

Tarana among 3 new ministers

Asaduzzaman, Yeafesh made full ministers; no portfolios reshuffled



Nurul Islam
SHAKHAWAT LITON and HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday inducted three new faces into her council of ministers and promoted two state ministers to the post of minister.

Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and Yeafesh Osman were elevated to full ministers and reassigned the portfolios of home affairs and science and technology.

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Happy extortion

Illegal toll in the name of DNCC; a section of staff helping gang rake in Tk 1.5 lakh a day

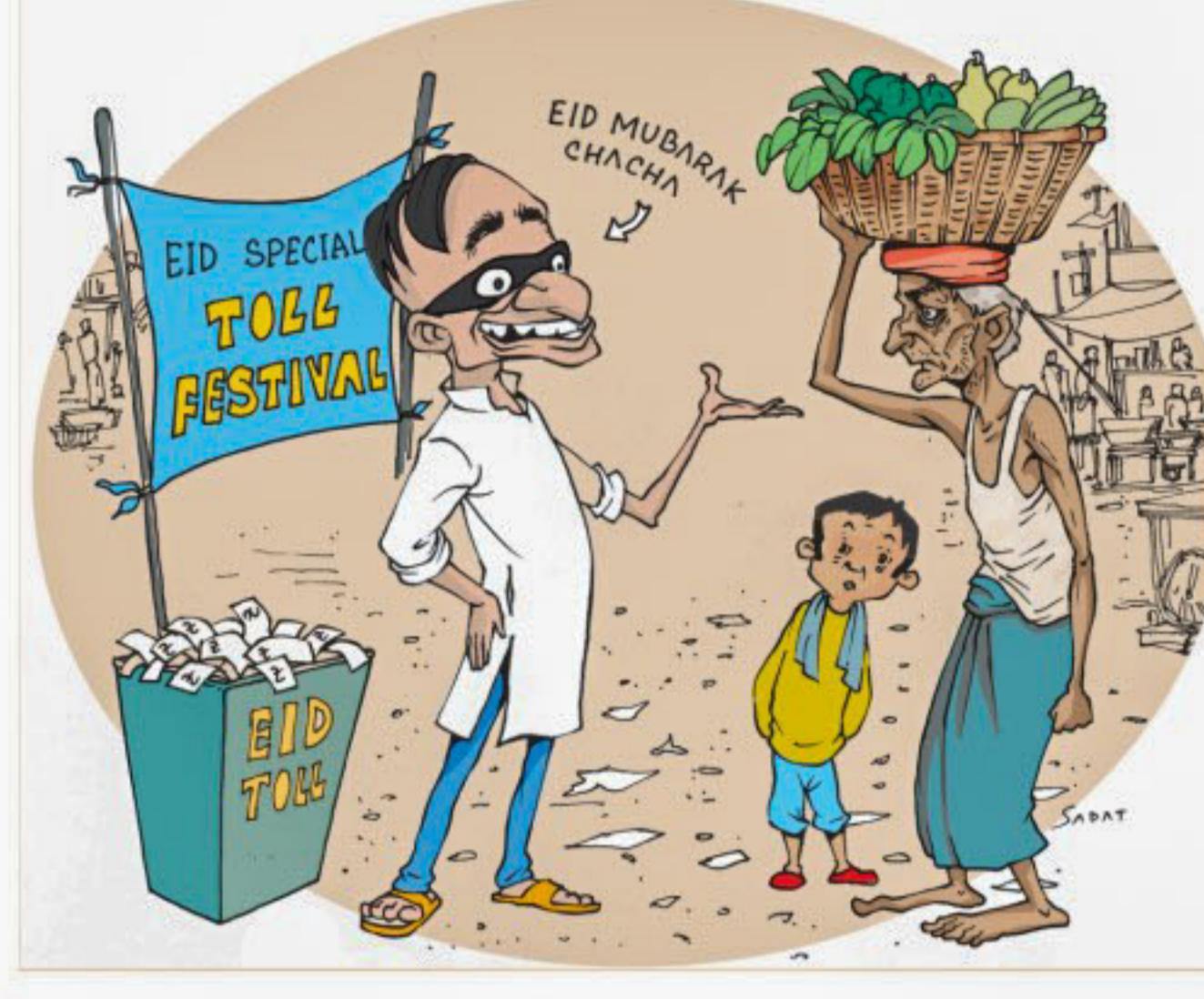
SHAHEEN MOLLAH and AKRAM HOSEN

Extortionists, allegedly backed by some city corporation officials, have been collecting about Tk 1.5 lakh daily in illegal toll as "parking fees" from goods-laden vehicles entering Karwan Bazaar.

As part of its revenue collection, the city authorities charge highest Tk 10 an hour for the parking of a vehicle between 7:00am and 7:00pm. Parking is supposed to be free throughout the night, and trucks are excluded because they are allowed in the city only after 10:00pm.

But for the past few months, a gang of about 100 men have been extorting Tk 50 from each truck at night. CNG-run three-wheelers and rickshaw-vans are also forced to pay Tk 10 at the largest wholesale kitchen market in the capital.

After Ramadan began, they started charging double -- Tk 100 for trucks and between Tk 20 and 50 for



Iran, powers agree historic nuke deal

AFP, Vienna

Major powers yesterday clinched a historic deal aimed at ensuring Iran does not obtain the nuclear bomb, opening up Tehran's stricken economy and potentially ending decades of bad blood with the West.

Reached on day 18 of marathon talks in Vienna, the accord is aimed at resolving a 13-year standoff over Iran's nuclear ambitions after repeated diplomatic failures and threats of military action.

