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HSC exams begin today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and its equivalent Alim and Business Management examinations will begin today under nine education boards with tight measures against unfair means.

All candidates will be searched before they enter the exam centres. Besides, several vigilance teams will monitor the examination process, top officials of the nine education boards said.

Sources said the candidates will sit for examinations in other educational institutions rather than their own institutions. English 1st paper examination will be held on the first day beginning at 10:00am.

About 6-20 lakh candidates will sit for examinations at 1,800 centres, including five abroad, this year under Dhaka, Rajshahi, Comilla, Jessore, Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet education boards and also the Madrasa and the Technical education boards.

US envoy for compromise to make dialogue fruitful

UNB, Dhaka

US Ambassador in Dhaka James F. Moriarty yesterday said there is room for compromise to make the ongoing political dialogue fruitful paving the way for holding a free, fair and credible election by the end of the year.

"There is room for compromise and I hope to see a compromise in next weeks or months. But I don't know what would be the compromise; it's up to the people to decide," he told reporters after a meeting with Home Adviser MA Matin at his ministry.

Asked who should make compromises, the ambassador said everybody should make the compromise and none will get 100 percent if a compromise is reached.

On the outcome of the dialogue in absence of the two former prime ministers, he said he would not comment on the party position.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

SC stays case also against Tarique's wife

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday upheld the High Court (HC) order that earlier stayed the proceedings of a graft case against Dr Zubaida Rahman, wife of Tarique Rahman, the detained senior joint secretary general of BNP.

The six-member full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Md Ruhul Amin issued the order, dismissing the appeal filed by the Anti-Corruption

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Saudi govt not issuing residential permits

Thousands of Bangladeshi workers fear deportation

PORIMOL PALMA

Thousands of Bangladeshi workers in Saudi Arabia are fearing deportation as the Saudi authorities are not issuing residential permits to those willing to join new jobs on expiry of their present contracts.

Sources said residential permits have not been issued to expatriate Bangladeshi workers seeking new jobs for the last two to three months, which will result in a gradual decrease in their number in the Middle Eastern country. About 15 lakh Bangladeshi

migrants are currently living in Saudi Arabia.

Bangladeshi workers living in Saudi Arabia usually return home on expiry of their job contracts. But, if any of them gets a new job, the worker can join it after getting another residential permit from the Saudi authorities, said officials at the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET).

Talking to The Daily Star over telephone, Mohammad Fazel Rabbi, a Bangladeshi physician in Saudi Arabia, said he along with other Bangladeshi doctors, nurses

and technicians has been working at the Rijal Almaa Hospital in Assir region for a long time.

On expiry of job contracts, many of them got the chance to work under the Saudi health ministry while a few managed to get jobs at private hospitals. But the Saudi authorities did not issue them residential permits.

Fazel Rabbi said his present job contract expires on June 14 and he will have to return home despite having an offer for a new job.

He said although they informed

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Muggers shoot SB officer, loot money

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed muggers yesterday shot a Special Branch (SB) inspector and took away Tk 2 lakh from him at Uttara in the capital.

The city SB inspector, Nurul Amin, 42, has been undergoing treatment at Rajarbagh Police Lines Hospital with a bullet wound in his right knee.

In a similar incident at Sutrapur the same day, muggers snatched Tk 2.25 lakh from a trader.

Police said a gang of three way-laid Nurul on Jasimuddin Avenue when he was returning to his Ashkora house in a rickshaw after drawing Tk 2 lakh from the Uttara branch of National Bank at around 10:30am.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Police want to upgrade posts of inspectors, sergeants, SIs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Police Headquarters has proposed that officials of the ranks of inspector, sergeant and sub-inspector (SIs) should be upgraded which senior police officials consider would increase competence of the force.

A draft proposal in this regard was submitted to the home ministry last week asking the government to upgrade all 2,300 inspectors to Class 1 (non-gazette) officials.

The proposal has also asked to up the status of the Class III 11,418 SIs and 1,213 sergeants by one grade, sources in the police department say.

"We've proposed to increase basic salary scale of inspectors to Tk 6,800 from present Tk 5,100," Assistant Inspector General (AIG) of Police Hasanul Haider told The Daily Star on Tuesday.

As per the proposal, the scale of sergeants and SIs would be Tk 5,100 instead of Tk 4,100, he said.

The police department

reviewed the issue over the last one year and took the decision to submit the proposal considering the kind of job responsibilities of the non-cadre officers.

Additional Inspector General of Police NBK Tripura said the hike in rank and salary has long been overdue for the cops, who are mainly responsible for carrying out orders by taking huge load on their shoulders.

"Implementation of the proposal would not require a huge

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



Utility workers of Dhaka City Corporation dig up the footpath in front of Bangladesh Secretariat in the capital, forcing pedestrians to walk on the main road.

