PURBACHAL, UTTARA **PLOTS** 

### Rajuk to verify information

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha is going to verify whether the plot winners of Uttara model town (third phase) and Purbachal new town projects gave any false information in their applications.

"We will take help of NBR [National Board of Revenue] while verifying the applications submitted by the plot winners," said Nurul Huda, chairman of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk).

"Around 1.67 lakh people submitted their applications and we have been able to refund money to 60,000 applicants," said Nurul Huda. He added they would start the process of verification after the other one lakh get the refunds.

On a Prothom Alo report about submission of false halafnama (affidavit) by 18 lawmakers, the Rajuk boss said not only the lawmakers' applications but also those of the winners would be verified.

"After the verification, we will take action as per the rules against those who had submitted false statements, he said. Nurul Huda said they

were yet to issue allotment letter to any of the winners. They would start it from March on completion of reviewing all the applica-

The Rajuk has announced the names of winners of 5042 Purbachal and 582 Uttara (third phase) plots recently in stages.

Responding to the question why the deposited money have not been refunded to the applicants even after two months, Nurul Huda said everyone should get his or her money back within a month of submitting the application. Those who have not been refunded yet can complain directly to the chairman.

The Rajuk chairman said some 100 employees are working twelve hours a day, even on Fridays, to return the money as soon as possible.

#### GRAFT CASE Engr Mosharraf, 8 others cleared of charges

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday submitted final report clearing former housing and public works minister Engineer Mosharraf Hossain, former Rajuk Chairman Azizul Haq and seven others of a corruption case filed against them in September 2002.

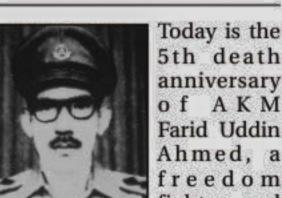
ACC Assistant Director Amirul Islam, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the final report to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka saying that the charges brought against them were not proved.

The other accused in the case are former Rajdhani Unnayan Katripakha (Rajuk) officials Khan Mohammad Enayet Hossain, Mohammad Momtazuddin, Abdul Awal Chowdhury, Abdullah Al Mamun, Mohammad Nurul Haq, Mohammad Faruque Ahmed and Humayun Khan.

Golam Shahriar Chowdhury, an official of now defunct Bureau of Anti-Corruption, filed the case against them on September 16 in 2002 with Motifheel Police Station on charges of cancellation of applications of a large number of people in allotment of plots in Banani and Gulshan areas in the city violating the rules and regulations.

#### Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



5th death anniversary of AKM Farid Uddin Ahmed, a freedom fighter and

former deputy assistant director of Bangladesh Rifles, says a press release.

On the occasion, Qurankhwani and doa mahfil will be held at his 1163/A, Khilgaon Chowdhury Para residence in the city. Foods will also be distributed among

the destitute at the local Noor mosque and madrasa. Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the doa and pray for salvation of the

departed soul.

2ND CIRDAP MINISTERIAL MEETING INAUGURATED

# Face adverse impacts of climate change unitedly: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the Cirdap member countries to work unitedly in facing the adverse impact of the climate change, as this could adversely affect not only livelihood but also national and regional stability.

She noted that climate change and its consequences on socio-economic conditions of large population of rural areas in this region adversely affect not only livelihood but also national and regional stability.

"Now it is time to address these issues immediately, otherwise rural development and poverty reduction programmes will not produce any lasting effects."

Hasina said this while inaugurating the 2nd ministerial meeting of Cirdap on 'Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific' organised by LGRD and cooperatives Ministry in collaboration with the Centre on **Integrated Rural Development** for Asia and the Pacific (Cirdap) at a city hotel.

Police pick

up man for

making up

kidnapping

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

took from a bank in Australia.

