

Shawkat shown arrested in 10th arson case

Remanded for another day
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's adviser Shawkat Mahmud was shown arrested yesterday in yet another arson case filed for torching of a vehicle in the capital's Lalbagh on January 23.

A Dhaka court remanded him for one day in the case, said Moniruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Lalbagh Police Station.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Atiqur Rahman passed the order upon police's request to remand him for seven days.

The court also rejected a bail petition of Shawkat.

The former president of the Jatiya Press Club was arrested in the capital's Panthapath area on August 18.

He was put on a three-day remand on August 22 in a case filed over the death of a private car driver in an arson attack in January.

The next day, police
SEE PAGE 5 COL 5



Factions of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) form a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday seeking unconditional release of journalist Shawkat Mahmud who is in custody in arson cases.

PHOTO: STAR

Don't publish allegations against Tarique without his defence

BNP urges media
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday called upon the media not to publish any allegation against Tarique Rahman made by the ruling Awami League men until journalists are allowed to circulate his defence.

"It is a question of ethics and principles," said BNP standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan, describing Tarique as a victim of one-sided criticism.

The senior leader made the call while addressing a press briefing at the BNP chief's Gulshan office to express party's condemnation of the filing of a charge sheet against Tarique in Gazipur.

On January 7, the High Court banned publication of BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman's statements in the print, electronic and social media as long as he remains
SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Public transport dev caught in corruption, criminality

Roundtable told
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Corruption and criminality in the transport sector are the main barriers to development of the public transport system in Bangladesh, said discussants at a roundtable yesterday.

The government should establish a special cell or taskforce to curb corruption and emphasise strengthening state-run transport operating bodies to overcome public transport crisis, they viewed.

Bangladesh Passengers Welfare Association organised the roundtable titled "Public Transport Crisis: Way Forward to End Passengers' Sufferings" at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Eminent columnist Syed Abul Maksud said a high-powered special cell of the government is needed to end the chaotic situation in the transport sector.

The cell will intensively monitor the

overall situation, chalk out plans and place proposals to the ministry for entire development of transport sector.

The state-run Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC), and Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) have failed to serve the people due to negligence of the authorities concerned, he viewed.

Noted media personality Muhammad Jahangir alleged that all governments since the 1990s have overlooked the issue of improving public transport system leaving the sector in a shabby state.

Urban transport expert Salehuddin Ahmed, also a former director of BRTC, said road space and communication infrastructure must be increased to improve mass traffic system.

Nagorik Sanghati General Secretary Sharifuzzaman Sharif demanded that

the government take steps to operate BRTC buses in all the districts in the country.

Presenting a paper in the roundtable, Mozammel Hoque, the welfare association's secretary general, said around 44 bus companies have been shut in the last seven years, while around 150 private cars hit the streets daily.

In the 1990s, there were around 11,000 buses in Dhaka, while around 70 lakh people lived in the city. Currently, around 1.5 crore people live in the capital, but the number of buses has come down to around 4,000, said Mozammel. He also claimed that around 90 percent of public transport, including buses, minibuses, CNG-run auto-rickshaws, and cabs, are unfit. Besides, around 50 percent drivers operate public vehicles with fake licences.

ZIA TRUST GRAFT CASES Khaleda skips proceedings again

Hearing adjourned till Sept 3
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday skipped the trial proceedings of Zia Charitable and Zia Orphanage Trust corruption cases due to her "illness".

She did not attend the hearing on August 10 too, showing the same reason.

Yesterday, Special Judge Court-3 Judge Abu Ahmed Jamadar recorded statements of four prosecution witnesses in the Zia Charitable Trust graft case
SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

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FARUQI MURDER Demos held in Dhaka, Ctg as probe sees no headway in 1yr

CITY DESK

Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Sena and Bangladesh Islami Jubo Sena demonstrated in Dhaka and Chittagong yesterday protesting a delay in Faruqi murder investigation.

Shaikh Nurul Islam Faruqi, 60, former president member of Bangladesh Islami Front (BIF), was killed as unidentified assailants slit his throat at his East Rajabazar house in the capital on August 27 last year.

In Dhaka, pro-BIF student organisation Islami Chhatra Sena rallied before Jatiya Press Club, reports our staff correspondent.

It also demanded immediate removal of the home
SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

Something fishy for a CHANGE HOW ABOUT TILAPIA?



Photo: Dolon Talukder

It is hard for most Bangladeshis to think of lunch or dinner without the mandatory fish dish whether that be simply fried or curry-based. For many concerned parents, getting their children to eat fish on a regular basis can prove to be quite a feat. Tilapia is a mild white fish, low in fat and calories and the best option when it comes to getting your fussy little or any finicky eater to try out fish. Tilapia's mild taste allows it to take on the flavor of other ingredients, allowing the fish to be easily incorporated into a lot of recipes.

Tilapia is a great source of protein that contains all the essential amino acids needed to maintain healthy body tissue. Consumption of it also gives the sense of fullness which is good news for the more health conscious ones. Tilapia also contains minerals, calcium and potassium. The first contributes to strong healthy teeth and bones and the latter promotes muscle contraction and heart functions. Many are not aware that Tilapia is high in vitamin B-12 which is vital for a lot of bodily functions from proper formation of red blood cells, maintaining neurological functions to protecting nerve endings.

Shwapno provides Tilapia fish that always weighs no less than two-fifty grams. Amongst the many fish farmers, Wahiduzzaman Rana from Rajshahi is a reliable one who supplies Shwapno with Tilapia. He has been farming fish for the last 12 years and says that the whole process of the fish maturing from a fry takes about five months. He collects the fries from Mymensingh and farms them in small ponds (two to three bigha). The fries are fed three times a day and are kept in this pond for two months. Wahiduzzaman Rana consults a local expert of fish regularly to make sure that the fish being farmed are of the best quality.

After two months the fries are mature enough to be moved to larger ponds (four to five bigha) where they are fed and kept for a further three months. A special team from Shwapno regularly inspects the fish ponds and the batches of fish being farmed. Full grown Tilapia fish of only the aforementioned weight are sorted out and then transported to Dhaka via trucks that contain make-shift water tanks. Shwapno only accepts live fish in order to maintain the freshness of the product.

Fish not only makes regular appearances in our lunch or dinner menus but also in our culture as a whole. If you think your child is being denied the yummy taste of fish just because they are not fans of the "fishy" flavour, start them off with Tilapia for dinner tonight!

an initiative of:



The Daily Star

Book Launching Ceremony



Professor Rehman Sobhan's latest book "From Two Economies to Two Nations: My Journey to Bangladesh" is being published by Daily Star—BOOKS— Launching ceremony of the book will be held on Saturday 29th August, 2015 at 3.30 pm.
Venue:
The Daily Star Centre (3rd floor), 64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka 1215.

Distinguished discussants will be:
Dr. Kamal Hossain, Professor Serajul Islam Chowdhury, Professor Rounaq Jahan, Mr. Rashed Khan Menon MP, Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Ms. Sultana Kamal and Professor M M Akash.

*The Programme is open to all.

