

'Keep enough time in hand for US visa processing during summer'

Individuals planning travel to the United States during the summer months have been requested to keep adequate time in hand for processing their visas, reports BSS.

The US Embassy will be unable to accommodate last minute applications from individuals who have not planned far enough in advance, said a USIS press release yesterday.

An individual who cannot be interviewed on the date of their application will be given an appointment for later date. Historically, waiting times for visa interviews during the summer months have sometimes approached 4 to 5 weeks.

The Consular Section of the US Embassy in Dhaka experiences a seasonal surge in demand for tourist visas during the summer months, a high-volume travel season.

Due to staffing and physical limitations, only a fixed number of interviews can take place on any given day.

JS body for taking legal action against irregularities

A Parliamentary Standing Committee meeting on the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock yesterday decided to take legal action against some officials and employees of Fisheries and Livestock Directorate involved in various irregularities, report agencies.

Chaired by committee chairman A S M Firoz the meeting also suggested to consider transferring the grants of postponed projects to the neglected regions said a Parliament Secretariat press release.

The meeting also discussed various problems of the Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute at Savar and Central Dairy Farm. It also asked the ministry to take necessary steps to prevent the wastage and misuse of the dairy farm.

Committee members Fisheries and Livestock Minister A S M Abdur Rob, Syed Rafigul Huq and Qamrunnahar Putul attended the meeting.

State Minister of the ministry M Abdul Quddus attended the meeting on special invitation.

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## None will be spared if found involved in toll collection: Nasim

Home Minister Mohammad Nasim issuing a stern warning against extortionists yesterday, said that none will be spared if found involved in illegal toll collection or raising toll structures anywhere in the country, reports UNB.

Briefing newsmen at his office in the afternoon, Nasim reaffirmed his commitment to demolish roadside illegal structures used for toll collection.

The police action that started Wednesday will continue until the last illegal structure is demolished, he asserted.

On Wednesday, the first day of the police action, nearly 100 illegal structures used for toll collection were demolished by police across the country.

Referring to allegations that

a section of the police is involved in illegal toll collection, the home minister said he would not hesitate taking stern action if anyone of them is found guilty.

"He will be first sacked from service and then sued under the Public Safety Act," the minister added.

Nasim said that he has asked the Deputy Commissioners and Police Super to ensure roadsides are cleared of such illegal structures.

Meanwhile, a section of workers' unions and associations have started transport strike across the country protesting police action. They said the tolls are collected for the welfare of the transport workers.

### 3 separate incidents

## Taka three lakh looted in city

By Staff Correspondent

Robbers looted Tk 3 lakh in gold Jewellery, cash and other valuables in two separate incidents in the city on Wednesday night.

Eight men broke into Ananda Bitan, a shop at 12/4 Mirpur Bazaar, at about 11 p.m. They tied up the employees and beat them at gun point.

They stole Tk 40,000 in cash and Tk 20,000 in cigarettes.

A case was filed with Mirpur police.

In another incident, five men rang the bell and then forced their way into Azmira Begum's house at 11/C Avenue.

A case was filed with the Sutrapur police station.

in Pallabi at about 9 p.m. at gun point.

The gang tied up the family members before escaping with Tk 1.8 lakh in gold Jewellery and cash. A case was filed with the Pallabi police station.

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## Metropolitan

## DU Dean's Award announced

The Dean of Arts Faculty of the University of Dhaka has announced the Dean's Award for 1998-1999, says a press release.

The winners of the award for the academic year are: Professor Sajahan Miah, Department of Philosophy for Russell's Theory of Perception as best book of the year, Prof Perween Hasan, Department of Islamic History and Culture for Mosque Design and Changing Ruling Class Identities in Bengal as

best essay published abroad, Dr Geeti Ara Nasrin, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication for Political Economy of Advertisements in BTV.

A Gender-based Analysis as best paper in Bangla by a lecturer/assistant professor and

professor/lecturer.

The Dean's Award for best performance in Bangla and English Foundation Courses will be given jointly this year to Naira Khan of the Department of Linguistics and Mohammad Shahidul Islam, Department of English. This award has been introduced for the student who scores the highest mark combined in these courses. The value of this award is Tk 2,000/- only and will be shared if there is more than one award winner.

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#### Multimedia Developer

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#### Graphics Designer

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If you are the best in your area then mail or bring your CV with Photo and academic and experience credentials by Thursday, April 20 to: 103 Park Road, New DOHS, Dhaka. Phone 9883627-28 Email: microcel@bol-online.com

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