

What is going on with Khaleda's Treatment?

Zubayer Sarker: Why was there suddenly a request to send
(See Page 05)



'Government Wants to Kill Khaleda Zia'

Rahman Malik: The government wants to kill Begum
(See Page 05)



Crucial October

Jahangir Hossain: October of this current year might well be a turning point for Bangladesh politics. Even though the Awami League has
(See Page 04)



Aasha Home Care

News at a glance

New York City Faces

Unprecedented Rainfall

SAM Desk: The bustling streets of New York City came to an abrupt halt on Friday, as a record-breaking deluge inundated the metro area. Certain regions witnessed
(See Page 06)

NYPD Appoints Long-time Veteran to Chief of Transportation Role

SAM Desk: Police Commissioner Edward A. Caban announced the appointment of a new Chief of Transportation on Friday.

Philip P. Rivera, a veteran of the NYPD with 28 years of experience, has
(See Page 06)

Indonesia launches

Southeast Asia's first High-speed Rail

SAM Desk: Indonesia launched Southeast Asia's first high-speed railway on Monday, a delayed, multibillion-dollar project backed by China that President Joko Widodo
(See Page 06)

10 Killed after Mexico

Church Roof Collapses

SAM Desk: On Sunday, a tragic incident occurred in northern Mexico as the roof of a church collapsed, resulting in the loss of at least 10 lives and leaving two individuals in critical condition, according to official reports. Initial
(See Page 06)

Bangladeshi Immigrants Thriving in America



Labib Pranta

The United States of America has long been a land of opportunity for immigrants from all corners

of the globe. Among these groups, Bangladeshi immigrants have emerged as a thriving community, making significant contributions to various aspects of American society. In this comprehensive article, we will explore how Bangladeshi immigrants are excelling in America, their influence on the
(See Page 04)

Trump Business Empire Under Threat As NY Fraud Trial Opens

SAM Desk: Former US president Donald Trump was in court on Monday for what he slammed as a 'sham' civil fraud trial against him and two of his sons, with the case threatening the Republican's business empire as he campaigns to retake the White House.

New York Judge Arthur Engoron has already ruled that Trump and his sons Eric and Don Jr committed fraud by inflating the value of the real estate and financial assets of the Trump Organisation for years.

New York Attorney General Letitia
(See Page 02)



Protesters hold banners as they blocked the street before the arrival of former president Donald Trump to New York State Supreme court for the start of the civil fraud trial against him on Monday in New York City. — AFP photo

Further blow to remittances as inflow hits 40-month low

SAM Desk: Bangladesh's inward remittances in September fell by a whopping 12.7 per cent (\$196 million) year-on-year, to USD \$1.34 billion - the lowest in almost 3-and-a-half years. It will lead to further concern over the declining trend in remittances, even as the country sends more and more workers abroad. The remittance flow in September decreased by \$255.79 million compared to August, Bangladesh Bank's (BB) latest remittance data reveals.

The expatriates sent close to \$1.6 billion in remittances in August, itself the lowest in six months, since February when it was \$1.56 billion. Yet the flow decreased even further to \$1.34 billion in September, the lowest in the last 40 months. That dates back to when Bangladesh received \$1.09 billion in remittances in April 2020. After that, the flow of inward remittance increased sharply even during the Covid-19 pandemic time.

Bangladeshi expatriates sent \$2.19 billion in remittances in June this year and in July it was \$1.97 billion. The sector insiders said that when the exchange rates available in the Kerb or the open market become higher than in the banking channel, transactions in Hundi increase. And when demand for hundi increases, remittances decrease.

Last month, the dollar exchange rate was Tk 6 to 7 higher in the open market than in the banking channel. Therefore, expatriates have reduced sending remittances through legitimate channels in the hope of more profit, they said.

In the last fiscal (2022-23,) Bangladesh received total remittances of \$21.61 billion. In the previous fiscal year 2021-22, the expatriate sent a remittance of \$21.03 billion. Bangladesh received the highest remittances

ever in the fiscal year 2020-21. The amount was \$24.77 billion.

'Recipe for mismanagement'

Tasked by the central bank, the Bangladesh Foreign Exchange Dealers Association (BAFEDA), and the Association of Bankers Bangladesh have been fixing the price of the US dollar under three different headings since September 2022.

Currently, the banks are giving a price of Tk 110.5 for every dollar of expatriate income. Export Bill Cashing is offered at Tk 109.5 per dollar. And Tk 110.5 is given for import and interbank transactions.

Economist and Chairman of Policy Research Institute (PRI) Ahsan H Mansur told news agency UNB that it is a recipe for misman-

agement of the economy.

He said the expatriates are sending remittances through the illegal channel (Hundi), as the rate of the US dollar is comparatively higher. The situation may not improve soon till the rate of the dollar is similar in the kerb market and banking channel.

Mansur said, "Lack of confidence in the state systems, Bangladeshi expatriates are sending lower remittance in the country, as the money smuggling is happening randomly from the country."

Despite exporting a record number of workers in different countries, the volume of remittance is decreasing continuously, which does not match the statistics, he said.

Trump business

(Continued from page 1)

James is now seeking \$250 million in penalties and the removal of Trump and his sons from management of the family empire.

James accused the former president on Monday of 'persistent and repeated fraud' and said 'justice will prevail.'

'No matter how powerful you are, no matter how much money you think you may have, no one is above the law,' she said.

Trump, arriving in court, denounced the case as a 'scam' and a 'witchhunt.'

'It's a sham,' the 77-year-old Trump said. 'My financial statements are phenomenal.'

In addition to this civil case, Trump also faces several major criminal proceedings in the months ahead.

He is scheduled to appear before a federal judge in Washington on March 4 on charges of trying to overthrow the results of the 2020 presidential election won by Joe Biden.

Trump will then be back in New York state court, this time on criminal hush money charges, and later in a Florida federal court, where he is accused of mishandling classified documents after leaving office.

Finally, he will also have to answer to state charges in Georgia, where prosecutors say Trump illegally tried to get the southern state's 2020 election results changed in his

favour. In the New York civil case, Engoron ruled that Trump, his two eldest sons and other Trump Organisation executives lied to tax collectors, lenders and insurers for years in a scheme that exaggerated the value of their properties by \$812 million to \$2.2 billion between 2014 and 2021.

As a result, the judge revoked the business licenses that allowed the Trump Organisation to operate some of its New York properties.

Actually enforcing such penalties would be a major blow to Donald Trump's ability to do business in the State of New York going forward,' Will Thomas, a professor of business law at the University of Michigan, said.

Under that kind of pressure, Trump — who made his reputation and fortune as a real estate mogul in the 1980s and had promised to bring his cut-throat industry tactics to the Oval Office — could eventually lose control over many of his company's flagship properties, such as his 5th Avenue Trump Tower in Manhattan.

According to Attorney General James, a Democrat, Trump's own apartment in that building is among the spaces that were fraudulently overvalued — it was listed as three times bigger than its true size.

Another Manhattan building, at 40 Wall Street, was overvalued between \$200-\$300 million in financial disclosures, James al-

leges. Trump's luxury Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida — the site of the classified documents drama — and several other Trump Organisation golf clubs also appear in James's complaint.

Trump has repeatedly dismissed the New York civil allegations, calling James, who is Black, 'racist,' and labeling Engoron 'deranged.'

On Truth Social, Trump claimed there was no 'wrongdoing' in his actions of 'fully paying back sophisticated Wall Street Banks in full, with interest, with no defaults, and with no victims.'

There are likely to be dozens of witnesses called to testify at the trial, including Trump himself, and former financial director of the Trump Organisation Allen Weisselberg, who served time in prison after pleading guilty to tax fraud in a separate case brought against the business.

Trump's children Eric, Don Jr and his oldest daughter Ivanka — who was initially also targeted by James's complaint but ultimately not prosecuted — are also likely to present their own testimony.

Trump's former lawyer Michael Cohen — now an outspoken critic of the former president — and officials from certain Trump-linked financial institutions are also expected to appear.



Embracing Diversity

South Asia's Path to Unity

As we prepare to launch the inaugural issue of The South Asian Mail, we find ourselves at a pivotal moment in history. South Asia, a region rich in culture, history, and diversity, is at the cusp of transformation. This publication aims to be a beacon of knowledge, a source of inspiration, and a platform for dialogue in this vibrant and dynamic part of the world. South Asia, often referred to as the "cradle of civilization," is home to more than 2 billion people, making it one of the most populous regions on Earth. Within this vast tapestry of humanity, we find a mosaic of languages, religions, traditions, and identities. The diversity within South Asia is both its strength and its challenge.

Our mission at The South Asian Mail is to celebrate this diversity while fostering unity. We believe that by embracing our differences and working together, we can overcome the common challenges that face our region. From poverty and inequality to environmental issues and regional conflicts, our shared destiny calls for collaboration and understanding.

In the pages of this magazine, you will find stories of resilience and innovation from every corner of South Asia. We will delve into the realms of art, literature, science, and technology to showcase the incredible achievements of our people. We will explore the rich history that binds our nations and the potential for a brighter future.

At the heart of our editorial philosophy is a commitment to dialogue and inclusivity. We will provide a platform for voices often unheard, stories often untold, and perspectives often overlooked. Our hope is that The South Asian Mail becomes a space where ideas flow freely, and conversations transcend borders.

As we launch this publication, we invite all South Asians, regardless of nationality, religion, or background, to join us on this journey. We believe that through open and honest discourse, we can build bridges of understanding and solidarity that will carry us forward into a brighter future. In The South Asian Mail, we see not just a magazine but a movement—a movement toward unity in diversity, progress through collaboration, and hope for a region that holds immense potential. We are excited to embark on this journey with you, our readers, and together, we will explore the rich tapestry of South Asia and shape a shared narrative for generations to come. Welcome to The South Asian Mail, where our stories become our strength.



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Beware using free Wifi



The rise of public WiFi networks in various settings, such as coffee shops, airports, hotels, shopping malls, and public parks, has significantly facilitated access to the Internet.

However, these networks also pose significant risks to digital privacy and security. Users are vulnerable to data interception by cybercriminals, rogue networks, and malware hosting on public networks. These networks can trick users into connecting, causing potential data compromise.

