



Track your shipments online

You can check the status of your shipments across the world in real time, stage by stage, through to delivery. Just log on to fedex.com.bd and you can track up to 30 FedEx shipments at a time.

FedEx

Express

Bangladesh Express Co. Ltd.

Lithuania's National Express Company

Every Package Matters

Enjoy the Best Cinematic Experience at home with

HI-END

In this Eid add extra splices with Philips



Free football fridge/mini system

TRANS COM ELECTRONICS

Sadar Road, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206, Bangladesh, Tel: 8855371-80, Fax: 880-2-8810055, www.transcombd.com, Customer Service Centre: 8855366-8, 01712-665463, Enquiry: 01711-404591, 01713-82479, 01712-723175

Argentina elects first woman president

AFP, Buenos Aires

Argentina's First Lady Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner was set to become her country's first elected woman president, partial results showed, as her closest rival conceded defeat on Monday.

"We have won by a large margin," the 54-year-old senator told cheering supporters in a speech broadcast live on television hours after polls closed as officials worked into the night counting

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Task force formed to bring back siphoned off money

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government formed a high-powered task force last week with Bangladesh Bank (BB) governor as its head, which will work to bring back money siphoned off by corrupt people in the past few years.

The 10-member committee will coordinate efforts by different government wings to get back the money, sources said.

"The task force is formed with members from the Chief Adviser's Office, foreign and home ministries, Finance Division, the National Board of Revenue (NBR), the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), attorney general's office and a senior police official," a central bank official said.

An executive director of the BB would act as member secretary of the task force, he added.

The government formed the

task force as it has been facing problems due to lack of orchestrated efforts in bringing the money, sources said.

The BB has already sent letters to ministries and offices concerned asking them to send names of representatives in the task force.

The government believes that in the past few years, corrupt people had siphoned off huge amount of money earned illegally to Malaysia, Singapore, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and some Middle East countries.

"A couple of months ago the government had initiated work to sign a deal with the Malaysian government for bringing back the smuggled out money," a source said.

The source said BB had sent a draft of the deal to the finance ministry for approval and subsequently the draft was sent to the

law ministry for scrutiny.

"Law ministry sent back the draft asking for clarification from the finance ministry on who will sign the deal, BB or the government," the source said adding that the government had been facing such complexities in its efforts to get back the siphoned off money.

During his recent visit to London, Army Chief Gen Moeen U Ahmed told the local press that the caretaker government has already brought back \$129 million that had been siphoned off and another \$72 million is being brought back. He was also positive about getting back \$240 million more.

Sources said the government is also working on a World Bank (WB) proposal made a few months back in which the WB offered cooperation to the government in getting back siphoned off money.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

Iajuddin leaves for US today

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed leaves for New York today on a weeklong official visit to the United States.

"He will arrive in New York on October 31 via Dubai by a regular flight of the Emirates Airlines," said a Bangabhaban announcement.

During his seven-day visit to the USA, the president would attend functions in Ohio and New Orleans.

On November 1, he will visit SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

German envoy for 'balanced' anti-graft drive

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

German Ambassador in Dhaka Frank Meyke yesterday said ongoing anti-corruption drive should be conducted in a balanced way to ensure economic growth and public interest as well as fight against corruption.

"It needs a right balance -- fight against corruption and protect economy and public interest. The anti-corruption drive should not

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

ACC moves to revive 967 frozen cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) initiated a move to revive and adjudicate the frozen graft cases filed by now defunct Bureau of Anti-corruption.

The ACC tasked its law department with the revival of the cases and with taking necessary steps for adjudicating those immediately. There are 967 criminal cases waiting for revisions and 526 petitions are waiting to be heard.

Most of the ministers of HM Ershad's, Khalida Zia's, and Sheikh Hasina's cabinets were charged with corruption in those cases since 1990 by the now defunct bureau. A total of 300 cases were filed against VIPs including influential political leaders, former bureaucrats and businessmen.

After the ACC had been constituted in November 2005, fresh cases were filed against the same ministers including AL Chief Sheikh Hasina and BNP

Chairperson Khaleda Zia, many of whom are currently serving different jail terms following trials in courts, while many others are still detained as they are currently being tried.

"There are writ petitions challenging the cases filed during the time of the Bureau of Anti-corruption. The pending state of the cases is causing problems for the commission to move forward with its current tasks, while many accused individuals are also staying off the hook because of the delay in adjudicating those. The commission has decided to contest the appeals," said ACC Secretary Mukhles Ur Rahman during a routine news briefing at the commission's headquarters yesterday.

The High Court stayed about 100 cases filed by the erstwhile bureau against the VIPs, and previous governments never appealed for overturning the stay orders. Charge sheets were submitted in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Part of century old building in city collapses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A large part of a hundred-year-old building at Armanitola in old Dhaka collapsed yesterday morning.

However, nobody was injured in the incident.

According to eyewitness, bricks and plasters began to drop from the middle part of the two-storey

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Verdict in arms case against Babar today

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The judgement of an arms case against detained former state minister for home Lutfuzzaman Babar will be delivered today.

A verdict in a case against Babar will be pronounced for the first time as he was arrested at his Gulshan residence on May 28.

Metropolitan Special Tribunal-9 Judge Sayed Zahed Mansur will deliver the verdict in presence of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



A large part of a century-old abandoned building at Armanitola in the capital fell apart yesterday morning. The building once used to house a girls school.

