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GRAFT CASES

Charge sheet against Prof Rafiqul, mayor Sarwar likely

UNB, Dhaka

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is going to submit charge sheets in the graft cases filed against Barisal City Mayor Mujibor Rahman Sarwar, former state minister for power Prof Rafiqul Islam and DCC commissioner Monwar Hossain Dipjol.

The ACC has also decided to file a case against former prime minister Sheikh Hasina's APS Alauddin Ahmed Chowdhury and his wife for acquiring wealth beyond their known sources of income and hiding information about the

assets. ACC Director General Col Hanif Iqbal told the regular briefing yesterday that the commission has approved the submission of charge SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

STRINGENT GOVT RULES

Maids find it hard to

PORIMOL PALMA

Female workers seeking jobs as difficulties. domestic help in Middle Eastern countries are losing out on valuable job opportunities as the stringent rules set by the government recruiting agencies of Bangladesh secure a work visa.

An official of the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry has said that the govern- rules were made to ensure that ment has already taken initiatives domestic aides, if ever the need

to review the rules, which it also apprehends might be creating

Under present guidelines visas, demand letters or other documents have to be processed by make it very difficult for them to and the employing country, and

According to new rules pubacquired, but not approved by the lished in the gazette on September government for non-adherence to 1 last year, Bangladesh missions procedures under new rules, have concerned have to attest all expired or are on the verge of employment documents of expiry, businessmen and research- domestic workers as well as the contracts between the recruiting

The gazette explained that the since," a recruiting agent said.

arises, can be identified and the agencies through which they were

An expert however said that such stringent laws for protection of women workers might actually contribute to an increase in illegal migration since agencies and brokers are trying to find alterna-

Some agencies complain that Bangladesh missions abroad do "I have sent all necessary docu-

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Khaleda petitions for quashing Niko graft case against her

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detained former prime minister Khaleda Zia yesterday filed a writ petition with the High Court (HC) challenging the legality of the Niko corruption case against her.

In the petition, she sought for quashing the case pending with the Special Judge's Court-9 set up on the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises and a stay on its (case) proceedings.

An HC division bench comprising Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Mashuque Hosain Ahmed may hear the petition today.

On May 27 this year, the same bench rejected a petition filed by Khaleda to quash the graft case. Quoting the writ petition, Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia, who will appear for Khaleda in the court, told the



PHOTO: PID

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed holds bilateral talks with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad at the latter's SEE PAGE 15 COL 3 hotel suite in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

killed in bomb blasts in Karachi

AFP, Karachi

One person was killed and 37 others injured yesterday in a string of six bomb blasts in Pakistan's southern city of Karachi, raising tensions a day after a major suicide attack in the capital.

The Karachi explosions came in the wake of a suicide bombing that killed 19 people near a rally in Islamabad to mark the first anniversary of the bloody storming of the radical Red Mosque in the capital.

Pakistan's new government is SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Muggers stab Dhaka Cant worker to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A casual worker at Dhaka Cantonment was stabbed to death by muggers near Staff Road bus stop on Airport Road early yester-

The dead was identified as Billal Hossain. His roommate's bother Abdul Latif received stab wounds. He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in a critical condition.

The hijackers made off with SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Left to withdraw support from Indian govt by July 10

PTI, New Delhi

Left parties will submit to President Pratibha Patil, their letter withdrawing support to the UPA government by July 10, said Forward Bloc general secretary Debabrata

Biswas said the decision by the four Left parties to withdraw support to the Manmohan Singh government over the nuclear deal row was a unanimous one.

Congress had on Friday rejected the deadline set by the Left parties to the UPA government till July 7, to clarify on whether it was going ahead on the Indo-US nuclear deal.

Congress had said that sovereign governments or political parties cannot be subjected to

deadlines. The party had also thanked the Samajwadi Party for extending its

support to the nuclear deal. Responding to the Left parties' letter asking the government whether it was moving the IAEA to formalise a safeguards agreement on the Indo-US nuclear deal, the Congress yesterday proposed another round of meeting of the UPA-Left Committee on the issue

on July 10. External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee, who heads the Committee, wrote a short reply to SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Prayer Timing July 8	
4-10	4-45
12-45	1-15
5-00	5-15
6-55	7-00
8-17	8-45
	July 8 Azan 4-10 12-45 5-00 6-55

Source: Islamic Foundation

seek jobs overseas

A good number of work visas

not by individuals.

agencies from both countries.

recruited be held accountable.

tives to the rules.

not cooperate with the paperwork. ments to be attested to our

embassy in Oman a few months ago, but have received no response "The government must ensure



NURSING IN TATTERS

Poor attention leads to quality dip

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

The government's indifference towards nurse training results in poor quality nursing education which in turn deteriorates nursing

According to the Directorate of Nursing Services (DNS), 38 public nursing institutes have 248 posts of nursing instructors for around 1,500 nurse aspirants a year. However, 170 nursing instructors' posts are currently unoccupied. According to recruitment regu-

lations, a nurse instructor should have three years' experience as senior staff nurse and five years' experience as nursing supervisor but very few nurse instructors fulfil these conditions due to the sluggish nature of promotion process.

A significant number of nursing supervisors and senior staff nurses have been working as nurse

instructors on deputation at the public nursing institutes, experts said adding that these instructors often do not have the qualifications to become a good instructor.

The instructors do not have any institute where they could be taught to teach.

If there were nursing instructors' institutes like Technical Teachers Training Institute for training teachers, they would be more capable of providing quality education to nurse aspirants, experts say.

They said the quality of most nursing instructors is not up to the

"As nurses' promotions are seniority based, quality is not considered at all which eventually leads to poor quality nursing education," said a nursing supervisor stressing the need for a nursing teachers' training institute.

Apart from eight nursing institutes adjoining medical colleges, no institute has the post of principal, which increases administrative intricacy and slows down educational activities.

The nursing instructors, who do

not have any Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO), run their institutes themselves spending a large portion of their time in administrative work rather thantraining people.

Of the four nursing institutes which were turned into nursing colleges this year, neither added more facilities to the colleges nor recruited manpower.

"The Dhaka Nursing College, which was an institute last year, has only six posts for instructors against 100 seats for nurse aspirants. The Mitford Nursing Institute has 20 seats and after

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Parts of the Baganbari canal at Mohammadpur in the capital are occupied by land grabbers while industrial waste and garbage pollute the canal water. CLIMATE CHANGE FALLOUT

Govt to form trustee board to operate Tk 300cr fund

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

up a board of trustee to operate a Tk 300-crore climate change fund allocated in the current budget for use mainly in adaptation programmes.

"Two-thirds of this fund will be spent every year and one-third will be deposited in the bank to create a self-sustaining fund," said Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam after an inter-ministerial meeting at the

Aziz chaired the first meeting on said. use of the fund. Food Adviser AMM

Shawkat Ali, special assistant to the chief adviser on forest and environ-The government has decided to set ment Raja Debashish Roy, and officials concerned were present at the meeting.

> Aziz told reporters that the government will also form a steering committee comprised of representatives from various ministries to prepare policies, projects and mobilise funds from foreign donors.

"The main focus of the fund will be adaptation. No money of the fund will be used for mitigation programme," the finance adviser

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Doctor held on charge of killing wife

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested a senior consultant of the National Institute of Traumatology, Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation (NITOR), Dr Tozammel Hossain, from city's Mirpur area late on Sunday night on charge of killing his wife.

Police recovered the body of Fahmida Akhter Nazma, 45, from the bathroom of her residence at Lane-5 in Mirpur section-2 after her husband informed the police of having returned home to find her

Her face was burnt, legs fractured, tendons in her legs cut and hands tied behind her back when the body was found.

Sources at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue said that SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

142 bridges to be built to replace small ones

SHAMIM ASHRAF

The government will build 142 bridges to replace the small and medium-size narrow bridges in the country's eastern part.

The Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) will provide Tk 474.51 crore in loan for constructing 68 bridges which are 30 metres or above in length, while the Bangladesh government will arrange funds for the rest.

Construction works of the bridges along with the national and regional highways involving Tk 652.69 crore will be completed by

The Economic Relations Department will sign an agreement

with the Japanese government for the loan this month, sources said.

The bridges could not be maintained properly due to dearth of fund. The condition of some bridges is so bad that it is not economically viable to repair them, Superintendent Engineer of the Roads and Highway Department (RHD) Nabinoor Islam Khan told The Daily Star.

Construction works of the 68 bridges to be built with Japan's financial assistance will be completed under four separate contract packages for Dhaka, Sylhet, Comilla and Chittagong region.

Eighteen bridges each will be built in Dhaka and Sylhet zones while 10 in Comilla and 22 in

Chittagong zone.

"Other 74 bridges which are less than 30 metres in length will be built with government funds under 12 contract packages," said the RHD superintendent engineer, adding that the RHD will be responsible for constructing the

With the assistance of JBIC, a pilot study of the bridges with a length of 30 metres or above which are under the RHD was conducted in 2005. A feasibility study conducted last year recommended rehabilitation of 68 bridges.

"One-lane bailey bridges have very limited load-carrying capacity as their structure is not suitable for SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Another writ petition filed challenging Aug 4 polls STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A writ petition was filed yesterday with the High Court (HC) challenging the legality of the Election Commission's schedule for holding the city corporation and municipality elections before publication of the final voter list.

the petitioner's counsel, Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and Justice Farid Ahmed fixed Tuesday (today) for passing order on the petition. Supreme Court (SC) lawyer Advocate Giasuddin Ahammed

After completion of hearing form

filed the petition. Advocate ABM Nurul Islam, counsel for the petitioner, submitted before the court that according

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Croc farming looks set to prosper

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh

began in May, which lasts till end of July.

US dollars annually from 2012, inside sources said.

Crocodiles at the Reptiles Farm Ltd in Bhaluka upazila that runs crocodile farming on commercial basis have started laying eggs for the fourth time since April 17 this year.

This is good news for the farm, which was able to hatch 141 crocodiles from 600 eggs laid at the farm last year. The croc babies, now over a year old, are expected to fetch a prize between US\$ 600 to 1000 each when they are sold at two years of age.

Mustaq Ahmed, managing director and chief executive officer (CEO) of the farm, told The Daily Star that 20 crocodiles have laid 900 eggs so far this year and two or three more are expected to lay eggs this year. Eighteen babies were born at the farm on July 4 after the egg laying period

ery this year under Australian technical support to house 1200 crocodile kids. Prospective buyers from European countries including Italy, Germany and France have already expressed interest in buying crocodiles from the farm which expects to earn Tk 1 crore from exporting crocodiles in 2009. If the project runs according to plans, the farm will be earning one million

Dr Arif, the manager of the farm, said that the farm is about to start a new nurs-

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



A crocodile, top, lying next to her eggs at Reptiles Farm Ltd in Mymensingh. Workers of the farm are seen collecting eggs.

ILL-GOTTEN WEALTH ACC presses charge against Mirza Azam COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday pressed charges against Jubo League General Secretary Mirza Azam in a case filed for amassing wealth worth over Tk 53 lakh illegally and giving false wealth information to the

commission. ACC Deputy Director SM Mofizul Islam, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the charge sheet against Azam to the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court showing 34 people as prosecution wit-

tioned that the charges brought against Azam were proved in primary investigation and he should be brought under trial.

In the charge sheet, the IO men-

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Augustine Cruze Awarded **Doctorate Degree**

We respectfully congratulate our honourable Founder - Principal of Saint Jude's International School Dr. Augustine Cruze for

receiving the Degree of the Doctor of Philosophy (Major: World Religion) from the University of Honolulu, USA. We are deeply impressed by the way he has been accomplishing his profession as a successful Principal pioneering English Medium School in private sector since 1979. He is one of the first leading persons who pioneered teaching English as a second language known as 'Spoken English Course of St. Jude's International School.' We also appreciate him as a social worker who has been

watching us with tender care. We feel as an integrated and unique Jude's family under his patronage.

Teachers and Staff of

Saint Jude's International School House # 84, Road No 11/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

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