

PLASTIC MONEY GROWING

Cashless transactions rise
5.5pc in Jan-Mar

PAGE B1

THE PROTEAS IN TOWN

South Africa arrive in Dhaka for two T20Is, three ODIs and two Tests

PAGE 14

TALKS REACH DEADLINE

Iran's Zarif, back in Vienna to sit with world powers, seeks just nuke deal

PAGE 8



Cops create bribe fund!

Tk 77 lakh collected 'for ministry high-ups'; 10 Barisal policemen suspended

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

They created a joint fund of around Tk 77 lakh to bribe their superiors to expedite the promotion of 230 Barisal cops.

One of their bosses was mediating the matter and given an amount from the collected money.

All was well until some of the cops complained to higher authorities, finding the process longer than they expected.

The bribe fund got exposed; the department suspended 10 personnel of Barisal Metropolitan Police (BMP).

The suspended cops are assistant sub-inspectors Anisuzzaman, Monir Hossain and Md Hanif; nayek Kabir Hossain; drivers Shahidul Islam, Bablu Jamadar and Dolon Baral; ration-storekeepers Abbas Uddin and Arifur Rahman; and constable Tapas Kumar Mandal.

"They were suspended for illegal money collection for promotion," BMP Commissioner Shaibal Kanti Chowdhury said, adding the suspension order reached Barisal from police headquarters on Monday and it was executed the same day.

The alleged mediator was Zillur Rahman, deputy police commissioner of Barisal. Decision about him was still pending, Shaibal said.

Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB)

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Inter-city buses choke a ramp of Mayor Mohammad Hanif Flyover near Sergeant Ahad Police Box in the capital's Gulistan around 1:00pm yesterday. The buses would wait there to pick up passengers, aggravating the already bad traffic situation in Ramadan.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

MUHITH ON SONALI LOAN SCAM

Scamster got scot-free 'due to backing'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister AMA Muhih yesterday said that the government could not take punitive action against a top official of Sonali Bank for his involvement in Hallmark loan scam due to interference from "our own men".

"A deputy managing director of Sonali Bank has been sent to jail in the Hallmark loan scam case. He [the deputy director] died in jail."

"Another deputy managing director was sent to jail. [But] a top official of Sonali Bank could not be sent to jail, because of the backing of our own people. I am very annoyed about this," Muhih told parliament during the passage of the budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year yesterday.

Expressing concern over the Hallmark and Basic Bank loan scams, a few lawmakers said people's confidence in the financial sector dropped drastically due to such serious scams.

Admitting the matter, the minister said trust and confidence are considered the basic pillars of the banking industry.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Youth highly moral

Finds TIB survey; part of the population compromises with integrity seeing no hope against corruption menace

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's youth generally have a highly moralistic concept of integrity. Yet in ethically challenging situations, some would adopt unfair means, a TIB study has found.

While 97 to 98 percent of the youth surveyed believe that a person of integrity never lies, cheats or breaks law, 30 percent said a person of integrity can make exceptions if it benefits his or her family, according to the National Youth Integrity Survey 2015, done by the Transparency International Bangladesh.

The findings of the survey, conducted between April 22 and May 7 in 461 mousas of 31 districts in the country, were presented at a press conference at TIB's Dhamondi office in the capital yesterday.

A total of 2,419 youths aged between 15 and 30 took part in the study. Of them, 67 percent were male and 33 percent female.

Youths are forced to get involved in corruption or accept it, although they have a clear concept of integrity, said Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of TIB.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Maya, Qamrul should quit
Says TIB chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Relief and Disaster Management Minister Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya and Food Minister Qamrul Islam should resign amid the corruption allegations against them, TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said yesterday.

He said the two ministers should submit their resignation on their own to set an example, adding that it was his personal opinion.

The top official of the Transparency International Bangladesh, an anti-graft watchdog, made the comment when journalists at a press briefing drew his attention to the graft allegations against the two top Awami League leaders.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

NEWS ANALYSIS

Crocodiles will indeed shed tears

SHARIER KHAN

Within days of three French banks deciding not to invest in the Rampal 1320 megawatt coal power plant next to the Sundarbans, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Monday criticised those who opposed the power plant.

She said: Bangladesh is ours -- I don't believe others will show more kindness than me in saving the country as well as the Sundarbans. They are shedding crocodile tears.

She also said that the government would not have gone for the plant, if it would have harmed the Sundarbans. She has said this before.

The prime minister mentioned the existing Barapukuria coal power plant in

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



QUOTE
"Parliament has now become a stage for performing music and drama."

BNP CHAIRPERSON
KHALEDA ZIA
AT AN IFTAR PROGRAMME
IN THE CITY

NOW, GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS DELIVERED through Dutch-Bangla Bank Mobile Banking



Honorable Secretary, Ministry of Education Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam Khan, Director General, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, Professor Fahima Khatun, Project Director, Higher Secondary Stipend Project, Mr. Shyama Prasad Bepari, Managing Director and CEO, Agrani Bank Mr. K.S. Tabrez and other senior officials of ministry and bank are seen in the inauguration ceremony of the disbursement of scholarship of the Government to the higher secondary students through DBBL Mobile Banking.

As a part of the Government's Digital Bangladesh vision, the Ministry of Education is now disbursing scholarships under the Higher Secondary Stipend Project (HSSP) through Dutch-Bangla Bank Mobile Banking. This allows students all over Bangladesh to receive the scholarship and the support that they need in a fast and convenient process. The Ministry of Education, Agrani Bank and Dutch-Bangla Bank created this customized and innovative solution.

Dutch-Bangla Bank Mobile Banking offers free, transparent, compliant and customized banking solutions for government sectors/divisions seeking to automate payments and be a part of Digital Bangladesh.



Dutch-Bangla Bank

YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER