

Did you know?

The Karnak Temple Complex, located near Cairo, Egypt, comprises a vast conglomeration of ruined temples, chapels, pylons, and other buildings, notably the Great Temple of Amen and a massive structure begun by Pharaoh Ramses II (ca. 1391-1351 BC).



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GRIEVANCES OVER MPO LIST

Govt moves to make AL lawmakers happy

Education ministry committee finds no flaws in suspended list; 100 more institutions may get monthly benefit

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The prime minister's education adviser yesterday sent a letter to ruling Awami League lawmakers asking them to check the announced MPO list and give their opinions in a bid to quell their grievances. The letter also asked the lawmakers to send a list of educational institutions in their respective constituency which they want to see MPO-listed, highly placed government sources told The Daily Star. Education Adviser Dr Alauddin Ahmed will also review the list to minimise grievances through inclusion of the lawmakers' desired educational institutions, added the sources. Meanwhile, the committee of the education ministry, which prepared the announced list, has already reviewed the process and got no flaws, says a commit-

tee source.

But considering grievances among the ruling party lawmakers and ministers, the education minister has taken a separate measure to review the list and add 100 more institutions, ministry sources say. These developments came yesterday following Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Monday's directive to review the announced MPO list. Around 50 lawmakers yesterday submitted their recommendations to the adviser, the sources say. The adviser upon getting the opinions would prepare a fresh list in consultation with the education ministry committee and submit it to the prime minister. On the other hand, the education ministry will hand over the new 100 institutions' list to the premier soon. The final list would be prepared based

on the adviser and the minister's lists, one of the top officials at the Prime Minister's Office told The Daily Star yesterday. He said the education adviser would put importance on the lawmakers' opinions as demanded by some ministers, state ministers and many lawmakers. But the education minister would stick to following the rules in formulating new lists, he added. Talking to The Daily Star, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said they would submit a fresh list to the prime minister by adding some more institutions soon after reviewing the list and mentioning the grounds of each inclusion. He said his ministry has already started reviewing the announced list as to whether there is any flaw in it. If there is

Muhith in hospital
Doctors say he's out of danger

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhith is under observation at the intensive care unit (ICU) of Square Hospital, Dhaka due to high blood pressure. "The minister is out of danger," said Prof Sanawar Hossain, director of Medical Services of Square Hospital, SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Keep politics away from education
Urge noted educationists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leading educationists in the country yesterday said the government should not bring any educational institutions under Monthly Pay Order (MPO) facilities on political SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Now it's turn for businessmen
Apex body wants ACC to take its permission before graft litigation; demands to make bureaucrats, lawmakers pay tax

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following the footsteps of bureaucrats, the business community now demands the Anti-corruption Commission seek permission from Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry before filing cases against businessmen. FBCCI yesterday also recommended that all state and government functionaries including the president, prime minister, ministers, lawmakers, judges and bureaucrats should be brought under the tax net according to their salaries and other benefits. "ACC needs to obtain the government permission before filing any corruption case against government officials, likewise cases against businessmen should be filed after taking clearance from the FBCCI," said FBCCI President Annisul Huq. He said this at a meeting of the consultative committee on budget jointly organised by FBCCI and National Board of Revenue (NBR). Recently the cabinet has approved a proposal to amend anti-corruption law to make it mandatory for receiving the government permission before filing graft cases against public servants. At a meeting held at Hotel Sheraton, Hamim Group Chairman AK Azad said, "Businessmen are the lifeblood of the SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

HC BENCH SWITCH
Khaleda files plea with acting CJ

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday submitted an application to Justice MA Matin, now performing the functions of the chief justice in his absence, for shifting the writ petition concerning her cantonment house to another SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

BNP rally at Barisal today

A CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia will address a divisional grand rally at Bangabandhu Uddayan today as part of her country-wide anti-government campaign. On this occasion the city is adorned with colorful gates, digital banners and posters to SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

