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DCs prefer limited disclosure of info

Minister asks them to ensure free flow as per RTI law

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A number of deputy commissioners at a conference yesterday expressed reservations about sharing all information with people, preferring limited disclosure.

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad however instructed the administrators to facilitate free flow of information through enforcement of the Right to Information Act.

"The Act has been promulgated to ensure that all citizens get the desired information," he said in a session for information and cultural affairs ministry at the Cabinet Division of the Secretariat.

If anyone needs information, the person should fill in and submit a prescribed form, and the DC has to provide the person with the infor-

ation, he said.

Azad asked the administrators to take steps against projection of vulgar movies at theatres.

Commerce Minister Faruk Khan advised them to be alert against unscrupulous traders, middlemen and hoarders to prevent any artificial food crisis ahead of the Ramadan.

He said there is no scope for price hike of essentials as the government has adequate stock of daily commodities.

"We are reviving the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh to keep the market stable. Adequate amount of soya bean and palm oil, sugar, pulses and chickpea has been stockpiled to keep their prices within people's reach," said Faruk.

He said the supply of essentials and their

Cops deplore DCs' demand for more authority

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hitting out at the comments deputy commissioners made on Sunday, police high-ups yesterday said the district administrators' seeking "absolute control over the law enforcers exposes their colonial mindset".

At a press briefing at the police headquarters, Bangladesh Police Service Association (BPSA) leaders said some statements at the DC conference have caused strong reactions within the police ranks.

For an organ of the government, trying to dominate another is unfortunate and indicative of bureaucratic mentality, they observed.

Nuruzzaman Mahfuzul Huq, the association's general secretary and Gazipur superintendent of police, read out a statement at the press meet.

Among others, Inspector General of Police Nur Mohammad, Additional IGP Naba Bikram Kishore Tripura, association president and Additional IGP Hassan Mahmood Khandker were in attendance.

The association in its statement opposed the proposal for forming an administrative police unit.

Murder case against Ruhul Quddus stayed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed for three months the proceedings of a murder case filed in Rajshahi against nine people including Ruhul Quddus Babu appointed as an HC judge earlier this year.

The case was filed with Motihar Police Station in Rajshahi in 1988 on charges of killing Aslam Hossain, a top activist of Islami Chhatra Shibir unit of the Rajshahi University (RU).

Earlier On April 8, a Rajshahi court allowed a government prayer for withdrawal of the case.

The HC bench of Justice Sheikh Rezwan Ali and Justice Md Habibul Gani yesterday however issued a rule upon the government and

PM pledges food autarky in 3 yrs

Says Bangladesh will be able to export food by 2013

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said her government is aiming to make Bangladesh fully self-sufficient in terms of the production, distribution and consumption of food by 2013.

The premier further said Bangladesh will not only attain food autarky, by scaling up production it will also be able to export food to many countries.

"Bangladesh will be self-sufficient in food once again," said Hasina, addressing a function arranged on the occasion of distribution of "Bangabandhu National Agriculture Award 2010" in the city's Osmani Auditorium yesterday morning.

She also called on the country's scientists to come up with new varieties of crops, which are adaptable to the changed global climate.

Hasina said flash floods, delayed and heavy rains, long-standing drought, excessive temperature and other natural hazards are taking place due to climate change.

"Now you, the scientists have to invent such crops which will



Police charge truncheons on students of private universities at Mohakhali intersection in the capital after the students barricaded the Airport Road demanding VAT on their university fees be withdrawn.

PROTEST AGAINST VAT ON FEES Students block road, vandalise vehicles in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A few hundred students of private universities yesterday barricaded the Airport Road at Mohakhali in Dhaka for about four hours demanding withdrawal of VAT levied on their tuition and other fees.

They vandalised at least 10 vehicles and clashed sporadically with police at Mohakhali intersection during their demonstration. Police charged truncheons and lobbed teargas canisters to disperse them, which left at least 15 students, policemen and pedestrians with minor injuries.

The demonstration disrupted traffic movement for hours on the thoroughfare triggering long tailbacks.

Students of North South University, East West University, American International University of Bangladesh (AIUB), Brac University, Dhaka International University and other private universities took to the streets around 1:00pm demanding withdrawal of 4.5 percent VAT slapped on their tuition and other fees.

They said they formed a human chain around noon on both sides of the Airport Road between Mohakhali and Kakoli as per their earlier announced programme.

BDR CARNAGE Court accepts charges against 824 accused

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka Court yesterday took into cognisance the charges against 801 Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel and 23 civilians in connection with the carnage during last year's mutiny in the border security force's headquarters.

After scrutinising the case diary and other relevant documents, Metropolitan Magistrate SK Tofail Hassan passed the order.

The court issued arrest warrants against 21 BDR

OnlinePoll

Do you think the government will be able to implement the detailed area plan of Dhaka city?

Yes (51.5%)

No (47.4%)

No Comments (1.1%)

Total votes: 625

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with deputy commissioners that law and order is deteriorating hampered due to non-cooperation of police?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Jatrabari flyover project goes to court

COURT CORRESPONDENT

UAE-based Belhasa Engineering & Construction Company yesterday filed a case with a Dhaka court accusing Belhasa Accom and Associates Ltd, a 'concern' of Orion Group, of defrauding its name in the Gulistan-Jatrabari flyover project.

It also sought a court order to cancel the registration of Belhasa Accom and Associates Ltd.

