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Govt goes for TV galore

13 more channels to join existing 27

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government "two to three days ago" had approved licence for 13 television channels, Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu told The Daily Star last night.

He said the approval had been given in line with a past decision and as a routine work.

This comes just a few days after the government gave licences to 14 new FM radio stations that are now awaiting spectrum allocation.

A minister, an adviser to the prime minister and some lawmakers are

among the owners and promoters of the new satellite TV channels, said sources in the information ministry.

The country now has 27 private TV stations, of which the Awami League-led grand alliance government has approved 12 during its tenure from 2009.

Of the 13 new channels, ruling party lawmaker Gazi Golam Dastagir is the chairman of "Green TV" of Green Multimedia Ltd. Forests and Environment Minister Hasan Mahmud made recommendation for the channel, sources said.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

PURBACHAL PROJECT
SC asks Rajuk to maintain status quo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday directed Rajuk to maintain the status quo on the construction work of Purbachal housing project at Boroak and Parabarth moujas in Kaliganj upazila of Gazipur.

The status quo will remain active until the High Court delivers a verdict on a writ petition filed by some rights groups.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

BORDER ALLOWANCE UP BY 30PC

BGB's turn this time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In keeping with recent moves to make government employees happy ahead of the elections, the government has increased an allowance for Border Guard Bangladesh personnel.

Now, BGB personnel between jawan and subedar major ranks would get 30 percent of their basic salary as border allowance, which is Tk 1,230-2,400 depending on rank.

Before, they used to get Tk 338 flat.

Apart from BGB officers, almost the entire force of 46,000 would be eligible for the allowance.

"This allowance will be a moral boost for our

members," BGB Director General Maj Gen Aziz Ahmed told The Daily Star yesterday.

Civil servants too have had the pleasure of receiving extra perks from the government ahead of the polls.

The government made a hike in the risk allowances for around 1.4 lakh policemen, which is very similar to what the BGB men received.

It has increased the service age limit for civil servants to 59 from 57 and for servicemen to 50 from 48.

It has also upgraded the posts of seven secretaries to senior secretaries and promoted government officials in large numbers.

The government is also planning to upgrade the

SEE PAGE 10 COL 4

Razakars killed 7 villagers on Yusuf's order
Witness tells tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A freedom fighter yesterday testified that Razakars had killed at least seven people near Chulkathi Bazar in Bagerhat during the Liberation War and Jamaat-e-Islami leader AKM Yusuf ordered and oversaw the killings.

Sheikh Afzal Hossain, a war-wounded freedom fighter from Batiaghata of Khulna, told the International Crimes Tribunal-2 that following the directive of Yusuf, Razakars

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Schoolgirl burned with acid

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A schoolgirl was badly injured in an acid attack on Sunday night allegedly by her cousin in Beluchi upazila of Sirajganj as the girl refused to enter into a relationship with him.

The girl, Hasina Khatun, 13, of Laxmipur village, is now undergoing treatment at Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) in the capital.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 3



The scaffolding of this under-construction footbridge on the Chittagong court building premises collapsed dropping chunks of concrete on the people underneath. Several people were injured.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

ACC WINGS CLIPPED
HC asks govt to explain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked the government to explain in four weeks why the controversial provision of curtailing the ACC's authority to file graft charges against government officials on its own should not be declared illegal.

The bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice ABD Altaf Hossain came up with the rule in response to a writ petition filed by a non-government organisation challenging the legality of the provision.

The Speaker of the House, secretaries to the president, prime minister, Jatiya Sangsad, law ministry and cabinet division have been made respondents to the rule.

The government's move to bring in this provision through the bill placed at parliament in February 2011 sparked a storm of criticism.

Different non-government organisations, civil society members, donor agencies and the country's development

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL
Do you agree with Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury that the two major political parties should sit for a dialogue, without any precondition, to resolve the ongoing political crisis?

Yes (77%)
No (23%)
TOTAL VOTES: 295

TODAY'S POLL
Do you think that the opposition leader will accept Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's latest offer to choose any ministry in the polls-time government?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING November 26

	Azam	Jamaat
Fajr	5-10	5-45
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-19	5-22
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

CO₂ could warm Earth for centuries

THE TELEGRAPH ONLINE

Carbon dioxide which is already in our atmosphere could continue warming the planet for centuries

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



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দোয়া মাহফিল

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রাজেউন)। আমরা গভীরভাবে শোকাহত। আমরা তাঁর বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনা ও তাঁর শোক সম্মত পরিবারের প্রতি গভীর সমবেদন জ্ঞাপন করছি।
আগমী ২৯ নভেম্বর-২০১৩ইং মোজ ওক্টোবর, বিকাল ৮:০০ (চার) ঘটিকায় ওল্ড ডিওএইচএস, লেন-২ এর কমিউনিটি সেন্টার (কাকাকে সেন্টার) এ মহাবের দোয়া মাহফিলের আয়োজন করা হচ্ছে। উক্ত দোয়া মাহফিলে মহাবের আত্মীয়-স্বজন ও ওভাক্যর্থীদের উপর থাকের জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো হচ্ছে।
ন্যাশনাল হার্ট ফাউন্ডেশন অব বাংলাদেশ-এর
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