalk Bangladesh website. Meanwhile, BPSC is

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Govt to provide digital skills training to 80,000 students

STAFF REPORTER

In a bid to create employment, the government is set to provide training on digital skills to 80,000 students and graduates over the next two years through public universities. The training will be provided under a programme titled "Digital Skills Training for Students". A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed in this regard between the World Bank-financed Enhancing Digital Government and Economy (EDGE) Project of the Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), under the ICT Division, and 28 public universities today at the EDGE conference room at Mirpur Youth Tower. EDGE Project Director Md Shakhawat Hossain and teachers and representatives from 28 universities, including

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET), Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University (CUET) separately signed the MoU. More public universities will be included in phases, said a press release. The MoU was followed by a workshop that was addressed, among others, by ICT Secretary Md Shamsul Arefin, Md. Shakhawat Hossain, Director of BCC Md Abu Sayed, Policy Adviser of EDGE Project Abdul Bari and Team Leader of Smart Leadership Academy Md Mahfuzul Islam Shamim, head of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) Department of BUET Professor Mahmauda Naznin, Professor of CSE department

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Confidence will come back ADB country director

STAFF REPORTER

Country Director of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to Bangladesh Edimon Ginting today said that following the holding of the last general election, confidence

course the government will be confident like in the past." He said the ADB is very proud of the progress that has been achieved over the last 15 years in Bangladesh. "So, we're looking forward to help the government to

comparatively low level of foreign currency reserve, the ADB country director said the government is dealing with the problem of foreign currency reserve.

"We feel that the policies that have been implemented by the government are on the right track and they need to fine tune and thus accelerate it to deal with this. The foreign currency reserve needs to be strengthened," he added.

In this regard, he said the ADB usually provides budget support every year and it provided \$800 million to Bangladesh which went directly to the reserve. At the same time, he said the ADB brings foreign currency to Bangladesh with its operations like other multilateral and bilateral development partners do.

"Expanding ADB's operations together with other development partners will help boost the revenue," he added. Noting that the private sector and the expatriates bring back the most amount of foreign currency, Ginting said if they bring back more, it would significantly boost the reserve.

"In the long-term, we'll also work with the government to improving the investment climate. Bangladesh is a great story of growth. But, in terms of attracting FDI, Bangladesh is below its

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would come back in the economy of Bangladesh.

"Most importantly, I think as the election is over, confidence will come back," he said while talking to reporters after making a courtesy call on Finance Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali at the latter's office at Bangladesh Secretariat.

Ginting said there were some questions over the last general election, "But after the election, off

bring back the high growth that has been achieved in the past. Given the current challenges, we're assured enough that the future over the next five years will be better in Bangladesh."

He said Bangladesh is one of the great development stories certainly the ADB is proud of working with the government.

When asked about the future strategies to overcome the issue of

US strikes in Yemen after Huthis re-designated 'terrorist' entity

AFP

American forces targeted 14 missiles that were ready to launch in Yemen, the US military said last Wednesday,

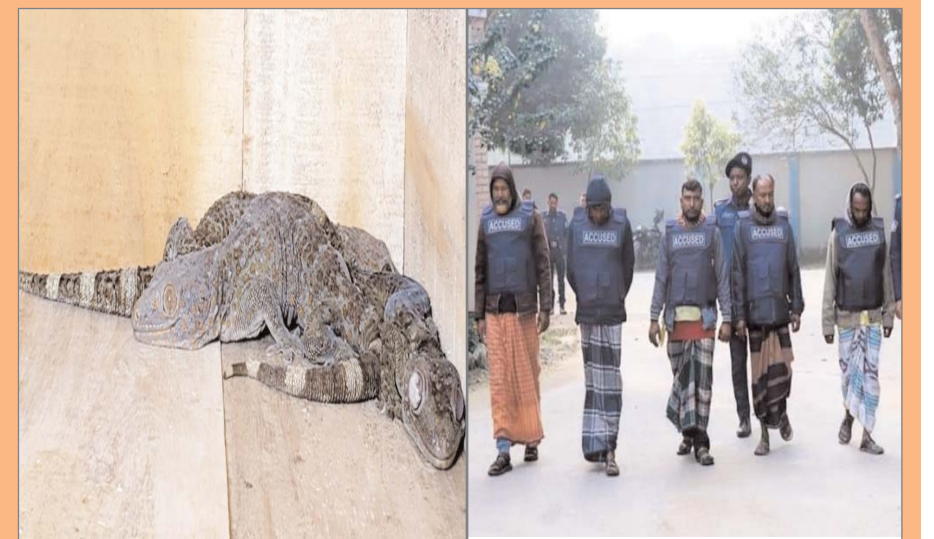
after Washington re-designated the Iran-backed Huthi rebels as a "terrorist" entity for their attacks on merchant vessels.

The Huthis -- who have already faced multiple rounds of air strikes in response to their targeting of international shipping -- struck a US-owned bulk cargo carrier in the wake of the designation announcement, and vowed to continue attacks they say are in support of Palestinians in Gaza. US forces "conducted strikes on 14 Iran-backed Huthi missiles that were loaded to be fired in Huthi-controlled areas in Yemen."

Central Command (CENTCOM) said in a statement. "These missiles on launch rails presented an imminent threat to merchant vessels and US Navy ships in the region and could have been fired at any time."

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3 taxis of extinct species recovered in Kurigram, 5 arrested



Abdul Quader:

Police have recovered three taxis of extinct species in Kurigram. Three taxis were recovered from Monir Uddin's house in Dakshin Baldia Palpara village of Baldia Union in Kachakata Thana area of Nageshwari Upazila in the morning on Wednesday (January 17).

At that time, the police arrested 5 people on the charge of being involved in the sale of Takshak. Officer-in-charge (OC) of Kachakata police station Vishwadev Roy confirmed this information.

According to the police and local sources, a ring of money laundering has been active for a long time in the surrounding areas including Kachakata. They extort

lakhs of rupees from the people. It is said that the price of one Taksha is crores of rupees. By showing this greed, the web of deception is woven. Some of the people in the middle have become very calm.

Meanwhile, Police Superintendent Al Asad conducted a press briefing in his office on Wednesday afternoon. Mahfuzul Islam. According to the police, Kachakata Thana Police conducted a special operation on Wednesday morning and recovered three taxis from Monir Uddin's house in South Baldia Palpara village of Baldia Union. At this time, five people were arrested on charges of trying to buy and sell Takshak. They are Morshed Rahman (32) of

Naina village, Kashem (36) of Bishnapur village, Mozammel (48), Riazul Islam (45) and Shah Alam (45) of Bara Rhamarpar village. The police also said that action has been taken to hand over the case to the court against the accused under the Wildlife (Preservation and Security) Act. After arraignment the accused, the Superintendent of Police said that the recovered taxis were brought from India to Bangladesh through the border route. These buying and selling arrangements were going on to deceive people in various ways.

The Superintendent of Police also said that the recovered tusks have been handed over to the Kurigram unit of the

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Bangladesh lifts floor price on most stocks

NEWS DESK

Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) has lifted the floor price of stocks 18 months after introducing it, in order to bring back vibrancy in the market. However, the floor price will still be applicable to 35 companies and for others the upper limit and lower limit of the circuit breaker will be there, according to an order of the BSEC issued Yesterday Thursday. The 35 companies are: Anwar Galvanizing, Baraka Power, British American Tobacco Bangladesh, Beximco Ltd, Bangladesh Submarine Cables, BSRM Ltd, BSRM Steel, Confidence Cement, DBH, Doreen Power, Envoy Textile, Grameenphone, HR Textile, IDLC Finance, Index Agro Industries, Islami Bank, KDS Accessories, KPCL, Kattali Textile, Malek Spinning, National Housing Finance, National Polymer, Orion Pharmaceuticals, Padma Oil, Renata Ltd, Robi, Saiham Cotton, Shasha Denim, Sonali Paper, Sonarbangla Insurance, Shinepukur Ceramics, Shahjibazar Power,

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Dozens killed in Israeli strikes on Gaza

INTERNATIONAL DESK

Israeli strikes have killed dozens more people, the health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said Thursday, including in the territory's south where Israel has intensified operations.

In the occupied West Bank, where violence has surged alongside the war in Gaza, an Israeli raid continued into a second day around Tulkarem, an official said. Palestinian sources reported a sixth person had been killed in the operation. The latest violence came as medicine for hostages held by Hamas and fresh aid for civilians entered the Palestinian territory under a newly brokered deal, mediator Qatar said.

The measure provided at least some relief in a region where tensions flared further following Pakistani strikes on an Iranian border region, and new US military action targeting Iran-backed rebels in Yemen. Gaza's health ministry said 93 people had been killed, including 16 in one strike on a house in the southern city of Rafah, where many people have fled. "The strike left 16 killed, among them women and children, and 20 injured," the ministry said. A

man sat quietly among the rubble after one strike in Rafah, his head bowed, examining a child's glove. Umm Walid al-Zamli said she lost her children, and her house. "The eldest was a second-grade girl," she said in a choked voice. "What did they do wrong? We can't rely on anyone, or the Arabs. We can only rely on ourselves."

Fighting has ravaged Gaza since Hamas's unprecedented October 7 attacks on Israel that resulted in the death of about 1,140 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures.

Vowing to destroy Hamas, Israel is conducting relentless bombardment and a ground offensive. These have killed at least 24,448 Palestinians,

around 70 percent of them women, children and adolescents, according to health ministry figures. Hamas seized about 250 hostages during the October 7 attacks, around 132 of whom Israel says remain in Gaza.

At least 27 hostages are believed to have been killed, according to an AFP tally based on Israeli figures. The fate of those still in captivity has gripped Israeli society, leading to pressure on the government for their release.

UN agencies say greater aid access is urgently needed to Gaza, where famine and disease threatens. Qatar said late Wednesday that medicine for hostages and aid had entered Gaza under the agreement announced the day before, following French and Qatari mediation. It said earlier two planes had arrived in the

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Israel-Palestine conflict



- 24,448 killed in Gaza since start of war
- Gaza's hospitals can't cope with the estimated 60,000 wounded
- At least \$15 billion will be needed just to rebuild houses in Gaza

The Hamas government reported dozens of strikes, including on the southern city of Khan Yunis and Palestinian refugee camps in central Gaza.

An explosion sounded before a heavy grey cloud of smoke rolled over central-southern Gaza in the early afternoon, live AFP TV images showed. Israel's military on Thursday said dozens of operatives had been killed over the previous day in Khan Yunis, where it reported battles ongoing.

- 'Moment of relief' -

Development Cup football selection and month-long training exercise at Thakurgaon



Shamsul Alam:

Thakurgaon Development Cup Football Under-15 selection competition and month-long training exercise is going on. On Thursday afternoon, the regional players were seen practicing in the Government Boys High School big field. This month-long training is being conducted under the annual sports program 23-24 of Sports Department, Ministry of Youth and Sports and organized by

Thakurgaon District Sports Office. District Sports Officer Gautam Kumar Sarkar came to the field to check on the players and watch the practice. At that time, the joint general secretary of the district sports association, former footballer ATM Monirul Huda Helal, director of Thakurgaon Homeopathy Medical Research Center Dr. Md. Kamal Hossain, football coach

JaPa to join parliament as opposition, GM Quader leader of opposition

STAFF REPORTER

Jatiya Party (JaPa) Chairman Golam Mohammad Quader has been nominated as the Leader of the Opposition in parliament by his own party. Besides, the party's co-chairman Anisul Islam Mahmud and secretary general Mujibul Huq Chunnun have been nominated as Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Chief Whip of the Opposition respectively. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party held at the office of Deputy Leader of the Opposition

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Pakistan launches retaliatory airstrikes in Iran after an earlier attack by Tehran, killing 9 people

INTERNATIONAL DESK

Pakistan's air force launched retaliatory airstrikes Yesterday Thursday early in Iran allegedly targeting militant hideouts, an attack that killed at least nine people and further raised tensions between the neighboring nations. The tit-for-tat attacks Tuesday and Thursday appeared to target two Baluch militant groups with similar separatist goals on both sides of the Iran-Pakistan border. However, the two countries have accused each other of providing safe haven to the groups in their respective territories. The strikes imperil diplomatic relations between the two

