

Premier Bank IPO cancelled

JASIM UDDIN KHAN

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) yesterday rejected a Premier Bank application to refloat its initial public offering (IPO).

It also issued a show-cause notice on the three depository participants (DP) of the IPO based on the report of an internal probe that found gross irregularities in the IPO process.

The commission at a meeting with its Chairman Mirza Azizul Islam turned down the application "because of the mismatch between its prospectus and the latest developments," SEC Executive Director Mansur Alam told The Daily Star.

Alam said the six-month audited
SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

3 muggers lynched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Mob beat three alleged muggers to death and critically injured two others while they were trying to flee after mugging at Patiya upazila in the district on Tuesday night.

Five muggers on board a CNG-run autorickshaw picked up one Moulana Mostaq Ahmed from Noapara of Raozan upazila at around 9:00pm, police and witnesses said.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Prayer Timing		
May 26		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-40	6-45
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Flash floods worsen, two drown

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

The flash flood situation in Moulvibazar district deteriorated further during the last 24 hours ending on Wednesday at 6pm, as water entering through new and existing breaches on the Manu River Flood Protection Embankment engulfed fresh areas of different upazilas of the district.

Moinul Islam, 20, of Kurma village and Shamima Begum, 10, a school student of Uttarbagh village, reportedly drowned in the floodwater, while Baad Ullah, 54, of South Kanaidhasi village was killed by lightning.

Hundreds of villages and approx-

imately 25 million people of all 7 upazilas, as well as over 2 lakh people throughout the district, have been affected due to the ongoing flash flood and the stagnancy of rainwater in lowland areas.

According to sources, a breach five-hundred-feet long developed on Tuesday night on the Manu River Flood Protection Embankment at Beltala of Alinagar area of Pritimpasha union under Kulaura upazila, causing flooding in the villages of Karadhaha, Prithimpasha, Ratgaon, Kulaura Sadar, Kadipur, Baramchhal, Brahmanbazar, Bhukshimol, and Joychandi unions of Kulaura upazila. Schools and colleges here have been closed down, while Aush

Paddy on 15,000 acres of land has also been washed away or damaged.

Local people here alleged that low quality work on the protection embankment at the Alinagar area has caused the breaches.

It has also been learned that a 400-foot-long breach developed on Tuesday night on the Manu River embankment at Tarapasha village of Rajnagar upazila.

The flash flood situation in the worst affected Kamalganj upazila of the district has remained almost unchanged, increasing the suffering of the affected people. The ongoing flash flood hit 8 out of a total of 9

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Unwanted, stabbed, still alive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An unwanted newborn baby was stabbed and thrown into a swamp in Sabujbagh of the capital yesterday, but the baby survived miraculously.

A woman, who saw a couple dumping the baby in the marsh, rescued him. The boy was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH).

Hospital sources said the baby bore cut marks in the head, cheeks
SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



PHOTO: STAR

A villager wades through waist-deep water in Moulvibazar as flashfloods engulfed more areas yesterday.

US congressman favours Dhaka's inclusion in new aid programme

UNB, Dhaka

A briefing on Bangladesh at the US Congress ended in Washington on Tuesday with strong recommendation from the Congressional leader for inclusion of Bangladesh in the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA).

If included in the programme, the quantum of US development assistance for Bangladesh is expected to double within a year.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

BURNED ON HARTAL DAY Mystery shrouds as cabby dies

SHARIFUL ISLAM

Autorickshaw driver Ameer Hossain died yesterday from the severe burn injuries inflicted on him allegedly by pickets during Saturday's hartal, while a nasty political scheme rears its head centring the violence.

A Daily Star investigation into the incident found a number of discrep-

ancies between the statements of Al Mamun, the plaintiff of a case lodged with Khilgaon Police Station in this connection, and Ameer's accounts.

Ameer had said two youths posing as passengers stopped his CNG rickshaw.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Hanif, Maya dispute heightens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The long-standing feud between the Awami League Dhaka city unit president and general secretary, Mohammad Hanif and Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, has recently intensified despite efforts by the party top brass to resolve it.

Hanif and his supporters yesterday did not join a party rally at Muktangan in the city. Party insiders

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

HC ORDER ON CANDIDATES' INFO

EC to start action from Narsingdi by-polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) is hopeful of implementing the eight-point High Court (HC) order to collect information on parliamentary election candidates in the June 22 Narsingdi-1 by-election.

The HC on Tuesday ordered the EC to collect information on parliamentary election candidates' academic qualification, profession, source of income, assets and liabilities, bank loans, criminal records, if any, and other issues.

"As soon as we get the copy of the court order we will implement it," EC Secretary SM Zakaria told The Daily Star yesterday.

"We hope we can implement the High Court directives in the Narsingdi by-election," a senior official said, adding, "We will not go beyond the court directives, as it is a legal binding."

The last date of filing nomination papers for the by-election is May 28.

Following the HC directives, the

EC will ask the persons who will file nomination papers for the parliamentary by-elections to provide a set of information through affidavit.

Besides providing information on the matters mentioned, they should also inform the EC whether they had been member of parliament before and about the role they played individually and collectively in fulfilling the commitment to the people.