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RELIEF MISUSE CASE
Charges pressed against ex-MP Salahuddin Noman gets bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT
The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday pressed charges against detained former BNP lawmaker from Demra Salahuddin Ahmed in a case filed for misuse of government relief materials.
Meantime, a Dhaka court granted ad-interim bail to former fisheries and livestock minister Abdullh Al Noman in a case filed against him for not submitting wealth statement to the now defunct Bureau of Anti-Corruption (Bac) in October 1997.

AUG 21 ATTACK
2 cases shifted to Speedy Trial Tribunal

COURT CORRESPONDENT
The two cases filed in connection with the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League (AL) rally in 2004 were transferred yesterday to a Speedy Trial Tribunal of Dhaka for quick disposal.
The cases were filed for the grenade attacks on the rally on Bangabandhu Avenue that left 23 people dead and around 200 others injured.

The murder case is now pending with the Court of Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge and the grenade attack case

Ex-minister Rafiqul freed on bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Former Awami League (AL) state minister for power and energy Rafiqul Islam was released on bail yesterday.
He came out of the prison cell of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University after being detained for 16 months.
Deputy Inspector General of Prisons Maj Shamsul Haider Siddique told The Daily Star that the former state minister was freed around 2:30pm.
Sources said after his release Rafiqul went to Bangabandhu Memorial Museum in Dhanmondi to place a floral wreath before Bangabandhu's portrait.
Joint forces arrested Rafiqul on May 29 last year under the Emergency Power Rules, 2007.
On August 20, the High Court granted him bail in two corruption cases, including the Niko case in which AL President Sheikh Hasina is the prime accused.

ACC picks 1,766 out of 82,633 complaints

Asks Khoka's son, daughter to submit wealth statements

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) so far found 1,766 complaints valid for investigation out of 82,633 lodged with the commission.
The ACC yesterday issued notices upon Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka's son Ishrak Hossain and daughter Sharika Hossain asking them to submit their wealth statements to the commission. The son and daughter of Khoka did not receive the ACC notices. The commission posted the notices to home of the city mayor yesterday.
Meanwhile, the ACC also approved two charge sheets against two people, including former Khulna City Corporation mayor Kazi Aminul Haque, in cases filed in connection with concealing wealth information to the ACC and amassing wealth beyond known sources of income.
ACC Director General (admin) Col Hanif Iqbal told these to the

press during a routine press briefing yesterday afternoon.
As of August 31, 2008 the three committees formed on December 12 last year to scrutinise complaints lodged with the commission selected the 1,766 complaints in accordance with the ACC Act, 2004.
The ACC also mentioned that only five percent of the total complaints are allowed for the ACC to act upon while 60 percent are regarding land and forged land documents, 20 percent are related to police cases and 15 percent related to family and social affairs.
The ACC teams have made a database of the complaints found worthy of investigation and the commission has already begun working on 51 complaints.
The list of selected complaints include allegations against former LGED additional chief engineer Wahidur Rahman, former Water Development Board (WDB) member Kamruzzaman, former Chittagong Port inspector Abul Boshor Chowdhury, and former

additional deputy inspector general (DIG) of police Shahidullah.
The first and second committees scrutinised 57,156 complaints filed with the commission between November 21, 2004, when the commission was formed, and December 12, 2007. The third committee scrutinised the rest 25,477 complaints filed with the commission after that.
The ACC could not consider all the complaints for investigation as those lacked accurate and specific information. The ACC also mentioned that a number of the allegations were based on enmity rather than facts.
ACC sources said the complaints which were taken into consideration are against government officials including sub-registrars, customs officials and officials from the land department.
The 10 grounds the ACC teams considered while scrutinising the complaints include full address of the complainants and specific and detailed complaints. The ACC

Prof Yunus blasts Telenor ethics in Bangladesh

AFP, Oslo
Norwegian telecom operator Telenor, which recently tightened ethical procedures in Bangladesh, still has sub-contractors there using child labour, Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus charged yesterday.
Telenor was forced to review and strengthen its ethical guidelines after Norwegian media last May revealed deplorable conditions for workers, including children as young as 13, who supply antenna towers to GrameenPhone, one of the Norwegian company's subsidiaries in Bangladesh.
"They promised that now it's cleaned up... So you had hoped that after this lesson they would be very careful... to make sure that it doesn't happen again, but it happened again," Dr Yunus told the news station TV2 Nyheterkanal.
"They are not showing the kind of efficiency you'd be expecting from a company like Telenor," he added.
Telenor owns 62 percent of GrameenPhone, while Yunus' Grameen Bank, with whom he shared the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize



A section of Mirpur Road in front of Dhaka College is occupied by hawkers and rows of parked cars, narrowing down the busy thoroughfare significantly and creating congestion yesterday.

