The Daily Star

Tax evasion, forgery Banks customs asked to stop dealings with 49 RMG units

RAFIQ HASAN

The National Board of Revenue (NBR) yesterday asked all banks and customs offices to stop transactions with 49 readymade garment (RMG) and accessories factories for their alleged involvement in tax evasion, bond license forgery, fake export and selling of imported fabrics in the open market.

The Dhaka Custom Bond Commissionerate under the National Board of Revenue (NBR) yesterday sent a list of the units to all commercial banks and custom offices, requesting them not to do any business with them, according to sources.

The banks were asked not to open any letters of credit (LCs) in favour of these factories. The customs stations were asked not to clear any goods of these units.

Sources said the action was taken as these factories allegedly ignored notices to pay the 'evaded' taxes.

The factories are: Cherry Apparels (Pvt) Ltd, Central Garments Industry Ltd, Aeon Garments Ltd, Fuji Polimer Ltd, N Islam Cartoon and Packaging Ltd, Reliance Industries, MS Fashion, Stylo Apparels, Nash Fashion, Alamgir Polthyne Products, Axon Bangladesh. AB Polithine Ltd, Barin Apparels, United Garments, AB Garments, Saddle Prime Plastic, Audity Apparels, MNH Apparels, Bangladesh Engineering and Founding, Lily Garments, Alpana Ltd, FF Fashion, Sanwara Electronics, Mannan Box Accessories, Uttara Polymer, AG Packaging, New York Garments, Shim Garments, ZI Apparels, Night Electronics, Bestwear Garments, Mont Limited, Delta Complex Ltd, Mannan Washing, Kallol Garments,

Knit Fashion, Ferary Fashion Sarwar Garments, Mohan Apparels and Textile, Siraj Garments, Shanghai Packaging, Sultana Garments, Rohila Garments, Mart Garments, J B garments Magpie Pvt Ltd and Messerr Packaging Ltd.

Campus unrest FROM PAGE 1

down by creating unrest in a planned manner," she alleged.

of life to hold back emotion and excitement over the issue and think rationally over the matter. The prime minister made the

send their children to school.

general ASM Mosaddequl Islam.

The PM opened the big scheme handing over stipend to parents of students from 150 poor families. Eight of the families, each with two children, received Tk 125 each per month under the project with effect from July

A poor family with one schoolgoing child will receive Tk 100 per month for the next five years under is project

programmes at the Shaheed Minar spend Tk 663 crore annually from its own fund for this education-aid project. Its ultimate goal is to ensure education for all. Some 55 lakh students will receive stipend under

Ctg JCD leader Biplob arrested UNB, Chittagong

JCD's Chittagong Medical College Hospital unit president Rashedunnabi Biplob was arrested here yesterday in a dozen of cases. Police said they arrested the JCD leader in 13 cases, including tender snatching and kidnapping.

They said 21 GDs were also filed by some city dwellers against Biplob. brother of ICD central committee leader Habibunnabi Sohel

Tension heightened on the medical college campus following his arrest.

front to hold programmes at the

Kabir alleged that the DU author-

ities permitted pro-government

organisations to hold programmes

there to foil their planned

The teachers' association got the

The Shaheed Minar had virtually

permission on September 24 and

been under siege since September

8 when heavy contingents of police

were deployed there following

student unrest at the Bangladesh

University of Engineering and

Technology. Since September 8, no public

When contacted yesterday,

Dhaka University Proctor ASM Atiqur Rahman said, many of those

who are planning to defy the rule

now took permission for holding

Meanwhile, different organisa-

gathering was allowed there.

Shaheed Minar on October 1

Shaheed Minar FROM PAGE 12 BNP held a series of meetings on

programme

JASAS the day after

the issue on Wednesday. She urged people from all strata have meantime permitted two

observations while inaugurating a

nationwide stipend-distribution programme for poor students, which aims at encouraging poor families to Presided over by the prime

minister's advisor on Primary and Mass Education Prof. Jahanara Begum, the inaugural function was also addressed by secretary of Primary and Mass Education Dr. Tahmina Hossain and director

The government will have to

earlier the project.

of ransom

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A minor boy kidnapped earlier by a group of pirates and held for over two weeks was recently released on payment of ransom after rescue attempts by police failed.