Abdullahi-al-Kafi at Jatrabari

his wife Shamima, Kafi was

allegedly kidnapped on

January 23 on his way to his

residence at Khilgaon from

demanded one lakh

Australian dollars as ransom,

she said in the case filed with

Commissioner (ADC) Mollah

Nazrul Islam of DB told The

Daily Star that the DB police

found out Kafi by tracking his

mobile phone and picked him

up from a bus of Green Line

bus service as soon as it

reached Jatrabari at about

interrogation, Kafi admitted

that he cooked up the story of

kidnapping to avoid paying

back a loan of 60,000

Australian dollars, the police

he made up the story and told

reporters that the kidnappers

used sedatives to make him

unconscious while he was

returning home in an

autorickshaw on January 23.

UNB, Dhaka

City/Town

Kafi, however, denied that

said.

During a preliminary

7:30am from Cox's Bazar.

Additional Deputy

Khilgaon Police Station.

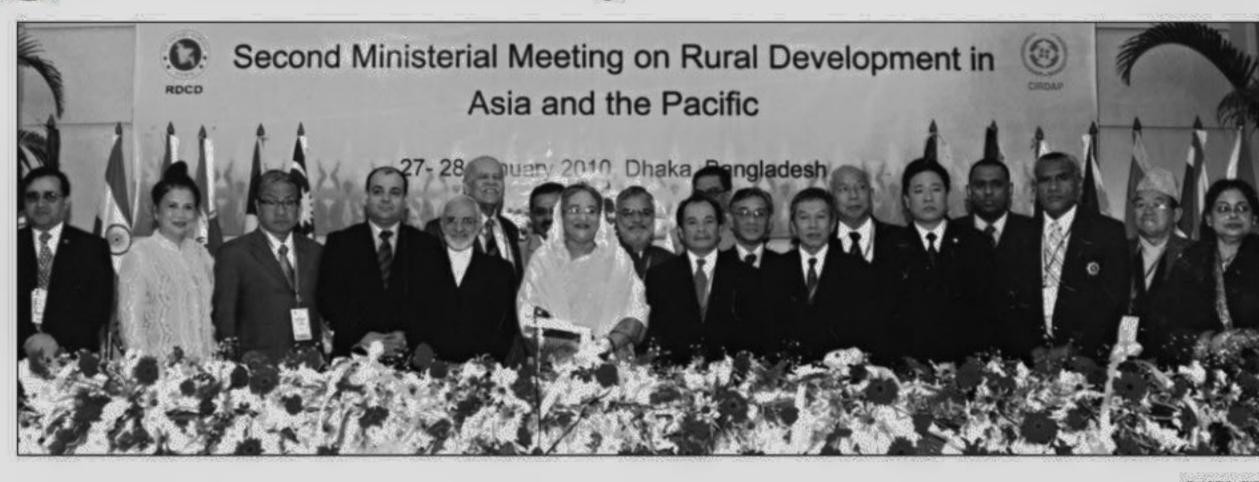
The kidnappers also

Gulshan in the city.

story to reporters yesterday.

Detective police found and

story



Representatives of Cirdap countries pose for photograph with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the second Cirdap ministerial meeting in the city yesterday.

ber countries have diverse socio-economic, political, cultural and technological backgrounds, all of them are facing many identical problems and challenges.

The prime minister underscored the need to identify the emerging challenges and opportunities of globalisation sion, food security of the poor-

She said though the mem- in the regional context.

She said the threats of climatic changes on low-lying countries have already been identified. To face globalisation, investment and export of commodities should be increased. In the wake of increasing natural calamities and global economic reces-

group of leaders backed by

party attended the rallies.

Muktangon rally.

Standing committee

Mosharraf Hossain, Moudud

Khaleque attended a rally at

Yunus Mridha, president

while Ward Councillor Kazi

Contacted, Yunus Mridha

Khoka] as they were not

at all levels."

Asked if any senior leader

"We need to use our collec-

tive endeavour and wisdom to find out workable solutions to these common problems."

