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MEDAL OF FREEDOM Khaleda hails Prof Yunus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday congratulated Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus on his attaining Presidential Medal of Freedom Award, the highest civilian honour of the United States of America.

A five-member delegation led by party's Joint Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan handed over Khaleda's letter of felicitation to Prof Yunus at his Grameen Bank office at Mirpur in the capital.

"Before this, as a first Bangladeshi you have brought extraordinary honour for this country through achieving Nobel Prize," she wrote to Yunus in the letter.

"I hope you continue to use your talent and eminence to benefit our nation and to improve the country's image worldwide," the letter added.

Yunus said thanking Khaleda for her gesture, "The

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Swine flu menacingly poised

STAR REPORT

Thousands of people -- young and old -- streaming into shopping malls, walking close to each other, sifting through gift items, and then cramming into buses and launches for their journey home during the Eid vacation.

Nothing could be a better theatre for the deadly swine flu or H1N1 virus to jump from one human to another. It is already transmitting fast, infecting an ever increasing number of people.

Swine flu is probably one of the greatest threats the world faces today, and Bangladesh cannot escape the onslaught. But as it looks till now, people in general are not taking the pandemic that seriously, having the general notion that Bangladeshis are too resilient to be seriously harmed by the flu strain. The reality could be much harsher for them.

Most countries struck by the flu have been taking extreme care to contain the infection. India issued an advice for its citizens not to undertake 'non-essential' tours outside their states.

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5 more infected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five fresh cases were detected with swine flu yesterday raising the toll to 199 since June 18.

Most of them have been cured and the rest are suffering from mild swine flu, said government officials.

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Symptoms:
Diarrhoea
Fever (greater than 100°F or 37.8°C)
Headache and body aches
Being extremely irritable
Bluish skin color
Rapid breathing or trouble breathing
Fever with a skin rash
Not drinking enough liquids
Not waking up or interacting
Emergency warning signs in adults are:
Confusion
Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
Severe or persistent vomiting
Sudden dizziness

Treatment
Call your doctor if you think you have the flu. Prescription anti-viral drugs such as Tamiflu or Relenza can be called in by your doctor. It is best not to report to a hospital, as you could risk spreading the disease. Call your

Facts & Tips



doctor and do what he tells you.

Reduce the risk of catching or spreading flu
Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing. Use a tissue. Dispose of used tissues carefully. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water. Clean hard surfaces (e.g. kitchen

worktops, door handles) frequently using a normal cleaning product.

Hospitals prepared to deal with the flu
Dhaka Medical College
Salimullah Hospital
Suhrawardy Hospital
National Institute for Disease of Chest and Hospital (NIDCH)
Infectious Disease Hospital (IDH)
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University
BIRDEM
Bangladesh Medical College Hospital, Dhanmondi
Uttara Adhunik Hospital, Uttara
Holy Family Medical College Hospital
Dhaka National Medical College Hospital
Dhaka Shishu Hospital
Shahabuddin Medical College Hospital
Mohonogor Shishu Hospital
Mohonogor General Hospital (Karmajibi Hospital)
Plus 95 City Corporation Health Care Centers run by NGOs across country

Moudud asked not to talk against war crime trial

SC allows him to go abroad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday directed the government to allow BNP leader barrister Moudud Ahmed to go abroad and hoped that he would not make any statement there against the government initiatives to try the war criminals.

Meanwhile, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday rejected the comment made by BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury that the present government has no authority to try the war criminals.

The vacation chamber bench of the Appellate Division of Justice SK Sinha upheld a High Court (HC) order directing the government to allow Moudud Ahmed

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4 more children end up with renal failure

Rid's banned paracetamol syrup prescribed to them

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Four children aged between seven and ten were admitted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital on Friday with renal failure after being given Rid Pharma's paracetamol syrup.

The children suffered from fever and were given Temsset paracetamol suspension and Ridaplex eight to ten days ago as per prescription of local physicians. They are out of danger now, "medical college Principal Prof Syed Zakir Hossain told The Daily Star.

