

Promotion list

FROM PAGE 1
doctor falls behind more than a thousand officials on the "gradation list" due to inclusion of the non-cadre doctors. **SENIORITY DISREGARDED**
Dr Shakil Ahmed, assistant professor of Suhrawardi Medical College, was recruited through the 11th BCS (Bangladesh Civil Service) examination and was 12th on the merit list. His position should be 6786, but due to inclusion of non-cadre doctors his serial number goes behind 169 officials at 6955.

Serial numbers of many of the 1,250 doctors who joined the service through the 24th BCS have gone behind those of the 25th BCS.

"My serial number on the gradation list is 12144, whereas one Shahriar Arafat, who joined through the 25th BCS, is ahead of me on the list. His serial number is 10104," said Dr Shamsuddin Ahmed, assistant registrar, department of ENT, Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The cadre service holders say "gradation list" for the cadre and non-cadre doctors should be different as the recruitment rules and process for the BCS (Health) are totally different from that for non-cadre doctors.

"According to the Ad hoc Regularization Rule, 1994, seniority of the employees will be counted from the date of their regularisation. Similarly, their serials will be placed after the regular employees," said Dr Nazmul Islam, member secretary of BCS (Health) Cadre Association.

Committee member Senior Assistant Secretary Humayun Kabir told The Daily Star that as two members from the establishment and finance ministries have not yet been nominated, the committee could not start working.

Death escaped
Earlier on June 24, the communications ministry officials and transport owners decided to launch the drive to remove 20-year-old buses and minibuses and 25-year-old trucks as they make the city streets unsafe and cause excessive pollution.

Additional District Magistrate Amitabh Sarkar, who is coordinating the drive, said some unfit vehicles are seen in areas where there are no mobile courts.

If caught on the roads, no unfit vehicle will be spared, he said. "So far, we have seized 26 buses and minibuses and a truck," he told The Daily Star yesterday.

He said the courts also fined 1439 vehicles a sum of Tk 11.43 lakh for not having fitness certificate or route permit. Chairman of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) Ayubur Rahman Khan said they would call for a meeting soon to assess the result of the drive.

"We may decide to take more measures to make the drive a success," he said. According to BRTA, there are about 1,446 buses, 8,125 trucks and 2,365 minibuses declared as unfit. The current drive was aimed at removing those vehicles from the city roads.

However, it only resulted in multiplying sufferings of the city commuters, especially of students and office-goers. The government has recently decided to buy 950 buses to ease the severity of the transport crisis, said Syed Abul Hossain, minister of communications.

"We have already bought 100 buses which are running on city roads," he added. However, other officials in the ministry said it would take at least three months to import those and old vehicles will continue plying the streets until the new buses arrive.

Similar drives conducted in the past also failed and added to the huge transport crisis in the city.

Khaleda
FROM PAGE 1
BNP by handing over bouquets of flower to BNP chairperson at her Gulshan office in the capital. Khaleda Zia said AL activists started extortion, tender manipulation and grabbing since assuming power by the present government which has been extended to extreme level in the name of commemorating their leader (Bangabandhu).

"It's a good thing that they [ruling party men] will remember their leader. They can use their own money but, unfortunately, they are collecting toll," she added. Stressing on forging an anti-government movement, BNP chairperson said people came into the street during BNP's mass procession ignoring obstacles created by the government, as they want to get rid off from this situation.

On the maritime boundary, she said the government has already raised the issue in the United Nations for arbitration. The negotiations are on with Indian and Myanmar to settle the maritime boundary dispute.

Hasina said her government is working hard for the welfare of the people. "When we are working hard for the welfare of the country BNP and its allies oppose us. They should be feeling bad when we are doing well for the people," she said.

She alleged that the BNP and its allies are engaged in their efforts to turn the nation 'void of intellectuals'. They have assembled around them certain 'intellectual bank-

rupted'. During their rule they had indulged in heavy corruption, plunder of public wealth and politicisation of the administration resulting in irregularities in every sector.

Regarding the power sector, the premier said her government attached top priority to improve power generation and supply. She squarely blamed the previous BNP-Jamaat government for neglecting the power sector causing the present crisis.

