

Move taken to bring back siphoned out money

Deal soon with S'pore, Malaysia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has initiated moves to repatriate the money siphoned off to Singapore and Malaysia by corrupt politicians, bureaucrats and businessmen. Bangladesh will strike deals with Malaysia and Singapore soon to recover through official channels the smuggled out money. It is widely alleged that a number of corrupt politicians, businessmen and bureaucrats siphoned off their ill-gotten wealth to Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Abu Dhabi. Sources said Bangladeshi intelligence agencies already visited a number of countries seeking information about the smuggled money and about the process of getting it back. "Intelligence agencies have found that government level deals

are necessary to get back the money," said a source. Another source in the finance ministry said, "The authorities of Singapore told us that we will have to first sign a deal for getting the wealth information of any Bangladeshi who is accused of smuggling money to that country." "Such a deal will have to be signed between the attorney general's office in Bangladesh and its counterpart in Singapore," the source said adding that once the deal is signed, Bangladesh will send a list of corruption suspects to that country seeking information about the suspects' bank accounts as well as any other investment they might have made in Singapore. Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) is about to sign a deal with Malaysia's Financial Intelligence Unit, which operates

under the country's central bank. Finance ministry sources said the BB already prepared the draft of a memorandum of understanding (MoU), which will be placed at a meeting of the advisory council to the caretaker government. The Malaysian authorities notified Bangladesh that if the siphoned off money is kept in banks it will be returned, but there will be no scope of recovering the money that was invested in businesses there. Sources said similar deals will also be signed with other countries' central banks in phases. Sources claimed that people like Tarique Rahman, Arafat Rahman Koko, Mosaddak Ali Falu, and Noor Ali siphoned off their illegally earned money to foreign countries.

Mohiuddin shown held in 4 cases

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday submitted petitions for showing convict AKM Mohiuddin Ahmed arrested in four cases including the Bangabandhu murder case. Sub-Inspector (SI) Mojibur Rahman of Rangabali Police Station of Patuakhali yesterday sent arrest warrants, issued earlier on different dates, of four cases filed with different police stations in the capital to the court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM), Dhaka. The arrest warrants are of the Bangabandhu murder case, jail killing case, Abdur Rob Serriabat murder case and Mohammadpur 14-murder case. In the petitions placed before the CMM court, Mojibur also prayed for showing Mohiuddin arrested in those cases saying that the convict had been absconding abroad for long. He said following the news of his arrival in Bangladesh, the arrest warrants pending with Rangabali Police Station were sent to the CMM court, Dhaka. Moreover, Mohiuddin should be shown arrested in those cases, Mojibur added. On receiving the petitions, the CMM court yesterday sent the petitions to concerned courts for taking next steps.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



PHOTO: STAR

Police prevent Awami League leaders including Matia Chowdhury from entering Sudha Sadan, the residence of party chief Sheikh Hasina, at Dhanmondi Road-5 in Dhaka yesterday, saying only close relatives would be allowed to see her.

2 new PSC members appointed

UNB, Dhaka

Former acting secretary of labour and employment ministry M Nurunnabi and former principal of Dhaka Home Economics College Suraiya Begum have been appointed members of the Public Service Commission (PSC). President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday appointed the two PSC members as per article 138 (1) of Bangladesh Constitution, an official announcement said. The process of reconstituting the PSC, allegedly riddled with malpractice, started off with recent replacement of its chairman by former cabinet secretary Dr Saadat Hussain.

Thousands in Mirpur in fresh eviction fear

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The army has taken fresh initiatives to evict a few thousand people, majority of whom are Hindus, from Chakuli—an enclave inside the Mirpur Cantonment in Dhaka. The army will launch an eviction drive this morning (Thursday) against the allegedly illegal occupants of the land allocated to the Ministry of Defence, sources said. A notice from the station headquarters of Dhaka Cantonment was served yesterday to Pallabi Police Station, the engineering corps of the army and other army departments concerned for

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

SSC RESULTS

Poor students lag behind as good results depend on private tutors

SURANJITH DEABNATH

This year's Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exam results warn of the country's secondary school education system becoming dependent on private tuition as they show students of the urban areas who can afford private tutors fared well while students in the rural areas suffered dearly. Expressing concern over the results of SSC exam-2007, educationists said capitalism has engulfed the country's education system where students backed by solvent families are achieving glorious

results while students from poor families are failing to obtain even pass marks as schools fail to provide quality education to them. This year around 3.7 lakh students did not pass and the number of zero success in an institutions is 248 against 193 of last year. Most of the students who failed and educational institutes with zero success are in rural areas where the schools could not provide quality education and guardians could not afford private tutors for their kids. However, a total of 774 educational institutes achieved 100

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Road crashes kill 14

STAR REPORT

Fourteen people, three of a family, died and 35 others were injured in road accidents in Sirajganj, Munshiganj, Chittagong and Barisal districts yesterday. Our Sirajganj correspondent reported that seven people died and 25 others were injured in a bus-truck collision at Konabari on the western side of Jamuna Bridge. Police and witnesses said the accident took place at around 11:00am when a Dhaka bound mango-laden truck from Rajshahi collided head on with a passenger bus coming from opposite direction, killing five people, including drivers of the two vehicles, on the spot and injuring 27 others. Of the injured, one died on way to

Sirajganj Sadar Hospital while the other succumbed to his injuries soon after admission at the hospital. Six of the dead were identified as bus driver Hanif, 37, truck driver Hosen Ali, 42, and bus passengers Lavu, 35, Shah Alam, 32, Alauddin, 34, and Abdul Barek, 27. Identity of another deceased could not be known. The injured are undergoing treatment at sadar hospital and different clinics in the town. Police recovered the bodies and sent them to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. Following the accident, traffic on the Dhaka-Bogra road at the western end of Jamuna Bridge remained halted for an hour.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

US-led forces kill 30 in Baghdad

AFP, Baghdad

US and Iraqi troops intensified a massive offensive against suspected al-Qaeda strongholds northeast of Baghdad yesterday, killing at least 30 alleged insurgents, the US military said. The launch of the operation on Tuesday was followed by a massive truck bombing at a Shiite mosque in Baghdad that left at least 87 people dead, according to the latest toll from security and hospital officials. Around 7,500 US troops and 2,500 Iraqi forces poured into the provincial capital of Baquba in the largest assault ever launched in the Diyala province, which has seen intense fighting in recent months. The offensive, which involves ground forces, helicopters, and heavily-armoured vehicles, is the largest single assault since US forces invaded the western city of Fallujah in November 2004. "These criminals will know no safe place to hide in Diyala," said Brigadier General Mick Bednarek. "The people of Diyala are tired of the terror and violence these Al-Qaeda thugs have brought to their province and are cooperating with us in order to root them out." In addition to killing 30 suspected Al-Qaeda militants, US and Iraqi forces uncovered several weapons caches, including four homemade bombs in homes and another 10

bombs buried underground, the US military said. Two suspected militants were killed while planting roadside bombs in a village outside of Diyala, the statement added. Iraqi army and police forces are also participating in the assault. "Our forces killed 11 terrorists and arrested 12 in Baquba. We also confiscated weapons and equipment, including swords used for cutting off people's heads," Army Colonel Najib al-Salahi told AFP on Tuesday. "This operation is just beginning and we will continue to strike Al-Qaeda no matter where they hide and we won't rest until the job is done," added Bednarek. As US and Iraqi reinforcements have surged into Baghdad in recent months, insurgents have retreated to areas around the capital, particularly Diyala province, where the US military has not until recently had a large presence. The new strongholds have allowed militants to mount a deadly drumbeat of attacks in Baghdad. On Tuesday a truck bomb loaded with explosives and gas canisters detonated outside a Shiite mosque, killing at least 87 people.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

They used to make fake banknotes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members seized Tk 10 lakh in fake banknotes along with equipment and chemicals used for making fake local and foreign currencies busting a house at Mirpur in the capital early yesterday. The Rab-4 members also arrested three members of the gang, which has been making fake currencies of different denominations for the last one and a half years. The arrestees are Imam Hossain, 35, Hasibur Rahman alias Shaon, 28 and Abdul Jalil alias Jewel, 40. Flight Lt M Asadur Rashid of Rab said that the gang used to apply chemicals to erase the prints on Tk 10 and Tk 100 notes first and then reprint those as Tk 50 and Tk 500 notes. The gang then sold each of the fake Tk 500 notes at Tk 150 to another gang who used to supply

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Prayer Timing		
June 21		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-52	6-57
Esha	8-17	8-45
Source: Islamic Foundation		