

Week wears off

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owner of the seized oil tanker and source of the oil," Kazi Matul Islam, officer-in-charge of Double-Mooring Police Station, told The Daily Star.

A team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-7 seized the fuel on May 20 around 11:30pm when it was being hauled for the black market. They arrested 23 people and seized the oil tanker OT Priyanka and 11 oil lorries.

On Tuesday, a case was filed with Double-Mooring Police Station in this connection.

Among the arrestees, there is no key figure of the oil smuggling ring, said Matul.

Seven of the arrestees have been put on police remand for two days, which will end today. Satyajit Barua, investigation inspector, said there were several parties in the case. "We have to contact Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority to find out the owner of OT Priyanka."

Police are verifying the information provided by the accused during remand, said Jobair Syed, investiga-

tion officer of the case.

He, however, declined to disclose any information as the case was a sensitive one.

Although the Rab-7 team seized one oil tanker at Anu Majhir Ghat on May 20, another eight were anchored beside it.

Contacted by The Daily Star, Rab personnel said they were guarding only one tanker and 11 tank lorries, but the owners of other vessels were not coming to operate their vessels for fear of arrest.

Md Abubakar Siddique, chairman of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation

(BPC), said the corporation had formed a three-member probe committee to investigate the incident. The committee has been asked to submit its report within seven working days.

"We have to wait until we get the report. We will take departmental action if any official is found guilty," he added.

Abubakar was abroad when the incident occurred. He has informed the ministry about the situation. "I have heard that the ministry might launch a separate investigation into the incident."

Earliest music

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flutes were between 42,000 and 43,000 years old.

The findings are described in the Journal of Human Evolution.

A team led by Prof Tom Higham at Oxford University dated animal bones in the same ground layers as the flutes at Geissenkloesterle Cave in Germany's Swabian Jura.

Prof Nick Conard, the Tuebingen University researcher who identified the previous record-holder for oldest instrument in 2009, was excavator at the site.

He said: "These results are

consistent with a hypothesis we made several years ago that the Danube River was a key corridor for the movement of humans and technological innovations into central Europe between 40,000-45,000 years ago.

"Geissenkloesterle is one of several caves in the region that has produced important examples of personal ornaments, figurative art, mythical imagery and musical instruments."

Musical instruments may have been used in recreation or for religious ritual, experts say.

And some researchers have argued that music may

have been one of a suite of behaviours displayed by our species which helped give them an edge over the Neanderthals - who went extinct in most parts of Europe 30,000 years ago.

Music could have played a role in the maintenance of larger social networks, which may have helped our species expand their territory at the expense of the more conservative Neanderthals.

The researchers say the dating evidence from Geissenkloesterle suggests that modern humans entered the Upper Danube region before an extremely

cold climatic phase at around 39,000-40,000 years ago.

Previously, researchers had argued that modern humans initially migrated up the Danube immediately after this event.

"Modern humans during [this] period were in central Europe at least 2,000-3,000 years before this climatic deterioration, when huge icebergs calved from ice sheets in the northern Atlantic and temperatures plummeted," said Prof Higham.

"The question is whether this downturn might have had on the people in Europe at the time."

Graft spikes water crisis

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reasons behind the huge production loss, popularly known as system loss, he pointed out.

The former MD attributed Wasa's defective supply system to corruption in project implementation and service delivery and lack of competent manpower.

He suggested ensuring oversight and effective autonomy to make Wasa a transparent service provider.

Dr M Inamul Haque,

executive director of Institute of Water and Environment, said Wasa had to supply 2100 million litres of safe water for 21 million people in a 360-square kilometre area of Dhaka and Narayanganj cities.

Its treatment plant at Pagla of Narayanganj can treat only eight percent of 2 million cubic metre of human sewage generated by the residents of the two cities daily, he added.

The rest of the sewage is

directly released into water bodies through wetlands.

Quamrul Alam Chowdhury, deputy managing director of Dhaka Wasa, said 88 percent of the organisation's total production comes from 621 deep tube wells while the rest comes from surface water.

Pollution in the rivers around Dhaka, lack of Wasa's sewage treatment plants and septic tanks at private houses remain major obstacles to shifting to sur-

face water sources for producing water, he mentioned.

Water Resources Minister Ramesh Chandra Sen said his ministry is carrying out a 162-km river dredging project from Jamuna to Dhaleswari to increase the flow of water in the Buriganga, Turag and Bangshairivers.

Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh, moderated the discussion.

