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Probe focuses on Jamaat's JMB link

SHARIFUL ISLAM

Police yesterday focused on Jamaat-e-Islami's alleged link with banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) as they interrogated detained Jamaat leaders Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid and Delwar Hossain Sayedee.

Law-enforcement agencies learned about Jamaat's alleged link with JMB from detained chief of the outfit Saidur Rahman alias Zafar.

Sources say Saidur told interrogators that there are at least 25 Jamaat-e-Islami Rokan [highest position in the party's primary level] members who are concurrently holding posts in JMB.

Jamaat's Publicity Secretary Tasneem Alam straightaway denied the allegation. "We actually don't want to comment on this matter as the information gleaned in remand is not supposed to be made public," he told The Daily Star.

In a press release, the party later claimed it does not have even the remotest link with the militants.

Officer-in-Charge of Paltan police station Shahidul Haque yesterday said, "We questioned Mojahid and Sayedee whether their party has any connection with JMB, but they denied the allegation."

A top police interrogator, however, said following their denial, they mentioned specific names of some Jamaat rokan who are also Gayeri Ehsar [part-time] and Ehsar [full-time] JMB members.

"We wanted to know how a Jamaat member can be involved with a banned organisation when no-one in the party takes any

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Jamaat's fresh agitation plan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday came up with a fresh five-day programme including demonstrations across the country today and tomorrow, demanding the release of its top three leaders.

The party leaders will also form human chains on July 7, and its leaders and workers will be fasting on July 9 and 10.

Party's acting Secretary General ATM Azharul Islam announced the programme at a press conference at the party's headquarters in the city's Boro Moghbazar.

Jamaat at the conference denied allegations of its involvement in any subversive activities in the country.

Jamaat Ameer (Chief) Motiur Rahman Nizami, Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid and

Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee were arrested from the capital and

Savar on June 29 on charges of hurting religious sentiments

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2



Agitators put barricade on Dhaka-Mymensingh road yesterday protesting against the Rajuk's satellite town project in Gazipur. The mob brought out processions and set fire to a factory. The project has been cancelled following the prime minister's intervention. Story on page 1.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Amendment needed to stop false case filing

Shafique on women, children repression prevention act

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday said the women and children repression prevention act should be amended in order to prevent its misuses by the victims.

In many cases, the victims file cases against the offenders and a number of their relatives though all of them are not involved in the offences, he said, adding that many of the accused are, therefore, acquitted on the court orders.

The minister made the

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Govt misses out on Tk 100cr every year

Some post offices collecting motor tax, fees without maintaining proper entry

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government exchequer is deprived of about Tk 100 crore every year as a huge amount of motor vehicle tax and fees deposited through post offices remain unaccounted for, says a communications ministry report.

In this context, a ministry proposal for collecting motor vehicle tax and fees through online instead of post offices will be placed today before the cabinet committee on purchase.

The ministry proposes to appoint Computer Network Systems Ltd in associ-

ation with South East Bank and Telnet to provide the online service. Names of these private firms came up following reviews in phases.

Up to now, the tax and fees are collected through the country's 94 post offices including 18 in Dhaka city.

Citing Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) statistics the report says, in some post offices the realised tax and fees are not properly registered or no entry is made rendering it impossible to get a correct account of the money deposited.

Customers often have to pay the revenues twice. Even embezzlement of the realised money has been reported.

Additional revenue of Tk 150 crore will be realised each year if the motor vehicle tax and fees are collected online, ministry sources said.

In fiscal year 2008-09, revenue earned from motor vehicle tax and fees was about Tk 647 crore and Tk 660 crore in the last fiscal year.

The communications ministry has recommended appointing the private

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

200 killed in DR Congo oil tanker fire

BBC ONLINE

At least 200 people are feared dead after an oil tanker exploded and set fire to parts of a village in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The truck, travelling from Tanzania, overturned in the village of Sange near the country's eastern border.

The fuel oil spread through the village before exploding, AFP news agency said.

At least another 100 people are believed injured. Such accidents are not uncommon in the region, and the death toll is often high because people try to collect spilled oil.

The village is close to the border with Burundi. Congolese military sources and local Red Cross officials said the death toll could be more than 200 dead and more than 100 wounded.

A security source in the United Nations mission in DR Congo said there were "223 dead and 110 injured".

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BNP, IOJ for tougher movement against govt

Khaleda meets ally leaders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP and its ally Islami Oikya Jote yesterday decided to go for a tougher united movement against what they said government repression on opposition, and violation of human rights.

The two parties also decided to intensify the ongoing anti-government movement after Ramadan.

They took the decisions at a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Sheikh Helal gets gold key at reception

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Bagerhat Municipality Mayor Khan Habibur Rahman yesterday gave a 2.5-tola gold key as gift to Awami League lawmaker Sheikh Helal at a citizen reception in Bagerhat stadium.

He also placed a list of demands including the dredging of Baleshwar and other rivers in the district.

Bagerhat district AL president and lawmaker Mozammel Hossain, Khulna

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PHOTO COURTESY: FOREST DEPARTMENT

This river dolphin, popularly known as shushuk, was caught from the Dudhkumar River in Kurigram on Thursday by a group of fishermen and brought to a market for sale. Later, the Forest department rescued the rare species and released it into the river.

Dolphin rescued, released in river

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Wildlife Division of Forest Department rescued a river dolphin (Platanista gangetica) locally known as Shusuk from Bhurungamari upazila in Kurigram and released it in Dudhkumar river on July 1.

Fishermen netted the dolphin from Dudhkumar river on July 1 and brought it

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

MAN FOUND DEAD Suspect beaten to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A youth died as family members of a murder victim beat him up suspecting his involvement in the killing at Jhapjhapia in Bhangura upazila of the district yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Moynal, 25, son of Dabir Uddin of Jhapjhapia village.

Locals and police said the incident took place hours after police had recovered the decomposed body of Ramzan Ali, 27, son of Tajer Ali of the same village, from a bag left near the village graveyard around 9:30am.

Ramzan had been missing for the last five days.

His family members accompanied by villagers beat up Moynal and his friends Jahir Uddin, Shaheen and Jakir Hossain near

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

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Russian ship 'under control'

BBC ONLINE

A cargo vessel which failed to dock with the International Space Station is under control, a Russian space agency official has said. Mission controllers are still trying to establish what went wrong with the docking system on the ship.

The spaceship was carrying food, fuel and other supplies, but the station is still currently well stocked.

There will not be another attempt to dock the delivery vehicle before Sunday, officials said.

There had been a failure of radio contact needed to complete the docking, according to the US space agency Nasa.

But Russian space agency deputy head Vitaly Davydov later said the ship, called Progress, was not out of control.

"The Progress ship and the international space station are in working order and reliable communication with them is being maintained," Mr Davydov told Russian television.

The six astronauts on the space station were never in any danger during the incident, Nasa said.

The first docking attempt had been due to happen at 1658 GMT.

After the problem arose, the Progress was forced to make a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

ADMISSION GOING ON



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