It was hailed by Iran, the United States, the European Union and NATO but branded a "historic mistake" by Tehran's archfoe Israel.

US President Barack Obama said the accord meant "every pathway to a nuclear weapon is cut off".

"This deal offers an opportunity to move in a new direction. We should seize it," he said in an address to the nation.

He vowed to veto any Congressional effort to block the deal, reached between Tehran and the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany.

Underscoring the tectonic shift in relations, Iranian state

TEHRAN (AP) -- President Obama's statement live, only the

Fakhrul out of jail at last

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



More than six months after his arrest, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir was finally freed on bail from prison yesterday.

He got out of the prison cell of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) around 7:20pm, Sayru Kabir Khan, a media wing staff of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, told The Daily Star.

Earlier, Sorbottom Chakma, deputy jailer at the Dhaka Central Jail, went to the medical university with the release order, Sayru added.

Fakhrul was admitted to United

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Policeman 'helped' main culprit flee

Rajon's father alleged Tk 6 lakh bribe was paid in Sylhet

STAR REPORT

With people continuing to protest the brutal killing of 13-year-old Rajon, the victim's father yesterday alleged that a police official in Sylhet took bribe and helped one of the accused flee the country.

Rajon's father Sheikh Md Azizur Rahman said that Aminul Islam, sub-inspector of Jalalabad Police Station, cut a Tk 12 lakh deal with the accused and helped Kamrul Islam flee to Saudi Arabia.

