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2 Huji men held in Savar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested two leaders of banned Islamist militant outfit Harkatul Jihad al-Islami (Huji) and recovered explosives in Savar during the last two days.

Md Abdus Salam, 39, secretary of Sylhet district unit and Md Ashraful Islam, 30, secretary of Ishwardi upazila unit of Huji, were held near Nobinagar bus stand around 8:00pm on Wednesday.

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Lumberjacks, left, in broad daylight cut down and steal Jhau trees planted on the embankment of tourist spot Parky beach in Chittagong as if there is nothing to fear from the law. The stumps of trees, right, are all that remain in parts of the beach where the trees were planted for protection and beautification of the embankment.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

BNP leader shot dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unknown criminals shot dead a ward-level BNP leader at East Tejtrai Bazar in the capital last night.

Kazi Abdur Rahman, the dead, was the general secretary of DCC ward-39 BNP, and also the organising secretary of Bangladesh Truck and Covered Van Owners' Association.

Rahman, 40, was a councillor aspirant from the ward in the upcoming Dhaka City Corporation election, locals said.

Witnesses said miscreants shot him in the neck from close range near Tejgaon Government Boys

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Hijacker gangs target lorries on highway

Businesses worried at rising incidents on Dhaka-Ctg route

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Chittagong

Several organised crime syndicates are involved in hijacking goods-laden vans and trucks at different points on Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

The robbery rings target vehicles transporting import and export items, including readymade garments, paper, cotton and various basic commodities, between Chittagong port and the rest of the country, according to transport workers.

Disguised as workers the criminals hijack the vehicles. They also bribe some workers to make the thefts easier and safer.

In some cases the gangs take away cartons from consignments of goods,

which damages goodwill of the exporters to the international buyers. They even do not hesitate to kill the transport workers if the latter refused to assist in the crime.

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) recovered huge amount of looted goods in the last five months and arrested some hijackers. Later they managed to secure bail and returned to crime.

They have also identified five to six organised gangs and 25 culprits so far.

Md Masud alias Picchi Masud, Jewel Jamader, Sayeed, Liton Das, Jahangir, Md Shahidul Islam, Md Masum, Md Sohag, Mamunur Rashid and Koli Madam are the kingpins of robbery gangs, said Sub-inspector of Double Mooring Police

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

Rejoinder, our reply

Farhat Q Chowdhury, wife of BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, in a rejoinder to The Daily Star protested a report headlined "SQ Chy threatens war crimes investigators" published on May 11.

The rejoinder sent through a lawyer said, "In

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

2 boys killed in shell explosion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Two minor boys were killed and six others injured in an explosion of an abandoned shell in Shaheed Salauddin

SEE PAGE 19 COL 6

80 buses hit city streets today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eighty single-decker buses, 25 of them air-conditioned (AC), hit city roads this morning in a bid to ease the acute transport crisis.

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) imported the buses from South Korea, each costing Tk 70 lakh, while the AC buses cost Tk 90 lakh each.

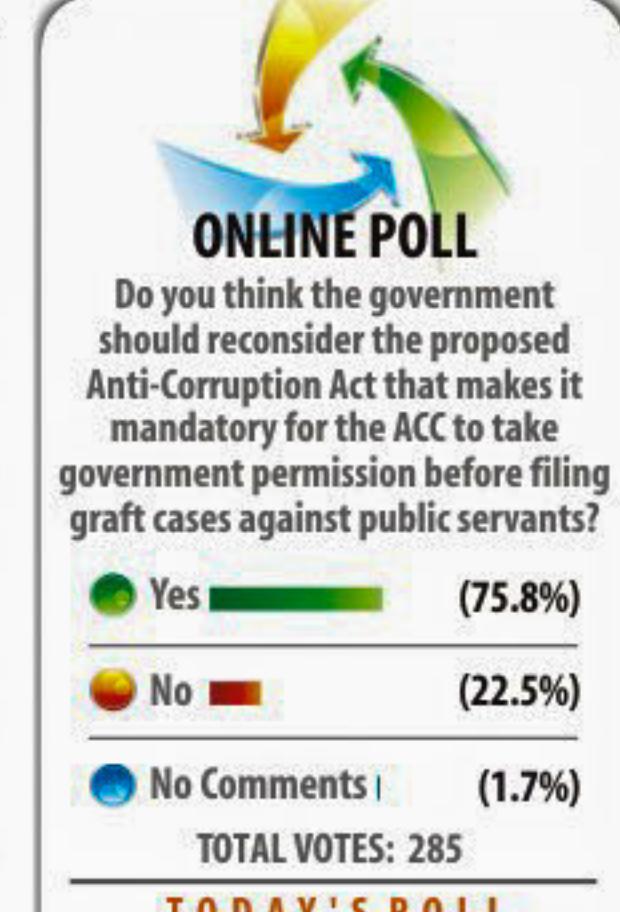
Compared to the 275 buses imported from China last year which cost Tk 33 lakh each, these buses are comparatively better in terms of quality and comfort, said Communications Minister Syed Abul Hossain while inaugurating the new buses yesterday.

By the end of August, 165 more buses will be arriving from Korea, he said at the BRTC training centre in Gazipur.

The government plans to import a total of 1,050 buses of which 450 will be brought from India, to meet the rising demand for transport in the capital and its vicinity, he said.

Of them, 300 are double-deckers, 100 are single-deckers and 50 are articulated buses, popularly known as 'bendy buses', BRTC officials said.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



Do you think the government should reconsider the proposed Anti-Corruption Act that makes it mandatory for the ACC to take government permission before filing graft cases against public servants?

