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Strengthen Information Commission

JS body asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday asked the government to recruit competent and honest persons in the Information Commission in order to protect the credibility of its information.

Expressing dissatisfaction over its "slow and limited progress" in providing information, the parliamentary standing committee on the information ministry asked the commission to expedite its activities and ensure that people from every sector get right information.

After a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, Obaidul Quader, chief of the parlia-

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TIB SURVEY

Most people against clipping ACC wings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three in every four people in the country oppose the government move to make it mandatory for the Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) to take permission before filing corruption cases against public servants, a Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) surveys says.

An equal number of respondents of the survey said the government did not take necessary steps to strengthen the ACC in line with its electoral pledges.

Conducted on 3,998 adults of age group between 18 and 57 in the country's seven divisions in early July, the survey finds that the cabinet's approval to amend the ACC law will turn the anti-graft body into an ineffective institution.

The cabinet on April 26 approved amend-

ment of the Anti-corruption Commission Act, 2004 by incorporating the provisions of taking government permission before filing graft cases against bureaucrats, making ACC accountable to the president, introducing penalty for filing false cases and appointment of ACC secretary by the government.

The cabinet approved these amendments ignoring criticism from various groups and experts and the appeal from the ACC itself not to do so.

Notably, 43 percent of the surveyed government service holders are against taking permission prior to filing a case against public servants. Eighty percent politicians, 81 percent private service holders and 78 percent businessmen are also against the provision.

"Prime minister repeatedly assured us of making the Anti-corruption Commission

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Dhaka City Corporation workers remove construction materials illegally occupying a Dhanmondi road in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Verdict paves way for secular democracy

Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) verdict on the fifth amendment to the constitution paved the way for secular multiparty democracy and development, Law Minister barrister Shafique Ahmed said yesterday.

He was speaking at a workshop styled "Combating terrorism in Bangladesh: developing a national

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5TH AMENDMENT JUDGMENT

Mixed reaction among lawyers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A number of senior legal experts yesterday expressed mixed reactions over the Supreme Court verdict that declared illegal the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution.

Constitution expert Dr M Zahir welcomed the apex court verdict and its observations. He said the apex court judgement is good on the whole since it has paved the way to bring back secularism and socialism as state principles.

He however contradicted the SC observations on the issue of citizenship of the people of Bangladesh. It was not a matter of past and close, and not related to the prayer in the petition, on which the HC had declared the amendment illegal, he said.

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Save Shuvadda canal from grabbers

Environmentalists urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environmentalists yesterday demanded that the government dismantle illegal establishments erected on the Shuvadda canal to protect it from the grabbers.

They made the demand from a rally organised by the Poribesh Bachao Andolon (POBA) in front of the Zora Bridge on Shuvadda canal,

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BNP's FIRST NEC MEET TOMORROW

Conflict, anti-govt strategy top agenda

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

Conflict within the party and strategy to forge an anti-government movement are likely to top the agenda for the first meeting of BNP's national executive committee tomorrow.

The meet will be held at the Diploma Engineers' Institute auditorium in the capital.

Party's Joint Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday told The Daily Star that at the meeting the party would draw up guidelines on organisational issues in consultation with both policy makers and the

grassroots.

Leaders from district units said, they would bring intra-party feud to the BNP chairperson's attention if allowed to address the gathering.

MA Salam, president of its Bagerhat district unit, said there was a huge disagreement within the party and it must be patched up immediately.

He also said, the party should put more pressure on the government by observing peaceful actions but refrain from holding harmful programmes like hartal.

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Sayedee on remand in 2 cases

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Jamaat-e-Islami Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee on a one-day fresh remand in connection with a case filed following an attempt on Prof Humayun Azad's life.

He was also placed on a three-day remand in connection with a case filed against Jama'at ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) leaders for anti-state activities. This case

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PHOTO: STAR

Dinajpur Education Board Chairman Taslima Akter Banu encounters papers thrown by muster roll employees in a fit of rage last evening. Taslima allegedly made fresh recruitment move skipping their job regularisation.

