



Organisational structure of armed forces to be recast: PM

CHITTAGONG, Dec 2: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today said the government has taken all steps to build modern and strong armed forces by recasting organisational structure, reports UNB.

"We are committed to building a skilled, strong, well-equipped and modern armed forces suitable for a sovereign and independent country," she said.

The Prime Minister was addressing the President's Parade marking the commissioning of the Gentlemen cadets of the 39th BMA Long Course, 12th BMA Special Course and Sri Lankan Course-3, at the Bangladesh Military Academy (BMA) Parade ground at Bhatiary.

Prime Minister reviewed the parade and took salute at the impressive march past by passed-out gentlemen cadets, including a group of Sri Lankan cadets.

Company Senior Under-Officer Mohammad Sultan Mahmood Shaymol was adjudged

See Page 12 Col 3

Reinstate DMD, HC orders Biman

By Staff Correspondent

The High Court has directed the government and Bangladesh Biman to reinstate Lt. Col (Rtd) Zainul Abedin, Deputy Managing Director of Biman, with all benefits within 60 days.

The court order, issued on Tuesday, also declared the order for retirement of Zainul Abedin illegal and ultra-vires.

A High Court Bench comprising Justice Mr. Mohammed Mozammel Huq and Justice Mr. ABM Khairul Huq passed the order. Advocate Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed, assisted by advocate Shahidur Rahman Khushnabish and advocate Ruhul Quddus Kazal, appeared for Zainul Abedin and advocate Amir Hussain Khandaker, assisted by M. A. Tarek, appeared for Biman, according to a press release issued by Khandaker Mahbubuddin & Associates.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, in a notification on August 27 this year, sent Zainul Abedin on premature retirement without showing any reason. Abedin challenged this order and filed a writ in the High Court.

The High Court earlier stayed the operation of the retirement order on August 31. But Biman did not allow Abedin to join.

Sirajganj Poura chairman suspended

The government has suspended Sirajganj Pourasava Chairman TRM Noor-e-Alam Helal from his post with effect from December 1, reports UNB.

Local Government and Rural Development Ministry issued the suspension order under Section 136 (1) of Pourasava Ordinance 1977 on Tuesday, said a LGRD Ministry announcement yesterday.

The suspension order came following the arrest of Helal in five criminal cases on November 27.

Apart from being accused in

See Page 12 Col 3

Inside Today

Article

Water Sharing Treaty with India: Time for a Review

Column: Currents & Crosscurrents by M M Rezaul Karim

Page 4

Focus

Review judgement in Halima Khatun Case, and P N Haksar—that man of the moment

Page 5

Business

Bangladesh's prospects largely depend on education: UK minister

WEF summit on India ends: Sinha angrily defends economic policy

DSE, CSE price quotations

Pages 6, 7 & 8

Supplement

One page supplement on the 'International Day of Disabled persons '98'

Page 10

The Daily Star

BUY NOW... PAY LATER

Whirlpool
HOME APPLIANCES USA
Gas Cooker

Transcom Electronics Limited

Authorized distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA

Khaleda warns at public meeting

Non-stop hartal if Pabna polls rigged

By Staff Correspondent

Opposition leader Khaleda Zia has warned of a "non-stop hartal until this government falls" if it rigs the Pabna-2 by-elections scheduled for December 10.

"BNP candidate will surely win the by-election if it is free and fair. But there is every possibility that the ruling party will rig the polls. It has taken all preparations to manipulate the poll results and snatched victory from BNP," said the former prime minister.

The opposition leader was addressing a big public meeting yesterday before the breaking of nine-hour mass hunger strike at the city's Paltan Maidan, called by the BNP-led Seven Party Alliance.

She said if the government rigs the by-polls, the opposition will instantly go for a 48-hour

The Leader of the Opposition

See Page 12 Col 7



party leaders at the mass hunger strike at — Star photo

Sikalbaha plant may be delayed by a yr

By Sharier Khan

Implementation of the 110 MW private sector barge-mounted power plant scheme in Sikalbaha is being delayed by more than a year due to "inefficiency" of its builder, sources said.

Multinational power company Smith Cogeneration has not even started the "basic work" for setting up the power plant although it has received "unprecedented" support from the government "time and again."

"They (the power plant builders) have not developed the power plant site and to our knowledge, they have not yet gathered the investment necessary for the plant," said an official source.

Bangladesh Power Development Board's contract with the company for setting up the plant expired in August and now it is enjoying a six-month extension. "But it will again fail to meet the second deadline as it is still progressing slowly", the source said.

The contract was signed in

Land dispute

Two killed, 10 hurt in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Dec 2: Two persons were killed and 10 others injured in a clash over land dispute at village Natun Sunampur under Balaganj thana this morning.

Of the injured, six were admitted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Police said, there had been a dispute over some croplands in the area for long. Several clashes had earlier taken place over the same dispute.

The clash erupted at 7:30 am when one group went to the field for harvesting paddy. The rivals swooped on them with lethal weapons. Both the groups were locked in a clash, and used lethal weapons leaving one Ibrahim Ali, 50, killed on the spot.

Luthur Rahman, 30, of the rival group who was taken to the hospital with serious injuries again came under attack there. The rivals stabbed him in presence of hospital staff, leaving him dead on the spot. He was the convenor of the

See Page 12 Col 6

Police said, there had been a dispute over some croplands in the area for long. Several clashes had earlier taken place over the same dispute.

