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Tk 100 cr second health project Tenders for 2 out of 4 packages cancelled

By Staff Correspondent

The parliamentary standing committee on the ministry of health has decided to cancel the tenders for two out of the four packages of the Tk 100 crore Second Health and Family Planning Services project funded by the ADB.

At a meeting on Apr 27, the standing committee also recommended re-tender for the two packages.

The decision was taken after investigation by the Parliamentary Estimate Committee (PEC) headed by Dr Mizanul Haq MP.

The parliamentary standing committee took cognizance of the report and constituted a three member sub-committee headed by State Minister for Health M Amanullah.

When contacted, Chairman of the Standing Committee Dr Kazi Abu Yusuf said, "The sub-committee after reviewing all the papers and documents submitted a report to the standing committee. After a very careful examination and taking all aspects into consideration, the standing committee decided to cancel tenders for two of the four packages of the project."

"For package one we recommended that it should be re-

2 young men killed in road accident

By Staff Correspondent

Two young men were killed when a bus hit their motorcycle from behind near Narsinghpur in Savar yesterday morning.

Police identified the dead as Babul, 23, and Jamal Uddin, 25. Angry local people attacked the bus and set it on fire soon after the incident.

Police said the Savar-bound bus from Tongi hit the motorcycle from behind at about 10 am.

Both Babul, a resident of Tongabari in Savar, and Jamal, a resident of Uttara, died on the spot. The driver of the bus has been absconding since the incident.

The bodies were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Savar police were preparing to file a case in connection with the incident last night.

Larma resents

From Page 1

He left Dhaka expressing 'satisfaction' at the talks. But what had happened afterwards the government could say better, he told a BBC correspondent.

Without elaborating further, he said that one of the amendments would infringe on the land rights of the tribal people. "Already our land rights have been curbed, it would threaten our existence," he added.

He said such steps would affect the atmosphere of amity created in the CHT after the peace agreement.

Different front organisations of the PCJSS have also accused the government of deviating from what had been agreed upon in the peace accord.

BBC quoting State Minister for Planning Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir said there are no 'incentives'. There could be one or two printing mistakes, he said.

The radio quoting unnamed officials said steps have been taken to remove the 'inconsistencies'.

Meanwhile, another PCJSS leader yesterday alleged that adoption of the Rangamati Hill District Local Government Council Bill by Parliament on Sunday with certain changes violated the spirit of the peace accord.

The change is not acceptable to PCJSS, Runayan Dewan told UNB last night when reached over telephone in Khagrachhari.

One of the top leaders of PCJSS, Dewan said they have rushed Goutam Kumar Chakma to ventilate the grievances caused by the change.

"Replacing the word 'and' with 'or' in the definition of non-tribal in the bill has made a word of change. This has violated the spirit of the peace accord," said Dewan.

He said they were assured in the last meeting with the government that the peace accord would be honoured in letter and spirit.

Shahid's family

From Page 1

neer's house for about three years and returned to Bhanganagar. After about an year, he came to Dhaka again and worked in some other houses in the city.

Lastly, Shahid's cousin Hemayet took him to Latifur Rahman's house about one and half years ago.

Siddiq told CID that Shahid said a lot about Rahman's house. He said he was happy with his job and also the behaviour of members of Rahman's family.

Shahid went home on April 14 and gave Tk 2,000 to his family. He also bought some furniture and wood to renovate their house. He left home for Dhaka a few days later.

Liquor poisoning

From Page 1

The TT Para slum is situated just behind the southern end of the Inland Container Depot (ICD) at the Kamalapur Railway Station. A number of slums like the Gopibahar slum, are close to it.

People living around the slum area alleged that drugs and drinks like heroine, phenidyl, Marijuana, and 'pani' (local brew) are freely available in the slums.

Youths, teenaged boys and people from low income groups are regular customers there, the residents added.

When asked about the claims made in this regard by the residents, the DNC Official said that the area was raided several times during the last six months.

The DNC also seized large quantities of narcotic drugs and arrested at least 70 people from the area in this connection, the official added.

