

HSC examinations

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The 'copy prone' areas have been identified on the basis of report from the education boards during the recently concluded SSC examinations as well as HSC and SSC examinations of the previous years, ministry officials said.

The boards have already launched a massive campaign against cheating at the examinations by publishing advertisement in newspapers and sticking posters.

The advertisement also sought cooperation of all concerned including the elected representatives to help fight the curse of cheating at the examinations. "Journalists have also a great role to play in creating public awareness against cheating," said one such advertisement published in different dailies.

New upazilas, police stations

FROM PAGE 1
of Polashbari and Bamondanga of Sundarganj in Gaibandha, Gundum of Nikkhongchhari in Bandarban, Chandraganj of Laxmipur sadar, Aftabganj of Nawabganj in Dinajpur, Rohonpur of Gumstapur in Chapainawabganj, Swajan of Lakhai in Habiganj, Handial of Chatmohar in Pabna, Ashoknagar Bazar of Alandanga in Chuadanga, Bagbri of Gabtoli, Kumira of Nandigram in Bogra, Kathalati of Mirjaganj in Patuakhali, Gouripur of Daudkandi in Comilla, Premoi of Kendua in Netrakona, Belabo of Rupganj in Narayanganj, Hatimara of Munshiganj sadar, Nawhatia of Mohammadpur in Magura and Bogdadia in Feni sadar.

Addressing the meeting, the Prime Minister said the government is taking all necessary steps for making the administration more dynamic and people-oriented. About the new upazilas, she said these are required for rapid development of the country, particularly in the rural areas. These will also help in maintaining law and generating economic activities, she added.

She said that following the setting up of new thanas and police camps, peace has been restored in the southwestern region, increasing economic activities.

The meeting was told that a total of 158 police camps were set up in the southwestern region and manpower in these camps would be increased according to the requirement.

Hasina observed that due to appropriate steps taken by the government, peace has replaced terrorism and violence.

She said overall law and order situation has improved but "it is not possible to change everything overnight."

The Nawabganj district was officially renamed as Chapainawabganj in the meeting.

leader of the city BNP said it was printed without taking permission from the city committee.

Some other leaders said 'Falu-Pinto' group might have done this. The group also tried for statements from the BNP chief and the city BNP demanding release of Sagar but failed to manage that.

Sagar presented a car worth nearly Tk five lakh to Falu and also supplied 100 vehicles during BNP's long march to the Chittagong Hill Tracts last year, some sources said.

When asked about the cars, a number of BNP leaders declined to comment.

He recently visited Singapore as a member of the BNP chief's entourage. He was also a member of her private security force for long and presented a 54kg cake on her 54th birthday, the sources mentioned.

When contacted last night, Falu denied the allegations against him and said he had never interfered in organisational matters of BNP. "I did not bring Sagar to the city committee and I am not involved in the party," he said.

Formation of city committee was delayed for years and efforts to form it were foiled by Falu thrice as city BNP leadership refused to include Sagar and Pinto in the committee. But finally Falu managed their entry, party sources said.

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PDB, AES sign

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the contractual pricing of 2.72 US cents per kilowatt hour rate that is considered one of the lowest in the world. Sources said it would be around 5.5 cents or Tk 3 per unit.

But the Haripur-360 MW AES Power Plant could not kick off properly, as it was still undergoing various tests. Nor was the contract between PDB and AES finalised. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the plant on April 15.

With the election ahead, the government decided to push the AES to begin its operation much ahead of schedule. The AES-PDB contract suggests that the company begin commercial power generation as from January 28, 2003. However, the AES itself declared last year that it would begin its commercial operation using combined cycle technology on October 31.

The AES has spent additional 15 to 20 million dollars to supply this additional power.

At least three people, including a police officer, were injured in a clash between the supporters of Juba League and BCL in Golapganj Upazila of Sylhet district yesterday.

The clash erupted in the evening at a public meeting of Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak when Juba League activists tried to prevent a BCL procession proceeding to the dais of the meeting just before arrival of the minister.

Both the group chased each other, threw brickbats and allegedly fired several shots in the bus station area.

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Juba League, BCL clash in Sylhet: 3 injured

UNB, Sylhet

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Crucial test for Indian ruling coalition

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Opposition and Congress chief Sonia Gandhi pitching in to turn it into a high-profile event. Seldom has the run-up to an election been marked by so much suspense.

The spotlight is certainly on the 294 seats in West Bengal where Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress, in alliance with Congress, seeks to dislodge the world's longest-serving communist rule. The CPI (M)-led Left Front coalition has been in power for nearly quarter of a century at a stretch.

Mamata's tie-up with the Congress has altered the political configurations in West Bengal forcing the Left parties to redraw their electoral strategies. This is for the first time that the Left Front, which came to power in 1977, is facing such a strong challenge in the electoral battle. Various opinion

Yasmeen Murder Case Prosecution has failed to prove charges, says Defence

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Death Reference Bench of the High Court continued hearing on the Yasmeen rape and murder case yesterday with the defence arguing against the death sentence of the three policemen given by a trial court in 1996.

Seventeen-year-old Yasmeen, who was going to her village home in Dinajpur from Dhaka at night, was allegedly taken in a police van by patrol police offering her a lift, raped and murdered, and the body was left at a paddy field near Dinajpur town. The incident took place in 1995.

The incident sparked off violent protests across the country and killing of seven persons in police firing in Dinajpur town.

Defence lawyer Nazrul Islam Talukder argued that newspaper reports on hearing of the case that the incident tarnished the image of police could influence the court.

The Bench comprising Justice Abdul Matin and Justice Marzul Hug rejected the argument, saying the newspaper reports quoted from the submission of Deputy Attorney General Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik.

