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Rony's men finally remove party office from school

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A faction of Galachipa unit of Awami League, backed by lawmaker Golam Maula Rony, yesterday left a schoolroom it had been using as party office for the last three years.

They also removed a party signboard that had been hung from the tinshed roof of the classroom at Galachipa Secondary Model School in Patuakhali.

Two and a half years back, the school authorities issued a notice to Rony's men asking them to return

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The photo on the left shows how the local Awami League had turned the classroom of Galachipa Secondary Model School in Patuakhali into a party office, allegedly with ruling party lawmaker Golam Maula Rony's influence. The photo was printed in The Daily Star on its August 20 issue and following the media attention, the party office was removed after two and a half years and the school authorities were yesterday seen, right, cleaning up the room for holding classes again.



PHOTO: STAR



World's most accurate clock built

AFP, Washington

US scientists said Thursday they have built the world's most precise clock, whose ticking rate varies less than two parts in one quintillion, or 10 times better than any other.

The clock, made from the element ytterbium, could be used for technological advancements beyond timekeeping, such as navigation systems, magnetic fields and temperature.

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BANGLADESHI WORKERS IN MALAYSIA

Special ID cards to stop job switching

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshi workers in Malaysia will be provided with special identity cards from early next year to prevent them from switching jobs before expiry of job contract, reported Malaysian English daily The Star on Thursday.

Malaysian Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the cards would have Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and biometric technology, and would function as a debit card and stored-value card.

"The cards would be colour coordinated to indicate different employment sectors to prevent the workers from switching jobs," he told Malaysian press after Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain paid a courtesy call on him in Kuala Lumpur.

Around 1.4 million Bangladeshi workers, likely to be recruited by the Southeast Asian nation in phases from early next year, will be provided with the identity cards, mentioned the report.

The workers, said Ahmad Zahid, would be screened for criminal records before being hired and those found switching jobs would be fined up to RM 2,000 (Malaysian ringgit).

"One of the issues discussed was temporary housing for the workers, so that they could be taken care of and no assimilation could occur," he said.

The Bangladeshi workers' entry had been agreed during Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein's term as home minister, to cater to the need for workers in the plantation and service sectors.

"They [workers] will be brought in under a government-to-government agreement to prevent exploitation by middlemen," the Malaysian minister mentioned.

Khandker Mosharraf told the Malaysian media that the government-to-government deal would reduce migration costs from \$4,000 to \$400 per worker.

"Before this, they [workers] had to work four to five years to repay the migration

SEE PAGE 2 COL 8

Bombs hurled at BCL office in Jessore

One injured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Unidentified criminals yesterday hurled cocktails at an office of Chhatra League, a pro-Awami League student body, at Bablatota in Jessore.

Ariful Islam Riyad, president of Jessore district unit BCL, alleged that activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir, a pro-Jamaat student wing, and BNP men were involved in the attack.

But Anwar Hossain Bipul, secretary of the same BCL unit, said the town

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Correction

In our yesterday's issue, the story titled "Out of control" inadvertently mentioned capital Dhaka's population 150 million instead of 15 million. We apologise for the mistake.

Nizami's trial at snail's pace

Proceedings cannot progress as the war crimes accused is being frequently taken to Ctg court in arms haul case

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY and MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

The war crimes case against Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami has bogged down largely due to him being an accused in the 10-truck arms haul case of 2004 and prosecution failures.

Nizami was shown arrested on August 2, 2010, in connection with war crimes along with his party colleagues Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed, Muhammad Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Quader Mollah.

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 has already convicted and sentenced Mojaheed, Kamaruzzaman and Mollah for crimes

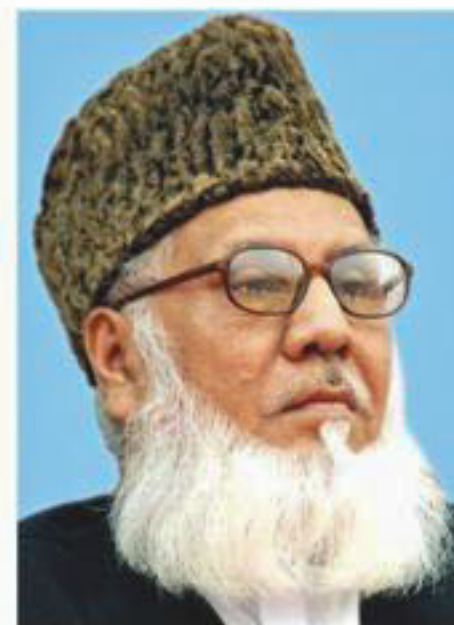
against humanity and genocide committed during the 1971 Liberation War and their appeals are now pending with the Supreme Court.