Sources said Tapan, 9, son of Rabindranath Mondal of Kalinchi village of Shyamnagar upazila of Satkhira district, was released Wednesday by his abductors in the Patakhali area near the Bay of Bengal after the boy's father paid them Tk 2 lakh in ransom.

Armed miscreants belonging to The Dhaka University authorities the notorious Kalu Bahini that operates in the Sunderbans and organisations Bangladesh includes pirates from both the Indian Community Primary School Teachers Association and and Bangladeshi sides of the Sunderbans abducted Tapan on the Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik night of September 10. Sangstha (JASAS), BNP's cultural

On the following day, the boy's father lodged an FIR (First Information Report) with the Shyamnagar Thana. On the same day, a flag meeting between the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) and the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) was held with both sides agreeing to launch a joint combing operation to rescue the abducted boy and arrest

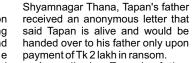
his abductors, sources said Accordingly, the joint operation

NEWS

was launched on the early morning of September 12 on both Indian and Bangladeshi sides of the Sunderbans. Forest guards and local people on the Bangladesh side including Ramjannagar Union Parishad (UP) chairman Alamgir Haider assisted the police and BDR in their search for the kidnapped

On the morning of September 14, police and BDR forces came under armed attack by the pirates at Atharobeki of the Sunderbans. In the ensuing clash, security forces traded fire with the pirates for nearly three hours in which five people including the UP chairman received bullet injuries. Eight pirates of the Kalu Bahini were however arrested during the clash and an engine boat. a shutter-gun, nine used bullets, an Indian flag and some documents of an Indian insurance company seized from their possession However, the combing operation had to be abandoned due to bad

weather Meanwhile, according to the



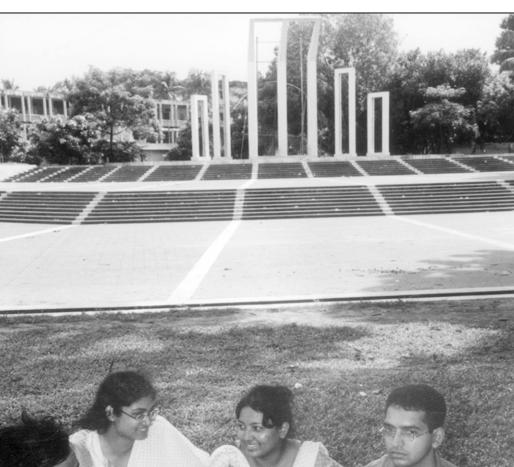
Accordingly, Tapan's father Rabindranath Mondol, accompanied by one Sirajul Islam of Kalinchi village, set out for Patakhali near the Bay of Bengal in an engine boat on the morning of September 25.

As the boat reached Raimongol River, a group of about 10 pirates approached Mondal for the ransom. After he made the payment, the pirates handed over the boy to him. Before leaving the spot, the pirates threatened to kill him and his entire family if he went to the police in connection with the abduction.

Rabindranath Mondol returned to his village with his son in the early hours of Thursday. Tapan, who has fallen ill following the ordeal of abduction, is undergoing medical treatment.

Police recorded the statement of Tapan and his father, who was guoted by the police as saying that he would no longer pursue the case.

officer-in-charge of the



Boy freed on payment |Simi's family

commit suicide

over it

A painter

people," Ali Noor noted.

he explained.

ciate his work.

ing his footsteps.

FROM PAGE 12

"How can I be happy when a

Emdad said his family is has

He alleged that Enayet's son

Advocate of the complainant,

evident in his paintings like 'Fight for

Liberation in Bangladesh, 1971',

'Flood in a Suburb', or 'The Proud

Cultivator of Bengal'. Like other rickshaw painters, the use of daz-

zling colours or exaggeration of the

topic are found in his paintings too.

"We use such colours to attract

sometimes he feels his own creativ-

ity is hindered when he has to paint

something asked by a rickshaw

owner. "Even then I try to do some-

thing more than I'm asked to and the

He does not like to reproduce

any paintings done by others

although he had to do that on few

occasions. "It may bring me money

but it hurts my feelings as an artist,

success in his own life. He feels

there is nothing but failure in his life

when it comes to financial stability.