"We have had approved power projects in the ECNEC during our past tenure of government to increase additional power generation of 5,800 MW, but unfortunately the BNP-Jamaat alliance government scrapped all those projects," she said.

"In the last one and half years, we have been able to add 1,500 MW power to the national grid," she said claiming a great achievement. "By end of this year there will be another 1,500 MW electricity added to the national grid."

POLLUTION 3 factories fined in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg
The Department of Environment yesterday fined three factories a total of Tk 11.40 lakh for polluting the environment in the port city's Khulshi and Nasirabad.

A team, led by Director Munir Chowdhury of the department's monitoring and enforcement wing, penalised the factories in a drive to prevent environmental crimes.

Mocca Washing Industries Ltd of Nasirabad industrial area was fined Tk 7.20 lakh for carrying out dyeing activity without clearance from the department, and without an effluent treatment plant (ETP).

Liquid waste of the factory has been contaminating the river Karnaphuli, said Munir Chowdhury. "There are provisions of imposing fine if any operator commits illegal activities. But in this case, BTRC switched off their services and cancelled their licences. The committee, therefore, forms a sub-committee to look into the matter," said Mouazzam Hossain.

BTRC on May 12 cancelled licences of five landline operators, whose services it switched off in March for their involvement in illegal international call termination through VoIP technology.

The operators are RanksTel, Dhaka Phone, National Telecom, Peoples Tel, and WorldTel.

These telephone companies were serving around six lakh clients, with RanksTel alone serving half of them. On June 5, the parliamentary body asked the telecom regulator to take necessary steps to settle the issue of the five operators.

The High Court on July 12 stayed for three months a decision of cancelling licences of the five operators by the BTRC. Briefing journalists at the media centre, Inu, also president of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, said they have asked the authorities of Teletalk to enlist it as a public limited company with the capital market.

In reply, Mujibur Rahman, managing director of Teletalk, told reporters that the mobile phone company is likely to be listed in the capital market by 2012. Inu said they have also asked the Teletalk officials to come up with a detailed plan before the committee on December explaining how to expand operations of the mobile phone company and make its service better.

Manju, Mir Nasir

FROM PAGE 1
A special court on August 26, 2008 convicted Manju and sentenced him to 13 years' imprisonment for illegally amassing wealth worth around Tk two crore and concealing the information from the ACC.

On July 4, 2007, another special court sentenced Mir Nasiruddin to prison for 13 years for illegally accumulating wealth worth around Tk 28 crore and withholding information from the ACC.

An HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice AKM Zahurul Hoque yesterday delivered the verdicts after granting two separate appeals filed by Manju and Nasiruddin against the trial courts' judgments.

Challenging the lower court verdict, Manju filed an appeal with the HC on February 14, 2009, while Nasiruddin appealed on November 13, 2007 before the same court.

Advocate Ahsanul Karim, lawyer for Manju and Nasiruddin, told The Daily Star that the higher court acquitted his clients of the corruption charges since the ACC could not prove the allegations against them before the court.

Advocate AKM Fazlul Huq appeared for the ACC. The persons, who got acquitted earlier, are Awami League lawmaker Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, former foreign minister during BNP-led government M Morshed Khan and his son Faisal Morshed Khan, former home minister and Awami League leader Mohammad Nasim, former Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Shahjahan Chowdhury, Awami Swachhesebak League General Secretary Pankaj Debnath, former power secretary ANH Akhter Hossain, Mir Helal Uddin and his son Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin.

PM defends

FROM PAGE 1
power gridline with India, PM's press secretary Abul Kalam Azad said briefing the meeting. The projects will bring about good to the people. That is why BNP-Jamaat alliance opposed to the loan deal, observed the premier.

Questioning the wisdom of the opposition in opposing the loan the BNP reminded the nation that BNP during its rule had signed a 15-year loan agreement at 5 percent interest with India. It had signed another loan agreement for Barapukuria coalmine project at 4.5 percent interest. "They had also signed push-back treaty but forget to raise the Ganges water sharing issue," she said.

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Telco licences

FROM PAGE 1
headed by Awami League lawmaker Abdul Quddus, was asked to submit its report before the main committee's next meeting, which is likely to be held next month.