Representing Belhasa Engineering as its power of attorney Zubair Ahmed

Two women outlaws jailed for life

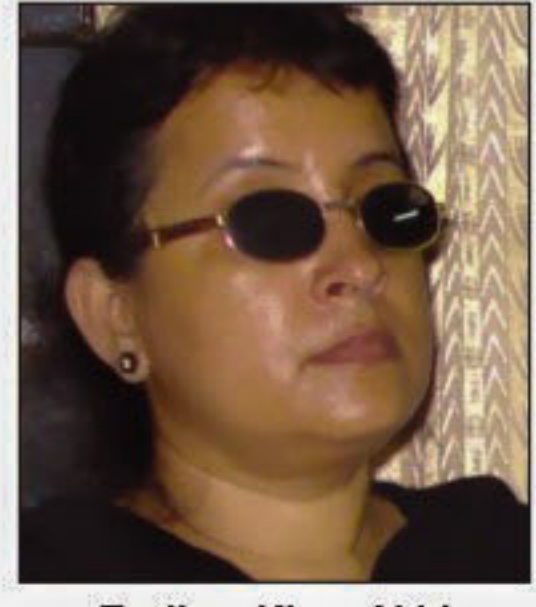
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A court here yesterday sentenced four outlaws of Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF) including two female members to life in prison in an arms case.

Judge of Special Judge's Court, Kushtia Akbar Hossain Mridha announced the verdict after examining records and 30 witnesses.

The convicts are Taslima Khan Akhi, expelled general secretary of Kushtia town Mahila Awami League (AL), Rani Khatun of housing area, Abdur Razzak of Kalishankarpur and Sahinur Rahman of Mahisdanga in Kushtia sadar upazila.

The court acquitted driver Akkas Ali Mollah



Taslima Khan Akhi

who was carrying the outlaws in a microbus.

According to the prosecution, three separate police teams led by the then Assistant Police Super (ASP-Headquarters), Kushtia Alamgir Hossain intercepted a Kushtia bound microbus from Daulatpur upazila in Trimohoni area on the outskirts of Kushtia around 12:45am on November 3, 2009.

When the law enforcers wanted to search the microbus, Akhi introduced herself as an AL leader and got into a squabble. At one stage she tried to start the microbus and flee, but police foiled her attempt.

The law enforcers searched the microbus

Constitutional amendment unnecessary

Says SQ Chowdhury

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury yesterday said the constitutional amendment is unnecessary following the cancellation of the Fifth Amendment.

Changes to the constitution were not required after the court verdict cancelling a part of the Eighth Amendment regarding setting up of a High Court bench outside Dhaka, and this time also it is unnecessary to bring changes in the country's charter after the cancellation of the Fifth Amendment, he said at a press

Housewife killed for dowry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Saudi expatriate strangled his 19-year-old wife to death over dowry in their house at North Goran in the city's Khilgaon early yesterday.

He then left their one-year-old son with his mother-in-law at East Goran and fled.

The victim Konika Akhter, wife of Ali Hossain, 35, lived on the ground floor of a five-storey building. She was found dead in her bedroom around 11:30am.

Konika's family members claimed that Ali, who married her three years earlier, killed her for a sum of Tk 6 lakh with which he planned to start a business. He had been pushing her for the

Congratulations

The Honorable Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina is presenting the National Award to Mr. Raqibur Rahman, Director Mostafa Group of Industries for MOSTAFA SHRIMP PRODUCTS LTD.



Mostafa Group of Industries
M. Rahman Chamber, 277 Khatungonj, Chittagong, Bangladesh.

ANTI-STATE ACTIVITIES Fresh remand for Nizami, Mojahid

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami and its Secretary General Ali Ahsan Muhammad Mojahid on a three-day remand each in a case filed against JMB leaders in connection with anti-state activities.


Metropolitan Magistrate Rokhsana Begum Happy passed the order after Detective Branch (DB) Inspector Sheikh Mahbubur Rahman, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, produced them before her with a ten-day remand prayer for each.

The case was filed with Kadamtoli Police Station on May 23 for indulging in anti-state activities.

Earlier, Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) Chief Moulana Saidur Rahman, who was shown arrested in the case and was placed on a six-day remand, implicated Jamaat leaders with anti-state activities.

Following his statement, Nizami, Mojahid and Delwar Hossain Sayedee were shown arrested in the case on July 23.

FAUZIA CHOWDHURY (JESMINE)



It is with heavy heart and grief unbound that we announce the sad demise of Fauzia Chowdhury (Jasmine), on board the Qatar Airways Flight to New Jersey, on the evening of 23rd July 2010.

Jasmine was a loving mother to two daughters, Sadaf and Naureen, doting grandmother to her three grandsons, and devoted wife to Lt.Col (ret'd) Gyas Chowdhury. Besides them, she leaves behind her mother, Fatima Azhar Chowdhury and sisters, Tanzim Hai, Nazneen Rahman and Jabeen Sayeed, and sons-in-law Moyeen Ahmed and Saad Z Hossain, to mourn her loss. She was the daughter of Late Col. Azharul Haq Chowdhury.

Due to her endearing nature she befriended a great many people along the way and touched many lives.

The family will reach Dhaka on the morning of Thursday, 29th July 2010. Her Namaz-e-Janaza will be held on the same day InshaAllah at Azad Mosque, Gulshan Avenue, after Asr prayers. All friends and relatives are requested to attend and pray for the salvation of her departed soul.