

Govt drafting bill Body to hear VAT appeal cases likely

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman yesterday said that the government was drafting a bill to set up a Arbitration Council like in France for consideration of the appeal cases of those who were not satisfied with the Value Added Tax (VAT) assessment, reports BSS.

We are not getting the expected amount of revenue from VAT mainly due to the administrative and organisational weaknesses, the Finance Minister said adding: 'We have to improve the entire tax collection machinery for reducing the harassment of the tax payers and better revenue realisation.'

Rahman was addressing the tax officials of VAT Collectorate here in the afternoon at the conference room of the Finance Division. Internal Resources Division Secretary and NBR Chairman Dr Akbar Ali Khan and a number of VAT collecting officials also spoke.

'You pursue the people to give properly the VAT. But for

City BNP confce

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Ahmed, MP.

However, the scenario

changed dramatically yesterday

when it became evident that

Dhaka City Corporation Mayor

Mirza Abbas, MP, who is the

chief of the youth wing of the

BNP (the Juba Dal), was bent

on making a determined bid for

Mir Shawkat's post.

Mirza Abbas, who reportedly

organised a signature campaign

in all the 14 thana committees

which constitute the city unit

over the past few days, claims

to have won the endorsement of

a majority of the thana presi-

dents and secretaries.

Party sources informed The

Daily Star that both Abbas and

Mir Shawkat were holding hectic

parleys with their respective

supporters last night at undisclosed venues. Neither side was

willing to give up its bid without

a fight and was determined to

even risk a possible divisive vote

at today's conference.

But one ranking party

leader, speaking on condition of

anonymity, told The Daily Star

that Begum Zia was well aware

of the developments and was

using her good offices and in-

termediaries to avert an acrimo-

nious showdown between the sup-

porters of Abbas and Mir Shaw-

kat.

The source also pointed out

that Abbas was in a more ad-

vantageous position as of now,

JB combined merit list

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School, Jhenidah (891 each); 9.

Sohel Jahangir Ahmed, roll no.

Jhenidah (Cadet) 27, Mustafa Al

Mamun, roll no. Jhenidah (Ca-

det) 35 and Qazi Nader Hossain

roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 46 of

the Jhenidah Cadet College

(887 each); 10. Rajib Bhata-

chariya, roll no. Shaheed 2,

BAF Shaheen College, Jessore,

and Shah Borhan Siraj, roll no.

Jhenidah (Cadet) 1, Jhenidah

Cadet College and Md.

Faizullah Khan Shibly, roll no.

Barisal (Cadet) 17, Barisal

Social Science merit list

By Staff Correspondent

1. Md. Amit Hussain, roll no.

Gulachipa 385, Gulachipa High School, Patuakhali (843);

2. Farzana Mannan, roll no.

Khulna-Ma 4834, Rotary School

Khulna (840); 3. Qazi Haifuz

Hug, roll no. Jessor 1413,

Mahmudur Rahman High

School, Jessore (837); 4. Ahmed

Basir, roll no. Dighila 101,

Dighila MA Mazid High School

Khulna (836); 5. Rekha Khan,

roll no. Jhikargacha-Ma 602,

Sammiloni Girls High School

(833); 6. Shyamal Kumar Chow-

dhury, roll no. Baghpara 743,

Narikel Baria High School,

Jessore; 6. Md. Ishaq Ali roll no.

Jhenidah 705, Narikel Baria ZA

School, Jhenidah and Ishrat

Jahan, roll no. Jessor Canton-

ment-Ma 65, Daud Public

School, Jessore (832 each); 7.

Nasrin Sultana, roll no.

Patukhali-Ma 925, Patukhali

Government Girls School (830);

8. Md. Anwar Hossain, roll no.

Patarhat 248, Patarhat Muslim

High School, Barisal (828); 9.

BM Ashraf bin Azad roll no.

Magura 1597, Bari Bazar

School Magura, Md. Mominur

Rahman, roll no. Shoilakupa

236, Garaganj High School,

Jhenidah and Mosammat Na-

zma 1126, Kancher Kol

Mortum Nesa High School Jhe-

nidah (827 each); 10. Mosam-

met Taslima Khatun, roll no.

Magura Ma 1100, Gangana

High School, Magura (825).

Editor : S. M. Ali

Executive Editor : Mahfuz Anam

Published by the Editor on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at The Sangbad Ltd., 36 Purana Paltan, Dhaka. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices : House No. 11; Road No. 3; Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 50092-4. Advertisement : 500091 (Direct). Fax No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box No. 3287. GRAM : DAILY STAR DHAKA.

