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SHAH CEMENT

FOREIGN MINISTER'S KUWAIT VISIT Migrants want labour issues sorted

PORIMOL PALMA

Bangladeshi migrants working in Kuwait want the foreign minister and foreign secretary, who are visiting the Gulf country, to talk to the new emir about their challenges amid the coronavirus pandemic and the issue of workers' visa cancellations in connection to the irregularities of MP Shahid Islam Papul.

"They [minister and secretary] are going to Kuwait with a special message from the prime minister to the new Emir of Kuwait," a foreign ministry official said yesterday.

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen and Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen flew to Kuwait in a Qatar Airways flight about 11:00am yesterday and are scheduled to return on Tuesday.

They will convey messages of condolence for Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who died aged 91 last Tuesday, and of greetings to new Emir Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Asked if Momen would hold any bilateral meetings with Kuwait's new emir, especially on labour welfare, the foreign ministry official said there is nothing of that sort planned. However, the issue may be raised if they find it convenient.

Meanwhile, Bangladeshi migrants now in Kuwait and those stranded in Bangladesh say they expect the Bangladesh foreign minister to discuss labour welfare with the Kuwaiti authorities.

Sabur Khan, a Bangladeshi who returned from Kuwait

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Locals dumping sandbags to protect a dam in Gobordhan area of Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila. The flood control dam along the Teesta is collapsing due to river erosion. Around 5,000 families in several villages will be affected if the dam collapses. This photo was taken on Saturday afternoon.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

RIFAT MURDER

Condemned preparing to appeal

STAR REPORT

The families of all six convicts, including Ayesha Siddika Minni, in the Rifat murder case are preparing to file appeals with the High Court against their death sentence, as a copy of the verdict and other documents reached the HC from a Barguna court yesterday.

Officials of the Barguna court brought the documents to the HC, Md Saifur Rahman, special officer at the HC, told The Daily Star.

Earlier on September 30, Barguna District and Sessions Judge's Court sentenced Minni, the widow of slain Rifat Sharif, and five others to death for killing the youth in broad daylight in Barguna in June last year. It acquitted four other accused.

Yesterday, Minni's father Mozammel Hossain Kishore, who also received a copy of the 429-page verdict, met Supreme Court

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Late-night HC order ensures 2 children's access to their home

Talk-show prompted the action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two High Court judges have operated a bench on Saturday night and directed Dhanmondi police to immediately take necessary steps to ensure that two minor grandchildren of former attorney general KS Nabi can enter and live in his Dhanmondi residence in the capital.

The virtual HC bench of Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman and Justice Md Zakir Hossain also directed officer-in-charge of the concerned police station to ensure the security of the two boys -- Kazi Adian Nabi and Kazi Nahian Nabi -- at the residence.

The bench came up with the directives suo moto (without a formal complaint from any party) following a live discussion on the issue on a private television channel that night.

Supreme Court lawyer Manzill Murshid, who participated in the live programme, told The Daily Star yesterday that the HC judges have issued the order suo moto to establish the human and fundamental rights of the two minor boys.

He said Adian and Nahian are the children of KS Nabi's son Kazi Siratun Nabi.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

Bangabandhu orders drastic action against smugglers

October 5, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

ARMY, NAVY DEPLOYED

Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman orders the army and the navy to rush to border areas to help the civil administration prevent smuggling. The prime minister also orders that drastic action should be taken against smugglers engaged in nefarious anti-social activities calculated to ruin the economy of the country. He asks the home minister to call a conference of the agencies concerned -- namely army, navy, customs, police and Bangladesh Rifles to chalk out a comprehensive plan for the anti-smuggling drive.

The local administration will be fully involved in the drive. Bangabandhu expresses the hope that the people would fully cooperate with the administration in the operation against smugglers who, by their activities, are causing hardship and miseries to the people of the new-born state.

INDO-BANGLADESH TRADE TALK BEGINS
The first round of talks to review the Indo-Bangladesh trade agreement between visiting a Indian official trade delegation and the Bangladesh officials is held at Dhaka today. The meeting described as an inaugural meeting session, discusses the 'general problems' regarding trade between India and Bangladesh. They

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Plumber finds skeleton in wall

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A human skeleton has been recovered from a makeshift wall at a six-storey building in the capital's Shewrapara area.

Primarily it was suspected that the bones were of a woman's body as a long hair was recovered with it.

A local plumber discovered the bones while repairing water supply lines at the flat, said police.

Some 150 bones, both whole and broken, were recovered one after another from the wall. Those were packed inside a polythene bag mixed with tea leaves.

Police have started investigating the incident since the horrific recovery was made on September 17.

Hanif Sarkar, the owner of the house who also has a furniture business, informed Mirpur police about the recovery. He was questioned by police.

The residents of the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Egypt unveils coffins buried 2,500 yrs ago



AFP, Saqqara

Archaeologists in Egypt said Saturday they had found 59 well-preserved and sealed wooden coffins over recent weeks that were buried more than 2,500 years ago.

Opening one of the ornately decorated sarcophagi before assembled media, the team revealed mummified remains wrapped in burial cloth that bore hieroglyphic inscriptions in bright colours.

The dramatic find was unearthed south of Cairo in the sprawling burial ground of Saqqara.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

EDEN PRINCIPAL MURDER

House helps sentenced to death

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka tribunal yesterday sentenced two house helps to death in a case filed over the killing of former principal of Eden Mohila College Mahfuza Chowdhury Parvin in February last year.

Judge Abu Zafar Md Kamruzzaman of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka handed down the sentence in presence of the two accused in the courtroom.

The convicts are: Rita Akhtar alias Swapna, 35, and Ruma alias Reshma, 30, both of them were housemaids of the former principal.

In his observation, the judge said it is a sensational case and the accused had committed a heinous offence by killing the victim and looting the valuables from her house.

So, the accused did not

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Testing dropped over 9pc last week

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of Covid-19 tests has decreased by 9.05 percent last week compared to the previous [38th] epidemiological week, said a press release from the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

The numbers of detections, recoveries, and deaths have also decreased by 7.7 percent, 21.53 percent and 9.26 percent during the same period.

In the last 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, the number of cases that came out to be positive was 1,125.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 5

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-53 7-30
JAMAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A man welding an additional bumper to a car lying on Darussalam Road in the capital's Mirpur around Saturday noon. He seems nonchalant about his own safety as other vehicles that are rolling by may not notice him and an accident could happen.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Trump can be discharged from hospital today

REUTERS, Washington

President Donald Trump's condition is improving as he is being treated for Covid-19 at a military hospital, and he could return to the White House as early as today, the doctors leading his treatment said yesterday.

That word came the day after a series of contradictory messages from the White House about Trump's conditions caused widespread confusion about his health.

"The patient continues to improve. He has remained without fever since Friday morning, his vital signs are stable," Dr. Sean Dooley told reporters at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where Trump has been receiving treatment since Friday.

Trump released a four-minute video on Saturday in which he said the "real test" of his condition will come over the next few days.

"Over the next period of a few days, I guess that's the real test, so we'll be seeing what happens over those next couple of days," Trump said into the camera, looking tired and wearing a jacket and open-necked shirt.

Trump's illness has upended the campaign ahead of the November presidential election and cast a spotlight on the president's handling of the pandemic. The Republican president is trailing Democratic rival Joe Biden in opinion polls.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll published yesterday found that Biden had opened a 10 point lead over Trump nationally, slightly wider than it has been for the past two months.

Trump's campaign vowed that Vice President Mike Pence, who would assume the presidency if Trump were unable to carry out his duties, would have an "aggressive"

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2