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TRANSKOM CARE 16212

Journos to get ID cards from Press Council
Says council chairman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Press Council is contemplating registering journalists from across the country and providing them with identity cards, said its Chairman Mohammad Mamta Uddin Ahmed yesterday. "The list of registered journalists will be published on the council's website later," he told a workshop on policy, objectivity and ethics in journalism, at the council's office in the capital.

Separately, Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu said at Bangladesh Information Commission that a national broadcasting act, similar to England and USA's, would be formulated in winter, and the national broadcast commission would be created after its passage.

On January 20, Inu told

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A schoolgirl and her guardian were soaked with filthy water after their rickshaw hit a pothole and flipped over on a Kamalapur road yesterday. Another rickshaw met a similar fate on a Fakirapool road. Dilapidated and potholed roads in the city's Kamalapur and Fakirapool go under knee-deep water even after a light rain. Bottom right, Wasa workers trying to drain out the water from a submerged road in Fakirapool.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

MOJAHEED'S DEATH PENALTY SC judgment on appeal today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

All eyes are on the Supreme Court that is set to deliver today its verdict on an appeal filed by war criminal Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed challenging the death penalty handed down to him.

A four-member SC bench headed by Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha is set to sit at 9:00am and pronounce the judgment at the beginning of today's court proceedings. The verdict delivery is on top of the court's cause list today.

The three other judges of the bench are Justice Nazmun

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Missing ex-JCD leader found after 3 months

Rab says he was arrested with 40 bombs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around three months after going missing from the capital, a former central committee leader of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal was found in Faridpur early yesterday.

Rab claimed to have arrested Anisur Rahman Talukder Khokon, a former organising secretary of JCD central committee, along with two others in front of a restaurant on the Dhaka-Khulna highway in Faridpur Sadar upazila.

"The trio were arrested with 15 petrol bombs, 25 crude bombs and eight cell



Anisur Rahman

phones in front of a restaurant on the Dhaka-Khulna highway in Faridpur Sadar upazila around 3:00am yesterday," said Rab's Faridpur company commander Khaled-uz-Zaman, also an additional superintendent of police.

Family of Khokon, however, alleged Rab had picked him up from his Adabar residence in the capital on March 5.

A group of seven to eight plainclothes men "abducted" him when he returned home two months after he had gone into

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DROP IN CRIME RATE Netherlands to shut 8 prisons

HUFFINGTONPOST.CO.UK



As prison populations surge in the UK, with overcrowded cells and repeat offenders, the opposite is happening in the Netherlands.

The country is actually to close eight prisons because of a lack of criminals, the Dutch justice ministry has announced.

Declining crime rates in the Netherlands mean that although the country has the capacity for 14,000 prisoners, there are only 12,000 detainees, reported the nrc.nl.

The decrease is expected to continue, the ministry said, with Deputy Justice Minister Nebahat Albayrak saying that natural redundancy and other measures should counter any forced lay-offs.

A report last year on prison overcrowding said that surging populations undermined the rehabilitation of prisoners and risked increasing reoffending in the future.

The Criminal Justice Alliance (CJA), which represents more than 60 organisations, called for the government to urgently limit "the unnecessary use of prison, ensuring it is reserved for serious, persistent and violent offenders for whom no alternative

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Transit won't be free of charge

Explains top official

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A high government official yesterday brushed aside public perception that India was given free transit facilities, saying both the neighbours have agreed on imposing "fees, charges and transportation costs" for using the other country's territory.

"We conceive it as Bangladesh's gain... this is the biggest gain for us in terms of using transit facilities," said the official, adding, "This is a major departure from the 2011 negotiations when charges were a big debate."

Talking to The Daily Star, the official, who was actively engaged in negotiations with India, said now the two countries would work out fees and charges considering "internationally agreed" fees following international convention and practices.

He further said the 22

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PRAYER TIMING

JUNE 16

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-50 8-15
JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



An illegal billboard in the port city's Jamal Khan area being knocked down by Chittagong City Corporation with the help of law enforcers yesterday. A drive to pull down the illegal hoardings has been on in the city for the last few days.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

APPEAL AT SC SQ Chy seeks adjournment of hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Convicted war criminal Salauddin Quader Chowdhury has further sought an adjournment from the Supreme Court on hearing his appeal challenging his death penalty.

A four-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha is scheduled to start hearing the appeal today.

The BNP leader filed an application with the SC on Sunday through his lawyers seeking a four-week

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Worst crisis since World War-II

Amnesty International report claims more than 50 million refugees now displaced

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

The number of refugees abandoned to "an unbearable existence" has now reached tens of millions according to a damning report from Amnesty International, which claims the world is witnessing the worst refugee crisis since the Second World War.

Amnesty International is urging world leaders to radically overhaul their refugee policies and create a comprehensive global strategy to handle the crisis.

It accused leaders of having abandoned millions to "an unbearable existence" while leaving thousands more to die by failing to

provide basic human protections to people fleeing their homes.

The report, hosted online by the Guardian, focuses on the crisis in Syria and estimates that more than four million people have now fled the country due to conflict, 95 per cent of which are living in the neighbouring countries of Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt, which are in turn struggling to cope with the influx. In Lebanon, Syrian refugees now account for one in five people.

It claims these host countries have received "almost no meaningful

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