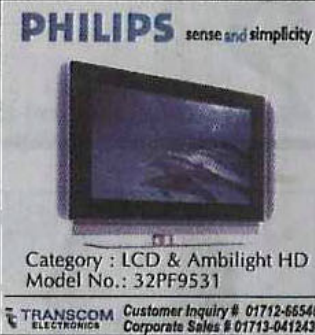




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Relief materials found at Falu's factory site

Case filed against the former BNP lawmaker in jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The army-led joint forces seized government relief materials from a business establishment of former BNP lawmaker and businessman Mosaddak Ali Falu in Savar yesterday.

The forces demolished five houses constructed with corrugated iron (CI) sheets, which are actually government relief materials, on the factory premises.

The 40 by 50 feet houses were built for accommodation of the workers of Dhaka Shanghai Ceramics Factory at Gohalbari in Savar.

Seven hundred pieces of CI sheets worth around Tk 4 lakh bear inscriptions, 'Relief materials of Relief and Rehabilitation Department: Not for sale'.

Police filed a case with Ashulia police station accusing already detained Mosaddak Ali Falu of embezzling government property.

Several other officials of the factory were also accused in the case but their names were not mentioned.

However, the joint forces could not arrest anyone during the drive.

Falu, the owner of two private satellite TV channels ntv and Rtv--and of a newspaper Amar Desh, is now in jail on a 30-day detention. He was charged with anti-state activities, obstruction of public safety, and illegal hoarding.

Sub-Inspector of Ashulia Police Station Ismail Hossain told journalists that one of the houses was built completely with the CI sheets for relief and the most of the por-

tions of the rest of them were also built with the same government relief material.

A very few of the sheets were bought from the market which were mixed with the sheets marked for government relief.

Tipped off, the joint forces cordoned off the houses at 11:00pm on Friday and started their operation yesterday morning.

army and police sources said.

The government bought the CI sheets for rehabilitation of the poor and distressed through government assistance during the BNP-Jamaat-led alliance government's rule. PHP Arabian Horse Limited manufactured the sheets.

The management of Dhaka Shanghai Ceramics Factory Limited used to pay Falu, also the

political secretary to the immediate past prime minister, Tk 50,000 a month for arranging accommodations for the workers, sources said.

The workers however said the company did not charge them any rent.

As it was a weekly holiday, the factory was closed yesterday and no company official was there. The

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Joint forces seized 700 corrugated iron sheets marked "Relief materials of Relief and Rehabilitation Department: Not for sale" which were used for building structures at factory site of former BNP lawmaker Mosaddak Ali Falu in Savar.

Fakhruddin asks businessmen to check commodity price hike

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday urged the business leaders to play their part in keeping the prices of commodities under control.

He made the call when a 41-member delegation of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), led by its President Mir Nasir Hossain, paid a courtesy call on him at his office in the afternoon.

The apex body of country's business organisations formally proposed to the head of caretaker government to make Sunday weekly holiday instead of the two-day weekend and two-hour break

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

More reshuffle in admin

UNB, Dhaka

As part of the ongoing reshuffle in the civil administration, the government yesterday transferred and made OSDs a number of high officials.

Textiles and Jute Secretary Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman

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Pintu the fortune maker

His income shoots up by 104 times in 5 years, land property by 134 times

RASHIDUL HASAN

The immediate past lawmaker from Dhaka-8, Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu, saw quite a rise in fortune in the last five years and three months with his income, land property and shares in different companies growing manifold.

According to the statements he submitted to the returning officer

(RO) in 2001 and in 2007, his annual income shot up 104 times from Tk 3 lakh to 3.13 crore while the land property expanded from 1.31 kathas to 176 kathas, which is 134 times.

During the time, Pintu's net worth (declared) soared to Tk 5.60 crore from 8 lakh in 2001, marking a staggering increase of Tk 5.52 crore.

Five years back, he had no prop-

erty or security, bonds, or bank deposits excepting a little over one katha land. Now he has over Tk 4.8 crore in deposits and shares in six companies (declared).

Pintu, also a former president of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, showed Tk 3,00,000 as his yearly income in 2001 and Tk 2,50,000 as yearly expenses. His annual income was shown Tk 3,13,98,710 in 2007 while his personal expenditure was shown to be Tk 2,20,000.

ANNUAL EXPENDITURE REDUCED

Surprisingly, despite devaluation of currency and inflation he could still manage to reduce his annual expenditure. He showed Tk 2.50 lakh as his annual expenses in 2001 but he claimed it to be Tk 2.20 lakh in 2007. That leaves his monthly expenses to Tk 18,333. The amount could barely suffice for the family of Pintu who lives in a posh house and has a couple of cars including a Pajero.

COMPARISONS: BETWEEN 2001 AND 2007

In 2001, Pintu had declared a total wealth of Tk 8 lakh including a land on 24/2 Moneswar Road in Hazaribagh. He did not declare any other properties in the statement submitted on September 13 the same year.