The three other members of the committee are Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, Mouazzam Hossain Ratan and Nazrul Islam Babu - all belonging to the ruling party. "The sub-committee was asked to find out ways of how to address the problems caused by shutting down five land phone operators. We want to ensure the interests of both subscribers and employees of those operators," Hasanul Haq Inu, chief of the standing committee, told journalists after the meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

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Death

FROM PAGE 1
Ashraf and five others for "instigating" Maksud to commit suicide. Maksud was married to Ashraf of Arahazur upazila in Narayanganj nearly 10 years ago, and apart from her baby girl who is now fighting for life at DMCH, Maksud leaves behind a nine-year-old son Nazmul, who witnessed his mother's suicide attempt.

"This is your uncle's contact number. Inform him about our death and tell him to arrange our burial. Inform the police about the reasons behind our suicide," said a numbed Nazmul while narrating the last conversation with his mother. He said his mother, outraged by the divorced, sold her gold earrings and came to Dhaka to commit suicide.

Police have yet to arrest Ashraf or any other suspects of the case. "Arahazur police led a drive but could not arrest Ashraf," Ali Hossain, officer-in-charge of Khamalapur Government Railway Police Station said. Earlier on August 5, distraught over her husband's second marriage, Bilashi, 28, set fire to herself and her two children Abu Raihan and Rajani in the capital's Kamalapur. They all died at the Burn and Plastic Surgery Unit of DMCH.

On June 11, aggrieved over her husband's negligence and second marriage, Farzana Kabir Rita, her 12-year-old son Pabon and 10-year-old daughter Payel committed suicide by taking sedatives in the city's Jurain area.

Unfit vehicles

FROM PAGE 1
Earlier on June 24, the communications ministry officials and transport owners decided to launch the drive to remove 20-year-old buses and minibuses and 25-year-old trucks as they make the city streets unsafe and cause excessive pollution.

Additional District Magistrate Amitabh Sarkar, who is coordinating the drive, said some unfit vehicles are seen in areas where there are no mobile courts.

Prisons asked

FROM PAGE 1
a petition filed by the prosecution seeking arrest warrant against Sayedee in connection with alleged war crimes in 1971. The tribunal had also fixed yesterday for hearing the prosecution petition in presence of the Jamaat leader.

Defence counsel Tajul Islam yesterday told the tribunal that Sayedee is sick, and he sought adjournment of the hearing. Chairman of the tribunal Nizamul Huq said the prisons authorities also informed them that sayedee suddenly fell sick, and they could not produce him before the tribunal yesterday.

The tribunal adjourned the hearing till August 24 and ordered producing Sayedee before it on that day. Meanwhile, the tribunal also fixed August 24 for hearing two defence petitions for Sayedee, and six petitions for four other Jamaat leaders shown arrested on orders from the tribunal. The four are Motiur Rahman Nizami, Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed, Mohammad Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Quader Molla.

Defence lawyer Tajul Islam told this correspondent that of the two petitions filed for Sayedee yesterday, one seeks not issuing any arrest warrant against him, and the other seeks allowing Sayedee to authorise someone to appoint lawyers to defend him.

The six petitions filed earlier contained prayers which include release of the four other Jamaat leaders from jail, certified copies of all documents of the case against the four, withdrawal of the arrest warrant against them and stay on further proceedings against them in the tribunal.

Chairman of the Tribunal Nizamul Huq and its member Justice ATM Fazle Kabir sat for the hearing yesterday morning. Another member, Justice AKM Zaheer Ahmed, could not join them due to sickness.

Ahmadiyyas

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conference held at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity. They also demanded exemplary punishment for the miscreants. "Several incidents of harassment and assaults on Ahmadiyyas during the past three years are the sign of cruelty and brutality which is unprecedented," said Meer Mobasher Ali, Naib National Ameer of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jam'at Bangladesh.

The Ameer said Tangail District Commissioner assured the community that action will be taken against the miscreants. "But nothing was done and the miscreants returned at night and looted construction materials, food items and personal belongings of the Ahmadiyyas. Now the victims are starving," he said.

Meer Mobasher Ali also requested the government to ensure their full citizen rights and remove the obstacles in erecting the mosque at Chandtara of Tangail. According to the local police, on Sunday the mob also vandalised several houses and two poultry farms owned by the Ahmadiyya community.

The villagers earlier foiled another move to construct the mosque on June 17. Local Muslims under the banner of 'Imam Parishad' also held procession and rally in the village against 40 Ahmadiyya families and also declared to resist the construction of the mosque at any cost.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad founded the movement Ahmadiyya Muslim Jam'at (community) on March 23, 1889, envisioning it to be a revitalisation of Islam. Ahmadiyyas consider themselves Muslims and claim to practice Islam in its pristine form.

The study also found that Qawmi madrasas account for only 2.2 percent of the total enrolment in the secondary level while Aliyah madrasas 18.5 percent although the physical presence of Qawmi madrasas is higher than Aliyah madrasas.

Speaking as the chief guest, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said the government is planning to bring the Qawmi madrasa education system closer to the mainstream. He also said a committee comprised of the leaders of Qawmi madrasa would soon be formed to formulate a policy.

World Bank country Director Ellen Goldstein, its Sector Manager for Education in South Asia Amit Dar and Senior Education Specialist Helen J Craig, and former additional secretary of education ministry Asahabur Rahman also spoke at the ceremony.

Govt 'wakes up'

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people have been watching every step of the government and there is much criticism over the performance of the prosecution and investigation agency. The policymakers have also decided to strengthen people's confidence on the government's initiative to hold the trials, an electoral pledge of the ruling Awami League. The International Crimes Tribunal was formed to deal with war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity and peace.

"We have made the decision to appoint some nationally important and prominent lawyers to quicken the trial of war criminals and to boost the confidence of people about the trial," said one of the participants of the closed-door meeting. "Our prime target is to make it of international standard," said the participant, adding, "It will be tough for us to face the people if we fail to implement our promise to try the war criminals."

Sources said the government is fully aware of the preparations of the suspects and Jamaat-e-Islami's move to bring lawyers from abroad to fight cases at the tribunal for its leaders. This prompted the government to make the decision to appoint senior lawyers of the country to the prosecution team as soon as possible.

Sources said the investigation agency is also likely to be expanded since investigation progress was not satisfactory to the policymakers. Yesterday's meeting also discussed overall socio-economic and political situation of the country including law and order, power and gas crises, price of essentials, unrest at the readymade garment sector, and traffic jam in the capital.

Meeting sources said the prime minister entrusted the four policymakers to take effective steps for dealing with these issues. The meeting decided to give the Power Development Board subsidy quickly so that it can get rental power to reduce the prevailing electricity crisis. "Without giving subsidy quickly we won't get rental power immediately," said a minister.

Rice OMS

FROM PAGE 1
He said prices of coarse rice has already fallen by Tk 2 a kg in his area. The prices, however, were found unchanged at Karwan Bazar. Visiting some OMS points, Barun Dev Mitra, food division secretary to the food and disaster management ministry, said, "You will see prices of rice fall in a week."

Officials of the food department said 485 dealers started operating in Narayanganj, Gazipur, Narsingdi, and flood-hit Habiganj, Netrakona, Kishoreganj, Sunamganj and Sylhet, and in the divisional headquarters. The government launched the OMS programme in a bid to keep prices of essentials stable ahead of the month of Ramadan.

Signalman

FROM PAGE 1
"He went to Jamuna to negotiate with the prime minister with 13 other mutineers, but used a fake name - Sepoy Monir - on the register at the state guest house," a BDR officer told The Daily Star. Prosecution Lawyer Mosharrar Hossain Kajol said Salah Uddin will now be shown arrested in the carnage case for interrogation.

The court fixed October 24 to frame charges against the 337 for their alleged involvement in the mutiny. The same court yesterday also fixed October 25 to frame charges against 111 BDR jawans from the Record Wing of Palkhara for their alleged involvement in the mutiny after Lt Col Kamrul Islam, prosecutor of the case, read out charges against them.

Following the mutiny Salah Uddin was sent to his unit sector headquarters at Khagrachhari. On August 4, charges against Salah Uddin and the 336 other suspects were placed before the court. During the mutiny, he was attached to Signal Headquarters Dhaka during the mutiny.