The clash erupted at 7:30 am when one group went to the field for harvesting paddy. The rivals swooped on them with lethal weapons. Both the groups were locked in a clash, and used lethal weapons leaving one Ibrahim Ali, 50, killed on the spot.

Luthur Rahman, 30, of the rival group who was taken to the hospital with serious injuries again came under attack there. The rivals stabbed him in presence of hospital staff, leaving him dead on the spot. He was the convenor of the

See Page 12 Col 6

'I want to see the killers of my son punished'

By Shaikh Nazrul Islam

"It is beyond my imagination how accused killers can move freely in front of police", said Rimon's father Amzad Hossain.

Rimon was killed along with his friend Imrul on Friday outside the Mirpur Stadium while a concert was going on inside to raise funds for the flood affected people.

"My son would never come back to me. But I would be happy to see that the killers are punished as per the law" Amzad, a senior principal officer of Janata Bank, said in an emotion-choked voice talking to this correspondent at his Mirpur residence yesterday.

Rimon's parents were not in Dhaka on that fateful day. They had gone to Gazipur on a private trip. As they came back to Mirpur just after the incident, they were informed that their son was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with critical injuries.

The parents then rushed to the DMCH only to see their son lying dead at the emergency

unit.

Rimon's mother Rashida Hossain, a house wife, said Rimon and Imrul, two close friends, were killed following an altercation with the hoodlums regarding three girls who also went to enjoy the concert with them.

She said that her son and his friend were attacked in presence of the girls. But the girls did not even bother to inform police or their parents about the incident although they safely returned home, she said.

Rimon who passed his SSC examination this year scoring 825 marks with distinction in four subjects, is also a national award winning singer and a guitarist.

He was yet to start his classes in the BCIS Science College. He had prepared a routine for studies. The routine is still under the glass of his reading table. The guitar which he used to play is lying beside the table.

He also got the best Cub Scout Award in 1993. He was

Financial rules should be strictly followed in all cases: President

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday said the financial rules should be strictly followed in all cases, reports UNB.

He was talking to Comptroller and Auditor General M Hafizuddin Khan and Finance Secretary Dr Akber Ali Khan when they called on him at Bangabhaban.

They presented copies of the revised and updated accounts code, treasury rules and general financial rules to the President, said a press release.

The President appreciated the completion of the work of revising and updating the above code and rules.

Pabna by-polls Police file GD against 18 BNP leaders

PABNA, Dec 2: The Sujanagar police have filed a general diary against 18 BNP leaders, including three MPs for alleged threat to them during the campaign for the December 10 by-election in Pabna-2 constituency, reports UNB.

The duty officer of Sujanagar thana said the BNP leaders threatened the police personnel for implicating their activists in false cases.

Barrister Aminul Haq MP, Fazlur Rahman Patal MP, Rafiqul Islam Bakul MP and Pabna district BNP leader Noor Hossain Boga were among those against whom the GD was filed, informed sources said tonight.

Fire at Kamalapur slum: 2 arrested

By Staff Correspondent

Police yesterday arrested two persons in connection with fire incident at Titipara slum at Kamalapur in the city.

They were identified as Mitru, 22, and Santu, 25.

According to the FIR, a gang of hoodlums first sprayed petrol and then set fire to the shanties. All the 473 shanties were gutted in the blaze.



PROVING A POINT: A handicapped girl learns the trade of weaving at Kalyani, a school for the disabled at Mouchak in the city. She joins millions across the world to observe the International Day of the Disabled today.

— Star photo

Shantu Larma warns

Implement accord or I won't hesitate to shed blood

From Our Correspondent

KHAGRACHARI, Dec 2: The first anniversary of signing of the historic CHT peace accord was observed peacefully in the three hill districts.

Rallies, processions and discussion meetings by different organisations marked the day.

PCJSS chief Shantu Larma addressed a public meeting at Rangamati stadium.

BNP-backed Sarbadaliga Oliya Parishad held a rally at Reserve Bazar to observe the day as 'protest day'.

The rally was attended by Editor of Prothom Alo Matiur Rahman, former deputy attorney-general Hasan Arif and a Garo leader, Sanjib Drung, as special guests.

Former Chairman of
See Page 12, Col 1

Over 1600 bombs recovered, 10 held in city

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested ten people and recovered three revolvers, one pipegun and some 1600 bombs from their possessions in separate incidents in the city yesterday.

Detective police, acting on a tip-off, arrested one wanted criminal, Tuhin, from a house in Mirpur. Acting on his statement, police arrested four other alleged criminals — Roni, Shamen, Khayer and Jahangir Alam and recovered two revolvers with bullets. Police said they were engaged in various crimes.

In another incident, Ramna police arrested two other miscreants — Shamim and Kapiluddin — from a house at Noyatola and recovered a pipegun and two bombs.

Labbagh police arrested one Suresh Chandra and recovered 1610 handbombs.

Kotwali police arrested four other alleged criminals — Matin, Mosharrif Hossain, Monsur Ahmed and Jakir Hossain and recovered one revolver and six handbombs.

Discover love at first bite.

GRAND OPENING

DECEMBER 4, 1998

International Fast Food Chain

Over 1200 outlets worldwide

WIMPY

"the original beef burger since 1954"

NOW IN BANGLADESH

At Road No. 50 House No. 1

Gulshan - 2 Dhaka Tel : 888573



Please bring this advertisement along for a special offer.