Nepal's 240-year-old monarchy abolished

The Himalayan state becomes republic

AFP, Kathmandu

A constitutional assembly in Nepal yesterday voted overwhelmingly in favour of abolishing the Himalayan nation's 240-year-old monarchy and declaring a republic, an official announced.

"The proposal for the implementation of a republic has been passed by a majority," a senior member of the 601-member body, Kul Bahadur Gurung, told the gathering.

He said 560 members of the Constituent Assembly voted in favour, with four opposed.

Nepal's fiercely-republican Maoists, who fought for 10 years to oust the unpopular King Gyanendra's Hindu dynasty and create a secular republic, won the largest single bloc of seats in the assembly in April elections.

The meeting is the culmination

of a 2006 peace deal between the country's mainstream political parties and the rebels that brought to an end a civil war, which killed at least 13,000 people.

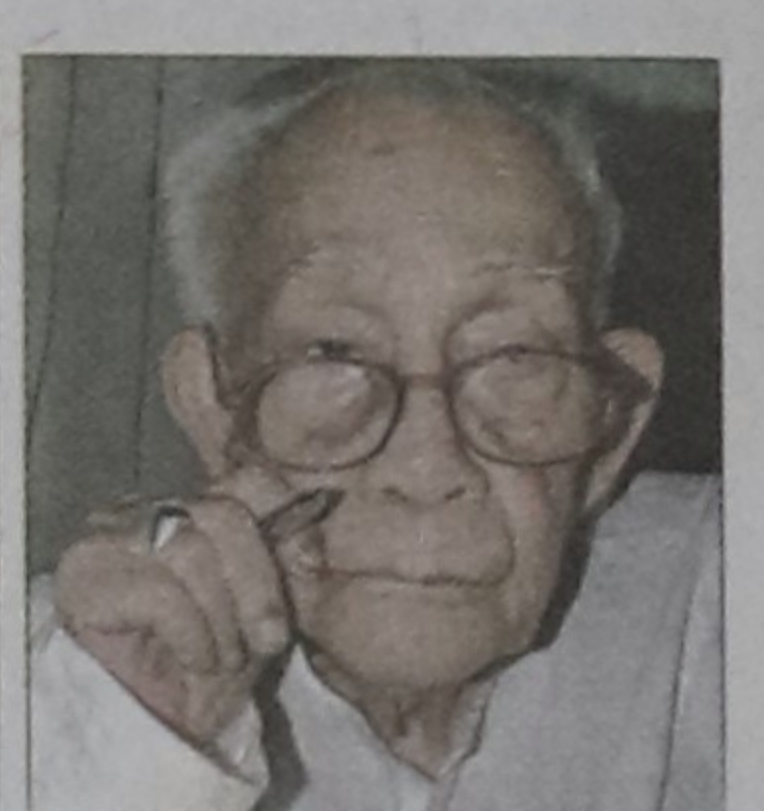
Officials said the parties will give King Gyanendra, who ascended to the throne after most of the royal family were massacred by a drunken prince in 2001, 15 days to vacate his Kathmandu palace.

The approved proposal states that Nepal will become "an independent, indivisible, sovereign, secular and an inclusive democratic republic."

"Nepal has turned into a democratic republic, all the existing laws and administrative functions that contradict this idea will be invalidated from today," the text of the declaration reads.

"All the privileges enjoyed by the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



Binod Bihari Chy hospitalised

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Veteran revolutionary Binod Bihari Chowdhury, a close aide to Masterda Surya Sen, was hospitalised yesterday with old-age complications.

Sources said he was admitted to the medicine ward of the Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) at around 9:30am following respiratory problems.

Later, he was transferred to the Cardiac Care Unit (CCU) of the hospital at about 12:30pm and has been under close observation since then.

The doctors at the CCU said they conducted tests on Binod and found the level of haemoglobin in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Gatco graft case transferred to special court

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Gatco graft case against detained former premier Khaleda Zia, her son Arafat Rahman Koko and 22 others including five former ministers was transferred yesterday to a special court on the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises for trial.

After scrutinising the case

docket and other relevant documents, Judge Mohammad Azizul Haque of the Senior Special Judge's Court ordered sending the case to the Special Judge's Court-3 for its quick disposal.

The accused former ministers of the four-party coalition government are Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Mother commits suicide after killing 3 kids

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A mother committed suicide after killing her three daughters yesterday at Titpur village of Phulpur Upazila.

The dead are Aklima, 30, wife of Dawlat Mia, a tea-stall owner of Basua Kabirpur village, and their daughters -- Tanjila, 11, Khadiza, 9 and Liza, 7.

Police said Aklima, a mother of six, went to her father's residence at Titpur village from her husband's

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Zardari, Sharif agree to clip Musharraf's powers

Differences on judges persist

DAILY TIMES, Islamabad

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) chief Nawaz Sharif agreed in a meeting on Tuesday to clip the powers of President Pervez Musharraf, but made no headway on the lingering issue of the reinstatement of the sacked judges.

