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TRANSCOM ELECTRONICS

21 more fake students found at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

The fact-finding committee on admission forgery at Dhaka University (DU) has identified 21 more fake students who got admitted to the university through fraudulent means.

With the latest findings, the total cases of admission forgery at the university now stand at 231. Earlier, a university probe committee detected 210 such cases.

As per the recommendations of the fact-finding committee, the DU syndicate yesterday decided to issue show-cause notices to the 21 students asking them to answer why their admissions would not be cancelled.

DU authorities formed the probe committee on October 10, 2006 in the wake of allegations of inconsistencies in the admission papers of 11 students of the public administration department of 2004-2005 academic session.

Huji eyes JS polls, starts operating in new name

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

Banned Islamist militant outfit Harkatul Jihad al Islami (Huji), comprised of Afghan war veterans, has started activities across the country to take part in the next parliamentary polls under a new name.

Huji leaders under the banner of Islamic Democratic Party (IDP) gathered for an iftar party in a Rajshahi community centre in Shalbagh on September 8 claiming to be in negotiations with the government for holding political programmes openly.

Even though they claimed that they are not involved in any criminal or anti-state activities, they admitted that their organisation

began from Huji. They said they are still in Jihad as before in Afghanistan but the Jihad is for "rebuilding the country by promoting true democracy".

They said two top Huji founders—Mufti Abdus Salam and Rahmatullah alias Shaikh Farid—are president and secretary of the party. They collected the application form for getting IDP registered with the Election Commission for participating in the next general elections. They already formed fully-fledged IDP committees in 42 districts and in all thanas of Dhaka city to that end. They have begun renting offices in districts and forming committees and organising activists in 300 upazilas across the country.

The government so far has made no visible effort to arrest Huji kingpins since banning the outfit in October, 2005.

Several police and intelligence officials said even though Huji has been banned, they have never received any instructions from the government to launch any drive against Huji leaders and activists.

HUJI'S RAJSHAHI TOUR
The IDP launched organisational tours in northern part of the country from September 6. They held meetings in towns and upazilas of Chapainawabganj, Rajshahi and Rangpur.

Local law enforcement agencies were learnt to be ignorant about Huji gatherings, in the name of IDP.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

EC ready to hold upazila polls in phases

Election Commissioner Sohul asserts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Election Commissioner Sohul Hossain yesterday said the Election Commission (EC) is ready to hold the upazila elections in phases and the national election in due course.

Within a day or two the EC will declare the probable dates for upazila elections that might be held towards the end of October since the election must take place at least 45 days after the announcement of the schedule, he said.

He was addressing a view-exchange meeting on the preparations for the upazila and the national polls with the government officials of Sylhet division at the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

No major repair in decade

ROADS UNCARED FOR 3

HELEMU ALAM

The condition of the road stretching from Bijoy Nagar water tank to Arambagh has to be seen to be believed.

The bumpy road is full of potholes, which make it especially when it rains -- a host for potential accidents.

The box culvert road was constructed in the early 1990s over a culvert in the area. It never saw any major repairs since then.

Bad weather and traffic both contributed to the deterioration of the road, turning it from bad to worse, and from worse to inde-

scribable. Azad, a resident of Segunbaghicha, who often commutes through this road on way to work, says that he often gets down from the rickshaw through this stretch of his way, especially after heavy showers.

"It is risky to ride through as one can't make out the depth of the potholes and a disaster could happen at any moment," he said.

Only two days ago while travelling through this road, Azad averted injury by jumping off the rickshaw as its wheel got stuck in a large hole on the road.

Amir Hossain, a rickshaw puller of the area, said it takes more than double the usual energy needed to pull rickshaw through this road even in dry

weather. During the rains, the situation only gets tougher.

"I have seen many rickshaws trip when their wheels get stuck in the ditches, especially after a heavy shower," he says.

Residents of the area, who endure these troubles day in and day out, blame the authorities for negligence in repairing the dilapidated road at Puranapattan ward-36.

Nuru Mia, a 40-year-old resident of the area, said he does not remember any repairs of the road since its construction in the 1990s. To add to the residents' trouble, the street lamps on this stretch don't work.

Chief Engineer of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakha (Rajuk)

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



Vehicles try to avoid potholes of the muddy Arambagh-Bijoy Nagar Road in the city. The deep potholes have caused several accidents.

