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in Short

SECRETARIAT

No visitors on Mondays

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The secretariat will be closed to the visitors on Monday from now on to ensure security of the cabinet members, the government has decided. The cabinet sits in its weekly meeting on the day. The decision came at the cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday. Abul Kalam Azad, premier's

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Khaleda leaves tomorrow for London

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia leaves Dhaka tomorrow for London en route to the USA on a two-week visit. As opposition leader it will be Khaleda's first ever visit to the two powerful western countries. In December last year, she visited China and met with senior leaders of the Chinese

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PRAYER TIMING

May 13

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr 4-10	4-45
Juma 12-30	1-15
Asr 5-00	5-15
Maghrib 6-36	6-40
Esha 8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

REHAB FUND DISBURSEMENT

Acid victims call for quick govt action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

More than 3,000 acid victims yesterday asked for immediate disbursement of the funds allocated by the government for their proper rehabilitation.

The demand was made at a programme at city's BIAM Auditorium marking the 12th anniversary of Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF).

In a bid to rehabilitate the acid survivors, the government allocated Tk 4 crore to the National Acid Control Council, but has distributed only Tk 21 lakh for 153 victims of the ASF in last two years.

Monira Rahman, executive director of the ASF said the fund was not disbursed due to lack of government's initiative.

Besides, the district Acid Control Committee remains inactive in this regard, she said.

ASF has been working on medical, legal, social reintegration and rehabilitation of the acid survivors. At the same time it has created a strong network for prevention of acid violence that already has gained international recognition.



Acid-attack survivors yesterday demand their proper rehabilitation and disbursement of government funds for them at Sonargaon intersection in the capital. Acid Survivors Foundation organised the procession that went up to the BIAM Auditorium.

HIGH SUCCESS RATE IN SSC

Creative system clicks

WASIM BIN HABIB and NAJMUL ALAM NOBIN

Expediting teachers' training on creative questions, special care on English and mathematics, and students' dependence more on textbooks largely contributed to the record-breaking results in this year's SSC examinations, academics observe.

The results of the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and equivalent examinations were published yesterday under the grading system introduced in 2001 and showed a tremendous boost with 82.31 pass in 10 education boards. Last year, the pass rate was 79.98 percent.

The number of students achieving the highest grade point has also increased to 76,749 from only 76 when the GPA system was introduced ten years ago.

Teachers and education board officials say strict monitoring of the education officials ensuring regular classroom activities, examiners' flexibility to give marks, students' competitive attitude and copy-free environment also played vital roles for the success.

According to the creative method introduced in 2010, each question in the narrative section of the book has four segments of a particular topic. Textbooks do not contain any sample question about the segments, and students who have thoroughly studied the books can answer

Withdraw cases against Limon

NHRC chief's call

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cases filed against Limon Hossain are 'false', said the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Mizanur Rahman yesterday demanding withdrawal of the cases.

A team of Rab-8, led by Deputy Additional Director Lutfor Rahman, shot college student

Sayedee, name he took after war

Jamaat leader says war crimes did take place but he was not involved

RASHIDUL HASAN

Jamaat leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee's original name was Abu Naim Delawar Hossain.

But he changed it to Delawar Hossain Sayedee soon after the independence only to hide his involvement in mass killings, forcible conversion of Hindus to Muslim and incidents of rape during the Liberation War, investigators said yesterday.

Sayedee admitted he has no degree in Islamic education, and said he use the title "Maulana" before his name as participants in a seminar gave him this title.

The Jamaat leader gave all this information during a day-long interrogation by the investigation agency probing war crimes at a "safe home" at Dhanmondi in the capital.

Sayedee, who hails from Patuakhali,



Tea stalls and other illegal structures are built perilously close to the rail lines under the Mohakhali flyover in the capital. The photo was taken yesterday.

Appointment of SEC boss soon: Muhith

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A new chairman will soon be appointed to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Finance Minister AMA Muhith said yesterday.

After publishing the report of the review committee on Grameen Bank affairs, the minister at the secretariat told journalists about the appointment.

Bin Laden sought to force US out of ME

Reveals journal seized in Pakistan raid

AGENCIES

The treasure trove of intel obtained in the raid that killed al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden included a handwritten journal containing his "operational ideas," a US official said Wednesday.

Agents are studying the notebook for information on future al-Qaeda plots, but the official described it as "just one of many things" found along with computers, hard drives, DVDs, flash drives and recording devices.

There were no "warm and fuzzy" personal or emotional passages, he told AFP. It was "more just jotting down some ideas. It doesn't entail where he's been or what he's done."

Osama bin Laden went to the bizarre length of trying to calculate how many more American deaths it would take to

ONLINE POLL

Do you support the Supreme Court verdict that declared caretaker government system illegal?

Yes

23.6%

No

74.1%

No Comments

2.3%

TOTAL VOTES : 698

TODAY'S POLL

Do you find BNP's rejection of the Supreme Court verdict regarding the caretaker government system justified?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

www.thedailystar.net

Rahul released within 3 hours

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Rahul Gandhi, a scion of India's Nehru-Gandhi family, was released in the wee hours of yesterday after being held for about three hours by Uttar Pradesh police.

A high drama followed after Gandhi, 38, was picked up at about 11:00pm on Wednesday from Batta Parsaul village where he went to support the farmers agitating against the state's land acquisition process for an expressway project.

The young Congress leader was arrested from the sit-in site along with party's General Secretary Digvijay

VANDALISING OFFICE RHD engineer sues Jubo League men

A CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

An executive engineer of Roads and Highways Department in Sirajganj yesterday filed a case against a local Jubo League leader and his followers for harassing him and ransacking his office.

On Wednesday, Israil Hossain Babu, district Jubo League organising secretary, and his



Rahul Gandhi



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EDITOR: MAHFUZ ANAM - Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd, 229, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 and 12-13, Kalurghat Heavy Industrial Area, Chittagong-4208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215, Tel: 9144330 (Hunting) & 8124944, Fax: 9144332, 8125155, 8126154, GPO Box No: 3257, e-mail: editor@thedailystar.net, reporting@thedailystar.net