



I Soccer Card 1

Call 8961151, 0171 3041422-19

PHILIPS Standard Chartered

Corruption now an acceptable conduct

CJ says many stalwarts of society have close involvement in this unholy process

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassar Husain has said corruption in the society has reached such a point where it has created a national norm that corruption, especially petty corruption, is 'acceptable behaviour'.

"We must not sit idle, rather work to promote public awareness, so that the corrupt people do not get any chance to hold any public office or responsible position anywhere," he noted.

The state policymakers should take a 'three-pronged approach of

enforcement, prevention and awareness to combat corruption', the chief justice suggested while speaking as chief guest at a seminar on 'Corruption: Awareness of Citizens' in the capital yesterday.

"At this moment it would be an elusive goal for the nation to eradicate corruption as a whole because the scale of corruption is so enormous that many stalwarts of the society have close involvement in this unholy process," he said.

Chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Justice Sultan Hossain Khan, in his keynote speech at the seminar, said, "Politi-

cal or grand corruption takes place at the highest levels of political authority."

The ACC chairman said, "It is when the politicians and political decision-makers, who are entitled to formulate, establish and implement the laws in the name of the people, are themselves corrupt, they use the political power they are armed with to sustain their power, status and wealth."

The Monthly Legal Aid organised the seminar held at Cirdap auditorium.

The chief justice said since

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

3 'robbers' slaughtered

Pabna AL terms it political killing

A CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

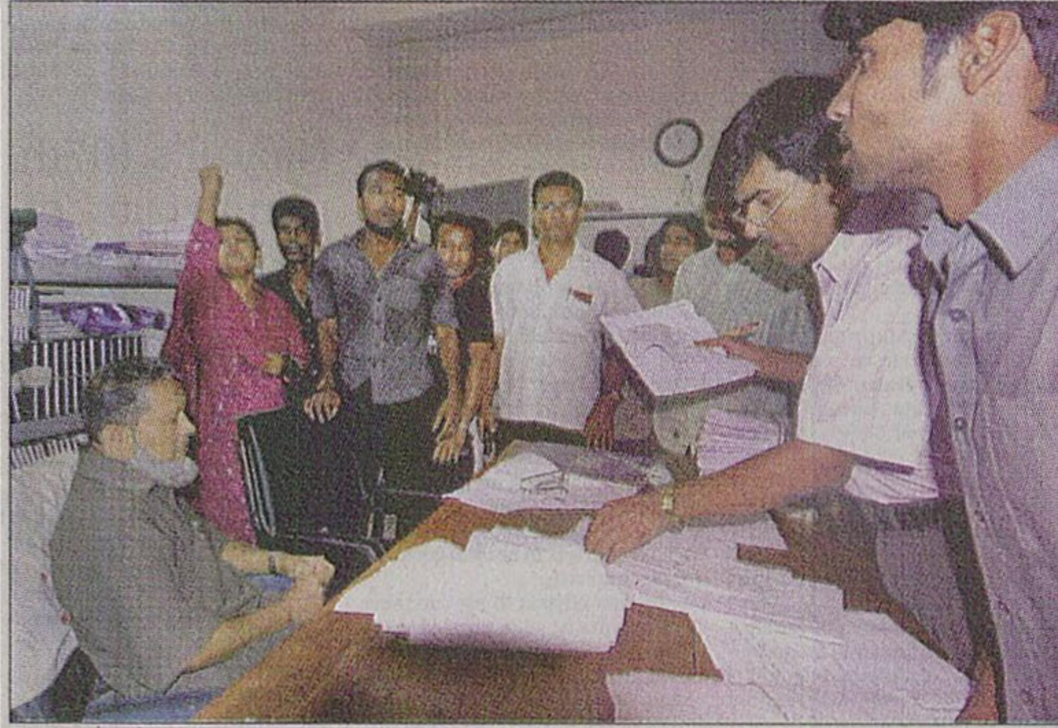
Three alleged robbers were killed at Chatmohar upazila in Pabna on Friday night by other members of their gang over shares of looted goods, police and the locals said.

Meanwhile, Bhangura upazila Awami League (AL) claimed the dead to be their party men alleging that the ruling party cadres murdered them in a planned way and staged the robbery.