PHOTO: STAR

LTTE warns of 'genocide'

UN agencies start pullout of northern Lanka

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers yesterday accused the government of planning a genocidal campaign against Tamils as UN agencies began pulling out of the rebel-held Wanni regions in the island's north.

UN agencies began pulling out of the region on Friday after Colombo said it could not guarantee the safety of aid workers as troops pushed towards the Wanni region, which comprises Kilinochchi and Mullattivu districts.

People in Kilinochchi have protested the departure of UN agencies from the Wanni region, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said in statement through its peace secretariat.

Residents had gathered outside the offices of the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the World Food Programme from early Friday, said the rebels, who are fighting for autonomy in the island's north and east since 1972.

They were "demanding that the agencies should stay behind and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Edible oil, onion prices ease in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Prices of essential commodities came down significantly in both wholesale and retail markets in Chittagong in the past two weeks.

Wholesale prices of branded and non-brand soya bean and palm oils dropped by Tk 150-300 per maund (37.32 kg) during the time, in keeping with a price fall on the international market.

At Khatunganj wholesale market, a maund of palm oil sold for Tk 2,400 yesterday, down from Tk 2,700 two weeks back.

Super palm oil was selling at Tk 2,550 a maund, a decrease

from Tk 2,800.

Soya bean oil prices ranged between Tk 3,650 and Tk 3,680, down from Monday's Tk 3,800.

The price fall on the wholesale market trickled into the retail market too.

Non-brand soya bean oil was selling at Tk 100-104 per kg yesterday which sold for Tk 112 two days back on Thursday.

Palm oil also came down to Tk 68 a kg, from Tk 76 a week back. Super palm oil was selling at Tk 75 a kg, down from Tk 96 three days ago.

The prices of branded soya bean oil also fell after manufacturers

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Afghan governor killed in blast

AFP, Paghman

An Afghan provincial governor and three others were killed yesterday in a bomb attack near Kabul claimed by Taliban rebels and condemned by President Hamid Karzai.

Mohammad Jan Abdullah Wardak, governor of Logar province and a former cabinet minister, died as the remote-controlled blast struck his vehicle near his home in Paghman, about 20km west of the capital.

The long-time Taliban opponent was the second provincial governor to be murdered since the

Islamists were removed from power in 2001 and started their insurgency.

President Hamid Karzai condemned the incident, which also killed two bodyguards and a driver, blaming it on "terrorists."

"President Karzai was deeply saddened after learning about the death of governor Abdullah Wardak at the hands of terrorists," Karzai's office said in a statement.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack which left Wardak's four-wheel-drive a mangled wreck.

"It was a remote-controlled

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

US ATTACK ON MILITANT TARGETS

Pak opposition threatens an end to war on terror

AP, Islamabad

The furore has intensified over Washington's decision to pursue Islamic militant targets inside Pakistan, with opposition lawmakers threatening the country could pull out of the war on terror if the US refuses to respect its borders.

About 100 protesters burned American flags after the latest missile attack left at least 12 people dead in the North Waziristan region of the troubled northwest. Residents said they heard the sound of propeller-driven US Predator drones circling overhead before the explosions.

Pakistan's government and military have issued stiff protests to Washington over the recent rash of cross-border strikes, although the

approved more aggressive cross-border operations in July, current and former American officials have told The Associated Press.

Since Aug. 13, there have been at least seven reported missile strikes as well as a raid by helicopter-borne US commandos that Pakistani officials claim killed 15 civilians in tribally governed territory where the government has little control. The frontier region is considered a likely hiding place for Osama bin Laden and his deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Pakistan's government and military have issued stiff protests to Washington over the recent rash of cross-border strikes, although the

criticism appeared to be mostly rhetoric aimed at soothing domestic anger, given that Pakistan has few options for stronger action.

Domestic media have criticised the government for not reacting more strongly, even suggesting the public criticism is just lip service and that a secret deal has been reached with Pakistan's leadership allowing cross-border incursions.

Pakistan army chief Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani has denied that and vowed to protect the country's sovereignty "at all cost."

Leaders, including new President Asif Ali Zardari, have reiterated their commitment to

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

JS sub-jails still guarded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jail guards continue to be deployed at the two much-talked-about sub-jails on the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises despite release of the two former prime ministers who were detained there.

Contacted last night, Deputy Inspector General (prisons) Maj Shamsul Haider Siddique said eight jail guards are deployed there, four each in the two buildings. Besides, police are on duty there.

"The sub-jails were established on government orders. So, a government decision is needed for any changes in this regard," he said.