The premier noted that a huge portion of the world population is living in this region, but they possess very limited resources compared to the developed world. Besides, a

est people is seriously at stake. number of challenges the region is facing are identical among the member countries.

Hasina said the region as a whole, and certain countries, including Bangladesh in particular, have been suffering from the huge burden of over population. Besides, the countries are facing increasing threats of terrorism.

She said, "Environmental degradation and shortage of energy are also hampering our developments. Global warming is also an alarming issue for all of us. Due to industrialisation and excessive emissions of greenhouse gases by the developed world, global mean temperature is shooting up resulting in the sea-level rise.

"This will cause inundation of large land masses of the lowlying countries in the Asia-Pacific region, especially in countries like Bangladesh and the Maldives, rendering hundreds of millions of people homeless," she added.

Hasina said poverty, espe-cially rural poverty, is "still a big problem for all of us. To overcome this problem, Bangladesh and all other member countries have been implementing various development activities. But we are yet to reach our desired goals."

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashraful Islam, State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Jahangir Kabir Nanak and Cirdap Director General Dr Durga Prasad Paudyal and LGRD and Cooperatives Secretary Rokeya Sultana also spoke.

PILKHANA CARNAGE

### CID asked to submit report by March 30

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday asked the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) to submit its report in the Pilkhana carnage case by March 10.

Metropolitan Magistrate Dr Abdul Majid passed the order as Police Superintendent of CID Abdul Kahar Akond, also investigation officer (IO) of the case, failed to submit the probe report yesterday. CID so far arrested 2,183

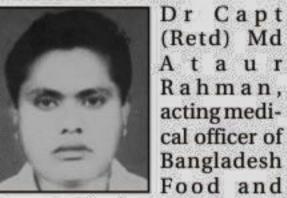
Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) men and civilians in this connection. Of them, 30 are civilians, including BNP leader Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu and Awami League (AL) leader Torab Ali. Of the accused, 2,148 have

been remanded on charge of their involvement with the February 25-26 BDR mutiny while 521 had given confessional statements to magistrates on different dates. Meantime, a total of 197

BDR jawans had earlier submitted petitions to different courts to let them retract their confessional statements.

## Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



(Retd) Md Ataur Rahman, acting medical officer of Bangladesh Food and Sugar Indutries Corporation,

the city on Tuesday at the age of 55, says a press release. He left behind his wife, one son and three daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his

passed away due to a cardiac

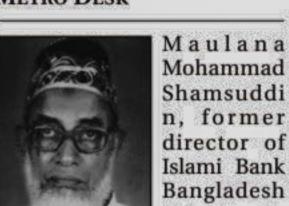
arrest at Birdem Hospital in

death. His body has been taken to his village home in Tangail for burial after namaz-e-janaza at

Corporation's headquarters ChiniShilpa Bhaban in the city vesterday. Industries Minister Dilip Barua, Secretary Dewan Zakir

Hossain and Corporation Chairman Ranjit Kumar Biswas in separate messages condoled the death and conveyed sympathy to members of the bereaved family. They also prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

#### Maulana Shamsuddin METRO DESK



Mohammad Shamsuddi n, former director of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited, passed away due to a cardiac

arrest at Chittagong Metropolitan Hospital on January 26 at the age of 83, says a press release. He left behind his wife, five

daughters and two sons to mourn his death.

Chittagong Station Road after namaz-e-janaza at Chittagong Parade Ground yesterday. Prof Abu Nasser

Muhammad Abduz Zaher, departed soul.

RUPAYAN

RUPAYAN

RUPAYAN

Dhanmondi

RUPAYAN

Shelford

Shyamoli

RUPAYAN

RUPAYAN

Kachukhet

RUPAYAN

Nowfa Plaza

Haque Centre

Progati Saranee

Prime

Trade Centre

Banglamotor

Purana Paltan

### BNP's CITY UNIT

# Feud blocks way for new body

Intra-party feud in the city recently asked Khoka to unit of BNP persists creating organise the party in the A Bangladeshi origin uncertainty about formation capital ahead of the city Australian citizen allegedly of a new committee of the corporation elections. But a cooked up a story of being kidnapped to avoid paying

back a loan of 60,000 dollars he picked up Australian citizen on Tuesday. They revealed his According to a case filed by minister's recent visit.

