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Recruitment of Bangladeshi workers to continue: Mahathir

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31: Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad today said his country will continue recruitment of workers from Bangladesh as and when necessary, reports BSS.

Speaking at the official dinner hosted in honour of the visiting Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Dr Mahathir said contribution of Bangladeshi workers in the development of Malaysia's economy is appreciable.

Speaking at the bilateral relations, Dr Mahathir said the relation was "satisfactory" and added that bilateral trade has been on the rise, registering RM 263 million during the first five months of this year.

Referring to enlistment of Malaysia in the Board of Investment as the third largest foreign investor in Bangladesh

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Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad (R) greets Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina after the guard of honour at Putrajaya, Malaysia's new administrative capital yesterday. The Bangladeshi leader is on a three-day official visit to Malaysia. — AFP photo

Inside Today

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A Hoax of an Arrest: A Super-criminal Walks Free
by Praful Bidwai
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Supplement

Two-page special supplement on Swiss Confederation Day on **Pages 13 & 14** and One page special supplement on World Breastfeeding Week on **Page 15**

Prayer Timings

August 1		
August	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Aug 1	6:41 pm	
Aug 2	5:28 am	

Source: Islamic Foundation

Malaysia may relocate its agro units in Bangladesh

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31: Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said his government would go for high-tech industries phasing out existing labour-intensive agro-based ones for relocating abroad, reports UNB.

Such labour-intensive industries could be relocated to countries like Bangladesh when Malaysia is going for high-tech ventures, he said during official talks with visiting Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The Malaysian premier assured his country would buy more products from Bangladesh as well as international issues of common concern. The meeting was held at Mahathir's office at Putra-

Jaya. Hasina said Bangladesh would welcome relocation of labour-intensive agro-based industries in the country, which offers cheap labour and liberal investment policy supports.

She maintained that about 1.5 lakh Bangladeshi labourers are working in Malaysia contributing to the economy and nation-building activity of a friendly country.

"We look forward to you as our partner in progress and we hope to learn from your experience," Hasina told her host, mentioning that Malaysia has developed information tech-

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Protest rally at BARC

Tax official barred from taking charge

By Reaz Ahmad

Several hundred agriculture scientists and officials from across the country yesterday held a protest rally on the premises of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) in the city and barred a taxation official from taking charge of its Finance and Ad-

ministration Wing.

Normal activities at the BARC were virtually stopped for three weeks now following posting of Ashim Kumar Roy, a Tax Commissioner, as Member Director (Finance and Administration) of BARC, a post traditionally held by persons from

the agriculture cadre.

Roy was posted there on July 7 on deputation, sources there said.

Since the "controversial"

appointment, scientists and of-

icials of BARC staged sit-in

from 9 am to 5 pm everyday and

later gave the government a

July 31 deadline for its with-

drawal.

Scientists from various re-

search institutions including

Bangladesh Agriculture Re-

search Institute (BARI) and

Bangladesh Rice Research Insti-

tute (BRRI) joined the protest

as the deadline expired

yesterday.

A showcase notice on the

BARC Executive Chairman by

the Agriculture Ministry on

Sunday seeking explanation for

recent developments there

added fuel to the agitation.

BARC is the apex body of all

institutions under the national

agricultural research system (NARS) in the country.

When asked for comments,

BARC Executive Chairman Dr Z Karim said he would not talk to the press at the moment.

But the ministry is

"adamant" as regards posting of

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Dengue 4 more die: 65 fresh cases in city

By Staff Correspondent

Four people including two in Khulna died of dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) across the country yesterday.

Of the victims, two were identified as Hasina Begum, 11, of Bagerhat town and Rowshan Ara, 45-year-old housewife of Mymensingh.

Rowshan Ara died at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital while Hasina at home.

The other two died in Chilean's Gurnari and Joy Nagar villages. Their identity is yet to be known.

About 50 dengue patients have been admitted to Dakob thana health complex in Khulna in the last one week. The health complex official was quoted as saying that dengue fever in the area has assumed an "epidemic proportion."

