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More cops for tackling crime

Recruitment of 13,558 underway; 21,000 others wait for govt approval

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The strength of the police force will increase significantly with the recruitment of more than 21,000 cops by next fiscal year. The move is now awaiting a government order (GO) from the home ministry.

The finance ministry in February approved proposals of various police ranges, sent to the home ministry in 2014, for recruitment of the new manpower that includes 208 cadre officers and 21,148 sub-inspectors, assistant subinspectors and constables, said officials at the police headquarters.

"We are expecting that the home ministry will issue the government order soon," a top official of the police headquarters told The Daily Star recently.

The recruitment will take place in districts under Chittagong, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna, Dhaka, Barisal, Sylhet and Mymensingh ranges. Forty-five percent of the policemen would be hired in this fiscal year and the rest the next fiscal year, the official added.

The force now has 1,69,058 personnel in the eight ranges.

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Rickshaw pullers cover themselves with caps and traditional towels in the afternoon as the mercury rose to 34.8 degree Celsius yesterday. Several meteorological websites forecast higher temperature for Dhaka today. The Bangla month of Chaitra is traditionally considered the hottest of the year.



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Cops checking dead's fb posts

No talk about nabbing suspects in Nazim murder case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three days after the killing of Nazim Uddin Samad, investigators are yet to make any arrests. They are still scrutinising what the secular activist had written on the online platforms.

"We are investigating the murder keeping in mind three possible motives -- Nazim's personal enmity,

his Facebook posts and his disputes over land or familial issues," said Inspector (investigation) Samir Chandra Sutradhar of the capital's Sutrapur Police Station.

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Politics over Baishakh bonus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Awami Olama League, which claims to be affiliated with the ruling Awami League, yesterday called for a halt to Pahela Baishakh celebrations for what they said it being "a non-Islamic festival".

From a human chain programme in the capital, the organisation also urged the government to stop the festival bonus for Pahela Baishakh celebrations and said the allowance should

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Too eager to get new laws

Little interest in enforcing existing ones on guide book, education

SHAKHAWAT LITON and WASIM BIN HABIB

It is easier to make a new law than the enforcement and modification of an existing one. The proposed legislation on education is the latest glaring example of this popular saying in our country.

A provision of the proposed education law slaps a ban on publishing notes or guidebooks for primary and secondary levels education. In so doing, those who drafted the proposal have overlooked a three-decade old law that serves the same purpose with a provision for more stringent punishment.

Whoever will publish notes or guidebooks, according to the proposed law drafted by the education ministry, will be punished with a jail term of up to six months or a fine of up to Tk 2 lakh or both.

But the Note-Books (Prohibition) Act of 1980 has long SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

RELIGIOUS STRUCTURES ON GRABBED LAND

Minister 'feels helpless' in removing them

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan yesterday expressed helplessness in removing illegal religious structures on grabbed land.

Land grabbers often set up religious structures like mosques on grabbed land as

a cover for grabbing, he told a discussion at the Jatiya Press Club.

The minister said fundamentalist groups would unseat him if those structures were demolished.

Green activists, however, criticised this SEE PAGE 10 COL 4



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snatching votes in elections. Its slogan is: I will cast my ballot and I will cast your ballot too."

JATIYA PARTY CHIEF **HM ERSHAD** AT PARTY COUNCIL IN MANIKGANJ YESTERDAY