But he thinks he is a success when

prominent artists and critics appre-

at the fact that boards done by computer screen print have turned

out to be a threat to the profession.

Undaunted though, one of his

daughters and two sons are follow-

says there is nothing more from life

he could ask for. "I am fit only for this

job and I respect my job," he said. "I

don't want to do anything else," he

His aspiration! Well, Ali Noor

The painter feels disheartened

Ali Noor holds a dual view of

owners appreciate that later on.

However, the painter notes that

been passing days in insecurity as

the family members of the accused

are constantly threatening them of

Ricky had threatened him saying,

"Quit the area as soon as possible,

person like Enayet is acquitted?

'dire consequences'.

DHAKA SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29, 2002

think of such a light judgement," she said in the packed courtroom.

She said she was very frustrated as accused Enayet Chowdhury was acquitted. "Enayet is the person who, during a salish (arbitration meeting) at our house, asked Simi to commit suicide. After Enayet's comments. Simi ran to her room and locked it from inside." Zarina lamented.

otherwise you and your family will "When we were trying to break be given a lesson for filing the case. the door of Simi's room fearing that Ricky told me few days ago that he she might commit suicide. Enavet would shoot me dead after the told us that the matter would end if judgement." she takes the path (of committing suicide)," she alleged.

Zead-Al-Malum, refused to make Zarina further alleged that the any comment before going through brothers and sons of Enayet have copy of the judgement been threatening to kill her husband Many people who crowded the and sons since filing of the case. court premises to hear the verdict also expressed their disappointed

"They also threatened that my elder daughter Shaba would be abducted after the judgement because she had handed over Simi's letter to journalists."

Simi's father Mohammad Ali Emdad said, "Only one-year imprisonment is not a punishment for those who forced my daughter to

4 cops jailed

FROM PAGE 12 The two policemen demanded Tk 1000 from the plaintiff and his friend. When they refused to pay, the policemen threatened to arrest them and take them to the Motiheel Thana

At this point, two other policemen dragged Khan and Palash to an solated place nearby and snatched Tk 800 from Khan.

Following the incident, Khan nformed the higher authorities of police, who recovered the money from the four policemen involved in the incident. Later, on the same day, labal Khan filed a case accusing the four police personnel.

The four accused were arrested on the same day of the incident and later released on bail

The investigation officer (IO) of the case submitted a chargesheet against the four on February 13. The court framed charges against the accused on June 6.

After cross-examination of all the six prosecution witnesses, the judge pronounced the verdict vesterday.

Assistant public prosecutors Mohammad Mahfuzur Rahman Patwary and Sohel Mallik appeared for the state while advocate Abdul Gani appeared for the accused.

However, there s one more thing The convicted policemen were he wants to do -- to hold an exhibisent to the Dhaka Central Jail foltion at the National Museum

Shady, Shoddy deals

adds.

FROM PAGE 1

lowing the judgement.

then stood at Tk 829.46 crore. Insiders and central bank officials link the Al-Baraka predicament to a few defaulters.

According to bank documents, collected by The Daily Star, despite cheques he had deposited with the bank bounced.

As a result, the bank filed 13 criminal cases against him, for which the court ordered his arrest. However, Litu avoided arrest by managing an ad interim bail Then, the bank signed another agreement with Litu in August 1998, which required him to pay the bank Tk 69.95 crore in instalments against a liability of Tk 146.85 crore by September last year. Between August 1998 and April 2000, Litu paid only Tk 12.65 crore and requested the bank for further loan rescheduling. On August 2000, the bank again rescheduled his loans, without the Bandladesh Bank's approval. A bank is required to seek approval from the central bank when a loan amount crosses 15 per cent of its paid-up capital.

Asiad opens today

FROM PAGE 1

and ceremonies we expect to have full stadiums," said BAGOC president Chung Soon-Taek.