The four children are Abir, 10, son of Anwar Hossain in Barisal, Hawa Akter, 8, daughter of

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Govt escaped legal disaster

Several verdicts show its sending of 2 judges into retirement totally illegal

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Sending of two district judges into forced retirement was illegal as the government took the disciplinary action against them without consulting with the Supreme Court, according to several verdicts of the Appellate Division.

In a surprise move on July 30, the government sent Abdul Gafur, district and sessions judge in Dhaka, and Mohammad Shahjahan, women and children repression prevention tribunal judge in Gazipur, into retirement for their involvement in a demonstration at the secretariat on July 27.

The judges were preparing to file writ petitions with the SC challenging the government order, sources said.

The government, however, reinstated the two judges after

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Suranjit fires back

He reaffirms JS body's unanimous decision to summon HT Imam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The chief of parliamentary standing committee on law, Suranjit Sengupta, yesterday rebutted the claim of state minister for law that the committee had not decided to summon Prime Minister's Adviser HT Imam.

"The committee on Thursday unanimously decided to ask HT Imam and the secretaries of law and establishment ministries to appear before it to explain their actions of sending two judges to retirement," Suranxit said in a media conference at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

Suranxit, also an adviser to ruling Awami League (AL), blasted the premier's adviser for his comment on the committee's decision to hear him regarding his role in sending the two judges into retirement.



Suranxit Sengupta

HT Imam

"His remarks are unnecessary, based on imaginations, indecent, improper, unconstitutional, undemocratic, and unparliamentary," the committee chief said.

On Friday in a media briefing, Imam said

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SILVER LINING... A large number of hilsa are netted and brought to Fishery Ghat in Chittagong yesterday after a slump in fishing for some days. PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

ORPHANAGE CASE Khaleda summoned again

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday again summoned former premier Khaleda Zia and four others to appear before it on September 7 in connection with a case of embezzling Tk 2.10 crore through forming a fraudulent Zia Orphanage Trust.

The court will give its decision on the same day whether the charges would be taken into cognisance in presence of the accused.

Judge ANM Bashir Ullah of Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court fixed the date after AL for the list.

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VGF cards go to Pabna's ruling party poor

40pc of Chatmohor upazila's cards allocated for them

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Ruling Awami League men have got an unofficial 40 percent quota to select beneficiaries under the government's vulnerable group feeding (VGF) programme in Chatmohor upazila of Pabna this year.

Eleven unions under Chatmohor upazila have given 40 per cent names on political consideration for the lists.

Terming the process of preparing the list proper, Bilchalan Union Parishad Chairman Md Akter Hossain told The Daily Star that they

BDR names 23 fugitive jawans

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) yesterday published the names of 23 jawans who remained fugitive since the February 25-26 massacre in its headquarters at Pilkhana.

People have been requested to inform about the hiding jawans to the nearest police station.

The fugitives are: Main Uddin (Naogaon), Bishu Mitra Barua (Chittagong), Rezaul Karim (Chittagong), Ayub Ali (Brahmanbaria), Bakir Billah (Nilphamari), Atiqur Rahman

Govt to open 7 new foreign missions

Move to serve migrant workers better

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government considers opening seven new missions, and strengthening the existing ones in the major labour receiving countries with skilled personnel to better serve the expatriate workers.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith told this to reporters after an inter-ministerial meeting held at the ministry yesterday.

The finance minister said now there are 31 training institutes for the overseas jobseekers and the government will set up 34 more institutes.

BANDARBAN Dist admin stops illegal plantation

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Bandarban

All ongoing plantation programmes of Destiny Group in Bandarban hill district were stopped yesterday following an official order from the district administration.

Deputy Commissioner of Bandarban Mizanur Rahman issued the order in the wake of grabbing of khasland and illegal plantations by displacing

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JAPAN ELECTION Opposition wins after 54yrs

AP, AFP, Tokyo

Japan's Prime Minister Taro Aso conceded defeat in elections yesterday as media exit polls indicated the opposition had won by a landslide, sending the conservatives out of power after 54 years of nearly unbroken rule amid widespread economic anxiety and desire for change.

"These results are very severe," Aso said in a news conference at party headquarters, conceding his party was headed for a big loss. "There has been a deep dissatisfaction with our party."

Aso said he would have to accept responsibility for the

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