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Govt moves to curb hundi in remittance

New policy for money coming through non-bank channels

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has moved to bring remittance entering the country through mobile financial services under a regulatory framework of the central bank to curb hundi.

Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said the government would formulate a policy after holding meetings with the Bangladesh Bank, bKash and other stakeholders with an aim to recognise the inflow of remittance through channels other than banking sector.

"The aim will be to ensure a win-win situation in which no one is affected, and the inflow of remittance will not stop," he told reporters after a meeting of the National Economic Council yesterday.

As remittance has declined drastically recently, the government is taking initiatives to encourage expatriates to send money through the banking channels.

In 2015-16, it went down by 2.52 percent from the previous fiscal year. In the first 10 months of the current fiscal year, it fell by around 17 percent.

Citing a survey of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), Kamal said one of the causes for the decline in remittance through official channels was the increase in the flow through unofficial channels, including Western Union, SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



Krishnachura in full bloom on the Lake Road near Sangsad Bhaban. The flowers bloom during the summer between April and May in Bangladesh. The picture was taken yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Mobile courts can operate till May 18

SC stays HC order declaring executive magistrate-run mobile courts illegal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed until Thursday the High Court verdict that declared unconstitutional the rules under which the executive magistrates run mobile courts.

Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division Justice Hasan Foez Siddique passed the order following a petition filed by the government seeking stay on the HC verdict.

The chamber judge also sent the stay petition to the full bench of the Appellate Division for its hearing on Thursday.

Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Motaher Hossain Sazu told The Daily Star that the executive magistrates could run mobile courts until Thursday following the SC judge's order. SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

8 Bangladeshis die in KSA, US road crashes

UNB, Dhaka

Eight Bangladeshi expatriates were killed in road accidents in Saudi Arabia and the US on Saturday.

Five Bangladeshis, including three of a family, died in Saudi Arabia's Umme Zamzam.

Four of the deceased were identified as Bangladeshi expatriate in Saudi Arabia businessman Abdul Aziz, his son Arafat and daughter from Feni, and their car driver Masud from Dinajpur.

The accident happened when Aziz along with his family members was returning to his workplace after performing Umrah Hajj, leaving Aziz, his son, daughter and driver dead on the spot and two others injured, reports private news channel News 24.

Later, another injured died at a hospital, said Mohammed Al-Amin, a Bangladeshi worker in Saudi Arabia. SEE PAGE 10 COL 3

China opens new Silk Road summit

Pledges \$124b as champion of globalisation; India skips meet, warns of 'unsustainable' debt

REUTERS, Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping yesterday pledged \$124 billion for his new Silk Road plan to forge a path of peace, inclusiveness and free trade, and called for the abandonment of old models based on rivalry and diplomatic power games.

Xi used a summit on the initiative, attended by leaders and top officials from around the world, to bolster China's global leadership ambitions as US President Donald Trump promotes "America First" and questions existing global free trade deals.

"We should build an open platform of cooperation and uphold and grow an open world economy," Xi told the opening of the two-day gathering in Beijing.

China has touted what it formally calls the Belt and Road initiative as a new way to boost global development since Xi unveiled the plan in 2013, aiming to expand links between Asia, Africa, Europe and beyond underpinned by billions of dollars in infrastructure investment.

Xi said the world must create conditions that promote open development and encourage the building of systems of "fair, reasonable and transparent global trade and investment rules". SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

Confusion over 'return of a militant'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Contradictory information is found following news that Rizwan Haroon, co-founder of an English medium school in the capital, is a "top militant" and he "sneaked into" the country from the UK.

Citing intelligence sources, several media outlets yesterday reported that Rizwan is a militant leader listed by the home ministry and he entered the country through Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on Thursday.

The Daily Star got the same information from a source in an intelligence agency on Saturday but did not run the news as it could not be verified. SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

Bawling babies face off in 'crying sumo'

AFP, Tokyo

More than 100 Japanese babies yesterday faced off in a traditional "crying sumo" ring, an annual ceremony believed to bring infants good health.

In the sumo ring at the precinct of the Kamegaiké Hachimangu shrine in Sagami-hara west of Tokyo, two hulking wrestlers held up toddlers wearing tiny sumo belts and aprons to try to make them bawl.

Wrestlers sometimes shake the babies gently to encourage tears. SEE PAGE 10 COL 5



Mohiuddin-led panel wins FBCCI polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shafiul Islam Mohiuddin's Sammilita Ganatantrik Parishad panel won 16 out of 18

posts of directors at the biennial election to the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) yesterday.

With this victory, Mohiuddin, incumbent vice-president of the FBCCI, would be the next president of the country's apex trade body for the 2017-2019 tenure.

Chairman of the election board Ali Ashraf, MP, announced the elections result around 11:00pm at SEE PAGE 10 COL 5

연말뉴스TV 북한, 대화 국면에서 '몸값' 높이기 시도?

QLED TV

NORTH KOREA MISSILE LAUNCH

It travelled 700 km before landing in the Sea of Japan (East Sea)

LAUNCH SITE: Kusong

APPROXIMATE DISTANCES FROM PYONGYANG: Seoul (380 km), Busan (500 km), Qingdao (1,000 km), Tokyo (1,300 km)

SOURCE: SK GOVT/JAPAN GOVT *BASED ON JAPAN COAST GUARD MAP © AFP

People watch a television news programme, showing file footage of a North Korean missile launch, at a railway station in Seoul yesterday. North Korea fired a ballistic missile yesterday in an apparent bid to test the South's new liberal president and the US which have both signalled an interest in negotiations to ease months of tensions. Bottom, map of North Korea showing the main missile and rocket test sites in the country and highlighting Kusong. Yesterday's launch came from a site near the city. PHOTO: AFP

North Korea test-fires new missile

Trump calls for tougher sanctions; Russia, China worried at rising tensions

AFP, Seoul

President Donald Trump called for tougher sanctions against North Korea after it test-fired a ballistic missile yesterday in an apparent attempt to test the South's new liberal president and the US.

"Let this latest provocation serve as a call for all nations to implement far stronger sanctions against North Korea," the White House said in a brief statement.

The missile flew more than 700 kilometres (435 miles) before landing in the Sea of Japan (East Sea). It impacted "so close to Russian soil ... the president cannot imagine that Russia is pleased", the White House said, adding that North Korea "has been a flagrant menace for far too long".

Russia's defence ministry later said the missile landed about 500 km from its border and posed no threat. Trump's national security adviser, H R McMaster, had phone conversations

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

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SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

হযরত শাহজালাল আন্তর্জাতিক বিমান বন্দরের নিরাপত্তা ব্যবস্থাকে সমুল্লত রেখে সম্মানিত আগমনী ও বহির্গামী যাত্রীদের সুবিধার্থে একজন দর্শনার্থী বিমান বন্দরের অভ্যন্তরে টিকিট নিয়ে প্রবেশ করতে পারবেন এ বিষয়ে সবাই অবগত থাকার পরও ইদানিং লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, যাত্রীদের সাথে অনেক বেশী সংখ্যক দর্শনার্থী অযথা চলে আসেন। এতে করে শাহজালাল বিমান বন্দরের প্রবেশ পথে গোল চত্বর এলাকায় ব্যাপক যানজটের সৃষ্টি হচ্ছে এবং বিমান বন্দর সড়কে জনমানুষের ভোগান্তি অনেক বেড়ে যাচ্ছে। এসব বিষয়কে বিবেচনা করে সম্মানিত যাত্রী সাধারণকে বিমান বন্দর এলাকায় একাধিক দর্শনার্থী নিয়ে না আসা কিংবা পাঠিয়ে না দেয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

সিএএবি/পিআর-১৫৬/২০১৭/২৬৯

তারিখঃ ১৪.৫.২০১৭খ্রিঃ

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