

If the use of formalin in food items is a threat to public health, the Buriganga water which cannot sustain aquatic life because of a high level toxicity is no less dangerous, so to speak, particularly when freshly collected leafy vegetables get "cleaned" every day in the river, like here at the capital's Shyambazar yesterday, before being transported to the kitchen markets across Dhaka city.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

NHRC decries cop torture on journo of Prothom Alo

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Mizanur Rahman yesterday condemned the reported torture on ABM Mizanur Rahman, Baufal upazila correspon-

dent of Bangla daily Prothom Alo, in police custody. Meanwhile, a petition was filed with the Patuakhali district and session judges' court challenging Baufal upazila judicial magistrate's Sunday's denial of bail to Mizanur and sending him to jail.

In a statement, the NHRC chairman expressed concern over other attacks on journalists and opined that exemplary punishment should be meted out to the perpetrators.

Police on last Tuesday arrested Mizanur in Kalaiya Bazar area in Baufal on charges of assaulting a policeman and filed a case. Mizanur was then tortured, allegedly led by Officerin-Charge Noresh Chandra Karmaker. At one stage he fainted and police took him to Baufal upazila hospital, but returned with him without ensuring treatment, because some local journalists were there.

Investigators mum about Avijit killing probe update

Murderers not identified in one month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nearly a month past the murder of writer-blogger Avijit Roy, investigators are yet to tell his father Prof Ajoy Roy about any significant progress in the

So far police have not identified the killers, let alone arrest them.

Prof Ajoy told The Daily Star that he added. met investigators at the office of the Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday and handed them a few photo-

graphs, thinking those might help. When asked about the progress, the

investigators kept silent, he said. The professor thinks either the law enforcers were reluctant to disclose

anything vital at this stage of investigation or they have not made any progress at all.

The photos which he carried in a flash drive are of two discussions held on Bangla Academy premises on the afternoon and evening of February 26, the day Avijit was killed.

His son attended both events, he

Avijit, a Georgia-based software engineer, had travelled to Bangladesh from the United States about two weeks before he was hacked to death on Dhaka University campus. He came to meet his family and see two of his books pub-

lished in the country's annual book fair. His wife Rafida Ahmed Bonya was

injured in the attack.

Over a dozen cops were on duty on the night Avijit was attacked around 8:45pm, and the area was overseen by around 70 surveillance cameras at that time, police said.

Barely half an hour after the attack, a militant outfit calling itself Ansar Bangla 7 tweeted: "Allahu Akbar [Allah is great]!!! Brothers We can!!! Target down here in # Bangladesh."

Shafiur Rahman Farabi, who had issued repeated death threats to Avijit on Facebook, was arrested by Rapid Action Battalion in Jatrabari on March 2.

Contacted, DB Inspector Fazlur Rahaman, also investigation officer of the killing case, declined to comment.

ILLEGAL TRIPS 47 Malaysia-bound people detained

STAR REPORT

Law enforcers detained 47 people, who were supposed to go to Malaysia by boat, in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong in the last two days and arrested 14 suspected traffickers.

In Teknaf, Coast Guards stopped a fishing boat and found 35 people headed for Malaysia. They detained the five boatmen and handed them over to Teknaf police. Lt Bikson Chowdhury, a station commander of Coast

Guard, said a regular patrol team stopped the boat on suspicion around 11:00am. Teknaf police will hand the fortune seekers over to their relatives, while the five boatmen will be produced before court today.

In Chittagong, the Rapid Action Battalion detained 12 fortune-seekers at Alakandar intersection on Sunday evening, officials told a press conference in Dhaka yesterday.

The elite force also arrested nine suspected traffickers through raids in Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Dhaka between Sunday evening and yesterday morning.

The 47 people hail from different parts of the country.

Ctg city's potentials untapped

Mayor aspirant Nasir tells journos

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chittagong has all potentials to become a modern megacity but those were not exploited properly in the past, ruling Awami League-blessed mayor aspirant AZM Nasir Uddin said yesterday, pledging to do what needs to be done in this regard, if elected. There has been a lack of proper planning and management,

he said in a written statement during a views exchange meeting with journalists at the Institute of Engineers, Chittagong. Nasir said he had long dreamt of a "dream megacity". "The main problem of the city is waterlogging, and I will give the highest importance to it," the Chittagong city AL

general secretary said, adding that new canals would be excavated. Tremendous changes will occur in waste management as

well, he said.

"It is not a tough task to build the city into an international standard one; it needs good will and combined efforts."

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First Bangladeshi batch

FROM PAGE 4

Asked about the salary discrimination, the officials said Sarawak authorities refused to pay MR 900 in the beginning but agreed to gradually increase the workers' wages.

More Bangladeshi workers would be hired depending on the pioneer group's performance, a spokesperson of one of the biggest plantation told a local daily.

Around 8,000 Bangladeshis have been working in palm gardens in other states of Malaysia under the MoU signed in 2012. Two years back, more than 14 lakh Bangladeshis registered with the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training for the jobs but the Malaysian government could not ensure jobs for them. Now, the work opportunity in Sarawak comes as a big break for them.

Tribunal-2 seeks documents

Khan Akram Hossain and Abdul Latif Talukder testified finding primary evidence of their involvement in crimes against humanity and genocide

during the 1971 Liberation War. AFSAR, MAHIDUR'S CASE

The Chapainawabganj district and sessions judge was directed to collect and submit within 10 days of receiving the tribunal's order the documents of the cases filed with Shibganj Police Station against Afsar and some others.

The order, in which the district judicial magistrate and superintendent of police were also directed to assist the judge, came after defence counsel Abdus Sobhan Tarafder submitted incomplete documents while crossexamining the war crimes case's investigation officer.

ZM Altafur Rahman, also the 10th and last prosecution witness, will be further questioned today, when the three-member tribunal led by Justice Obaidul Hassan decided to resume proceedings. Mahidur and Afsar plead innocence.

FORKAN'S CASE

Hafez Kalifa of Mirzaganj upazila's Kakrabunia village was a local Awami League leader who passed information about Razakars to freedom fighters, his daughter-in-law Saleha Begum told the tribunal as the 12th prosecution witness.

Hafez, her uncle-in-law Akkel Kalifa and a neighbour Suren had gone to neighbouring Subidkhali Bazar on a day in the last part of the Bangla month

of Sraban but only the latter two returned in the evening.

They had told her about the abduction from the market and the body's discovery. The tribunal adjourned

proceedings until today. SIRAJ MASTER, AKRAM, LATIF'S

CASE The three were members of the Razakar Bahini in Bagerhat, Helal Uddin testified before International Crimes Tribunal-1 as the last prosecution witness, presenting organisational documents of the Pakistani occupa-

tion army's auxiliary force. To prove the seven charges, the prosecution had produced as witnesses him and 31 others among 68 he had enlisted after interviewing 74 persons of Bagerhat, he added.

Protesters representing some 200 families in Madaripur's Madabchar union demonstrate in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday demanding that they be compensated and rehabilitated for the land acquired for the Padma bridge project. The Bangladesh Bridge Authority estimates that 7,600 people of 15,400 households in Srinagar and Lauhajang upazilas in Munshiganj district, Jajira upazila in Shariatpur district and Shibchar upazila of Madaripur district will be affected by the project, says UNB. PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

If you can't return Salahuddin

mayoral elections in Dhaka and Chittagong cities, the former president said, "I doubt whether the city corporation polls will take place at all, and even if they do, a question will arise that to what extent they will be free

and fair." Reiterating her previous claims,

Hasina Ahmed yesterday told reporters,

"I am hundred percent sure that the law enforcers picked him up. I am request-

ing to return him to us." Family members allege plainclothes law enforcers flashing identity cards of detectives picked Salahuddin

up from a house in Uttara on March 10. Following a petition by his wife with the High Court, five law enforce-

ment agencies submitted five separate

reports to the attorney general's office on March 15, saying they had not arrested or picked up the BNP joint

secretary general. On Thursday, Hasina Ahmed submitted a memorandum to the PM, seeking her intervention to trace her husband. She also sought an audience with the premier but is yet to get



ABC Radio and Robi accord reception to 16 freedom fighters and their families at the office of the Bangla daily Prothom Alo in the capital yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

High schools

FROM PAGE 4 After the election, one of the members of the cabinet will be elected as the prime minister by voice vote. He or she will distribute portfolio among his or her cabinet, emulating a parliamentary democracy. There will be ministers for education, mid-day meal, environment, health, water resources, teaching materials, cultural affairs and sports, and others as per recommendation of the general students.

Director of BANBEIS Md Fasiullah said a draft manual on Students Cabinet and a plan of action have been sent to the officials concerned asking their opinion in it.



MASTERMIND VACANCY

[All candidates must have a minimum of 2 (two) years experience]

FOR IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT

1. FACULTY POSITIONS: (For Uttara & Dhanmondi Branch) Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Economics, Accounting, Business Studies, English, (Male/Female) Candidates must be smart, fluent in English and capable of teaching up to A-Level. Minimum qualification: Masters

2. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF : Female only English medium background, smart and willing to work hard. Excellent A pay Package (For Uttara & Dhanmondi Branch)

NGO experience will be preferred. Qualification: Masters (Age not above 45 years.)

Interested candidates are requested to drop their C.V in the school drop box or email before 3rd April 2015. Place: House # 5, Road # 12 (New) 31 (Old), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka.

Email: mastermind.dhanmondi@gmail.com

THOSE WHO APPLIED BEFORE NEED NOT APPLY