

**Hold bar council polls July 18**

Orders SC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday directed the authorities concerned to hold the election of Bangladesh Bar Council on July 18.

The six-member bench of the Appellate Division of SC, headed by Justice SK Sinha, passed the order after disposing of three petitions filed against three High Court (HC) orders that stayed the process for holding the election for one month.

Citing the SC order, Additional Attorney General MK Rahman told The Daily Star that June 26 is the last date for submitting nomination papers by the candidates, June 28 is last day for scrutiny of nomination papers and July 5 is the last date for withdrawal of candidatures.

Earlier, the election was scheduled to be held on June 17.

But, the HC on June 5, following three separate writ petitions, stayed the process for holding the polls for one month and also issued separate rules upon the bar council authorities to explain why they should not be directed to remove the anomalies before holding the election.

Secretary to the bar council recently filed separate petitions with the SC challenging the HC orders.

Attorney General Mahubey Alam appeared for the bar council secretary.



Sweetmeats being dumped into a drain by officials of a mobile court of Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution and Chittagong City Corporation yesterday after those were found being made in unhealthy and unhygienic conditions in two food shops in Moddham Rampur of Halishahar in Chittagong city.

PHOTO: STAR

**ARSENIC 33 dists to get safe water**

BSS, Dhaka

The government has taken a project to supply safe water in arsenic and salinity affected areas through pipeline and non-pipeline supply system, as the people of the areas are being affected by different diseases through drinking contaminated water.

"We will identify the arsenic and salinity affected villages and unions in 33 districts across the country and install permanent and temporary water supply system," a planning ministry official told the news agency.

He said local government, community and private sponsors would be engaged in the installation of pipeline system for supplying safe water.

Apart from the water supply, low cost sanitary latrine would be constructed for the ultra poor people in the selected areas, he said.

"Quality sanitation system would be introduced by local private sector and mass awareness would also be built in the affected areas," the official added.

The areas are Dhaka, Kishoreganj, Narayanganj, Faridpur, Gopalganj, Madaripur, Manikganj, Munsiganj, Tangail, Barguna, Barisal, Pirojpur, Bagerhat, Jessore, Khulna, Magura, Jenidah, Narail, Satkhira, Brahmanbaria, Chandpur, Chittagong, Comilla, Feni, Laxmipur, Noakhali, Moulvibazar, Sunamganj, Habiganj, Sylhet, Bogra, Kurigram and Rangpur.

The project would require a cost of Tk 682 crore. Of the total cost, the government would provide Tk 14.39 crore from national exchequer, community sponsors would provide Tk 112.51 crore and rest Tk 555 crore would come as project assistance.

The project would be placed before the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecnc), which is scheduled to meet today.

**HC questions double VAT on sweets**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule upon the government to explain in two weeks why its action of collecting value added tax (VAT) twice from sweetmeat sales should not be declared illegal.

The rule came following a writ petition claiming that the authorities concerned are collecting 15 per cent VAT on sweetmeat from the mills and another 15 per cent VAT from the sale centres, which is illegal as per rules of VAT Act 1991.

According to Section 5 (4) of the act, the VAT has to be imposed on the whole of the sweetmeat, the petition said.

The HC bench of Justice Md Ashfaul Islam and Justice Mostafa Zaman Islam issued the rule after hearing the petition filed by MA Motaleb, president of Bangladesh Sweetmeat Manufacturers Association.

**KAFCO**

**Union urges gas supply**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Leaders of Karnaphuli Fertiliser Company Limited (Kafco) Employees' Union yesterday urged the government to resume supplying gas to the factory to restart production after six months.

If government fails to supply gas immediately it would adversely affect next year's agricultural output, they said.

Union leaders made the request at a press conference held at a local restaurant in Chittagong where Saraf Uddin Kabir, the union's president, read out a written statement.

He said Kafco, which has been running under public private partnership (PPP), has been facing a loss of Tk 8 crore per day as they could not produce due to lack of gas supply.

Kabir said there is a misconception about the company's gas bills payment. Kafco has been paying the bills in accordance with the rise and fall of price of fertilisers in the international market.

Replying to a query, Kabir said it is not possible to arrange gas supply of 45 million cubic feet per day from any other source.

The union's Senior Vice President Md Abu Taher, were present among others.



It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing away of the Crown Prince Nayef bin Abdul Aziz al-Saud, We hereby express our heartfelt condolences On behalf of Al-Noor and Makka Eye Hospitals in Bangladesh, We Offer our deepest condolences to The Majesty Khadm Al-Haramain Al-Sharifain King Abdullah, the royal family, the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Bangladesh and the people of Saudi Arabia.

