



Rangpur city polls Dec 20

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The newly formed Rangpur City Corporation (RCC) will hold its polls on December 20, the Election Commission announced yesterday.

Over 3.57 lakh voters will choose a mayor and 44 councillors including 11 women.

Aspiring candidates

need to submit their applications seeking candidacy by November 18. EC officials will scrutinise those applications on November 21 and November 22. The last day for withdrawal of candidacy is November 29.

Local leaders of Awami League (AL) and Jatiya Party (JP) are preparing to enter the battle of ballots. These may be the only **SEE PAGE 8 COL 5**

4 fined in Ctg for hill

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

cutting

The Department of Environment (DoE) yesterday fined four people Tk 27.5 lakh in the port city on charges of cutting

The DoE ordered them to "restore the hills to their original shapes and plant trees there within 30 days", said the department's Director (Enforcement) Munir Chowdhury.

Led by the director, a department team conducted a drive in the east Nasirabad area on Friday and found that men employed by the four were cutting the hills.

They are Foyez Ahmed and Ahmed Kabir, owners SEE PAGE 19 COL 8







Activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and Chhatra Shibir vandalise vehicles and set motorcycles on fire in the capital's Dilkusha area as police barred their procession brought out yesterday afternoon demanding release of their top leaders currently facing charges of crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War; left, activists hurl brickbats at police and vandalise a police van in Satmatha area of Bogra town; and right, a police official pounced upon by activists with sticks in Kushtia town.



RAMU ATTACKS Jamaat leader arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Law enforcers yesterday arrested a Jamaat-e-Islami leader from a Chittagongbound bus in Ramu bypass in connection with the vandalism and arson of Buddhist temples in Ramu and Cox's Bazar on September 29.

The arrestee is Shahidul Alam Bahadur, 40, a former vicepresident of Student Council of Cox's Bazar **SEE PAGE 19 COL 8**

BSF detains Bangladeshi

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Thakurgaon

India's Border Security Force yesterday detained a Bangladeshi national while he was returning to Bangladesh.

The 28-year-old detainee, Abu Taleb, went to the Indian capital New Delhi in search of work a few months ago, locals said, adding that Taleb went there without the necessary documents.

Taleb, of Haripur upazila of the district, was a day labourer.

> He was detained **SEE PAGE 19 COL 8**

Give full autonomy to central bank

CPD dialogue suggests shutting down Banking Div to end govt control of banks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lawmakers and experts yesterday called for the closing of the banking division of the finance ministry and justified giving full autonomy to the Bangladesh Bank to ensure good governance in the financial sector.

At present, both BB and the banking division possess the authority, though partially, to control the operation of staterun banks. And that, according to the speakers, caused a chaotic situation in which each party blames the other for any

mismanagement in the sector. This was what had happened in the case of the Tk 3,606 crore loan scam involving Sonali Bank, the Hall-Mark Group and five other companies, they said at a discussion organised by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) on governance of SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Iajuddin on life support

STAR REPORT

Former president Iajuddin Ahmed has been on life support at



International Hospital in Bangkok, said family sources.

The 81-year-old educationist underwent an operation on his heart valve on October 28 and since then he has been

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TK 205CR EMBEZZLEMENT

Ex-BTCL boss, 13 others sued

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission has sued ex-acting BTCL managing director Abu Sayed Khan and 13 others for misappropriating government revenue of Tk 204.91 crore.

Five cases were filed yesterday against Sayed, five BTCL officers and eight officials of five international call carriers under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947 with Ramna Police Station in the capital.

The five BTCL officers are former direc-

tors Mahfuzar Rahman and Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman, former divisional engineer Abdul Halim, divisional engineer AKM Asaduzzaman and its member (maintenance and operation) Mohammad Tawfiq.