Try war criminals through special commission
Freedom fighters ask govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Muktijoddha Gono Parishad yesterday urged the caretaker government and the armed forces to form a special commission for bringing the war criminals of the Liberation War to justice.

Meanwhile, condemnations from various organisations continued to pour in yesterday from across the country over Shah Abdul Hannan and Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahed's derogatory remarks made about the Liberation War of the nation.

The Parishad leaders at a press conference urged the government to declare Jamaat-e-Islami leaders and others, who have been making statements against the Liberation War, seditious and put them on trial.

The Parishad said that it would organise a convention of freedom fighters in the capital on December 3 to press home their demand of bringing the anti-liberation war forces to trial.

fighters in the capital on December 3 to press home their demand of bringing the anti-liberation war forces to trial.

Muktijoddha Gono Parishad leaders said it is high time to bring the war criminals to justice and resolve the issue once and for all.

"The special commission may be comprised of three retired chief justices, three freedom fighters who were general officers of the armed forces and have retired, three freedom fighters and three eminent international lawyers," Maj Gen (retd) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim, Bir Protik, member of the advisory committee of Muktijoddha Gono Parishad, told the press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the city.

Gen Ibrahim said, "If the present government does not form the special commission, we will

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

টেলিটকে এখন
সাধারণ কলরেট

টেলিটকে কথা বলুন সারাদিন মাঝে ১.১০ টাকা প্রতি মিনিটে। সকাল ৮টা থেকে বিকাল ৪টা পর্যন্ত সবচেয়ে ব্যাস সময়ে কাজের কথা বলুন, যে কোন মোবাইলে সবচেয়ে সাধারণ রেটে। এছাড়া রাত ১২টা থেকে সকাল ৮টা টেলিটক থেকে টেলিটকে ৩০ মিনিট প্রতি মিনিট।

টেলিটক ব্যাবহার করার সুবিধা প্রদান করে আসছে।

তাই, কথা হেব টেলিটক দেশের টেলিটকে সুবিধা প্রদান করে।

আমাদের ফোন

টেলিটক ব্যাবহার করার সুবিধা প্রদান করে।

So far, yet so near!

Reach out to the world

BTTB Prepaid Calling Card

*With this calling card, make ISD (00...), NWD and Mobile Phone calls using any BTTB telephone from anywhere in Bangladesh.

*All charges will be adjusted against the card's balance amount, not from the BTTB line used. For all calls, the standard rate of BTTB call charge will be applicable inclusive of VAT.

*Validity of Taka 200 and 500 cards are 90 and 180 days respectively, from the first day of usage. The remaining balance of a card can easily be transferred to another new card.

*Follow the instructions on the back of the card to make a call, or dial "010201". For more details visit: www.bttb.gov.bd or contact during office hours: 9361498, 9362299, 8312170

Talk to 55 Countries

Only Taka 7.50 per minute

BTTB calling card available at

Govt notices fertiliser crisis, yet to know reason

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has noticed fertiliser crisis at 35 locations of 16 districts, but the investigation teams are yet to unearth the reasons behind the crisis, Agriculture Adviser CS Karim said yesterday.

The government does not have any urea shortage, but the eight investigation teams investigating the situation could not find out the actual reason behind the scant supply of the fertiliser, said Karim at a briefing on fertiliser situation held at the conference room of the Press Information Department.

When asked if the government was considering raising fertiliser prices as a deterrent measure against smuggling, Karim said,

"The government has no plan to increase fertiliser prices in the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Press Information Department.

The government does not have any plan to increase the prices of fertilisers, said the adviser adding that the government would start issuing fertiliser cards to farmers before the next Boro season.

A high-level secretary committee few months ago suggested that the government should raise fertiliser prices.

When asked if the government

was considering raising fertiliser prices as a deterrent measure against smuggling, Karim said,

"The government has no plan to increase fertiliser prices in the

Press Information Department.

The government does not have any plan to increase the prices of fertilisers, said the adviser adding that the government would start issuing fertiliser cards to farmers before the next Boro season.

A high-level secretary committee few months ago suggested that the government should raise fertiliser prices.

When asked if the government

was considering raising fertiliser prices as a deterrent measure against smuggling, Karim said,

"The government has no plan to increase fertiliser prices in the

Press Information Department.

The government does not have any plan to increase the prices of fertilisers, said the adviser adding that the government would start issuing fertiliser cards to farmers before the next Boro season.

A high-level secretary committee few months ago suggested that the government should raise fertiliser prices.

When asked if the government

was considering raising fertiliser prices as a deterrent measure against smuggling, Karim said,

"The government has no plan to increase fertiliser prices in the

Press Information Department.

The government does not have any plan to increase the prices of fertilisers, said the adviser adding that the government would start issuing fertiliser cards to farmers before the next Boro season.

A high-level secretary committee few months ago suggested that the government should raise fertiliser prices.

When asked if the government

was considering raising fertiliser prices as a deterrent measure against smuggling, Karim said,

"The government has no plan to increase fertiliser prices in the

Press Information Department.

The government does not have any plan to increase the prices of fertilisers, said the adviser adding that the government would start issuing fertiliser cards to farmers before the next Boro season.

A high-level secretary committee few months ago suggested that the government should raise fertiliser prices.

When asked if the government

was considering raising fertiliser prices as a deterrent measure against smuggling, Karim said,

"The government has no plan to increase fertiliser prices in the

Press