

Govt moves to open VoIP

Cabinet decides to issue more licences to stop its illegal use

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided in principle to issue more VoIP licences for handling international calls to trigger a price war and bring illegal VoIP operators under a legal framework.

As per an amended policy, illegal VoIP (voice over internet protocol) operators will get a chance to make their business legal by routing calls through legal exchanges. Earlier, international calls through VoIP were completely prohibited under the International Long Distance Telecommunications Service Policy.

The government did not legalise the existing illegal VoIP business. However, it expects that when more exchanges are launched, VoIP calls will be routed through legal channels due to competitive pricing.

Currently, illegal VoIP operators on an average charge 1.75

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

12 Shibir activists held with firearms

Bomb-making materials, books on jihad seized in Ctg raid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested 12 Shibir activists and recovered arms and bomb making materials from their mess at Mistripara in the port city yesterday.

Acting on a tip off, police recovered four revolvers (three made in Pakistan), three Light Guns (LGs), 26 bullets, 11 cartridges, bomb making materials, half a kilogram of gunpowder and some jihadi books from the first and top floor of a four-storied building around 2:00am, said Assistant Commissioner Tanvir Arafaat of Chittagong Metropolitan Police Double-mooring zone.

Police arrested 12 men in this connection. Sub-inspector Mahbul Alam of Double-mooring Police Station filed a case in this connection and the arrestees were sent to court, said the AC.

Among the detained 11 are Shibir activists. They are Lutfor Rahman, 16, Mohiuddin, 20, Jahed Muntasir, 17, Arif Hossain, 17, Jahir Uddin Babar, 23, Manjur Alam, 20, Ekramul Haque, 19, Syed Al Amin, 24, Mizanur Rahman, 19, Rafiqul Hossain, 18, and Golam Azam, 16.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7
PHOTO ON PAGE 16



A group of Chhatra Dal men carrying lethal weapons walk past a law enforcer on Dhaka University campus yesterday ignoring his presence. Middle, a cadre loads his pistol (circled). This Focus Bangla photo at the bottom shows DU Proctor KM Saiful Islam comes under attack when he tries to save bleeding Chhatra Dal leader Sultan Salahuddin.

PHOTO: STAR

JCD men fight at DU

Trade gunshots; rebels stab central president; 24 others hurt; strike called

DU CORRESPONDENT

Clashes between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal factions at Dhaka University yesterday left at least 25 people including proctor, JCD chief and four policemen injured.

The fighting resulted from a feud over places in the new central committee of JCD, student wing of the opposition BNP.

Chhatra Dal cadres fired some 50 rounds of bullet and exploded 20 hand-made bombs in a sharp reminder of the violence-plagued days of DU.

Panic gripped thousands of students as the sound of gunfire and explosions echoed through the campus, which hardly saw any shooting in last couple of years.

Yesterday's was the first major incident of violence since the unrest stemming from the beating of students by army men rocked DU in August 2007.

At a press conference in the afternoon, JCD leaders blamed

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Jyoti Basu's state funeral today

Hasina to attend

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Eminent Marxist leader and former West Bengal chief minister Jyoti Basu, who passed away on Sunday, will be given a state funeral in Kolkata today.

Prior to this, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and a host of other dignitaries and commoners will pay their last respects to Basu.

"Jyoti Basu will be given a state funeral tomorrow (today). Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will lead a delegation to pay tribute to Basu on the (state) assembly premises where his body will be kept for over five

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Tigers lose way after good start

BISHWAJIT ROY From Ctg

After dominating the first day of the opening Test against India at Chittagong, Bangladesh lost some ground on the second day yesterday.

The home side slipped to 59-3 in reply to India's 243 when bad light stopped play. In fact dense fog allowed only 24.5 overs of play in the whole day that saw India claw back into the match after the Tigers lost three quick wickets. Rokibul Hasan was batting on 1 and with him was Mohammad Ashraf, who was yet to open his account.

There was however something in terms of individual achievements despite the damp weather kept the players out of the ground for most of the time with Indian batting

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

MUTINY AT SATKHIRA Charges framed against 60 BDR men

STAR REPORT

A special court of Bangladesh Rifles yesterday framed charges against 60 BDR jawans of 7 Rifle Battalion with links to the February 25-26 mutiny at its headquarters in Dhaka and elsewhere in the country.

The BDR Special Court-1 framed the charges at 41 Rifle Battalion Headquarters in

SEE PAGE 7 COL 2

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PM for quick release of \$10b fund for LDCs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the developed countries to disburse the fund for mitigation and adaptation to climate change immediately among the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

The world leaders set up a yearly fund of \$10billion till 2012 for the LDCs to help them mitigate and adapt to climate change under the Copenhagen Accord in December last year.

Bangladesh is in the frontline of climate

change battle, Hasina said while speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural session of a three-day High-level Asia-Pacific Dialogue on the Brussels Programme of Action for the LDCs in the city.

The premier said her government is ready to lend supports to the LDC leaders for achieving common goals like establishment of good governance, reduction of poverty and ensuring food and fuel security.

The United Nations Economic and Social

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1
MORE STORIES IN STAR BUSINESS

Bangladesh needs 26 yrs to graduate from LDC

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Finance Minister AMA Muhiht said it would take Bangladesh another 26 years to graduate from the Least Developed Country (LDC) status.

"Our present status indicates that it would take us up to 2036 for the upward change in our position," Muhiht said yesterday talking to a group of

SEE PAGE 7 COL 6

Khaleda must explain claim

Ashraf on alleged secret deal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling Awami League yesterday threw a challenge to Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia to make public the "secret deal" Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina signed with India during her recent visit to the neighbouring country.

"If any secret deal was signed, how does she know about it? We are throwing you [Khaleda Zia] a challenge to make it public if you know about any such deal," AL General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam said bashing Khaleda for her statement on the outcome of the visit.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

BNP leaders in the dark

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

BNP leaders do not know anything about the 'secret security deal' that their chairperson alleged had been signed between Bangladesh and India during the prime minister's recent visit to the neighbouring country.

They only read reports about the 'deal' in newspapers, they added.

A number of BNP leaders yesterday said the party made no effort to confirm the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

সিলেট উপশহরে এলো ব্যাক ব্যাংক

যুগ যুগ ধরে আধ্যাত্মিক চেতনার তীর্থভূমি আর বৈদেশিক মুদ্রাভাণ্ডার হিসেবে পরিচিত সিলেটের মানুষের ব্যাংকিং স্বাচ্ছন্দ্যের জন্য উপশহরে আরেকটি নতুন শাখা নিয়ে আসছে দেশের সবচেয়ে দ্রুত প্রসারমান ব্যাংক, ব্যাক ব্যাংক। দ্রুতগতিতে প্রসারিত হচ্ছে সিলেট, প্রসারিত হচ্ছে আমাদের সেবার হাত।

প্রবাসী অধ্যুষিত সিলেটের উন্নয়নে আমাদের আস্থা অবিচল।

হোডিং ৩/৩, মেইন রোড, ব্লক ডি, শাহজালাল উপশহর, সিলেট

৬৯টি ব্রাঞ্চ | ৫৯টি এস.এম.ই সেলস্ এড সার্ভিস সেন্টার | ১৭৭টি এ.টি.এম | ৪২৯টি এস.এম.ই ইউনিট অফিস

২৪-ঘণ্টা ফোন ব্যাংকিং: ০৯৮৯৯ ২৩০০০০