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Don't assume our audience are fools: Suborna Mustafa

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GOVT'S BIDDING SYSTEM

Fully online by year-end

1,233 govt agencies to use e-tender

Only brief notices to be published in newspapers

Bidders can submit bids online, monitor progress throughout

Bidders' participation to rise

Tender processing time to decrease

Tender-related violence can be averted

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The government is going to scrap the traditional tender floating system and introduce a full-fledged online tendering method for all public purchases from December, say planning ministry officials.

Once this electronic procurement system called e-GP gets going in full swing, tender notices will no longer be published in newspapers. Instead, they will be posted on the e-GP web portal.

Local and international firms would be able to participate in the process online,

they said.

The move is expected to increase bidding participation, cut down tender processing time and also check occasional incidents of violence during bid submission.

A new data centre would be set up at the Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) under the planning ministry by September to bring the purchase process of 1,233 government offices under the e-GP system, said the officials.

At the same time, the government is also digitising the approval process of the

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E-GP SYSTEM ACCESS DIAGRAM



Fire again in Sundarbans

Third in 3 weeks

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Yet another fire broke out in Chandpai range of the Sundarbans in Sharankhola upazila of the district yesterday morning.

This was the third incident of fire in the area in the last three weeks.

Firefighters and forest guards, with the help of villagers, doused the flames after nearly four hours.

The forest department claimed the incident was an act of sabotage. It formed a committee to probe the incident and set up five watch teams to avoid such incidents happening again.

"Forest guards first noticed the fire near the Nangli forest office around 9:30am. Two fire engines from Morelganj and Bagerhat were engaged in dousing the fire," said Saidul Islam, divisional forest officer of Sundarbans (east zone).

Earlier, fire also broke out on March 27 and April 13 at Nangli, Abdullar Chila, Pochakuralia and Napitkhali areas that destroyed forest on nearly 10 acres of land.

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Their names came up in the US

Says PM about Shafik, Mahmudur's alleged links to 'plot to kidnap and kill her son'

STAR REPORT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said a conspiracy to abduct and kill her son Sajeeb Wazed Joy was unearthed in the United States, and the names of Shafik Rehman and Mahmudur Rahman came up in this connection in a US court.

"It [the conspiracy] didn't took place in Bangladesh ... it happened in the US, and their intelligence and court have unveiled this conspiracy," said Hasina.

She said the US probe found that a BNP leader bribed an FBI man to get Joy abducted and murdered. "They said this in the court and also mentioned the names of Shafik Rehman and Mahmudur Rahman. These are not our words, these are all proved in the US court."

The PM was speaking at a discussion at the Krishibid Institution, Bangladesh (KIB), organised by the Awami League to mark the historic Mujibnagar Day.

She said the government would definitely take action against those who will be found involved in the conspiracy, reports UNB.

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BANDARBAN

3 abducted men found murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

Three men were found dead in remote Thanchi upazila of Bandarban yesterday two days after they had been abducted.

The victims -- Abu Bakkar, 30, and his associates Absar Ali, 28, and Md Shabuddin, 29, of Obaidur Hakimpara under Alikadom upazila of the district -- were cattle traders.

A group of local criminals called Tripura Group abducted them from remote Tong Pue Para around Saturday noon when they went there with Tk 2.5 lakh to buy cattle, police and family members said.

"A member of the group called me and asked me to search for the body of my brother in the area," said Abul Hashem, younger brother of Abu Bakkar.

Meanwhile, police arrested four men of

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\$101M CYBER HEIST FROM BB ACCOUNT

20 foreign nationals found involved: CID

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Criminal Investigation Department claims to have identified 20 foreign nationals involved in the \$101 million cyber theft from the Bangladesh Bank account with the New York Federal Reserve Bank.

In its probe, the CID also found evidence of negligence by Bangladesh Bank officials, Additional Deputy Inspector General Shah Alam of CID (Organised Crime) told reporters at the CID headquarters in the capital yesterday.

The CID official came up with the statement a couple of days after two CID teams returned from the Philippines and Sri Lanka with their findings on the cyber heist.

The CID, which is investigating the heist, would soon hold a press briefing on the issue, he said.

Cyber criminals stole \$101 million from the BB account with the Federal Reserve Bank in February. The incident came to light

several days later.

Shah Alam said they would seek help from the Interpol for taking action against the foreign nationals.

He, however, refused to disclose their names and nationalities.

In response to another query, the CID official said they didn't want to reveal whether any Bangladeshi was involved in the heist for the "sake of investigation".

He said there was negligence on the part of BB officials. The CID is looking into whether any BB official had "any criminal intention" or it was just "lack of competency".

In the Philippines, \$81 million was transferred to four bank accounts opened with deposits of only \$500 each. The banks or agents concerned didn't at all comply with the money laundering act in case of transferring the stolen money, said Shah Alam.

Asked about getting back the stolen

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BNP brings 19 new faces in leadership

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP has announced names of 21 leaders for its new National Executive Committee -- one organising secretary and 20 assistant organising secretaries.

Of them, 19 are new and young faces, said insiders.

BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed announced, in the third phase, the names at a press briefing at the party's Nayapaltan central office yesterday.

With the announcement of the latest names, the BNP central committee is gradually taking shape.

However, names for other posts including the party's highest policymaking body -- Standing Committee -- have yet to be announced.

Col (ret) Anwarul Azim is the newly appointed organising secretary of the party's Comilla divisional unit. Earlier, names of the nine organising secretaries including two women were announced in the second phase.

Apart from these, names of 20 assistant organising secretaries, two in each of the party's 10 organisational divisions, have been announced.

Of them, Dhaka Divisional Assistant

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In a unique gesture of support, a man puts a garland of currency notes around the neck of Suruzzaman Mintu, an independent candidate for Balibhadra union parishad chairman of Dhanbari upazila in Tangail. The photo was taken on Sunday.

PHOTO: STAR

ACC nets 8 over different scams

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In 2013, five employees of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) drew two months' salary of 265 teachers and employees.

To appropriate the sum of Tk 40 lakh, the alleged fraudsters prepared fake monthly pay orders (MPOs).

Yesterday, the Anti-Corruption Commission arrested one of the suspects, Abul Fazal Md Belal, a system analyst of the Education Management Information System (EMIS) under the DSHE, from the capital's Segunbagicha.

According to the case document, the school section of the DSHE sent a draft sheet containing list of teachers and employees of different schools to the system analyst for MPO.

Later, Fazal, programmers Asaduzzaman and Ziaur Rahman and assistant programmers Rafiqul Islam and Nazib Ud Doula created an index number for 265 teachers and employees and included their names in the draft MPO list.

They then drew salaries and allowances worth Tk 40,22,650 for May and June of 2013 against the names of those teachers and employees.

A case was filed with Shahbagh Police Station on February 9, 2015, in this connection.

The ACC yesterday arrested six other people -- Rafiqul Islam, Harun-Ur-Rashid,

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