The dead were identified as Rafiq, 30, of village Shatbaria, Golam Hossain, 24, of village Ramanathpur and Hassan Ali, of village Purbo Rannagar under Bhangura upazila in Pabna.

Police and the locals said that the gang of robbers looted money and ornaments worth around Tk 5 lakh from the house of Abu Bakkar of Samaj Gram on Friday night.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Residents of Khilgaon in the capital storm the South Banasri High School headmaster's office room yesterday demanding explanation for inclusion of fake voters in the voter list prepared under his supervision.

Section 144 bars Ahmadiyyas from holding religious festival in B'baria

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, from Brahmanbaria

Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat could not hold their earlier scheduled religious festival 'Salana Jalsha' in the district town due to imposition of Section 144 yesterday.

The Ahmadiyya Muslims protested the religious bigots' barriers and imposing Section 144 by the district administration, and demanded giving back their mosque occupied by the fundamentalist force and legal help for holding its annual religious festival.

The religious bigots called a Tafsir Mahfil only to foil their religious festival, Ahmadiyya leaders said at a press conference.

The religious extremists have been interfering in their religious practice for over 50 years, they added.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

COAL MINE FBCCI for renegotiating deal with Asia Energy

UNB, Dhaka

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) yesterday urged the government to renegotiate its agreement with UK-based Asia Energy on the development of Phulbari Coal Mine Project.

"We think the government should renegotiate its agreement with the Asia Energy on the coal mine project... the existing agreement provides for only 6 percent royalty, which is very low compared to such agreements in other countries," FBCCI President Mir Nasir Hossain said after a meeting with the chief of Asia Energy Bangladesh project.

Gary Lye, CEO of Asia Energy Corporation (Bangladesh) Pty Ltd, called on Mir Nasir Hossain at his office. Senior Vice-President of the FBCCI Mohammad Ali and Vice-President Dewan Sultan Ahmed and General Manager of Asia Energy Bangladesh Mushfiqur Rahman were present.

During the meeting, Asia Energy Bangladesh project chief briefed the FBCCI president about the present state of Phulbari project.

Asia Energy Corporation (Bangladesh) Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of UK-based Asia Energy Corporation Pty Ltd, has been working to develop Phulbari coal mine under an agreement signed in 1998.

The company recently conducted a feasibility study and submitted a plan to extract coal from the mine through open-pit methodology.

The government has appointed an experts committee to examine

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



Students of Nawabpur Government High School yesterday demonstrate on the school premises for arrest and punishment of the criminals who murdered class V student of the school Jisan Ahmed on Thursday.

Under-age madrasa students turn voters

Addresses of 122 on draft list in Mohammadpur appear fake

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The draft voter list for Mohammadpur area in the capital registered 122 voters under mysterious addresses specifying only the names of roads and fake businessmen under the address of an orphanage.

The addresses for 99 voters on the list are mentioned as Babar Road and for 23 others as Salimullah Road water-tank.

According to the rules of voters' registration, however, it is mandatory to mention the full address of a voter in the registration form.

Meanwhile, 65 voters have been listed under the address of Jamia Islamia Madrasa and Orphanage on Salimullah Road although most students there have not yet reached the age of 18, the qualifying age for voting.

Assistant Teacher of the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

FAKE VOTERS EC unperturbed despite proofs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) is preparing to finalise the disputed new voter list, seemingly unperturbed by the escalating number of revelations of gross irregularities in the preparation of it.

It is continuing to maintain its silence regarding the allegations despite the fact that a few ruling alliance ministers and some legal experts have also expressed their

vociferous protests.

Meanwhile, today is the last day to file any objection and claim about the draft voter list, which are supposed to be resolved by June 6.

Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed, who is also the minister in-charge of the EC Secretariat in parliamentary affairs, on Friday alleged gross irregularities in preparation of the voter list in his constituency.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

SCHOOLBOY KILLING Human chain demands arrest of culprits

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several hundred people staged demonstration and formed a human chain in Thatari Bazar yesterday demanding immediate arrest and trial of the culprits responsible for the death of schoolboy Jisan at Sutrapur on Thursday.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka court yesterday granted a one-day remand for interrogating the arrestees Firoz Hossain, his wife Taslima Begum and Shahabuddin, residents of Jisan's neighbouring house, when they were produced before the court.