After their meeting the first since their inconclusive talks in London that resulted in resignations of PML-N ministers from the federal cabinet the two leaders avoided the media and even their spokespersons were cautious in revealing the details of the two-hour meeting at Punjab House.

Sources privy to the meeting said PML-N chief Nawaz Sharif

kept insisting de-linking the restoration of the judiciary sacked on November 3, 2007, from the proposed 62-point constitutional package.

"Nawaz Sharif stuck to his stance that the reinstatement of deposed judges should not be linked with the constitutional amendment package," a source said.


SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Correction

The headline "Old woman freed after 14yrs in jail without trial" of a report published in yesterday's issue had an inadvertent error. It should have been "Old man." We regret the mistake.

Prayer Timing		
May 29		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-43	6-47
Esha	8-05	8-35


Source: Islamic Foundation



চমকেই
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Star

তুমি, মেলি আর বেকহ্যাম
একই বিজ্ঞাপনে
কিন্তু বার্লেনের বিচ পার্টি-তে
তুমি

শুধুমাত্র
পেপ্সি!
খোলে!



তুমি

মেলি

বেকহ্যাম

পেপ্সি খেলেই পাবে একটি স্ক্র্যাচ কার্ড আর স্ক্র্যাচ করে কোড নাথারটি জানালেই

- বেকহ্যাম, রোনালদিনহো, মেলির সাথে ইন্টারন্যাশনাল পেপ্সি বিজ্ঞাপনে দেখা যেতে পারে তোমাকে
- কিন্না চলে যেতে পারবে বার্লেনের বিচ পার্টি করার জন্য
- পেতে পারবে মোবাইল ফোন, DVD প্রেয়ার, MP3 প্রেয়ার, FM রেডিওসহ আরো অনেক কিছু
- আর কিছু পাও না পাও প্রতিটি পেপ্সির সাথে পাবে একটি ফুটবল স্টার পোস্টার।

কিন্তু তুমি এসব পাবে: খুব সহজে। পেপ্সি খেলেই পাবে একটি স্ক্র্যাচ কার্ড, স্ক্র্যাচ করে আর কোড নাথারটি জানিয়ে দাও 6161 নাম্বারে SMS করে অথবা 01732868690-2 নাম্বারে ফোন করে। আর পেপ্সি তোমাকে জানিয়ে দেবে তুমি কি জিতেছো।

মনে রাখবে স্ক্র্যাচ কার্ডটি অবশ্যই সংরক্ষণ করতে হবে।

শর্তাবলী

- এ অফার ৩০ জুন, ২০০৮ পর্যন্ত চলবে, এরপর প্রাপ্ত SMS বা ফোন কল গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না
- এ অফারের টার্মস অফ ইন্ডাস্ট্রি, এনিম্যাটিক এডমিএল, এনিম্যাটিক ইন্টারেক্টিভ এবং এর কোনো সহযোগী প্রতিষ্ঠান অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবে না
- এই কার্যক্রম শুধুমাত্র পেপ্সি পণ্যের (পেপ্সি ২০০৭/০৮ এর এল, ২০০৮ এর এল, ১ লিটার এবং ২ লিটার) কেন্দ্রে প্রযোজ্য
- ১ লিটার পেপ্সি কিন্তে বোতল ও ড্রাইটে পেপ্সি এই কার্যক্রমের অন্তর্ভুক্ত নয়
- একটি পেপ্সি পণ্য ক্রয়ের জন্য একজন কেবল শুধুমাত্র একটি স্ক্র্যাচ কার্ড পাবে
- একটি স্ক্র্যাচ কার্ডে প্রাপ্ত কোড নাথার শুধুমাত্র একবার ব্যবহারযোগ্য
- বিজয়ী প্রত্যেককে অবশ্যই স্ক্র্যাচ কার্ডটি নিজের কাছে সংরক্ষণ করতে হবে
- সুরক্ষার কারণে স্ক্র্যাচ কার্ডটি অবশ্যই দেওয়া হবে
- প্রতিযোগিতার যে কোনো পর্যায়ে যে কোনো দলীয় সদস্য বা কোনো দলীয় সদস্যের অন্য কার্যক্রমের অংশগ্রহণ করা যাবে না
- SMS বা ফোন কলের জন্য চার্জ প্রযোজ্য
- সকাল ৮টা থেকে রাত ১২টা পর্যন্ত কল সেবার বোলা থাকবে
- পেপ্সি যে কোনো সময় কোনো কারণে পর্যালোচনা করে এই কার্যক্রম পরিবর্তন, পরিবর্তন বা সমাপ্তি ঘোষণা করার অধিকার রাখে
- শর্ত প্রযোজ্য।

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