Hackers can also eavesdrop on users' internet traffic, monitoring their online activities. So, using public networks requires vigilance and precaution to ensure proper privacy and data safety. These are some of the steps that can be followed:

Verify the connection

Before connecting to any WiFi network, it is crucial to verify the connection by checking if it is password-protected. Hackers often create fake WiFi points to lure unsuspecting users into connecting to them, making your device or laptop vulnerable to viruses and personal information compromised. To verify a WiFi point, check if it is password-protected.

Use encrypted or secured connections

Encrypted or secure connections transform all data into code before being transmitted over the network and decoded on the receiving end. Most websites already employ secure connections, which can be verified by checking the URL's address bar. To enhance online security, consider using browser extensions like 'HTTPS Everywhere,' which automatically converts potentially risky connections into encrypted ones.

Utilize VPNs or TOR browsers

Utilizing VPNs or TOR browsers is advisable when using public WiFi networks, especially in sensitive situations like online banking. These tools protect your data and shield your device from potential malware infections. VPNs are more straightforward to use on PCs but are equally crucial for mobile users, as mobile browsers may lack extensions like 'HTTPS Everywhere.'

Avoid transmitting sensitive information

To mitigate the risk of intercepting sensitive information, avoid sending personal, financial, or confidential data when connected to public WiFi networks. Be cautious when transmitting login credentials in plain text.

Restrict file sharing

Using file-sharing applications while connected to public WiFi networks is a practice that should be avoided. Since these networks are communal, the risk of unauthorized access to your shared files increases significantly. Turn off file and printer sharing in your device's settings to reduce the chances of someone accessing your files without your consent.

Read and comply with the Terms of Service

Lastly, read and comply with the terms of service before connecting to any public WiFi network, particularly when prompted to sign up for a captive portal. Attention to these terms can help you make informed decisions and navigate safely.

Bangladeshi Immigrants

(Continued from page 1)

political landscape, the remarkable role of Bangladeshi women, and their active involvement in home care within the Bangladeshi community.

Bangladeshi immigrants have demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability in the United States. They have excelled in various fields, including technology, medicine, business, academia, and the arts.

Bangladeshi professionals have significantly impacted the technology industry. Many have forged successful careers in Silicon Valley, contributing to the advancement of cutting-edge technologies and innovative startups. They have also made substantial strides in the healthcare sector. Many are doctors, nurses, and healthcare administrators, providing quality healthcare services across the nation. Bangladeshi scholars have made substantial contributions to American universities, enriching various academic disciplines and enhancing the educational landscape. Bangladeshi entrepreneurs have established thriving businesses, ranging from small local enterprises to large corporations. Their ventures have not only created jobs but also stimulated economic growth. Many artists, writers, and musicians have made indelible contributions to American culture. Their creativity and talent have enriched the nation's cultural tapestry.



(Giash Ahmed)

Bangladeshi immigrants are actively engaged in American politics, despite their relatively smaller numbers compared to some other immigrant communities. They are influencing the political landscape in various ways. They are increasingly participating in the American political system. They are registering to vote and actively taking part in elections at various levels, from local to federal. Mainstream politician and businessman, and Chairman of Immigrant Elder Home Care, Giash Ahmed, stated, "Through our hard work we have made a presence for ourselves in mainstream politics." As an example he mentioned his run for Senator Candidacy. He further added, "If we stick together as a community, we can achieve even greater heights." Advocacy groups and community organizations are tirelessly advocating for policies that benefit their community as well as the broader population. They focus on issues such as immigration reform, healthcare access, and education. A growing number of Bangladeshi-Americans are running for political office. They aspire to represent their communities and bring their unique perspectives to the decision-making process, thus diversifying American politics. Bangladeshi cultural festivals, events, and diplomacy initiatives promote cross-cultural understanding and foster international relations, contributing to diplomacy on both local and global scales. Bangladeshi women have played a crucial role in the Bangladeshi immigrant community's success story. They have not only excelled individually but have also contributed to various aspects of American society.

Bangladeshi women have broken barriers in fields such as technology, medicine, law, and finance. They are trailblazers, inspiring future generations. They often take leadership roles in community organizations, addressing critical issues such as healthcare access, women's rights, and education.

(Asef Bari)

Bari Home Care's President and CEO, Asef Bari, commented on the matter that, "Together in purpose, a bound by shared dreams, a community flourishes when every voice is valued and every hand joins the endeavor."

Many Bangladeshi women are actively engaged in politics, advocating for policies that reflect their values and concerns, and some are even running for political office. They have been actively promoting gender equality and women's empowerment through grassroots initiatives and awareness campaigns.



(Shah Nawaz)

Within the Bangladeshi community, home care is a significant aspect that demonstrates their unity and support for one another. Bangladeshi families often have strong bonds, and they actively engage in care giving for elderly family members, maintaining cultural traditions.

CEO of Golden Age Home Care, Shah Nawaz, believes "home care services have provided employment to a large number of individuals in our community." Not only have they provided employment, it has "also allowed to form a stronger bond within the families of our community". Community members frequently come together to provide home care and support to those in need, ensuring that cultural values and practices are upheld.



(Aakash Rahman)

Even a few years ago, the elders in our community were considered as a burden by many. Over the recent years, due to the increase in home cares and adult day cares, the senior citizens now have a support which was not available until a few years ago. Among many adult day cares, one of the most renowned one is Aasha Adult Day Care, owned by Aakash Rahman. According to Aakash Rahman, "the increase in such services has allowed the senior citizens of our community to rely on someone. It provides them with a sense of unity and friendship, as the senior citizens come together as a group." The elders can own get together to share their thoughts and feelings, which keeps them away from isolation. He believes that providing these services to the senior citizens means more than just expansion of business.

Bangladeshi immigrants in the United States are thriving in various fields, enriching American society with their talents and hard work. Their growing political engagement is shaping the nation's political landscape. Bangladeshi women, in particular, have played a vital role in this journey, breaking

barriers and advocating for change. Moreover, the Bangladeshi community's active involvement in home care underscores their commitment to preserving their cultural heritage while contributing positively to their adopted homeland. Their collective story embodies the enduring power of immigration, diversity, and community in the United States.

Crucial October

(Continued from page 1)

held power consecutively for 15 years, many unexpected events could unfold this month. The upcoming electoral methods in Bangladesh, the potential release of Khaleda Zia, and whether the elections will be held under Hasina's regime will all be revealed this month.

Conversations with several influential political analysts of the country suggest that they foresee significant changes in national politics in October. Even if pro-government political leaders do not publicly acknowledge it, there is a palpable underlying pressure both domestically and internationally. While some deny any looming change, there is an internal preparation evident. The opposition, however, fervently believes that their long-standing demands will be resolved within this month, including the declaration of a caretaker government or an interim electoral government, the release of Khaleda Zia, and the withdrawal of political charges.

BNP Secretary-General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir remarked, "The fate of Bangladesh will be decided in the coming days." Targeting the month of October, he said, "Whether democratic rights will be restored, whether sovereignty will be retained, or whether the people will be able to elect their leaders through their votes will be determined in the next few days." Similarly, Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader stated, "The Awami League is in power this October and will remain so in the following October." Emphasizing his confidence, he added, "People still want Hasina. So, why would we give up power? I see no reason to relinquish it. There's also no need for a caretaker government," he informed. The two leaders of the two parties, regardless of what they say out loud, both sides electoral preparations can be understood through various means. While the Awami League has publicly started its election campaign, BNP hasn't done so yet. However, they are prepared. Regardless of the past, BNP is fairly certain that the upcoming elections will not be held under the Hasina administration. Even though BNP has faced various oppressions, tortures, and legal cases in the past 15 years, they believe they have repeatedly proven that they are stronger at the grassroots level than before. Despite numerous obstacles, the turnout of leaders and workers at all the meetings and gatherings over the past year was noticeable. Even though they couldn't overthrow the government despite having massive support, the stern stance of Western countries, including the United States, against the government has boosted the opposition's morale. While the government may not admit it, it's evident from the series of sanctions that the government is not in a strong position.

The latest sanctions

(See page 05)

(Continued from page 4)

by the United States, even though they did not disclose names, list at least 600 individuals, including government ministers, MPs, officials, and journalists. Because of these sanctions, the Air Force has had visa applications denied. A minister's son had to return from the U.S. During Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's stay in the U.S., due to the newly announced sanctions, foreign trade advisor Salman Rahman, Foreign Minister Shahriar Alam, and many others could not enter the country. Multiple sources have indicated that after her tours of the United States and London, upon returning to the country, Sheikh Hasina might face economic sanctions on Bangladesh if she does not declare her resignation for the sake of a free and fair election. Sheikh Hasina has been informed about this. As a result, the month of October could be a turning point for Bangladeshi politics.

Government Wants

(Continued from page 1)

Khaleda Zia by not allowing her to seek medical treatment abroad, alleged BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir. Speaking about the rejection of the request to send Khaleda Zia abroad by the Ministry of Law, he said, "This government, this unselected anti-people government, wants to kill the leader of democracy, the mother of democracy, the former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia. By denying her medical treatment misleading the public with false pretenses, and misinterpreting the law, they want to kill the former Prime Minister today without treatment." Yesterday, on Sunday, outside the central office of the BNP at Naya Paltan, during the farmer's rally organized by the Jatiyatabadi Krishi Dal with demands like "Resign Sheikh Hasina government, dissolve the parliament, and hold elections under a neutral government and release Khaleda Zia," he made these remarks. Thousands of leaders and activists, wearing green and yellow caps, joined the rally from Kakrail to Fakirapool. At the rally, activists chanted slogans like "If something happens to Khaleda Zia, houses will be set on fire," and "One time, one demand, when will Sheikh Hasina go?" Responding to the government's statement about not allowing Begum Khaleda Zia to go abroad for treatment, Mirza Fakhrul said, "The only reason they (the government) are saying these things is that they are cowardly and afraid. They know if the former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia gets well and returns to the people, millions will take to the streets and their reign will be destroyed." He further said, "They are showing various laws and regulations to stop former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia from going abroad for treatment. When you (referring to Sheikh Hasina) had an ear problem, didn't you go to America? Why are you saying all this when former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia is facing a life-and-death situation? There's only one reason: politically, they are attacking Begum Zia; they are being violent towards Begum Zia."

"They do not want to keep Zia healthy; they are not allowing Begum Zia to participate in politics. The sole aim of the Awami League is to ensure that there is no opposition in the

country and that they are the only ruling party. Their rhetoric suggests that they are the only owners of this nation, and we are all mere subjects. Regarding the government's ire over Peter Haas, the BNP Secretary-General said, "They (the government) are very upset about Peter Haas. Their leaders and ministers are speaking out against him, ignoring all diplomatic norms. Even the television channels owned by their lineage are spreading falsehoods. They are so irresponsible and lack a sense of duty that they have created issues with the country where we export most of our products and where they demand the majority of our garments."

Another top BNP leader stated, "Another piece of news is that in September, the lowest amount of remittances has been received. Remittances, the money sent by our workers abroad, have decreased last month. This implies a lack of confidence in the Bangladeshi economy; hence they are not sending money. This has been their doing."

He further stated, "We have no alternatives. I want to directly say, this illegitimate government still has time; resign honorably, hand over power to a neutral caretaker government, dissolve the parliament, set up a new election commission, and arrange elections. If you truly care for the nation's welfare, come under this system. Otherwise, the people of the nation know how to get rid of autocracy, how to shun fascism, and, Inshallah, they will."

Calling for the awakening of the general populace, the BNP Secretary-General said, "We have people from Rangpur-Dinajpur here. A farmer leader had rebelled during the British period, calling all farmers for a revolt. He had said, 'Wake up everyone.' This is the call now. Everyone, wake up. Rise against this terrifying fascist government. Democracy must be established, our national leader must be freed, and Tarek Rahman must be brought back. Take this oath, and in the coming days, let's intensify our protest, build our resistance against their oppressions."

He further accused, "Due to the government's corruption and plundering, our farmers are not getting a fair price for their produce or any fertilizers, pesticides, or seeds. On the other hand, under the guise of mega projects, the government is siphoning off money abroad and accumulating assets."

In a meeting chaired by the Farmers Party chairman Hassan Jafir Tuhin and general secretary Shahidul Islam, BNP leaders Shahjahan Omar, Barkat Ullah Bulu, Shamsuzzaman Dudu, Forhad Halim Donar, Ruhul Kabir Rizvi, and Khayrul Kabir, among others, were present."

What is going on

(Continued from page 1)

the critically ill Khaleda Zia abroad? And why did the government abruptly deny it? Why did the BNP inquire about admissions in hospitals in Germany, the United States, and the UK? Did they receive any "green signal" from behind the scenes from the government? If not, why did the BNP and Khaleda Zia's family start making arrangements? These questions have been swirling in many minds since the Ministry of Law rejected Khaleda Zia's application to go abroad for treatment on Sunday. Although neither the government nor the BNP are commenting specifically

about the overseas treatment, they are giving legal interpretations for and against the rejection. However, political analysts say that without a 'signal' from the government's high command, the Law Minister wouldn't have dared to request, and similarly, the BNP wouldn't abruptly start preparations to send her abroad without some indication. There may be unspoken conditions at play, and the political calculations can change.

A senior leader of the BNP told Samakal that the application was denied due to differences in opinions among the leaders of the ruling party. The ministers and the Prime Minister could not come to a consensus. In response to a question, that leader mentioned that he isn't aware if any conditions were set. Before the rejection of Khaleda Zia's application to go abroad, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had given a negative indication in her speech. The Ministry of Law officially announced this on Tuesday. Law Minister Anisul Huq stated that there's no chance of reconsidering the application made by her family to send her abroad. However, a few days ago, the Law Minister had mentioned that no application was made from Khaleda Zia's side for treatment abroad and that the government would consider if an application was made. However, the BNP claimed that an application was already made. Still, on 25th September, another application was made by her younger brother Shamim Eskander. The BNP has expressed strong displeasure at the government's decision to reject the application. BNP's senior joint secretary advocate Ruhul Kabir Rizvi in a press conference said that the decision to prevent Khaleda Zia from going abroad for advanced medical treatment is a reflection of the Prime Minister's speech in the USA. In essence, the Prime Minister is executing a plan to isolate Khaleda Zia from the world. Drawing a parallel with the German 'Secret State Police', known shortly as 'Gestapo', he mentioned that the Awami League in Bangladesh is known as the 'Awami Gestapo'. The police, administration, and courts are being used to present a threat of death to the public. The Gestapo used to kill their opponents with lethal injections. He claims that something similar is happening in Bangladesh now. After Khaleda Zia's arrest, he alleged that various methods of poisoning had been used against her, making the people believe...

"However, a senior lawyer of the Supreme Court, Monzil Morshed said, according to section 401 of the Criminal Procedure, the government has released Khaleda Zia by executive order. With the same authority, the government could permit her to go abroad for treatment. There might be no need to approach the court for this. Because Section 401 grants the government all kinds of powers. Responding to journalists' questions at his office, Anisul Haq said, that once an application under section 401 of the Criminal Procedure is disposed of, there's no provision in this law to reconsider that disposed application. Therefore, explanations of subsections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of section 401 have been sent to the Home Ministry. The opinion mentioned that an application once disposed of under the power of section 401 is a 'past and closed transaction', legally there's no opportunity to reopen it. The Law Minister further said the application received from the (See page 06)

What is going on

(Continued from page 5)

Home Ministry requests permission for Khaleda Zia's permanent bail and advanced treatment abroad. A journalist asked about the procedure to send Khaleda Zia abroad if her family wishes to do so. In response, the Law Minister repeatedly stated, that she has been released under section 401 of the Criminal Procedure with two conditions – to cancel that and then consider again if there's a provision. General Secretary of the Awami League and the Minister of Road Transport and Bridges, Obaidul Quader said yesterday, that Khaleda Zia has to go abroad in accordance with prevailing laws, constitution, and the court's decision. All decisions regarding Khaleda Zia will be in accordance with the law.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal recently stated that Khaleda Zia is being treated as per the prevailing laws of the country. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has already informed of this. Referring to the BNP, the minister said, that no matter how much protest they stage, there's no provision to go abroad outside the boundaries of the law.

It has been alleged that the application for Khaleda Zia's medical treatment abroad was considered politically rather than legally by her lawyer, Barrister Kaiser Kamal. He made this allegation in response to the statement made by the Law Minister. BNP's legal affairs secretary, Kaiser Kamal said, through this decision of the government, it's once again proven that there's no rule of law in the country. Through this, a terrible drama has been staged with Khaleda Zia. It's clearly stated in section 401 of the Criminal Procedure, the government could have released her by executive order and could have allowed her to go abroad for treatment.

The health condition of Khaleda Zia, who is under treatment at Evercare Hospital, has deteriorated. Her respiratory distress increased suddenly last Wednesday night. Thanks to the immediate efforts of the medical board's doctors, the situation was brought under control. At that time, she underwent an X-ray. A doctor reported that preparations have been made to admit Khaleda Zia to the Coronary Care Unit. In the afternoon, her ECG and echocardiogram were done. The catheter that had been placed on her right side for fluid removal from her lungs was temporarily removed by the doctors.

The same doctor informed me that, in addition to her weakened physical state, the BNP Chairperson is seriously suffering from liver cirrhosis. There is no advanced treatment for this condition in the country. The only alternative is a liver transplant. Alongside her liver issues, her kidney complications and diabetes are also increasing. Thus, when trying to address one issue, another is cropping up. At present, attempts are being made to control the situation using sensitive medications.

By the side of the BNP Chairperson's bed is her daughter-in-law, Sharmila Rahman Sinthi. She cooks meals for her mother-in-law at their Gulshan residence and brings them to the hospital. 78-year-old Khaleda Zia is suffering from kidney, lung, heart, and liver complications. On the night of August 9th, Khaleda Zia was admitted to Evercare Hospital for a medical examination. Under the leadership of specialist doctor Professor Shahabuddin Talukdar

of Evercare Hospital, a 19-member medical board is closely monitoring and treating her.

New York City Faces

(Continued from page 1)

more than six inches of rain, with JFK Airport recording a staggering 8 inches — the highest for a September day since 1948. As Brooklyn and Queens grappled with the brunt of the downpour, the city's infrastructure strained under the weight. Governor Kathy Hochul and Mayor Eric Adams were swift to declare a state of emergency. Flash flooding severely hampered the city's transportation pulse, suspending subway and train services and shutting down Terminal A at LaGuardia Airport. As meteorologists drew parallels between the rainfall pattern and remnants of Hurricane Ida, forecasts had ominously predicted this rainfall several days prior. By Thursday night, the gravest of these predictions manifested. New York's resilience was further tested as the Department of Environmental Protection raised alarms about potential sewage runoff, given that parts of the city experienced hourly rainfall rates outpacing the sewer system's 1.75-inch capacity. The day's challenges extended to the educational sector as well; only 77% of students could attend school, a significant dip from typical rates, with many struggling to find a way home amidst the chaos. In the midst of this, Mayor Eric Adams faced backlash from several quarters for what many deemed a "delayed" response to the climate emergency. As alternate side parking took a backseat and parking meters remained operational, there were disturbing reports of rainwater seeping into a migrant tent facility on Randall's Island, further complicating an already dire situation.

NYPD appoints long-time

(Continued from page 1)

been selected for this vital role. This appointment holds significant importance as it is central to the safety and security of motorists, passengers, cyclists, and pedestrians across all five boroughs, according to the department. Rivera's journey in the NYPD began in June 1995 when he started his career as a patrol officer in the 46th Precinct in the Bronx. Throughout his service, he contributed to various precincts, including the 30th Precinct in Manhattan, the 41st, 44th, 46th, and 52nd Precincts in the Bronx, Patrol Borough Bronx, and the Bronx Impact Response Team. Over the years, Rivera steadily climbed the ranks, and in 2020, he earned the rank of Assistant Chief. He held commanding roles in precincts such as the 41st and 46th Precincts, as well as in larger divisions like Patrol Borough Manhattan North and Patrol Borough Bronx. He also served as the executive officer of the 52nd Precinct, Patrol Borough Manhattan North, and most recently, the Office of the Chief of Department. In his new capacity, Chief Rivera will lead the Police Department's Transportation Bureau, responsible for city-wide traffic control and overseeing key units, including the NYPD's Highway District, Traffic Operations District, and Traffic Enforcement District. Commissioner Caban expressed his privilege in elevating Chief Rivera to the executive staff, highlighting Rivera's remarkable vision and contributions to the NYPD over nearly three decades. He commended him as a consummate professional who em-

bodies the values and concerns of both civilian and uniformed members of the police department and the community they serve.

10 Killed after Mexico

(Continued from page 1)

information suggests that approximately 100 people were present inside the Ciudad Madero church when the collapse took place, as stated by security services in the state of Tamaulipas. It is believed that 30 individuals may be trapped beneath the debris, as reported by Reuters. Moreover, at least 60 people sustained injuries during the incident, with two of them suffering severe injuries, as confirmed by a spokesperson for Tamaulipas security. Multiple agencies, including the National Guard, State Guard, Civil Protection, and the Red Cross, are actively involved in the ongoing rescue efforts. Bishop Jose Armando Alvarez, representing the diocese of Tampico, recounted that the church's roof caved in while worshippers were partaking in communion, as per Reuters. He appealed to the wider community to offer prayers for the survivors. Bishop Armando conveyed, "At this moment, essential efforts are underway to extract those still trapped beneath the wreckage," in a recorded message shared on social media, as reported by Reuters.

Indonesia launches

(Continued from page 1)

hailed as "a symbol of our modernisation". With a top speed of 350 kilometres (220 miles) per hour, the bullet train "Whoosh" can get between the capital Jakarta and Bandung in 45 minutes. The 140 km journey would previously have taken about three hours by train. "The Jakarta-Bandung high-speed train marks our efficient, friendly, and integrated mass transportation system," Widodo said during a ceremony at the capital's central station. "It is a symbol of our modernisation in the public transport, seamlessly connecting with other modes of transportation."

Widodo said the 600-capacity train was the first high-speed rail transportation in Southeast Asia. It is part of Beijing's Belt and Road initiative — a decade-old programme of China-backed infrastructure projects.

The president said the name was actually an acronym, standing for a tagline of "Waktu Hemat, Operasi Optimal, Sistem Handal" — which in Bahasa Indonesia means "Saving time, optimal operation, reliable system". It was built by PT KCI, which is made up of four Indonesian state companies and Beijing's China Railway International Co.

The project was initially set to cost less than \$5 billion and be completed by 2019.

However, delays caused by construction challenges and the Covid-19 pandemic led to a surge in costs. In preparation for its opening, officials have conducted public trials for the new high-speed route.

Last week, Transportation Minister Budi Karya Sumadi confirmed that the government would extend the high-speed train route from Bandung to the country's second-biggest city Surabaya. Last month, Chinese Premier Li Qiang joined Senior Minister Luhut Pandjaitan on a ride aboard the train during his Jakarta visit for summits with Southeast Asian leaders. Pandjaitan told reporters on Thursday that Widodo plans to welcome Chinese President Xi Jinping in the future to ride the train, but did not give more specifics.



Photo Credit - Mayoral Photography Office/Michael Appleton

NY Governor & Mayor Make 180 Degree Turn on Migrant Policies

SAM Desk: Gov. Kathy Hochul (D-NY) said on Thursday that her state has reached its limit with the illegal immigrants flooding it. "Places like New York really are at capacity," Hochul told CNN. "We have large hearts. You want to be generous and

supportive to people who are experiencing a humanitarian crisis, but there is a limit to what we can do." With more than 60,000 migrants in the city's care, Adams has decided to stop sheltering single adults after two months, and thousands will start being

evicted this Saturday. The decision was made, in part, out of concerns that New York's shelter guarantee was becoming a magnet for migrants, according to two people familiar with City Hall's thinking.

NY High School Bus Crash Kills 2

SAM Desk: A charter bus with members of a Farmingdale High School band from Long Island crashed off I-84 near Wawayanda, New York, resulting in the deaths of two adults and injuring several students. The accident, which took place 45 miles from New York City, is suspected to have been caused by a faulty front tire, though investigations are ongoing. Among the deceased are Gina Pelletiere, 43, the band's music teacher, and Beatrice Ferrari, 77, a retired teacher. Five students are in critical condition. The bus, headed for a band camp in Greeley, Pennsylvania, was one of six from the school.



Photo Credit - Newsday

The United States Takes Steps to Implement Visa Restrictions on Individuals from Bangladesh Associated with Election Interference

SAM Desk: The United States has imposed visa restrictions on people affiliated with the law enforcement agencies, the ruling party, and the political opposition in Bangladesh. These individuals are deemed to be involved in undermining the democratic election process in Bangladesh. A press release from the US Department of State on Friday (September 22) mentioned that both these individuals and their immediate family members could face entry bans to the US. Furthermore, the statement suggests that more individuals involved in undermining elections may also become ineligible for US visas in the future under this policy.

The US has specified that this applies to present and past Bangladeshi authorities, individuals from opposition and governing political parties, and personnel from law enforcement, the judiciary, and security services.

The statement emphasized that these actions underscore the ongoing dedication of the United States to assist Bangladesh in achieving its objective of conducting peaceful, free, and equitable national elections.

Responding to a query, Assistant Secretary Lou clarified, "The [State] Department assesses an individual's disqualification under this policy through a comprehensive, well-documented, and carefully examined case-by-case assessment of reliable information concerning individuals who are undermining the democratic process in Bangladesh. We employ this procedure consistently and rigorously, irrespective of whether they belong to the government, opposition, or security services."

He also mentioned, "We will not disclose the names of individuals subjected to visa restrictions under this policy. Visa records, including individual visa denials, are confidential under US law."

Meanwhile, during a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, US Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, Uzra Zeya, expressed the US's desire for a free, fair, and violence-free election in



Photo Credit - USA Department of State

Bangladesh.

The US decision comes just a day after the Election Commission announced that the European Union would not be sending observers for Bangladesh's upcoming national elections. Back in May of this year, the US introduced a new visa policy for Bangladesh, which involved denying visas to individuals, from law enforcement officials to political leaders, believed to be responsible for or involved in undermining the democratic electoral process in Bangladesh.

Shortly after the announcement, Deputy Minister for Education Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury Nowfel criticized the move as "hypocritical" on the social media platform X.

However, Humayun Kabir, former ambassador of Bangladesh to the US, mentioned, "I think there are both positive and negative aspects to this visa policy. If someone supports a fair election, they have no reason to be concerned. If someone creates obstacles, they will fall under the visa policy."

He continued, "Basically, those with ties to the US related to trade and travel will be af-

fected. Those without such ties need not worry about it. There's no reason to believe it will impact all processes."

Regarding the effectiveness of the visa policy in case the elections lack participation, he stated, "It's not for us to say. They will apply the visa policy based on their assessment."

'Unlikely to Affect Regular Immigrants' When the US announced the new visa policy in May, former election commissioner M. Sakawat Hussain told TBS that the policy is unlikely to affect regular immigrants.

He explained that high-ranking officials of political parties and state entities like the administration and security forces, especially those directly involved in undermining free and fair elections, would be denied US visas. "I believe this move isn't limited to just election day but also encompasses activities that contribute to the election atmosphere," the former commissioner remarked.

Furthermore, he pointed out that this policy would impact Bangladesh's reputation, noting that visa revocations might also affect visa applications to other countries.

President Kiir meets an American Oil Company

SAM Desk: South Sudan government has finalized a \$3 billion deal with an American Oil company, Caltech Trading Corporation, to invest in the oil sector in South Sudan.

Caltech will partner with the government of South Sudan to purchase and take over the shares of the Malaysian State-owned company, PETRONAS, which is now withdrawing from South Sudan's oil sector. The leadership of Caltech Trading Corporation led by its COO, Mohammed Malique, met with President Salva Kiir Mayardit in New York on Friday, marking the official entrance of the American company into the South Sudan's oil sector. South Sudan's Minister of Finance and Planning Dr. Barnaba Bak Chol says the \$3 billion agreement will give an opportunity for South Sudan to grow its oil sector. Bak said \$1.2 billion will be invested in the oil sector, while the rest will go for other vital infrastructure such as roads.





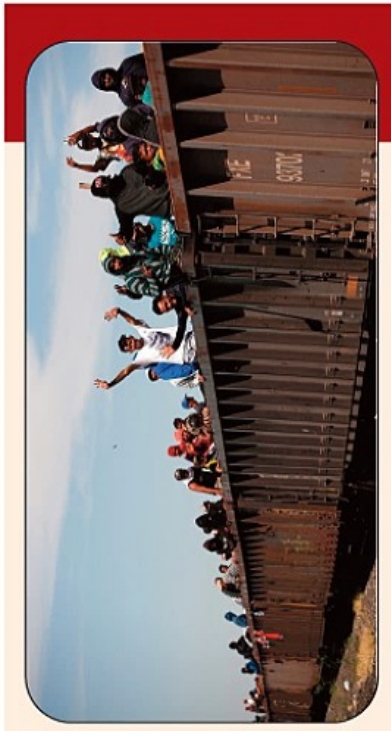
Photo Credit - Daniel Becerril/Reuters

Mexico Intensifies Efforts to Curb Migrants Boarding The Freight Train Referred to As 'The Beast'

This crackdown on migrants using "The Beast" trains comes at a time when desperation among migrants seeking access to the United States has led to an overwhelming influx, placing immense pressure on both Mexican and U.S. border officials. The trains collectively known as "The Beast" have historically served as a transportation method for migrants heading to the U.S., and a viral video of a Ferromex train packed with migrants en route to the U.S.

SAM Desk: Mexican authorities have launched a comprehensive enforcement effort aimed at curbing the practice of migrants hitchhiking rides on freight trains, famously known as "The Beast," in their quest to reach the United States. Over the years, thousands of migrants have utilized these trains as a perilous means of transportation to the Mexico-U.S. border, where they often cross illegally. In response to mounting safety concerns, the Mexican railway company Ferromex temporarily suspended the operation of 60 trains in the northern regions of the country. Reports have indicated that migrants frequently sustain injuries while attempting to board these moving freight cars. To address this issue, Mexico's National Migration Institute (INM) has mobilized agents in an effort to discourage migrants from attempting such dangerous journeys. This campaign includes deploying drones to pinpoint migrants who may have ventured into the surrounding areas.

