

Disabled to get Tk 175 allowance a month

Inter-ministerial meet decides on the programme for next fiscal year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government will introduce a programme for monthly allowance of Tk 175 each for 50,000 disabled people in the next fiscal year. Designed in line with the widows and senior citizens' allowance programme, it will be included in the next budget, according to a decision of an inter-ministerial meeting held

at the finance ministry conference room and headed by Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman. The meeting also decided to increase the number of beneficiaries under the programme for widows and senior citizens from the present 13 lakh to 15 lakh and the monthly allowance of Tk 175 from the present Tk 165 per head by the next fiscal year.

The government grant of Tk 700 each per month for orphans will also be increased to Tk 1000. Saifur Rahman at the meeting suggested that the agriculture ministry take steps to convert the Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation into a seed development corporation.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

SEDITION CASE Ex-Inqilab TV MD gets bail as PP keeps mum

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to sacked managing director of Inqilab TV, Salauddin Shoib Chowdhury in a sedition case, while the public prosecutor (PP) did not oppose the bail petition despite being the prosecution lawyer since the filing of the case. During a hearing on the bail petition from defence lawyers, PP Abdullah Mahmud Hassan told the court that he would have no objection as the court grants bail to the accused with proper guarantors.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



A Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) worker takes away a heap of May Day posters removed from the roadside walls yesterday. The DCC as part of its clean-up drive has moved to keep the walls free from graffiti.

PHOTO: STAR

SAVAR TRAGEDY BGMEA receives 15 prayers for compensation

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) has so far received only 15 applications for compensation from relatives of the workers killed in Savar building collapse on April 11.

BGMEA officials said they will hand over the major part of the compensation to the relatives of the dead workers of Spectrum Sweater Industries Ltd. at a programme Tuesday.

"We'll give Tk 79,000 for each death victim," said Ali Azam Khan, chairman of the BGMEA's Standing

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Dhaka hails development in Nepal

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh yesterday welcomed as "very positive" the withdrawal of the state of emergency in Nepal, saying that any development that contributes to peace and stability in the region is encouraging.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Nepal King ends emergency

Retains extra power

REUTERS, Kathmandu

Nepal's King ended a state of emergency two days early, the Palace said yesterday, but the sudden midnight proclamation does not reduce extraordinary powers he seized in February's royal coup.

Politicians said it was a positive move but advised caution and urged the King to hold talks with political parties.

Constitutionally, the three-month state of emergency granting the military extra powers of search, arrest and curfew had to end or be formally extended by midnight on Sunday.

King Gyanendra's announcement made no mention of him giving up most of the extra powers assumed when he sacked the government, suspended democracy and took control himself on February 1 in a bid to end a long-running Maoist rebellion.

The King suspended civil liberties, arrested the ousted prime minister and gave sweeping powers to soldiers to fight the Maoist rebels, drawing international condemnation and failing to check the rebellion.

The midnight announcement came hours after Gyanendra

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Visitors' entry to PMO to be controlled by ICT system

UNB, Dhaka

Visitors' entry into the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) will be processed through a computerised system to make the access simple and monitoring viable.

Online access control system for the visitors, having information and monitoring facilities, has been developed under ICT System

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

FAVOURING RULING ALLIANCE CANDIDATE

Two CMP high-ups deny allegation

EC hears arguments, judgment tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two high officials of the Chittagong police administration yesterday appeared before the Election Commission (EC) and denied the allegation that they were favouring

the ruling four-party candidate in Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) polls.

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) Commissioner Amjad Hossain and Assistant Police Commissioner (Detective Branch)

Gazi Jasim Uddin answered various questions of the EC and defended themselves.

During the hearing the representatives of the Nagarik Committee that backs ABM Mohiuddin

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Gas explosion kills 1, injures 6 in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

One person was killed and six others were injured in an ammonia gas pipe explosion at an ice factory at Rahimnagar under Rupasha upazila of the district at about 7:30pm yesterday.

The dead was identified as Jalal Sarder, 25, a worker of Tahura Ice Factory.

The injured were admitted to Rupasha upazila Health Complex in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Prayer Timing		
May 1		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-31	6-35
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

