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HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Libya rescues 65 Bangladesh nationals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Libyan police have rescued at least 65 Bangladeshi fortune seekers from traffickers' den at Tajoura suburb of the war-torn nation's capital Tripoli.

They have also arrested four Bangladeshi human traffickers allegedly for their involvement in abducting these jobseekers and realising ransoms from their families.

The arrestees have been identified as Waliur Rahman, Suman Shariff, Hafizul Sheikh and Rana Bhattacharya, said Labour Counsellor ASM Ashraful Islam of the Bangladesh Embassy in Tripoli on phone.

"Traffickers brought the workers promising them lucrative jobs under some Libyan companies. But they confined them to a den and tortured them to realise ransoms," he said.

On information, Libyan police made the arrests three weeks ago but communicated the matter to the embassy only two days back.

Now, the traffickers are being tried under Libyan laws, the embassy official said, adding that those rescued had been released from the police custody and given permission to work in Libya.

The Bangladesh government officially banned sending its nationals to Libya in June last year on security grounds.

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An excavator digs a trench on Begum Rokeya Sarani near IDB Bhaban in the city to relocate an underground 132kv power cable yesterday. The work is part of the metro rail construction project.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

AIRPORT KNIFE ATTACK

The attacker's identity still unknown

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers were yet to identify the youth or his motive behind Sunday's knife attack that left an Ansar member dead and three others injured at the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, police officials said yesterday.

Members of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime unit and police officials yesterday interrogated the attacker to know why he attacked security personnel at such a key point installation and whether he has links with any militant outfit.

But they couldn't glean any information from the youth aged around 30. He was wounded during a tussle with security personnel and is now under treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

He initially identified himself as Shihab from Rajshahi soon after his arrest.

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SANTAL LAND DISPUTE

Arrest fear drives men out of home

STAR REPORT

As police sued over 442 people following a clash between some people of the Santal community and police and labourers in Gobindaganj of Gaibandha on Sunday, the ethnic people are in arrest panic.

Meanwhile, Santal man Shyamal Hembram, 35, who was injured during the clash died of his wounds Sunday night at Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.

The clash had left 20 people including policemen injured. They are in Gobindaganj Upazila Health Complex and Rangpur Medical College Hospital, reports our Dinajpur correspondent.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

Forests disappearing

Bangladesh among Asian countries having least forest with only 11.2pc of total land; Laos tops the list with 92pc

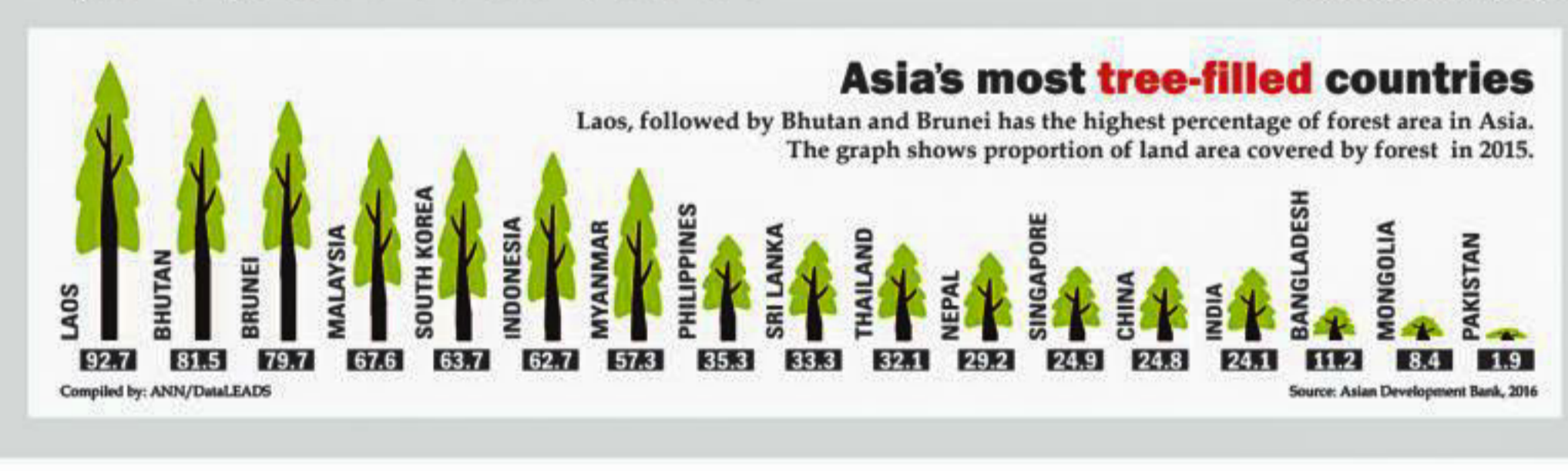
DATALEADS, New Delhi

Bangladesh is among Asian countries with the least amount of forest areas whereas Laos tops the table with 92.1 percent of its landmass covered by forests.

Just 11.2 percent of the total land area of Bangladesh is covered by forests, according to the data of Asian Development Bank, 2016.

Bhutan (81.5), Brunei (79.7) and South Korea (63.7) are among the Asian countries with a lot of forest areas. Malaysia and Indonesia have also good share of forest land.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Push for plan to save planet

UN climate talks open under shadow of US elections

AFP, Marrakesh

UN talks to implement the landmark Paris climate pact opened in Marrakesh yesterday, buoyed by gathering momentum but threatened by the spectre of climate change denier Donald Trump in the White House.

Diplomats from 196 nations are meeting in Morocco to flesh out the planet-saving plan inked in the French capital last December.

"We have made possible what everyone said was impossible," said French environment minister Segolene Royal at the opening ceremony, in which she handed over stewardship of the climate forum to Moroccan foreign minister Salaheddine Mezouar.

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GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES

Govt inaction disappoints apex court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday expressed dissatisfaction with the government for not finalising rules determining the disciplines for lower court judges in line with its guidelines.

The judiciary has been held captive as action cannot be taken due to shortage of the rules in case any judicial officer violates disciplines, the Appellate Division told Attorney General Mahbubey Alam.

Some lower court judges

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SCHOOLS, COLLEGES

MPs can't head governing bodies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court verdict that had scrapped the rules allowing lawmakers to become the governing body heads of private schools and colleges without being elected.

No member of parliament can be the chairman of any of the country's 18,500 privately run secondary schools and colleges without elections following the apex court order.

The Appellate Division of the SC affirmed the HC directive that had asked the government to take necessary steps within two months for amending the provisions of the regulations that permitted lawmakers to be chairman of the governing bodies.

It also justified the HC order that had asked the authorities concerned of the government to form ad-hoc committees for non-government educational institutions, including Viharunnisa Noon School and College in Dhaka, where special governing bodies were running earlier, within 30 days for electing their regular governing bodies.

The four-member ad-hoc committees, each to be headed by a government official, were directed to

SEE PAGE 10 COL 2

Who will win?

School correctly predicted every US election since 1968



ODDITYCENTRAL.COM

Students at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, in Yorktown Heights, New York, have been casting their votes to determine the winner of each presidential election, since 1968, and for the past 48 years, they've gotten it right every time.

Every four years, just days before the actual presidential election, the elementary school sets up mock voting booths and invites its students - from kindergarten to fifth grade - to cast their ballot for the candidate that they think would deserve to become president of the United States of America. But it's the process leading up to the vote that's genuinely interesting.

The students spend months learning about the candidates, who they only know as 'Candidate A' and 'Candidate B', focusing on policy and real

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

B'BARIA MAYHEM

21 more held, 8 remanded

STAR REPORT

Law enforcers rounded up 21 more people in Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar upazila on Sunday night for their alleged involvement in the synchronised attack on the Hindus on October 30.

With this, some 74 people have so far been arrested over the attack when religious zealots and goons looted over 100 houses and business establishments and 17 temples of Hindus and beat up over 100 people in Nasirnagar town and Haripur union of the upazila.

The arrests were made based on several video footage filmed during the attack, OC Abu Zafar of Nasirnagar Police Station told The Daily Star.

The mayhem occurred over a Facebook post purportedly from the account of local fisherman Rasraj Das, "hurting religious sentiment" of the Muslims.

Meanwhile, Home Minister Asaduzzaman

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড
আয়কর বিভাগ, অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়।
রাজস্ব ভবন, সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা-১০০০

উন্নয়নের অক্সিজেন রাজস্ব

জনকল্যাণে রাজস্ব

আয়কর মেলা ২০১৬ সাফল্যমন্ডিত করায় অংশগ্রহণকারী সকল সম্মানিত করদাতা, অংশীজন (Stakeholder) ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনা বিগত ৩০ জানুয়ারি ২০১৬ চতুর্থ অর্থ ট্রেড সেক্টরের উদ্বোধনী অনুষ্ঠানে দেশের সকল নাগরিকদের উদ্দেশ্যে বলেন, "আমরা স্বাবলম্বী হবে, সকলে কর দেবে"। মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীর এ উদাত্ত আহ্বানে সাড়া দিয়ে দেশের সকল সম্মানিত করদাতা এবং অংশীজন (Stakeholder) সারাদেশে ১৫০টি স্পটে অনুষ্ঠিত আয়কর মেলায় স্বতঃস্ফূর্তভাবে অংশগ্রহণ করেছেন, তার জন্য জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড আন্তরিকভাবে কৃতজ্ঞ।

সারাদেশে সপ্তাহব্যাপী আয়কর মেলা ২০১৬ সাফল্যমন্ডিত করায় ২০১৬-২০১৭ কর বছরের আয়কর রিটার্ন জমাদানের পাশাপাশি নতুন করদাতাগণ e-TIN রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও বর্তমান করদাতাগণ রি-রেজিস্ট্রেশন করেছেন। মেলায় অনলাইনে আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিলের সুবিধার্থে user ID/Password প্রদান করা হয়েছে। সোনালী ব্যাংক লিঃ ও জনতা ব্যাংক লিঃ আয়কর মেলায় বুথ স্থাপন করে সেবা প্রদান করেছে। এবারে করদাতাগণ অনলাইনে আয়কর পরিশোধ ও Tax Calculator software ব্যবহার করে সহজেই আয়কর পরিগণনা ও পরিশোধ করতে পেরেছেন। মেলায় অভ্যন্তরীণ সম্পদ বিভাগের অধীন সকল বিভাগের বুথ স্থাপন করা হয়েছিল, ফলে আগত করদাতাগণ আয়কর বিভাগের পাশাপাশি গুরু, ভ্যাট, সঞ্চয় অধিদপ্তর সংক্রান্ত সকল তথ্য জানতে পেরেছেন। এছাড়াও কর শিক্ষণ ফোরামের (TEF) মাধ্যমে মেলায় বিভিন্ন শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান হতে আগত শিক্ষার্থীরা কুইজে অংশ নিয়ে পুরস্কার ও সম্মাননা গ্রহণ করেছে এবং দেশের রাজস্ব আহরণ প্রক্রিয়া সম্পর্কে ধারণা অর্জন করেছে। এবারের মেলায় ঢাকা শহরের চারটি স্পট হতে ফ্রি বাস সার্ভিস প্রদান করা হয়েছে।

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড দেশের নাগরিকদের আধুনিক ও যুগোপযোগী সেবাদানে নিয়োজিত। প্রতি বছরের মতো এবারও সম্মানিত করদাতাগণ বিপুল উৎসাহ, উদ্দীপনা ও কর্মচঞ্চল্য নিয়ে খারাপ আবহাওয়া ও অন্যান্য প্রতিকূলতা জির্বেগে স্ব-প্ররোচিত ও স্বতঃস্ফূর্তভাবে আয়কর মেলায় অংশগ্রহণ করেছেন। আয়কর মেলা ২০১৬ সাফল্যমন্ডিত করায় অংশগ্রহণকারী সকল সম্মানিত করদাতা, প্রিয় শিক্ষার্থী, অভিভাবক ও শিক্ষকবৃন্দ, অংশীজন (Stakeholder) ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ডের পক্ষ হতে আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ জানানো হলো।

জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড (NBR)

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