

Your Right to Know

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REMARKS QUESTIONABLE!

Syed Badrul Ahsan digs out some funny comments by famous politicians

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SOVEREIGN BONDS

The govt plans to release the bonds next fiscal year

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TEVEZ IN TROUBLE

The Manchester City footballer is in hot water for holding up 'RIP Fergie' sign

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HC expects Humayun to right info in his book

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court hopes that the publication of a novel by popular writer Humayun Ahmed will remain suspended until some information in it about the killing of Bangabandhu and his family is corrected. An HC bench compris-

ing Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim expressed this hope yesterday after Attorney General Mahbubey Alam on Monday drew its attention to the matter.

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In summer, the water level of Kaptai Lake has been dropping alarmingly for the last few years. The Rangamati district administration claims it to be normal since the Kaptai hydroelectric power plant uses the water. However, experts say that the surrounding area has been subjected to agricultural activities new to the area and this is causing land erosion and reducing the lake's water retention capacity. The Kaptai Lake project began in 1957, displacing over 100,000 people. Now the power plant produces around 230MW, five percent of Bangladesh's electricity consumption. The photos are from Banorupa Market and Reserve Bazar, inset, and Assam Basti near the Rangamati-Kaptai Road recently.

PHOTO: **ANISUR RAHMAN**

Bomb-making materials seized from Ctg LDP office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The detective branch of police last night recovered bomb-making materials from Liberal Democratic Party office in Nandan Kanan area of the port

A DB team made the seizure at the LDP's Chittagong city and district (north and south) unit office at around

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SAGAR-RUNI MURDER **Journalists** to march towards PMO on June 26

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Journalists will march towards the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on June 26 to press home their demands including the arrest of killers of Sagar Sarwar and Meherun Runi. Iqbal Sobhan

Chowdhury, president of **SEE PAGE 19 COL 2**

Assaulted, then sued Pabna journo implicated in extortion case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna An extortion case was filed against the journalist from Bera upazila in Pabna who was assaulted on Monday by a nephew

of State Minister for Home

Shamsul Haque Tuku. Although the police records show that the case was filed on Monday, police revealed the case only yesterday following

Once over-staffed railway lacks staff

17,000 employees 'required' to keep it operational

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

With a staggering shortage of nearly 17,000 staff, Bangladesh Railway is in a shambles, often hiring retired railway employees on a temporary basis to fill up the gap.

Such an acute manpower crisis prevails as the state run company has

maintained a "no recruitment policy" for the last 27 years to minimise loss, senior BR officials have said.

The BR's recruitment process was suspended in 1985 to cut annual losses which stood at around Tk 50 crore that year. The loss was Tk 750 crore last year, officials added.

Increase in operational cost due to

the rise in fuel prices, salaries and other benefits of the staff, the government policy not to increase passenger and freight fares are the reasons behind the losses over the years.

Following the partition of India in 1947, the then East Pakistan Railway became overstaffed as thousands of

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BNP prepares for the worst

Top leaders appear in court today for bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Thirty-seven top opposition leaders including BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir accused in an arson case will appear before a trial court in Dhaka today amid growing apprehensions among the party men.

The counsels for the accused will submit bail petitions for them, but party leaders and activists fear the accused might be sent to jail as the government appears to have

taken a hard line against the opposition.

"We will go to the court tomorrow [Wednesday] and we are ready to face any situation," Fakhrul told a meeting of party leaders at the party's central office at Nayapaltan in the city.

BNP insiders said leaders and activists of the party have already been instructed to be present at its central office today to stage instant protest if the accused are sent to jail.

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Govt discards project for poor quality

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DCC may knock down 8 buildings; one collapsed 5 yrs ago

HELEMUL ALAM

The government has abandoned a Tk 12crore DCC project to construct nine buildings for sweepers after probes found the buildings, halfway to completion, were too badly constructed to be retrofitted.

Of the nine structures, one six-storey building collapsed in Dayaganj in May 2007. The remaining ones, which were declared uninhabitable last year, include two six-storey buildings in Dayaganj, four four-storey buildings in Dhalpur and two four-storey buildings in Sutrapur.

The DCC is now thinking of whether to tear down the eight buildings.

Though these buildings continue to be at risk of collapse, more than 1,000 DCC sweepers and their families keep living there illegally. They say they have no place to go. The LGRD ministry, apprehending a disaster, has asked the DCC to relocate the occupants.

earthquake around a year ago, yet I am living here as I don't have an alternative," said Din Mohammad, an occupant of one of the two four-storey half-done **SEE PAGE 19 COL 4**

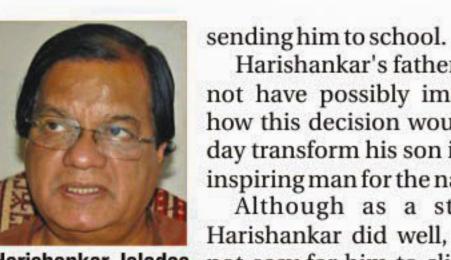


From fishing nets to paperbacks

SHAHENOOR AKTHER URMI, Ctg

When Harishankar Jaladas was around five years old, his playmates in his Patenga community used to go into the sea with their fathers. They dreamt of becoming skilled fishermen.

But Harishankar's father Judhisthir Jaladas, a sea fisherman, had a different plan for his son. Instead of taking him to the deep sea fishing trips, he started



Harishankar's father could not have possibly imagined how this decision would one day transform his son into an inspiring man for the nation.

Although as a student Harishankar did well, it was Harishankar Jaladas not easy for him to climb up

> the education ladder. His classmates always looked down on him as a fisherman's son. But SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

journo leaders UNB, Dhaka Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the

PM assures

8th wage

board soon

be announced very soon. Hasina said this when the newly-elected executive committee of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) met her at her office.

eighth wage board for the

newspaper industry will

The premier said all the process of constituting the SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

Recruit only thru' govt

Dhaka proposes to KL to save workers from middlemen

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has proposed to Kuala Lumpur to recruit Bangladeshi workers under government arrangements to cut involvement of middlemen to reduce the cost of their going abroad for jobs and to put an end to their exploitation.

Malaysian Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr S Subramaniam has termed "attractive" the proposal made to him by Bangladesh Expatriates' Welfare Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, reports Malaysian official

news agency Bernama.

During a meeting with Subramaniam in Putrajaya, Mosharraf, who is on a five-day visit to Malaysia, said Bangladesh government will register all the overseas jobseekers and act as a facilitator in said. matching the employers' needs with the workers' qualifications, Bernama reported yesterday.

"It is an attractive suggestion. They (Bangladesh) said they have done it with other countries, where the government maintained a profile of the potential workers and, when

they received a request from a certain country, they can sort the request, which will contribute to a smoother process at lower cost, with greater amount of protection for both workers and employers," Subramaniam

He said he was thankful to Bangladesh for introducing a "very good mechanism" to reduce the cost of sending workers overseas. The proposal would be discussed by the cabinet committee on foreign workers and illegal immigrants to work SEE PAGE 6 COL 3