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1.5 lakh study guides seized

Printing, sale continue despite restriction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

CID and National Curriculum and Textbook Board officials in joint drives seized around 1.50 lakh copies of illegal study guides and unbound printed pages of such guides at Old Dhaka yesterday.

Criminal Investigation Department and NCTB officials, in two teams, seized the guides, branded "Lecture Book Publication" and "Newton Publication", from two presses at Sutrapur and Gendaria.

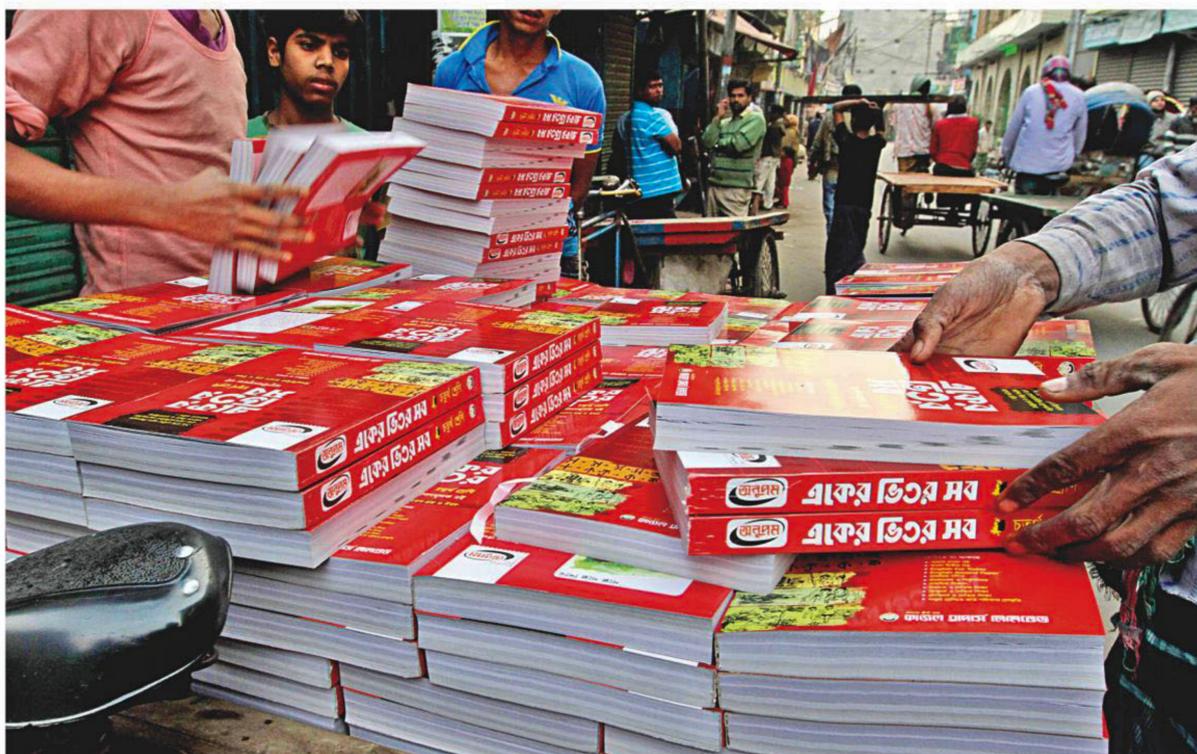
Acting on a tip-off, CID and NCTB officials conducted the raids at the press Web King Ltd in Sutrapur and Saikat Book Binding in Gendaria. They sealed the presses off and picked up three people including Shamsur Ali, manager of Web King.

"We have found a huge number of note and guide-books [study guides] for class I to VIII," Saiful Islam, assistant superintendent of police of CID, told The Daily Star.

NCTB officials said some of the study guides were "Eker Bhitore Shob" (all in one) and some were "JSC Guides" (Junior School Certificate).

NCTB Chairman Prof Mostofa Kamal Uddin told The Daily Star that they had received many complaints and

SEE PAGE 7 COL 7



Copies of study guides on sale at Sutrapur in the capital. Yesterday, CID and National Curriculum and Textbook Board officials seized around 1.50 lakh copies of such books. Study guides, popularly known as notebooks, for students of class-II to class-VIII are illegal in Bangladesh.

Border dists to be split into 4 zones

Killing by BSF not acceptable, says BGB chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Director General of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Major General Aziz

Ahmed yesterday said the entire border areas of the country has been divided into four regions for better border management.

"Bangladesh has over 4,427 kilometres of border with India and the total area has been brought under four regional headquarters for better border management," he said.

Aziz was talking to journalists at a press briefing held at BGB's Pikhana headquarters in the capital.

