

**PRAN**  
Providing employment  
to over 20,000 men &  
women in rural Bangladesh

**PHILIPS**  
DVD Player  
RSP: 4,250/-  
Customer Service Department: 8855366-8, 01712-465463  
TRANSCOM ELECTRONICS

COMMITTED TO  
**People's Right to Know**  
www.thedailystar.net

Plus Rising Stars

REGD. NO. DA 781 • VOL. XX No. 29 • DHAKA THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2010 • MAGH 29, 1416 BS • SAFAR 25, 1431 HIJRI • 28 PAGES PLUS RISING STARS PRICE: Tk 10.00

## Changes to clip ACC wings

### Anti-graft body writes to govt in response to 23 proposed amendments to the act

**EMRAN HOSSAIN**

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday in its response to the ACC Act amendment proposals forwarded by a cabinet committee made strict reservations on six out of the total 23 points, observing that those will mainly diminish its independence.

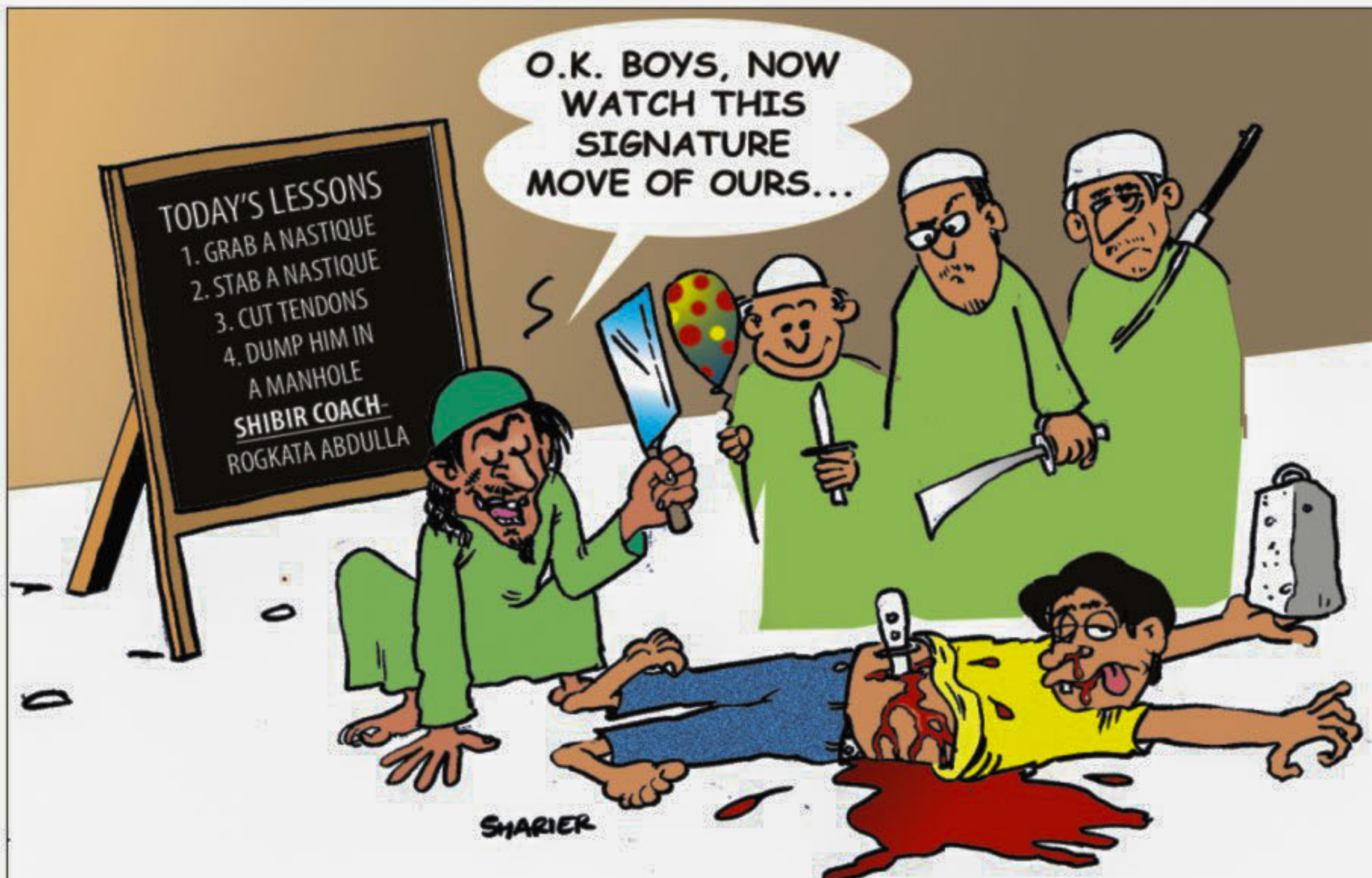
If the amendments were made, the ACC would become a government executive branch-controlled body and its laws would be discriminatory and imbalanced, encouraging rampant corruption in government offices, the anti-graft watchdog observed.

"The Anti-Corruption Commission Act needs to be amended for removing legal complexities hampering the anti-graft drives. There is no need to amend the Act to ensure the commission's accountability as the existing laws have sufficient provisions in this regard," ACC Chairman Ghulam Rahman told The Daily Star.

"We believe the government would take the right decision after considering our opinion," he added.

Cabinet Division Additional Secretary

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



## RU VIOLENCE 600 Shibir men sued, 63 held

**8 cops suspended**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Police and Bangladesh Chhatra League Rajshahi University unit general secretary yesterday filed two cases accusing around 600 Islami Chhatra Shibir activists in connection with Tuesday's violence on campus and the murder of Faruk Hossain.

Meanwhile, Rajshahi Metropolitan Police suspended eight policemen in connection with neglecting their duties.

Police during raids at Rajshahi University and surrounding Jamaat-e-Islami

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

## Law, order better than in past: Sahara

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Home Minister Sahara Khatun claimed yesterday that the country's law and order situation is now better than any other time in the past.

Sahara's claim followed the killings of two university students, and a ward commissioner and a rice trader in Dhaka in last one week.

She was speaking to reporters after presiding over a law and order meeting ahead of the Ekushey February at the ministry.

"We have been able to maintain a relatively better law and order situation than any other governments in the past. We are committed to

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## CNG-run bus catches fire

### 3 killed as cylinder explodes

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

Three persons were burnt alive and nine others injured as the CNG cylinder of a microbus carrying them exploded at Satkania in Chittagong yesterday.

Identities of the deceased could not be confirmed while the injured were Tapu, 27, Delwar Hossain, 40, Mizanur Rahman, 36, Sabuj Mian, 39, Abdus Sattar, 30, Anwar Hossain, 40, Abdus Salam, 30, Ali Asad, 25, and Haider Ali, 34.

The injured were sent to Chittagong Medical College Hospital and the five critically injured were admitted to surgery ward. Police recovered the charred bodies, including the driver, from the spot.

Officer-in-charge of Highway police station at Dohazari under Satkania upazila Rafiqul Islam said, "We are trying to determine the identity of the deceased through contacting the relatives of Ripon, 22, and Shamim, 28."

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

## Shibir was reborn at DU mosque in 1977

**JULFIKAR ALI MANIK**

Islami Chhatra Shibir, Jamaat-e-Islami's student front which was called Islami Chhatra Sangha before Bangladesh's independence and which actively helped Pakistani occupation forces in 1971 to commit genocide and other war crimes, once again came under the spotlight with the latest brutal killing at Rajshahi University.

Islami Chhatra Sangha was reborn on February 6, 1977, at a mosque in Dhaka as Islami Chhatra Shibir. It initially organised its activities mainly based around mosques from

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Shibir grows under teacher-admin care

**MAHAMUDUL HAQUE**

Islami Chhatra Shibir has been perpetrating a reign of terror on Rajshahi University campus for over two decades with the backup from university administration and pro-Jamaat teachers.

Their terror activities cannot be controlled at present as some teachers loyal to Jamaat-e-Islami have been in the administration posing as Awami League loyalists, a few RU teachers told The Daily Star.

Shibir, the student wing of Jamaat, has been able to carry out criminal activities and get away with it since the pro-Jamaat teachers have tactfully recruited their men in the

RU administration as teachers, officials, proctors and even the vice-chancellor, they said.

Another source said even an intelligence agency has worked in favour of Jamaat-Shibir during the recruitment of VC, Pro-VC, proctors and other top officials by giving positive reports to the government on teachers who have good links with Jamaat or work as "secret agents" of that party.

The source alleged that present Vice-Chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan and his close ally Assistant Proctor Mustak Ahmed both have good relations with Jamaat teachers and are secretly working in favour of Shibir men.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## Ban politics of Jamaat, Shibir

**Demand AL lawmakers at JS**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling Awami League lawmakers yesterday in parliament demanded that the government ban politics of Jamaat-e-Islami and pro-Jamaat student organisation Islami Chhatra Shibir to stop politics of killing.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court Bar Association yesterday demanded the government declare Shibir a terrorist organisation for their terrorist activities, including killing Rajshahi University student Faruk Hossain.

Demanding immediate

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1



A rice trader sleeps in his store at Badamtali yesterday after traders called for a strike protesting the killing of rice trader Afil Uddin Miah Tuesday at Babubazar.



