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Sons in election fray against fathers' foes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two sons have entered the battle of ballots against their fathers' opponents to become mayor of two Dhaka city corporations.

Sayed Khokon, son of late Mohammad Hanif, will take the fight to Mirza Abbas in Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC). Hanif was elected first mayor of Dhaka in 1994 when he beat Abbas by a huge margin.

Like his father, Khokon, 45, has been blessed by the Awami League.

A member of the BNP national standing committee, Abbas, 64, is enjoying his party's support again.

In the mayoral race of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), Tabith Awal, son of senior BNP leader Abdul Awal Mintoo, is likely to be the main challenger to Anisul Huq, an AL favourite.

Tabith's father Mintoo, an adviser to BNP chief Khaleda Zia, had filed nomination paper to contest the April 28 polls. But his candidature was refused by the Election Commission due to a procedural error.

Thirty-six-year-old Tabith seems to be more fortunate than Khokon in terms of enjoying support from party high ups in electioneering.

There will be no legal bar on electoral campaigns by Khaleda Zia and her party bigwigs. However, Sheikh Hasina and many top AL leaders cannot hit the campaign trail.

Two decades ago, Hasina and her party colleagues had carried out an extensive campaign for Hanif.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



HOME AT LAST! The Yemen-returns reunite with near and dear ones after they land at Hazrat Shahjalal Int'l Airport yesterday.



Richie Benaud no more

REUTERS, Melbourne

Former Australia captain Richie Benaud, the celebrated 'voice of cricket', has died at the age of 84 after battling skin cancer, prompting a flood of tributes from around the world.

A giant figure in the game both on and off the field, Benaud died in his sleep in a Sydney hospice late on Thursday, his employer Channel Nine reported, citing family.

Benaud said last November he was fighting a skin cancer on his head and his public appearances became rare in recent years.

After 35 years calling Australian cricket for Channel Nine, Benaud was

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Drug rehab staff found dead

Nine patients missing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Khilgaon drug rehabilitation centre staff was found dead yesterday while nine of the 12 patients there have gone missing.

Police believe Bashir Uddin, 40, working at Life Line Madok Niramoy Kendra in Meradia's Bhuiyan Para for the last seven months, had been suffocated sometime around 4:00am.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Health status in slums worse than in villages

Says Bangladesh Health Watch report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Poor healthcare system along with water, sanitation and environmental pollution remains a major challenge in the rapidly growing cities of Bangladesh, says Bangladesh Health Watch Report (BHW) 2014.

The issue is of paramount importance given the fact that Bangladesh is going to be an urban country by 2039. However, there is a huge rich-poor gap in the urban areas with the slum population facing serious consequences in terms of food, nutrition, water, sanitation and healthcare.

"Absence of basic amenities, all converge, is making the urban health status in the slums worse than that in the rural areas," says the report.

Citing an example, the report says only 36.3 percent slum dwellers are food secured against 52.4 percent such people in rural areas.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

