

NEWS IN brief

Moudud seeks stay on HC verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP leader Moudud Ahmed moved a petition before the Supreme Court yesterday seeking a stay on a High Court verdict that has cleared the way for a lower court to run a land-related corruption case against him. The chamber judge adjourned its proceedings for a week. The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case on December 17, 2013 against Moudud and his brother Monjur Ahmed over grabbing government land worth

Bangladeshi relief reaches Myanmar

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The first consignment of relief materials, containing over 1 tonne of medicines and water purification tablets, of the Bangladeshi government has reached Myanmar. Bangladesh Ambassador Sufur Rahman handed over the relief materials to Deputy Minister of Social Welfare Daw Su Su Hlaing on Saturday afternoon, said a foreign ministry press release.

NGFF school alumni gets executives

CITY DESK

BM Kamal has been elected president of NGFF School Alumni Association and Iftekhar Mahmud Helim general secretary for 2015-2017, says a press release. AKM Ziauddin has been elected treasurer in the 39-member executive committee. The other members include Serajul Islam Munir, Mozakkar Hossain Chowdhury Pear, Barrister Saifur Rahman, Dr Mohammad Shafiqul Islam Mollah, Abu Masud Bulbul, Md Ekhtiar Hossain Chowdhury and Yousuf Rahman Babu. Advisory committee members include Lt Col (ret'd) Anwar-uz-Zaman, Brig Gen (ret'd) Shafiq-uz-Zaman, Shah Alam, Dr BM Gulshan Ara, Mohammad Hussain,



Recent rainfall in Barisal city has left most of the roads filled with craters and potholes, making it difficult for vehicles to ply, and causing sufferings to commuters. The photo was taken on Sadar Road yesterday.

Rain batters most Barisal city roads

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Most of the roads in Barisal city are badly damaged and in need of fast repair work. The roads are riddled with potholes and craters, increasing the risk of accidents. The condition of Sadar Road, Band Road, Hospital Road, Kawnia Road, Amanotgonj Road and College Avenue are particularly terrible. Talking to The Daily Star, Chief Executive Officer of Barisal City Corporation Ranajit Kumar said about 45 percent roads of Barisal city were badly damaged in the recent rainfall. The city corporation needs around Tk 80 crore for immediate repair work, he said. The city corporation's road network is 593km long, and out of that 267km of road is bituminous carpet, 15km is herringbone bone, 114km water bound macadam, 22km concrete, and 275km of road is earthen, said Abdul Motaleb, superintendent engineer of BCC. Dr Mizanur Rahman, member secretary of Barisal Nagorik Samaj, said the city corporation is always demanding money for its work, but it never monitors proper use of the sanctioned funds. Mayor Ahsan Habib Kamal said the city saw the highest rainfall in a decade and that damaged the roads badly. Barisal met office recorded a total of 1484.2 mm rainfall in 48 out of 61 days in June and July of this year.

Obituary

CITY DESK



Syed Ahsan Habib, executive vice president and company secretary of

Premier Bank Ltd, died at the capital's United Hospital on Sunday, aged 42, says a press release. The bank staff offer prayers for the salvation and eternal peace of the departed soul.

Why 7.5pc VAT on pvt universities?

HC questions legality of govt decision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of a government decision to impose 7.5 percent VAT on the tuition fee of students of private universities, and medical and engineering colleges.

In response to a writ petition, the court issued a rule upon the authorities concerned of the government to explain in three weeks as to why the decision would not be declared illegal.

Secretaries to the ministries of education and finance and chairmen of National

Board of Revenue and University Grant Commission have been made respondents to the rule.

The NBR on July 4 issued a notification imposing 7.5 percent VAT on tuition fee of students of private universities, and medical and engineering universities and colleges.

It was originally proposed in the near Tk 3 trillion budget for 2015-16 fiscal placed in the parliament by Finance Minister AMA Muhith.

Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif and Justice JN Deb Choudhury issued the rule following a writ petition filed

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Delay in producing

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hearing, which was scheduled for August 16 by the judge.

Earlier the tribunal recorded statements of five prosecution witnesses including Dr Nazim Uddin and the complainant.

Asked about his failure, PP Mahbubur told The Daily Star that he was trying his best to produce all the witnesses before the court for quick disposal of the case.

Rajib, also an activist of the anti-war crimes Shabbagh movement, was hacked to death in the capital's Pallabi on February 13, 2013.

On January 28 last year, detectives charged Mufti Jasimuddin Rahmani, chief of emerging militant group Ansarullah Bangla Team, and seven students of North South University (NSU).

Of the accused, Jasimuddin and six NSU students -- Md Faisal Bin Nayem alias Dweep, Maksudul Hasan alias Anik, Md Ehsan Reza alias Rummman, Nayem Sikdar alias Iraj, Nafis Imtiaz and Sadman Yasir Mahmud -- are in jail. A seventh accused, Redwanul Azad Rana, is on the run.

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PWDs demand

FROM PAGE 3

Research Association (DRRA) at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

Syed Shahidul Islam, associate professor of the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor), said CP could be averted if proper treatment was given during prenatal and neonatal periods.

Saima Wazed Hossain, chairperson of the National Advisory Committee on Autism in Bangladesh, said disability was not a separate issue; anyone could be disabled anytime.

Referring to different organisations emphasising different aspects of disability, she said disability was a broad social problem, which could be solved if these organisations shared their studies and cooperated with each other.

She suggested that stakeholders should work inclusively for the economic development of the country.

The daughter of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also called upon the ministries concerned to increase cooperation to address the problems of PWDs.

Executive Director of DRRA Farida Yesmin presented a keynote paper on "Access to Mainstream Health Services for the People with Disabilities".

She recommended adopting a national strategy for the disabled people that includes prevention, early screening, health promotion and rehabilitation, establishing adequate number of health and rehabilitation service centres at district level.

Farida also suggested inclusion of mental health services for PWDs in the mainstream healthcare system.

Among others, Social Welfare Secretary Tariq-ul-Islam, Women and Children Affairs Secretary Nasima Begum, Health Secretary Syed Monjurul Islam, and lawmakers Naimur Rahman Durjoy and Kazi Rozi also spoke at the programme.

Bobby reinstated as Ershad's special adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad yesterday reinstated his special adviser Bobby Hajjaj, said a party press release.

It said the decision will come into effect immediately. On March 22, Ershad sacked Bobby as he announced his own mayoral candidacy for April-28 Dhaka North City Corporation election against the party decision.

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STUDY IN AUSTRALIA

Admission, Scholarship & Visa Information Seminar

2-5pm, 11 August, Tuesday Australian Catholic University (ACU) Ms Colma Fechner, Regional Manager Int'l Mkt'g & Student Recruitment - ACU International	3-6pm, 14 August, Friday Monash University Ms Lydia Windels, Regional Coordinator	10am-12 noon, 16 August, Sunday UTS INSEARCH Diptiman Behera, Regional Manager
1.30-3pm, 12 August, Wednesday Deakin University Pawan Solanki, Sr. Manager Marketing & Business Development (South Asia)	10am-1pm, 16 August, Sunday La Trobe University Amit Malhotra, Associate Director - South Asia Simon Naisbitt, Director of Marketing	1-3pm, 16 August, Sunday Curtin University Mr Girish Vijayaraghavan
10am-5pm, 12 August, Wednesday University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) Prof. Graham Nicholson, Associate Dean Dr Judy Hudson, Senior Project Officer	10am-12 noon, 16 August, Sunday University of Technology, Sydney Ms Jigna Mazumdar Regional Officer (South Asia) Janet Sowman, Administrative Officer	3pm-6pm, 17 August, Monday Macquarie University Mr Tanveer Shaheed Sr. Country Manager (Asia)

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