Four regional headquarters set up in Rangpur, Jessore, Sarail

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Bishwajit Killing 18-party to form human walls today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP-led 18-party opposition will form human walls today in the capital and all district headquarters, protesting the killing of Bishwajit Das and "forced disappearances" of its leaders and activists.

The Jamaat-e-Islami,

SEE PAGE 7 COL 3

BNP SAW UPS AND DOWNS IN 4 YEARS Stayed on street, ignored JS

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Surviving many crosscurrents over the last four years, the main opposition BNP is looking confident regarding the next parliamentary elections.

Party policymakers believe they will be able to win the next election even if it is held with the minimum level of neutrality. But BNP will not participate in the next polls unless it is held under a non-party neutral caretaker government.

The party spent the first two years

4 YEARS OF AWAMI LEAGUE GOVERNMENT

of its tenure as the main opposition reorganising itself, and the last two years focusing on conducting a massive anti-government campaign and drumming up support for that.

BNP also tried its best to build up warm relations with the interna-

tional communities. Its Chairperson Khaleda Zia's recent visit to India is considered as a big policy shift for the party that is thought to be anti-Indian.

Meanwhile, despite having a lot of organisational weaknesses, BNP made some issues, like restoration of the caretaker government system, popular. Party policymakers believe this issue will help them in the next elections.

The party, however, displayed

SEE PAGE 8 COL 5

UNHCR worried at Rohingya exodus

STAR REPORT

The UN refugee agency has expressed concern as Rohingyas are fleeing both Myanmar and Bangladesh in large numbers, risking their lives on smugglers' boats in the Bay following ethnic violence in Myanmar's Rakhine state.

Mounting frustration over the lack of solutions to Rohingyas' plight expedites the mass departure towards Southeast Asian countries, said a report of the

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) published on its website on January 11.

A week into the new year, the UNHCR has had reports that more than 2,000 people have left the northern Rakhine state and Bangladesh on boats run by smuggling rings, the report added.

Although the emigrants are believed to be heading to other countries in Southeast Asia, their final destination

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



Celebrating Poush Sankranti, the end of the Bangla month of plenty, a group of young men try out their pyrotechnics on the roofs of buildings in Old Dhaka while children fly colourful kites and take part in kite bouts yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED



ASHIYAN CITY Chamber judge refuses to stay HC order

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court's chamber judge yesterday refused to stay the High Court order that directed Rajuk to immediately stop all the activities of Ashiyon City housing project including its land filling, advertisements, and sales.

The real estate company had filed a petition with the SC on January 9 seeking a stay on the HC's January 2 directives.

Yesterday, Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain sent the petition to the full bench

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

FIRE IN BAHRAIN All 13 dead are Bangladeshis

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

All the 13 people who were burned to death in a devastating fire at a labour camp in the Bahrain capital of Manama on Friday are Bangladeshis, foreign ministry sources said.

SEE PAGE 7 COL 3

PRAYER TIMING January 15

Fajr	5:30	6:05
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:00	4:15
Maghrib	5:36	5:40
Esha	7:00	7:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

Contempt plea against SQ Chy's counsel

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday ordered a counsel for war crimes accused Salauddin Quader Chowdhury to explain why contempt of court proceeding should not be initiated against him 'for interfering in the tribunal's proceedings'.

Serving a show-cause notice on defence counsel Fakhrul Islam, the tribunal asked him to reply on February 6. The notice was issued in response to a petition filed by Fakhrul.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

JOB IN KL 1.51 lakh registered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 1,51,865 people in Dhaka and Barisal divisions registered online for jobs in Malaysia till 5:00pm yesterday.

The online registration, first of its kind, will continue at information service centres of local union parishads for another day, said the public relation office of the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

LOST CITY OF GOLD Truth behind the myth

BBC ONLINE

The dream of El Dorado, a lost city of gold, led many a conquistador on a fruitless trek into the rainforests and mountains of South America. But it was all wishful thinking. The "golden one" was actually not a place but a per

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6



BASIC Bank gives 25,000 blankets to Hon'ble PM's relief fund



BASIC Bank Limited donated 25,000 pieces of blankets to the relief fund of the Honorable Prime Minister to distribute among cold stricken people. Chairman of the Bank Mr. Sheikh Abdul Hye Bacchu on behalf of the board of directors of the Bank handed over the blankets to the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Gonobhaban on Sunday (13 January) 2013. The Managing Director of the Bank Mr. Kazi Faqurul Islam, Deputy Managing Director Mr. A. Monaem Khan & General Manager Mr. Md Ruhul Alam were present there. This is the part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of the Bank.

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