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RAILWAY JOB SCAM

3 more officials suspended

7 to face department action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The railway ministry yesterday suspended three more officials and decided to take departmental action against seven others for their involvement in irregularities in recruitment process.

The suspended officials are additional chief mechanical engineer (East Zone) Hafizur Rahman Chowdhury, senior welfare officer (East Zone) Golam Kibria and assistant commercial officer-1 (Dhaka) Abu Syed Ahmed. Earlier in April, general manager (East Zone) Yusuf Ali Mridha and Dhaka division commandant Enamul Haq were suspended four days after the haul of Tk 70 lakh from the car of former railway minister Suranjit Sengupta's assistant personal secretary Omar Faruk Talukder inside BGB Pilkhana headquarters.

Those who will face departmental proceedings are Chief Commandant (East Zone) Aminur Rashid, who is now posted in West Zone, Senior Personal Officer (SPO) Shamsuzzaman, Divisional Engineer-3 (Chittagong) Abidur Rahman, Junior Personal Officer-3 (East Zone) Mahfuzur Rahman, Junior Personal Officer-2 (East Zone)

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The capital's Nayapaltan, where the central office of the main opposition BNP is located, gets flooded with numerous posters and banners of the opposition pressing for the release of its detained leaders, among other demands. The posters and banners hide the view of the buildings that have no link with the opposition's issues. The photo was shot yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

PROPOSED BUDGET

AL MPs have nothing but praise

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four ruling Awami League lawmakers yesterday highly lauded the proposed budget for 2012-13 fiscal and expressed wholehearted support to it saying it has nothing to be criticised for.

Two lawmakers from Jatiya Party and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, components of AL-led grand alliance, on the other side, partially criticised the proposed budget saying the government could not arrest price hike of essentials.

Amid boycott by the BNP-led opposition in parliament, AL lawmakers thanked the prime minister and the finance

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2 killed in city road crashes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A young bike rider and a minor boy were killed in separate road accidents in the capital yesterday.

In Mirpur, eight-year-old Zahidul Islam died as a bus hit him while crossing the road near his house at Muktiyoddha Complex of Zoo Road around 4:00pm.

On information, police rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital

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More violence in Ashulia RMG belt

Production hampered for second day amid workers' demonstrations, clash with police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Garment workers at Ashulia on the outskirts of the capital continued their violent demonstration for a second straight day yesterday demanding a pay rise.

At least 50 people, including workers and pedestrians, were injured when the angry workers fought pitched battles with law enforcers for about four hours in

phases from 9:00am, witnesses said.

Police fired over 50 rubber bullets and around 60 teargas canisters and charged batons to disperse the clashing workers, who retaliated with brickbats.

At least 10 workers were bullet-hit, witnesses said, adding that they were admitted to different local hospitals and clinics.

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NEXT JS POLLS

AL loses confidence, says BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee member MK Anwar yesterday said the survey report prepared by the government agencies proves that the government has become isolated from its people.

He also said the ruling party's dream to win the next election will turn into a nightmare if the poll is

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

NEWS ANALYSIS

Penalising the people

SYED BADRUL AHSAN

Despite what the prime minister says about the media not focusing on the good deeds of her government, despite all the encomiums the functionaries of the government might shower on themselves about all the positive things that have happened since the Awami League returned to power in the 2008 general elections, there are some overwhelming questions the powers that be need to answer -- in their interest and in the larger interest of the nation.

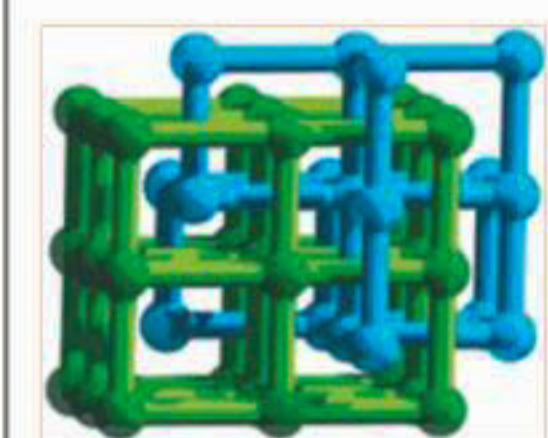
And these are questions that are partic-

ularly galling when you consider that they are being directed at a party which has historically identified with the will of the masses and under the leadership of which this nation fought a tortuous war of liberation and emerged into freedom.

On Monday, it was the freedom of the people which came to be circumscribed through the activities of the police and activists of the ruling AL, in a way that was as shocking as it was bizarre.

The police cheerfully went into the business of preventing any mode of public transport making its way into the capital;

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3



New holey material can absorb CO2

BBC ONLINE

UK researchers have developed a porous material that can preferentially soak up CO2 from the atmosphere.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Witness Sirajul's testimony false

Claims SQ Chy's lawyer at ICT

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP lawmaker Salauddin Quader Chowdhury's defence yesterday attempted to prove, during cross-examination of the third witness, that the witness gave a false testimony.

Salauddin's defence claimed that witness Sirajul Islam gave "false statements" as political opponents of the lawmaker lured the witness with promises of a freedom fighter certificate into giving a false testimony.

"A vested quarter assured you [Sirajul] of giving a freedom fighter certificate, if you testify in the case [against Salauddin Quader Chowdhury] and that's why you testified," claimed Salauddin's

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TIGER CUBS

No one knows how to take care

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The fate of the three tiger cubs rescued on Monday from a wildlife smuggler's house in the capital is in the hands of experts who will sit this afternoon to decide their destination.

One of the cubs, which are for now kept in a private mini zoo at Hatirpul in Dhaka, has already fallen sick and is too weak to stand.

Asked why those cubs were handed over to a private zoo, Rab Magistrate ASM

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The tiger cubs recovered on Monday from the house of a wildlife trader are kept in a small bird cage at a private zoo in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



This road at the capital's Shyamoli remains heavily congested all day long as digging for installing utility lines has narrowed it down. The photo was shot yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

TEESTA TRIBUTARIES

Sikkim scraps 4 hydropower projects

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The government of northeastern Indian state of Sikkim has decided to scrap four hydroelectric projects on tributaries of the Teesta river in North Sikkim in the wake of opposition from the locals.

The Sikkim cabinet at its May 10 meeting approved of the projects of 99 MW-280MW power plants, A K Giri, the state's secretary to the power and energy department, was quoted in the local media reports published yesterday.

The projects have been consistently opposed by the people of Lachen and Lachung, especially after the September 18 earthquake there. The project developers could not complete the detailed project reports as people did not allow them to conduct a survey for their projects, Giri said.

The state government had signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Teesta Stage-I with Polyplex Corporation India Private Limited in 2005 and with

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Would you support if the opposition launches tougher agitation programme against the government after Ramadan?

Yes (76.7%)

No (20.4%)

No Comments (2.9%)

TOTAL VOTES: 416

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think authorities concerned will be able to remove all the commercial institutions from Dhanmondi residential area following the High Court order?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)

PRAYER TIMING June 13

Fajr	4:05	4:40
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	5:00	5:15
Maghrib	6:50	6:55
Esha	8:15	8:45

Islamic Foundation