One such operation occurred alongside a railway track near a landfill in Huehuetoca, a town situated north of Mexico City. Approximately 40 INM agents, utilizing more than a dozen vans, worked to block access to migrants attempting to board the trains. A drone was deployed to locate any individuals who had sought refuge in the nearby hills. Despite these efforts, migrants, carrying backpacks and containers of water, have resorted to trekking through tall grass under the scorching sun, making their way on foot to the nearest town after being thwarted in their attempts to board the trains. In response to the ongoing challenges posed by migrants seeking to hitch rides on these trains, INM announced plans to collaborate with Ferromex to identify strategic points where efforts can be concentrated to deter migrants from attempting such journeys. Ferromex has reported several "regrettable cases of injuries or deaths" resulting from mi-



grants attempting to board moving freight cars in recent days. Some migrants have even been observed jumping onto these trains while they are in motion, despite the grave dangers associated with such actions. This crackdown on migrants using "The Beast" trains comes at a time when desperation among migrants seeking access to the United States has led to an overwhelming influx, placing immense pressure on both Mexican and U.S. border officials. The trains collectively known as "The Beast" have historically served as a transportation method for migrants heading to the U.S., and a viral video of a Ferromex train packed with migrants en route to the U.S. southern border brought renewed attention to this issue. At the time of the company's decision to halt train operations, there were approximately 1,500 migrants gathered at a rail yard in the city of Torreon, situated in the northern border state of Coahuila.

Lawmakers Bracing for a Potential Government Shutdown



Photo Credit - Alex Wong/Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images

SAM Desk: As the deadline for the current spending plan's expiration approaches, lawmakers in the United States are preparing for the possibility of a government shutdown in one week. The Biden administration has instructed agencies to begin preparations for a potential shutdown, while congressional Republicans are divided on how to proceed. The Office of Management and Budget has advised agencies to update their shutdown plans, including determining which employees would be furloughed and which services would be curtailed.

While essential duties like national defense, law enforcement, Social Security, and

Medicare would continue in the event of a shutdown, some Republicans are criticizing a small group of GOP colleagues for obstructing plans to avoid a shutdown. They are urging House Speaker Kevin McCarthy to collaborate with Democrats on a spending plan that could pass Congress. In the Senate, Democratic Majority Leader Chuck Schumer is also discussing plans to avoid a shutdown with Republican counterpart Mitch McConnell.

A group of conservative Republicans, led by Rep. Matt Gaetz, insists on debating individual spending bills rather than temporary plans to keep the government open. They are also

advocating for more spending cuts that the Democratic Senate is likely to reject. Despite being relatively small in number, this group has the potential to disrupt McCarthy's plans due to the narrow Republican majority in the House and could even threaten his position as House Speaker.

McCarthy has stated that members are working on a series of spending bills to keep the government open, with plans to pass them on Tuesday. However, the House took the weekend off, drawing criticism from President Biden and some Democrats, who highlighted the impact of a previous government shutdown on American workers.

US Commits \$116 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for Myanmar, Prompting Rapid Reaction from Bangladesh

SAM Desk: In a statement on Thursday, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced that the United States is allocating an extra \$116 million in humanitarian aid for Myanmar, Bangladesh, and the neighboring areas to aid Rohingya refugees who escaped Myanmar. This additional funding brings the total U.S. assistance for those impacted by the Myanmar crisis and its ripple effects in Bangladesh and the region to over \$2.2 billion. This commitment has been ongoing since August 2017, when more than 740,000 Rohingyas fled genocide.



Meta's new AI assistant trained on public Facebook and Instagram posts

Sci-Tech Desk: Meta Platforms used public Facebook and Instagram posts to train parts of its new Meta AI virtual assistant, but excluded private posts shared only with family and friends in an effort to respect consumers' privacy, the company's top policy executive told Reuters in an interview.

Meta also did not use private chats on its messaging services as training data for the model and took steps to filter private details from public datasets used for training, said Meta President of Global Affairs Nick Clegg, speaking on the sidelines of the company's annual Connect conference this week, reports Reuters.

"We've tried to exclude datasets that have a heavy preponderance of personal information," Clegg said, adding that the "vast majority" of the data used by Meta for training was publicly available.

He cited LinkedIn as an example of a website whose content Meta deliberately chose not to use because of privacy concerns.

Clegg's comments come as tech companies including Meta, OpenAI and Alphabet's (GOOGL.O) Google have been criticized for using information scraped from the internet without permission to train their AI models, which ingest massive amounts of data in order to summarize information and generate imagery.

The companies are weighing how to handle the private or copyrighted materials vacuumed up in that process that their AI systems may reproduce, while facing lawsuits from authors accusing them of infringing copy-

Meta made the assistant using a custom model based on the powerful Llama 2 large language model that the company released for public commercial use in July, as well as a new model called Emu that generates images in response to text prompts, it said.

Meta AI was the most significant product among the company's first consumer-facing AI tools unveiled by CEO Mark Zuckerberg on Wednesday at Meta's annual products conference, Connect. This year's event was dominated by talk of artificial intelligence, unlike past conferences which focused on augmented and virtual reality.

Meta made the assistant using a custom model based on the powerful Llama 2 large language model that the company released for public commercial use in July, as well as a new model called Emu that generates images in response to text prompts, it said.

The product will be able to generate text, audio and imagery and will have access to real-time information via a partnership with Microsoft's Bing search engine.

The public Facebook and Instagram posts that were used to train Meta AI included both text and photos, Clegg said.

Those posts were used to train Emu for the image generation elements of the product, while the chat functions were based on Llama 2 with some publicly available and annotated datasets added, a Meta spokesperson told Reuters.

Interactions with Meta AI may also be used to improve the features going forward, the spokesperson said.

Clegg said Meta imposed safety restrictions on what content the Meta AI tool could generate, like a ban on the creation of photo-realistic images of public figures.

On copyrighted materials, Clegg said he was expecting a "fair amount of litigation" over the matter of "whether creative content is covered or not by existing fair use doctrine," which permits the limited use of protected works for purposes such as commentary, research and parody.

"We think it is, but I strongly suspect that's going to play out in litigation," Clegg said. Some companies with image-generation tools facilitate the reproduction of iconic characters like Mickey Mouse, while others have paid for the materials or deliberately avoided including them in training data.

OpenAI, for instance, signed a six-year deal with content provider Shutterstock this summer to use the company's image, video and music libraries for training.

Asked whether Meta had taken any such steps to avoid the reproduction of copyrighted imagery, a Meta spokesperson pointed to new terms of service barring users from generating content that violates privacy and intellectual property rights.



Florida Governor Desantis Pulls Funding From 4 Schools Linked to CCP

SAM Desk: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has halted school choice scholarships for four institutions, citing their alleged affiliations with the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The schools in question include Lower and Upper Sagemont Preparatory Schools in Weston and both Parke House Academy and Park Maitland School in Winter Park. A statement from the governor's office mentioned a law, enacted by DeSantis in May, which prevents private schools in Florida from being part of educational scholarship programs if they have connections to "countries of concern" – a list that includes China. DeSantis emphasized Florida's stance against any CCP influence over students and the use of state funds for institutions tied to foreign adversaries. These schools are associated with the Spring Education Group, which is under the umbrella of Primavera Holdings Limited, a primarily Hong Kong-based investment firm owned by Chinese nationals.

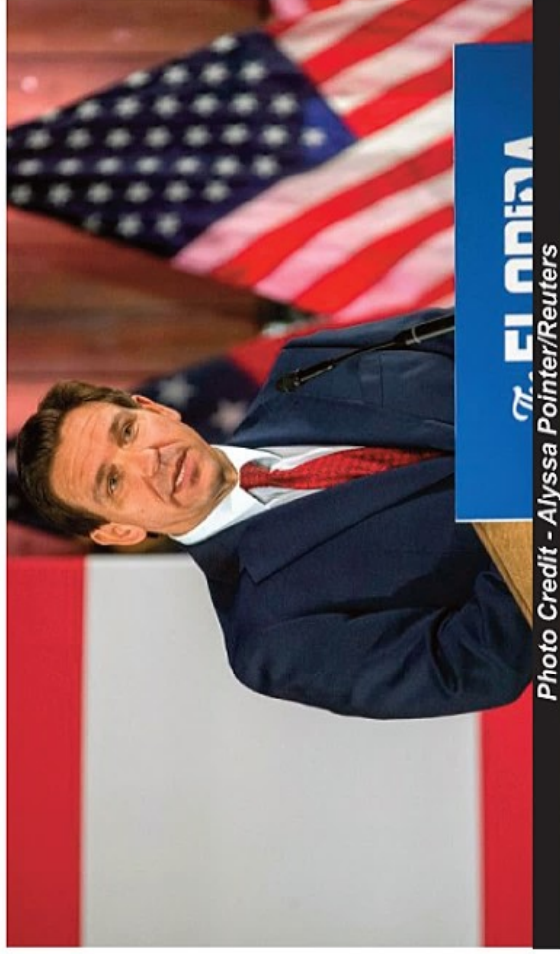


Photo Credit - Alyssa Pointer/Reuters

NYPD to Deploy Robocop



Photo Credit - NYC Mayor's Office



SAM Desk: The NYPD is introducing a 420-pound, 5-foot-2-inch robocop equipped with a large camera for patrolling the Times Square subway station in a two-month pilot program. During a press conference held in the subway station, Mayor Eric Adams explained that the KnightScope K5 Autonomous Security Robot will act as a crime deterrent and provide real-time information to deploy human officers ef-

fectively in safety incidents. The robot features multiple cameras, a button for public communication with a live person, and a speaker for audio communication. It's expected to enhance the city's surveillance network. During the pilot program, the robot will patrol from midnight to 6 a.m., initially with a human handler, and then it will operate solo. The cost-effectiveness of the robot, leased for

\$9 an hour, was emphasized by Mayor Adams, comparing it favorably to a human transit cop. The introduction of such policing technology has raised concerns among privacy advocates and budget-conscious citizens, although the NYPD stated that the K5 robot would use video surveillance only and not audio or facial recognition technology.



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Photo Credit - Coffee City Police Department

Small Texas Village of 250 Inhabitants Ousts Entire Police Force Following Ticket Controversy Involving 50 Officers

SAM Desk: A tiny Texas village, where there were five police officers for every resident, made the decision to terminate its entire police force after a local news outlet revealed that officers had issued tickets exceeding \$1 million.