"We know that there have been one or two areas of organisation that could have been improved but this is normal at any sporting event. We expect these to be ironed out in the next few days," Chung told a press conference

Chung was speaking a few hours after a passenger boat carrying hundreds of games supporters from Stalinist North Korea arrived in a landmark visit to the South earlier Saturday

North Korean athletes will be among 10,000 competitors from a

South Korea in the opening ceremony is very symbolic," Chung said.

North Korea's athletes have strictly controlled.

Chung acknowledged complaints about security surrounding the North's competitors. "There are certain considerations we have to take account of, but we will try to be as accommodating as possible," he

Meanwhile BAGOC officials revealed negotiations are underway with broadcasters in Pyongyang which will allow Asian Games cover age to be shown on the North's state-run television. "The broadcasting systems used the North and South are completely different but we are looking at ways of being able to show the Asian Games there. North Korea wants to show the Games." Chung said

however been kept well away from a media contingent numbering around 9,000, and access has been

FROM PAGE 12

left some 1,000 people dead and conflict since 1976.

Indonesia has recently stepped up efforts to deal with threats of terrorism amid concerns, especially in the United States, that the world's most populous Muslim country might have become a haven for militants linked to the al-Qaeda terrorist network. The Strategic Director of the Defence Ministry, Major General Sudrajat, said on Thursday that intelligence reports

2 Bangladeshis

Aceh has been beset by a separatist

tions continued issuing statement to make the October 1 demonstration a success

These include Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, left-leaning Eleven Party Alliance, Muktijoddha Sanghati Parishad, Bangladesh Chhatra League, Sammilito Samajik Andolon and Dhaka Ainjibi Samity.

indicated al-Qaeda existed in

record 44 countries competing in the Asiad, which is second only to the Summer Olympics in size and scale

South Korean officials have made unification the driving theme of the Games - the two Koreas will march side by side at Sunday night's opening ceremony under a neutral 'banner of unity' depicting the Korean peninsula.

"Re-unification of the two Koreas is of course a long way in the future, but the fact that North Korea are participating and will walk with

Girl raped, killed

FROM PAGE 12

up the incident by threatening the victim's father of dire consequences, he added.

As for the motive for the killing, this connection. the source quoting one of the girl's relatives said Shahina conceived after being raped months ago and Rakib knew of it. So, he killed her to cover up his crime.

Shahina was buried at her village graveyard after autopsy at the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

Sources at the RMCH told The Daily Star that the autopsy found Shahina to be pregnant at the time of her death. They also said the girl was raped and subsequently strangled

Puthia police recorded a murder case filed by the victim's uncle Abdul Zabber Sheikh yesterday. Three

persons -- Rakib (son of Saved Ali). Mahtab (son of Anwar Hossain and Rakib's friend) and Doly (wife of Shibu Chowdhury and a neighbour of the girl), were accused in the case.

Earlier on Friday, police recorded an unnatural death case as the victim's father was scared to lodge a complaint against the killers, said Nurul Islam, officer in charge (OC) of the Puthia Police Station.

Police found a small note found near the body, which was addressed to her father. The note runs, "You know very well that we are not good people. This is a big blow for you. Try not to make a fuss out of it; otherwise your younger daughter would meet the same fate.

However, the OC said the incident is still shrouded in mystery. "Our investigation is going on and there may be some other persons involved in it as the nature of the

Although the Games do not open officially until Sunday night, preliminary round matches in the football and basketball competitions were underway on Saturday.

incident and the place of occurrence

suggest that it is not the work of one

Police arrested Rakib and Dolv in

Shahina was the fifth among

seven sisters and a brother. Four of

or two persons." he said

her sisters are married.

FROM PAGE 1

Among those who received Mizanur. Shamsuzzaman. Rashidul, Dr Selina Parveen, Munmun.

town rushed to the hospitals and clinics and the spots in search of their near and dear ones.

stadium and the cinema, and some

The authorities meanwhile

Shahina's father Rustam Ali Sheikh told The Daily Star that he FROM PAGE 12 along with three of his daughters went to bed at around 11:00pm Thursday night.

"At 4:00am I woke up and saw the door was ajar but I did not see Shahina. We started looking for her around the house. At 6:00am, my younger daughter Razia found her body beside the pond...they killed my daughter," Rustam said, sobbing.