Two Shibir men held with bomb-making materials

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

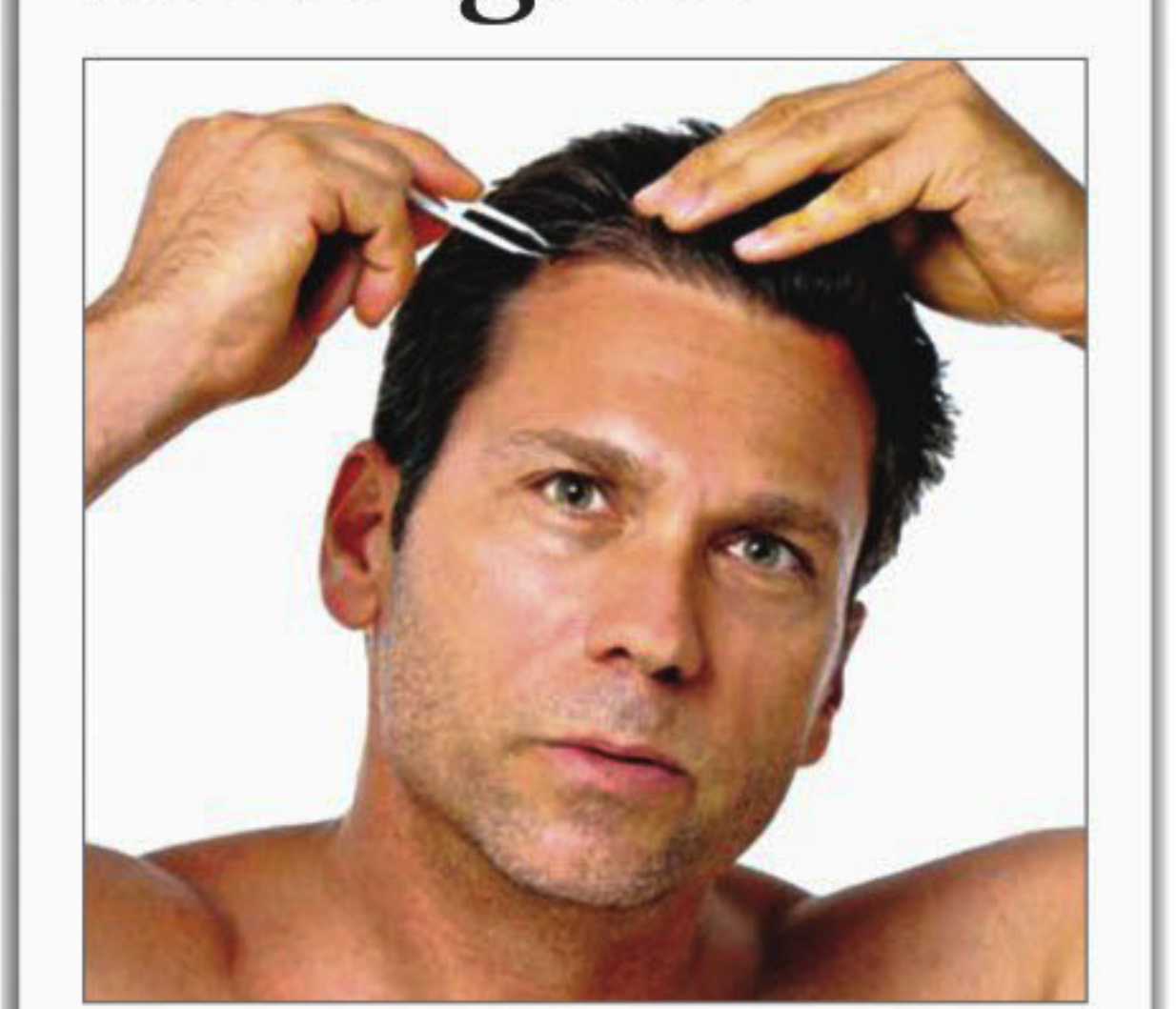
Police arrested two Islami Chhatra Shibir activists along with petrol bomb-making materials from a coaching centre in Kaunia upazila early yesterday.

The arrestees are Nurul Haque, 35, son of Abdul Matin of Godadhar village, and Azizul Islam, 27, son of late Nur Mohammad of Dharmeshwar village, of the upazila.

Police said acting on a tip-off, a team, led by Officer-in-Charge of Kaunia Police Station Rezaul Islam, raided the coaching centre, Golden Tutorial Home, in Mirbagh area around 1:00am.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Plucking hairs can make more grow



BBC ONLINE

Plucking hairs in a precise pattern can make even more pop up in their place, a US study suggests.

Playing with the density of hair removed altered how serious an injury the body recognised and in turn how much hair regrew.

The team managed to regenerate 1,300 hairs by plucking 200, in the study using mice reported in Cell journal.

Experts said it was "a really nice science" but were uncertain if it could lead to a cure for human baldness.

Half of men have male-pattern baldness by the age of 50.