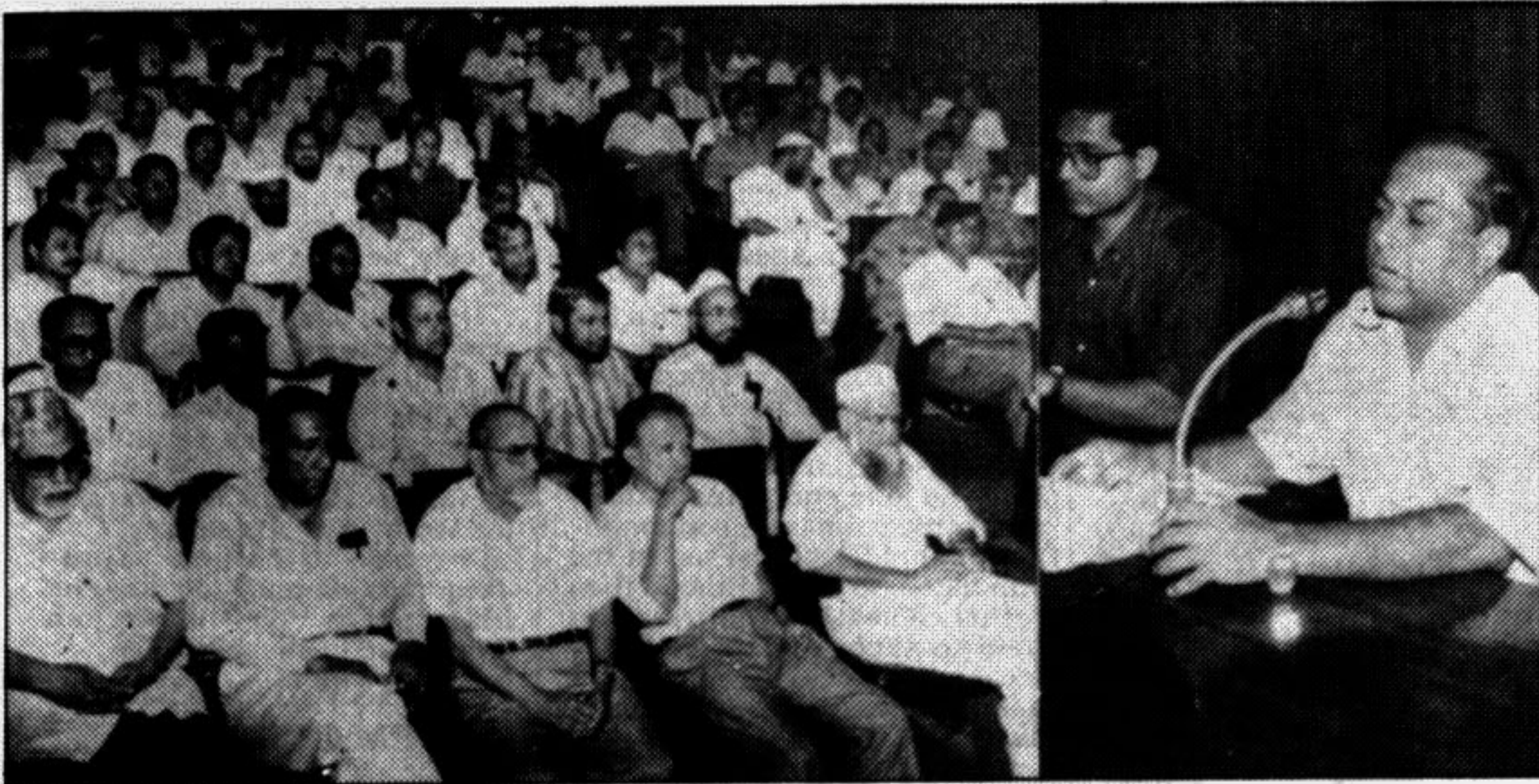
DMCH

From Page 1

She said that a rape victim, after admission to hospital, should also get facility for counseling on legal aspects.

"For a child victim, psychological treatment is the only way to relieve her of the horrific anguish. Unfortunately, hospitals lack the facility," she added.