We wish to the Majesty continued health and prosperity and our prayers and thoughts go to the family and relatives of the deceased. May Allah the Almighty bless his soul.



**Al- Basar International Foundation - Bangladesh**  
Al-Noor and Makka Eye Hospital

**7 IOJ, NIP leaders held for inciting communal strife**

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Police yesterday detained seven leaders of Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ) and Nezami Islami Party (NIP) on charge of assisting Rohingya people to enter into the country and giving provocative speech against Rakhine people living in Cox's Bazar.

The detainees are IOJ district unit general secretary Afsar Uddin Chowdhury, NIP district unit vice presidents Enamul Haque, AHM Nurul Kabir Hilali and Abdul Haque, IOJ leader Ershad Ullah, Islami Chhatra Samaj district unit's Abul Manjur and a madrasa teacher Abu Bakkar Siddique.

All of them were detained at Cox's Bazar sadar police station.

Police and witnesses said the detained IOJ leaders at a meeting yesterday demanded that the border with Myanmar should be opened so that Rohingya people can enter into the country. The meeting was organised at a hotel in Laldighir Par area in the town around 11:00am. They also threatened to launch attack on Rakhine people living in Cox's Bazar and other areas.

On information, police rushed to the spot and detained the seven leaders. However, some other senior leaders managed to flee the scene.

Kamrul Islam, officer-in-charge of Cox's Bazar police station, said the leaders were detained on charge of their involvement in anti-state activities including assisting Rohingya people to enter the country and giving provocative speech against Rakhine people.

"We are looking for other leaders who are involved in the conspiracy. Moreover, we are trying to detain those who pasted posters with provocative speech in the town," he added.

IOJ district unit president Chhalamat Ullah said, "We have organised a press conference demanding shelter of oppressed Rohingya people of Myanmar. The allegations of threatening attack on Rakhine people and provocative speech are not true," he added.

**One to die for murder in Sylhet**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A trial court in Sylhet yesterday handed down death penalty to one and life-term imprisonment to another in connection with a case filed against them for killing a madrasa teacher in 2007.

Additional District and Sessions Judge-IV Md Manzurul Haque Khan gave the verdict in presence of the duo.

The victim's step-brother Abdur Rahman was sentenced to death while the victim's wife Monwara Begum was sentenced to life-term imprisonment.

According to the prosecution, on October 11 of 2007 in Brahmangram village of Kanaighat upazila, the two killed madrasa teacher Abu Taher in his sleep as they had been having an affair behind the victim's back.

They swooped on Taher and beat him to death with iron rods and sticks.

Sensing something wrong, locals, in the morning, caught the two while they were fleeing the village and handed them over to police.

Md Taiyeb Ali, victim's older brother, filed the case with Kanaighat Police Station the day after the murder.

Sub-Inspector Md Abdul Quaiyum Munshi of Kanaighat Police Station, also the investigation officer, submitted the charge sheet against the two on February 28, 2008.

The judge listened to testimony of 23 prosecution witnesses during the trial.

**Father, son become victims of 'ogyan party'**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A father and his son yesterday fell victims to criminals, known as "ogyan party", who rob people after making them unconscious using drugs, during a bus journey in the capital's Gulistan area.

Police said that Sattar, 45, and his son Anik, 13, were travelling in a Mirpur bound bus. Soon Sattar fell unconscious. While losing consciousness, Anik told other passengers that someone fed them pickle.

Passengers captured a man sitting the next to the two and took him and the two victims to Shahbagh Police Station.

The victims were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Md Ashkur Rahman, sub-inspector of Shahbagh Police Station, said they contacted Sattar's family and detained the accused so that the victims can identify him after regaining consciousness.

As the festival of Eid approaches  
**The Daily Star** is putting together

**Star Fashion**  
eid album 2012

Ahead of the country's largest shopping season. If you wish to participate, send outfits and accessories you would like to feature in the album.

Last date of submission has been extended till **June 23, 2012**

Attention: Designers & Boutiques

Contact: (For submission of products)  
Syeed Ahmed Chowdhury & Teresa Mustafiz Chaity  
Phone: 9144330-1  
Cell: 01711623905

For advertisement please contact:  
Advertisement Department  
Phone: 9144330  
E-mail: advdept@yahoo.com

**It's not only an Award to us, it's an inspiration to attain optimum client satisfaction.**



Dear Customers,  
It was you who made it possible for us to achieve this Award.  
We are thankful to you & assuring our best services at all time.

**Great Wall Motors**  
Best After-Sales Service Manager Award