Next polls to be free, fair

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fair and neutral manner, why can't the next general election be held in a similar manner?" she asked.

Hasina, also president of the ruling AL, was addressing a view-exchange meeting with the leaders of Meherpur district AL at the Gono Bhaban.

She said the Election Commission would work independently. The administration as well as the law enforcement agencies would remain under the EC during the election period. "So there would be no scope for interference in the polls."

The prime minister was critical of those who slated the government for arresting the opposition leaders on charges of involvement in arson and blasts during recent hartals.

The meeting was organised as part of the AL chief's initiative to know the opinions of the grassroots level leaders and workers of the ruling party.

Deputy Leader of the House Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, AL president members Kazi Zafrullah and Aktaruzzaman Chowdhury Babu, and Joint General Secretary Mahbulul Alam Hanif were also present.

Hasina claimed her government had been working to strengthen all democratic institutions including the EC, as the "Awami League believes in democracy and people's empowerment".

"The people are the source of all power and whatever they want will happen," she added.

The prime minister said burning people alive and carrying out activities like arson and vandalism were the characteristics of the opposition. They had earlier killed 11 people by torching a BRTC double-decker bus in front of Sakura Hotel in the capital, she alleged.

"Why could the trial of those who burnt people to death and vandalised vehicles during the hartals not be held? Is it not a violation of human rights of the driver who was burnt to death while asleep inside a bus during the hartal? Is it not a violation of human rights of those whose vehicles were torched or damaged?" she asked.

Apparently discarding the opposition's demand for restoration of the caretaker government system, Hasina said people did not yet forget the torture and repression by the last caretaker government. Politicians, students,

teachers and businessmen had become the victims of torture during its rule.

She said the last caretaker government sent Khaleda Zia's both sons abroad after giving them a good beating.

"How can you be sure that the next caretaker government will not hang them after bringing them back from abroad?" she asked pointing at the BNP chief.

Referring to the "atrocities on the opposition leaders and workers during the rule of the past BNP-Jamaat-led four-party alliance government", Hasina said the people of all classes and professions had been "victims of their killing, torture and rape".

The cadres of BNP-Jamaat unleashed a reign of terror by carrying out brutal torture and repression, like the Pakistani occupation forces, on the AL leaders and workers, she alleged claiming that 21,000 AL leaders and workers including Ivy Rahman, SAMS Kibria and Ahsanullah Master were killed during their rule.

The prime minister said the country was turned into a haven for terrorists and militants like Bangla Bhai from 2001 to 2006 due to patronisation of the four-

party alliance government.

"Bangladesh had come to be known as a corrupt country in the world due to unbridled corruption of the BNP-Jamaat government," she said.

People of the country, especially those in the southern region, could never forget the atrocities on AL workers and supporters after the general election in 2001, Hasina said.

"The Awami League did not take any revenge against the opposition leaders and workers after being voted to power in 2008, as it always believes in democratic culture. Rather, the party put all its strength for development of the country," she said.

The prime minister highlighted what she said was her government's tremendous success in the fields of agriculture, education, health, power, women empowerment and food security.

She claimed that her government brought radical changes in the country's socio-economic development.

The AL president also asked the leaders and workers of the party to highlight the "successes and development programmes of the government" before the people.

Climate talks

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global climate treaty, to be drafted by the end of 2015 and to come into force in 2020. But participants told the Guardian they were downbeat, disappointed and frustrated that the decision to work on a new treaty reached after marathon late-running talks last December in Durban was being questioned.

China and India, both rapidly growing economies with an increasing share of global emissions, have tried to delay talks on such a treaty. Instead of a workplan for the next three years to achieve the objective of a new pact, governments have only managed to draw up a partial agenda. "It's incredibly frustrating to

have achieved so little," said one developed country participant. "We're stepping backwards, not forwards."

Connie Hedegaard, the EU climate chief, said: "The world cannot afford that a few want to backtrack from what was agreed in Durban only five months ago. It is very worrisome that attempts to backtrack have been so obvious and time-consuming in the Bonn talks over the last two weeks."

There was also little progress on the key issue of the financing by rich countries of actions in the developing world.

Meeting in Bonn, negotiators and officials from around the world haggled

over the set-up of a 'Green Climate Fund' that would channel cash from the developed world to poorer countries, to help them cut greenhouse gas emissions and cope with the effects of climate change.