Two sub-inspectors (SI) of Sutrapur Police Station were also suspended yesterday for negligence in duty. They are SI Abdullah and duty officer Anguri Akhtar Seema.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

1 killed in cop firing on garment workers

200 also hurt while agitating on Gazipur highway for pay hike, withdrawal of false case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One garment worker was killed and some 200 others were injured yesterday as police baton-charged and then opened fire on a mass of rampaging workers of a garment factory in Gazipur.

Five policemen were also injured when the workers demonstrating in demand of a wage hike and withdrawal of an alleged false case by the factory owners locked horns with police in a pitched battle.

As on 9:20 last night, the name of the dead worker in his early twenties could not be ascertained.

Witnesses said a few hundred workers of FM Sweater Factory of SQ Group at Mauna Channapara in Sreepur went on strike from yesterday to drive their 10-point set of demands home.

Their major demands of the factory management were a pay

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

JCD men vandalise buses, teachers' residences at IU

88 of them recruited against 53 posts, but they want more

STAR REPORT

Jatiyatbadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists yesterday vandalised buses, offices, and residences of teachers and officers of Islamic University (IU) for 'not awarding their expected jobs' at the university.

The university authorities have suspended all classes and examinations while JCD activists threatened to paralyse the university.

On Thursday, the university authorities through a Syndicate meeting appointed 88 people including six officials and 82 third and fourth class employees against 53 advertised vacant posts.

All of the appointees are men of JCD and Islamic Chhatra Shibir (ICS), student wings of ruling BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami. Some of them have criminal records including murder, sources in the university said.

As the syndicate meeting chaired by Vice-chancellor Prof Rafiqul Islam ended, the leaders

and activists of JCD men in Kushtia and IU flew into a rage as their demand was not fully met.

Sources said different sections demanded at least 200 appointments.

The angry JCD men ransacked 23 buses kept at the university's transport pool and Islamic University Teachers-Officers Club at Custom's Moar area of the town at about 10:00pm on Friday.

The JCD men later ransacked the residences of university Treasurer Prof Anwarul Karim and syndicate member and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities Prof Makhluqur Rahman. They also went to IU Registrar Dr Moslem Uddin's residence but police deployed there barred them.

Yesterday morning a large number of JCD men brought out a rally in the town and threatened to paralyse the university.

The syndicate meeting approved appointment of 88 people in different vacant and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Electoral reforms needed to stop black money, criminality

Nagorik committee dialogue at Comilla told

RAFIQ HASAN, from Comilla

Speakers at the regional dialogue in Comilla yesterday extended full support to the civil society initiative for honest and dedicated candidates in the general election to be held in 2007.

They demanded extensive reform in the electoral system so that black money and hooliganism cannot dominate the election.

They pointed out that there is no alternative to honest and dedicated leadership for ensuring good governance. They also suggested

bringing reforms in the political parties and a massive change in the political culture of the country.

Around four hundred local civil society members including politicians, non-government organisation (NGO) workers, lawyers, teachers, social workers, and cultural activists attended the dialogue on 'accountable development and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Submarine link opens today but not for users

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the eve of the inauguration of submarine cable system that will connect Bangladesh to the information superhighway, the ISP Association of Bangladesh yesterday expressed its concerns that due to lack of local infrastructures, the country's 25 lakh internet users will face major disappointments.

The country has not prepared any network to support the use of this high bandwidth which will be available with the submarine cable. The country has not even

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

GRENADATE ATTACK ON UK ENVOY CID fails to submit charge sheet in 2 yrs

IQBAL SIDDIQUEE, Sylhet

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has failed to submit charge sheet in the case filed after a grenade attack in Sylhet left three people killed and 70 others including British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury injured on May 21 in 2004.

Though the investigators claimed to have done much progress in the investigation in the last

Anwar Choudhury

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

TIME ZONE

presents exclusive showroom for

LONGINES

RADO
SWITZERLAND

TISSOT
SWISS WATCHES SINCE 1853

at Bashundhara City Panthapath, Dhaka

GRAND OPENING

May 21, 2006 at 12:00 p.m.

Dr. Dora Rapold, Ambassador, Swiss Embassy has consented to inaugurate the ceremony. Mr M. A. Momen, President, DCCI will grace the occasion as Special Guest.

You are cordially invited

KALLOL GROUP OF COMPANIES