"Rakib had been disturbing my daughter for last one year and she had given me all the love letters he wrote her," Rustam said, looking around, as he was fearful of possible repercussion from the culprits for his talking with a journalist about the incident.

He said he and his son in law Jinnah had once complained to Rakib's parents about the matter and after that. Rakib stayed away from the village for more than three months.

"One and a half months ago, he came back and threatened my daughter that he would kill her if she continued to refuse him," he said. A shock-still mother of Shahina

Mabia Khatun, could not say anything about her daughter's rape and murder.

The family is now thinking of moving elsewhere, family sources said and added that Rakib's family was trying to hush up the matter.

Cinema bombed

the spot. Thirty-five others were taken to local hospitals and clinics. Thirty of them were admitted to the Satkhira Adhunik Hospital, seven to Islamia Hospital, six to Farzana Clinic and the rest to different health centres.

serious injuries are Swapan, Zakir, Ruhul Quddus, Rafiqul, Mukto, Salahuddin, Asad, Reaz, Farid, Shahrul, Bahauddin, Shahidul, Nasima, Rashida, Asma, Tahmina, Ashia, Selina and six-year-old

People from different parts of the

Police have been deployed at the other points of the town.

switched off the mobile network in

Ruling alliance

preparing audio-video documentapublishing booklets in ries and Bangla and English for publicity at

home and abroad, sources said. Special supplements will be published in national dailies highighting the government's achievements and ongoing development programmes taken up by it in last one year

BNP is also making video documentaries on previous Awami League government's "repression on BNP and its allies and autocratic activities" during its five-year rule.

All ministries have already submitted summaries of achievements and undertaken programmes.

BNP sources said the party will organise a massive gathering at the Paltan Maidan and make other programmes successful.

Front organisations of the four parties will launch 'warm-up programmes' including holding meetings and bringing out processions in district and thana headquarters form October 1.

The parties will also launch campaigns against Awami League's conspiracy, terrorism and anar-

chy". Talking to this correspondent yesterday, some alliance leaders alleged that AL is doing terrorism and is engaged in other conspiracies to tarnish the image of the government. All these will be

With the police cordon lifted from around the Central Shaheed Minar, a group of students get a chance to relax on the lawn in front vesterday.

Simi suicide case

FROM PAGE 1

December 23 last year at their Khilgoan residence of the city after being harassed by some local hoodlums. In the verdict given yesterday,

said the prosecution side completely failed to prove the charges against the accused

So, he found Khalil, Ripon, Mofazzal and Doel guilty under Section 76 of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Act for teasing the girl and gave the verdict. The court found Bashar quilty under Section 166 of Bangladesh Penal Code for negligence of duty.

The court acquitted Enayet Chowdhury of the charges as the prosecution side failed to prove those, the verdict said.

The magistrate took his seat at about 11.20 am but adjourned the court for two minutes. He brought the papers containing the verdict and took his seat again. In the meantime, all the six accused were produced before the court.

The magistrate talked to the accused and asked about their identity. He then pronounced the verdict in a jam-packed court-room amid pin-drop silence.

Simi's parents, her two brothers. relatives, classmates, well-wishers and many other people crowded the court room and its premises to hear the verdict.

Mohammad Ripon (convict) and Enayet Chowdhury (acquitted) broke down in tears on hearing the verdict while others remained calm.

In the verdict, the magistrate observed that there were 'defects' in against the accused on July 9. filing the case. Instead of police, the victim's family should have filed the of 23 out of 44 prosecution witnesses and four defence witnesses. case Moreover, the case should have

been filed after submission of the final report by police on the 'unnatural death case

In his observation he said the charges brought against the accused except Abul Bashar are not covered by the Bangladesh Penal Code (BPC), under which the case was filed.

saying they would appeal to higher

Charges were brought against Enayet Chowdhury on the basis of the note left by Simi. But in her note she did not mention Enayet's name,

She had left a note saving Khalil

Police arrested SI Abul Bashar

He was arrested on charge of negligence of duty, which led to the suicide.

Investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the charge sheet against SI Abul Bashar and five others on February 11.

its ill health, the bank managemen continues to invest jute and water transport, sectors from which even public-sector banks shy away.