However, they agreed much of the detail that will be needed to extend the Kyoto protocol currently the world's only legally binding treaty on emissions cuts beyond 2012 when its current provisions expire. That extension should be finalised at a conference in Doha, Qatar, this November but may not be if the EU does not see sufficient progress in negotiations on the proposed new post-2020 treaty.

However, the only major developed countries that

have agreed to continue the Kyoto protocol are those of the European Union. Canada and Japan have dropped out, and the US never ratified the 1997 accord.

The fortnight-long talks in Bonn followed an unexpected last-ditch agreement in December at a meeting in Durban, when countries resolved to spend the next three to four years thrashing out the terms of a new global treaty on climate change and emissions cuts, which would come into force from 2020.

BNP bribed Economist

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contradictory to the ethics of objective journalism".

They were of the view that the articles were conspiracies of the undemocratic forces and their beneficiaries. In its print edition yesterday, The Economist carried two articles titled "Bangladesh's toxic politics: Hello, Delhi" and "Politics in Bangladesh: Banged about" in which it also came up with the observation, "The prime minister sets the country on a dangerous path".

Rejecting outright both the articles, Awami League Joint General Secretary Mahbulul Alam Hanif said, "The British magazine is used to write against the Awami League by taking bribes from anti-liberation forces and the BNP."

He alleged that the newspaper carried many reports with mala fide intention soon after the present government assumed power. Condemning the magazine's comment, "As Sheikh Hasina looks ever more strident, people may start tip-toeing away from her", Hanif referred to the recent survey of the United States-based Gallup poll that showed 77 percent people of the country kept their trust in Hasina.

About its remarks on the caretaker government, the AL leader said the government of Sheikh Hasina did not abolish the caretaker government system; rather it was a verdict of the country's apex court; and in accordance with the verdict, a bill was passed in the Jatiya Sangsad (parliament).

Protesting the comment, "It is up to India try to stop Sheikh Hasina ruining Bangladesh", Hanif said, "Bangladesh is an independent and sovereign state. The people elect the country's prime minister. Involvement of any third country in its internal affairs is illogical and contradictory to its sovereignty."

Referring to a number of comments by Hillary Clinton and the US ambassador in Bangladesh as mentioned in the articles, Hanif said during her recent visit to Dhaka, Clinton had remarked that Bangladesh

was gradually developing and the country's democracy was more consolidated and that it was on the right track of transforming itself into a middle-income state.

But he regretted that nowhere in its articles did The Economist mention the aforesaid remarks of Clinton, which bore testimony to the fact that the magazine wanted deliberately to undermine the progress achieved by the present government.

Replying to the article's comment on the detaining of 33 leaders of the opposition in jail in a case of arson and arrest of nearly 3,000 BNP leaders and activists, Hanif said, "The Economist highlighted only the negative matters."

He referred to the killing of thousands of Awami League leaders and workers, including that of a former minister and a few MPs and 24 party leaders and workers in the August 21 massacre of 2004 during the BNP-led government.

In reality, Hanif said, "The Economist has taken the side of those who are opposing the trial of the war criminals and collaborators."

Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, said, "It's nothing but a well-conceived conspiracy of an undemocratic force of beneficiaries." He said it was part of a conspiracy being hatched at a time when "Bangladesh under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is marching ahead in the community of nations upholding its nascent democracy."

Noted academic and historian Prof Syed Anwar Hossain said, "The magazine [The Economist] has been writing against the present government for quite some time, but the reason behind it is unclear. However, that there is no good intention behind publishing such articles is crystal clear."

Badiul Alam Mazumdar, secretary general of Sujon, said, "It's a wake-up call for the government. We are in a crisis now, but nobody from outside can resolve our problems."

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
পরিচালক ও অধ্যাপকের দপ্তর, জাতীয় বক্ষব্যাহি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল
মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২
তারিখঃ ২৩/০৫/২০১২ইং

বাবসরিক দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকার মহাখালীস্থ জাতীয় বক্ষব্যাহি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতালের এবং এর আওতাধীন জাতীয় এগ্রামা সেন্টারের জন্য ইংরেজি ২০১২-২০১৩ইং অর্থ বৎসরের নিম্নবর্ণিত খাদ্য দ্রব্যাদি সরবরাহ এবং লিনেন দ্রব্যাদি দৌতকরণ এর নিমিত্তে অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী প্রতিষ্ঠান/সরবরাহকারী/টিকাদারগণের নিকট হইতে সীলগালায়ুক্ত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্র তফসীল (সিডিউল) প্রতি ০১ (এক) ফণ্পের জন্য ক্রমিক নং-১৬(এ) এর সারণীতে এ বর্ণিত মূল্যের ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে পরিচালক, জাতীয় বক্ষব্যাহি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, মহাখালী, ঢাকার কোড নং-