"Salah Uddin was one of the key planners of the carnage. He provoked jawans in killing officers at Darbar hall and adjoining areas during the February mutiny," said prosecutor of the case Lt Col Habibul Karim. Habibul Karim also told the court about Aminul, a sepoy who came to Palkhara to participate in tattoo show, an outdoor event with music, drama and dance, but turned into a mutiny.

"Although he [Aminul] had no right to keep firearms, during the mutiny he was equipped with a pistol in his hand, a rifle on his shoulder and with a binocular hanging from his neck during the mutiny."

BDR Director General Major General Rafiqul Islam led the court. Tony Blair, who now works for the USA, UN, Russia and EU as the Quartet Representative, helping the Palestinians to prepare for statehood as part of the international community's effort to secure peace, is also leading the Tony Blair Sports Foundation and Breaking the 'Climate Deadlock' initiative.

The Faith Foundation uses the full power of modern communications to support and step up efforts at every level to educate, inform and develop understanding about the different faiths and between them. Cherie Blair, a leading international lawyer and human rights advocate, is one of the patrons of AUW in Chittagong. She visited Bangladesh in January and launched the Cherie Blair Fellowships at the AUW.

Foreign Ministry sources said during his visit, he will meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Foreign Minister Dipu Moni. He may also meet other high government officials, opposition and civil society leaders, but detail about his programmes could not be known. Officials at the British High Commission in Dhaka could not give anything about Tony Blair's visit, saying that the high commission is not directly involved with his visit as it is his private tour.

British High Commissioner in Dhaka Stephen Evans met with Dipu Moni yesterday and was learnt to have discussed with her, among other things, Blair's visit to Bangladesh. Another source at the foreign ministry, however, said Tony Blair and Cherie Blair are coming to Bangladesh at the invitation of Asian University for Women (AUW). None at the AUW could be contacted.

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Govt 'wakes up'

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strengthen the ruling party activities across the country after Ramadan to face the anti-Liberation War elements and to drum up public support in favour of the war criminal trial.

After Ramadan, the Awami League would hold grand rallies at all divisional headquarters and later at district headquarters, sources said. The meeting decided to go for punitive measures against business syndicates found guilty of unduly increasing prices of essentials. The meeting observed that the law enforcement agencies would have to remain alert so that none could destabilise law and order ahead of the war criminal trial.

The meeting discussed the unrest in the RMG sector after minimum wage of the workers was fixed and how future unrest could be prevented.

Bangla Bhai's

FROM PAGE 1
later shown arrested in the case. The Mymensingh haul includes four grenades, 12 bombs of different sizes including a light-sensitive one, a sub-machine gun, 80 electric detonators, 20kg ammonium nitrate, gun powder, GI wire, lead azide, lead nitrate, electric circuits, batteries, fuses, snail shells and iron balls used in fishing nets.

Two cases -- one under the Arms Act and the other under the Explosive Substances Act -- were filed with Kotwali Police Station of Mymensingh. JMB chief Shaek Abdur Rahman, its second-in-command Bangla Bhai and its military commander Ataur Rahman Sunny were also accused in the cases, but their names were dropped from the charge sheet as they were earlier executed for killing two judges in Jhalakathi district on November 14, 2005.

JS body

FROM PAGE 1
markets actively to ensure adequate supply of essentials so that prices remain steady," said the AL lawmaker. We have also asked the ministry concerned to find out the syndicate behind manipulation of prices of essentials.

Lutful Hai said ministry officials have assured the committee that people will be able to buy essentials including sugar during the upcoming month of Ramadan. "Sugar is selling today, at Tk 47 to 50 per kilogram and it will not rise further during Ramadan," assured Hai.

Blair arrives

FROM PAGE 1
three-day visit. The TBFF aims to promote respect and understanding about the world's major religions and show how faith is a powerful force in the modern world. The foundation will work with Christians, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists.

Tony Blair, who believes that faith has great influence on meeting the challenges of globalisation, will address a gathering of younger generation in Dhaka. Foreign Ministry sources said during his visit, he will meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Foreign Minister Dipu Moni. He may also meet other high government officials, opposition and civil society leaders, but detail about his programmes could not be known.

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