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Australian Craig Wright claims he is Satoshi Nakamoto, creator of the digital currency
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Bangladesh girls defended AFC U-14 Regional Championship title in Tajikistan
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Land registry hamstrung

Copiers of deeds, unpaid for 13 months, are on an indefinite strike at land offices; people suffer

STAR REPORT

Land registration is being severely hampered at 495 land registry offices across the country due to an indefinite strike by extra-muharrirs, copiers of land documents.

"Around 20,000 certified copies of land documents are issued every day from land offices across the country. But it has remained stalled due to the strike," Zainal Abedin, president of Bangladesh Extra-Muharrirs (nakal nabish) Association, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Around 15,000 extra-muharrirs have been on an indefinite strike since April 24, as they didn't get paid for the last 13 months for fund crisis.

The association has been demanding that the government pay their arrears and bring them under the national pay scale.

Extra-muharrirs prepare certified copies of land documents and also copy the data of land deeds into ledger books.

The government, which gets Tk 400 in revenue from every certified copy, was deprived of about Tk 4 crore in five working days till April 28, said Zainal.

Over the last one week, the strike dealt a heavy blow to land-related businesses, including purchase, sale and mutation of land and mortgage on property, as owners couldn't get certified copies of their land documents.

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Tejgaon sub-registrar's office in the capital wears a deserted look as around 15,000 extra-muharrirs (copiers of deeds), including the ones of this office, have been on an indefinite strike since April 24 demanding payment of arrears of 13 months. The photo was taken yesterday.

SIPHONING OFF MONEY Joy hits back at Khaleda's allegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime minister's son Sajeeb Wazed Joy has hit back at BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia over her statement that senior journalist Shafik Rehman was arrested for "collecting information on his involvement in siphoning off Tk 2,500 crore".

Rejecting outright the BNP chief's allegation, Joy in a Facebook post on Sunday night wrote: "A woman who has stolen money from orphans, one whose son is a fugitive accused by the FBI for corruption, really should not be throwing mud at Bangabandhu's grandson.

"Madam, if you know where the \$300 million is, please let me know. I would like to donate it to orphans," he added.

Joy's comments came hours after Khaleda made the allegation at a workers' rally at the city's Suhrawardy Udyan.

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7-yr-old killed for trying to 'steal' mango

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Picking mangoes from neighbours' trees by pelting them with stones is part of fond childhood memories for many. But for the family and friends of seven-year-old Tanjila, this childish mischief will always be a cruel and painful memory.

On Sunday morning, Tanjila went out with her friend Moslema to get mangoes from a neighbour's tree in Araihaazar upazila of Narayanganj, and then she was found dead at the house of the neighbour.

The half-closed eyes of the little girl's frail, lifeless body at Narayanganj General Hospital morgue were a reminder of how children in the country are often treated brutally over trivial matters.

Tanjila, a student of class-II of Srinibashi Government Primary

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WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY TODAY Danger comes with restriction

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Freedom of expression and a vibrant strong democracy go hand in hand. A free press contributes to a stronger society and country. One of the most important roles of the media, that of the watchdog, can only be ensured if it is free. Free speech is the most important tool for self-governance in a modern democratic society. The countries that have greater freedom of press tend to have strong democratic governance and less corruption.

This has been once again proven in the two latest international indexes on press freedom and corruption released by Reporters Without Borders (RWB) and Transparency International (TI).

Denmark, Finland, New Zealand, Netherlands and Norway scored high in the world press freedom index released by RWB last month. Like previous years, these are the five top ranking countries in a list of 180 nations with greater press freedom.

Freedom of the press, according to political scientists and economists, is a primary contributor to good governance and this has also been proven in numerous political and economic studies.

The five countries that have greater press freedom are significantly benefited by good governance and greater rein on corruption in their administrations. The governments protect freedom of the press there and in return they can ensure the good governance its citizens deserve and demand.

Like previous years, these countries have scored big and become five least corrupt countries in the world in TI's latest corruption index released last January.

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TOP!
QUOTE

"Rising cost in China is an opportunity for countries in South Asia particularly for Bangladesh."

WORLD BANK COUNTRY DIRECTOR QIMIAO FAN SAID WHILE SHARING THE FINDINGS ON POTENTIALS OF BANGLADESH'S GARMENT SECTOR

NIKHIL MURDER Cautious, yet he could not survive

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

For the machete attack on tailor Nikhil Joardar of Tangail, assailants chose a comparatively quiet time at noon when he usually stayed alone at his shop.

His wife Aroti Rani would keep an eye on him most of the time since some locals in 2012 brought an allegation against him of making an "anti-Islam"



comment, said relatives.

"My sister used to see him every 10 to 15 minutes at his tailoring shop, just yards away from their ancestral house," said Amal Bhowmik, brother of Aroti.

Aroti, however, would take a break at noon for cooking and "the killers chose this hour to attack him," he added.

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promoting knowledge
An initiative of MTB | The Daily Star

Take Part in the competition and win one-year subscription of The Daily Star and MTB account opening FREE!!

For the 5th consecutive year, Mutual Trust Bank Ltd. (MTB) and The Daily Star will jointly distribute 1,000 complimentary copies of The Daily Star for a year to the residential students of the University of Dhaka. Interested students are requested to participate in the competition.

Application forms will be available at a Desk set up at every Hall gate from May 6-May 8, 2016

You may also collect the application form from the respective Halls and drop the filled-up form into the box placed at every Hall gate.

The last date for taking part in the competition is **May 8, 2016**
Winners will be notified via The Daily Star newspaper or through e-mail
For any queries, please contact **The Daily Star Circulation Dept: Cell 01711623906**

CONGRATULATIONS

Canadian International School of Bangladesh & Purbachal East Wood City - a concern of Innovative Holdings Limited Wholeheartedly Congratulate 'Gazi Golam Murtoza' For Being Elected As Chairman of Jamuna Bank Limited.

The Board of Directors of Jamuna Bank Limited in its 286th meeting held on April 27, 2016 unanimously elected Gazi Golam Murtoza as the Chairman of the Board. He was born in a respectable Muslim family of Dhaka. Murtoza completed his "O Level" from SFX Green Herald International School in 1997 and "A Level" from Scholastica School in 1999. He completed his graduation in Polymer Science from the University of Akron, USA and had his Bachelor Degree in Engineering from renowned North American University. Murtoza is the Director of the country's renowned business conglomerate, "Gazi Group" and also involved in various business and industries. He made his mark in IT development in the country. He is the Director of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), the Chairman of Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) and also President of Gazi Group Cricketers.

He is the eldest son of Golam Dastagir Gazi, Bir Protik, MP and Hasina Gazi, Mayor, Tarabo Municipality, Narayanganj.

Canadian International School of Bangladesh and Purbachal East Wood City - A concern of Innovative Holdings Limited are wishing him a successful journey as Chairman of Jamuna Bank limited.

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