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Banking sector: Changes in some key posts

Star Report
The government has made changes in some key posts in the banking sector with immediate effect, according to official sources.
Professor Habibur Rahman of Dhaka University has been appointed chairman, Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha (BSRS); Secretary Shaifur Rahman has been appointed chairman, Ansar-VDP Bank; Md Hossain, general manager (GM), Rupali Bank has been appointed deputy managing director (DMD), Sonali Bank; Shaiful Alam, GM, Janata Bank has been appointed DMD, Agrani Bank; Rabiul Hossain, GM, Agrani Bank has been appointed MD, (current charge) Bangladesh Shilpa Bank (BSB); ASM Imdatul Huq, GM, Janata Bank has been appointed MD, Ansar-VDP Bank; Sajedur Rahman, GM, Employment Bank has been appointed MD, Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank (Rakub); and Yasin Ali, MD, Rakub, has been appointed MD (current charge), Rupali Bank.

Utility bills Cabinet likely to okay one-stop payment system

By Special Correspondent
The Cabinet today is likely to approve a proposal for one stop payment of utility bills, highly placed sources said.
This was one of the 20 proposals forwarded to the government by the Public Administration Reforms Commission (PARC).
PARC has argued that current...

Inside Today

Article
The Election in Indonesia: More Than Just Change of Guard
Column: Perspectives by Brig (Rtd) M Abdul Hafiz Page 4

Prayer Timings

August 17		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-10	4-15
Johr	12-50	1-25
Asr	5-00	5-10
Maghrib	6-55	7-00
Esha	8-00	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

Poisonous US fertiliser yet to be taken back

From Quazi Amanullah
BADC at a loss
It had said in a report the Zinc Oxy Sulphate fertiliser contained 6.9 per cent lead and 0.05 percent cadmium and that use of this "spurious and poisonous" fertiliser could create neurological problem for children and damage kidney. It could also damage soil.
Samples were also sent to the US Environment Protection Agency which said the fertiliser was "spurious" and the consignment should be taken back by the suppliers.
Samples were also tested at Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI), Bangladesh Research Council, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and BUET.
BARI had detected lead and cadmium in the fertiliser, but gave the opinion that it would not damage fertility of soil and create any environmental problem.
The stockpiled fertiliser is the leftover from a total of 6,300 tonnes of Zinc Oxy Sulphate imported by BADC in two consignments with financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Stoller Chemical Company of US is manufacturer of the fertiliser.
See page 11 Col 8

Salam Talukdar's condition still very grave

By Staff Correspondent
A rumour that BNP leader and former minister Salam Talukdar was dead sent shock waves among the party rank and file Sunday evening.
As the rumour spread, hundreds of BNP leaders, activists and supporters gathered at the Mintlo Road residence of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia.
Hearing the "sad news" at about 7:45 pm, Begum Zia cancelled her 54th birthday programme at her official residence and announced at the gathering that Talukdar's *najma-e-janaza* would be held at 10 am on Monday. Talukdar is also a former secretary general of BNP.
She then rushed to the Sha-
See page 11 Col 1

25 kg explosives seized from Sealdah station

Terrorists planned serial bomb blasts?
NEW DELHI, Aug 16: India sounded an alert today along its border with Bangladesh after seizing a large quantity of explosives from a railway station in the eastern state of West Bengal, reports AFP.
The United News of India quoted West Bengal police officials as saying they had recovered 25 kilograms (55 pounds) of explosives in Calcutta's central Sealdah Station.
"Explosives, batteries, fuse wires... to trigger serial bomb blasts on three trains bound for Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Assam have been detected," said a police official.
Police said they had stepped up security checks in railway stations.
They also have their eyes trained on the largely unmanned international border between West Bengal and Bangladesh to check the movement of suspected Pakistan-backed terrorists.
"We conducted a series of raids after getting a tip-off from the Assam police who have also advised us to seal the border," said a senior police official.
Earlier PTI from Calcutta said, in a major haul of RDX materials in the city in recent times, police today recovered a carton containing about 15kgs of such high explosives, timers, batteries and wires from the bush Number Eight Platform of Eastern Railway's Sealdah north station here.
Patrolling policemen detected the explosives, lying abandoned in the platform, and wrapped in an old newspaper at 1145 hours-minutes after the Jammu-Tawi Express had left the station. Railway sources said.
They said the materials, confirmed by the explosive experts as RDX, were contained in
See page 11 Col 8



The children have nowhere to go after their Khilgaon shanty was razed a few days back by policemen. A mother with her two children vainly try to protect herself with plastic sheet as the late monsoon shower continued unabated yesterday. — Star photo by A K M Mohsin

Evicted families move to other slums in city

By Staff Correspondent
Hundreds of families evicted from slums along the railway tracks from Kamalapur to Moghbazar last week are moving to other slums in the city, resulting in congestion in those and increase in rent of shanties.
About 5,000 slum dwellers were evicted by the government in a sudden move to "free the city from slum-based crimes".
Many of these evicted families are moving to slums at Khilgaon, Agargaon, Rayerbazar, Kamrangchali and the flood protection embankment from Kalyanpur to Killarmoar.
Asad Mia arrived at a rickshaw van along with his wife and four children aged between two to ten. The van owner charged Tk 100 for carrying the family and their baggage and utensils from Wireless Gate at Moghbazar.
Asad Mia, a roadside *pitha* seller, said he has rented a shanty at the slum for Tk 250 with the help of his friend. The slum owner has increased the rent by Tk 50 as the demand for accommodation increased.
"Apart from occasional payment to police, I did not have to pay anything for my shanty near the rail gate. Here, the slum owner is charging more rent from the newcomers", he said. Asad came to Dhaka a year ago from a *char* area in Sirajganj after his abode was washed away by the Jamuna.
Near Rayerbazar kitchen market, workers were busy building shanties. A young man supervising the work said he will build about fifty rooms and rent those. When asked why the
See page 11 Col 7

Bangabandhu remembered, murder mourned

By Staff Correspondent
Bangladesh Sunday paid glowing tributes to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founder of the state, on the 24th anniversary of his assassination.
This day in 1975, some disgruntled military officers killed the then president, who had led this nation to Liberation less than four earlier, at his Dhanmondi residence in the capital. All his family members at home and many of his close relations were brutally killed on that fateful night.
His two daughters -- Sheikh Hasina, now prime minister, and Sheikh Rehana -- survived the cruel assault. They were aboard at that time.
Since Hasina, eldest of the late leader's children, took charge as head of government in 1996, the day has been observed as National Mourning Day.
This year, there was a sense of consolation for the people as the trial court gave its verdict in the Bangabandhu murder case on November 8 last year. All 15 convicts were awarded capital punishment, death by firing squad.
Through numerous programmes marking the mourning day, the nation denounced the cruelty of the August 15 killers and took a fresh vow to consolidate democracy against "the politics of killing, coup and conspiracy".
Execution of the verdict in
See page 11 Col 6

A rare example

From Our Correspondent
MOULVIBAZAR, Aug 16: Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) units at Rajnagar Degree College have set up an example of healthy politics by participating in the National Mourning Day programme organised by the college authorities.
The college authorities had decided to observe the National Mourning Day with participation of all students of the college and called a meeting of leaders of all students' organisations.
As per a decision of the meeting, a discussion meeting was held today at the college auditorium.
Presided over by Principal of the college Md Quresh Khan, the discussion meeting was addressed by among others Md Quamrul Islam, President of ICS unit at the college, its General Secretary Md Nurul Islam
See page 11 Col 5

WE MOURN

Mr. Mukhlesur Rahman, Chairman and Managing Director of Uttara Group of Companies breathed his last in BIRDEM, Dhaka on 16.8.99 at 10.30 a.m. (Inna Lillahe-Wa Inna Illaihe Rajeun). He was 52.

He left behind one son and one daughter and a host of relations and well wishers to mourn his death.

We pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Directors, Officers & Staff of Uttara Group of Companies & Industries

'I met Home Minister & IGP, but no action yet'

Bhola-3 MP alleges

By Staff Correspondent
BNP leader Hafizuddin Ahmed MP has urged the government to control terrorist activities, harassment of BNP activists and political persecution in his Bhola-3 constituency comprising Lalmoohan and Tajumuddin thanas.
Addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday, he said the ruling Awami League backed by local administration created a reign of terror in his constituency through political repression, harassment and filing of false cases against BNP activists and many other innocent people.
He said he was elected to parliament from Bhola-3 five times and there was no false case against any person in the constituency in about 14 years. But the situation turned totally different as soon as Awami League came to power.
Over 100 'false cases' were filed against some 1,200 people during the last three and a half years in Lalmoohan thana only and some 100 others were detained. Besides, three BNP activists were killed in the constituency recently but police refused to take cases, he alleged.
"The most unfortunate thing in Bhola is that administration officials seem to be more pro Awami League than the party-men themselves. Officials concerned do not grant bail even in bailable offences. Loots and other crimes take place in the presence of police," the lawmaker further alleged.
Citing eight specific incidents, he said miscreants belonging to the ruling party threw acid on a girl student of class ten on the night of May 23 as her father, who was elected Chairman of Ramaganj Union Parishad twice, refused to join that party.
"I have called this press conference not for any political cause. I have here to seek justice for the acid victim as police is yet to record any statement from the girl", he said. He also met the Home Minister and the IGP but no action was taken in this regard till now, he added.
The victim, Jharna Akhter Sumi and her father Ahsanul-
See page 11 Col 7

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With this notice, M/S Shahjalal Aviation Systems Limited and/or its employees, servants, agents, representatives and/or its associates shall cease their right whatsoever to negotiate in any business relating to Malaysia Airlines.

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We regret the inconvenience
Abdullah Mohamed
Area Manager, Bangladesh, Malaysia Airlines

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