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PINTU'S WEALTH 2001			
OTHER PERMANENT PROPERTIES EXCEPT HOUSEHOLDS			
Amount of Land	Location	Approx. Price	
1.31 kathas	24/2 Moneswar Road, Dhaka	Tk 8,00,000	
Annual Income (approx.)			
Tk 3,00,000		Tk 2,50,000	
PINTU'S WEALTH 2007			
OTHER PERMANENT PROPERTIES EXCEPT HOUSEHOLDS			
Amount of Land	Location	Approx. Price	
2.11 kathas	24/2 Moneswar Road, Dhaka	Tk 3,45,000	
5 kathas	Plot No-12, Road No-3/2A, Baran, Dhaka	Tk 50,00,000	
13.65 kathas	Lakshmi, Dhaka	Tk 52,28,100	
2.74 kathas	Hazaribagh, Dhaka	Tk 11,79,500	
5.16 kathas	Hazaribagh, Dhaka	Tk 2,72,000	
21.81 kathas	South Rangamatta, Savar	Tk 1,27,850	
30.30 kathas	Gohalbari, Savar	Tk 2,54,150	
91.46 kathas	Barapada, Savar	Tk 16,92,450	
5 kathas	10/1 Industrial Plot, Tejgaon	Tk 8,32,500	
OTHER PROPERTIES		LOANS	
Securities and Bank Deposits	Approx. Price	Nature of Loans and Disbursements	Amount
Shares in Diamond Thread Industries Pvt. Ltd	Tk 15,25,000	Paripat, The City Bank Ltd	Tk 75,00,000
Shares in Asia Travel Ltd	Tk 50,000	Ad chairman or managing director of	
Shares in Nissu Recycling Agency Ltd	Tk 50,000	ajgonal Bank	Tk 15,00,00,000
Shares in Asia Fashioning Agency Ltd	Tk 75,000	Union Bank	Tk 12,00,00,000
Shares in Diamond Spinning Mills Ltd	Tk 3,00,00,000	Commercial Bank	Tk 12,00,00,000
Shares in DM Television Ltd	Tk 80,00,000	@The City Bank Ltd	Tk 7,00,00,000
Deposits in banks	Tk 11,06,535	@The City Bank Ltd	Tk 6,00,00,000
		Peoples Lending Co. Ltd	Tk 40,00,00,000
Annual Income (approx.)		Annual Expenditure	
Tk 3,13,98,710		Tk 2,20,000	

Tigers clinch series

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh won their first one-day international series in Zimbabwe 3-1 with a thrilling one-wicket victory at the Harare Sports Club ground yesterday.

Chasing 245 to win, the Tigers had victory comfortably in sight after Aftab Ahmed and Mushfiqur

Rahim gave them a launching pad to finish off the match with a lot of batting remaining. But with the score at 242-7 and Bangladesh needing only three runs to win from five overs a comedy of errors saw the visitors slump to 242-9 with captain Habibul Bashar and Tapash Baisya both falling in close proximity.

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Acid victim dies after 22-day struggle for life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Victim of acid violence on the wedding night, Sabina succumbed to her injuries yesterday morning after struggling for 22 days at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) burn unit.

Talking to this correspondent only three days ago, Sabina had expressed optimism about her survival saying that a foreign expert had said so after examining her.

She, however, also deplored that she was not getting proper treatment and financial assistance.

When contacted, Dr Samanta Lal Sen, project director of DMCH Burn and Plastic

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CORRUPT POLITICAL LEADERS

20 govt groups busy gathering graft info

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

Twenty different government teams are working in the capital to compile evidence of corruption and subversive activities of the arrested political leaders so that definite legal actions can be taken against them.

A top government source said although these groups have not been given any strict time limit to do their tasks, they expect to complete them by the month end.

These teams have one member each from the Anti-Corruption

Commission (ACC), Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI), National Security Intelligence (NSI), National Board of Revenue (NBR), Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), the army and the Special Branch (SB) of police.

The teams were formed just prior to the arrest drive launched on February 4 and each of them has been given separate assignments to avoid duplication of work and maintain over-all investigation proceedings in a coordinated way.

Sources said the number of the teams will increase in near future

as the government plans to form these bodies for the regions outside Dhaka also.

Sources also said these teams are gathering information about a few politicians who have not yet been arrested but are publicly known for dubious and corrupt activities.

"They will be arrested too," said a source in the joint forces.

The joint forces have so far arrested 21 top-level politicians, mostly of the BNP and a few of Awami League (AL).

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BRIBERY, POLITICAL CONSIDERATION

Selection of 757 cops to be cancelled today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The police authorities will today cancel the selection of 757 sub-inspectors (SIs) and sergeants recruited through gross irregularities including bribery, political influence and nepotism in the last days of the immediate past BNP-led four-party rule.

"I hope an order cancelling the selections will be issued tomorrow," Inspector General of Police (IGP) Nur Mohammad told The Daily Star yesterday, confirming the decision taken in the light of the

findings of a recent probe.

Though the result was published last October, the authorities did not hand the new recruits appointment letters or start their training.

They will soon issue a circular for fresh recruitment to the posts--496 male SIs, 41 female SIs and 220 sergeants. "We'll complete the recruitment in two or three months," said the IGP.

Meantime, several police officers have called for the caretaker government to free the police administration of those who were

appointed on political consideration and through underhand dealings.

They observed that rampant politicisation through appointments, promotions and postings during the five years of the coalition government has weakened the police administration.

They also demanded that the policemen, whose training was cut short and who were posted to the field hurriedly to serve the interest of the previous government, are sent to complete the full length of training.

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VANISHING HILLS

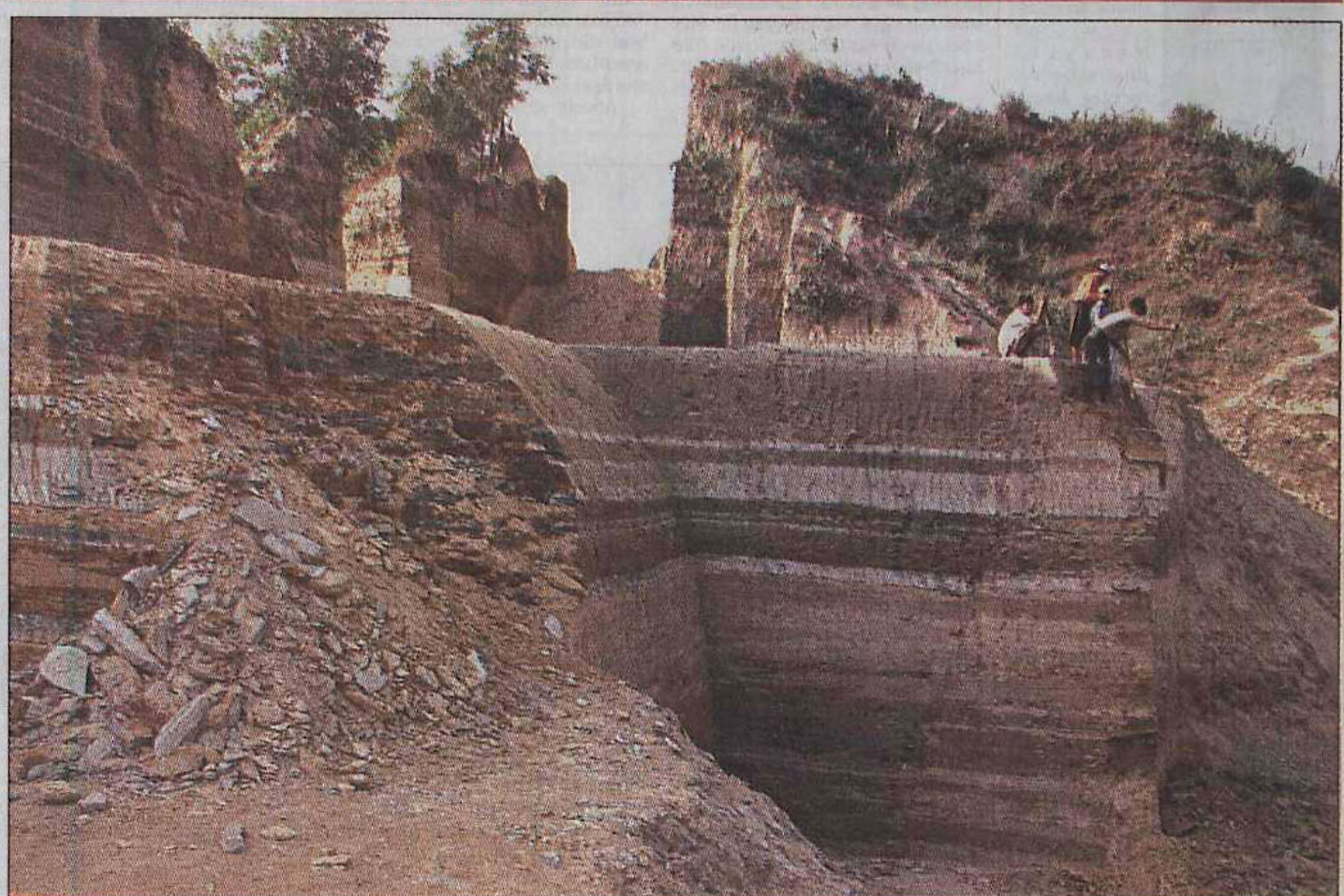


PHOTO: MUHAMMAD HOSSAIN SHAKIL

A hill near Cox's Bazar bus terminal is being destroyed, allegedly by some influential people in collusion with a section of staff of the district administration, to make way for houses.

PROFOUND GRATITUDE

Shahjalal Islami Bank Limited announces with great pleasure that the Public Issue of Shares of the Company has received tremendous public support. Tk. 402.57 crore (Tk. 352.97 crore by general public and Tk. 49.60 crore by NRB) has been subscribed against IPO of Tk. 93.58 crore. The Board of Directors and the Management of the Bank take this opportunity to express their profound gratitude to the investors for their overwhelming support and confidence reposed on the Bank. They also acknowledge with gratitude to all concerned Authorities and Institutions for their cooperation to the Bank.



Shahjalal Islami Bank

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