2ND BURIGANGA BRIDGE
Three-wheeler drivers block road, protest toll collection

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several hundreds of rickshaw-van pullers and auto-rickshaw drivers yesterday staged a two-hour-long demonstration on the second Buriganga Bridge in Keraniganj demanding withdrawal of toll collection from the next fiscal year. During the demonstration at Kadamtali on southern part of the bridge, vehicular movement came to a halt for two hours from 9:00am causing severe traffic congestion on both ends of the bridge. They demanded an end to the toll collection for what they said it increases expenditure of passengers and drivers of such small mode of SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Prayer Timing		
May 12		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-34	6-38
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation



PHOTO: STAR

Rickshaw pullers and auto-rickshaw drivers under the banner Second Buriganga Bridge Toll Free Sangram Parishad hold a demonstration near the bridge in Keraniganj yesterday demanding free passage of their vehicles.

SHIP-BREAKING YARD

Pre-cleaning report must before import

HC orders action against shipping staff for misinterpreting its earlier directive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday in an order ruled that no ship could be imported in Bangladesh without pre-cleaning and environmental certificates from exporting countries. It said the Department of Shipping could issue no objection certificates (NOCs) to those ships only seeing such certificates and compliance of other legal obligations. The ship exporters have to ensure that their ships are not hazardous, a lawyer said. The court ordered the director general of the Department of Shipping to take departmental action against its assistant chemist Fawzia for misinterpreting its March 17, 2009 verdict on the closure of ship-breaking yards. It also asked the director general to inform this court within two months about the action against Fawzia. The HC bench of Justice Md Imman Ali and Justice Obaidul Hasan came up with the order after Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers' Association (Bela) filed an application on Nov 15, 2009, for court directives. Bela said the government has been arbitrarily authorising import of ships with hazardous substances. The bench ordered for taking action against Fawzia after examining her official note given on March 22, 2009. She said in SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

100 BRTC buses hit road
PM says every Dhaka college to get 2 buses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) yesterday launched 100 new CNG-run buses for city service amid criticism over quality and durability of the vehicles. Quality of the fibre body of the buses is very low and these buses are not fit for the Dhaka roads, BRTC bus depots officials told The Daily Star requesting anonymity. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the fleet of single-decker buses at a function in the city to meet the high demand for public transport service. She directed the authorities concerned to introduce BRTC bus services for educational institutions and banks. The prime minister said the government would provide two buses for each of the colleges in the capital. BRTC imported the buses of Dongfeng Motor Company in SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

S Korea to hire more workers
Offers to invest heavily ahead of Hasina's trip

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

South Korea will increase its quota for Bangladeshi workers from this year and make an investment that will generate jobs for 3.5 lakh people in the country. Newly appointed Korean Ambassador in Dhaka Taiyoung Chao said this yesterday at a press conference called ahead of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's three-day official visit to his country from May 16. As the largest investor in EPZ, South Korea has so far invested more than \$ 1 billion in Bangladesh creating jobs for over 1.55 lakh people, Chao said. Korean companies are expected to invest \$ 1 billion more that will create jobs for 3.5 lakh people in the Korean Export Processing Zones (KEPZ), Chittagong, he added. SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

JATRABARI-GULISTAN FLYOVER
Inaugural ceremony postponed

BSS, Dhaka

Inaugural ceremony of the construction works of Jatrabari-Gulistan flyover by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on May 13 at 11:00am has been postponed due to unavoidable reasons. Fresh date and time of the SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

OnlinePoll

Do you think the cases against former AL lawmaker Haji Mohammad Selim that the government has withdrawn were politically motivated?

☐ Yes (68.1%)
☐ No (30.1%)
☐ No Comments (1.8%)

Total votes: 499

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think PM's directive to suspend the effectiveness of the recently announced MPO list following some ministers' demand is justified?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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Dubai Office: Jabel Ali Free Zone, LB-16221, Dubai, UAE
Contact: +971-552428611, E-mail: dubai@paradisecables.com

paradise@paradisecables.com, www.paradisecables.com