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POLITICISING BUREAUCRATS

Leads to inefficiency and corruption among civil servants

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BIG PLAN, POOR EXECUTION

Govt took a huge ADP, but spent only 55pc of the outlay in 10 months

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NEW RUSSIAN CABINET

President Putin warns it will have to fulfil duties amid difficult economy

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State oil for stealing

Over 3 lakh litres furnace oil sold to non-existing factories, headed for water vessels; Rab nabs 23, tries to track down the racket

KAILASH SARKAR and DWAIPAYAN BARUA

Rapid Action Battalion seized more than 3 lakh litres of furnace oil from Anu Majhir Ghat in Chittagong on Sunday night when the fuel was being hauled for black market, said the elite crime fighting force yesterday.

The oil was dispatched from a Padma

Oil depot, said Rab officials.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-7 conducted a drive at the Karnaphuli River bank under Double-Mooring Police Station around 11.30pm on Sunday making the seizure and arresting 23 people when they were loading the hauled oil into an oil-tanker.

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Rab seized this oil tanker and arrested 23 men, inset, Sunday midnight at Anu Majhir Ghat in Chittagong while they were smuggling more than 3 lakh litres of furnace oil for the black market.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS



ARSON CASE AGAINST OPPOSITION LEADERS

Charge acceptance stirs ire

BNP lawmaker sent to jail on surrender; pro-BNP lawyers boycott court today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday accepted charges against BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and 44 other opposition leaders in an arson attack case.

The magistrate's court, however,

did not fix any date for hearing on charge framing.

It rejected a bail petition from BNP lawmaker Mahub Uddin Khokon and sent him to jail after he surrendered to the court in connection with the case.

Khokon sought to extend his bail

that expired yesterday. He was granted bail in the case on May 9.

The court issued arrest warrants against acting Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Maqbul Ahmed and two Islami Chhatra Shibir leaders, who went into hiding after they were

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DIRECTORS OF LISTED COMPANIES

Hold 2pc share or quit board

HC upholds SEC directives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sponsors, directors and promoters of the companies listed on any stock exchange must hold a minimum of 2 percent stake in their firms for all time, as the High Court

yesterday upheld an SEC directive.

The Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) directive on minimum shareholding was meant to stop sales of shares by sponsors and directors

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PROSHIKA

Qazi Faruque's action to be challenged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The incumbent governing body of Proshika will soon challenge the legality of its ousted chairman Qazi Faruque Ahmed's return to the organisation in violation of a High Court order.

"We have already

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PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BNP leader barrister Mahub Uddin Khokon is being taken onto a prison van at the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court.

SAYEDEE'S TRIAL Irrelevant exhibits irk tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday expressed annoyance at irrelevant exhibits, including a family album of Bangabandhu, submitted by the investigation officer in a case against Jamaat leader Delwar Hossain Sayedee.

"What's the relevance of the family album of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to the case against Delwar Hossain Sayedee?" AKM Zaheer Ahmed, a judge of the three-member tribunal, asked Investigation Officer (IO) of the case Mohammad Helal Uddin. The IO, also the final (28th) prosecution

Brutally tortured at SQ Chy's residence

Ctg businessman tells war crimes tribunal of his harrowing experience

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prosecution witness yesterday told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that he was brutally tortured at Salauddin Quader Chowdhury's Goods Hill residence in Chittagong during the Liberation War.

Mohammad Salimullah, a businessman of Chittagong, in his 90-minute testimony told the court how he was abducted on September 2, 1971, taken to the house, tortured and kept hostage in a garage where he would have died had a Sindhi member of the police force not given him water.

"I thought they would kill me eventu-



ally. I had lost all hope," said the 68-year-old witness.

"At one point, the only thing in my mind was my then four-month-old daughter. I prayed to the almighty to protect her and keep her safe," Salimullah said in an emotion-choked voice.

He is the second prosecution witness in a case against Salauddin Quader regarding the BNP leader's alleged involvement in crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War.

Salimullah, who owned the Muslim Press in Chittagong, said on the evening of

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