Somali gunmen kill four US soldiers

MOGADISHU, Aug 8: Somali militiamen killed four US soldiers in an ambush here early today, inflicting the first US fatalities since the United Nations took over the Somalia operation, a UN spokesman said, reports AFP.

Mahan said that the VAT was the most modern, flexible and transparent tax collection system but the country was yet to enjoy the maximum benefits out of it as most of the officials did not apply their wisdom and common sense.

The Finance Minister expressed his dissatisfaction at the performances of the VAT collecting officials and repeatedly asked them to improve their level of efficiency and realise the targeted amount of VAT.

Reinforcements from the UN's Egyptian, Pakistani and US forces were rapidly sent to the scene.

UN forces ordered journalists out of the immediate vicinity as the troops feared that militiamen would use them, and the Somalis crowding around them, as a human shield.

He said that the government had reduced the rate of customs duty and expressed his regret that the realisation of VAT was not proportionate with the reduced customs duty.

He said unless we would

strengthen the whole revenue

collection machinery, we could

not be successful in reducing the cascading effects of taxes.

You pursue the people to

give properly the VAT. But for

Top boy Mashrur wants to join army

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Aug 8 : Ashiq Mohammad Tariq Mashrur Khan stood first in the combined merit list in the Science Group securing 900 marks and seven letters in the SSC examinations from the Jhenidah Cadet College.

According to the source, should all negotiations and parleys fail to resolve the issue by the time today's conference commences, it might call for an intervention by party chief

Mirza Zia.

Yet, some other BNP stal-

warts told this correspondent late last night that there was every possibility Mirza Abbas would succeed in landing the presidency of the Dhaka city unit for himself today.

In support of their conten-

tention they point out that the very fact that Abbas was made the mayor in preference to Mir Shawkat suggests that Begum Zia might again choose him in place of the retired general to head the city unit, especially at a time when the Awami League-led opposition is planning a more vigorous anti-government agitation.

He is the son of Abdul Wad-

du Khan, Circulation Manager of the Daily Janata, Dhaka and Mrs Hossna Monowara.

Mashrur who hails from Mymensingh district, wants to join the army.

Reading books and sports

are his principal hobbies.

His father is his most

favourite personality.

Mashrur is fond of television

plays and novels by Humayun Ahmed.

He used to study four to five

hours a day.

Tagore Sanjay's favourite poet

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Aug 8: Sanjay Dutta Banik stood second in the combined merit list in the Science Group securing 899 marks with letters in seven subjects in the SSC examinations of 1993 under the Jhenidah Cadet College (882 each); 14. Md. Bazlur Rashid, roll no. Jessor (Cantonment) 45, Cantonment High School, Jessor; Abdur Rahman, roll no. Barisal (Cadet) 26, Barisal Cadet College, Shamim Masud Al Iftekher roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 19, Jhenidah Cadet College (881 each); 15. Md. Mahmudur Rahman, roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 36, Jhenidah Cadet College and Rabyet Adnan, roll no. Barisal (Cadet) 19, Barisal Cadet College (880 each); 16. Hasan Haifuz Rahman, roll no. Barisal (Cadet) 12, and SM Ahsanuzzaman, roll no. Barisal

(Cadet) 46 of the Barisal Cadet College (879 each); 17. Md. Samsul Alami Siddiqui, roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 16 and Md. Zafar Sadiq, roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 22 of the Jhenidah Cadet College (878 each); 18. Abdullah Al Zahir, roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 40, Jhenidah Cadet College and SM Simon Haider, roll no. Barisal (Cadet) 39, Barisal Cadet College (877 each); 19. Md. Sohel Azam, roll no. Barisal (Cadet) 40, Barisal Cadet College (876); 20. SM Riazul Ahsan, roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 20 and Md. Arefur Rahman, roll no. Jhenidah (Cadet) 39 of the Jhenidah Cadet College, Md. Zahidul Islam, roll no. Barisal (Cadet) 9, Barisal Cadet College and SM Salahuddin, roll no. Kalish 121, Benda Union High School, Narail (875 each).

Murtoza wants to be a doctor

From Our Correspondent

JESSORE, Aug 8: Sheikh Ali Murtoza stood third in the combined merit list in the Science Group with 897 marks and seven letters in the SSC examinations of 1993 under the Jessor Board. He is a student of Jhenidah Cadet College.

He is the son of Golam

Murtoza.

Ali Murtoza intends to be a doctor to serve the suffering humanity.

Reading books is his

primary scholarship in the tal-

tal pool.