Earlier, the two rival factions had announced their members Khandaker

The city BNP could not Ahmed, Brig Gen (retd) hold its council before the Hannan Shah and Senior party's national council on Joint Secretary General December 8 last year Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, because of continued inter- among others, attended the

Against this backdrop, The faction blessed by party insiders hinted that Abbas held rallies and high-ups of their party are brought out processions at planning to announce Mirpur, Jatrabari, Basabo shortly formation of a com- and some other areas. mittee for the city unit that is Former lawmakers S A

Supporters of Mirza Ali Imam organised a rally at Abbas alleged that Khoka Pallabi. sided with expelled BNP leader Abdul Mannan said they did not join Bhuiyan, which was a Muktangon rally [chaired by

Abbas is now a member invited. the BNP standing committee while Khoka is a vice presi- is with them, he said, "I can't dent in the central commit-tell you everything right tee of the party formed after now. I can only say that we the party's fifth national are backed by party leaders

# Party insiders said STAFF CORRESPONDENT Chairperson Khaleda Zia

Both factions of the city Mirza Abbas refused to BNP yesterday held rallies and accept Khoka as their leader. brought out processions The faction led by Khoka separately protesting "attacks held its protest rally at and torture" on opposition Muktangon yesterday while leaders, and the agreements the other faction held rallies signed between Bangladesh in different areas of the city. A and India during the prime few former lawmakers of the

separate programmes.

nal conflicts.

now going without it. Mayor Sadeque Hossain Mirpur while Salauddin

Khoka and former mayor Ahmed led the procession at Mirza Abbas are leading the Jatrabari. two factions for establishing their respective supremacy of Khilgaon thana BNP prein the city BNP, party sources sided over a rally at Basabo

betrayal to the party. council.

### HEARING

**5TH AMENDMENT** 

### Moudud fears constitutional vacuum STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A constitutional vacuum will

be created if the Supreme Court upholds the High Court verdict that nullified the fifth amendment to the country's constitution, Barrister Moudud Ahmed told the apex court yesterday. Late president Ziaur

Rahman brought the fifth amendment to the constitution in accordance with law, as the people of the country had given him the mandate for it through a referendum, argued Moudud also a former BNP law minister.

He said the HC judgment practically rewrote the constitution, which it cannot do, adding that the judgment reflects the judges' personal political

The fifth amendment legitimised all governments that had been in power following the coup of August 15, 1975 till April 9, 1979, including Ziaur Rahman's ascension to the presidency.

On May 25 last year two leave to appeal petitions were filed with the SC against the HC verdict.

Moudud yesterday placed his arguments on behalf of the three lawyer petitioners before a sixmember SC Appellate Division bench headed by Chief Justice Md Tafazzul Islam during the fourth day's hearing of the appeals.

The hearing was later adjourned till this morning.

# Govt pledges to up overseas jobs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is continuing diplomatic efforts to persuade ers have started going to new the Malaysian government labour markets including into reissuing call visas to Romania, Russia, Australia, Minister Khandaker Mosharraf Nigeria and Botswana. Hossain told parliament yes-

understanding with Jordan, markets and increase man-Mauritius, the Maldives and power export. Bahrain to increase manpower

has also planned to send high- crore in foreign currencies. powered delegations to differthe minister said.

in Kuwait is talking to the ducted by the Bureau of Kuwaiti government to ensure Statistics. return of 30,000 Bangladesh workers without them having PM apprises

ers' queries, he said he and the foreign minister earlier discussed the issue of visas with the Malaysian government UNB, Dhaka when they visited the country. "The Malaysian govern-

ment has assured us of giving opportunities to Bangladeshi workers for getting work permits," Mosharraf said in a scripted answer. workers returned home from

Kuwait during the last two bilateralissues. illegally. The Kuwaiti government sometimes legalises

He said Bangladeshi work-

out charging them any fines,"

the minister said.

