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People's Right to Know

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Plus The STAR

Aged leopard dies at zoo 40 other animals suffer from diseases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT An aged leopard died of liver disease at the Dhaka zoo yesterday two weeks after the death of elephant Pabantara at the wildlife park, said zoo

authorities. Nearly 40 other aged animals suffering from various diseases now await death at the zoo.

The male leopard named Jadu had been suffering from liver disease and other old age complications, they said.

"It was one of the 42 aged animals at the zoo," said Dr Shahidullah, acting curator at the wildlife park.

The authorities formed an enquiry committee to find out the cause of the death of the sixteen and a half years old leopard.

Oil import to skyrocket 3 telecos fined

Fuel-guzzling rental plants to ease power-cuts but up prices from next year

SHARIER KHAN

The government's desperate bid to end load-shedding from early next year through awarding contracts of two dozen fast-track oil-based power projects may significantly cut power crises, but it would also impose huge petroleum import cost on the national exchequer.

According to officials, these new plants would need around 1.9 million tonnes of diesel and heavy fuel oil each year. This would put heavy pressure on the country's foreign currency reserve which already spends around \$2.5 billion for the nation's annual import of 3.5 million tonnes of oil.

"This is why a proposal will be sent to the Energy Regulatory Commission seeking its approval to increase power tariff up to Tk 3.5 per unit [per kilowatt hour] from the existing Tk 2.7," said

Planning of the Power Development Board (PDB).

Though the cost for oil import will be high, the cost of not having enough power is even higher and is taking a heavy toll on the country's GDP growth and triggering mass discontent, officials say.

To quickly end the perennial loadshedding caused by gas supply shortfall to the existing power plants, the government opted for expensive diesel and heavy fuel oil (HFO)-based power projects to add around 2,400 megawatt of power by the end of next year. Use of oil would ensure that the ongoing gas crunch would not affect this new power generation.

This power is equal to half of the power being supplied today but still falls a little behind the projected power demand of next year.

In two rounds this year, PDB has signed 16 rental power contracts to generate 1,550 MW power in phases within May

next year.

Of these, PDB signed 13 unsolicited deals between June and last week. A British company named Aggreko that bagged one such unsolicited deal has already started power generation.

Except for this British company, all other contractors are local entrepreneurs, most of who lack experience in power sector but have good balance sheets.

A couple of these local entrepreneurs like Otobi and Rahimafrooz have already missed their deadlines and paid the government financial penalties. Industry insiders believe many of these contractors may fail to meet their deadlines due to lack of experience.

However, PDB expects that most of them would eventually be able to launch their plants by next summer.

"We expect to add 1,300 to 1400 megawatt non-gas-based power by the next

HC declares use of nat'l anthem as ringtone illegal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday declared illegal the use of Bangladesh national anthem as ringtone or callers' tune on mobile phones and charging subscribers money for this service.

The court in a verdict also fined Grameenphone, Banglalink and Aktel (now known as Robi) Tk 50 lakh each for using the national anthem as a business tool.

Interesting, the court did not ask for the fine to be paid to the

government coffer, rather it instructed the mobile phone service operators to pay it to three welfare organisations, including Kidney Research Centre and National Heart Foundation. It asked the operators to pay the sum to the institutions

within 30 days after getting the certified copy of the verdict.

The HC bench of Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury and Justice Farah Mahbub delivered the verdict after hearing a writ petition that was filed in 2006. Kalipada Mridha, a Supreme Court lawyer, filed the petition as public interest litigation stating that the three mobile phone service operators had illegally been using the national anthem as ringtone or callers' tune for business purpose.

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DODGY DOCTORS 20 teams to visit rural hospitals

UNB, Dhaka

Twenty vigilance teams of the Health Ministry will conduct surprise visits from next week to monitor the functioning of the government hospitals and Upazila health complexes across the country.

"The vigilance teams will start visiting health complexes from next week to monitor whether physicians and other staffs are giving proper health services to patients or not," Health Minister AFM Ruhal Haque told UNB after visiting Sirajdikhan Upazila Health Complex in Munshiganj yesterday afternoon.

Ruhal Haque went to the Health Complex as part of his surprise visit one day after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's tough warning that **SEE PAGE 15 COL 4**

20-STOREY BUILDING

Noor Ali admits to crime

JS body asks him to hand it over to govt after construction

RASHIDUL HASAN

Businessman Noor Ali has confessed doing various illegal work during the tenure of previous Awami League, and BNP-Jamaat-led alliance governments in constructing a 20-storey public building in the capital, a parliamentary body said yesterday.

The House standing committee on expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry asked Borak Construction firm owned by Noor Ali to complete the construction work immediately and handover the building to the Bureau of Manpower Employment and

Training (BMET). "Noor Ali (who was summoned to appear before the committee meeting yesterday) confessed that he did various illegal work during the tenure of previous governments," Mahmud said.

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Four-year-old Abu Raihan, top, and his sister Rajani Akhter, 8, fighting for life at the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital with severe burn injuries all over their bodies yesterday afternoon. Raihan died later around 8:00pm. Their mother, Bilashi Khatun tried to kill herself and the two childredn yesterday. Husband's second marriage and continuous torture led to the incident. Bilashi is also receiving treatment at the same unit.

Death escape

Mother attempts to burn herself to death along with 2 kids over husband's 2nd marriage; son dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University.

Distraught over her husband's second marriage, a housewife in the city's Kamalapur doused herself and her two children with kerosene and set all on fire yesterday.

Bilashi Khatun, 28, her daughter Rajani Akhter, 8, and son Abu Raihan, 4, were admitted to the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital where Raihan died hours later.

Bilashi and Rajani were reported to be in critical condition. Stating their conditions, Project Director of the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit Samantalal Sen said they might die any time.

Police arrested the husband. Both the children had over 90 percent of their bodies burned

and Bilashi sustained burns on 70 percent of her body.

"My mother poured it on our bodies and set fire first to her body. Then she grabbed us, we tried to get away but could not as our mother had caught us tightly," moaning in pain Rajani told The Daily Star at the Intensive Care Unit of the burn unit.

Her mother, on her hospital bed on another floor, only said, "I don't know anything. I don't know anything."

The incident is the second in two months where wife tried to kill herself and her children being distraught over her husband's second marriage. On June 11, housewife Farzana Kabir Rita in Jurain killed

herself, her 12-year-old son, and 10-year-old daughter with overdose of sedatives. Social degradation, unhealthy practices and oblivious and irresponsible media are to be blamed for repetition of these incidents, said Mehtab Khanam, professor of psychology at

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CONSTITUTION CHANGE

JS special body seeks legal vetting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ions from the law ministry and : largely destroyed its basic features. draft report on the apex court's · nefarious, of those changes verdicts on the fifth amend- . were brought through the ment and the constitution.

The Parliament Secretariat · eighth amendments. drafted the report after exam- : Court and Appellate Division : parties. that declared the fifth amend- : ment illegal and void.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Saga of a trampled constitution

: SHAKHAWAT LITON

The parliamentary special : Amendments to the country's constitution committee on constitutional : since 1973 contributed little to fortify it, rather amendment has sought opin- · many changes made with ulterior motives

the law commission about a . The most fundamental, and in some cases

· fourth, fifth, seventh, and

Of the total 14 amendments made till 2004, ining and analysing the two only the eleventh and twelfth amendments got verdicts delivered by the High · the consensus of both ruling and opposition

Soon after the constitution became effective in December 1972, the first amendment was : brought in July 1973 by the first parliament,

empowering the government with sweeping authority to try war criminals by introducing any law regardless of its inconsistency with any part of the constitution.

The same year, the same parliament passed the second amendment act in September, introducing a provision for declaring a state of emergency by the president, which

was not included in the original constitution. The amendment also empowered the president to suspend

fundamental rights during emergencies. Soon after the second amendment, the then president Mohammad Mohammadullah issued a proclamation of emergency in December 1974, and suspended many fundamental rights of citizens, on advice of the then

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BIWTA used PM's name to save river-grabbing

But failed to back it up at HC; taskforce asks for city canal cleanup

In its petition, BIWTA had used the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

five city canals.

The High Court yesterday rejected Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority's petition for directives not to demolish the commercial establishments it had permitted to be set up on the four

rivers around the capital. The same day the government

taskforce on river directed the authorities

concerned to evict all illegal structures on

name of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, a fervent supporter of save-river campaign, to get the court order in its favour, said Manzill Murshid, a lawyer and green activist. He told The Daily Star the BIWTA

chairman filed the petition with the HC in July this year.

Though he said he had filed the petition on instructions from the prime minister, he did not submit any document in

favour of his claim, added the lawyer. Yesterday's HC order means there is no

bar to demolishing the structures including the jetties set up by some private commercial companies on the four rivers--Buriganga, Shitalakkhya, Turag and Balu, observed Murshid. On June 25 last year, the HC ruled that

the authorities must determine the exact boundaries of the four rivers through surveys by November 30 this year and SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Dated: Dhaka

05 August 2010

Registered Office: 116, Bir Uttam Mir Shawkat Road, Gulshan-2 Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given to all shareholders of the Company that some persons impersonating as Mr. Chang Yu Lin, Ms. Chang Yuan and Mr. Chen Chin-Yu published a notice of EGM under section 84 of the Companies Act, 1994 in The Financial Express and The Daily Ittefaq on 03.08.2010.

Due to confusion of identity of Mr. Chang Yu Lin, Ms. Chang Yuan and Mr. Chen Chin-Yu, the Company has filed two Interpleader Suits being Title Suit Nos. 228 of 2010 and 229 of 2010 before the Court of Assistant Judge, Dhaka on 05.05.2010 to identify the real owners of the shares. Title Suit No. 228 of 2010 was filed against the shares of Mr. Chang Yu Lin and Ms. Chang Yuan. Title Suit No. 229 of 2010 was filed against the shares of Mr. Chen Chin Yu.

Since the shares of Mr. Chang Yu Lin, Ms. Chang Yuan and Mr. Chen Chin-Yu are involved in the said Title Suit Nos. 228 of 2010 and 229 of 2010, the said shareholders are not eligible to requisition a meeting under section 84 of the Companies Act, 1994 until the matter is resolved.

Further, as the shares of Mr. Chang Yu Lin, Ms. Chang Yuan and Mr. Chen Chin-Yu are ineligible to call a requisition meeting, the conditions to requisition a meeting under section 84 of the Companies Act, 1994 are not fulfilled. Therefore, the EGM called on August 28, 2010 cannot be held being contrary to law.

Furthermore, one of the shareholders of the Company filed Title Suit No. 544 of 2010 before the Court of Assistant Judge, Nawabgonj, Dhaka and obtained an ad-interim order of injunction dated 12.05.2010 directing the Company not to allow any person against the scheduled shares, which includes the shares of Mr. Chang Yu Lin, Ms. Chang Yuan, Mr. Chen Chin-Yu and Mr. Yi Chun Chou, to attend in EGM till first hearing of the injunction petition. The injunction in the said Title Suit No. 544 of 2010 is still continuing and effective.

As such, the call for a requisition meeting by Mr. Chang Yu Lin, Ms. Chang Yuan and Mr. Chen Chin-Yu is illegal and the EGM of the Company cannot be held on August 28, 2010.

The name of the Company has been used in complete derogation of law.

Sd/

Sanchita Karmaker Company Secretary