Of the two top leaders, Awami League President Sheikh Hasina was released from the sub-jail on June 11 and BNP Chairperson Khaleida Zia on September 11.

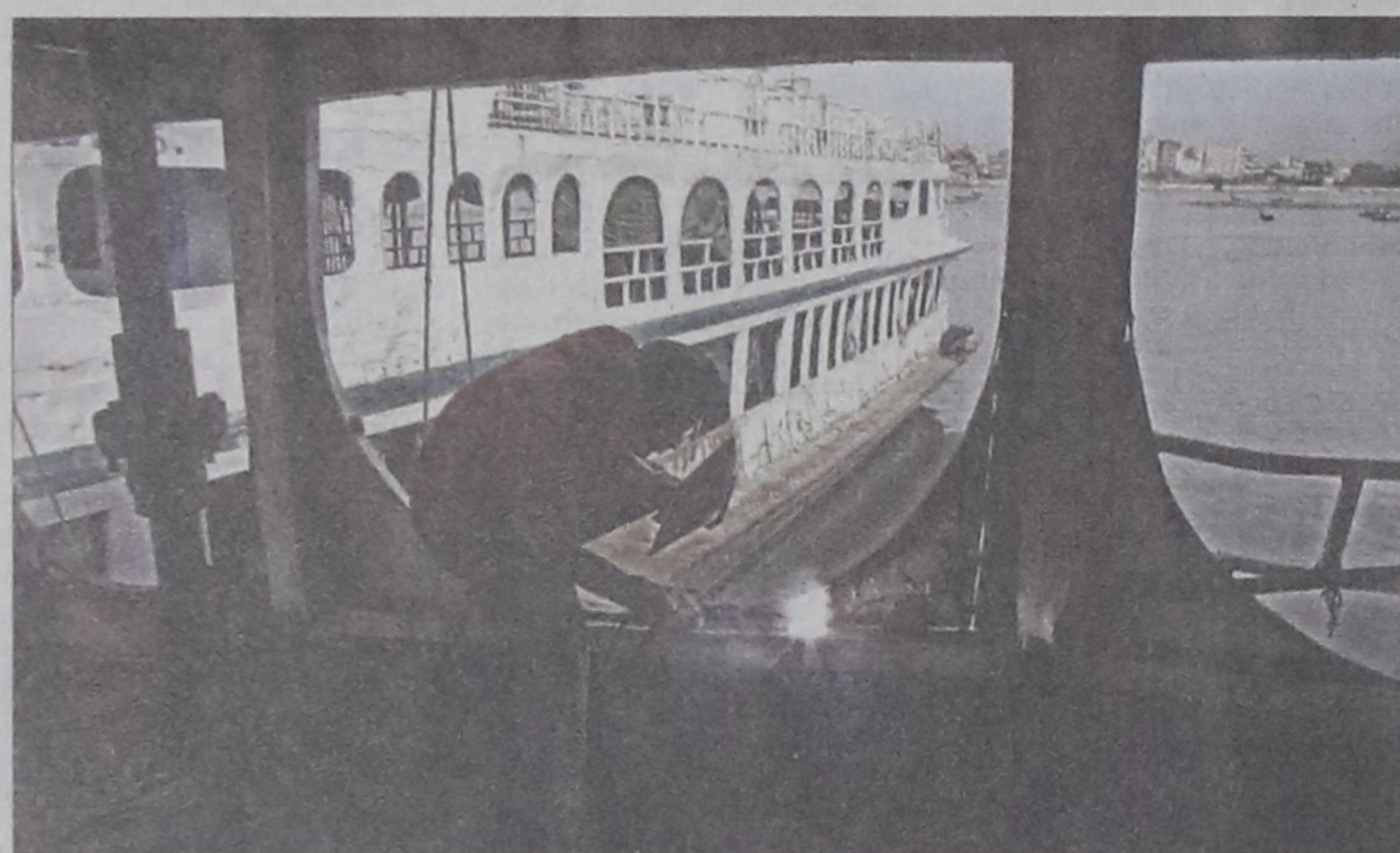
Sehri, Iftar timings

Ramadan	Sep	Sehri	Iftar
13	14		6-07
14	15	4-24	6-06
15	16	4-25	6-05

Prayer Timing

September 14		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-24	4-30
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-07	6-17
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation



Old and fragile launches being repaired at Keraniganj on the Buriganga yesterday as launch owners try to make the vessels seaworthy ahead of the Eid mad rush.

PHOTO: STAR

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