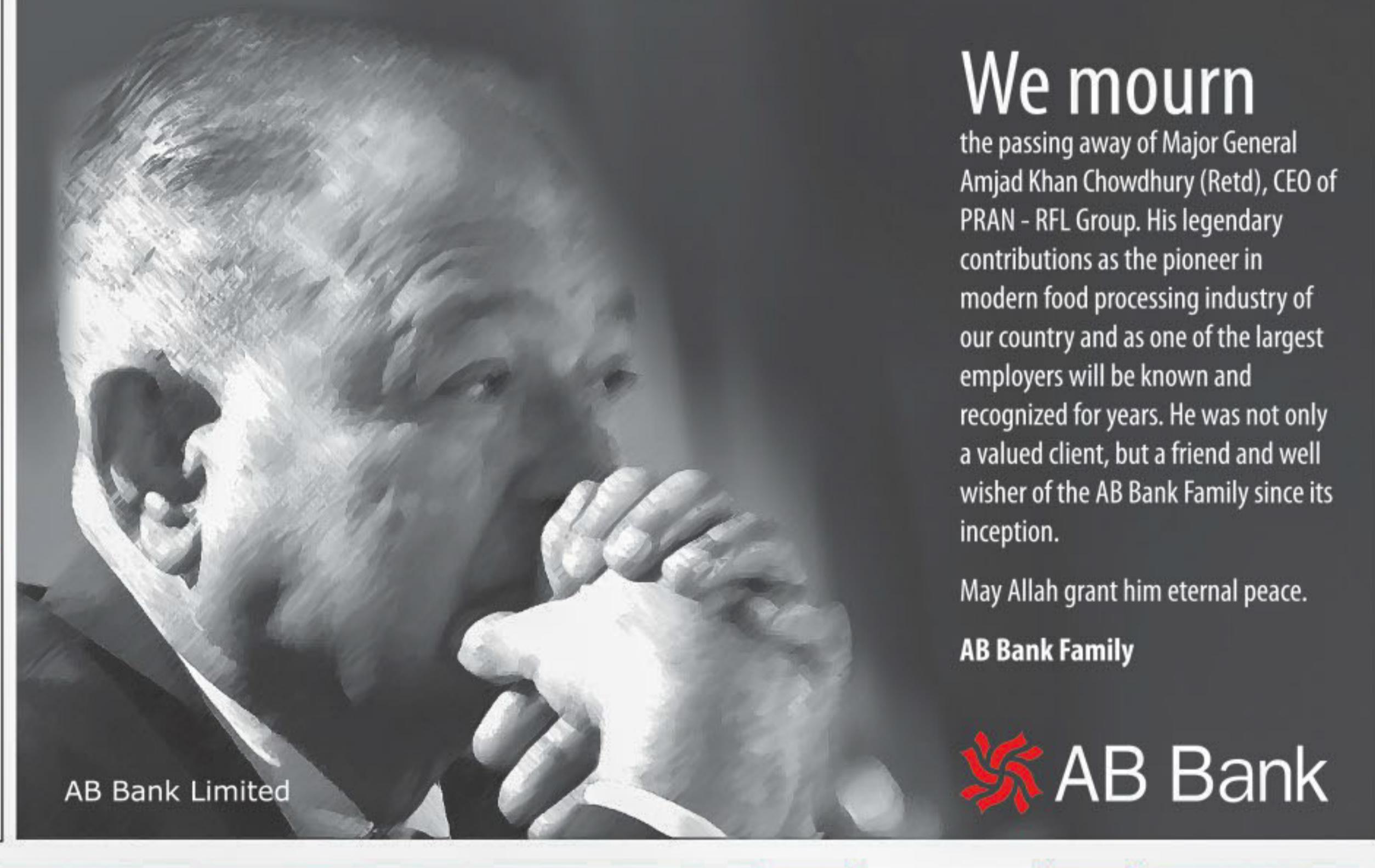
Talking to The Daily Star yesterday morning, Azizur said, "Aminul was paid Tk 6 lakh cash and the rest was supposed to be given after Kamrul's arrival in Saudi Arabia."

Getting Kamrul's brother Muhit off the hook was also a part of the deal, he claimed.



Azizur Rahman

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We mourn

the passing away of Major General Amjad Khan Chowdhury (Retd), CEO of PRAN - RFL Group. His legendary contributions as the pioneer in modern food processing industry of our country and as one of the largest employers will be known and recognized for years. He was not only a valued client, but a friend and well-wisher of the AB Bank Family since its inception.

May Allah grant him eternal peace.

AB Bank Family

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