

7 DV lottery frauds held in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Detective Branch (DB) of Police on Sunday night arrested seven members of a gang from the city's Malibagh on charge of fraudulence with students regarding US Diversity Visa (DV) lottery. The arrested seven are -- gang leader Sirazul Islam Lison, 34; and members Mohammad Shafiq Miah, 25; Ismail Hossain alias Palash, 26; Enamul Hossain alias Rubel, 25; Rafidullah, 29; Alamgir Hossain Nipu, 28; and Nazim Uddin Mansur, 29. Police also recovered around twenty thousand photos of students of different colleges and universities; around 20,000 DV lottery forms; ten computers; and other documents from their possession, said DB Assistant Commissioner Mohammad Shahidullah. The arrestees ran an organisation at AM Plaza, 76 DIT road in Malibagh. During primary interrogation, they admitted that some employees of different college and universities provided them with admission forms of students, said Shahidullah. Using the information, they applied for the lottery without the applicants' consent and called up those who primarily won the lottery to demand huge amounts of money, he said. Police were trying to arrest others involved, said Shahidullah.

Prof Nitai first VC of textile university

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Prof Dr Nitai Chandra Sutradhar has been appointed the first-ever vice chancellor (VC) of Bangladesh Textile University for the next four years, says a press release. Dr Nitai had worked as the director general of Directorate of Technical Education, chairman of Technical Education Board, and principal of College of Textile Technology. He obtained his PhD from University of Leeds, the UK and was born in Habiganj in 1954.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina takes a look around the renovated and beautified Bangabandhu National Stadium in the city after inaugurating it yesterday ahead of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2011.

PHOTO: PTD

Wage movement like Egyptians: Khaleda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia last night urged the people to forge a movement against the misdeeds of the present government like the Egyptians did to protect their country. "Mass upsurges to protect people's rights have compelled the heads of many countries to step down," she said while addressing a joining ceremony at her Gulshan office. A number of Jatiya Party leaders of Sunamganj district units led by Col (ret'd) Syed Ali Ahmed yesterday joined BNP. Khaleda asked the people to get prepared

for a movement, not for the power but to protect the country. The former premier said the next parliamentary elections must be held under a caretaker government as "Free and fair election is not possible under the Awami League government and the present election commission." She termed the election commission "not neutral" while the incumbent government "failed" and "worse than autocrat." Party Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain and Vice President Shamsur Mobin Chowdhury, among others, spoke at the ceremony chaired by Ilyas Ali, BNP organizational affair secretary.

Govt plans to tap diverse fuel sources

BSS, Dhaka
State Minister for Power Brig Gen (ret'd) Enamul Haque yesterday said the government is planning to go for fuel diversification in the power sector to meet the growing demand of electricity in the country. "We have to produce power from alternative sources, as power demand has increased sharply," he told the closing ceremony of a national seminar in the city. The seminar on "Engineers' role in socio-economic development and environment" was held at the Institution of Engineers' Bangladesh (IEB). Chaired by former IEB president MAK Azad, the function was addressed also by Honorary General Secretary of the IEB, Meshbahur Rahman Tutul. Nearly 85 percent power is produced from gas, said Enamul. "We should go for power production from other sources, as the country is already facing gas crisis."

Boy sets himself on fire in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
An 18-year old boy, being refused by his 'beloved', set himself on fire before her yesterday in front of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Md Ripon, a resident in city's Islambagh, did the act just as his alleged 14-year old 'beloved' reached the spot with her father, an employee of a drug store near the DMCH. Physicians of DMCH Burn Unit said Ripon suffered around 25 percent burn on his body.

Bangladesh ranks higher on press freedom scale

BSS, Dhaka
A latest report of the US-based media watch group Freedom House ranked Bangladesh higher on a global scale of press freedom. The report on 196 countries puts Bangladesh on the 118th position, above most of the Saarc nations excepting India and the Maldives. India ranks 72, while the Maldives 102. Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan fell far below Bangladesh. The report groups surveyed all the countries in three categories, of which Bangladesh is placed in the mid-category. It is also attributed the freedom of press to the government's decision to repeal the provision of issuing arrest warrant against journalists in defamation case and issue summon instead. The report takes a very positive note on the Right to Information Act 2009. This year's position of Bangladesh is higher than its ranking in the past seven years from 2002 to 2008. The four Scandinavian states - Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden - shared the top position with equal rating when North Korea was at the bottom after Myanmar and Turkmenistan.

Housemaid 'kills' herself

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A teenaged female domestic help allegedly committed suicide by hanging at Motijheel in city yesterday noon. Popy Akhter, 15, was working as a maid at the residence of businessman Abul Kashem Majumder in Gopibagh. Motijheel police said Popy's body was hanging from a ceiling fan tied with a scarf. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy. He said the girl, hailing from Feni, had been working in the household for nine months. Police quoting Majumder as saying his wife went outside to pay the electric and gas bills leaving Popy alone. Upon return, she found Popy's body hanging.

Free surgery for cleft lip babies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A 22-member US team has set to operate, free of cost, on the cleft lip of 120 patients at Dhaka Shishu Hospital in the city, says a press release. The free surgery programme begun yesterday and will also take place on February 25. Parents of cleft lip babies are requested to contact the hospital immediately. Alliance for Smiles, USA and Rotary Club of Gulshan Lake City, Dhaka jointly organised the free medical service. It says, doctors at the child's hospital will gain expertise on cleft lip surgery through the programme. Alliance for Smiles provided the surgery to 112 patients in 2009. Cleft lip is a congenital defect that can be cured through operation.

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Candidates may also submit CV to the following email address:
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Admission is now officially open for Grade 8 for the academic year 2011-2012. Please contact us for detailed information regarding curriculum and our facilities.

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