55,000 Bangladesh workers, South Africa, Sudan, Greece, Expatriates Welfare and Iraq, Estonia, Tanzania, Oversees Employment Liberia, Angola, Algeria, He also underscored the government's different initia-"Signing of memorandums of tives to search for new labour

Mosharraf said a total of exportisunderprocess," he said. 67.41 lakh Bangladeshi work-The minister said the gov- ers went to different countries ernment has planned to send between 1976 and 2009 and manpower to South Korea. It they earned Tk 3,92,993.51

The minister said the nument countries to expand ber of unemployed people is Bangladesh's labour market, 2.1 million in the country, as per the Bangladesh labour He said Bangladesh mission force survey 2005-06 con-

# While replying to lawmak-s' queries, he said he and the president of her India visit

yesterday called on President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban and apprised him of the outcome of her visit to India, during which the two He said 2,600 Bangladesh countries reached broad accords on a number of major During the meeting, the

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

"Many Bangladeshi work- PM informed that she had ers keep hiding after expiry of talks with her Indian countertheir work permits and work part, Dr Manmohan Singh, about different issues.

Describing the India visit those illegal workers' stay and as "successful", the president work under general amnesty expressed his happiness to and allows those, who want to the prime minister about its return home, come back with- outcome.

He was buried at the Central Graveyard of

chairman of board of directors and M Fariduddin Ahmad, managing director of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited, condoled the death. They also prayed for salvation of the

# WEATHER A Temperature may fall

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

Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country during late night till morning, Met Office said.

Prevailing mild to moderate cold over Rajshahi division and the regions of Jessore, Kushtia, Tangail and Srimongal may continue.

Khulna divisions and may remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country. The sun sets in the capital at 5:42pm today and rises at 6:41am tomorrow.

Night temperature may fall slightly over Rajshahi and

Country's highest temperature 29.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 7.5 degrees Celsius at Chuadanga. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded

**Humidity** in

in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in

	Celsius		percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	27.0	15.6	53	32
Chittagong	28.2	13.4	75	44
Rajshahi	25.8	8.2	71	56
Khulna	27.0	12.5	73	56
Barisal	27.5	11.5	78	66
Sylhet	29.2	13.8	56	46
Cox's Bazar	29.5	15.0	67	54
	4-40-00-00	1174179311		-



RUPAYAN **HOUSING ESTATE LTD.** HEAD OFFICE: Rupayan Centre (3rd floor), 72, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212. Phone: 8822526, 9862573 8827591,8858413 Cell:01713 063260,01552 305985,01711 047586,01715 607041 MOTIJHEEL OFFICE: Baladi Manslon, (1st Floor), 16 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000, phone: 9556320, 9569448

9559794, 9559752, Cell: 01713047742, 01552636779 NARAYANGONJ OFFICE: 126,BB. Avenue(1st Floor) Narayagonj, Phone: 9750600, 7635200. Cell: 01199142381, 01716 006542 CHITTAGONG OFFICE: Akhtaruzzaman Centre (6th Floor), 21/22, Agrabad C/A, Ctg.Tel: 031-2516760, 2516761, 2516865, Fax: 2516762 COMILLA OFFICE: Khan Mansion (2nd Floor), Rajgonj, Comilla. Cell: 01719226074 SYLHET OFFICE: Rose View Complex (Pvt.) Ltd. Plot -2, Block - B, Shajalal Upashahar, Sylhet-3100

USA OFFICE: 34-27 Stainway Street, Astoria, NY-11101, USA, Mobile: +1-347-600-4750

Karim Tower Kakrail Size Available: 120-20800 sft.

1sft. = 0.0929 SM