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Maha Ashtami today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The largest religious festival for the Hindus enters the third day today with thousands of devotees being expected to throng the puja mandaps (pavilion) to worship the mother goddess.

This is the most important day of Durga Puja, known as Durga Ashtami, as it celebrates the victory

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10-TRUCK ARMS CASE Charge-framing hearing Oct 25

Babar takes his anger out on cops

DWAIPAYAN BARUA, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday fixed October 25 for hearing on charge framing against all the accused in two cases relating to 10-truck arms haul in the port city in 2004.

The accused include Jamaat-e-Islami chief Motiur Rahman Nizami, who was the then industries minister, and former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar.

On April 2, 2004, police seized 10 trucks of weapons and ammunition from the Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Ltd (CUFL) jetty in Chittagong in the biggest ever arms haul of the country.

Two cases were filed the next day with Karnaphuli Police Station against 43 people in this connection. Names of two accused were dropped after they died.

Following submission of the supplementary charge sheets earlier this year, the number of total accused stood at 52 in the case filed for smuggling the firearms and 50 in the other case filed under arms act.

Meanwhile, on his way to the prison van after yesterday's hearing, Babar started shouting that the charges against him were false.

He said the present government will not stay in office

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Lutfozzaman Babar takes out his anger on Sub-Inspector Iqbal of Chittagong Kotwali Police Station after yesterday's hearing in 10-truck arms haul cases. The former state minister for home exploded with rage, as police did not let his lawyers get close to him.

PHOTO: STAR

Legal notice, our reply

In a legal notice sent through her attorney, Farhat Q Chowdhury, wife of BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, has termed a part of a Daily Star report published on September 10, 2011 as "false", "defamatory" and "intended to degrade the reputation" of SQ Chowdhury.

The Daily Star report was concerning arrest of a top criminal named

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LABOUR MIGRATION Irregularities spike costs

Int'l meeting discusses ways to keep costs at two month's basic salary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With various irregularities imposing a huge cost burden on Bangladeshi migrant workers abroad, Bangladesh and other countries are trying to formulate ways and means of ensuring that migration costs should not be more than a migrant worker's basic salary of two months.

"We have the means to identify the various forms of irregular practices that

strip away at the gains of migration," said Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain yesterday while inaugurating a two-day international meeting on labour migration in the capital.

The minister said many Bangladeshi migrants faced problems because they overstayed in the host countries, where they worked illegally to recover their

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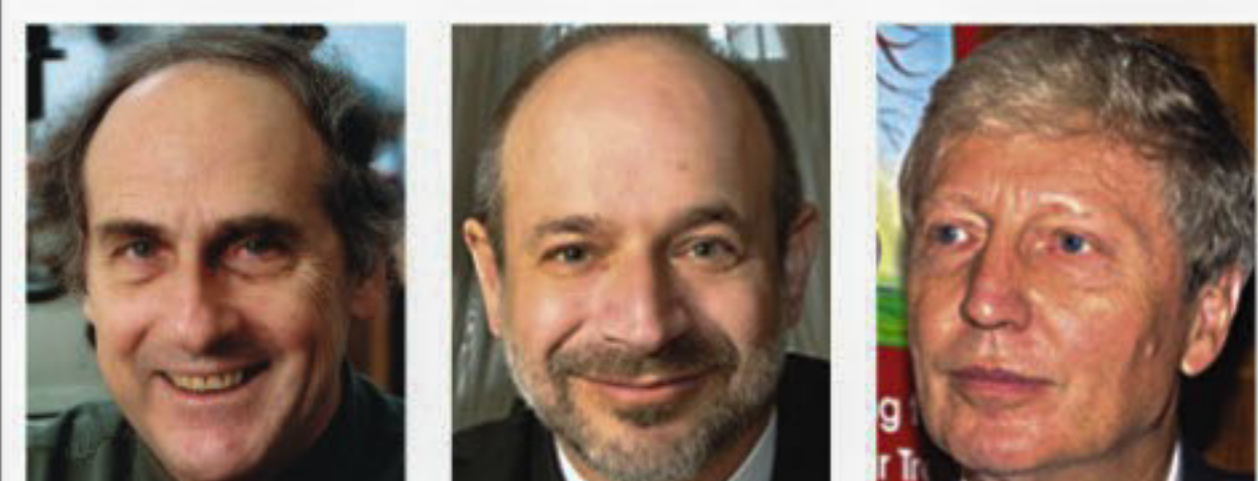
ICT issues contempt rule against New Age journos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) yesterday issued a show cause notice on the editor, the publisher and a journalist of the daily New Age to explain why contempt charges should not be brought against them for publishing an article on Sunday.

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WORK ON IMMUNE SYSTEM Trio wins Nobel Medicine Prize



Ralph Steinman, Bruce Beutler, Jules Hoffmann
AFP, Stockholm

Three scientists shared the Nobel Medicine Prize yesterday for ground-breaking work on the immune system which the jury said opened up a new front for attacking cancer and other diseases.

The winners are Bruce Beutler of the United States, Luxembourg-born Jules Hoffmann, who is a naturalised French citizen, and Ralph Steinman of Canada.

"This year's Nobel laureates have revolutionised our understanding of the immune system by discovering key principles for its activation," the jury said in a statement.