According to case statements, the officials of Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Ltd (BTCL) and the five private companies misappropriated the money between 2010 and 2012. The accused BTCL officials obstructed

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'ABDUCTION' OF WITNESS

Sayedee's counsels boycott proceedings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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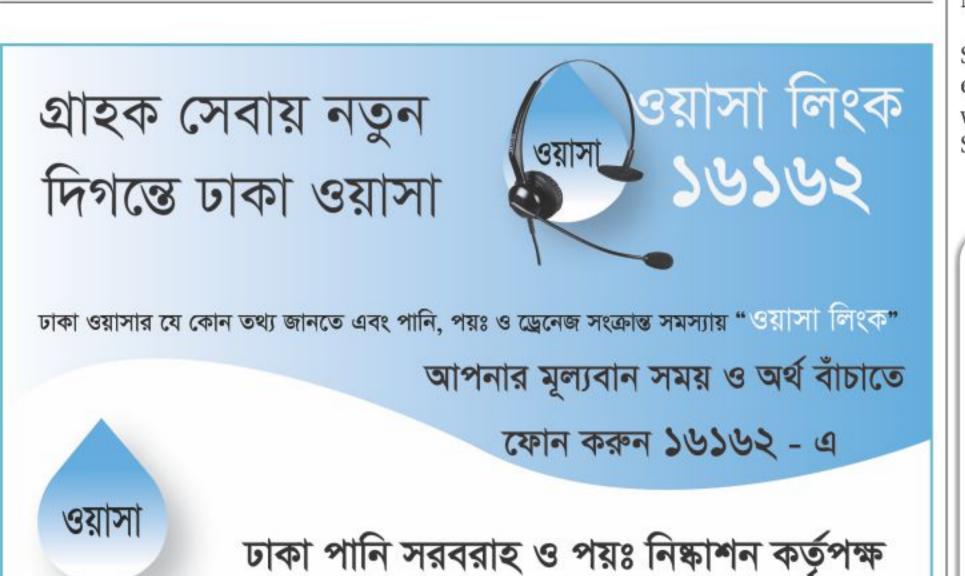
The defence of war crimes accused Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee boycotted International Crimes Tribunal-1 as the prosecution began arguments in the case yesterday afternoon.

Yesterday was fixed for the start of the prosecution's arguments in the case.

Before that the defence in the morning alleged before the tribunal "plainclothes police abducted" their witness from the road near the High Court shrine.

The defence demanded direction from the tribunal in this regard.

The tribunal wanted to take a little break to enquire about the allegation, but SEE PAGE 19 COL 1



73 rare turtles seized at airport

3 suspected smugglers held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with BNP

leader Moudud Ahmed

that Anti-Corruption

Commission (ACC) has

turned into a

government agent?

TOTAL VOTES: 132

Wo ■

WASA-P-I-453/2012

No Comments I

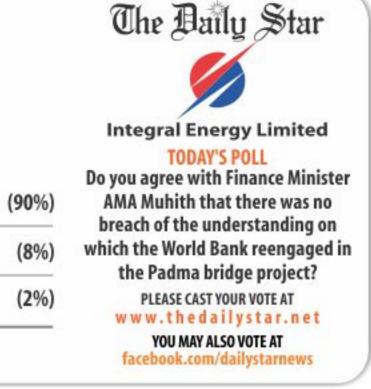
Security personnel and customs officials at Shahjalal International Airport yesterday seized 73 turtles of rare species while being smuggled out through the airport.

The turtles were being smuggled to either Thailand or Singapore, said an official at the airport's Armed Police Battalion (APBn).

The officials also arrested three persons suspecting their link to the smuggling. They are Mohammad Yeasin, Mohammad Sabuj and Mohammad Sohagh.

"The reptiles include rare species like Shila Turtle, Star Turtle and Kali Turtle. These are on the verge of extinction," Divisional Forest Officer Md Shahabuddin, who inspected the turtles at the airport, told The Daily Star last night.

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We Deeply Mourn

We, the members of the AB Bank family, are deeply shocked at the sad demise of Alhaj Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury, MP, Honourable Chairman of United Commercial Bank Limited and Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Textiles & Jute, who passed away on 4th November, 2012 at Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore (Inna Lillahi-Wa-Inna-Elaihi-Raajiun). With his sad demise we have lost an eminent industrialist, politician, philanthropist and a valiant freedom fighter. We would like to extend our deepest condolence to the members of the bereaved family.

We pray to Almighty Allah for the salvation of the departed soul and to give the courage and fortitude to the members of the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.



AB Bank Limited