A leader of another women's organisation said, "Most of the rape victims are generally from the poor section of the society. Once admitted to hospital, a victim faces embarrassment when they are asked all sorts of weird questions.



BUETTA President Prof A Razzak speaking at a meeting of BUET teachers at the BUET seminar room after resignation of the VC and 71 teachers from their administrative posts yesterday. — Star photo

BUET VC

From Page 1

definite strike from today.

The meeting resolved that strike would continue till Prof Iqbal Mahmud returned to the university with full authority as the Vice-Chancellor, sources in the meeting said.

The meeting also resolved that the association would not endorse appointment of any person either from the BUET or from outside as the VC of the university other than Prof Iqbal Mahmud.

These 13 teachers had resigned protesting changes in admission rules of the Architecture Department.

The new admission rules introduced physics in the admission test for the Architecture Department. Besides, a minimum score, in drawing in the admission test was also set.

Alleged dacoit beaten to death in Chittagong

CHITTAGONG, May 4: An alleged dacoit was beaten to death by a mob in Rajon thana yesterday, reports UNB.

CU halls raided

From Page 1

Railway sources said the drivers and guards declined to operate train service on the university line protesting yesterday evening's bomb attack on the shuttle train that left one guard injured.

On the other hand, Chhatra Shibir called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in greater Chittagong tomorrow protesting last week's violence on the university campus and demanding expulsion of outsider from halls.

Chhatra Shibir held rally at Lalidighi Maidan this afternoon and brought out a procession in the city in support of tomorrow's hartal.

Chhatra League activists also brought out processions at different parts of the city opposing the hartal.

Security has been tightened in the city to foil any attempt of violence.

JCD activists

From Page 1

decided that the activists of the JCD ousted from Jasimuddin, Ziaur Rahman, Surya Sen and Bangabandhu halls would be rehabilitated after vacating the halls for sometime. Bangladesh Chhatra League also accepted the Syndicate decision.

The activists of the JCD who are residents of other halls would be allowed to stay in those four halls only after getting permission from provosts of the halls of which they are residents and of the halls they want to stay in.

The students who are not residents but attached with these halls would be allowed to stay in these four halls if they get doubling permission.

Gunfight

From Page 1

shots were fired and about 20 crackers were blasted during the nearly hour-long clash starting from 10 am.

None, however, was arrested in connection with the incident till filing of this report last night. A case was lodged with Lalbagh thana in this regard.

Fresh fighting in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, May 4: Fighting broke out in northeastern Afghanistan between the Taliban militia and opposition forces today, a day after the collapse of peace talks aimed at ending the civil war, the Afghan Islamic Press reported, says AFP.

No independent confirmation was available of the reported clashes in Takhar province between Taliban troops and fighters loyal to opposition commander Ahmad Shah Massoud.

The Taliban and the rival northern alliance broke off their five-day meeting in Islamabad on Sunday after the Islamic militia refused to lift a siege of the opposition-held central Hazarajat region.

Despite the breakdown of UN-sponsored talks, Pakistan will continue efforts to keep the Afghan peace process alive, officials said today.

The foreign office said there was a "movement forward" in the five-day discussions — the two sides agreed on the composition of a 40-member Islamic peace commission with equal representation from each side.

The factions meeting within the framework of a steering committee, also held "preliminary discussions on a ceasefire, exchange of prisoners and removal of road blockades," it said.

Pakistan hopes the commission, comprising Islamic scholars, would meet soon and resume discussions on these issues, it said.

The April 26-May 3 talks collapsed over opposition demands for the lifting of the Taliban's economic blockade of central Hazarajat region held by their rivals and an exchange of war prisoners.

UN sources said the region, home to 1.2 million people, was facing acute food shortages.

The headline Islamic militia, holding two-thirds of Afghanistan, said the two issues were taken up by the commission, which has been charged with settling all Afghan problems in accordance with Islamic Sharia laws.

Meanwhile, a United Nations delegation arrived in Kabul today to try to mend fences with the Taliban religious army and find a way to restart aid programmes in the south of Afghanistan.

JCD stages token hunger strike at Chittagong

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 4: Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal activists staged a token half-day hunger strike from this morning in front of local press club protesting what they said repression on their leaders and supporters inside Chittagong jail.