The three were lauded for their work on the body's

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PRISON VISIT Rights boss asks Home for action

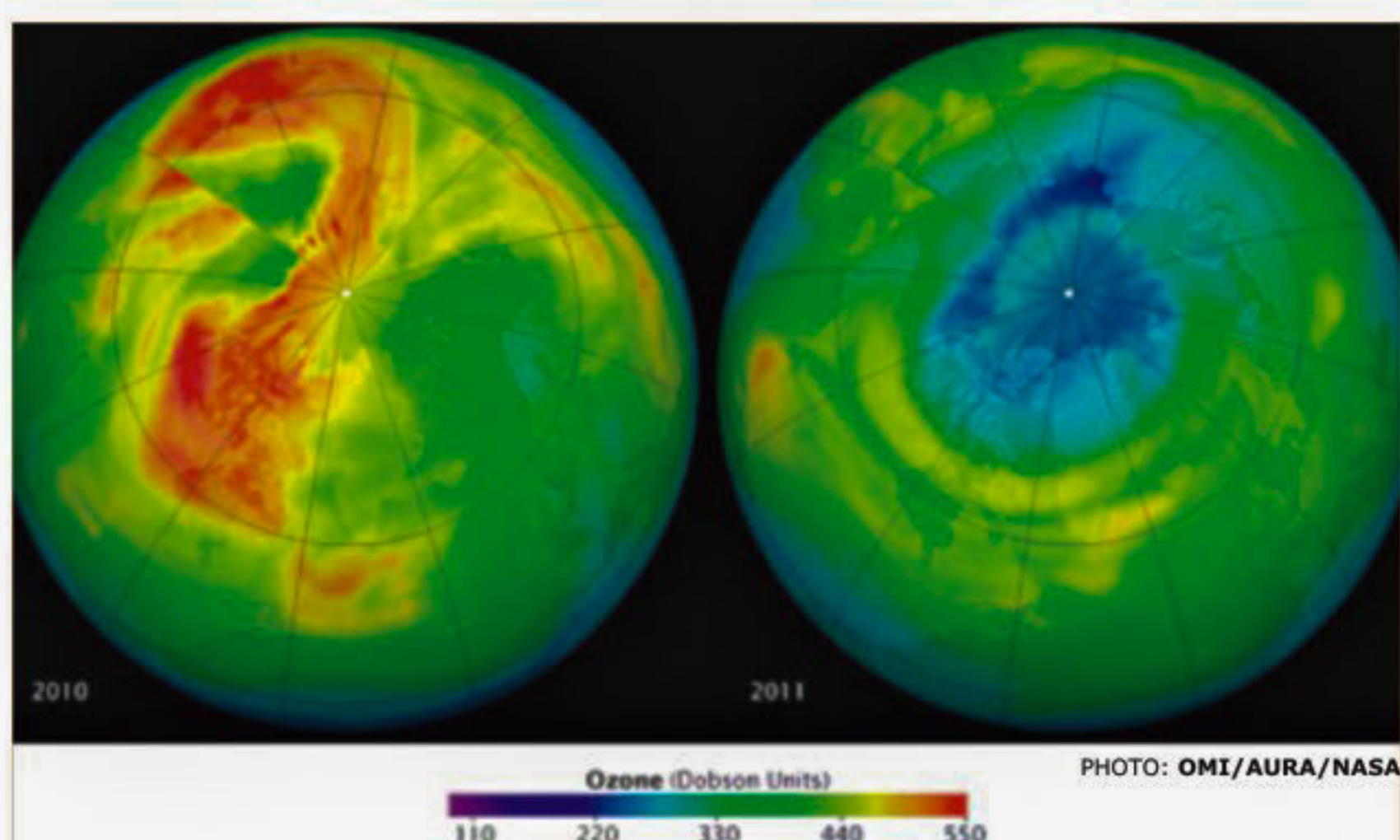
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) yesterday requested the home ministry to take action against the persons involved in barring its chairman from visiting Sylhet Central Jail on Thursday, flouting the NHRC act.

In a letter sent to the secretary of home ministry, the commission demanded action against the inspector general of prisons and the jailor of Shylet Central Jail for violating the law, according to an NHRC source.

Copies of the letter were also sent to the Speaker, law and home ministers, chairmen of parliamentary standing committees on law, justice and parliamentary affairs and home affairs.

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A huge hole that appeared in the Earth's protective ozone layer above the Arctic this year 2011 was the largest recorded in the northern hemisphere. However, the sudden appearance of the hole was not due to man-made causes, scientists say in a report. This chart shows the levels of ozone above the Arctic on March 19 last year (left) and this year (right), the latter showing about a 50pc drop.

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Who do you think will get Awami League support as mayoral candidate in the upcoming N'ganj City Corporation polls

Dr Selina Hayat (53.1%)
Shamim Osman (46.9%)
TOTAL VOTES: 486

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid's accusation that the BNP-led alliance instigated the Jagannath University students' demonstrations is justified?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net
YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING October 4

Azan	4-45	Jamaat	5-20
Fajr	12-45	1-15	
Zohr	4-15	4-30	
Asr	5-53	5-56	
Maghrib	7-30	8-00	

Source: Islamic Foundation

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