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to share Nuke tech with Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pakistani High Commissioner to Bangladesh Alamgir Babar said vesterday that his country is ready to share nuclear technology for civilian purposes with Bangladesh, to help tackle the country's massive energy crisis.

Babar said Pakistan's offer is on the table and Bangladesh has to decide whether the country wants to discuss it.

Foreign Adviser Iftekhar A Chowdhury has already discussed nuclear energy cooperation with Russia and China after the International Atomic Energy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) is

going to publish a report on its

electoral reforms talks with politi-

cal parties, drawing the govern-

ment's attention to some crucial

issues including trial of war crimi-

nals to keep them away from polls.

increasing the number of parlia-

mentary seats, proportional repre-

sentation in parliament, amend-

ments to Article 70 of the

Constitution, introduction of

bicameral parliament and empow-

erment of voters to recall their

system in which political parties

are represented in parliament in

proportion to the percentage of

failure to perform properly.

The other vital issues include

EC to publish report on

its talks with parties

representatives on grounds of once it (report) is published.

Proportional representation is a report and directed its secretariat

Pakistan willing to share Nuke Nuke Nuke Nuke Nuke Nuke on agriculture, power, rural infrastructure

Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam

more or less than Tk 99,500 crore. ment usually announces its annual budget would be Tk 25,500 crore. SEE PAGE 15 COL 2 The figure has yet to be finalised as financial plan on Thursday.

we are still working on that."

Finance ministry sources said

Aziz said the budget would be announced on June 8 or 9 [Sunday

The finance adviser said they believe the deficit this time would

remain within 5 percent of GPD. He was replying to queries from organised by Privatisation

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

Govt working to empower people

Says CA at banquet for Aga Khan

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed last night said his government is working relentlessly and uncompromisingly to empower people and ensure their right to choose their representatives with-

out fear or intimidation. "We are in the final phase of achieving desired political aspiration. We are confident that a free, fair and credible election will be The finance adviser said size of | held as per the announced our reforms and initiatives will be

Govt to import 5 lakh tonnes of fertiliser

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government will import five lakh tonnes of fertiliser from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia and Qatar under state arrangement to ease fertiliser crisis next fiscal year.

A high-level committee led by necessary. the industries secretary has already held talks with the authorities concerned paying visit to the three

The proposal for importing urea tonne. may be placed before the Advisory Committee on Economic Affairs the government would set an

sustainable. To this end, the already sent draft contract letters to ment. SEE PAGE 15 COL 7 Bangladesh authorities following

discussions between the commit tee and the authorities concerned.

Qatar Fertiliser Company, QAFCO, has already informed Bangladesh that it can export two lakh tonnes of urea as per the proposal prepared by the industries and boost rice production in the ministry. Qatar has also expressed its interest to export more urea, if

> The UAE in principle has also agreed to export 80,000 to 1 lakh tonne of urea while Saudi Arabia has consented to export one lakh

Industries ministry officials said import target of five lakh tonnes of The three countries have urea while signing the final agree-

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

GATCO CASE

Hunt on for MK Anwar, other absconding accused

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Commissioner Naim Ahmed yesterday said their efforts to arrest the absconding accused in Gatco scam case, including former agriculture minister and BNP leader MK

Anwar, will continue. "Efforts are on to arrest the absconding accused. If they are not arrested we will submit reports to the courts on May 22 as per procedure," Naim Ahmed told a press briefing yesterday after the monthly crime review meeting of the DMP at Rajarbagh Police SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Ershad to join talks, won't sign nat'l charter

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party (JP) Chairman HM Ershad yesterday said his party will join the dialogue with the caretaker government but will not sign any national charter as proposed by the chiefadviser.

Criticising the government for its failure to run the country. SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Prayer Timing May 20 Jamaat Azan 4-40 4-05 1-15 12-45 5-15 5-00 Maghrib 6-40 6-45 8-30 Esha 8-00 Source: Islamic Foundation

Finance adviser says

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

yesterday said the next budget would be somewhere near Tk one lakh crore with concentration on sectors. agriculture, power and rural infra-

structure.

votes they got in polls.

tions on the issues.

"Political decisions are required

on the issues. The present care-

taker government or the next

elected one can consider the mat-

ters in future," a source said quot-

ing the EC report that incorporated

political parties' recommenda-

report, Chief Election

Commissioner (CEC) ATM

Shamsul Huda had earlier said

several times the entire process of

holding talks with political parties

was transparent, and people will be

able to know details of the talks

to take steps for publication so that

copies of the report can be sent to

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

The EC has already finalised the

On the EC plan to publish the

the exact size would be known once the government settles how much to spend in subsidies for different reporters after attending a seminar

He said, "Size of the budget for or Monday]. The schedule is differthe Annual Development roadmap. We are also positive that today. fiscal year 2008-09 will be a little ent than other years' as the govern- Programme (ADB) in the upcoming

