

No session, nojournalist

Speaker imposes IS ban

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Security personnel at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban did not allow journalists inside the parliament building on "instructions from the speaker".

A number of newsmen, who went to cover meetings of the housing committee and other special committees, found it difficult to cover the events yesterday afternoon.

Although the newsmen showed accreditation cards and special passes issued to sessions, they were obstructed at the entrance. Security personnel said they did not have permission to allow journalists inside.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Overseas jobs on the wane

Demands go down sharply for global meltdown

PORIMOL PALMA

Overseas employment has come down sharply in recent times as many Bangladeshi workers are losing jobs abroad because of the global economic meltdown, which is unlikely to create pressure on the country's domestic employment.

them for covering parliament | following Wednesday's ILO report that global unemployment in 2009 could increase over that of 2007 by a range of 18 million to 30 million workers, and more than 50 million if the recession continues to deteriorate.

A total of 44,378 Bangladeshis got jobs abroad last December and 46,267 till January 27

while 75,516 workers joined overseas jobs | Commission (EC) secretariat monthly on an average in 11 months of 2008, according to the statistics of the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET).

This declining rate of overseas employment is unlikely to dip further in the coming months as Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), which were the main destinations of This apprehension has increased more Bangladeshi workers in last two years, have already reduced the number of hiring Bangladeshi workers.

Malaysia hired only 6,701 workers last | nee for the country's presi-December and 5,694 till January 27, indicating decrease in recruitment. The country hired 11,369 Bangladeshi workers monthly on an

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

PRESIDENTIAL POLLS Zillur collects

form

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nomination form for veteran Awami League (AL) leader Zillur Rahman has been collected from Election for contesting country's presidential election to be held on February 16.

Chief Whip Abdus Shahid collected the form from EC Additional Secretary Rafiqul Islam yesterday afternoon.

The AL-led grand alliance has already proposed Zillur Rahman's name as its nomi-

Secretariat that he would go

Govt focuses on reaching Boro goal

Takes steps at key level to increase production &

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government last week sent two letters to the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) cancelling leave of officials at all levels till March to help achieve the production target of 1.8 crore tonnes of rice in the Boro season.

High officials at the agriculture ministry said a bumper harvest of Boro, Aus and Aman could be yielded earlier as the immediate past caretaker government laid emphasis on rice production after cyclone Sidr.

Being inspired by the success, the new government has already taken several steps to increase Boro production.

The government directed the officials at the Shahid told reporters at EC | head office to intensify field-level monitoring through spot visits in 64 districts on workdays. SEE PAGE 15 COL 7 and weekly holidays.

Officers at regional offices will have to pay field level visits regularly and keep the higher

authorities apprised. It directed the authorities concerned to ensure that the officials at district and upazila levels stay at their workplaces and also withheld the permission to leave workplaces till March.

The government also asked the DAE officials and employees to work sincerely and provide farmers with all necessary assistance and service to boost Boro production.

It also stressed the need for making quality fertilisers available to farmers timely at subsi-

dised prices. About 1.40 to 1.45 crore tonnes of boro is produced normally in a season in the country.

The immediate past caretaker government SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

HUNGER STRIKE IN CTG

Binod Bihari asks all to unite, save 2 schools

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Civil society members observed a two-hour token hunger strike yesterday in front of two reputed schools in protest at Chittagong City Corporation's (CCC) plan to demolish those and construct a 16-story building there to house the schools along other commercial establishments.

Civil society members vowed to save those two reputed girls' schools--Aparna Charan City Corporation Girls' High School and Krishna Kumari City Corporation Girls' High School--and urged people to raise their voice against the mindless move of the CCC.

Meanwhile, CCC Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury remained stubbornly unyield-



ing in his decision to build a Veteran revolutionary Binod Bihari Chowdhury speaks during a two-hour token hunger strike observed yesterday by civil society mem-SEE PAGE 2 COL 5 bers in protest of a decision by Chittagong City Corporation's (CCC) to demolish two schools.

civilians in Lanka

Red Cross officials were in negotiations yesterday with Sri

Lankan Tamil rebels to evacuate more wounded as the island's

Eelam) to ensure safe passage for many more patients that need

urgent medical attention," ICRC spokeswoman Sarasi Wijeratne

the conflict and others suffering from heart ailments and other

conditions might be brought out of Puthukkudiriruppu which

She would not say how many patients "critically wounded" in

"We are negotiating with the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil

Troops press for victory

military kept up its push to crush the separatist forces.

lies behind LTTE front lines in Mullaittivu district.

