

## Good news

FROM PAGE 20  
to keep those in their collection. "Over 50 percent of the released coins are not in the market at present," he said.

"The Bangladesh Bank is now planning to offer monetary benefits in exchange of coins with the banks for a certain period," he said. People will get a certain amount of money swapping the coins with the banks, but details of the plan is yet to be finalised, Mazharul added.

The BB has the plan to collect at least 300 million pieces of Tk 5 coin from the market in this way and release those again, he added.

Although the central bank had released 400 million pieces of five paisa coin presently there are only 70 million pieces in the market, the BB estimates.

The central bank will also collect old and torn banknotes of Tk 2 and Tk 5 for removing those from the market as the commercial banks have failed to do the job despite repeated instructions by the BB.

## Redwan sued for extortion

UNB, Comilla

An extortion case was filed against detained former state minister and LDP leader Redwan Ahmed yesterday.

Advocate Abul Kashem of Mohichail village under Chandina upazila filed the case with a cognizance court, accusing Redwan, his brother Erman Ahmed and three others of demanding Tk two lakh in toll from him.

In the case statement, the complainant stated that as he failed to meet the demand, the accused plundered his business house and took away Tk 1.50 lakh in cash on September 3, 2002. They also evicted him from his land.

The court sent the case to Chandina Police Station for investigation.

## BGMEA

FROM PAGE 1  
a press release claimed that Rajuk in a board meeting held in July 2003 approved the BGMEA building plan.

BGMEA also submitted all relevant documents to the Rajuk before getting approval, the press release said.

Earlier on April 10, the local government adviser spelled out the decision to dismantle all illegal structures on the Hatirjheel and Begunbari canals from Sonargaon Hotel crossing to Rampura in the city.

## Govt to sue

FROM PAGE 1  
the tip of a corruption iceberg," he said with a tinge of frustration, adding that the government will not only cancel their allotments but also confiscate the amount they deposited with Rajuk for land purchase.

Almost all of the around 1,000 Rajuk plots allotted during the BNP-led alliance rule are suspected to be obtained through false declaration or other irregularities. "We have found irregularities in the allotment of over 80 percent of the plots in the last five years," said the investigator, wishing not to be named.

Under its Uttara third phase project, Rajuk allotted 897 residential plots, 804 of those were given as per the list of former Housing and Public Works minister Mirza Abbas, disclosed another taskforce investigator. The project was eventually cancelled by this caretaker government.

One hundred plots, 50 each in Banani and Uttara, were allotted to BNP leaders and the people close to the coalition government.

The influentials exploited the vague Genuine Deserving quota of Rajuk to obtain plots by giving false declarations, the investigators said, disclosing the declaration doctoring by former deputy minister for land Ruhul Kuddus Talukder Dul.

Dulu obtained a 5-katha plot in Banani with a declaration that he or his family does not have any house or plot in the Dhaka city. "But we found out that he, in fact, has two houses in city's Gulshan and Shyamoli areas," he said.

The complainant further stated that Matir failed to keep his promise and refused to return the money.

Matir surrendered before Barguna District Judge's Court on June 18 and sought bail in the case. But the court rejected the bail prayer and sent him to jail hajat.

Magistrate Anupom Kumar Barua, after hearing arguments from both sides, pronounced the verdict in the afternoon.

Mazharul said that they are planning to change those banknotes with new ones under the supervision of the central bank. "We will set up booths in big cities for a certain period of time where people can change the old and torn notes instantly."

He also gave out a detailed plan of the central bank for meeting the crisis of the coins and banknotes of Tk one, two and five denomination.

Mazharul said that 100 million pieces of Tk 5 banknote have already been printed and would be released in the market soon, adding that another 250 million pieces are under process of release in the market.

In addition of releasing 500 million pieces of one taka coin, 200 million pieces of Tk 2 coin along with 260 million pieces of Tk 2 banknote will be released soon, he added.

## PRESS NOTE No fertiliser crisis in the country

Bss, Dhaka

The government in a press note yesterday said there is no fertiliser crisis in the country.

It said the reports published recently in some national dailies on the urea fertiliser crisis in several districts of the country are not true.

The industries ministry issued the press note giving an actual picture of current production, stock and distribution status of the urea fertiliser to remove any kind of confusion about the matter.

According to the press note, the total demand for the urea fertiliser in the country for 2006-07 was 28,75,000 tonnes. No fertiliser crisis had been reported during the last peak season of the IRRI-Boro cultivation due to proper management by the government.

Due to distribution of fertiliser among the farmers by rationing, the BCIC had a stock of nearly one lakh tonnes of fertiliser to face any unexpected situation.