## KILLING OF DCC COUNCILLOR Property dispute seen as possible motive

### Family yet to file case; BNP calls half-day strike in the area; rice traders keep shops shut to protest murder of fellow businessman

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A bitter dispute over the ownership of Dhaka Tower on the city's Haji Osman Gani Road might have caused the killing of DCC Councillor Ahamad Hossain at Bangshal Tuesday night, said locals and police.

Sources said there was a dispute over the ownership of Dhaka Tower, earlier a property of Ispahani Group. A case was filed with the court in this connection several years ago, police said.

Hossain's nephew Tanvir Ahmed filed a case with Bangshal Police Station early today accusing unknown armed criminals.

Bangshal police chief Abdul Mannan told The Daily Star that conflict over property and political rivalry were mentioned as the possible motives behind the killing.

Police could not make any headway in finding out the motive behind the killing or arrest anyone.

Following the murder of Hossain, also president of Jubo Dal city (south) unit at Alubazar, business establishments in the area remained closed while BNP and its other front organisations staged demonstrations and brought out a procession with his body.

The BNP called for a half-day hartal today in Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) ward-70, which includes areas of Alubazar, Haji Osman Gani Road, Phulbaria, Nawabpur, Nimtali, Siddiq Bazar, Bangshal and a section of Gullistan.

Deputy Commissioner Anwar Hossain of Lalbagh zone admitted the dispute over Dhaka Tower at Bangshal and said police was looking into the matter along with the feuds over the bus stand and hotel business.

Enmity with top listed fugitive criminal Dakat Shahid, intra-party feud, dispute over the control of Phulbaria Bus Stand and candidature in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

## SSC exams begin today

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Secondary School Certificate and its equivalent examinations begin today with a total of 1,206,019 examinees from 26,192 educational institutions across the country taking the exams.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said that the government has completed all the necessary preparations to hold the examinations in an environment that is peaceful and free of cheating.

He said, "Copying is a menace and we have taken measures to totally remove it. Stern action will be taken against officials, employees or teachers -- whoever it may be -- if they are found to be helping anyone adopt unfair means."

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## 5 dual-fuel power contracts okayed

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The cabinet purchase committee yesterday approved awarding contracts for five public sector dual-fuel power projects with a total production capacity of 350 megawatt to two Chinese companies and a local one.

The approval was given at a meeting of the committee chaired by Finance Minister AMA Muhith at the Cabinet Division.

The meeting approved awarding the deals for two 100 MW power projects in Dohazari and Hathazari to Chinese company Guangdong Power Engineering Company, those for two 50 MW projects in Baghabari and Daudkandi to a Chinese joint venture led by Fujian Electric Power Co, and for a 50 MW plant in Faridpur to local firm Energypac.

Although the Power Development Board selected these

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

## Farmers get agri input cards from Tuesday

**PORIMOL PALMA**

The government will launch a Tk 749 crore diesel subsidy programme for 91 lakh farmers on Tuesday by introducing the first-ever Agriculture Input Assistance Card.

The programme is aimed at streamlining the agriculture subsidy system for increased productivity and checking misappropriation of public funds.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the programme at Atpara upazila in Netrokona where boro transplantation is coming to an end this season.

"The cards have already been printed. Once the cards are distributed the farmers can open a bank account with only Tk 10. And the cash subsidy, meant for irrigation assistance, will automatically be transferred to the farmers' accounts," Agriculture Secretary CQK Mustaq Ahmed told The Daily Star yesterday.

Of the total 1.82 crore farmers of the country 91 lakh marginal, small and medium farmers will get the cash subsidy under the programme.

Due to the introduction of the Agriculture Input Assistance Card, there is no scope of fund misappropriation as had been experienced in the previous years, he said.

Those who own less than half acre of land are marginal farmers, from half acre to 2.5 acres are small, from 2.5 to 7.5 acres are medium and above 7.5 acres are big farmers, according to the officials of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The number of marginal and small farmers is 83 lakh. Each of them will get Tk 800 while each of the 8 lakh medium farmers will get Tk 1000 as subsidy this season, an official said.

"No matter how much land they are cultivating for boro, they will get the amount," the official said.

The card system has been introduced, as the subsidy provided by the government has not always reached the genuine

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## 6 killed as bus plunges into ditch

**OUR CORRESPONDENT**

At least six people were killed and 30 others injured after a bus fell into a roadside ditch at Tetultala under Faridpur sadar upazila yesterday.

The dead were identified as bus supervisor Bachchu Sheikh, 32, of Laxmipur village, Jahangir, 50, of Badarpur village under sadar upazila and helper Alamin, 20, of Shasrali village in Boalmari of the district. The identities of the rest three could not be known.

The injured were taken to Faridpur Medical College Hospital, Faridpur General Hospital and different private clinics.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1