RECRUITMENT ROW Staff confine Dinajpur Edn Board chairman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Law enforcers rescued Dinajpur Education Board Chairman Taslima Akter Banu yesterday evening after unruly muster roll staff kept her confined in the office room for hours alleging her of taking bribes for making fresh recruitments.

At least 109 employees of the Board, recruited in 2007 on temporary basis by the then Chairman Md Sanaulah, also

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Govt to recruit 582 docs soon

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday gave a strong instruction to doctors who have been posted in villages to perform their duties at their respective villages and make sure that villagers do not suffer for lack of doctors.

Recently, 3,500 physicians were recruited on ad hoc basis by relaxing rules, she said and asked the physicians to stay in their offices during official duties.

The premier gave the directives while addressing the inaugural session of Doctors' Conference at Gono Bhaban.

"We will appoint 582 more doctors very soon," she said adding more physicians will be needed to ensure timely and quality medical services for the people living in remote areas.

The PM said she often read news that doctors posted in the remote areas do not attend office regularly. "Recently, I have read a report that out of nine doctors in a rural hospital, seven doctors do not attend office regularly," she said.

Hasina declared that all hospitals at upazila level with 35-bed

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Muggers kill police source

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers chopped a source of the police to death yesterday at Pallabi under Mirpur section 11 in the capital.

Locals rushed Mohammad Sumon, 20, to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with a critical injury to his head. But later he was shifted to a local clinic at Pallabi where he succumbed to his injuries at around 2:00pm.

Witnesses said, Sumon, a resident of Behari camp at Mirpur section 11 was hit on the head with a cleaver by the muggers while he along with local people chased the miscreants.

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Dhaka joins global move to save tigers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh joins hand with 12 other Tiger Range Countries (TRC) to save global tiger population.

Tiger is treated as one of the most critically endangered animals fast disappearing from the world. Only 3,200 big cats (Panthera Tigris) of five sub-species exist in the wild of 13 countries including Bangladesh.

Back in 1900, there were around 100,000 tigers around the globe, says International Tiger Report. Experts predict the tigers will be extinct in the next century if strong measures are not taken to save them.

The prime ministers of the TRC -- Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Thailand and Vietnam -- are expected to meet at the Tiger Conservation Summit in Pittsburgh, Russia in September.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina may attend the conference, which is likely to make some new announcements.

The Balinese tiger, Javanese tiger and Caspian tiger have already been extinct from the world. Now there are five sub-species including Bengal Tiger, Siberian Tiger, Sumatran Tiger, South China Tiger and Indo-China Tiger.

Currently, half of this entire tiger population is surviving in 56 forest areas in India.

Despite frequent natural calamities, worsening environment and growing salinity in the Sundarbans, Bangladesh is the only country now that claims the number of tigers has recently risen in the forest.

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**OnlinePoll** ✓

Do you think the government should ban religion based political parties following the cancellation of the 5th amendment of the constitution by the Supreme Court?

Yes (36.84%)  
No (62.63%)  
No Comments (0.53%)

**Total votes: 2272**

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you think the new minimum wage of Tk 3000 for ready made garment workers will help bring an end to the ongoing unrest in the industry?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**Prayer Timing**

July 30

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-20	4-55
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-50	6-55
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমানের জন্মভূমি ও বাল্য স্মৃতি ধন্য

**গোপালপঞ্জের**

**শ্রী পাড়ার**

**৩৩তম**

**শুভ উদ্বোধন**

আগামীকাল ৩১ জুলাই, ২০১০

উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী বঙ্গবন্ধু কন্যা জননেত্রী শেখ হাসিনা প্রধান অতিথি হিসেবে উপস্থিত থেকে শুভ উদ্বোধন করতে সদয় সম্মতি জ্ঞাপন করেছেন।

স্থান: পৌর সুপার মার্কেট পটিপাটী বাজার, টুঙ্গীপাড়া গোপালপঞ্জা

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