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ACC starts gathering info on institutional corruption

Altaf Chow to be sued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has started collecting information regarding corruption in various service-oriented institutions.

ACC Director General (administration) Col Hanif Iqbal during a routine press briefing at the ACC headquarters yesterday confirmed the ACC move taken as part of its drive to root out institutional corruption.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Meaningful polls not possible keeping AL, BNP leaders in jail

Says Delwar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Khaleda Zia-appointed BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday said it is not possible to hold a meaningful election and create a congenial political atmosphere for this keeping the leaders of two major political parties in jail.

Demanding release of political leaders and withdrawal of emergency, he asked the government to handover power to elected representatives of the people by holding a free and fair election without delay.

Delwar was presiding over a discussion in observance of the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Govt to buy cereals at high price

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet purchase committee yesterday approved purchase of 74,000 tonnes of rice and 33,000 tonnes of wheat at higher prices, reflecting the upward trend of their prices in the international market.

The government's purchase price of rice per kg will be Tk 26.77 to Tk 27.95 and wheat Tk 31.68 to Tk 31.88. The procurement will cost the government Tk 203 crore for

rice and Tk 101 crore for wheat.

The purchase committee also reviewed proposals for seven rental power projects with a total production capacity of 250 megawatt, and a rehabilitation project for two existing hydropower units of 100 MW capacity. All the project proposals were sent back to the power ministry for further work on those.

As per a proposal of the food ministry, the purchase committee at a meeting chaired by Finance

Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam approved the procurement. Rice and wheat will be procured through local tenders to be participated by importers.

Price hike and short supply in the global market have already contributed to steep rise of rice and wheat prices over the last one year. According to Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB), price of higher grade rice like Nazirshail, now selling

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



Special cattle markets set up in the capital ahead of Eid-ul-Azha start business yesterday. The photo was taken from the market in Kamalapur.

Robbers kill banker, loot Tk 15 lakh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Robbers killed a Rupali Bank manager and looted Tk 15 lakh from him at Garadia under Singair upazila in Manikganj yesterday.

Moniruzzaman Khan, manager of the bank's Baira branch in Singair, was carrying the money to Baira from Manikganj on a rented

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Nizami, Mojaheed sued for killing 2 war heroes

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A freedom fighter yesterday accused Jamaat-e-Islami Amir Matiur Rahman Nizami, Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed and seven of their party

men of killing two freedom fighters during the liberation war.

Mozaffar Ahmad Khan, Dhaka district unit Muktiyoddha commander, filed the murder case, stating that the Jamaat men killed

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Baby dies in womb as robbers stab mother

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An unborn baby was killed when robbers stabbed an expecting mother in the abdomen in Jatrabari area of the capital yesterday.

Parveen Akhter, 32, the mother of the slain unborn baby, was fighting

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

DU VIOLENCE Complainant fails to specify who violated EPR

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The complainant, who lodged the case against teachers and students of Dhaka University (DU) for breaching emergency power rules (EPR), during hearing of the case yesterday did not specify who violated the rules.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Golam Rabbani recorded the deposition of the complainant Sergeant Shaukat Ahmed of Nikhet police camp as the trial of the case began yesterday. Defence lawyers of one of the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Woman's body found 32 days after Sidr

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

The body of a woman was recovered from a pond yesterday, 32 days after she went missing during Sidr's rampage at Ruhita village of Patharghata upazila in Barguna.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

'Huji' man killed in city gunfight

2 Rab men injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A suspected Islamist militant was killed while two Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) personnel suffered bullet wounds in over an hour-long encounter between the elite crime fighting force and the suspects at Maddhya Badda in the capital early yesterday.

After trading over 100 rounds of bullets with the suspects, Rab arrested one of them.

The arrestee, Al Beruni alias Sabuj alias Rony, 22, claimed himself as an organiser of a quite unknown Islamist group, Islamic Dal, sources said.

Siddique Rahman, owner of the house where the gun battle took place, told The Daily Star that he heard Rony telling Rab members after being caught that they were members of a banned Islamist militant outfit Harkatul Jihad Al Islami (Huji), but now he is working to form another Islamist outfit, Islamic Dal.

Rab however had yet to officially declare the suspects as Islamist militants at the time of filing this report last night, although various

sources said that had actually been the suspicion which led to the operation.

The dead suspect was identified as Kamal, 24, of Jamalpur, from where Abdur Rahman, the executed kingpin of another banned Islamist terrorist outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), had hailed.

The injured Rab personnel -- Lieutenant Farhad Sarkar from Bangladesh Navy, and Shaukat Kabir Hossain, were undergoing treatment at Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka. Farhad was hit in the thigh and the waist while Kabir was hit in the thighs and a hand.

Rab officials said a vain of Farhad's leg had been severed by the bullet hit and he was operated upon. Rab also said both of its wounded personnel are now out of danger.

Rab recovered four bullets, a sawn-off rifle, a revolver, two pistols, and seven bullets from the suspects' possession.

Tipped off, an eight-member team of Rab-2 led by Farhad raided

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

EC plans to form own lawyers' panel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) is planning to form its own panel of lawyers comprising eminent jurists to defend the commission in courts of law when its activities and decisions on electoral affairs will be challenged.

"We don't have our own lawyers. We depend on government lawyers whenever we need any legal services. So we are planning to make our own lawyers' panel, like the Anti-Corruption Commission had formed," Election Commissioner Brig Gen (ret'd) M Sakawat Hussain told reporters

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Cold wave in North to persist for a few days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The mild cold wave that has been sweeping the northern region of the country for the last couple of days is likely to continue for next few days.

Dhaka meteorological office

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8



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