Dhaka seeks Kuwaiti help for Padma Bridge

UNB, Kuwait
Bangladesh yesterday sought Kuwaiti assistance for Padma Bridge and Special Economic Zone for expatriate investments to be set up in Sylhet.
Foreign Adviser Iftekar Ahmed Chowdhury made the request for assistance for the two key projects during a meeting with Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.
The adviser said they also discussed the situation pertaining to the Bangladeshi workers in Kuwait. He expressed the hope that measures taken by the Kuwaiti government will soon be implemented to resolve the problems of Bangladeshi workers.
"We spoke about a number of such steps," he said, adding the Kuwaiti prime minister lauded the contribution of Bangladeshi workers to his country's economy.
He praised the foresightedness of the Kuwaiti leadership that has placed their economy on a firm footing.

Cabinet okays abandoned property ordinance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The Council of Advisers yesterday in principle approved the Bangladesh Abandoned Property Amendment Ordinance to serve as a guideline to manage the confiscation of immovable assets.
The cabinet gave its approval in a meeting of the council of advisers, headed by Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed, last night at the Chief Adviser's Office, a state press release said.
Despite a large number of confiscation orders handed down by special courts dealing with graft cases, lack of specific information



A room at Pangu Hospital vandalised by the students of its physiotherapy department yesterday demanding a separate institute for them.

Lankan troops move to take LTTE capital

AFP, Colombo
Government forces and Tamil separatists were locked in heavy combat in northern Sri Lanka with at least 41 rebels and five soldiers killed in fresh fighting, the defence ministry said yesterday.
At least 30 government soldiers were also wounded following the latest clashes with the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said Wednesday, the ministry said in a statement.
"The LTTE continues to steadily lose manpower as the Sri Lankan security forces continue to advance further into the heart of the LTTE administrative power, Kilinochchi," the ministry said.
"This is a major setback for the terrorists."
The military has said that it wants to dismantle the Tigers' de facto mini-state by capturing the town of Kilinochchi, 330 kilometres (200 miles) north of Colombo.
Government troops were now said to be within striking distance.
The military on Wednesday evening accepted the bodies of 19 soldiers killed by the Tigers during this week's fighting that saw

Clarification

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The authorities of A-One (BD) Ltd sweater factory at Dhaka Export Processing Zone yesterday clarified a report headlined "3 DEPZ factories shut over unrest fear" published in The Daily Star on September 2.
Maj (ret'd) Mizanur Rahman, general manager of the Italian-owned factory, said the factory remained closed for 13 days from August 12 to August 24, and not for an indefinite period, following workers' demand for higher wages.
A clarification issued by him said, "During the period, the factory's Italian chairman was on leave. So, this temporary closure of the factory took place because of lack of decision on the demand of workers. On return of the chairman, the issue of higher wages was resolved, and since August 24, the factory is running smoothly."

Pak govt protests US-led assault

Zardari asserts Pakistan stands with US against terrorism
AP, Islamabad
The Pakistani government has summoned the US ambassador to protest the incursion, which officials said killed at least 15 people, including civilians.
The US-led cross-border attack in Pakistani territory -- was the first known foreign ground assault in Pakistan against a Taliban haven.
Meanwhile, presidential candidate Asif Ali Zardari wrote in a column appearing yesterday that Pakistan stands with the US against international terrorism.
The parliament passed resolutions condemning an American-led attack in Pakistani territory after the government summoned the US ambassador to protest the unusually bold raid.
The criticism grew two days before Asif Ali Zardari is expected to be chosen as president in a vote by legislators. A spokesman said Zardari condemned Wednesday's pre-dawn assault in the South Waziristan tribal region the first known foreign ground assault in Pakistan against a Taliban haven. But Zardari also said Pakistan stands with the US against international terrorism.