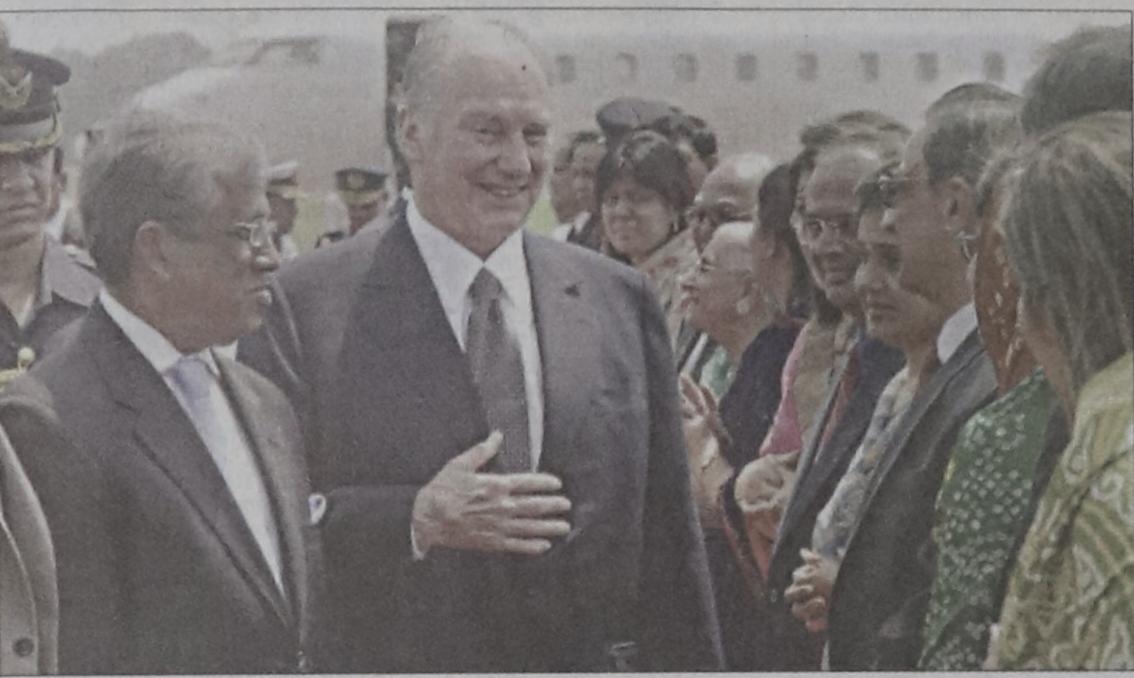


PHOTO: STAR

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed accompanies Prince Karim Aga Khan as he exchanges greetings with representatives of the Ismaili community in Bangladesh at Zia International Airport on his arrival on a 4-state day visit.

50 injured in BDR action in Satkhira Municipal commissioner assaulted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

At least 50 people were injured as under control. Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel beat up people demonstrating picked up Sagar and beat him up as against assault of a Pourasava vesterday.

Satkhira-Kaliganj road in the town after Pourasava commissioner Safiquddowla Sagar was assaulted and injured.

The BDR swung into action on them and also assaulted pedestrians and people including journalists and women inside shops and houses nearby.

Police (SP) Mirza Abdullahel Baki

he had handed over to law enforccommissioner by BDR men here ers a BDR man along with a woman caught by locals allegedly for unso-

along with police force rushed to

the spot and brought the situation

Earlier in the morning, the BDR

The demonstrators barricaded cial activities about a month back, sources said. The injured commissioner was admitted to Satkhira Sadar

Hospital. Twenty of the injured including

three ournalists -- Kamruzzaman of ATN Bangla, Litu of the Juger Barta and Babu of the Kafela-were also admitted to this hospital. Satkhira Superintendent of The other injured were

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2



Alhaj Abdul Majid Mondol Managing Director Montex Fabrics Ltd.



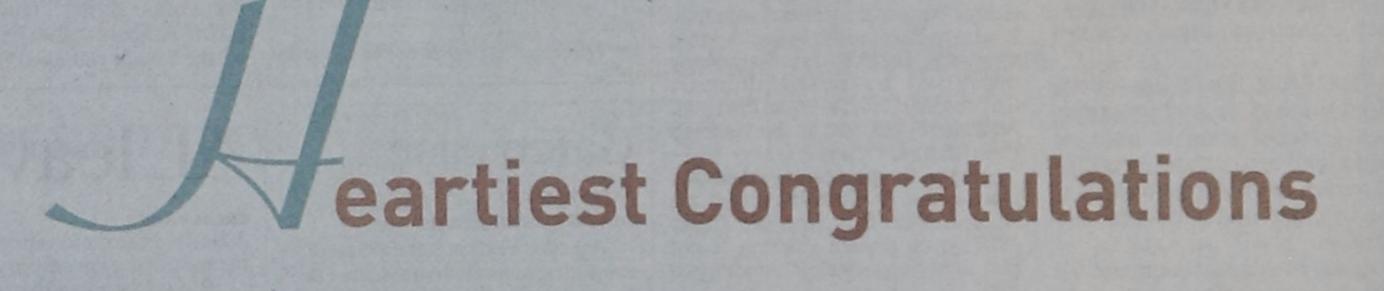
Major General (Rtd) Amjad Khan Chowdhury Managing Dircetor AMCL (PRAN-RFL Group)



Mr. Md. Saiful Islam Managing Director Picard (Bangladesh) Ltd.



Mr. Parvez Hashim Executive Director (operation) Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd.



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Mr. Mahmud Hasan Khan (Babu) Managing Director Rising Group



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