In Coffee City, the city council deliberated for less than 15 minutes earlier this month before voting to terminate the chief and the 50 officers comprising the police department."

The mass terminations occurred following an investigative series by KHOU-TV, revealing that citations issued by officers in the past year had led to fines exceeding \$1 million. Additionally, the station obtained personnel records through a Freedom of Information request, which indicated that half of the department's 50 officers had faced suspensions,

demotions, terminations, or dishonorable discharges in their previous law enforcement roles.

Furthermore, the station's report highlighted that Police Chief John Jay Portillo had not disclosed an ongoing DUI case in Florida. Inside Edition Digital has reached out to former Chief Portillo for comment.

According to records from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, Coffee City had 50 sworn officers for a population of 250 residents, which equated to five times the typical number of police officers for a town of its size.

The town is situated in northeastern Texas, nestled along the shores of Lake Palestine.

"After last week's vote to disband the entire department, Coffee City Mayor Jeff Black-

stone commented, "There were things that we weren't aware of, and that really opened our eyes. There are significant changes that need to be implemented swiftly," he stated.

City authorities have disclosed their plans to search for a new police chief who will have the authority to assemble a new team.

In the interim, neighboring sheriff's deputies will handle law enforcement calls, according to officials.

Some residents have come forward to challenge their traffic citations, arguing that they should not be required to pay fines issued by officers who have since been terminated.

Steve Prather, who was present at Coffee City Hall, told KETK-TV, "I came here with the hope of having my ticket dismissed since they let go of all their police officers."

Florida Officials Humanely Killed an Alligator on Friday

SAM Desk: Florida officials took action after receiving reports of a 13-foot alligator seen carrying human remains in Ridgecrest, Florida. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office responded to the area near 134th Avenue North and 121st Street, with assistance from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The alligator was "humanely killed" in response to the reports. Witnesses confirmed the presence of a body in the alligator's mouth, with one individual capturing the scene on video and reporting it to the authorities. The incident left residents shocked, as they had not expected to encounter such a situation in their neighborhood.



Photo Credit - Fox 13



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Badhon-starrer 'Khufiya' to release October 5

Entertainment Desk: Bangladeshi actress Azmeri Haque Badhon-starrer Hindi film titled *Khufiya* is scheduled to release on Netflix on October 5. Badhon will make her Bollywood debut with '*Khufiya*', which is directed by Indian filmmaker Vishal Bhardwaj, and based on author Amar Bhushan's novel titled *Escape to Nowhere*. The film stars Bollywood stars Tabu, Ali Fazal, Wamiqa Gabbi, Ashish Vidyarthi and others.

'It is really delightful news that the film is scheduled to be released on October 5. Besides sharing the screen with an actress like Tabu, I had a wonderful experience of working under the direction of Vishal Bhardwaj,' Azmeri Haque Badhon told.

The teaser of the film was released on September 24 in the past year.

'I do not want to talk about the



Azmeri

Haque Badhon

film before the trailer gets released. It will be released very soon,' Badhon added.

Badhon earned acclaim at both home and abroad for portraying the titular character in the film *Rehana Maryam Noor*, which follows the everyday life of *Rehana*

Maryam, a 37-year-old assistant professor at a medical college in Dhaka. The film deals with the

issue of sexual abuse of women. *Rehana Maryam Noor* also participated in the 'Un Certain Regard' section of the 74th Cannes Film Festival. The film also

earned her National Film Award in 2021.

Besides the silver screen, Badhon has received a good response from the audience acting in OTT productions, including *Ra-bindranath Ekhane*, *Kakhono Khete Aseni* and *Guti*.

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People Won't Leave Streets Until Govt Steps Down: Moyeen Khan



BNP Standing Committee Member Abdul Moyeen Khan speaking at a brief rally prior to a scheduled road march in Bagar Bazar area of Trishal upazila in Mymensingh district on Sunday —Focus Bangla

Dhaka Office: BNP Standing Committee Member Abdul Moyeen Khan on Sunday warned that people will not leave streets until the government steps down.

He said this while addressing a brief rally prior to a scheduled road march in Bagar Bazar area in Trishal of Mymensingh on Sunday morning.

"Today we have taken to the streets, take oath... we won't leave the streets until our leader Begum Khaleda Zia is released and the government now in power without people's mandate quits," he said.

The BNP's senior leader claimed that the people of the country expressed no-confidence

in the government and they (govt) don't have right to stay in power. "The sooner they quit power, the better it will be for the country."

Another standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan said the movement will intensify in the coming days. "Because people want to live, the poor people of this country have no way to live anymore. People will not be able to survive amid such hike in prices of essentials."

"So you(people) have to topple the government and establish a caretaker government once you want to exercise your franchise, lead a better life and live with dignity."

BNP arranged the road march demanding res-

ignation of the government, dissolution of the parliament, elections under neutral government, formation of new election commission and release of Khaleda Zia.

Earlier, the party held a similar road march in Sylhet on September 21, on September 23 in Barishal and on September 26 in Khulna.

Chaired by Mymensingh south district unit BNP President Dr Mahbubur Rahman Liton, party's Joint Secretary General Syed Moazzem Hossain Alal, Treasure Rashiduzzaman Millat, Organizing Secretary Syed Emran Saleh Prince and Assistant Organizing Secretary Shariful Alam, among others spoke at the brief rally.



Astronaut Frank Rubio Makes History by Returning to Earth After an Unintended 371-Day Stay in Space



SAM Desk: Dr. Frank Rubio, the first American astronaut to endure over a year in continuous space habitation, successfully concluded his mission by returning to Earth. His remarkable 371-day stay on the International Space Station (ISS) exceeded the previous records set by astronauts Mark Vande Hei (355 days) and Scott Kelly (340 days). This extended stay, more than double the original plan, ended with their Soyuz capsule landing in rural Kazakhstan on September 27. The astronauts required assistance upon arrival due to muscle atrophy from their prolonged exposure to microgravity.

Rubio, alongside Russian cosmonauts Sergey Prokopyev and Dmitri Petelin, initially reached the ISS aboard a Soyuz capsule on September 21, 2022. They had intended to return on March 28, but an uncontrollable radiator leak caused by a collision with space debris or a meteoroid in December 2022 forced them to remain in space. The unrepairable capsule was brought back to Earth, and they were eventually replaced by another uncrewed capsule in February, which facilitated their safe journey home.

Rubio, Prokopyev, and Petelin's extended stay aboard the ISS, necessitated by scheduling conflicts, has unexpectedly offered a valuable opportunity to gain insights into the effects of prolonged spaceflight.

In a statement, NASA Administrator Bill Nelson expressed the significance of Rubio's record-breaking mission: "Frank's record-



Dr. Frank Rubio

breaking time in space is not just a milestone; it's a major contribution to our understanding of long-duration space missions. He embodies the true pioneer spirit that will pave the way for future exploration to the Moon, Mars, and beyond."

The previous American record for consecutive days in space was held by Vande Hei, who spent 355 days on the ISS between 2021 and 2022. However, the all-time record for the longest consecutive time in space stands at an impressive 437 days, achieved by cosmonaut Valeri Polyakov between 1994 and 1995.

Rubio's mission was marked by remarkable achievements, including approximately 5,936 orbits of Earth, covering a distance of around

157 million miles (253 million kilometers). To put it in perspective, this is equivalent to about 328 round trips to the moon and back, as estimated by NASA. Additionally, Rubio conducted three spacewalks, totaling approximately 21 hours, and shared the ISS with 28 different crewmates during his extraordinary mission. In a September 19 interview conducted aboard the ISS, Rubio candidly shared the challenges of being away from his family for an extended duration but emphasized his commitment to maintaining a positive attitude throughout the mission. He conveyed, "You try to just focus on the job and on the mission and remain steady because ultimately, every day, you have to show up and do the work." During his stay in space, Rubio engaged in various scientific experiments, including investigating bacterial behavior in microgravity. However, his most cherished experiments involved nurturing a tomato plant, and he expressed his fondness for watching it grow and develop in the unique space environment.

The adjustment of Rubio's body to life back on Earth will be a fascinating process to observe. Prolonged spaceflight can lead to muscle degeneration, bone loss, reduced eyesight, impaired balance, and even alterations in brain structure. Given that this record-breaking mission marked Rubio's first time in space, his adaptation will be of particular interest. He anticipates that it might take anywhere from two to six months to regain a sense of complete normalcy.

Drew Weissman, Katalin Karikó win Nobel in medicine for enabling mRNA COVID vaccines



SAM Desk: A screen at the Karolinska Institute shows this year's laureates Katalin Kariko of Hungary (L) and Drew Weissman of the US during the announcement of the winners of the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm on 2 October, 2023

A screen at the Karolinska Institute shows this year's laureates Katalin Kariko of Hungary (L) and Drew Weissman of the US during the announcement of the winners of the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm on 2 October, 2023AFP

Katalin Kariko of Hungary and Drew Weissman of the United States won the Nobel Medicine Prize on Monday for work on messenger RNA (mRNA) technology that paved the way for Covid-19 vaccines. The pair, who had been tipped as favourites, were honoured for "for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19," the jury said. "The laureates contributed to the unprecedented rate of vaccine development during one of the greatest threats to human health in modern times," it added.

The pair will receive their prize, consisting of a diploma, a gold medal and a \$1 million cheque, from King Carl XVI Gustaf at a formal ceremony in Stockholm on 10 December, the anniversary of the 1896 death of scientist Alfred Nobel who created the prizes in his last will and testament.

Last year, the Medicine Prize went to Swedish paleogeneticist Svante Paabo, who sequenced the genome of the Neanderthal and discovered the previously unknown hominin Denisova.

The Nobel season continues this week with the announcement of the winners of the Physics Prize on Tuesday and the Chemistry Prize on Wednesday.

They will be followed by the much-anticipated prizes for Literature on Thursday and Peace on Friday.

The Economics Prize winds things up on Monday, 9 October.