১	২	৭	৫	১	০	০	৫	০	২	০	২	৩	-তে
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চালানের মূল কপিতে জেলা হিসাব রক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক সিটিআর করায়া উক্ত চালান জমা দিয়া নিম্নে উল্লিখিত অফিস ও সময়ে দরপত্র তফসীল সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে। দরপত্রের অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী দরপত্রের তফসীলে/নিয়মাবলীতে উল্লেখ থাকিবে।

০১	মন্ত্রণালয়ের নাম	:	স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয়।
০২	সংগ্রাহক সত্তার নাম ও ঠিকানা	:	জাতীয় বক্ষব্যাহি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল।
০৩	সংগ্রাহক সত্তার কোড নং	:	১-২৭৫১-০০৫০-২০২৩
০৪	অর্থের উৎস	:	সরকারী বরাদ্দ প্রাপ্ত অর্থ হইতে।
০৫	দরপত্র আহ্বান নম্বর ও তারিখ	:	স্মারক নং-জাববইহা/২০১২/২১৮১ তারিখঃ ২৩/০৫/২০১২ইং।
০৬	সরবরাহকারীর দরপত্রাদাতার	:	দরপত্র তফসীলে শর্তাবলী ও নিয়মাবলী পূরণপূর্বক কাগজপত্রসমূহ দরপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
০৭	সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	:	খোলা দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
০৮	দরপত্রের প্যাকেজ নং	:	০৫ (পাঁচ)টি ক= ১, ২, ৩, ৪ খ= ৪
০৯	দরপত্র তফসীল বিক্রয় শুরু তারিখ ও সময়	:	প্রতিকায় প্রকাশের তারিখ হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হইতে বিকাল ১.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১০	দরপত্র তফসীল বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৪/০৬/২০১২ইং তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ১.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১১	দরপত্র তফসীল জমা দেওয়ার তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৫/০৬/২০১২ইং তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা র মধ্যে জমা দিতে হইবে।
১২	দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৫/০৬/২০১২ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরপত্রাদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন)।
১৩	দরপত্র তফসীল প্রাপ্তির স্থান	:	১) ক্যাশিয়ার, জাতীয় বক্ষব্যাহি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল। ২) মহাপরিচালক, স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, মহাখালী, ঢাকা (ভান্ডার কর্মকর্তার কক্ষ)।
১৪	দরপত্র তফসীল জমা দেওয়ার স্থান	:	১) নিম্নাধক্ষকারীর দপ্তর। ২) মহাপরিচালক, স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, মহাখালী, ঢাকা (ভান্ডার কর্মকর্তার কক্ষ)।
১৫	দরপত্র তফসীল বাস্তব খোলার স্থান	:	পরিচালকের অফিস কক্ষ, জাতীয় বক্ষব্যাহি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, মহাখালী, ঢাকা।

১৬। (এ) মালামাল সরবরাহের গ্রণ্প নং-

গ্রণ্প নং	মালামালের নাম ও বিবরণী	দরপত্র তফসীলের মূল্য অফেরতযোগ্য	বায়নার টাকা	জামানতের টাকা
ক/১	চাল, ডাল, মসলা ইত্যাদি	টাকা-৭৫০/-	টাকা- ৩০,০০০/-	টাকা- ৬০,০০০/-
ক/২	সবজি ও ফলফলাদি	টাকা-৭৫০/-	টাকা- ১৫,০০০/-	টাকা- ৩০,০০০/-
ক/৩	মাছ, মাংস ও ডিম	টাকা-৭৫০/-	টাকা- ৪৫,০০০/-	টাকা- ৯০,০০০/-
ক/৪	পাউরুটি	টাকা-৭৫০/-	টাকা- ১৫,০০০/-	টাকা- ৩০,০০০/-
খ/৪	লিনেন দৌতকরণ	টাকা-৪০০/-	টাকা- ৭,৫০০/-	টাকা- ১৫,০০০/-

অধ্যাপক ডাঃ মোঃ রাশিদুল হাসান
পরিচালক ও অধ্যাপক
জাতীয় বক্ষব্যাহি ইনস্টিটিউট ও হাসপাতাল, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২
জিডি-২২৫৪