

4 fake cosmetics factories busted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A mobile court aided by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday busted four fake cosmetics factories in Keraniganj on the city's outskirts and fined them a total of Tk 8 lakh.
They also arrested the owners and confiscated inferior quality products including oil, shampoo and perfume wrapped in labels of reputed companies, worth around Tk 25 lakh, in the market, Rab officials claimed.
The arrestees Md Kamal Hossain, 29, Md Nasir Uddin, 45, Md Nazim Uddin, 50, Md Shahid, 35, were sentenced to two years of imprisonment and fined Tk 2 lakh each, in default of which they will have to serve three more months in prison.
A team of Rab-10 conducted the drives at Muslimabad and Borishoor area around 8:30am, he said.
The factories were located in the owners' houses, where the arrestees used to fill up old waste containers with impure elements and resell them, said Rab Executive Magistrate Anwar Pasha, who led the drive.
Shahid confessed to have made hair oil by mixing coconut's essence with palm oil while Nasir Uddin said, he made fake shampoo using coloured liquid soap and cheap fragrance, Anwar Pasha said.

Teachers scuffle at RU

RU CORRESPONDENT
Two factions of Pro-BNP teachers of Rajshahi University yesterday locked in a scuffle over calling meetings at the same place and at the same time on the campus.
Witnesses said at least five teachers were assaulted during the brawl at RU Deans Complex around 6:30pm.
Two factions--White panel and Golden panel--called separate meetings at the complex conference room to form separate committees at 6:00pm, sources said.



Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashraf Islam, Prime Minister's Adviser Dr Syed Modasser Ali and State Minister for Liberation War Affairs ABM Tazul Islam see off Indian National Congress President Sonia Gandhi at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in the city on Monday.

TERRORIST ATTACK US cautions its citizens worldwide

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
The Department of State has cautioned on continuing threat of terrorist actions and violence against US citizens and interests throughout the world and reminded its citizens to maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness.
In a statement yesterday, it said this caution replaces the earlier worldwide caution, issued on January 31, to provide updated information on security threats and terrorist activities worldwide.

Sri Lankan first lady meets PM

UNB, Dhaka
Sri Lankan first lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa and Maldives vice president's wife Ilham Hussain yesterday met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Gono Bhaban residence separately yesterday.
Both the ladies highly appreciated Autism expert Saima Wazed Hossain, daughter of Sheikh Hasina, and her initiative in the field.
Shiranthi Rajapaksa and Ilham Hussain expressed identical opinion that the awareness on autism will increase widely among the participants of the two-day regional conference held in Dhaka, Prime Minister's press secretary Abul Kalam Azad told the reporters.

15th amendment creates crisis

Say pro-BNP professionals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Speakers at a discussion yesterday said the 15th amendment to the constitution repealing the caretaker government system has created a "political crisis" in the country.
They made the remark at the discussion on constitution organised by Bangladesh Sammilito Peshajibi Parishad, a pro-BNP professional forum, at Jatiya Press Club in the city.
The parliament passed the 15th constitution amendment bill on June 30 this year.
They also said any future parliament will have no power to amend some articles in the constitution as

per new article 7B of the constitution included through the 15th amendment, which will lead to a "political crisis" in the country.
Barrister Rafiqul Haque said the next parliamentary election must be held under a neutral caretaker government with the participation of BNP, otherwise the election would not be acceptable to the people.
He also gave a formula for the caretaker government system.
He opined that a caretaker government can be formed with six elected representatives from the ruling party and five from the opposition. A three-member panel comprised of recent retired chief justices will select the chief adviser among

the eleven.
Former Dhaka University vice chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed said around 50 articles changed through the 15th amendment are not acceptable, as these articles do not reflect the opinions of the mass people.
He also said the 15th amendment to the constitution is passed like the fourth amendment that introduced one party rule in the country which was anti-democratic.
The parliament cancelled the caretaker system "unilaterally and illegally" ignoring full directives of the Supreme Court, he said.
Law Department teacher of Dhaka University (DU) Prof Borhan

JP ready to join next JS polls

Says Ershad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet
Jatiya Party Chief HM Ershad said his party is ready to join next parliamentary elections and hopes that the party will achieve a huge victory in the polls.
The caretaker government system is a "disgraceful" system for the politicians, he noted and posed a question that how can one throw away the constitution or bin it.
He was addressing as the chief guest at the first divisional level conference of his party's grassroots in Sylhet auditorium yesterday afternoon with its presidium member Atiqur Rahman was in the chair.
Ershad said the people want a change in a real sense in power politics.
Presidium member Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Secretary General ABM Ruhul Amin Hawlader, district president Gias Uddin Ahmed and city president Abdul Hai Quaiyum also spoke at the event.

Norwegian envoy calls on Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka
BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday reiterated her party's stand against terrorism saying they are against any form of terrorism anywhere in the globe.
She made the remarks when newly appointed Ambassador of Norway in Dhaka Ragne Birte Lund made a courtesy call on her at her Gulshan office at 8:30pm. Khaleda again condemned the recent brutal terrorist attacks in Norway.

Autism conference ends with high hopes

BSS, Dhaka
The landmark autism conference ended in the city yesterday as its chief architect, Saima Wazed Hossain, hoped that the two-day meet would generate new hopes among the families with autistic children in and outside the country.
"Now is the time to create greater awareness, acceptance, and understanding of autism spectrum disorders and mental health conditions in South Asia", she said in the concluding session at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the city.
Nearly 370 participants from home and abroad took part in the conference as India's ruling Congress Party President Sonia Gandhi opened it Monday.
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressed the conference.
A number of other high-profile dignitaries including Sri Lankan First Lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa, Maldives' vice-president's wife Ilham Hussain,

and health ministers from Indonesia and Bhutan attended the conference to be followed by a three-day training workshop for parents of autistic children, psychologists, and physicians.
The conference that drew a huge attention from highest levels of politics in Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, and some other countries in South and Southeast Asia also got promise from World Health Organisation (WHO).
"We will do everything we can -- starting from system development to technical assistance to fellowship for autism managers", said Quazi Monirul Islam, insisting that the WHO was committed to making it happen.
Representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Indonesia spoke high about the conference and promised anew to spearhead

the cause of disability in their respective countries.
"Let's lay the foundations for a South Asian Autism Network (SAAN) from the Dhaka conference", Saima said, hoping that the proposed network would develop international collaborations through high levels of political and social network.
The US-licensed school psychologist, Saima said as countries in South Asia share identical language, culture and heritage, these countries together can make a big difference in identifying solutions to disability, with autism.
Prof Naila Zaman Khan of Dhaka Shishu Hospital on the sidelines of the conference said it's time for philanthropists and the rich to come forward.
Bhutanese delegate Phintsho Choden, Myanmar's Dr Kyaw Linn, and India's Alok Ghuha spoke in the conference among others.



Autism expert Saima Wazed Hossain, also daughter of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, speaks at an international conference on autism held at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the city yesterday.

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