

## CABINET COMMITTEE OKAYS SEVEN PROPOSALS

## 104 apartments to be built for selling to civil servants

UNB, Dhaka

The government will build 104 flats at Lalmatia Housing Estate in the city for selling those to the civil servants.

Cabinet Committee on Public Purchase yesterday approved this project to be implemented by the Rajdhani Unnayan Kartikakkha (Rajuk) at a cost of Tk 39.17 crore. Each of the apartments will be 1250 square feet (sqf).

Housing and Public Works Ministry placed the proposal to

the committee presided over by the Finance Minister AMA Muhith.

The committee also approved seven purchase proposals. Of those, the Housing and Public Works Ministry placed three tender proposals of the Rajuk for earth feeling, road construction and construction of bridges at the Uttara Model Town Housing project under third phase programme.

The project titled Chittagong Port Trade Facilitation funded by the

construction will cost Tk 45.39 crore and bridge construction will cost Tk 45.19 crore.

The committee gave nod to the shipping ministry's contract awarding proposal for installation of Computerised Container Terminal Management System (CTMS) and Management Information System (MIS) at Chittagong Port.

The project titled Chittagong Port Trade Facilitation funded by the

Asian Development Bank (ADB) will cost Tk 63.59 crore.

The selected bidder will have to provide one year warranty and four years maintenance service facility to the project under the contract.

The communication ministry's proposal for consultant appointment at a cost of Tk 38.38 crore for the JICA-funded Dhaka-Chittagong Railway Improvement project and the LGRD ministry's proposal for small water resources development project at Mymensingh, Sylhet and Faridpur area also obtained the approval of the committee.

Cabinet Secretary Abdul Aziz briefed the reporters about decisions of the purchase committee.

## Tension mounts as BSF resumes fencing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

The India border guards yesterday resumed erecting barbed wire fencing along their side opposite the Monipur camp in Dinajpur and BDR personnel resisted the efforts.

Sources said the BDR jawans are performing their duties without high officials.

Tension is mounting between Indian Border Security Force (BSF) and BDR men as India wants to exploit the worse crisis passing Bangladesh.

Local people said 69 BSF Battalion of Amulia camp resumed constructing a ring road to erect barbed wire fence 150 metre inside no-man's-land at Kamdevpur village under the camp on Saturday.

## REAPPOINTMENT OF 10 ADDL JUDGES SC verdict on leave to appeal today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) will deliver its verdict today on the leave to appeal filed by 29 sitting High Court judges against the HC verdict directing the government to reappoint 10 additional judges with seniority.

The matter has been enlisted in today's cause list of the apex court, sources said.

The 10 additional judges were appointed during the previous Awami League government but their appointment was not confirmed during the rule of BNP-Jamaat alliance government.

Later, 10 other HC judges became party along with the 19 judges against the HC verdict.

After concluding the hearing on the appeal on February 26, the five-member full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice MM Ruhul Amin fixed March 2 (today) as the date for delivering the order.

On July 29 last year, the SC upon separate petitions filed by then caretaker government and 19 HC judges stayed the HC judgement and asked the petitioners to file regular leave to appeal with the SC against the HC judgement.

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## AUG 21 GRENADE ATTACK CASES Next hearing Mar 5

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday recorded statements of three more prosecution witnesses in connection with the August 21 grenade attack cases.

Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 Judge Mohammad Masdar Hossain recorded the statements of Mizanul Islam, Zahirul Islam and Motiab Hossain. Later, they were cross-examined by defence lawyers.

The court then fixed March 5 as the date for next hearing of the cases and summoned seven other witnesses to appear before it on the day.

In his statement, Mizanul told the court that on August 21, 2004, he learned that his brother-in-law Haji Abdul Kalam Azad was injured in the grenade attacks on an Awami League (AL) rally at Bangabandhu Avenue. On hearing the news, he went to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) the next day.

Earlier on January 27 and February 12, 18 and 23, the court completed recording statements of six people, including the complainant SI Sharif Faruque Ahmed.

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Later, Azad was shifted for

better treatment to Dhaka Metropolitan Hospital at Mahakali in the city as his condition was deteriorating. But he (Azad) succumbed to his injuries on September 10, the witness said.

Two other witnesses -- Zahirul and Motiab -- said they went to DMCH after hearing the news of their friend who was injured in the grenade attacks on August 22, 2004.

