

Mosharraf's million found in UK vaults

- * Money laundering probe in UK
- * Ex-minister claims his 1969-75 study time earning swelled astronomically
- * But account opened in 2003
- * Wife's house found in Kent

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

BNP leader and former minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, his wife and a son have huge wealth in the British Isles, found investigators in the United Kingdom.

Mosharraf and his wife Bilquis Aktar Hossain have one million pounds in a joint account with Lloyds TSB Bank in Guernsey, a Crown dependency in the English Channel.

said a source here citing findings of a probe by the Proceeds of Corruption Unit of London's Metropolitan Police.

However, in a wealth statement to the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Mosharraf said he and his wife have £250,000 with the Lloyds Bank.

Mosharraf submitted his wealth statement to the anti-graft body in June 2007, just a month before the Met opened the money laundering

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PHOTO: STAR
Housewife turned businesswoman Bilquis Aktar Hossain has more money than her husband former BNP minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain.

CLIENT NAME: Mr K M + Mrs B A Hossain

We refer to your existing fixed term deposit with us, and confirm that it has been refixed for a further period, the details of which are below:

Amount	: GBP	853,573.37
Start Date	: 22 MAY 2003	
Maturity Date	: 22 MAY 2004	
Interest at Maturity	: GBP	28,311.72
Interest Rate Per Annum	: 2.92%	

Settlement of Principal : We have credited your account 10849207

Amount of Repayment	: GBP	727,733.18
Value Date	: 22 MAY 2003	

Over Tk 1cr brought back at taskforce initiative

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

BNP standing committee member and former minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain brought back 76,282.07 pounds (equivalent to about Tk 1.04 crore) from the UK at the initiative of now-defunct taskforces.

The military-backed caretaker government cracked down on high-profile graft suspects in February 2007 and Mosharraf was arrested within a few months.

Sources say he brought back the money when the army-led taskforces under the National Coordination Committee to combat corruption and serious crime found his wealth stashed in the UK.

Contacted over phone, Mosharraf told The Daily Star Saturday evening he brought back the money with the help of the taskforces.

He however could not SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

BNP aspirant given right voter numbers

Finds EC probe into Naogaon-6 controversy

SHAKHAWAT LITON

An investigation by the Election Commission (EC) revealed yesterday that the BNP nominee in Naogaon-6 constituency in the recent parliamentary election had been provided with the flawless result sheet of Gahelapur High School polling station showing no sign of vote rigging there.

The investigation was sparked by BNP's recent public accusation of not only vote rigging in that polling station, but also of such a shoddy rigging that the total number of votes cast in that station came out to be more than the total number of voters of that centre.

The presiding officer of the centre mentioned in the correct result sheet the accurate number of total voters to be 4,091, of whom 3,845 cast their votes.

Polling agents of both BNP and AL candidates signed the sheet and received copies of it as well.

BNP candidate Anwar Hossain however overlooked the result sheet provided by the presiding officer of the polling station, and instead relied on the consolidated result sheet of the entire constituency, which had been prepared by the returning officer who had copied the total number of voters of that station from the gazette of polling stations, in which the number had been printed wrong.

The gazette erroneously mentioned that the total number of voters of that centre was 3,768, while the real figure was 4,091. SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

BCL antics irk AL top brass

PM issues warning; BCL central body to be dissolved

HASAN JAHD TUSHER and NAJMUL ALAM NOBIN

The Awami League (AL) high command might soon dissolve the central committee of its associate body Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) in the wake of recent series of violence at several educational institutions across the country.

The party high-ups are extremely annoyed with the recent BCL activities and the move may come immediately after the upazilla parishad elections, sources said.

Party insiders said the violence occurred as the BCL chain of command collapsed completely over establishing supremacy on the campus. A total lack of coordination among the rank and file of the student body is also there following expiry of all its committees including the central one, they added.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is utterly unhappy with the activities of Chhatra League and will take stern action against those responsible for such activities," AL Presidium member and Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury said yesterday.

Terming the violent activities of the BCL "totally undesirable", she told The Daily Star that the PM has already issued a warning to the party.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 6

CU unlocked after 2 days

CU CORRESPONDENT

Authorities of Chittagong University (CU) early today broke open the locks on the university main gate and faculty buildings ending a two-day siege of the campus by activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League.

The university administration accompanied by police broke the locks open around 12:30am. Chhatra League locked the main gate and faculty buildings early Saturday demanding resignation of CU Vice-chancellor Prof Badiul Alam.

CU Chhatra League President Abul Mansur Jamshed said they did not resist the locks being taken off as "the party" did not want this. He said they would declare further agitation programmes to realise their demands around noon today.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Gunshots test Gaza truce

Death toll crosses 1,300 as 95 bodies pulled out of rubble

AGENCIES, Gaza City

Israeli troops and Hamas fighters traded their first shots yesterday, puncturing a tenuous truce in Gaza, as dozens of bodies were pulled from the rubble after Israel halted its war on Hamas.

As militants fired rockets and Israel launched retaliatory air strikes, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert warned the unilateral ceasefire Israel had begun hours earlier was fragile and was being constantly reassessed.

"The government's decision allows Israel to respond and renew the fire if our enemy in the Gaza Strip continues its strikes," he said at the start of the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem.

"This morning they again proved that the ceasefire is fragile and it has to be reassessed on a minute by minute basis," he said. "We hope that the fire ends. If it continues, the IDF (Israeli Defence Forces) will respond."

Earlier a leader of the militant Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip says his group and Hamas have agreed to stop attacks on Israelis for a week, following Israel's declaration of a unilateral cease-fire.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Hasina seeks more US investment

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the United States to invest in Bangladesh in larger volume and laid emphasis on more US cooperation in energy and power sectors.

The request came when US SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Khaleda talks to top leaders on JS strategy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia held a meeting at her Gulshan office last night with BNP's top leaders to discuss party strategy in the opening session of the ninth parliament on January 25.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



AL's crime dons show up at HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five former Awami League (AL) lawmakers and the Jatiya Party (Manju) chief appeared before the court for bail yesterday, but only godfather HBM Iqbal was granted bail, although all were convicted of similar graft offences.

The High Court bench of Justice Mir Hasmat Ali and Justice SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

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