TAC HEARING
Businessman confesses to ill-gotten wealth

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A businessman confessed to ill-gotten wealth worth Tk 4.70 crore before the Truth and Accountability Commission (TAC) yesterday.
TAC sources said the textile businessman did not pay tax for the ill-gotten money.
He however claimed he paid Tk 11 crore in tax on other incomes last year.
With yesterday's disclosure, 27 people, 26 of them are government officials, have so far confessed to illegal property.
The TAC yesterday held hearing of seven other corruption suspects

Sehri, Iftar timings			
Ramadan	Sep	Sehri	Iftar
4	5	6-16	
5	6	4-21	6-15
6	7	4-21	6-14

Prayer Timing		
September 5		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-20	4-26
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-16	6-26
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

Students vandalise Pangu Hospital

Physiotherapy students go on rampage demanding separate institute; 35 hurt
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Students of physiotherapy department of the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) went on a rampage yesterday, ransacking classrooms, doctors' chambers and administrative offices demanding a separate institute for them.
The authorities suspended all physiotherapy classes and exams for an indefinite period and asked the students to leave the campus.
Police and Rab detained 15 students and physiotherapy course coordinator Humayun Kabir on charges of vandalism.
The students clashed with hospital employees leaving at least 35 people including 25 students injured.
The hour-long violence from 10:30am spread panic among the patients.
The students damaged furniture and windowpanes in at least 20 classrooms, doctor chambers, administrative offices and medicine storeroom.
The clash began after physiotherapy students went to Nitor Director AKM Eshaque to file an application in the morning.
The director said the students started vandalising classrooms after locking the institute's main gate.
They also tried to force him into signing an application to the health secretary for a separate physiotherapy college, he claimed.
"Doctors, hospital staff and patients' relatives tried to stop the students who were aided by outsiders," he said, adding that one doctor and 10 staff received minor injuries.
On the government's earmarking Tk 30 crore for a physiotherapy hospital, the Nitor director said, "Is it possible to set up a college when the land for it is yet to be acquired and the curriculum designed?"
A patient's attendant said staff and nurses chased and later beat up the rampaging students. Officer-in-charge of Tejgaon Police Station also gave the same version.
The students, however, blamed the vandalism on third- and fourth-class employees.
"We went to file our demand with the academic council on Wednesday. The director asked us to write an application to the health secretary through him. Accordingly, we went to his office at 8:00am today," an injured student told The Daily Star at Dhaka

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

পবিত্র রজমানে ইফতার, তারাবী ও সেহরীকালীন সময়ে বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ পরিস্থিতি

পবিত্র রমজান মাসে রাত্রিকালীন বিদ্যুৎ পরিস্থিতি উন্নতির লক্ষ্যে বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন বাড়ানোর পদক্ষেপ নেয়া হয়েছে। এর ফলে বিদ্যমান গ্যাস ঘাটতি সত্ত্বেও গত ৩রা সেপ্টেম্বর সর্বোচ্চ ৩৭৫৭ মেগাওয়াট বিদ্যুৎ উৎপাদন করা হয়েছে। যা অব্যবহিত পূর্ববর্তী সপ্তাহের যে কোন দিনের তুলনায় প্রায় ৪০০ মেগাওয়াট বেশী। এতদসত্ত্বেও ইফতার, তারাবী ও সেহরীর সময় বিদ্যুতের চাহিদা বিপুল পরিমাণ বৃদ্ধির কারণে দেশের সর্বত্র লোড-শেডিং করতে হচ্ছে। এ জন্য বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগ সম্মানিত গ্রাহকদের কাছে আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখ প্রকাশ করছে।

কোন বিশেষ এলাকার গ্রাহকগণ যাতে মাত্রাতিরিক্ত লোড-শেডিং এর আওতায় না আসেন সেজন্য লোড-শেডিং-এর শিডিউল প্রণয়ন এবং তা কঠোরভাবে প্রতিপালনে সর্বোচ্চ নজরদারি নিশ্চিত করা হয়েছে। ধর্মপ্রাণ রোজাদারদের সুবিধার্থে ইফতার, তারাবী এবং সেহরীর সময় প্রয়োজনের অতিরিক্ত বৈদ্যুতিক বাতি, এয়ারকুলার এবং যাবতীয় বৈদ্যুতিক যন্ত্রপাতি ব্যবহার থেকে বিরত থেকে সীমিত বিদ্যুতের সর্বোত্তম ব্যবহার নিশ্চিত করার কার্যক্রমে সহায়তা করার জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগ