

Ex-MP MAH Salim sued for land grabbing

UNB, Bagerhat

Another case was filed on Friday night against detained former BNP lawmaker MAH Salim on charges of land grabbing.

Police said Bagerhat BNP and Sramik Dal leader Mina Raqibul Hasan Milon filed the case with Sadar Police Station, accusing Salim of setting up a private university after his mother's name in Goalmath area, grabbing his land.

In the case statement, Raqibul said the former BNP lawmaker bought one acre and 17 decimal land from him on April 6 last year and set up Majeda Begum Agriculture Technology University. He said though the market price of the land was about Tk 9 lakh, Salim forced him to take only Tk 2.8 lakh.

On Thursday night, Salim was sued in an extortion case was. The joint forces arrested him in Dhaka on March 7.

Govt must show some 'teeth' in prosecution

Patel tells of big fish arrested over graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

World Bank (WB) Vice President for South Asia Praful C Patel yesterday said the government will have to show some 'teeth' in prosecuting the arrested 'big fish' to ensure its credibility.

Rising inflation and having only ten advisers are the two significant downsides of this government, he observed.

Speaking at a press conference in a city hotel, Patel said it has not been proven that the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has any teeth, but "now that they have some big fish in jail, over the coming period they will have to make sure they have teeth". They will lose out

otherwise, he said.

The government had informed him that "They are going to take action on the prosecution side,"



Praful C Patel

Patel said adding, it is important to move quickly on prosecutions as a delay would raise questions of the government's credibility.

He said the government had told the WB that "They will move on to the next step on taking high profile cases, prosecute them and complete the process." Patel added that the government would do it to demonstrate to the public that it will not only arrest, but also take action against them.

"What is critical at this stage is that the investigations and prosecutions are thorough and that due process guarantees are respected," he said adding, "Focusing on credible prosecutions of several big fish,

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SMALLPOX OUTBREAK

WHO finds no truth in Indian reports on Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following Indian newspaper reports of sudden outbreak of smallpox in Bangladesh and Myanmar border areas, World Health Organisation (WHO) has generated feverish activity among the health workers in the country although not a single patient has been found in last three days' search.

The West Bengal government has even issued a smallpox alert throughout the border, a report says.

On information from regional WHO officials in New Delhi, the WHO country office in Bangladesh

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PHOTO: STAR

This ice factory at Sowarighat in Old Dhaka fails to reach even half its production capacity due to frequent power cuts. The less production has resulted in price hike of ice in the local market.

Advisers okay deal with India to remove non-tariff barriers

UNB, Dhaka

The Council of Advisers yesterday approved a proposal for signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) and the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) to expand market of Bangladeshi products in India through removing the longstanding "non-tariff barriers" to export.

As per provisions of the proposed MoU, the BSTI will perform

tests regarding quality control, examination and certification of the products to be exported to India.

The MoU will help remove the present non-tariff barrier to testing Bangladeshi goods at the BIS Lab in India. "It will also strengthen the existing friendly relations between the two countries," according to an official release.

The meeting also approved a proposal for appointing an

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AL-QAEDA TARGETS US warship bombs in N Somalia

AFP, Mogadishu

A US warship shelled suspected al-Qaeda targets in northeastern Somalia after Islamist fighters clashed with troops from the country's semi-autonomous region of Puntland, witnesses and officials said yesterday.

They said a US Navy destroyer fired on several targets overnight where Islamist militants are believed to have bases in mountainous and remote areas outside the coastal town of Bargal.

"The US military was targeting the al-Qaeda hideout. This was aimed at flushing out all the terrorists," said Mussa Jelle Yusuf, the

governor for Barri region.

"Puntland troops are surrounding the Bargal hills and hunting for those al-Qaeda elements. They ... will be captured or killed," he added.

Witnesses earlier confirmed the bombardment, but could not say if there had been any casualties.

"We cannot yet tell you the casualty figures, but what I can confirm is that the American warship shelled several targets in the surroundings of Bargal" late Friday, Mohamoud Salah, a resident in the area told AFP by satellite phone.

"The heavy shelling continued about three hours around the

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INCREDIBLE ILL-GOTTEN WEALTH

Forest boss turned to faithfuls for safekeeping

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As most of the property of arrested chief conservator of forests Osman Gani is entrusted to his relatives and faithful employees, the law enforcers investigating his corruption are yet to determine the total wealth of the forest boss.

More stunning information about the forest boss continue to surface as sources in Khulna yesterday alleged that Gani received Tk 57

lakh as bribe in last January from Sundarbans forest officials and took Tk 60 lakh from 60 officers assuring them of promotion.

So far, about Tk 4 crore in cash, gold ornaments and bank deposits, has been recovered from Gani's possession, an official of the joint force who led drives to reveal unbridled corruption of the forest chief, told The Daily Star yesterday. He also owns a five-storeyed building at Zigatola and two plots at Purbachal

and Uttara, the official said. Other sources however said Gani and his wife have Tk 20 crore with different banks and around 150 bighas of land. On Thursday night fixed deposit receipts worth Tk 38 lakh were recovered from the garage of Gani's Uttara residence.

The interrogators revealed more information yesterday about Gani's involvement with an international timber smuggling

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Advocate Rafique's statement on Rangs Bhaban

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior Advocate of Rangs Group Rafique-ul Huq in a statement has said, "It is reliably learnt from the advocate of the Rangs Group that the Appellate Division as a special case shall hear the appeals filed by Rajuk (Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakkha) and Government of Bangladesh during long vacation of the court and fixed hearing on June 13, 2007. In spite of the objection taken by the respondents (Rangs Bhaban) that in view of the Order No-2 dated 11.01.2007 issued by

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Ashraful Tigers' new captain

SPORTS REPORTER

Ace batsman Mohammad Ashraful has been appointed captain of Bangladesh cricket team in both Tests and one-day internationals.

Bangladesh Cricket Board announced this after a meeting at a local hotel yesterday, giving him the reins after Habibul Bashar's three-year stint as the captain in both forms of the game. Ashraful becomes the fifth Test captain and

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Prayer Timing		
June 3		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-45	6-50
Esha	8-15	8-45
Source: Islamic Foundation		