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UPAZILA CHAIRMAN-MP-ADMIN DISCORD Govt to specify role of all: PM

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday assured elected upazila chairmen that authorities of everybody involved in upazila governments will be clearly delineated soon.

The assurance came in the face of a year long grievance of the upazila chairmen that members of the parliament (MPs), and upazila nirbahi officers (UNOs) appointed by the government call all the shots regarding functioning of the local government, relegating the elected chairmen to a subordinate position.

"Your duties in the areas of health, law and order, and development will be specified soon according to a guideline. But make sure that you work in unison with all others to bring the

services to the doorsteps of the people," the premier said addressing the inaugural session of a workshop titled "Upazila Parishad Management and Digital Bangladesh", at the Prime Minister's Office in the capital.

The country's 481 upazila chairmen split into eight groups are attending the three-day workshop, which will also give each participant chairman a laptop with internet accessibility.

Chairman of Sauria upazila parishad in Manikganj, Abdul Majid, alleged that everything including land management, and law and order issues are under the control of local MPs and UNOs. "The lawmakers are controlling us, instead of giving us advice," he complained.

Harunur Rashid, chairman of Dumki

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Enthusiasts fly colourful kites at the Dhaka University playground yesterday a day before Chaitra Sankranti, the end of a Bangla year. Bangladesh Kite Federation's DU unit organised the event. The kites were given interesting names like Shaker Garu, Ramdhanu, Prajapati, Octopus, Mouchak and Mickey Mouse.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

Cabinet okays Hajj Policy

Also approves proposal for changes to local govt laws

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet yesterday approved proposals for amending the Local Government (Union Parishad) Act 2009 and the Local Government (Municipality) Act 2009 to pave the way for holding the long pending elections to the local government bodies.

Chaired by Prime Minister

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PAHELA BAISHAKH

Now Khaleda greets Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

A day after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had sent her greetings, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday greeted the premier on the occasion Bangla New Year 1417.

The premier sent New Year's greetings to Khaleda on Sunday.

Leader of the Opposition's Private Secretary ASM Saleh Ahmed and her APS M Suratuzzaman formally

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MUTINY AT THAKURGAON 50 BDR members jailed, 1 acquitted

QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT from Thakurgaon

A special court yesterday sentenced 50 accused personnel of 20 Rifle Battalion to different jail terms for their involvement in the Thakurgaon BDR mutiny in February last year.

The court however acquitted a jawan as the allegation brought against him could not be proved.

BDR Director General Maj Gen M Mainul Islam, heading the three-member special court-2, delivered the verdict in the mutiny case at 4:00pm. The other members are Lt Col Mahfuzur Rahaman and Maj Didar Al Latif.

Two jawans were sentenced to imprisonment for seven years, five to six years, two to five years and six months, five to five years, two to three years, four to two years, three to thirteen months, 14 to six months and 13 others to four months' rigorous

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Kuet shut after BCL, JCD clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna University of Engineering and Technology was closed yesterday for an indefinite period after a clash between Chhatra League and Chhatra Dal Sunday night over formation of a committee to celebrate Pahela Baishakh.

The decision came at a meeting of the academic council at 11:30pm on Sunday with Vice-Chancellor Prof Mohammad Nausher Ali in the chair.

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Fraud 'pir' held Sued for cheating, attempted murder, probe body formed

A CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Police yesterday arrested fraud pir (spiritual leader) Amzad Hossain Bepari and three of his associates on charge of torturing several children and women in the name of treatment in Sirajdikhan.

Amzad was arrested at his den in Khasnagar village under the upazila along with associates Nuru Member, 45, Kalam, 46, and Ilias, 60.

A three-member probe body was also formed to investigate the matter.

Three cases were filed against Amzad and 15 others on charges of deception and attempt to murder. The fraud pir is the



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RMG workers go on rampage

Vandalise 4 factories for pay hike, 50 hurt in clash at Savar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hundreds of garment workers went berserk at Kalma in Savar, Dhaka, yesterday vandalising and looting four factories. Their attack and subsequent clash with law enforcers left 50 people including policemen and factory officials injured.

Following the incident, production at 15 garment factories in the area was suspended.

Witnesses said 2,300 employees of a sweater unit of Navana Textiles Ltd around 9:30am attacked and looted Century Design and Fashion Pvt Ltd, Synergy Design and Fashion Pvt Ltd, Hot Dress Ltd and New Horizon Bd Ltd.

The workers at Navana were agitating since Thursday to press

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NOTICE

Dear Readers, Rising Stars, your weekly supplement for laughs and nerdy rants is coming on the 14th of April instead of the 15th, due to Pahela Baishakh holidays. Ask your hawkers to save you a copy!

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