

Go strict against BCL crimes

Home ministry asks cops, warns of disciplinary actions for failure; police high-ups to act 'professionally'

KAILASH SARKAR and HASAN JAHID TUSHER
The home ministry has asked police officials to act strictly to curb crimes by Chhatra League activists or face disciplinary measures. The instructions were given to all superintendents of police and officers-in-charge on Thursday. They follow directions from the Prime Ministers' Office to contain unruly activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League, the student body associated with Awami League, said home ministry sources.
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and government policymakers are seriously worried over the way BCL activists are engaged in violence at

educational institutions. The home ministry instructions reflect their concern, added the sources.
The law enforcers must go tough on unruly Chhatra League men, no matter what some influential leaders and lawmakers say or want, said a ministry source citing the message sent to police officials.
A senior home ministry official, who would not be identified talking about internal matter, said, "The message has been communicated to everyone concerned and we hope to see a result within a week."
"If anyone fails to act accordingly, he will

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Water vessels strike begins

Workers reject new wage structure

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Bangladesh Noutjan Sramik Federation called an indefinite strike from midnight rejecting the new wage structure announced yesterday for water transport workers.
As per the new structure, wages of the workers have been raised by 50 to 100 per cent, which makes the minimum salary of a worker Tk 2,850. But the workers earlier demanded Tk 5,000 as the minimum wage.
Shipping Minister Shahjahan Khan announced the salary structure at a press briefing held at Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) conference room yesterday.

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Rushanara Ali
Rushanara makes history
UNB, London

Hung parliament looms in UK

Conservatives win without clear majority

AFP, BBC ONLINE, London/Washington
Britain's opposition Conservatives won 306 seats to become the biggest party in parliament, but face power-sharing talks after falling short of an overall majority, final vote results showed yesterday.
Prime Minister Gordon Brown's Labour party won 258 seats and the Liberal Democrats 57 in the 650-member House of Commons, after the last result from all constituencies contested in elections on Thursday was announced.
Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionists won eight; the Scottish National Party six; Sinn Fein five; the Welsh Plaid Cymru three; Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) three in Northern Ireland, with one each for Greens and

| UK ELECTIONS 2010 | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Parties | Seats |
| Conservative | 306 |
| Labour | 258 |
| Liberal Democrat | 57 |
| Others | 28 |

the Alliance Party, the latter in Belfast.
One seat has yet to be decided: an election will be held for the constituency of Thirsk and Malton in northeast England on May 27, after one of the candidates fighting it died during the

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A section of the Tongi Overpass, which is soon to be inaugurated by the prime minister. The authorities missed the project deadline by two years due to a lack of proper planning, and faulty design. The delay also caused immense sufferings for local residents, and people who use the road.
PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

DEV BUDGET GLITCH

Delay for faulty design

Tongi overpass is complete 2 years past deadline

HELEMUL ALAM
Overshooting the deadline by two years, the newly constructed Tongi overpass is a classic example of how development projects are delayed for bad designs and lack of foresight, ultimately taking a heavy toll on the people.
The overpass on Dhaka-Kaliganj-Ghorashal-Pachdona Road over the Tongi level crossing is a major initiative to ease daily horrible traffic congestion on the road that connects the northern and southern regions of the

country bypassing the capital.
Hundreds of vehicles clog the entire Tongi area round the clock now because traffic halts at the crossing repeatedly. Uncountable work hours are also lost in the jams.
On top of that, during the prolonged period of construction, local residents and traders choked with dust from the construction site.
Around 5,500 vehicles use the road everyday, said Sub-assistant Engineer of Roads and Highway Department of Tongi Division Kazi Nazrul Islam.
Seventy two trains pass by the level

crossing everyday, for which road traffic must be stopped on both sides of the crossing for about 12 hours a day, he added saying, the situation will hugely improve after the overpass opens. It is now expected to be inaugurated by the prime minister soon, he said.
The work started in March 2006 and was supposed to be completed within the next two years. But the contractor could not complete it on time due to 14 months' work suspension, as the design of the overpass was changed twice, he said.