The team at the University of Southern

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



Finishing touches are being given to masks at the Institute of Fine Arts of Dhaka University yesterday. The masks are for Mangal Shobhajatra, a colourful procession that is a staple of the Pehela Baishakh celebrations.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BRINGING BACK FUGITIVE KILLERS OF BANGABANDHU US law firm hired

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has again appointed a US-based law firm to take necessary steps for bringing fugitive killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman back home from North American countries, including the USA and Canada.

Law Minister Anisul Huq told The Daily Star yesterday that the government has so far traced only two convicts -- Nur Chowdhury in Canada and Rashed Chowdhury in the USA.

"If other convicts stay in the North

American countries, the law firm will fight for bringing them back to Bangladesh," he said without elaborating.

Two law ministry high officials, requesting anonymity, told The Daily Star that the ministry had recently given its positive opinion to a foreign ministry's proposal about appointing a law firm for fighting the legal battle to bring the killers of Bangabandhu back home.

They said the law ministry had permitted the foreign ministry to appoint Skadden,

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Pakistan stays out of Yemen conflict

Lawmakers rebuff Saudi Arabia's call to join coalition against Shia militias

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan's parliament yesterday voted to stay out of the conflict in Yemen, rejecting Saudi demands for Islamabad to join its military coalition against Shia Huthi rebels.

A unanimous resolution passed by a special session of parliament backed the government's commitment to protect Saudi Arabia's territory, which has so far not been threatened by the conflict.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

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৩১/৩/২০১৫খ্রিঃ

সেবা সম্পর্কিত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, আধা সরকারি, স্বায়ত্তশাসিত ও বেসরকারি প্রতিষ্ঠান কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত ফি পরিশোধ সাপেক্ষে ফায়ার সার্ভিস ও সিভিল ডিফেন্স অধিদপ্তর হতে নিম্নে বর্ণিত সেবাসমূহ গ্রহণ করা যেতে পারেঃ

- প্রশিক্ষণঃ অগ্নি প্রতিরোধ, নির্বাপন, প্রাথমিক চিকিৎসা ও জরুরি উদ্ধার বিষয়ে ২ দিন ব্যাপী প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদান। একটি প্রশিক্ষণ কোর্সে সর্বাধিক ৪০ জন কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারী অংশগ্রহণ করতে পারবেন। কোর্স ফি ১৫,০০০/- (পনের হাজার) টাকা। সফলভাবে কোর্স সমাপনান্তে সনদপত্র প্রদান করা হবে।
- অগ্নিকান্ডের ঝুঁকি নিরূপণ ও পরামর্শ প্রদানঃ প্রতিষ্ঠান সরেজমিনে পরিদর্শন করে অগ্নিকান্ডের ঝুঁকিসমূহ নিরূপণ ও পরামর্শ প্রদান করা হয়। এক্ষেত্রে ফি ৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকা।
- যৌথভাবে জরুরি বাহিন্যের মহড়া পরিচালনাঃ আবেদনকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানে একটি কৃত্রিম অগ্নিকান্ড পরিস্থিতি সৃষ্টি করে প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব কর্মী-সরঞ্জাম এবং স্থানীয় ফায়ার সার্ভিসের গাড়ি/পাম্প ও জনবল সম্পৃক্ত করে যৌথভাবে বাস্তব মহড়া সম্পন্ন করা হয়। এক্ষেত্রে ফি- ৬ তলা ভবন পর্যন্ত ৬,০০০/- (ছয় হাজার) টাকা এবং ৬ তলার উপরে ১০,০০০/- (দশ হাজার) টাকা।

ফি এর টাকা "ফায়ার সার্ভিস ও সিভিল ডিফেন্স বেসামরিক প্রশিক্ষণ তহবিল" অনুকূলে অগ্রাধী ব্যাংক, আগামাশি লেন শাখা, ঢাকা এর উপর পে অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে পরিশোধযোগ্য।

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বর্তমানে সেবাসমূহের আবেদন হালনাগাদ নিশ্চিত করা সম্ভব হচ্ছে। পরবর্তী কোন তথ্যের জন্য যোগাযোগঃ ০২-৯৫৫৫৫৫/৯৫৫৬৬৬-৭/৯৫৫১৩০০ বর্ষিত ২৩৫

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