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INT'L CHT COMMISSION

Members come under attack

Blame it on settlers

STAR REPORT

Two officials of the International Chittagong Hill Tracts Commission and a police officer were injured in Rangamati yesterday when their vehicles came under attack allegedly from Bangalee settlers opposing their visit to the hill region.

Commission member Dr Iftekharuzzaman, who is executive director of Transparency International Bangladesh, and its research officer Ilira Dewan were injured, when a group of protesters hurled brick chips at their vehicles.

Monu Sohel Imtiaz, officer-in-charge of Rangamati Police Station, also suffered wounds in the attack.

Samo Odhikar Andolan and five other organisations of Bangalee settlers, who are opposing their visit to the CHT, were blamed for the attack.

Leaders of the six organisations, however,

brushed aside allegations of their involvement in the incident.

The team has postponed its visit to Bandarban following the attack, commission coordinator Hana Shams Ahmed told The Daily Star last night.

Meanwhile, Parbatya Bangalee Chhatra Parishad and Parbatya Nagorik Parishad called off their four-day road and waterway blockade in Bandarban.

The two organisations had imposed the blockade yesterday morning, protesting the commission's visit to the CHT.

The commission comprising 13 civil society members from home and abroad has been working since 2008 with a mandate "to promote respect for human rights, democracy, and for restoration of civil and political rights, participatory development and land rights in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh, including examination of

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The Bandarban-Chittagong road in Sualok area of Bandarban is blocked yesterday allegedly by Bangalee settlers protesting the visit of International CHT Commission. The blockade was withdrawn in the evening. Another photo on page 3.

PHOTO: STAR

SHAKIB CONTROVERSY

Words must be backed by action

SPORTS REPORTER

When news broke out this week that all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan left to take part in the Caribbean Premier League without obtaining the board's no objection certificate (NOC), there was an air of inevitability around the newsroom, as opposed to the general excitement that follows a Shakib-related controversy.

Having repeatedly made the headlines for the wrong reasons this year the impression was as though that the all-rounder was almost expected to get into trouble again.

His latest move however seems to have crossed a line, with Bangladesh Cricket



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Prices of vegetables fall on good supply

SUMAN SAHA

Prices of some vegetables fell between 12 percent and 40 percent over the past one week in the capital's kitchen markets, thanks to an increased supply.

Karwan Bazar traders sold green chilli for Tk 45 a kg yesterday, down from the average price, Tk 75, on the eve of Ramadan.

The average price of aubergine fell about 12 percent to Tk 75 a kg, while the cucumber price fell 15 percent to Tk 42.5, according to data compiled by The Daily Star during visits to several kitchen markets.

The prices of widely consumed vegetables were on the decline yesterday.

However, onion traded at Tk 38-42, about 14.28 percent up from the prices on the eve of Ramadan.

"Vegetable prices are declining mainly due to a solid supply over the last couple of days," said Mohammad Sayed, president of Shyambazar Krishi Panya Aarot Banik Samity, adding that heavy

rain was another reason for the prices to fall.

Greengrocers are selling vegetables at lower prices as those generally perish quickly in the rainy season, he said.

But the average price of aubergine is 30 percent higher than that a month ago, according to data from the Department of Agriculture Marketing, a unit of the agriculture ministry.

Cucumber prices rose 29 percent in a month, while the prices of green chilli have remained steady.

"Onion prices are increasing mainly due to its low production in India," said Ratan Saha, an onion wholesaler at Shyambazar.

India hiked the minimum export price of onions by 67 percent to \$500 per tonne in a bid to discourage exports and improve local supplies as its prices surged in domestic markets.

After the increase, the minimum export price of onions translates to Rs 30 per kg, which is equivalent to Tk 39.

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MARITIME DISPUTE

Verdict likely Tuesday

UNB, Dhaka

The Netherlands-based Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) is likely to deliver its judgment on the maritime boundary dispute between Bangladesh and India on Tuesday.

A Bangladeshi diplomatic source confirmed the date. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not allowed to make any public comment on the issue.

The foreign ministry in Dhaka would not make any comment in this regard.

Quoting a lawyer and PCA sources, a Toronto-based media outlet -

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Tibetans inherited 'super gene' to survive at the top

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

As the highest region on the planet, the Tibetan Plateau is often referred to as the Roof of the World. An average elevation in excess of 4,500 metres leaves most people struggling in the oxygen-poor air, but for the area's Tibetan inhabitants life there is as natural as, well, breathing.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 4



WATERLOGGING WOES... Vehicles move across the pool of water which accumulated after rain at Shantinagar intersection in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the government would be able to bring back the money deposited in foreign banks by Bangladeshis?

Yes (07%)

No (93%)

TOTAL VOTES: 202

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think cricketer Shakib should face suspension for leaving the country to play in the Caribbean Premier League without Bangladesh Cricket Board's permission?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

10 workers hurt in Tongi garment fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

At least 10 garment workers were injured as a fire broke out in a sweater factory in Tongi of Gazipur yesterday.

The fire erupted at SS Sweater Ltd housed on the third floor of an eight-storey building around 4:30pm, said fire service sources.

Nine fire engines doused the flames after around one and a half hours of frantic efforts.

Akhter-uz-Zaman, deputy assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence, said the fire originated from a storeroom of the factory.

A portion of the floor was burnt by the fire, damaging

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SEHRI, IFTAR TIMINGS

Ramadan	July	Sehri	Iftar
7	6		6-54
8	7	3-45	6-54
9	8	3-45	6-54

PRAYER TIMING

July 6

Azan	Jamaat
Fajr 3-49	3-54
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 5-00	5-15
Maghrib 6-54	7-04
Esha 8-17	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation



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