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Democracy Olympiad was held in Narsingdi as a civic activism event

Narsingdi Correspondent:

Democracy Olympiad was held as a part of voter awareness and civic activism program in Narsingdi with the theme 'Aware, organized and vocal people are the safeguards of democracy'. The Olympiad was organized on Thursday (January 18) at Narsingdi Model College organized by The Hunger Project Bangladesh and in collaboration with Sujan. Hunger Project Narsingdi District Coordinator Holdhar Das and Narsingdi Model College Principal Mohammad Kamrul Islam presided over the event, District Anti-Corruption Committee President and Narsingdi Model College Rector Professor



Mohammad Ali was the chief guest. The special guests were Senior Program Manager Shashank Baran Roy, The Hunger Project Regional Coordinator Zillur Rahman, Assistant Program Officer Mustafizur Rahman Sajal, PFG Member Bir Mukti Jodha Shahidullah Khandkar, Peace Ambassador M Mozammel Haque, Madhabadi Branch President Md

Maqbul Hossain, Madhabadi Branch. General Secretary Al Amin, PFG Member Md Moniruzzaman, Youth Hunger Member Pabon Das, Azizul Islam, Sunny etc. Sabrina Sadek Shifa achieved the glory of becoming a champion in the Olympiad. The first runner-up was Tawheed Alam Joy, and the second runner-up was Maliha Mehnaz.

An unidentified person died after being hit by a fork in the tourist express train in Raipura

Raipura Correspondent:

An unidentified person died after being hit by a fork in the tourist express train of Dhaka-Chittagong railway line at Raipura in Narsingdi. The accident happened on Yesterday Thursday around 8:30 in the morning in Mahishmara area, near the eastern side of Methikanda railway station of the upazila. Najjur Rahman, in-charge of Narsingdi Railway Police Outpost, confirmed the truth of the incident. The police and locals said that the tourist express train that left Dhaka for Coxabazar in the morning

Winter has set in Lakshmipur, distribution of blankets among the cold in remote areas

Selina Akhtar:

January 18 Winter has set in Lakshmipur. The cold northerly winds and persistent thick fog have multiplied the sufferings of the common man. Even during the day, the traffic on the highway has to be driven carefully with headlights on. In the initiative of Lakshmipur Sadar Upazila, 1000 blankets were distributed among the poor, poor and elderly on Wednesday

night. Sadar upazila executive officer. Arifur Rahman, Assistant Commissioner Mukbul Hossain (Land) distributed these blankets as a gift of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to the sheltered people in various shelters at Adharnanik, Kushakhali, North Hamchadi, Char Ramnimohan and Mahadevpur of Dalalbazar in remote areas of Teyrganj Union in Sadar

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EU greets Sheikh

Union will be elevated to a new height," she said. The Prime Minister thanked the EU for continuing support under the EBA and sought much cooperation in different sectors including renewable energy under the Global Gateway programme. Ambassador at large M Ziauddin and Principal Secretary M Tofazzel Hossain Miah were present.

'Madhu Mela' begins

Devi at Sagardari village. Marking poet's 200th birth anniversary and the arrangement of 'Madhu Mela', Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Yesterday Thursday, in a message, paid due respects to the memory of Michael Madhusudan Dutt. The Premier also thanked all the people who are going to organize the Madhu Mela. The poet's deep compassion for his motherland and mother tongue while staying in foreign country has been reflected in his works many times, she said. She said the patriotism of Michael Madhusudan Dutt is a role model for the new generation. "I think that the programmes organized on the occasion of his birth anniversary will play a significant role in presenting the work of the poet to the young generation," she added. The Premier wished all the programs taken on the occasion of the fair a success. Legendary poet Madhusudan, who is called Mahakobi (epic poet) for his tragic epic 'Meghnad Badh Kavya', earned name and fame in the arena of literature for his extraordinary creative works. Madhusudan Dutt is widely considered to be one of the greatest poets in Bengali literature and the father of the Bengali sonnet. He pioneered what came to be called 'Amritakshar Chhanda' (blank verse). His first attempt at blank verse was 'Sharmistha' in Bengali literature. Apart from his outstanding talent in authoring poems, Madhusudan Dutt showed prodigious skills as a playwright since he was the first to write Bengali plays in the English style, segregating the play into acts and scenes. He was also the pioneer of the first satirical plays in Bengali literature. 'Buro Shaliker Ghare Ron' and 'Ekei Ki Boley Sabhyota' are among his famous satirical plays. His most famous literary work is sonnet "Kapatakha Nad". Kapatakha Nad (river) flows through Jashore, the poet's ancestral home. Madhusudan was a gifted linguist and polyglot as he studied Hebrew, Latin, Greek, Tamil, Telugu, and Sanskrit. Madhusudan passed away at Kolkata on June 29 in 1873 at the age of 49, only three days after his wife Henrietta breathed her last. The poet was buried in Kolkata.

Metro rail to run till

Now the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line-6 is being operated from 7:30 am to 11:30 am on Uttara-Motijheel section, while it is being run from 7:10 am to 8:00 pm on Uttara-Agargaon section, the notification said. Earlier, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the second phase of the much-desired metro rail service from Agargaon to Motijheel on November 4, 2023. However, Dhaka University and Bijoy Sarani stations were opened on December 13 and Shahbagh and Karwan Bazar stations were opened on December 31. Bangladesh entered a new era on December 28, 2022 as the Prime Minister inaugurated the country's first-ever elevated metro rail from Uttara to Agargaon.

A cholera outbreak

3,000 deaths have been reported in southern Africa since the start of 2023, UNICEF said. Malawi had its worst cholera outbreak in decades in 2023. Last year, the World Health Organization reported that about 30 countries globally, also including Nigeria and Uganda in Africa, suffered serious outbreaks in the last few years. Cholera barely affects countries in the developed world and can be easily treated but can be quickly fatal if not treated. More than half — 229 — of the victims in the Zambian outbreak died before being admitted to a health facility, the public health institute said. Zambia has had several major cholera outbreaks since the 1970s but this one is the worst for 20 years in terms of the caseload, according to Dr. Mazyanga Mazaba, the director of public health policy and communication at the public health institute. The cholera bacteria can also survive longer in warmer weather and unusually heavy rains and storms in southern Africa have contributed to recent outbreaks, experts say. WHO said last year that while poverty and conflict remain the main drivers for cholera, climate change has contributed to the disease's upsurge in many places across the globe since 2021 by making storms wetter and more frequent. A cyclone sparked a spiraling cholera



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প্রশ্ন করো তোমার দুটি হাতের কাছে
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হত্যা করছো নীরহ শিশু
হত্যা করছো নারী!

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তুমি হত্যা করছো পশু বোঝাই ট্রাক
যাদের কোন দোষ ছিলো না।

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তুমি হত্যা করছো বাংলার অগ্র-যাত্রার
মানব সন্তান।

তুমি দাঁড়াও হে যুবক!
তুমি দাঁড়াও
তুমি দাঁড়াও!

outbreak in Mozambique last year. Heavy rains and flash flooding in Zambia have converted some neighborhoods into soggy or waterlogged areas.

COVID-19 vaccination

Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Kurmitola General Hospital, Sir Salimullah Medical College Mitford Hospital, Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College and Hospital, Mugda Medical College Hospital, Sheikh Russel National Gastroenterology Institute and Hospital and Government Employee's Hospital, Fulbaria. Later, COVID-19 vaccination campaign will be launched at specialized hospitals and other public hospitals across the country in phases to prevent spread of the deadly virus. The statement read healthcare professionals, elderly people aged 60 and above, the people with chronic disease and pregnant women will be given priority to receiving COVID vaccines.

TIB report is

said. Replying to another question about post-election violence, the AL general secretary said tactics will remain in politics. Conflicts are found in all political parties and the AL has conflicts too but the party is moving forward with these, he said. No matter how many problems there are, all are united under the leadership of AL President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, he added. About the opposition party in parliament, Quader said the first parliament session of the current government will begin on January 30 and which party will be the opposition will be known only when the House will begin. He said a realistic decision is being taken to check price hike of essential goods and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has given instructions to this end. Considering the reality, the ministries concerned are preparing their action plans to this end, Quader said. AL organising secretaries BM Mozammel Haque, SM Kamal Hossain and Sujit Roy Nandi, deputy office secretary Sayem Khan, and AL central committee members Mohammad Sayeed Khokon, Parveen Zaman Kalpana and Marina Jahan Kabita were, among others, present.

TIB report

has followed and it would not be acceptable to any international forum," he said.

Arafat said the persons who carried out the research works have no experience about the poll or political science. The so-called research has crossed the limitation of scientific method, he said. The state minister said the EC has taken steps against all irregularities against the persons irrespective of political affiliation. Even, he said, the EC has cancelled the candidacy of a candidate on the polling day which is unprecedented in the history of Bangladesh. But, the TIB didn't appreciate the move in their so-called research, he said. He said the Election Commission is an institution and it is needed to have faith in an institutional entity. The state minister said the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has brought massive reforms in the EC in the last 15 years to make it strengthen for long term. But, Arafat said, TIB and many other vested groups are trying to spread falsehood against the EC to frustrate the country's democracy. Arafat hoped that the civil society and other civic forums would conduct research maintaining international criteria with honesty and sincerity for the sake of the country. Replying to a query, Arafat said Bangladesh is a democratic country and every civil society has rights to express their opinion. "However, I would like to urge them to keep in mind about the intellectual corruption apart from financial corruption," he said.

46th BCS preliminary

planning to recruit 3,140 candidates for government jobs through the 46th BCS exams

Govt to provide

of Dhaka University Rabiul Islam and Professor of Chittagong University Sanaulah Chowdhury. According to the MoU, 80,000 students will get training in three phases. Of them 50,000 will get training on fundamental issues at the foundational level, 20,000 on more complex issues in the intermediate level and 10,000 on frontier technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), robotics and blockchain in the advanced level. Emphasising the importance of conducting research and training to advance the ICT sector, ICT Secretary Shamsul Arefin said many universities are facing a funding crisis. To address this issue, a Corporate Research Responsibility Fund (CRRF) could be formed, and the government's EDGE project can take the initiative in this regard, he added. Shamsul Arefin stated that the government is implementing the Digital Skills for Students Training Programme through universities, with the aim of strengthening ties between government, industry and academia. This partnership will facilitate collaboration between the industry and academia, he said. The ICT secretary underscored the need for involving youths in training and research and said that failure to do so would result in lagging behind, especially at a time when cutting-edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) are generating research materials without human involvement. "We will always be consumer of AI technologies and innovations if we fail to create researchers, innovators, and skilled human resources in frontier technologies," he said. Expressing the government's willingness to flourish research and innovation in the country, Shamsul announced the government is going to set up 10 Research and Innovation Centers (RICs) in 10 universities soon.

Confidence will

weight. Bangladesh can improve the investment regulatory framework and thus can attract more FDI to support the growth," he added. When asked whether the country's economy was in the right path, the ADB country director said the economy of Bangladesh is very strong as even with the current challenges, the growth is 6 percent for which all should be proud of. "Overall development continues despite the challenges from overseas. I think you should take note of that....Bangladesh economy has been very strong and will continue to be strong while there is confidence in the private sector. We'll continue to support the government," he added. About the foreign currency reserve situation, the Finance Minister said the government has already started working on this and let's see. "We've won in many adverse situations in the past and we hope to do it in the future also. We'll have to do the work at first and we're working....the ADB has shown its confidence on us and they have commented that they are happy to see Sheikh Hasina as the Prime Minister again." Replying to a question, Ali said they expect higher support from the Manila-based lending agency although their approach is a bit different. "They

are lending support to us and as per their estimate, our GDP growth is almost 6 percent which will increase further."

He told another questioner that there would be good synergy between the monetary and fiscal policy for which some time is needed.

US strikes in Yemen after

prompting US forces to exercise their inherent right and obligation to defend themselves," CENTCOM said. Hani Kayed, a 44-year-old resident of the Yemeni port city of Hodeida, told AFP he heard an explosion at around 2:16 am (23:16 GMT Wednesday) in the east of the city near the airport. Hodeida and the city of Ta'ez were among the targets of the first round of US and UK strikes in Yemen last week. Huthi media outlet Al-Masirah TV said both were hit again in the latest strikes, along with three other areas. The United States announced earlier on Wednesday that it would return the Huthis to a list of "terrorist" entities. "The Department of State today is announcing the designation of Ansarallah, commonly referred to as the Huthis, as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist group, effective 30 days from today," Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a statement. "During the 30-day implementation delay, the US government will conduct robust outreach to stakeholders, aid providers, and partners who are crucial to facilitating humanitarian assistance and the commercial import of critical commodities in Yemen," he said.

3 taxis of extinct

Wildlife Department. The accused have been sent to jail. A gang has long been involved in the trade in endangered species. This cycle has been deceiving people by showing the price of this animal in crores of rupees. We are keeping an eye on the members of these syndicates. Zohra Mila, Wildlife and Biodiversity Conservation Officer of Bangladesh Forest Department and wildlife researcher, said, "There have been a lot of rumors about the price of taxak and medicines made from taxak." And believing in the rumours, a class of people are encouraged to hunt takshaks with the dream of becoming rich overnight. Besides, what is heard about the benefits of various medicines made from Takshak, has no scientific basis. It is mainly because of this rumor that captured takshaks are being rescued and released into the wild.

Bangladesh lifts

Summit Power, and United Power. At the end of July of 2022, the BSEC set the floor price of every stock to halt the free fall of the market indices amid global economic uncertainties. The floor price was the average of the closing prices on July 28 of 2022 and the preceding four days. However, in December of 2022, the stockmarket watchdog lifted the floor price for 169 companies in order to bring vibrancy to the market. In March of 2023, the regulator reintroduced the floor price for 169 companies again. From then, all stocks came under the floor price curbs.

Dozens killed

Egyptian city of El-Arish near Gaza with 61 tonnes of aid provided by Qatar and France. The International Committee of the Red Cross welcomed the deal as "a much-needed moment of relief", under which 45 hostages are expected to receive medication.

- Baby Bibas - Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said the army was hitting Khan Yunis particularly hard to dismantle the Hamas leadership, which the army says has already been done in northern Gaza.

The Israeli military says 193 soldiers have been killed in Gaza since ground operations began in late October. The war has displaced roughly 85 percent of Gazans, the UN says. Many have crowded into shelters where they struggle to get food, water, fuel and medical care.

At Israel's Nir Oz kibbutz, Yossi Schneider is clinging to hope for his relative Kfir Bibas, a baby, despite Hamas's announcing his death, along with that of his brother and mother. The youngest hostage was less than nine months old when Hamas snatched him from his bed on October 7. He would be celebrating his first birthday on Thursday.

"We are thinking about them every day, every second, every minute," Schneider said.

- Iranian strikes - In the West Bank, violence has escalated to a level not seen since the second Palestinian intifada, or uprising, of 2000-05.

Army raids and attacks by settlers have killed about 360 people in the territory, according to its health ministry. The losses are also economic. The World Bank has estimated the West Bank's gross domestic product could fall by six percent this year.

The Palestinian Red Crescent on Thursday reported a man killed by "an occupation bullet in the chest" in Nur Shams camp near Tulkarem, where an Israeli raid continued about 30 hours after it began, said Rami Elyan, an official in Nur Shams.

"Like every time, bulldozers destroyed the roads and some homes," he said.

Israeli forces killed 10 people in the West Bank on Wednesday, the ministry and the army said.

Five were killed inside Tulkarem refugee camp, according to the ministry, while Israel's military confirmed an air strike that killed "a number of terrorists" during a raid there.

In the latest incident to unsettle the Middle East, Iranian state media said Pakistani strikes Thursday on an Iranian border region killed nine people. Pakistan said it had targeted militants.

This followed a rare Iranian air strike, late on Tuesday, which Iranian media said targeted a group which in December claimed the killing of at least 11 Iranian policemen. Iran's Revolutionary Guards earlier said they had destroyed the "Zionist regime's spy headquarters in the Kurdistan region of Iraq". Tehran also launched attacks on targets in Syria. Israel has exchanged regular cross-border fire with Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement since the start of the Israel-Hamas war.

US forces late Wednesday said they conducted a fourth round of strikes on areas of Yemen controlled by Iran-backed Huthi rebels who have disrupted shipping in the Red Sea. The US military said it struck 14 Huthi missiles that were loaded to be fired.

Development Cup

Khairul Bashar, other district coach Md. Kayes Islam Sabuj, sports personality Md. Babu along with various officers and employees of the district sports office and participating minor players were present. It should be noted that nearly hundred footballers from 5 upazilas and all police stations of the district are participating in the training. After the month-long training of the mentioned players, 5 out of 24 players will get a chance to go to the divisional level in Rangpur. The training camp was inaugurated on January 1.

JaPa to join parliament

in Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban on Yesterday Thursday. It was also decided to inform Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury about the JaPa's decision in written. Jatiya Party won 11 seats only in the 12th Jatiya Sangsad election, while independent candidates got victory in 62 seats. As a result, it became unclear who is going to sit on the opposition side in new parliament. However, the JaPa on Thursday elected Leader of the Opposition, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Chief Whip of the Opposition in Jatiya Sangsad. Now the matter depends on the Speaker. JaPa secretary general Mujibul Huq Chunnun has said that their party is going to sit on the opposition side in parliament. There is no scope for any party or group to become opposition in parliament.

An unidentified per

at around 8:30 a.m. after crossing the Methikanda railway station of the upazila and coming to Mahishmara area near the eastern side, was cut down by the train and the hand and foot marks of the unidentified person were removed from the body. He died on the spot. He is approximately 40 years old. At that time, he was wearing a shirt and jacket lungi. On receiving the information, the members of Narsingdi Railway Police Outpost retrieved the dismembered body from the railway line and brought it to the police station. PBI and Railway Police are working to identify him.

Winter has set in

Upazila. At this time, the local UP chairman Abul Hossain Bhulu, Saif Uddan Manik, Nazrul Islam, Abu Md. Local public representatives including Yusuf Chayal, Kamruzzaman Sohel. However, the locals said that these blankets are very less for the winter seekers compared to the demand in severe winter.

Local elders said that this year's winter is much colder than the last 10 years. Low income people are unable to go to their work due to severe winter. The rickshaw drivers said that despite the severe cold, the passengers were not getting into the rickshaws because of the cold weather. Overcome by winter, people have become housebound. At the time of writing this report, the sun could not be seen until about 12:30 noon on Thursday due to thick fog. Common people are trying to beat the winter by burning straw.

Photo Caption: Executive Officer Arifur Rahman is handing out blankets to the helpless elderly at Durgum Naldagi Shelter Center in Sadar Upazila, Laxmipur.

Pakistan launches

neighbors, as Iran and nuclear-armed Pakistan have long regarded each other with suspicion over militant attacks. Each nation also faces its own internal political pressures — and the strikes may in part be in response to that.

The attacks also come as the Middle East remains unsettled by Israel's war with Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Iran also staged airstrikes late Monday in Iraq and Syria over an Islamic State-claimed suicide bombing that killed over 90 people in early January.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry described their attack Thursday as "a series of highly coordinated and specifically targeted precision military strikes."

"This morning's action was taken in light of credible intelligence of impending large scale terrorist activities," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "This action is a manifestation of Pakistan's unflinching resolve to protect and defend its national security against all threats."

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Memo No:-46.21.6100.014.00.000.24-81

Dated : 18/01/2024

e-Tender Notice- 19/2023-24

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of following works under Mymensingh City Corporation, Mymensingh:

Sl. No.	Tender ID & Package No.	Name of Work	Tender Publication Date & Time	Tender Document Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing and Opening Date & Time
01	ID No. 938487 / MCC/DFP/03/PW-19	R-1768) Part-A: Construction of Road by BC/RCC Pavement from Rohomotpur Bazar Bypass(Kazir Gaw) to Bagerkanda Bypass Bridge. Part-B: Construction of RCC Palsading & Culvert at different places from Rohomotpur Bazar Bypass(Kazir Gaw) to Bagerkanda Bypass Bridge. R-1769) Part-A: Construction of Road by BC/RCC Pavement from Kismot Primary School to Maizbari Abdul Khalek High School. Part-B: Construction of RCC Palsading & Culvert at different places from Kismot Primary School to Maizbari Abdul Khalek High School. R-1761)Construction of Road by RCC Pavement from Kismot Suruj Ali House to Manik Shakh House. R-1762)Construction of Road by RCC Pavement from Kismot Taragai Kamal's/Shop to Jewel Shabeb's House.	21/01/2024 10.00AM	18/02/2024 15.00PM	19/02/2024 13.00PM

This is Online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>), is required . The fees for downloading the e-Tender Documents from the National e-GP System portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)

(Md. Rafiqul Islam Miah)
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BPL kicks off today Friday with T20 World Cup in focus

Sports Desk

The 10th edition of the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) is all set to roll onto the ground tomorrow with the national players taking the tournament, considered as the most competitive event of the country, as the preparation platform for upcoming T20 World Cup, which will be held in the USA and West Indies in June.

The tournament will kick off with the match between defending champions Comilla Victorians and new comer Durdanto Dhaka, BSS reports.

The match will start at 2.30pm. In the day's other match, Sylhet Strikers will take on Chattogram Challengers, which will begin at 7.30 PM. Both of the matches will be held at Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium.

T Sports and Gazi Television will telecast the whole BPL live from the stadium. "No doubt, BPL will help a lot since T20 World Cup is ahead. This is our prime T20 tournament. Everyone wants to draw the attention by performing well here. I think the tournament will benefit us in preparing for the T20 World Cup," said national pacer Shoriful Islam, who will be playing for Durdanto Dhaka in this season.

However the timing of the next matches will be different one from the inaugural day's matches. In weeks days, the first match will start at 1.30 PM while the second match is at 6.30 PM. The Friday's first match will kick off at 2 M while the second game is from 7pm. Comilla Victorians, Rangpur Riders, Durdanto Dhaka, Khulna Tigers, Fortune Barishal, Chattogram Challengers, and Sylhet Strikers are the seven team of the tournament which will fight it out for the BPL crown.

A total of 46 matches in 43 days will be hosted by the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Dhaka, the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram, and the Sylhet International Cricket Stadium in Sylhet across three cities. Dhaka is though not the new team in BPL, it will play under new owner this time.

"Whenever anyone makes a team, his target is to become champions. But in reality, our first challenge is to qualify for knockouts. Sometimes it needs luck to become champions," Khaled Mahmud Sujon, who is acting as Dhaka coach said. The hope of the tournament is not expected as it should be. However the BCB officials believe the frenzy

will reach fever pitch when the tournament starts. "There was national polls and everyone was busy with it. So we can't do much work to create the hype but the behind the work was going to run the tournament smoothly. Once it will roll onto the ground, the hype will create automatically," BCB CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury said. Unlike the previous tournaments, the BCB vowed to make the tournament a run-fest. Several BCB directors of late said that the pitch, specially the Mirpur pitch, which is historically slow and low, will be prepared such way that it produces big scoring match. For making the commentary better than the previous time, the organizers brought up famed Pakistan commentator Ramiz Raja. The former PCB chairman Raja will join in the commentary with his compatriot Amir Sohail, West Indies former great Curtley Ambrose, Sri Lankan Russel Arnold and South African HD Ackerman. The local commentators however will be there to run the show along with them. The DRS system will be in action right from the start of the tournament this time around, the officials confirmed. The lowest price of a BPL match ticket is Tk. 200 while the highest price is set at Tk. 2500. The Eastern stand ticket can be purchased at Tk. 200, North/South Stand at Tk. 400, Club House at Tk. 800, VIP Stand at Tk. 1500 and Grand Stand at Tk. 2500. Tickets will be go on sale at match day and previous day will be found at Shaheed Suhrawardi Indoor Stadium and ticket selling counter, adjacent to gate no. 1 of Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium.

BPL Squad
Comilla Victorians:
Retained and Direct Signing: Liton Das, Mustafizur Rahman, Tanvir Islam, Mohammad Rizwan, Sunil Narine, Towhid Hridoy, Moeen Ali Andre Russell, Iftikhar Ahmed, Zaman Khan, Khushdil Shah, Johnson Charles, Nur Ahmed, Nasim Shah, Rashid Khan.
From Draft: Mritunjay Chowdhury, Jaker Ali Anik, Mahidul Islam Ankan, Rishad Hossain, Rakheem Cornwall, Matthew Walter Ford, Inmru Kayes, Musfik Hasan, Anamul Haque.

Durdanto Dhaka:
Retained and Direct Signing: Taskin Ahmed, Arafat Sunny, Shoriful Islam, Mosaddek Hossain, Chaturanga de Silva, Siyam Ayub, Osman Qadir.
From Draft: Saif Hassan, Irfan Shukkur, Alauddin Babu, Mehrob

Hossain, Lahiru Samarakun, Samira Samawickrama, Naim Sheikh, Sabbir Hosen, Jasimuddin.
Chattogram Challengers:
Retained and Direct Signing: Shuvagata Hom, Ziaur Rahman, Nihaduzzaman, Shohidul Islam, Mohammad Haris, Najibullah Zadran, Mohammad Hasnain, Steven Eskandi.
From Draft: Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Al Amin Hossain, Shykat Ali, Imranuzzaman, Curtis Campher, Bilal Khan, Shahadat Hossain Dipu, Salahuddin Shakil.
Khulna Tigers:
Retained and Direct Signing: Nasum Ahmed, Nahidul Islam, Mahmudul Hasan, Enamul Haque, Evin Lewis, Fahim Ashraf, Dhananjaya de Silva, Shai Hope, Wasim Junior.
From Draft: Afif Hossain, Rubel Hossain, Parvez Hossain Emon, Habibur Rahman Sohan, Kasun Rajitha, Dasun Shanaka, Mukidul Islam Mugdho, Akbar Ali, Sumon Khan.
Rangpur Riders:
Retained and Direct Signing: Nuru Hasan Sohan, Mahedi Hasan, Hasan Mahmud, Azmatullah Omarzai, Nicholas Pooran, Shakib Al Hasan, Babar Azam, Ehsanullah, Matheesha Pathirana, Brandon King, Wanindu Hasaranga.
From Draft: Rony Talukdar, Shamim Patwari, Ripon Mondal, Hasan Murad, Michel Ripon, Yasir Mohammad, Abu Haider Rony, Fazle Rabbi, Ashikuzzaman.
Fortune Barishal:
Retained and Direct Signing: Mahmudullah Riyad, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Syed Khaled Ahmed, Ibrahim Zadran, Tamim Iqbal, Shoaib Malik, Paul Stirling, Fakhar Zaman, Mohammad Amir, Abbas Afridi, Dunitih Wallalage.
From Draft: Mushfiqur Rahim, Roqibul Hasan, Saifuddin, Soumya Sarkar, Yannic Cariah, Kamrul Islam Rabbi, Pritom Kumar, Taijul Islam, Prantik Nowroze Nabil, Dinesh Chandimal.
Sylhet Strikers:
Retained and Direct Signing: Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Zakir Hasan, Tanzim Hasan Sakib, Najmul Hossain Shanto, Ryan Burl, Ben Cutting, Harry Tector.
From Draft: Mohammad Mithun, Rejaur Rahman Raja, Ariful Haque, Yasir Ali Rabbi, Richard Ngarava, Dushon Hemantha, Najmul Islam Apu, Shofiqul Islam, Nayeem Hasan, Jawad Rowen, Salman Hossain Emon.
**(Teams also recruit players apart from draft and direct signing after the players draft)



Sports Desk

Australia must make the most of their aerial superiority at the Asian Cup, coach Graham Arnold says, starting against Syria in their second game on Thursday. The Socceroos began their campaign in Qatar with a 2-0 win over India on Saturday but had to

wait until the 50th minute before Jackson Irvine broke the deadlock. Australia have one of the tallest players in the tournament in 6-foot-6 (1.98m) defender Harry Souttar and Arnold wants to capitalise on their height advantage, according to AFP. "Our set-pieces were not great against India," the coach said on

Wednesday. "We had a lot of corners and that is probably one of our strengths. We just need to improve on those little things." Australia reached the last 16 at the World Cup just over a year ago in Qatar before bowing out to a Lionel Messi-inspired Argentina. Arnold's physically imposing side are among the contenders for the Asian Cup, and their clean sheet against India was their fourth in as many games. Full-back Aziz Behich said Arnold had put the emphasis on "defending as a team". "When we press or when we're in a block, we make sure we're very compact and make it difficult for the opposition," said Behich. "Especially since Arnie came in, we've improved on that a lot." Behich was part of the Australia team that won the 2015 Asian Cup on home soil, beating South Korea in the final. The 33-year-old said he would "like to do it again" and believes they are capable of making it happen.

Schedule for 2024 T20 World Cup 'most complicated ever', says ICC

Sports Desk

The International Cricket Council on Wednesday said the schedule for this year's T20 World Cup in the United States and West Indies had been "the most complicated ever to draft". The tournament will feature a record 20 teams, up from 16 in the 2022 edition, and be staged at nine venues across North America, including New York, which will have a 34,000-seater stadium in Nassau County. The Long Island ground was unveiled Wednesday by the ICC and is due to host the hotly-anticipated India-Pakistan clash on June 9 among its eight scheduled World Cup games. It will be a temporary modular stadium with drop-in pitches but will not be equipped with floodlights. "We are in New York because there is a hotbed of cricket fans in New York and we are bringing some of the most eagerly anticipated cricket matches including possibly the most eagerly anticipated cricket match of all to that venue," Chris Tetley, the ICC's Head of Events, told reporters in an online media roundtable. "So I expect the venue to be full and I expect the atmosphere to be World Cup amazing. "Yes, the time of the day is a factor that we take into account. But what we are talking about is world-class cricket with the best players in the world and they are going to put on a great show at a world class venue."

The USA face neighbours Canada in the opening game on June 1 in Dallas, while the West Indies begin their campaign against Papua New



Guinea in Guyana. The final takes place in Bridgetown, Barbados, on June 29. "For this tournament in my experience, has been the most complicated match schedule ever to draft... the number of matches and the number of teams which is the largest ever T20 World Cup," said Tetley.

Cricket in breakfast chat shows Indian websites have put up the timings of the matches starting between 1400 and 1600 GMT to suit the sub-continent fans, but Tetley said they are yet to finalise the fixtures.

"We haven't released the start time of the matches yet," he said. The United States hosted its own T20 franchise league, Major League Cricket, last year with MI New York winning the

inaugural title. "I look at it (T20 World Cup) as an amazing opportunity to harness the interest that exists within the US," said Tetley. "What is this thing called cricket that's now being played in my backyard? Major League Cricket got a bit of interest in its first season. World Cup cricket coming to New York has been featured in breakfast chat shows that would never have happened not so long ago." The New York stadium has been designed by Populous, a company that has designed some of the world's most iconic venues, including Yankee Stadium in New York and the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London. Of the nine venues, six are in the Caribbean. Florida is the third US base.

Head, Hazlewood put Aussies on course for victory against Windies

Sports Desk

Travis Head smashed a rapid 119 and Josh Hazlewood blew away the West Indies top order to put Australia on course for a comprehensive victory on day two of the opening Test at Adelaide Oval Thursday.

Head's seventh Test hundred, the second at his home ground, helped Australia post 283 all out for a handy lead of 95 in the low-scoring contest.

Hazlewood then produced a four-wicket burst to rock the West Indies, who finished day two on a precarious 73/6, still 22 behind and with a defeat inside three days looming large. Justin Greaves fell for 24 to the final delivery of the day leaving Joshua Da Silva on 17 at the other end. "Feels like the seam movement is sharper than yesterday, more pace in the wicket. So yes, it's nice," Hazlewood said. "You are always in the game even if you are hit for a four occasionally." After Australia resumed on 59/2, the West Indies made frequent inroads to stay in the contest. Occupying the No 4 position after Steve Smith moved up to the top of the order, Cameron Green (14) could not impress immediately. Shamar Joseph (5/94) dismissed Green caught behind, and fellow debutant Greaves sent back Usman Khawaja (45), who was snared in the slip.

Mitchell Marsh and Alex Carey did not last long but Head counter-attacked and brought up his hundred with a driven four off spinner Gudakesh Motie before celebrating the milestone in style. The left-hander, who hit Shamar for back-to-back sixes, went past 3,000 Test runs during his knock. Kavem Hodge took a well-judged skyer near the rope to dismiss Head, who had gone after Alzarri Joseph. Shamar dismissed Nathan Lyon (24) to complete his five-wicket haul but world Test champions Australia remained in the ascendancy when the West Indies came out to bat for the second time in two days.

Hazlewood dismissed Tegenarine Chanderpaul for a duck with his first delivery and, in his next over, sent back the West Indies captain Kraigg Brathwaite (one) with Head taking a sharp catch at short leg.



How The Rolling Stones inspired Iga Swiatek to comeback win at the Australian Open

Sports Desk

World No. 1 Iga Swiatek survived a late scare to beat US star Danielle Collins in the Australian Open second round on Thursday. Swiatek found herself two breaks of service down in the deciding set but dug deep to recover in style, eventually winning 6-4 3-6 6-4. Asked by reporters how she kept her focus under such pressure, the four-time grand slam singles champion credited an unlikely source of inspiration. "I feel like, when I'm really well-focused, I am kind of repeating the same song throughout the whole match," she said, not wanting to reveal the exact track. "It gives me energy, and I can kind of narrow my focus just to that song that I keep hearing and the

technical stuff that I want to think about. "I don't like when my brain is kind of picking up the songs from the changeovers because every time is a different one. I want to keep hearing The Rolling Stones." Collins announces pending retirement Swiatek's comeback meant there was no satisfaction for Collins who had produced some scintillating tennis in what will be her last game at an Australian Open. The 30-year-old revealed after the match that this will be her last year on tour, with the American keen to travel less and eager to raise a family. "I have other things that I'd kind of like to accomplish in my life outside of tennis and would like to be able to kind of, you know, be able to have the time to be able to do that. Obviously, having kids is a big priority for me," she told reporters after racing off Rod Laver Arena on Thursday. Collins had found herself 4-1 up in the deciding set against Swiatek, but the 2022 Australian Open finalist couldn't fend off her opponent's late surge. "Honestly, I was in the airport already," Swiatek added. "I wanted to fight until the end. I knew that she played just perfectly, but it would be hard for anybody to keep that level. I wanted to be ready when more mistakes were going to come from the other side. "I just wanted to push then, and I did that at the end. I'm really proud of myself because it wasn't easy." Swiatek will now play Linda Noskova in the third round at Melbourne Park.

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Upazila: Nagarkanda, District: Faridpur
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Memo No.- 46.02.2962.903.14.001.23.01
e-Tender Notice No:04/2023-2024 (OTM)
Date: 02/01/2024

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following works details are given below.

SL No	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of work	Type Method	Last Selling Date & Time	Tender Closing & Opening (Date & Time)
01	932248	EDC/FAR/NAG/W1.171	Vertical Extension of Fourth Floor at Nagarkanda Complex Administrative Building under EDC Project, Upazila: Nagarkanda, Dist: Faridpur.	NCT, OTM	28-01-2024 15:30 PM	29-01-2024 12:00 PM

The fees for purchasing the e-Tender documents form the National e-GP portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches upto mentioned e-gp tender notice. These are online tenders, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP system portal (http://www.eprocure.gov.bd) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) also from email ue.nagarkanda@lged.gov.bd. Intersted prsons can communicate with the undersigned during office hours.

(Md. Moshirul Hossain)
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