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Dipjol, ex-NBR director charged with amassing wealth illegally

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday pressed charges against Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) councillor Monwar Hossain Dipjol, his wife, and former National Board of Revenue (NBR) director Jahurul Haq and his wife in cases filed for amassing wealth through illegal means.

ACC Assistant Director Mohammad Talebur Rahman, also investigation officer (IO) of the case, charged Dipjol and his wife Rumana Monwar with accumulating wealth worth Tk 5,15,94,667 illegally and concealing information of wealth worth Tk 3,02,72,582 from the commission.

The IO submitted charge sheet against the couple to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court, Dhaka, showing 53 people as prosecution witnesses.

He prayed to the court for issuance of arrest warrants against

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Nazmul Huda denied bail in bribery case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected the bail petition of detained former communications minister barrister Nazmul Huda in a case filed in connection with taking Tk 6 lakh bribe from a construction firm.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Golam Rabbani passed the order after Huda's lawyers submitted the bail petition.

On June 18, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed the case with Motijheel Police Station accusing Huda and his wife Sigma Huda of taking Tk 6 lakh bribe from the owner of Marganet One Ltd.

In the case, the complainant stated that Huda demanded the bribe from the owner of the firm in exchange for a work order for the maintenance of Jamuna Bridge.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Three Shibir men beaten up at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

Activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) last night beat up three leaders of Islami Chhatra Shibir at Zahurul Haq Hall of Dhaka University (DU).

The injured were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, campus sources said.

Two of them were identified as Al-Amin of Sociology and Mohammad Shifat of Law department.

Eyewitnesses said at least 20 leaders and workers of Shibir, student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, came under attack while they were coming out of the hall after a meeting at room No. 3006 at around 11:45pm.

Over 100 leaders and activists of BCL, the student front of Awami League (AL), took part in the assault.

Three of the Shibir men were caught by the Chhatra League activists and battered with sticks and cricket stumps while the rest managed to flee the scene.

Additional police forces were deployed in the hall premises to avert further violence.

Russia halts Georgia offensive after 5 days

Georgia alleges bombings continue

AP, Tbilisi, Georgia

Russia ordered a halt to military action in Georgia yesterday, after five days of air and land attacks sent Georgia's army into headlong retreat and left towns and military bases destroyed.

Georgian officials insisted that Russia has continued the bombings despite the pledge, but Russia denied that.

Hours before the Russian announcement, Russian forces bombed the crossroads city of Gori and launched an offensive in the part of separatist Abkhazia still under Georgian control, sending in 135 military vehicles including tanks and tightening the assault on the beleaguered town.

Gori was all but deserted late Monday most remaining residents

and Georgian soldiers fled ahead of a feared Russian onslaught.

In Tskhinvali, South Ossetia's provincial capital, the body of a Georgian soldier lay in the street along with debris and shattered glass. A poster hanging nearby showed Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and the slogan "Say yes to peace and stability" as South Ossetian separatist fighters launched rockets at a Georgian plane soaring overhead.

More than 2,000 people were reported killed and the death toll was expected to rise, for large areas of Georgia were too dangerous for journalists to enter. Tens of thousands of terrified residents have fled the fighting. South Ossetians north to Russia, and Georgians west toward the capital of Tbilisi and the country's Black Sea coast.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said on national television that Georgia had been punished enough for its attack on South Ossetia. Georgia launched an offensive late Thursday to regain control over the separatist Georgian province, which has close ties to Russia.

"The aggressor has been punished and suffered very significant losses. Its military has been disorganized," Medvedev said.

"If there are any emerging hotbeds of resistance or any aggressive actions, you should take steps to destroy them," he ordered his defense minister at a televised Kremlin meeting.

Russia's foreign minister called for Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili to resign and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

UK envoy for talks on lifting emergency

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

British High Commissioner in Dhaka Stephen Evans yesterday stressed the need for holding a dialogue between the caretaker government and political parties to reach a consensus on the issue of lifting the state of emergency.

The lifting of the emergency is very much a matter of the government of Bangladesh, he said while talking to reporters after a meeting with senior Awami League (AL) leaders.

Lifting of the emergency, parliamentary and local body polls, release of political leaders were among other issues that came up in the hour-long meeting held at acting AL President Zillur Rahman's Gulshan home in the capital. AL Presidium member Tofail Ahmed and acting General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam were present at the meeting.

During the meeting, the AL leaders expressed their firm stance

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



People who missed out voter registrations in the capital gather at the additional deputy commissioner's office yesterday where hearings were held on why they were not registered. The office directed a large number of them to get registered as voters.



Timber traders keep logs on the street in front of BRTA office in Mirpur-13 reducing the useable space on the road for vehicles.

Rajshahi mayor-elect visits den of militant kingpin

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

Even before taking oath, Rajshahi mayor-elect and Awami League leader AHM Khairuzzaman Liton has drawn considerable controversy for his activities like visiting the den of militant kingpin Asadullah Al Galib.

Referring to the visit, even his party men say he bagged votes from many of Galib's followers.

They add Liton during campaign avoided clearing his stance on militancy fearing impact on his vote tally and now made the visit.

He visited central offices of Galib's outfit Ahle Hadith Andolon,

Bangladesh (Ahab), its youth front Ahle Hadith Jubo Sangha (AHJS) and Ahab-run Al Markajul Islami As-Salafi Madrasa in Nawdapara on Sunday and was accorded a reception.

An AHJS press release says Liton in his speech observed that Ahab and AHJS [suspected militant outfits] leaders and workers faced atrocities during BNP-Jamaat rule as Galib and his men were detained over "false" accusation.

The release also claims Liton demanded Galib's release as none of the cases against him was proved.

Acting Ahab Ameer Shayekh

Abdus Samad Salafi chaired the reception. Ahab Organising Secretary and AHJS Central President ASM Azizullah were present.

Salafi and Azizullah were arrested with Ahab chief Galib in February in 2005 on charge of scheming militancy and the outfit's connections with different international militant outfits.

Among others, councillor-elect Shahadat Hossain Sahu, Ahab-run monthly At Tahreek editor Dr Muhammad Shakhawat Hussain and Rajshahi Ahab chief Abul Kalam Azad were present during the reception.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Murad Siddiqui held again at jail gate

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police yesterday arrested Murad Siddiqui, younger brother of Abdul Kader Siddiqui Bir Uttam, after he was released from Dhaka Central Jail on bail.

Murad's wife Nihar Siddiqui said Murad got bail from High Court on August 4 and he was released from Dhaka Central Jail yesterday but a police team from Tangail Police Station arrested Murad at the jail gate.

Tangail Police Station Officer-in-charge (OC) Ashraf Hossain, however, told The Daily Star that they arrested Murad yesterday

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Double blow for teenage wife

Husband tries to feed her acid over his affair; stepfather keen on accepting compensation than justice

SHAMIM ASHRAF and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Extramarital relations made the husband so irate that he did not think about the consequences before making an attempt to force his wife to swallow acid.

The acid-burned teenaged housewife from Narsingdi now feels more helpless as her stepfa-

ther, principal of a local madrasa, is keen on accepting compensation instead of taking legal steps.

With her lips, neck, breast and abdomen burned, Jannatul Ferdous, 18, of Noapara village in Madhabdi is now undergoing treatment at the One-Stop Crisis Centre (OCC) of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

CONJOINED TWINS Surviving one improving

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Life support devices are being gradually removed from the surviving one of the conjoined twins, separated through an operation a week ago, although the baby is still 'not out of danger'.

The baby -- Bonya -- is now kept at neo-natal intensive care unit (ICU) of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Hospital where the operation was conducted.

The other one of the twins -- Barsha -- died about seven and a half hours after the operation.

Bonya, aged four months and 19 days, is under the supervision of teams of doctors.

"We removed the baby's ventilation support two days ago and also removed her defecation aid

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Lanka might not win war with Tigers: India

32 more killed in fighting

AFP, Singapore/Colombo

India has warned neighbouring Sri Lanka that it may not be able to win an ongoing war against separatist Tamil Tiger rebels despite recent military gains, a report said yesterday.

Indian National Security Adviser MK Narayanan told the Straits Times newspaper that Sri Lanka's Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) had been weakened but retained the ability to stage terror strikes.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Prayer Timing		
August 13		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-25	5-00
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-41	6-44
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation



An almost invisible pipe releases industrial waste into a water body and the waste eventually ends up in the nearby Bangshai river through several beels and farmlands. The waste turns the water dark and fills the air with overwhelming stench.

Untreated industrial wastes pollute cropland, river

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

A garment factory in Gorai industrial area of Mirzapur upazila in Tangail is reportedly releasing untreated liquid waste into nearby water bodies and thus polluting croplands and the Bangshai river.

Locals blame Comfit Composite Neat Ltd, which has been dumping waste in the adjacent areas since the start of its operation, for the spread of skin diseases among people in the area, low yield from farmland and poor fishing in the Bangshai.

About 100 small and large factories are in Gorai industrial area and locals alleged that the factories have effluent treatment plants (ETP) installed but they do not use them all the time to cut operation cost of the factories. They say a large number of factories are polluting the environment defying laws protecting the environment.

The Daily Star correspondent saw at least three pipes laid through the Comfit Composite Neat Ltd walls dump liquid waste of the plant into a nearby water body. The factory dumps red liquid waste using two pipes and this waste has an overwhelming stench.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

বিজিএমইএ

বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স, ২৩/১ পাছপথ লিংক রোড, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

রপ্তানিমুখী তৈরি পোশাক শিল্পে অগ্নিসংযোগ, ভাংচুর, লুটতরাজ ও ধ্বংসযজ্ঞসহ সকল সম্ভাব্য কর্মকান্ড বন্ধ করার লক্ষ্যে করণীয় নির্ধারণের জন্য

জরুরী আলোচনা সভা

সম্মানিত সদস্যদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, আগামী ১৪ আগষ্ট ২০০৮ তারিখ বিকাল ৩:৩০ মিনিটে বিজিএমইএ অভিনেত্রীয়ায়, বিজিএমইএ কমপ্লেক্স (২৩/১ পাছপথ লিংক রোড, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫)-এ উপরোক্ত বিষয়ে একটি জরুরী আলোচনা সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

উক্ত জরুরী আলোচনা সভায় বিজিএমইএ'র সম্মানিত সদস্যগণকে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য বিনীত অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

মহাসচিব