At this stage, Manik stated that the role of the then SP of Dinajpur Abdul Motlib and some other

police officials tarnished the image of police because they tried to conceal evidences of rape and murder. But some other police officials played a praiseworthy role by trying to establish the case despite obstacles, he said.

The defence counsel argued that the prosecution had failed to prove the charge against the defendants. He said the first autopsy report on Yasmeen's body was not taken into account. The second autopsy was not proper as the body was decomposed and her clothes were not sent for chemical examination. Thus the evidence of rape was not established, he argued.

He also argued that the General Diary regarding the case was false because the police official who recorded it was not produced in the trial court as witness. The first investigation officer (IO) was also not produced before the trial court as witness.

He argued that neither the Duty Officer at Dinajpur thana on that night nor the hand writing expert's report was presented in the court to prove who recorded the GD.

There was no documentary evidence that the three accused policemen were on patrol duty on the night of the occurrence. The hearing will continue.

Bomb recovery 4 sent to jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Four people, arrested in connection with the recovery of a powerful bomb under the driving seat of a DCC commissioner, were sent to the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday.

Mohammadpur police produced Rahman, Sobhan, Shamim and Kamal before the CMM's court, Dhaka, on completion of a one day remand.

The court of Metropolitan Magistrate Biman Bihari Barua ordered police to send them to the Dhaka Central Jail as no prayer for further remand for the accused was sought by the police.

Hearing on writ

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Shamsul Huda fixed Monday for the hearing.

However, the Bench will first hear a writ petition on the same issue filed last year by Barrister Abdur Razzaq on behalf of his client Afzalul Abedin of Dinajpur. The Attorney General will argue on behalf of the government.

Barrister Iftaque was assisted by Advocate MA Malek, Advocate Khandaker Mahbubuddin Ahmed and Barrister Moudud Ahmed and some others.

Mushrur Khan filed the writ following a case under PSA on December 25 last year accusing him of looting and ransacking a sweetshop at Chittagong.

Since the filing of his writ, more than 100 similar writs have been filed and those are now awaiting disposal.

Golam Azam barred from leaving country

UNB, Dhaka

As the government imposed a ban on his departure from the country, former ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami Prof Golam Azam has cancelled his scheduled visit to London.

Golam Azam and his wife were due to go to London today by a British Airways flight.

Party sources said three plainclothes policemen from the Special Branch yesterday went to the residence of former Jamaat ameer and asked for his passport, showing a Home Ministry order that banned his departure from the country.

Golam Azam refused to give passport to police, saying that he got it more than a year after the court verdict.

At one stage, police said they would go away without taking his passport if he gave a written statement that he would not leave the country.

Accordingly, Golam Azam gave a written statement to the police.

RU BBA student drowns

UNB, Rajshahi

A first year BBA student of Rajshahi University drowned while bathing in a pond with his friends at Meherchandia yesterday.

The victim was identified as Hassan Al Mahmud of Dhammandi, Dhaka.

His body was sent to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Cattle trader

FROM PAGE 12 his alleged involvement with the mugger.

In another incident, muggers snatched Tk 12,000 from Farid Hossain at Road No-11, Gulshan while he was going to Minto road by a rickshaw Tuesday evening.

A gang of muggers stopped Farid's auto-rickshaw and snatched the money from him.

Dhaka rejects

FROM PAGE 1

between the two countries, the foreign minister said Dhaka expressed the desire that the first meeting between the two countries to resolve the border issues would be held here.

"Our desire to have the first meeting in Dhaka has been communicated to them diplomatically," he said, adding, "We would, however, not press for it."

He said the selection of venue would be settled through discussion between the two countries.

To another question, Azad said Bangladesh was pleased that India launched an investigation into how the BSF entered the Bangladesh territory.

He said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her conversation with her Indian counterpart Atal Bihari Vajpayee on April 22 by telephone asked him to initiate the probe.

Financial crisis

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Formal announcement to this effect is yet to be made as port authority wants to read pulses of local and non-local labourers about this decision.

At present, there are 4,482 labourers registered with the Dock Labourers' Management Board (DLMB) at Mongla Port which is on the verge of collapse due to corruption, politicisation and regionalism among the labourers.

Meanwhile, extra police forces were deployed at the port yesterday as CBA leaders disbursed the strike by sewing labourers at the port since last Monday demanding their appointment in the clinker carrying ships. The striking sewing workers also forced other labourers to stop work in the two foodgrains carrying ships.

A case was filed with Joydevpur

PM to lay

FROM PAGE 1 from his ward required for construction of double lane approach road on the eastern and western sides of the proposed bridge.

The proposed bridge will be 1,360 metre in length and 16.65 metres in width, said a source in the department concerned.

Besides, 17 kilometre long and 15.55 metre wide Khulna town bypass road will also be constructed with provision for pavements on both sides of the bridge, the source said.

Jakiganji people

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and families of other agencies went to the house of Amin Miah on May 6 and talked to him. Amin, son of Haji Rofiq Miah said that he had gone to a nearby place adjoining to the border and heard some firing by the BSF personnel. Immediately, he dived into the river and swam to safety. Later, he returned to the house of a relative at a nearby village.

When such is but a glimpse of chamber politics resignation by the DCCI president is indeed more noteworthy. We have decided to write this commentary because along with a general deterioration of moral standards in the society, moral

standards in our business community as a whole have suffered tremendously. As we promote the private sector, and as we advocate greater and greater deregulation and liberalisation, we must simultaneously develop far higher standards of business ethics. Otherwise the economy will become captive in the hands of lumpen and predatory businessmen, whose only aim will be to loot the country and its people.

There is now a far greater need to develop private sector business codes of conduct and ethics than ever before. If government withdraws from business, as we want