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A taxicab is wrecked yesterday morning in Saidabad of the capital. The bus on the left hit the cab from behind pushing it under the bus on the right. The accident left five persons, including the cabdriver, injured.
PHOTO: FOCUSBANGLA

Junior schools get priority in MPO

Govt selects 1,022 non-govt educational institutions for the facility

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government yesterday listed 1,022 non-government secondary and higher secondary educational institutions for receiving its monthly pay order (MPO) facilities.
The list of schools, colleges, technical institutions and madrasas, which came six years after the annual scheme had been suspended, was posted on the education ministry website (www.moedu.gov.bd) around 4:00am yesterday.
The ministry gave priority to junior schools while preparing the list.
Of the 1,022 institutions, 228 are junior schools, 204 secondary schools, 14 institutions having both school and college sections, 50 higher secondary colleges, 18 degree colleges,

163 dakhil madrasas, 27 alim madrasas, six fazil madrasas, 151 vocational institutions and 161 business management colleges.
Teachers and employees appointed in these institutions as per rules will receive full basic salaries and other benefits from the government from January 1 this year, said an official handout.
Education ministry sources, however, said the ministry will first scrutinise the appointments of these teachers and employees.
The Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education will carry out the next steps for implementing the MPO.
The government allocated Tk 112.35 crore for MPO for this fiscal year.

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FULL LIST ON THE DAILYSTAR.NET

Hasina sees 'plot against democracy'

UNB, Dhaka
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the people to remain alert against any plot by undemocratic forces to destroy the democratic process in the country in future.
"In the past, evil forces, for lust of power, repeatedly denied people's democratic rights and their right to vote," she told journalists at Gano Bhaban on the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of her homecoming from the United States during the last caretaker government.
On this day in 2007, Hasina returned home overcoming the 'restrictions' imposed by the caretaker government.
"We believe in people's power and we stand for it...people must remain

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KHALEDA'S 'BLACK MONEY' Delwar protests PM's remarks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
BNP yesterday termed the prime minister's remark about Khaleda Zia's whitening black money 'objectionable' saying that its chairperson had not whitened any black money.
"It's absolutely untrue and ill-motivated. It's her (PM) narrow-mindedness," Khandaker Delwar Hossain, secretary general of BNP, said at a press conference at the party's central office at Naya Paltan in the city.
He also criticised the prime minister for her statement in which she blamed the previous BNP-led four-party government for the 1/11 change-over.
It is Sheikh Hasina who, on several occasions, has admitted that the military-backed caretaker government was the outcome of their (AL) movement, he alleged.
Ahmed Azam Khan, counsel of Khaleda and member of

WAR CRIMES TRIAL PMO to deal with recruitment in probe agency

HASAN JAHID TUSHER
The Prime Minister's Office is now dealing with the appointments of war crimes probe body members to avoid further controversy.
The PMO itself will finalise the names of the investigators after careful scrutiny, said government high officials.
Controversies arose in recent days over a few appointments at the prosecution panel and investigation agency, both formed on March 25 to work for the International Crimes Tribunal Act, to the embarrassment of the government.
Recommendations by home, law and liberation war affairs ministries and some influential officials at the PMO were the yardsticks to set these two high profile bodies.
The government earlier dropped appointments of two ruling party lawmakers -- Nurul Islam Sujan and Sanjida Khanam -- from the prosecution panel and so far appointed six persons as prosecutors.
The government has decided to appoint more investigators including a probe body chief in the wake of the resignation of chief investigator Abdul Matin.
Matin quitted amid controversy over his alleged student life affiliation with Islami Chhatra Sangha, the then student wing of anti-liberation force Jamaat.

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Youth stabbed dead in Sylhet BNP faction claims 'killing by rivals'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
A day after the clash between two BNP factions in Sylhet city, one of the factions yesterday claimed the dead who succumbed to his stab injuries at Osmani Medical College Hospital as one of their activists.
The deceased Saju Ahmed, 22, son of Manfar Ali of Chhoto Digholi village under Chhatak upazila of Sunamganj, was an employee of a mobile phone shop at the city's Karim Ullah Market.
Thursday's clash between the two BNP factions -- Ilyus Ali group and followers of late finance minister Saifur Rahman -- erupted around 3:20pm. The Ilyus Ali-faction claimed Saju Ahmed as their activist.
However, according to the hospital register, Saju was admitted to the hospital with stab wounds in the abdomen

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