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REGD. NO. DA 781 • VOL. XIX No. 301 • DHAKA TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2009 • AGRAHAYAN 3, 1416 BS • ZILQUAD 28, 1430 HIJRI • 24 PAGES PLUS STAR LIFESTYLE PRICE: Tk 10.00 •

ACC challenges HC verdict against MK Alamgir's jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday filed an appeal with the Supreme Court (SC) against the High Court (HC) verdict that scrapped the 13-year jail sentence against Awami League lawmaker Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir in a corruption case.

The High Court on July 13 this year in a verdict scrapped the jail sentence against Mohiuddin in this case filed by the ACC, adjudging the conviction against him illegal.

Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan, who filed the appeal on behalf of ACC, yesterday told The Daily Star that the ACC will submit an application to the SC soon for fixing a date for its hearing.

He also said the ACC has filed the leave-to-appeal petition for getting the SC decision on the matter, since a number of accused who were convicted in the ACC cases are getting facilities from the HC verdict.

ACC Deputy Director Jibon Krishna Roy filed the case with Tejgaon Police Station on

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River grabbing goes unabated

The High Court has issued several directives to free four Dhaka rivers from encroachment and pollution. The government too has declared a war against the grabbers, cancelling all riverbank leases. But nothing could stop these river grabbers who by their covetous acts are nearly blocking the arteries of Dhaka. They seem unstoppable. Restaurants frequented by dating couples are now sprouting up by Turag River adding to the nuisance.



PHOTO: SHAFIQU ALAM

EMBASSY ATTACK PLOT 3 Pakistanis remanded for 4 more days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed the three Pakistani nationals, held for suspected link with a plot to attack the US embassy and Indian high commission in Dhaka, on a four-day remand each.

The court of Metropolitan Magistrate Munshi Abdul granted the remand after detained Syed Abdul Kaiyum alias Sufian, Mohammad Ashraf and Mohammad Monwar were produced before the court with a prayer for a ten-day remand.

Police in a forwarding letter submitted to the court stated that they had gleaned important information regarding the plot to attack the said establishments from the three arrestees.

The trio needed to be quizzed further to verify the information, police said in the letter.

Earlier, the court had put them on a two-day remand on November 13.

During the remand they gave important information regarding LeT operatives

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BNP standing body okays changed party constitution

UNB, Dhaka

BNP standing committee, the party's highest policymaking body, provisionally approved its draft-amended constitution last night after two day's consecutive meeting.

The concluding meeting with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in the chair finally examined the changed constitution as some 40 amendments have

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Hasina calls for fair food governance

Tells global leaders available food in world must be accessible to all

HASAN JAHID TUSHER, from Rome

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the global leadership to create a fair and equitable food governance system both at national and international levels to make food available and accessible to the marginalised and vulnerable across the world.

Only production of food alone could not guarantee food security, she said.

Hasina also pledged before the world leaders that her government would follow the declaration on food security adopted in the summit to eradicate hunger and poverty and to attain food security in Bangladesh.

The 41-point declaration was adopted

unanimously at the World Summit on Food Security held in the headquarters of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome, Italy.

Addressing the plenary session of the summit, the PM urged the attending heads of state and government of more than 60 countries to abide by the

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AUTONOMY OF BETAR-TV HC asks govt to report its actions

UNB, Dhaka

The High Court (HC) yesterday asked the government to submit by December 12 the actions taken following recommendations by the designated commission on giving autonomy to state-run Bangladesh Betar and Bangladesh Television (BTV).

The previous Awami League government had constituted the 16-member 'Commission for Framing Rules and Regulations for the Autonomy of Bangladesh Television (Radio-TV Autonomy Commission)' in September 1996.

A division bench comprising Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed and Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury passed the order during the

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GP debuts with flying colours

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Top mobile operator Grameenphone yesterday made a spectacular debut on the capital market.

Grameenphone shares ended up 153 percent at Tk 177.30, compared with the IPO price of Tk 70 each.

The benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, DSE General Index (DGEN), skyrocketed by more than 764 points, or more than 22 percent, of which GP added 717 points alone.

MORE IN STAR BUSINESS



A policeman searches a bag of a man at the main entrance to the High Court yesterday. Government has tightened security on the court premises ahead of Bangabandhu murder case verdict on November 19.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Dhaka jail on high alert

Sahara discusses security with law enforcers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Sahara Khatun yesterday said the government has put all the law enforcement and intelligence agencies on highest alert ahead of the verdict in the Bangabandhu murder case on Thursday.

Meanwhile, on the eve of the verdict day, the jail authorities have put the highest security alert in Dhaka Central Jail where all the five death awarded prisoners are kept.

Special forces from the law enforcement and intelligence agencies have been deployed around Dhaka Central Jail while the jail authorities have installed special security

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Stimulus-plus of Tk 2,000cr soon

Ship building, frozen food, apparel sectors to get the recession package

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government is likely to announce an additional recession package of Tk 2,000 crore within this month to promote different sectors suffering from the global meltdown.

Finance ministry sources say they are considering allocating the money to the new areas like product diversification, ship building, frozen food and apparel sector.

A committee, recently formed by the government and headed by former finance minister M Syeduzzaman, already submitted its report on the issue to the finance ministry.

The finance ministry is now finalising the stimulus package on the basis of the report.

Subsidy under the new recession package

might be given to the readymade garment exporters and their backward integration only for new export destinations as per the recommendation of the committee, finance ministry sources said.

The committee recommended giving five percent cash incentive to the readymade garments including knitwear and woven garments for the next five years.

According to the committee, all the export destinations except EU, the US and Canada will be considered as new markets.

The ministry is also considering forming a fund for product diversification and small and medium apparels sector affected by the global recession.

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KMC closed after BCL factions clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Khulna Medical College (KMC) was closed for an indefinite period following a clash between two rival factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday.

All residing students in two halls were asked to vacate dormitories by 6:00pm. Principal of the college KP Sarker was kept confined in his office by a group of BCL activists demanding withdrawal of the closure. But he did not bow down to their demand till filing this report late in the evening.

Four platoons of riot police were deployed on and around the campus from 5:00pm.

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No Dhaka envoy for Berlin for two years

Whims of designated envoy, foreign ministry's reluctance blamed

REZAUL KARIM

The Bangladesh embassy in Berlin is without an ambassador for nearly two years.

Germany is surprised that a developing country like Bangladesh kept its embassy without an ambassador since January 15, 2008, diplomatic sources said.

Apparently, half the delay occurred due to non-issuance of visa for domestic help of a diplomat assigned for the post. The other half is due to sheer negligence of the foreign ministry and the government, sources said.

Earlier this year, the former German Ambassador in Dhaka while making a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni had drawn their attention to the post in Berlin, which had been vacant for over a year by then.

Both the PM and the foreign minister told the German envoy that the government was set to immediately appoint a senior and efficient diplomat as Bangladesh Ambassador in Berlin. But till date, nothing happened other than selecting a diplomat for the job.

Foreign ministry sources said the Fakhruddin-led caretaker government appointed former additional secretary (UNCLOS, Research & ICT) MAK Mahmud as the Ambassador to Germany on June 29 last year.

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Judges fully independent

Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling out BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain's allegation of influencing the court, Law Minister Shafigue Ahmed yesterday said the judges are holding the hearings into the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman murder case independently.

Talking to journalists at his secretariat office, Shafigue said the judges are listening to and explaining the arguments of both the state and defence lawyers. The claim of influencing the court is baseless, he said.

The law minister said the government is committed to establish rule of law in the

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