Meanwhile, 65 more dengue

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Aerial spray: Agri ministry yet to give permission

By Naimul Haq

The Dhaka City Corporation yesterday got permission from the Department of Environment for aerial spraying of insecticides to contain mosquito menace in the city, Mayor Mohammed Hanif said.

But other sources said the agriculture ministry did not hold any meeting till yesterday to decide whether to allow aerial spraying.

The Mayor said, after getting permission from agriculture ministry, DCC will hold a meeting whether to go for aerial spraying.

"We may or may not go for that. Conventional ground spraying is going on and there are indications that growth of mosquito population is almost under control. If this works, we will not go for aerial spraying."

In the letters, the DCC said it was "fully prepared" for aerial spraying. DCC's Deputy Chief Health Officer Dr Shahid told this correspondent yesterday.

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From Shehab Ahmed and Aroop Talukdar

JHALAKATI, July 31: Awami League candidate Food Minister Amir Hossain Amu is leading with a big margin of 61,129 votes in the parliamentary election in Jhalakati-2 constituency held today.

Amu bagged 86,428 votes against 21,299 polled by his nearest rival Elen Bhutto, an independent candidate, according to the Election Commission sources at 12.20 night.

The poll described by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) MA Syed as free and fair however, was not without trouble.

Voting was postponed at one polling centre at Subidpur school in Nalchiti following violence between supporters of

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Elen rejects poll results

By Staff Correspondent

JHALAKATI, July 31: Elen Bhutto has rejected the poll results saying the election was farical.

During a press conference at the Barisal Press Club this evening, she accused the CEC of being partisan and demanded his resignation. She also demanded cancellation of the election and re-polling in Jhalakati-2 constituency, claiming wide spread irregularities.

The independent candidate alleged that her polling agents were not allowed to do their job at different polling centres. She urged the opposition not to participate in any election under the incumbent CEC.

She was accompanied by her brother Anis Chowdhury.

Assam militants blow up train: 12 killed

GUWAHATI, India, July 31: Suspected separatist militants in India's northeastern state of Assam blew up a passenger train today killing 12 people, an Indian Railways official told AFP.

The official said militants staged a powerful landmine blast on a railway track close to Rangia station, 60 kilometers west of Assam's capital Guwahati, killing 12 people and injuring several others.

When contacted, NBR member (customs) Abul Quasem said as he was not involved in the activities of the squad, he does not know anything about its future.

The chairman (now retired) directly supervised the activities of the squad and it would depend on the new chairman whether it would survive or not.

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Journalist murder: Jahangir heard gunshots, saw Selim, Shukkur running away

By Staff Correspondent

Jahangir Hossain, arrested in connection with the killing of journalist Shamsur Rahman, yesterday gave a judicial statement as an eyewitness of the killing before the CMM's Court, Dhaka.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) had prayed before the court for recording his statement as an eyewitness.

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Special customs squad may be dissolved

By Rafiq Hasan

The special customs squad of the National Board of Revenue (NBR) which detected a number of tax evasion cases involving crores of taka is likely to be dissolved, sources concerned said.

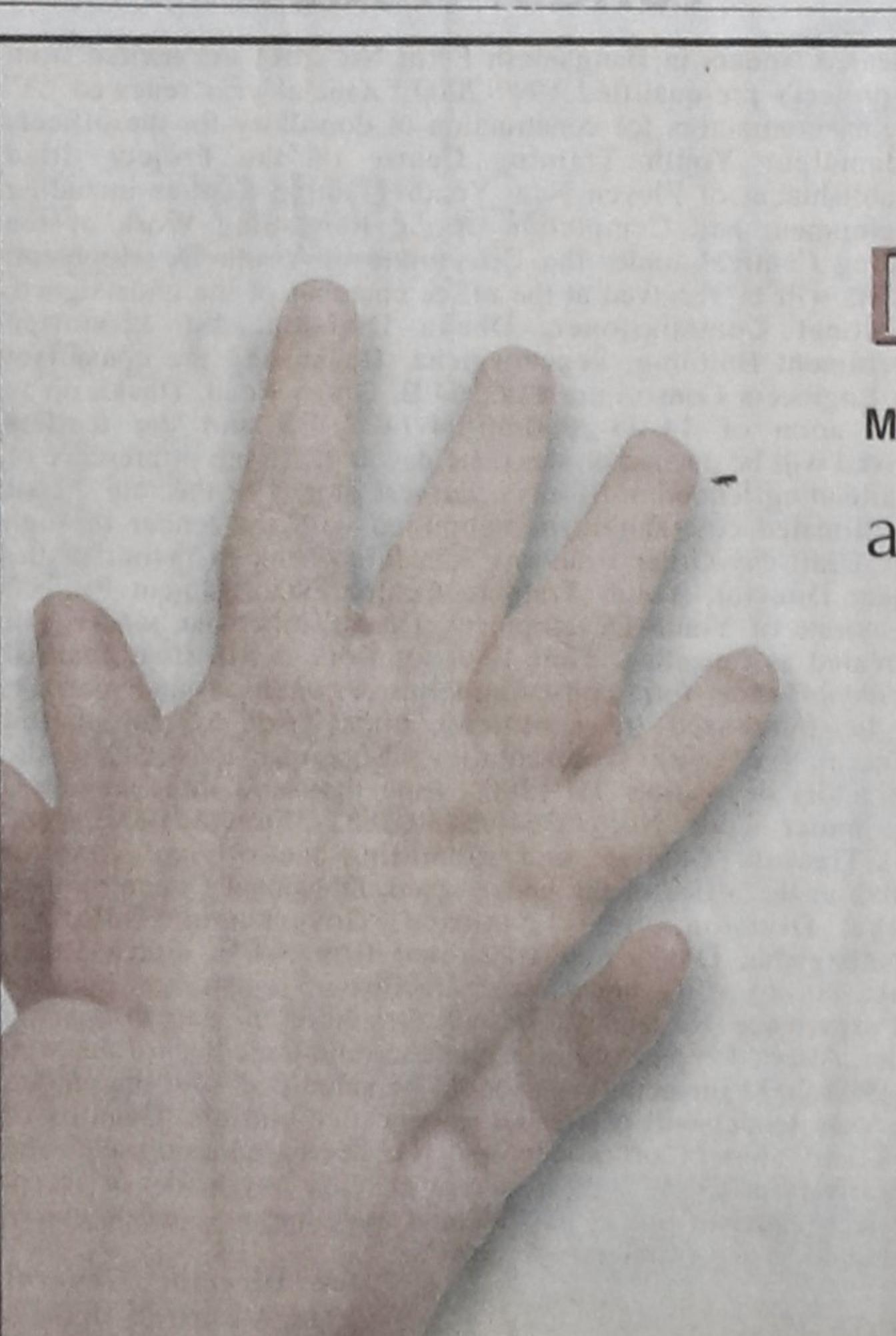
With the retirement of NBR Chairman Abdul Muyeed

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ডেপুজুরে আক্রান্ত হলে আমাদের প্রধান করণীয় হচ্ছে হাসপাতালে চিকিৎসকের সাহায্য নেওয়া এবং প্রতিরোধের ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা।

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- আর (শরীরের তাপমাত্রা 108°-105° ফাঃ পর্যন্ত হতে পারে)।
- মাথা-ব্যথা, মাংসপেশী ও হাড়ে ব্যথা (বিশেষতঃ মেরদসভে ব্যথা)।
- বমি তাৰ।
- চামড়াৰ নিচে রক্তক্ষরণ, দৌতের মাড়ি দিয়ে রক্ত পড়া, নাক দিয়ে রক্ত পড়া।
- লাঙচে/কালো বৰের পায়থানা ইত্যাদি।
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