AFP, Colombo

told AFP.

Thailand frees UN seeks safety of 62 detained Rohingyas

AFP, Bangkok

Thai prison officials released 62 Rohingya migrants being held in detention in southern Ranong province Saturday, handing them over to immigration authorities for deportation.

The adult Muslim migrants were among a group of 78 discovered off the coast of Surin island in the Andaman sea on Monday night and detained for trying to enter Thailand illegally.

"We handed over 62 people who just completed their sentences. Immigration have to wait for doctors' permission to release four more who are in hospital," having wounds tended to, Ranong's governor Wanchart Wongchaich ana told AFP.

The United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) met with 12 teenagers who form the rest of the group on Thursday but refused to comment on their condition out of "courtesy" to Thai authorities.

The Rohingya are stateless and face religious and ethnic persecution from Myanmar's military regime, forcing thousands of them to take to rickety boats each year in a bid to escape poverty and oppression, and head to Malaysia.

But Myanmar's junta denies the existence of the Rohingya as an ethnic group in the mainly Buddhist country and claims the migrants are Bangladeshis.

Immigration authorities said Saturday they did not know where the group would be deported to.

"Normally under the law these people would be deported out of Thai territory after serving their sentence, but this is a special case so we have to wait for government instruction," an immigration police officer in Ranong told AFP.

On Friday, leading human rights group Amnesty SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

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An idol of the Hindu goddess Saraswati is floated on the river in a boat decorated as a swan at Jagannath Hall during Saraswati puja festivities yesterday.

CONTROL OF ZIA CAR PARK Jubo League

Sramik Leaguers

men attack

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Juba League activists attacked

Sramik League men at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) yesterday to take control of the car park there, leaving three injured and causing panic among people.

A group of 25, mostly workers of local Juba League, youth wing of ruling Awami League (AL), used sticks and lethal weapons in the assault on those of Sramik League, SEE PAEG 15 COL 8

Govt surely to try war criminals

Reaffirms home minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League (AL) government will not only try war criminals but also pulverize all anti-liberation forces from the society, said the Home Minister Sahara Khatun yesterday. "Our government will

definitely hold the trial of war criminals," she said at a reception accorded to her by Bangladesh Mahila Samity in the city at the Samity's SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Prayer Timing February 1		
Fajr	5-30	6-05
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrib	5-52	5-56
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

JMB worry at Dhaka jail

Authorities fear 'subversive' act

KAILASH SARKAR

Dhaka Central Jail authorities are apprehending that the banned militant outfit Jam'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and other linked groups may be trying to carry out "subversive' acts within the jail premises to embarrass the government.

Towhidul Islam, senior superintendent of the jail, told The Daily Star that acting on specific reports received from intelligence sources on the matter, they have taken actions to avert the

A cultural programme inside the jail, scheduled for January 29, was cancelled a day earlier for the same reason, he said.

State minister for home Tanzim Ahmed Sohel was supposed to attend the the programme.

Over 100 prisoners from 67 jails across the country were scheduled to perform in the cultural programme at Dhaka Central Jail. Jail authorities have already sent back the prisoners gathered at the central jail on the occasion, sources said.

Sources said the tension began after unrest between the jail SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Russia's Dinara Safina 6-0, 6-3 to win her fourth Australian Open title Saturday, bringing her total Grand Slam tally to 10 in one of the most one-sided deciders ever. SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Serena Williams thrashed

Serena wins

4th Aussie

Open

AFP, Melbourne

রাজউক ভবন, ঢাকা www.rajukdhaka.gov.bd e-mail: cmrajuk@yahoo.com

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, কতিপয় বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানী/রিয়েল এস্টেট ডেভেলপার দৈনিক পত্র-পত্রিকা, টেলিভিশন চ্যানেল, বিলবোর্ড ও অন্যান্য প্রচার মাধ্যমে তাদের বিভিন্ন প্রস্তাবিত প্রকল্পের প্রট/ফ্ল্যাট বরাদ্দের বিজ্ঞাপণ প্রচার এবং প্রকল্প এলাকায় অবৈধভাবে মাটি ভরাটসহ অন্যান্য উনুয়ন কর্মকান্ত পরিচালনা করছে। রাজউক কর্তৃক প্রকল্প অনুমোদিত না হওয়া সত্ত্বেও বিজ্ঞাপণ প্রচার করা এবং মাটি ভরাটসহ উনুয়ন কর্মকান্ড পরিচালনা বিধিবহির্ভৃত।

বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানী প্রকল্প অনুমোদন সংক্রান্ত নম্বর উল্লেখ না করে কেবল রাজউকের উদ্যোক্তা হিসেবে নিবন্ধীকরণ নম্বর দিয়ে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রচার করে জনসাধারণকে বিভ্রান্ত করছে। এ প্রসংগে উল্লেখ্য, বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানী রাজউক কর্তৃক নিবন্ধিত হলেই তা সংশ্লিষ্ট হাউজিং প্রকল্পের অনুমোদন বুঝায় না। ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন ডেভেলপমেন্ট প্ল্যান ১৯৯৫-२०১৫ এর আওতাধীন এলাকার মধ্যে কোন বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানী/রিয়েল এস্টেট ডেভেলপার তাদের প্রকল্প অনুমোদন বা সম্প্রসারণের ক্ষেত্রে "বেসরকারি আবাসিক প্রকল্পের ভূমি উনুয়ন বিধিমালা-২০০৪"/ "রিয়েল এস্টেট উনুয়ন ও ব্যবস্থাপনা অধ্যাদেশ, ২০০৮" মোতাবেক অনুমোদন বাধ্যতামূলক।

যে সকল বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানী/রিয়েল এস্টেট ডেভেলপার তাদের প্রকল্প অনুমোদন বা সম্প্রসারণের জন্য ইতিমধ্যে আবেদন করেছে সরকার কর্তৃক জারিকৃত "বেসরকারি আবাসিক প্রকল্পের ভূমি উনুয়ন বিধিমালা-২০০৪"/"রিয়েল এস্টেট উনুয়ন ও ব্যবস্থাপনা অধ্যাদেশ, ২০০৮" মোতাবেক যথায়থ কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক অনুমোদন না হওয়া পর্যন্ত ঐ সকল প্রকল্প এলাকায় বা প্রকল্পের প্রস্তাবিত সম্প্রসারিত এলাকায় কোন প্রট/ফ্র্যাট বিক্রয়ের লক্ষে পত্রিকা, রেডিও, টেলিভিশন ও অন্যান্য প্রচার মাধ্যমে কোন রকম বিজ্ঞণ্ডি প্রদান বা প্রচার করতে পারে না। যারা এ ধরণের কাজ করছে তাদেরকে এহেন অবৈধ কাজ থেকে বিরত থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে। ইতিমধ্যে যারা প্রকল্প সংক্রান্ত বিলবোর্ড/সাইনবোর্ড স্থাপন করেছে, তাদেরকে অনতিবিলম্বে নিজ উদ্যোগে তা অপসারণ এবং অবৈধভাবে বন্যা প্লাবিত এলাকা/প্রাকৃতিক জলাশয়ে মাটি ভরাটের কার্যক্রম থেকে বিরত থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। অন্যথায় বিলবোর্ড/সাইনবোর্ড অপসারণসহ অবৈধভাবে মাটি ভরাটের কার্যক্রম বন্ধকল্পে প্রাকৃতিক জলাধার সংরক্ষণ আইন, २००० जनुयाग्री जारेनानुग वावञ्चा धर्ण कता रत । উल्लिश, रेमानिः लक्षा कता यास्ट त्य, विভिन्न স্থানে আবাসন মেলা উপলক্ষে অননুমোদিত আবাসিক প্রকল্পের পুট/ফ্র্যাট বিক্রয়ের বিজ্ঞাপণ প্রচারিত হচ্ছে যা বিধিবহির্ভূত।

বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানী/রিয়েল এস্টেট ডেভেলপার এর নিকট হতে পুট/ফ্র্যাট ক্রয়ের পূর্বে সংশ্লিষ্ট প্রকল্পের অনুমোদন আছে কিনা তা অবশ্যই যাচাই করে নেয়ার জন্য এবং অননুমোদিত বেসরকারি হাউজিং কোম্পানী/রিয়েল এস্টেট ডেভেলপার এর নিকট হতে পুট/ফ্র্যাট ক্রয় না কারার জন্য জনসাধারণকে অনুরোধ করা যাচেছ।

এ সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি জনস্বার্থে প্রচার করা হলো।

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