All the three witnesses had also gone to Baruntek at Cantonment on September 10, 2004 where Sub-Inspector (SI) Sharif Faruque Ahmed, also the complainant of the cases, prepared an inquest report on the victim Azad.

They put signatures on the inquest report that was prepared by police in their presence.

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The sun sets in the capital at 6:02pm today and rises at 6:19am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 32.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessor and lowest 13.0 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage		
Max	Min	Morning	Evening	
Dhaka	30.3	21.5	33	18
Chittagong	31.5	22.4	82	67
Rajshahi	31.3	15.5	32	21
Khulna	31.0	21.9	79	46
Barisal	31.5	22.4	88	48
Sylhet	30.5	17.4	49	26
Cox's Bazar	31.0	22.2	73	61

## WEATHER TODAY

## Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Having chances of light rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind at one or two places over Sylhet division and the regions of Tangail, Mymensingh and Comilla, Met Office said.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

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## HC rejects 8 petitions by businessman Mamun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday rejected eight petitions filed by controversial businessman Giasuddin Al Mamun seeking bail in eight separate criminal cases filed against him.

The HC bench of Justice Syed AB Mahmudul Huq and Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury passed the order upon a prayer moved by Mamun's lawyer Barrister A H M S a m s u d d i n Chowdhury Manik.

Barrister Manik told The Daily Star that following the HC order Mamun could not be released from jail at this

moment.

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the threat.

He left behind his wife Musrat Jahan and two daughters Karisa Musrat, a class ten student of Vigarunnisa Noon School, and two and half year old Shafika.

Numb with grief, they demanded exemplary punishment to the persons responsible.

Relatives and admirers are requested to pray for peace of the departed soul.

Today is the first death anniversary of Pirjada Haji Muhib Uddin, son of Pir Moshin Uddin Ahmad, the sixth

descendant of Haji Sharifullah, an Islamic reformer of Bangladesh in the nineteenth century, says a press release.

Chehulam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chehulam of Tayobunnes Begum, wife of late Mia Abdul Barek, will be held today, says a press release.

Relatives and admirers are requested to pray for peace of the departed soul.



President of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Annisul Huq speaks at a press conference on 'BDR mutiny and the prevailing situation' at the FBCCI board room in the city yesterday. Syed Manzur Elahi, former adviser to the caretaker government, Mahbubur Rahman, president of International Chamber of Commerce, Salman F Rahman, former president of FBCCI, Wallur Rahman Bhuiyan, president of Foreign Investors Chamber, Abul Kashem Ahmed, first vice-president of FBCCI, and Abu Alam Chowdhury, vice-president of FBCCI, were present.

## Cruel twist of fate shatters Lt Col Azam's family

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Just a week ago, Lt Col Shamsul Azam was busy planning the marriage ceremony of his eldest son, but now his family members are now preparing for his (Azam) funeral.

The wedding ceremony of his son Tarek Bin Azam (Tanim) was scheduled to take place at Darbar Hall of the BDR headquarters on March 3. But in a cruel twist of fate, Lt Col Azam

was killed during the mutiny by BDR jawans at the BDR headquarters at Pilkhana.

The air of wedding festivities was also in the house of Parul Begum, 65, mother of Lt Col Azam, at Alekanda in Barisal city, which turned into grief after the news of death of Lt Col Azam reached here.

The body was found at the third mass grave at Pilkhana on Saturday, said Md Selim, assistant education officer of Bakerganj upazila.

Talking to this correspondent on Saturday, Parul Begum said Azam's wife Mummun Rina called her on Tuesday, a day before the mutiny broke out, and discussed the marriage ceremony with her. At that time, Parul and other family members were also taking preparations to go to Dhaka on the occasion.

## Jago Bangladesh on Mar 27-29

METRO DESK

Due to some unavoidable circumstances, Jago Bangladesh 2009, the challenging walkathon from Teknaf to Cox's Bazar through the longest beach in the world, has been deferred and will now be held on March 27-29.

Cox's Bazar is now topping the list of the 7 Natural Wonders in the world. One of the objectives of Jago Bangladesh 2009 is to help retain the position through increasing awareness to cast vote for Cox's Bazar, says a press release.

The event is going to take place with the sponsorship of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited and active support from Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation. That apart, Square, Danish, Japan Bangladesh Friendship Hospital and Crite are the co-sponsors of this event.

Following the order, the company commander sent a protest letter to BSF in this regard. BSF men stopped road making in the afternoon in reply.

On information, Shahed ordered the company commander of Girgaon camp to protest the matter