THE NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE 2023



Katalin Karikó **Drew Weissman**

"for their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against COVID-19"

THE NOBEL ASSEMBLY AT KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET



A rockstar's Odyssey

Entertainment Desk: As the sun sets on October 2, a remarkable milestone graces the life of a musical legend, a rockstar who has strummed the strings of our hearts for over four decades.

Faruq Mahfuz Anam James, affectionately known as Guru, is not merely a name but an indelible mark on the canvas of Bangladeshi music. His journey, like the melodies he crafts, is a symphony of passion, resilience, and artistic brilliance.

James, the lead guitarist and vocalist of the band Nagar Baul, formerly known as Feelings, has been the embodiment of music itself.

His journey began in the early 1980s, as he, alongside Funty, Pablo, and Swapan, breathed new life into Feelings when former members departed. Together, they ignited the local gig scene with their electric performances. In those early days, James was hailed as "the one who can play mark knopfler with right feels."

It wasn't long before they ventured to Dhaka to record their debut album, "Station Road." Although it didn't attain immediate stardom, tracks like "Ager Jonome," "Amai Zete Dao," and "Rupshagor" became anthems in their own right.

It was in 1989 that James and Feelings released the game-changing album "Jail Theke Boleghi" (words from a condemn cell). This masterpiece propelled Feelings into the mainstream alongside other giants like Souls, Feedback, and Chime.

James's music transcends genres, from psychedelic rock to blues, and he has collaborated with an array of lyrical maestros, including Poet Shamsur Rahman, Prince Mahmud, Mariuk Rasel, Shibli, Anando and Deholovi. His melodies have been composed by luminaries like Lucky Akhand and Manam

Ahmed. In the tapestry of his musical influences, names like Jim Morrison, Mark Knopfler, and Eric Clapton shine brightly. His discography reads like a chronicle of Bangladeshi rock, with albums like "Station Road," "Jail theke Boleghi," "Nogor Baul," "Leis Fita Leis," and "Collection of Feelings" etching their places in the annals of music history.

As the years rolled on, James embarked on a solo journey, delivering albums like "Annona," "Palabe Kothai," "Dukkhini Dukkho Korona," "Thik Achhe Bondhu," "Ami Tomader E Lok," "Jonota Express," "Toofan," and "Kal Jomuna." He also transitioned Feelings into "Nagar Baul," unleashing "Dushu Cheler Dol" in 2001.

James's magnetic aura extended beyond Bangladesh's borders, resonating in the hearts of West Bengal's music enthusiasts.

His rendezvous with Bollywood, starting with "Gangster" in 2005 and continuing with hits like "Bheegi Bheegi," "Chal Chalein," "Rishtey," and "Alvida (Reprise)," amplified his global resonance.

In 2013, James lent his soul-stirring voice to the Hindi song "Bebasi" for the movie "Warning," a gem cherished by his ever-growing fanbase.

Yet, even as the world celebrated his music, James remained a humble soul. His simplicity, devotion to his craft, and love for photography, especially his aspiration to capture the essence of poet Nirmalendu Goon through his lens, reveal the grounded artist behind the rockstar facade.

Recently, James surprised the world with two of his comeback singles, "I Love You" and "Shobi Bhul" after a hiatus of twelve years. In a heartfelt statement, he expressed his gratitude to his loyal fans, promising the song, "I Love You" that resonates with his decades-

long journey. The burning question, "Why the hiatus?" remains unanswered, but as James put it, "It just happened."

The music, like his heart, beckoned him back, and for that, his fans are eternally grateful.

James, often credited as a pioneer of "band music" in Bangladesh, is not just an artist but a testament to the ever-evolving spirit of Bangladeshi music.

He reminds us of the glorious past when albums were treasures, released in cassettes with captivating covers and posters, a stark contrast to today's digital age.

Speaking of the "good old days," James wistfully reminisced, "We lived through a great time; it's sad that everything is presently digital." He hinted at the possibility of his new song being released in a physical format, rekindling nostalgia.

Beyond music, James's photography has earned accolades on social media. While he cherishes it as a hobby for now, fans eagerly await the day he may decide to exhibit his captivating works.

James's fame transcends boundaries, not only within Bangladesh but also in Bollywood, where his songs like "Bheegi Bheegi" and "Alvida" continue to mesmerize audiences across the subcontinent.

In a world that often transforms artists into legends, James remains the embodiment of simplicity, humility, and timeless music.

As he concluded his every concert with a simple "Love you all," it echoed the love and admiration that millions hold for this musical guru. On his 59th birthday, we salute James, the rockstar who not only graced our lives with music but also carved his place in our hearts, leaving an indelible mark for generations to come. Happy Birthday, Guru, may your melodies continue to serenade our souls for years to come.

Economic Headwinds Blow Despite IMF Deal



Shakhawat Hossain: The government has failed to bring about a major improvement in the economy, hamstrung by the price spiral of essentials and the dollar shortage, despite following suggestions from the International Monetary Fund for the past year. Economists said that the country's economy had yet to show any major signs of recovery from the worst-ever macroeconomic downturn since the government's negotiations with the IMF began in July 2022 to secure a loan of \$4.7 billion.

Updated data by the Bangladesh Bank showed that the current account balance became positive over the past year, but almost all other indicators, such as forex reserves, inflation, and remittances, kept falling. The gross forex reserves tumbled to \$27 billion in August 2023 from \$36.5 billion in August 2022. According to the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, or BMP6, of the IMF, the net reserve was \$21.1 billion in August 2023. Policy Research Institute executive director Ahsan H Mansur said that the fall in forex reserves would not stop unless capital flights were checked.

The capital flight had increased ahead of the national election, due by January 2024, said the former IMF official, adding that the earnings from remittances were falling because of the growing hundi operations. Regarded as the major source of forex reserves, the inflow of remittances recorded a negative 21 per cent to \$1.5 billion in August 2023 from \$2.0 billion in August 2022.

Remittance inflow into Bangladesh hit a 41-month low in September at \$1.34 billion, marking the lowest since April 2020.

Amid the bankruptcy of neighbouring Sri Lanka and the severe shortages of foreign currency, the government began negotiations for the IMF loan in July 2022.

In the following month, prices of fuel oils increased by a record 50 per cent in the local market due to intense pressure from the IMF to rationalise the growing energy subsidy.

The IMF disbursed the first tranche worth \$476 million in February 2023 and committed to disburse the remaining \$4.2 billion in six instalments over three years by May 2026.

The BB update data released on September 27 showed that the current account balance was \$537 million plus in July 2023, compared to \$449 million minus the same month in 2022.

The surplus current account balance has been attributed to import restrictions imposed by BB since April 2022, which have decreased the import of industrial raw materials and intermediate goods, affecting exports.

Export growth recorded only 3.8 per cent in August 2023 compared to the same month in 2022.

Overall inflation has been persisting near the double-digit for the past year, while food inflation jumped to 12.54 per cent in August, a 12-year high.

Former World Bank Dhaka office chief economist Zahid Hussain blamed the BB policy to print money for the persistently high inflation. In the financial year 2022–23 concluded on

June 20, 2023, the government borrowed Tk 98,826 crore from the BB.

Zahid Hussain lamented that many other countries, including Sri Lanka, had already tamed price hikes on essentials.

The Lankans faced 69 per cent inflation in September 2022, which came down to 4 per cent in August 2023.

Economists said that the interest rate corridor had been introduced by the BB in line with discussions with the IMF, but that did not help in checking inflation.

They suggested the introduction of an effective interest rate on lending and measures against capital flight and hundi to tackle the economic downturn.

They expected that discussions on the crucial issues would take place in the upcoming negotiations between the government and the IMF.

An IMF team will arrive in the capital on October 4 to negotiate the second tranche, worth more than \$700 million.

The finance division officials said that they were optimistic about a positive negotiation for the second tranche scheduled to be disbursed in November.

The government badly needs the second tranche as the shortage of dollars persists in the local market, forcing the devaluation of the local currency.

The finance ministry officials recalled that the IMF did not disburse the last tranche worth over \$75 million under the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility in 2006 as the then government had failed to meet some conditions



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Congratulations

Developing a community
requires a major role
played by its youth. I am

hopeful that The

South Asian Mail

will play that major role in
bridging the gap between
the younger generation in
our community and the
mainstream, to build a
beautiful future.



Morshed Alam

Founder and President
New American
Democratic Club Inc.

*May the pages of your
magazine illuminate minds,
inspire hearts,
and captivate souls.*



Ahshan Habib
Queens Community Board Member

Ahshan Habib

congratulations

WE HAVE LONG BEEN WAITING FOR AN
ENGLISH NEWSPAPER TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS
OF THE BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY.

WE HOPE THAT THE
SOUTH ASIAN MAIL
WILL ACT AS A MILESTONE IN
FULFILLING THAT INTEREST. BEST
WISHES FOR THE MAGAZINE.

Giash Ahmed

Chairman & CEO
Immigrant Elder
Home Care LLC



congratulations

I am delighted to know about the publication of The South Asian Mail. Hope that the newspaper will prioritize the news of South Asia along with the news of the rest of the world, and work with the mainstream in the development of our community.



Shah Nawaz, MBA

President & CEO
Golden Age Home Care

Congratulations

South Asian Mail.

We hope The South Asian Mail will reach its goal and target audience, will support the community during good and bad times, and fulfill its responsibility of bringing the community together.



Asef Bari President and CEO
Munmun Bari chairman



Congratulations

We are happy to be informed that the English language newspaper The South Asian Mail will be published alongside many Bangla language newspaper in New York. We believe that the newspaper will play a crucial role in creating a link between the mainstream and the Bangladeshi community. Best wishes for The South Asian Mail.



Aasha Home Care
Aasha Social
Adult Day Care
Aasha Charity
Foundation

Ln. Eng. Aalkash Rahman

President and CEO

Eshaa Rahman

Chairman

Congratulations

May the pages
of your newspaper
always be filled
with impactful
stories and
insightful
journalism.

Moin Choudhury

Attorney at Law
Esq. Admitted in the United States
Supreme Court. Democratic District
leader at large





congratulations



Wishing your newspaper continued success in delivering news that connects communities and bridges cultures.



FAHAD SOLAIMAN

Asian Advisor Council Member to
the Mayor of New York City
President, Fauma Innovative Inc.

congratulations

Here's
to your
newspaper,
a beacon
of truth and
information
in the world
of news.



Mohammad Rahman, Sayyem

Electrical Engineer

NYPH Weill Cornell

Executive Director, Ozone Park Quality

Care Medicine PLLC

CEO, Saimon Properties LLC

Congratulations South Asian Mail.

The Bangladeshi community is rapidly merging with the mainstream. I hope The South Asian Mail will play a crucial role in this progress of our community.



AHNAF ALAM

President, New American Youth Forum of New York
Executive Director, New American Democratic Club Inc.
Member, Queens Community Board -12
Member, Queens County Committee

Congratulations

South Asian Mail.

I HEARTILY CONGRATULATE
THE INITIATIVE TO
PUBLISH THE SOUTH
ASIAN MAIL. I HOPE
THE MAGAZINE WILL
PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN
PROVIDING SERVICE TO
OUR COMMUNITY.



MOHAMMED FISLAM DELWAR

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER 8

Founder and President | Jamaica Bangladesh friends society

President | American Bangladeshi business alliance

Founder and President | Bangladeshi American United for progress

Director | US Bangladesh chambers of commerce

Sending warmest wishes to your publication as it continues to shape the narrative of our region.

Congratulations



MD. Khalilur Rahman

CEO, Khalils Food

congratulations to **South Asian Mail.**

Best wishes to
the dedicated
team behind
your publication
for their
unwavering
commitment
to journalistic
excellence.

**Mohammad
Rab Miah**

President
Bangladesh Society



Congratulations

*Congratulations to The
South Asian Mail.*



*I look forward
to see them
doing great
things, and our
community will
be expecting
great things
from them.*



Mohammad Haider

President & CEO
Ayaan Restoration Inc.

Congratulation

Congratulations.
I am proud to see
our community
members taking
steps to connect
further with the
mainstream.



Nurul Azim

President & CEO

Eastern Investment

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations
to The South
Asian Mail. I
hope The South
Asian Mail will
support the
community in its
mission.

Kazi A. Hossain (Nayan)

Former Investigator for NYC HHC
Former FOBANA Convenor NYC 2014

Congratulations

“

May your news team
keep uncovering the
truth and informing the
world. Best wishes!

”



Bilal Chowdhury

President & CEO
Four Star Imports &
Distribution Inc

Congratulations



Sending best
wishes for your
journalistic
endeavors to reach
new heights!

Md Ruhul Amin Siddiki

General Secretary
Bangladesh
Society

Congratulations



May your newspaper
continue to be a reliable
source of news for
generations to come.

KAZI SAKAWAT HOSSAIN AZAM

President, Bangladeshi American
Friendship Society of New York
Former President, Chittagong
Association in North America

Congratulations

I applaud the journalist from the Bangladeshi community who took the initiative to publish a magazine in English. I wish the magazine all the success.



Ahsan Habib
Member Community Board 3

Congratulations

HOPE THAT
THE SOUTH ASIAN MAIL
WILL HIGHLIGHT THE SUCCESSES
AND FAILURES, JOYS AND
SORROWS OF OUR COMMUNITY
WITH EQUAL IMPORTANCE.

Maksud Chowdhury

President and CEO

**Affiliate Adult
Residence Care Inc**



Congratulations



I hope that this new English language newspaper, The South Asian Mail, will play a leading role in bridging the gap between the mainstream media and our local community.

Shamsun Nahar Nimme

Vice President
Immigrant Elder
Home Care



Congratulations

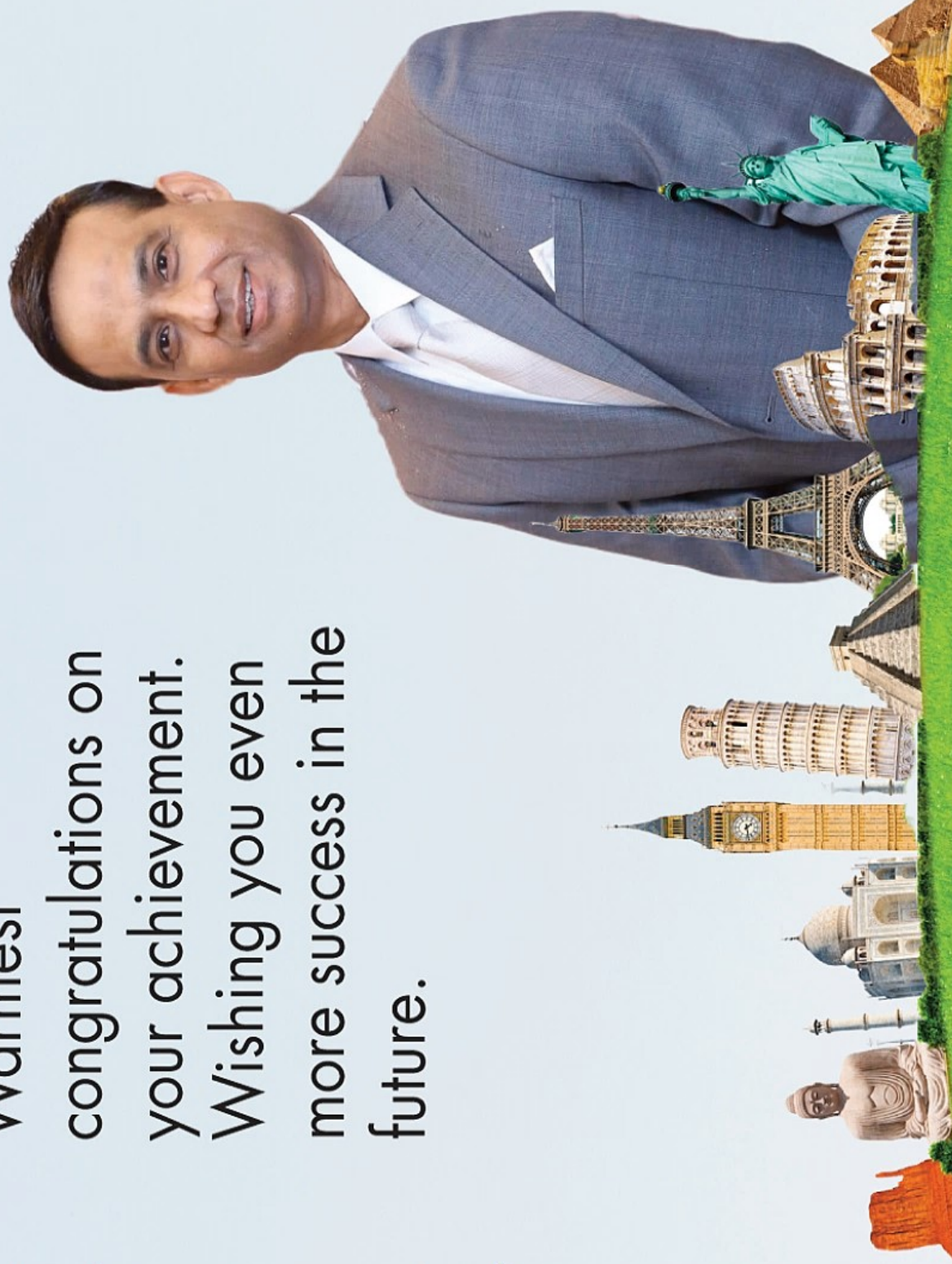
*Wishing your
publication a
future filled with
groundbreaking
reporting and a loyal
readership.*

Rabby Syed

**Vice President
New American Democratic Club**

Congratulations

Warmest
congratulations on
your achievement.
Wishing you even
more success in the
future.



Mohammad B Hossain (Belal)

President & CEO, Bangla Travels

Congratulations

Sending our
best wishes
for continued
success in
delivering
top-notch
journalism.

Alamgir Khan
Alam

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congratulations

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR
NEWS VENTURES!



Md. Alam Nomi
General Secretary
Jackson Heights Elakabasi



Congratulations

May your
pages always
be filled with
captivating
stories. Best
wishes!



**RUHUL
SARKER**

Community
Activist



Congratulations

”

May your
newspaper's ink
never run dry, and its
stories continue to
inspire and inform.

”

**Mohammed
Bhuiyan**
President
BT&T Group, LLC



congratulations

Warmest wishes for your
magazine's ongoing impact
and growth.



Professor Md. Amzad Hossen

Treasurer - Sandip Society

CONGRATULATIONS

I believe South Asian Mail will play an essential part in bridging the gap between the mainstream and our local community. Best of luck.



Sarwor Khan

Realtor
Exit Realty Prime



Congratulations

Here's to your
newspaper's
continued
success and
captivating
articles!



Fakhru Alam

Businessman
& Community
Activist

Congratulations



In order to reach our community's goals, there is no alternative to increasing the involvement of our young generation with mainstream media and politics. I expect The South Asian Mail to support in increasing that involvement.

Shah J. Choudhury

Founder, Shah Group

Congratulation

South Asian Mail

I wish it will reach its intended goal.



Abdur Rashid Babu

Community Activist

CONGRATULATIONS!

May your magazine shine
brightly with engaging content
and loyal readers.

**Mohammed
Saadi Mintu**



Executive Member, Bangladesh Society

congratulations to South Asian Mail.

i believe south
ASIAN mail
will play an
instrumental role
in keeping the
community united
and creating
a greater
understanding
of the country's
politics and
economy.

**Maf Misbah
Uddin**

Founder & National
president, ASAAAL



Congratulations

Best wishes to
South Asian Mail
on your journey. I
am hopeful that you
inspire many more
along the way.

**REZU
MOHAMMED**

P.R & Publicity Secretary,
Bangladesh Society



We really needed an English-language newspaper in the Bangladeshi community. We hope that **South Asian Mail** will play a leading role in meeting that need. Best wishes for the magazine.



**Mohammed
Fahim Jan**

Branch manager
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congratulations

HERE'S TO THE
INK-STAINED
HEROES
BEHIND YOUR
PUBLICATION,
TELLING
STORIES THAT
MATTER.



**Mohammad
Kabir**

Real Estate License Agent

CONGRATULATIONS

**MAY YOUR
NEWSPAPER'S LEGACY
BE WRITTEN IN THE
ANNALS OF JOURNALISM
AS A SHINING EXAMPLE
OF TRUTH AND
INTEGRITY.**



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Wishing your publication
a future full of engaging
content and happy readers.



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