In May and June, the demand for the urea fertiliser, fixed by the agriculture ministry for different districts of the country, was 1,77,348 tonnes.

Now, the BCIC has a stock of more than 4 lakh tonnes of fertiliser, which the press note says is the highest in the last few years.



Asia Khatun  
Sheikh Selim

FROM PAGE 1

12:40pm, her nephew Awami League President Sheikh Hasina rushed to Selim's Banani residence where the deceased's body was taken.

A numbers of AL leaders including Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Abdur Razzak, Tofail Ahmed, Suranjit Sengupta, Motia Chowdhury, Mahmudul Rahman Manna, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin and barrister Amir-ul-Islam went to Selim's residence to see the deceased.

Namaz-e-Janaza of the deceased will be held at Gulshan Azad mosque after the jum'a prayers tomorrow. She will be buried at the Banani graveyard beside her son Sheikh Fazlul Haque Moni's grave.

Asia left behind two sons, three daughters and a host of relatives, admirers and well-wishers.

Jatiya Party (JP)-Nazri) Chairman Nazirul Rahman and Secretary General Shamim Al Mamun and Jatiya Party (JP-Manju) Secretary General Sheikh Shahidul Islam have expressed deep shock over the death of Selim's mother.

In separate condolence messages they prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and expressed sympathy to the family members.

## Budget

FROM PAGE 1

The population had sent suggestions on the proposed budget directly to the ministry, he noted.

The approved budget increased the minimum payable income tax from the proposed Tk 1,800 to Tk 2,000. Besides, there are changes in rates for high income tax payers on different slabs, NBR sources said.

It has also withdrawn the proposal for increasing the duty to Tk 500 from the existing Tk 300 on every mobile phone set to be imported. The approved budget contains a provision of withdrawing the import duty on newsprint on condition.

To promote export-oriented industries including textiles and pharmaceuticals, the approved budget provides for a duty of only five percent but that will be subject to certain conditions. Manufacturers of 100 percent export-bound textiles won't have to pay any duty.

Besides, there's a provision of imposing 'safeguard tax' on the imports likely to pose threat to local industries.

Mirza Azizul Islam unveiled the proposed budget in a speech over radio and TV on June 7. He called for feedback from different sections.

The finance ministry officials said they received 1,808 suggestions through e-mails and conventional mails.

Those had been compiled and sent to the council of advisers for their consideration. Besides, recommendations of different chambers, trade bodies and leading economists too were taken into account.

## Danida driver

FROM PAGE 20

dropped from helicopter in the remote hilly jungle areas in search of the official of Denmark International Development Agency (Danida).

The taskforce investigators also tracked down Tk 4 crore assets outside the wealth statement he submitted.

The taskforce has already forwarded the finds along with evidence to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) for filing a money-laundering case against Rajuk.

The taskforces are also gathering evidence against some other high profile corruption suspects for money-laundering case.

His wife Sabina Yasmin also turned against him, giving confessional statement to a Daka magistrate on June 20 where she disowned the Tk 3 crore asset shown by her husband in her wealth statement submitted to the ACC.

Dulu declared that he has assets worth Tk 4 crore and that he has no contribution to the Tk 3 crore assets of his wife.

Having been interrogated by the taskforce, Sabina went for confessional statement in which she stated "I'm just a housewife, I don't have any income source. These assets were amass by my husband in my name."

The taskforce are also gathering evidence against some other high profile corruption suspects for money-laundering case.

The finance ministry officials said they received 1,808 suggestions through e-mails and conventional mails.

Those had been compiled and sent to the council of advisers for their consideration. Besides, recommendations of different chambers, trade bodies and leading economists too were taken into account.

## Cheating case

FROM PAGE 20

In the case statement, Nizam alleged that the former lawmaker from Barguna-3 constituency took Tk 30,000 from him in June 2003, promising him a job.

The complainant further stated that Matir failed to keep his promise and refused to return the money.

Matir surrendered before Barguna District Judge's Court on June 18 and sought bail in the case. But the court rejected the bail prayer and sent him to jail hajat.

Magistrate Anupom Kumar Barua, after hearing arguments from both sides, pronounced the verdict in the afternoon.

## CA greets

FROM PAGE 20

friend in the new British leader.

The head of the caretaker government termed bilateral relations between Bangladesh and the UK excellent, saying that it has been expanded over the years in many areas, including trade, investment and culture.

He hoped that the existing friendly relations between the two countries would be further strengthened during his tenure as British premier.

"I look forward to closely working with you on issues of our mutual interest," the chief adviser said.

## Verdict of Mir Nasir

FROM PAGE 20

former state minister for energy Iqbal Hasan Mahmud Tuku, his wife, son and daughter in connection with a graft case.

Besides, a Daka court yesterday closed recording statements of witnesses of the arms case against controversial businessman Giasuddin Al Mamun while another court could not begin trial of a criminal case against former law minister Moudud Ahmed as he was not produced before the court yesterday.

### NASIR CASE

After completion of arguments from the prosecution and the defence, Judge AK Roy of the Second Special Court fixed July 4 for delivery of the verdict of the graft case against Mir Nasir and his son Mir.

### TUKU CASE

Another Daka court could not frame charges against BNP lawmaker Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu for the fourth time yesterday, as the jail authorities did not produce him before the court in connection with an attempted murder case.

### SECOND ADDITIONAL CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE

Second Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Abdus Selam Miah fixed July 25 for next hearing of the case.

### Ctg mayor

FROM PAGE 20

Other accused in the cases are former CCC secretary AFM Salolaiman Chowdhury, noted drama personality Abdullah Al Mamun, General Secretary of Chittagong Bar Association Iftekhar Saimul Chowdhury, former leader of Shilpi Samonnoy Parishad Golam Mostafa Kanchan, Professor of the Sociology Department at Chittagong University Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury, former CCC chief executive officer Abdul Haque and former chairman of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) Mahmudul Islam.

Sources said the city mayor, Iftekhar, Golam Mostafa and Abdullah Al Mamun have been implicated in the first case where the plaintiff alleged that the four had gobbled up an amount of Tk 44 lakh for making a documentary on Chittagong titled "Muktijuddhe Chittagong" during the Awami League rule.

The ACC official in his second case alleged that the city mayor, Prof Iftekhar, Salolaiman Chowdhury (also the former establishment secretary), Abdul Hoque and Mahmudul embezzled an amount of Tk 41,25,718 for conducting a population census of the CCC when AL was in power.

The city mayor was arrested in March on charges of corruption and irregularities.

### 2 more forest officials suspended

CU CORRESPONDENT

Two more top forest officials were suspended yesterday.

The suspended officials — Atiqu Azam, conservator of forest, Chittagong Circle, and Dr Tapan Kumar Dey, divisional forest officer (DFO) of Chittagong North region — went into hiding since the joint forces started drive to arrest them on different charges.

The joint forces on Sunday and Monday raided the offices and residences of the two forest officials in city's Nandan Kanan and Sholoshohar area but could not arrest them.

The forces recovered Tk 12,96 lakh in cash from the office of DFO Tapan, also the project director of Dulahazra Satam Park in Cox's Bazar, during the drive.

### 250 Bangladeshi

FROM PAGE 20

Among others, Force Commander of UNMIL Lt Gen Chikadibia Isaac Obiakor, Deputy Force Commander Maj Gen Mohammad Tahir and Acting Commissioner of UN Police Gen Maritz Du Toit were also present on the occasion.

### Tigers

FROM PAGE 1

Left-arm pacer Lasith Malinga and man-of-the-match Muttiah Muralidaran took only 4.4 overs to wrap up Bangladesh's second innings, which collapsed at 254.

Sri Lanka continued their domination over the Tigers by winning all eight Tests by big margins including five innings victories.

Having won nine out of their 11 previous Tests at the SSC since 2001, Sri Lanka's twelfth victory at this venue must have been one of the easier ones as first, Bangladesh meekly surrendered in the first innings at only 89 and then revisiting their battoning ghost on the fourth day.

Bangladesh resumed the day on 233-5 with a hope to delay the inevitable and after all-round Shakib Al Hasan cracked a boundary off the very first ball of the day, it seemed almost possible.

But experienced wicketkeeper-batsman Khaled Mashud opened the floodgates in only the tenth ball of the day. Malinga's yorker swung into the big gap between his bat and pad to knock the middle stump as he was late in bringing the bat down. Mashud scored only one.

Then champion off-spinner Muralidaran came into action with a 'doosra' to trap Mashrife Bin Mortaza leg before. Mashrife struck two boundaries in his short innings of nine runs.

Young left-handed batsman Shakib then demonstrated how dangerous and wrong it is to flash at the ball away from body as Malinda Wamapura caught him at short-cover off Malinga, who also took the wicket of Mohammad Rafique to finish with figures of 4-80.

Muralidaran finished the job by having tail-ender Shahadat Hossain stumped by Prasanna Jayawardene as Bangladesh lost their final seven wickets for a meagre 27 runs.

Muralidaran, who is now 26 short of Australian legend Shane Warne's Test record of 708 wickets, returned with brilliant match figures of 9 for 102. He captured four wickets in the second innings.

The second Test starts at the P Saravanamuttu Stadium here on July 3.

### Birdem docs

FROM PAGE 1