Yes (75.8%)

No (22.5%)

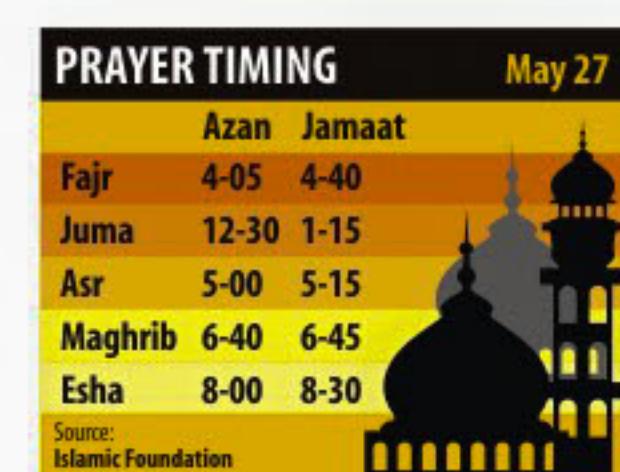
No Comments (1.7%)

TOTAL VOTES: 285

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think state funding for major political parties will stop the use of black money in the JS poll campaign?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net



SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

Examinees got chance to rewrite answer scripts

Teachers among 7 held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

An examiner in connivance with some teachers and locals in Rangpur facilitated at least 50 Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinees of 2011 to rewrite their English 2nd paper answer scripts in lieu of money.

Wednesday night, Detective Branch (DB) police in Rangpur arrested seven of the syndicate including two non-government college teachers and seized 88 answer scripts from Khalea village under Gangachara upazila in the district.

The arrestees include lecturer Ashraful Alam of Sonahat Degree College in Kurigram, lecturer Swapna Kumar Sarker of Rano Chandi School and College in Nilphamari, and four locals of Rangpur and Kurigram.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

Projects delayed for graft, faulty design

ERD detects 14 reasons for slow implementation of foreign-aided projects

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

Implementation of foreign aided projects is delayed due to 14 reasons including corruption, faulty project design, fraudulent practices and allocation of excess funds.

The Economic Relations Division (ERD) identified the reasons at a series of meetings with different ministries against the backdrop of increasing amount of unused foreign aid, a high official of ERD told The Daily Star.

Unutilised foreign funds in the pipe-

line may cross \$12 billion at the beginning of the next fiscal year (FY) compared to \$9 billion on the first day of the current FY.

The ERD official said they selected 37 foreign aided projects and reviewed in detail the problems faced in implementing those. The review meetings were held in February and March.

Based on the outcome of the meetings, directives have been issued for taking corrective measures, he said.

The working paper of the review

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

Empower women PM urges at Unesco conference; UN chief, Hillary also attend

UNB, Paris

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called for empowering women and making them economically independent so that they thrive in the global economy.

"Although reasonable progress of women has been made in Bangladesh and the rest of the world, a lot still remains to be done for the emancipation of women," she said.

Hasina made the remarks while presenting the key-note paper at the launching of the Global Partnership on Girls' and Women's Education, and High-Level Panel on Girls' and Women's Education for Empowerment and Gender Equality, arranged by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation



SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

BNP goes gaga over US honour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition BNP yesterday brought out a triumphal procession to celebrate the special honour given by a state senate of the US to its Chairperson Khaleda Zia for her contribution to establish democracy.

Thousands of leaders, workers and supporters of BNP and its front and associate bodies took part in the procession, which started from the party's central office at

SEE PAGE 6 COL 7

No more time extension

Court warns Koko's counsel in tax evasion case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned the hearing on charge framing against Arafat Rahman Koko, son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, in a tax evasion case for a month and warned that it would not extend the time any more.

With this, the court had extended for 17 times on excuses that Koko's lawyer could not bring any order on the rule issued earlier from the High Court following a writ challenging the legality of the case.



SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



মূল্য সংযোজন কর (VAT) পরিশোধ করুন
অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ আহরণে অবদান রাখুন

সমানিত ক্রেতা,

- সেবা/পণ্য ক্রয়কালে মূসক-১১ চালানপত্র গ্রহণ করে মূসক ফাঁকি রোধে সহায়তা করুন।
- আপনার প্রদত্ত মূসক জাতীয় উন্নয়নে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রাখে।

সমানিত বিক্রেতা,

- গ্রাহককে বিক্রিত পণ্য/সেবার বিপরীতে মূসক চালান প্রদান করুন।
- সংগ্রহীত মূসক (ভ্যাট) যথাসময়ে সরকারি কোষাগারে জমা দিন।

মূসক সংক্রান্ত তথ্য জানতে বা যে কোন সহযোগিতার জন্য নিচের ফোন নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন:

সদর দপ্তর: ৮৯৫৫৩০১, ৮৯৫৫১৭৫, ৮৯৬৩১১৮, ৮৯৬৩১১৬,
তেজগাঁও বিভাগ: ৮৮২৯৬৭৯, মিরপুর বিভাগ: ৮০৫৯৮৩,
ঢাকা-১১৭০, গাজীপুর বিভাগ: ৭৯১১০০৮,
ময়মনসিংহ বিভাগ: ০৯১-৬৭৪৩৯।

প্রচারণা: কাস্টমস, এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, ঢাকা (উত্তর), ঢাকা।

জিডি-২৪৬০