President of Chittagong chapter of BNP Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin broke their hunger strike by giving them water.

Train fare raised

CHITTAGONG, May 4: Bangladesh Railway has raised fares of all mail and inter-city trains, except the newly introduced Subarna Express on Dhaka-Chittagong route, without prior announcement, reports UNB.

President's intervention

From Page 1

As the marchers reached near the Dainik Bangla Crossing, some of the youths from the march climbed the foot overbridge, removed from there two banners supporting the peace accord, tore and threw those before the marchers.

The BNP MPs had planned their march and meeting with President soon after their second walkout from the House on Sunday after the Speaker rejected their demand for allowing discussions on all the 4365 notices, submitted on three hill district council bills.

Since then the BNP MPs have been keeping away from parliament session.

Briefing newsmen in front of the Bangabhaban, Delwar Hossain further said they complained to the President that the BNP lawmakers were not allowed to speak on the floor of the House. They mentioned, in particular, that the Opposition was not given the chance to discuss the proposed amendments to the "anti-constitution" CHT bills, he added.

They also cited to the President different clauses of the CHT accord that "contradict" the Constitution.

Delwar said they also alleged to the President that the Speaker was running the parliament without discussion of things in the Business Advisory Committee. Instead, he con-

Tk 4 lakh TCs recovered

GAZIPUR, May 4: Police today seized traveller's cheques worth about Tk four lakh and arrested an alleged gang leader and his two accomplices, reports UNB.

Police said traveller's cheques, equivalent to Tk 11 lakh, were stolen from the strong-room of Zia International Airport on December 22.

The TCs, reserved for four banks, had been remitted from Masroq Bank of Dubai.

The gang leader, Abdul Berek, 45, was arrested from Tongi while his accomplices Nannu, 26, from Ashkona in Uttara and Imran Khan, 28, from Basundhara residential area.

Benazir fears arrest

ISLAMABAD, May 4: Former Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto has expressed the fear that she might be arrested on return to Pakistan but said she would return home within a week to show the world that her hands are clean, reports PTI.

Benazir, charged under several corruption cases and with all her assets and property frozen by the court recently told CNN in an interview that she was not afraid of being jailed.

She has been told by the ruling Pakistan Muslim League parliamentarians I would be handcuffed if I return. But I have to return because I have to show that my hands are clean and that I have done nothing wrong, she told CNN in Washington.

Benazir, who has been asked to appear before two courts later this month is currently on a lecture tour of Canada and the United States.

Dismissing allegations that her Pakistan People's Party government had taken kickbacks in granting several power projects to foreign companies she accused the Nawaz Sharif administration of launching a media trial to defame her.

They want to get my legitimate assets and they want to convince the world through a media trial that these are illegitimate. They are doing it to impose a one-party dictatorship in Pakistan, she said.

Gulshan Lake

From Page 1

the status of those plots is frozen."

Other Rajuk sources said that the worst blow to the Gulshan Lake came over the last five years when the then Chairman used his discretionary power to bypass the Master Plan and allocate plots indiscriminately. "The former Chairman was widely regarded as a man who satisfied everybody. In the process, several hundred plots were extracted from the Gulshan Lake within a single year in 1994," one source said.

The sources also said that most of the new batch of allottees were among the richest men in the country. "There are instances that beneficiaries have upto five houses in Dhaka. But Rajuk has never moved to clamp down on this illegal and immoral act," he said.

Bill passed

From Page 1

He accepted the two amendments proposals by Sengupta and rejected those by Shahadat Hossain, saying those were not worthy of being incorporated in the bill.

Zillur Rahman said that the three original bills on three hill district councils were first conceived by the Ershad regime and later those were amended four times during the rule of Begum Khaleda Zia. But, he added, "those could not bring any good to the hill people."

Zillur claimed that the then Prime Minister Begum Zia had agreed to give full autonomy to the CHT but "we succeeded in striking out a peace agreement giving much lesser concessions."

Trade bodies

From Page 1

and places of business, but one now feels great insecurity even at home, which otherwise used to be considered as a safer place. The social and business environment stands alarmingly vitiated," it said.

"We urge upon the government and all political parties that they must reeducate themselves to the rule of law and save the social fabric from irreparable damage. The government has to give a call to the society for support and let it do so with humility."

"Meanwhile, the government should take deterrent measures against the criminals, irrespective of their party affiliations, in the same way severe deterrent measures taken earlier against the criminals throwing acids on women and indulging in other similar social offences, had a salutary effect."

"Special courts have been set up and laws framed to deal with business and financial offences. Similarly, special tribunals should be framed to try crimes against innocent girls like Shazneen, Tania, Runa, and many more," the statement said.

Shazneen murder

From Page 1

Rahman, Chairman of Transcom Ltd, was killed in their Gulshan residence on the night of April 23. There were more than 20 stab wounds on her body. She was a student of class nine at Scholastica School.

Dozens of people crowded the court room at the ground floor of the CMM's court building when Shahid and Faruq, one of the five servants, were taken to the dock from court custody at about 5:25 pm yesterday. The four other servants are Hemayetullah, Humayun Kabir, Yasin and Shafiq.

Shahid and Faruq replied in the negative when magistrate Harunuzzaman Bhuiyan asked them whether they wanted lawyers to plead for them.

The magistrate's query came when some lawyers showed their interest to plead for the accused persons.

Advocate Kamrul Hasan Khan Aslam and Abul Faruq moved bail petitions for Shahid and Faruq respectively. But the court rejected the prayers.

The magistrate in his order said a two-day remand was granted considering the importance of the case.

A senior CID official told this correspondent that the main reason for taking Shahid and others on remand was to investigate whether more than one person was involved in the killing.

"Shahid has already agreed to record his confessional statement before the magistrate under Section 164 of the CrPC," the CID official said adding, they still had "some puzzles to resolve" from Shahid's statements.

CID was still investigating how one person could plan for attacking, violating and killing a girl in the way Shazneen was victimised.

"We are closely examining every aspect of the murder," said another CID official when asked what more they needed to investigate.

Besides, the CID was also in-

vestigating the following points, according to officials concerned.

1. The investigators, in a couple of days, will discuss with forensic experts to get a clear idea about the marks of cut injuries which were found on Shazneen's body. It was reported that there were two types of wounds on the body. This led the investigators to examine whether more than one knife was used in the killing.

Police so far recovered one kitchen knife and confirmed that the weapon was used in the killing. It has been reported that examination of finger prints satisfied the investigators to believe that Shahid used the knife to kill the school girl.

2. Although CID officials had calculated a satisfactory timing for the whole crime, they were still verifying the time span between Shazneen's last telephonic conversation with her friend and maid Parvin's entry into the room.

3. Investigators were still considering examining of Shahid's cooked up story of kidnapping while surrendering to Kotwali police in Chittagong. But they did not get any point till yesterday to take Shahid to Chittagong.

Meanwhile, a CID inspector returned to the city yesterday after collecting information on Shahid's previous activities, his character, family background and other details from his village home at Bhanganagar under Moksdepur thana in Gopalganj district, said a CID official.

However, the one-day CID investigation in Moksdepur did not find any previous record of criminal activity by Shahid who came from a very poor family.

Asked about the reaction of Shahid's parents, a CID official said they told the investigator that their son should die. The parents said that they had no feeling for him since he was reported to have committed such a crime.

Hartal observed in Sunamganj

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, May 4: A half-day hartal was observed at Sunamganj town today at the call of local unit of Jatiyabadi Juba Dal to protest the killing of Hafizur Rahman, vice-president of its Jagannathpur thana unit on April 15.

All shops and offices remained shut while all types of vehicles stayed off the roads during the hartal hours. A rally was held at the traffic-point demanding the immediate arrest of the killers of Hafizur.

70 drowned in Tanzania

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania, May 4: Flash floods swept a bus off a bridge over a gully in northeastern Tanzania, killing at least 70 people, Radio Tanzania reported today, says AP.

It said the accident occurred yesterday outside Muheza, 340 kilometers (210 miles) north of Dar es Salaam, capital of this East African nation.

নিখোঁজ সংবাদ

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