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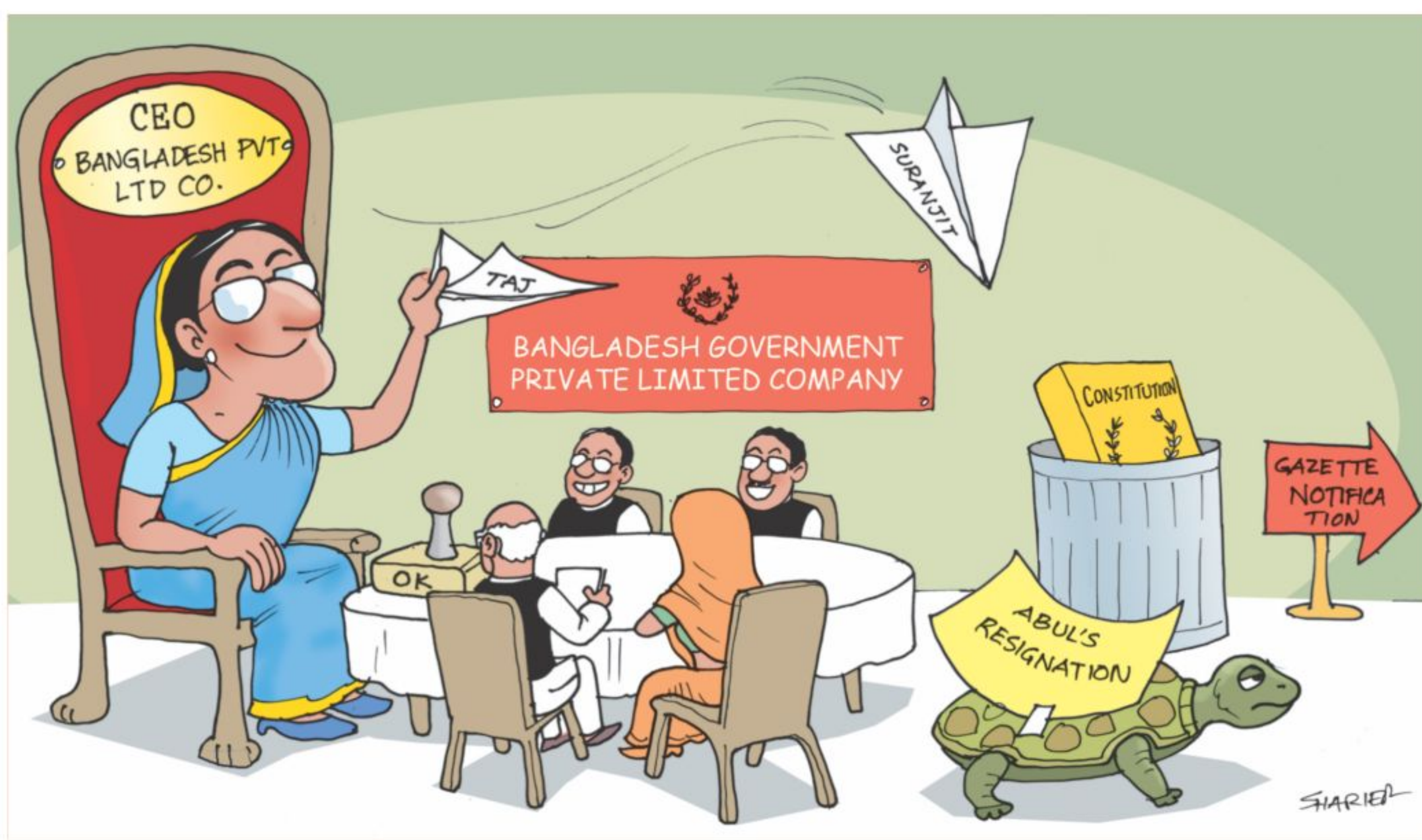
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Nobel laureate Schmidt thinks the universe may fade away
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PADMA BRIDGE
Wait for last wicket?
Govt sources say another resignation may pave way for WB funding
REJAUL KARIM BYRON

As Syed Abul Hossain steps down as ICT minister, the resignation of an adviser to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina remains vital for the revival of World Bank finance regarding the construction of the Padma bridge, say officials.
The Bank might review its loan cancellation if the government implements three conditions, including the removal of the two minister-level public officials allegedly involved in the project graft.

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Easy to resign, hard to accept
President accepts Abul's resignation a month later
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Zillur Rahman has "accepted" Syed Abul Hossain's resignation as ICT minister, said the Cabinet Division yesterday.
His move comes after a month of Abul's stepping down, although the constitution has no provision for the head of state to accept or reject a minister's resignation letter.
A Cabinet Division circular issued yesterday said Abul had stepped down on July 23. "His resignation letter has been accepted by the honourable president."
"Under these circumstances, according to Article 58 (1) (a) of the constitution, the office of minister of Syed Abul Hossain fell vacant on July 23," said the circular signed by Cabinet Secretary Muhammad Musharraf Hossain

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It's a black day

Following is the full text of Prof Yunus' statement on changes to Grameen Bank ordinance:

This day will go down as a black day in the history of our nation. Our government has obliterated the unique characteristics -- one of which is the bank being owned and run by women -- which made the institution universally lauded and a Nobel Prize winner. Thanks to the amendment, the institution has been rendered into another cookie-cutter public organisation. I cannot bear the sorrow.

What has Grameen Bank done to deserve this treatment?
Eighty lakh underprivileged women became majority owners of the institution through purchase of shares with their own funds. They hold 97 percent ownership of the institution, while the government holds only 3 percent. The bank is run by its own resources like a big cooperative. It does not seek any loans or grants from the government, from abroad or from any other organisation. Then why did the government have to turn this universally revered and emulated institution into any other government organisation?



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GRAMEEN BANK
Target 3 MD candidates
Govt moves to form search committee
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday issued a gazette notification to constitute a search committee for choosing a managing director for the Grameen Bank.

"The chairman [of the Grameen Bank] in consultation with the board will constitute a selection committee of not less than three and not more than five members for the purpose of selecting a candidate for appointment as managing director," reads the notification.

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Limon's parents sued for murder
Court orders police to probe
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Jhalakathi court yesterday ordered the police to record a murder case against 10 people, including four family members of Limon Hossain, the college student who was shot and maimed by Rab last year.

The four are Limon's parents Tofazzel Akhand and Henoara Begum, his brother Sumon Akhand and uncle Siddique Hossain.
The other accused are Morshed Jomaddar, a criminal on the Rab list, and five locals -- Hemayet Hossain Nuru, Suman Sikder, Motaleb, Shahin and Firoz Jomaddar.

Ibrahim Hawlader, known as a Rab source, filed the case with the court, alleging that the accused persons had beaten to death his



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JOURNO COUPLE MURDER
Lab gets DNA profile from Runi's T-shirt
KAILASH SARKAR

A laboratory in the US has detected the full DNA profile of a person from the T-shirt of slain journalist Meherun Runi, who was killed along with her journalist husband, Sagar Sarowar, early this year, Rab officials have said.

"The full profile of a person has been found from the dress of Runi, and we suspect the person is one of the killers. But the person is yet to be identified," Lt Col Ziaul Hasan, Rab's Intelligence Wing director, told The DailyStar last night.

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Unable to find room inside the train, these people returning to the capital after Eid holidays travelled on the roof, risking their lives and the life of the child. The photo was taken at Kamalapur Railway Station yesterday while they were disembarking from the train.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

ATM Azharul sent to jail

Tribunal to hear Jamaat leader's bail petition Sunday
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A day after his arrest, the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday sent war crimes suspect Jamaat-e-Islami acting secretary general ATM Azharul Islam to Dhaka Central Jail.

After an hour-long hearing on Azhar's bail petition, Tribunal-1 Chairman Justice Md Nizamul Huq said, "The bail petition filed by the accused is heard. No time today. The order will be passed on Sunday."

He then asked Azhar to be produced before the tribunal on Sunday.

Earlier around 11:30am, Azhar was taken to Tribunal-1 from the Detective Branch of Police office, where he was kept overnight on security grounds.

Azhar was produced before the court around 2:00pm. Azhar's counsel Abdur Razzak in his submission before the tribunal said there were 11 cases against Azhar in other courts. "He [Azhar] got bail in those cases. The courts [lower courts and the High Court] did not think he would flee after getting bail. Therefore, he could be given bail," said Razzak.

Razzak also claimed that the prosecution made

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Doc murdered at his quarter
Killers, motive unknown
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A doctor of the National Institute of Diseases of the Chest and Hospital (NIDCH) was stabbed to death by unknown assailants at his Mohakhali residence in the capital yesterday.

Police say the dead, Narayan Chandra Dutta Nitai, an assistant professor, might have been a victim of robbery, but relatives suspect it was a planned murder.

The 47-year-old physician was also an executive councillor of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) and a central committee



Narayan Chandra

member of Swadhinata Chikitshak Parishad (Sachip).

He had been living in the duplex quarter with his physician wife and mother since 2009. But he was alone on the first floor of the home when he was stabbed between 2:00am and 3:00am. His wife was visiting her village home and his mother was sleeping on the ground floor.

"Around 3:00am, I heard someone groaning," said his mother, Monju Dutta.

At this, she went to the first floor and knocked

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HALLMARK LOAN SCAM
32 Sonali Bank officials have to show cause
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The board of directors of state-owned Sonali Bank Limited yesterday decided to issue show-cause notices on its 32 officials accused of being involved in the Hallmark loan scam.

A former managing director and two incumbent deputy managing directors of the bank will also have to face the music for their roles in the scam as found by a functional audit report.

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