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PHILIPS

UTTARA, PURBACHAL PLOTS Some ministers, families got more than one State minister tells JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Influential ministers and their family members were allocated more than one plot each at Uttara and Purbachal in the capital in violation of law, State Minister for Housing and Public Works Abdul Mannan Khan disclosed in parliament yesterday.

If those who got two plots each fail to surrender one, allocation of one plot will be cancelled, he said.

In reply to a scripted question from BNP lawmaker ABM Ashrafuddin Nizan, the state minister said it is true that some influential ministers of the present government, and their family members were allocated more than one plot each.

Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) issued a circular in 2008 for allocation of plots at Uttara and Purbachal at the same time. Rules do not permit allocation of more than one plot to a single person /husband-wife/children.

Mannan said, "According to the Rajuk circular, many

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A baker in Jatrabari in the capital yesterday bakes breads of different sizes and amazing shapes ahead of Shab-e-Barat tonight.

The rise of a dreaded criminal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shahidul began living the life of a criminal when he was only 14 or 15 years old. With time, his influence over the crime world increased until he was killed in a shootout with Rapid Action Battalion Tuesday night.

Born to a farmer's family at Srinagar in Munshiganj, he never followed his father's footsteps, said intelligence sources. Within five years of his debut into crimes, Shahidul, son of late Shamsul Haque Bhuiyan, rose to notoriety as Dakat Shahid by robbing launches and buses in and around the capital.

In 1990, he was elected joint secretary of Dhaka

SEE PAGE 7 COL 1

PADMA BRIDGE GRAFT PROBE ACC quizzes 3 Bridges Division officials

KAILASH SARKAR

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday interrogated three officials of Bridges Division in connection with alleged irregularities in appointing Canadian company SNC-Lavalin as the consultant for Padma bridge project.

Sources said Superintending Engineer M Liakat Ali and assistant engineers Golam Mortaza and Abul Kalam Azad

were quizzed as they had travelled to Canada last year allegedly on arrangement by the Canadian company and taken part in several training programmes organised by the firm.

The officials were also asked about frequent secret meetings at the Bridges Division office regarding the appointment of SNC-Lavalin.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

DHAKA FOOTPATHS Eviction drive yet to cover most areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) yesterday in a drive evicted more than 100 hawkers from footpaths on Phoenix Road in front of Nagar Bhaban and in Fulbaria area in the capital.

A team led by Executive Magistrate Ananda Kumar

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Pakistan reopens Nato supplies

US to release 1.1b fund for Pak military

AFP, Karachi

Thousands of Pakistani truck drivers yesterday prepared to resume key Nato supply convoys into Afghanistan and end a bitter seven-month standoff, after Islamabad agreed to reopen the routes.

Islamabad agreed to reopen the land routes into its war-torn neighbour after US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said she was sorry for the deaths of 24 Pakistani soldiers in the air strike in November.

The incident enraged Pakistan, prompting the closure of the supply

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

Flood tightens grip on South

STAR REPORT

Flood situation in the country's southern region has deteriorated after flood waters continued to roll down the rivers from the upstream.

Fresh areas of Patuakhali, Barisal, Bhola and Barguna districts got inundated during high tide yesterday.

Our Patuakhali correspondent reports, vast areas in the district including low lands and chars have been flooded with 3 to 5 feet tidal surge

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



A woman stands in over knee-deep water with a child at a house in Chinaduli union in Islampur upazila of Jamalpur yesterday as flood water maroons many people in the upazila.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Make law to prevent 'man-made' landslides

Greens asks govt
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Terming the recent landslide tragedies as "man-made", environmentalists demanded a stringent law to ban leasing and cutting of hills and demanded legal action against those involved in such activities.

They also asked the government to shift the families living in risky hilly areas and rehabilitate them to a safer place.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

Peace Committee got support from Pakistan govt

Prof Muntassir tells war crimes tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Historian Prof Muntassir Mamoon on the third day of his cross-examination yesterday told International Crimes Tribunal-1 that the Peace Committee members had received aid from the Pakistan government in 1971 as per their demands.

Prof Muntassir said this in reply to a question from war crimes accused Ghulam Azam's counsel, who asked him whether the peace committee members had got allowances from the government.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5



Arafat died of poisoning

Says new report
AFP, Doha

Yasser Arafat, who died in 2004, was poisoned by polonium, according to the findings of laboratory research carried out in Switzerland and cited in an Al-Jazeera report on Tuesday.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5

COMING OUT NEXT SATURDAY

theSTAR
Stories Behind the News
A Weekly Publication of The Daily Star

This week's issue of the Star takes a look at the illegal trading of endangered animals in Bangladesh, the terrible transformation of Dhanmandi and includes a visit from an astronaut and new trends in the music business. Instead of Friday July 6 the Star magazine will come out on Saturday July 7 as there will be no newspaper on Friday due to the holiday on Thursday. We regret the inconvenience to our valued readers.

Cruel Trade

Ask your Hawker for your Copy

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL

Do you think the government will be able to remove all illegal roadside establishments, makeshift shops in Dhaka at all?

Yes (3.7%)
No (95.4%)
No Comments (0.9%)

TOTAL VOTES: 321

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Mizanur Rahman, chairman of National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh that the human rights situation of the country has improved significantly?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
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PRAYER TIMING July 5

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr 4-10	4-45
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 5-00	5-15
Maghrib 6-55	7-00
Esha 8-17	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

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