However, the case against Nizami has lagged behind so much that the Tribunal-1 is still only recording testimonies of prosecution witnesses.

A huge cache of smuggled arms and ammunition on 10 trucks were seized at the Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Ltd jetty on April 2, 2004. Nizami, an accused in a case filed in this connection, was the industries minister then.

The snail's pace of the case proceedings is largely due to the government having to

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



New bird flu strain found

THE GUARDIAN ONLINE

A new strain of bird flu, H7N7, which can infect and kill animals, has been found in chickens at live poultry markets in China.

Scientists discovered the strain by accident while testing chickens and other birds for the H7N9 virus.

The new strain poses a potential threat to people, according to lab tests which found that the virus caused severe pneumonia in ferrets, which are used as proxies for humans in flu research.

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Jahangirnagar University Vice-Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain with his family members at his office on the campus yesterday. Some teachers have confined him to his office since Wednesday demanding his removal.

Gang rape fuels protests in India

AFP, Mumbai

Five men gang-raped a woman photographer in India's financial hub Mumbai, police said yesterday, fuelling protests and stirring memories of a similar attack last December in New Delhi.

The attack took place on Thursday evening in an upmarket district of central Mumbai as the 23-year-old woman and a male colleague were taking photos of old buildings for a magazine.

The pair were approached by members of the gang and told they should not be there. The man was then tied up

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

RAPE OF BANGLADESHI Rights body demands arrest of BSF man

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

A human rights body in West Bengal state yesterday demanded the immediate arrest of a Border Security Force (BSF) constable on the charge of raping a Bangladeshi woman at a village in the state's North

24 Parganas district.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

PRAYER TIMING August 24

Fajr	4:30	5:05
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:45	5:00
Maghrib	6:33	6:36
Esha	8:00	8:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

ONLINE POLL

Do you think it is justified for the Jahangirnagar University teachers to keep Vice-Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain confined to his office to realize their demand for his resignation?

Yes (49%)

No (51%)

TOTAL VOTES: 201

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think delay in resolving the political crisis may put the country's democratic system at risk?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

ALLEGED CHEMICAL ATTACK IN SYRIA

Obama won't rush into costly Syria war

Orders probe; UK accuses Assad regime

AGENCIES

President Barack Obama yesterday called the apparent gassing of hundreds of Syrian civilians a "big event of grave concern" but stressed that he would not rush to embroil Americans in a costly new war.

As opponents of Syrian President Bashar

al-Assad braved the frontlines around Damascus to try and deliver tissue samples to UN inspectors from victims of Wednesday's poisoning, Obama brushed over an interviewer's reminder that he once called the use of chemical weapons a "red line" for US action on Syria.

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সতর্কীকরণ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সম্প্রতি লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, স্বনামধন্য বিভিন্ন পত্র পত্রিকায় সংযুক্ত আরব আমিরাত (দুবাই) সহ পৃথিবীর বিভিন্ন দেশে এ্যাপার্টমেন্ট ক্রয়ের জন্য আকর্ষণীয় বিজ্ঞাপন প্রচার করা হচ্ছে।

নিবাসী বাংলাদেশীদের বিদেশে স্থাবর সম্পত্তি ক্রয়ের জন্য বাংলাদেশ থেকে অর্থ প্রেরণের ওপর বৈদেশিক মুদ্রা নিয়ন্ত্রণ আইন, ১৯৪৭ এ বিধিনিষেধ আরোপিত রয়েছে। বিধিনিষেধ এড়িয়ে এজন্য অবৈধভাবে অর্থ প্রেরণে যোগসাজশকারীদের ভূমিকা আইনগতভাবে দণ্ডযোগ্য হবে। এ বিষয়ে সকলকে সচেতন হবার পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে; গণমাধ্যমগুলোকেও এ ধরনের বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রচারের বিষয়ে সতর্ক ও সংযত হবার পরামর্শ দেয়া যাচ্ছে।

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক