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ATTACK ON TAPOSH
Army probing a few officers' alleged link
Media urged not to carry unconfirmed info

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Army is investigating the allegations of a few of its officers' involvement with the bomb attack on Awami League lawmaker Fazle Noor Taposh.

"Any kind of indiscipline in the army is controlled as per army rules. The issue of army officers' involvement with the incident of bomb attack on barrister Taposh is being investigated properly," a press release of Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) said yesterday.

The army headquarters assured that if found guilty, stern legal actions would be taken against the army officers concerned.

The ISPR issued the statement following media reports on some army officers' alleged involvement with the bomb attack on Taposh, a nephew of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

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Justice delayed, justice denied

The Daily Star investigation reveals how corruption and the manipulation of the legal system stops justice dead in its track for 16 years

- Over 2,000 children killed by toxic paracetamol between 1980-92
- Corruption sabotaged the criminal cases
- Never-ending High Court stay orders prevent cases coming to trial
- Families kept in heart-breaking wait for justice in one of the worst ever crimes
- One case reopens today upon Star inquiry; one company was not even prosecuted, two other cases stuck in stays, another acquitted

EMRAN HOSSAIN

Manufacturers of adulterated paracetamol syrups, which caused the deaths of as many as two thousand children sixteen years ago from fatal kidney disease, have escaped punishment due to an extraordinary combination of corruption and mismanagement in the Directorate of Drug Administration (DDA) and other government agencies, an investigation by The Daily Star reveals.

In December 1992, chemical analysis proved that paracetamol syrups manufactured by five companies -- Adflame Pharmaceutical Ltd, Polychem Laboratories Ltd, BCI (Bangladesh) Ltd, Rex Pharmaceutical, and City Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works Ltd -- contained a

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ACCUSED IN CHARGE SHEET

BCI Bangladesh	Chairman	Status
Md. Shahjahan Sarker	Chairman	HC stay
Entazul Haque	Production Manager	HC stay
Md. Shansul Haque	Director	HC stay
Mrs Nurun Nahar	Director	HC stay
ASM Badrudoza Chowdhury	Director	HC stay

Tragedy saw rise of an unsung hero

EMRAN HOSSAIN

Bangladesh is full of unsung heroes - but few remain as unrecognised as Dhaka Shishu Hospital's kidney specialist, Prof Mohammed Hanif.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

Shocked, they demand probe

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent lawyers and human rights activists responded with shock to a revelation that proceedings of two criminal cases in connection with paracetamol adulteration have been stayed in the High Court for 15 years, and sought an investigation of the circumstances of the procrastination.

Law Commission Chairman Justice Abdur Rashid said, "It is

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TRAGEDY IN FRAME: Parents of Tanvir Ahmed came to realise their son's days were numbered as he suffered renal failure. Devastated, they arranged this grim family photograph with the little one, just days before he started a journey into the unknown on September 16, 1990. PHOTO COURTESY

School bus service on the cards

Nahid holds meeting with heads of edn institutions

UNB, Dhaka

The education ministry and school and college authorities in the capital yesterday agreed in principle to introduce bus service for students of certain schools in a bid to ease traffic jam on the city streets.

After a meeting with principals and head teachers of colleges and schools at his ministry, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid told reporters that all in the meeting agreed that private cars carrying students are contributing to traffic congestions around certain good schools and colleges in the city.

The meeting suggested that the school authorities could make arrangement with the BRTC to introduce bus service for certain schools. The buses will ferry students from certain stops on certain routes.

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Govt told to suspend all WB-funded projects

Letter vents dissatisfaction over changes to Public Procurement Act 2006

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The World Bank has asked Bangladesh to put on hold all local procurement activities under WB-financed projects since the amendments made to the Public Procurement Act (PPA) 2006 are not consistent with its procurement guidelines.

In a WB letter to Finance Minister AMA

Muith, the WB has suggested that Bangladesh government "temporarily" suspend all local procurement activities under projects financed by WB until the financing agreements concerned are "amended with agreed new parameters" in order to minimise any possible disruption in project implementation.

"Once agreed, the new parameters will be reflected in necessary amendments to

existing agreements between the Government of Bangladesh and WB which we hope will be signed promptly," says the letter signed on November 9 by WB Acting Country Director Tahseen Sayed.

Copies of the letter were sent to Planning Minister AK Khandoker, prime minister's Adviser Dr Mashiur Rahman,

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CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

PM proposes separate fund for worst victims

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has proposed a separate adaptation fund and technology and capacity-building supports for the countries most vulnerable to the climate change, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and the Maldives.

Addressing her second videoconference

with international leaders, she said the most vulnerable countries (MVCs) and the least developed countries (LDCs) are worried as their legitimate demands are being sidelined by disagreements in climate-change negotiations between developed and developing countries.

"As early and worst victims, we want priority

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Announcement

The Daily Star has received a letter from BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain following his October 29 rejoinder on this newspaper's report dated October 27 and headlined "Aug 21 attack on Hasina, AL Rally: It was Hawa Bhaban Plot". The letter along with The Daily Star's response will be published tomorrow.

-- Editor

In Memoriam



Rashid Wali Mohamed Tabani (1923 - 2009)

Rashid Wali Mohamed Tabani passed away on 9th November 2009 in the United Kingdom while visiting his Son (Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Elaihi Rajeun). Mr. Rashid Tabani and his elder brother Late Ariff W. M. Tabani were the founders of Mirpur Ceramic Works Ltd., a pioneering venture of manufacturing building ceramics which has played a key role in development of Bangladesh's infrastructure.

Khatem-e-Quran and dua for isale sawab will be held today, Wednesday immediately after Asar prayers at 5:00 pm. at the Gulshan Azad Mosque, Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka.

The Tabani Family

And all the Employees and workers of

Mirpur Ceramic Works Ltd. Khadim Ceramics Ltd.

House# 01, Road # 28, Block # k, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Phone: 8821109, 8860137

Govt staff may get pay rise before Eid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muith said the government was trying to give salaries to the public servants before the Eid-ul-Azha as per the new pay scale.

"We are trying to materialise this," he said yesterday replying to a question from journalists whether the government would be able to give salaries to the public servants as per the new pay scale before the Eid.

The final recommendations of the seventh pay scale for the civil servants will be placed in today's cabinet meeting to be chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

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