The documents reveal that Al-Baraka even concealed information on classified loans from the central bank while financing the sister concern of a defaulting company in violation of central bank regulations.

Moreover, crores of taka were sanctioned within days of application against accounts opened with only Tk 10,000 deposits. Normal procedures such as risk analysis and document scrutiny were also bypassed

In one instance, six loans were sanctioned to one individual client against the security of a cargo PHOTO: STAF vessel. Neither was there any inspection of the vessel nor did the

bank obtain its insurance policy. Interestingly, when the board approved the loan proposals in presence of a central bank observer, as required in case of a problem bank, leading to questions about his role

Managing director of Al-Baraka Shawkat Ali Chowdhury resigned on June 23 for, many believe, the bank's current status. Chowdhury, nowever, denies any link.

Five of the six accused except "I have resigned totally on per-Bashar had been absconding since sonal grounds. I have always had a the incident but they surrendered to cordial relationship with the board and the management. My resigna-Meanwhile, the court rejected tion has no link with the bank's the bail petition of the five accused affairs," Chowdhury, who joined the vesterday. The accused sought bail bank only on March last year, said. He also brushed aside allega-

tions of irregularities during his tenure. "In fact, I have not noticed any irregularities... if anything went wrong, it was beyond my knowledge.

Bengal Group

The reason for Al-Baraka's misery is aptly summed up by its transactions with the Bengal Group and its owner Abul Khair Litu

Sarathi Sen. a student of the In between 1987 and 1990, its chemical engineering department. VIP road branch at Naya Paltan urged the authorities to tackle any sanctioned loans to 15 organisaunexpected situation with utmost tions owned by Litu without any loan risk analysis. As there was virtually "We hope the authorities would no monitoring, all these loans went consider the demands of the agitatbad.

In 1996, the bank negotiated a ing students with sincerity," she deal with Litu, adjusted all his loans Meantime, the meeting between and shifted them to the Bengal the BUET authorities and the repre-Group's account. The agreement sentatives of the 'Students against gave Litu the option of paying back Violence' failed to yield any positive n instalments only Tk 58.21 crore against a liability of Tk 146.85 crore. Following the meeting, the However, it made little differ agitating students decided to conence, as Litu did not keep his end of the deal. Each of the 13 advanced

The latest debt adjustment gave Litu four years more to repay the loans

Since then, he has paid Tk 10 crore, making total amount repaid

Tk 22.65 crore. Meanwhile, his liability has reached Tk 159.22 crore. However, he will have to pay only Tk 47.30 crore as per the latest agreement with Al-Baraka, which means it will

have to count Tk 111.92 crore in income erosion for different facilities it has extended to the Bengal Group.

Litu denies having defaulted on oan repayment.

"I have never defaulted on my instalments and paid my dues as per the arrangement with the bank. I have even sold my properties to pay the bank's money," he told The Daily

He claims he has paid about Tk 45 crore to the bank against the loans till July this year.

Litu says he has never got any special favour from the bank. "On many occasions my loan proposals were refused by the bank board and the management, especially in the early 1990s, which forced me to

suffer huge losses." Due to the bank board and the management's refusal to sanction working capital, his Desh Beverage

has incurred huge loss, Litu claims. Also, the bank did not release machinery for Protein Foods Limited and Dattapara Krisha Prokolpa, which resulted in nonimplementation of the projects, he

says "Despite all these, I have tried to be in close touch with the management and the board of directors just to find out ways and means to adjust my liabilities with the bank.'

court against the verdict. BUET So the verdict was given as per provisions of the Dhaka FROM PAGE 12

Metropolitan Police Act, which does not provide for stringent punishment such crimes.

the magistrate said in his observa-

tion Doel, Ripon, Mofazzal and SI Bashar were responsible for her death

on December 29 last year following a directive from Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury.

SI Abdur Razzak, the

would meet the teachers at 7:30pm at the vice-chancellor's office for discussion. Meantime, the general students said that they do not want any more campus volatility

sincerity.

said.

result last night.

tinue their movement.

The court framed charges

The court recorded statements

court during trial of the case.