

'UNDERLYING OBJECTIVE'

France is seeking to use Brexit to weaken Britain, according to leaked memo

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IN MEMORY OF TWO GIANTS

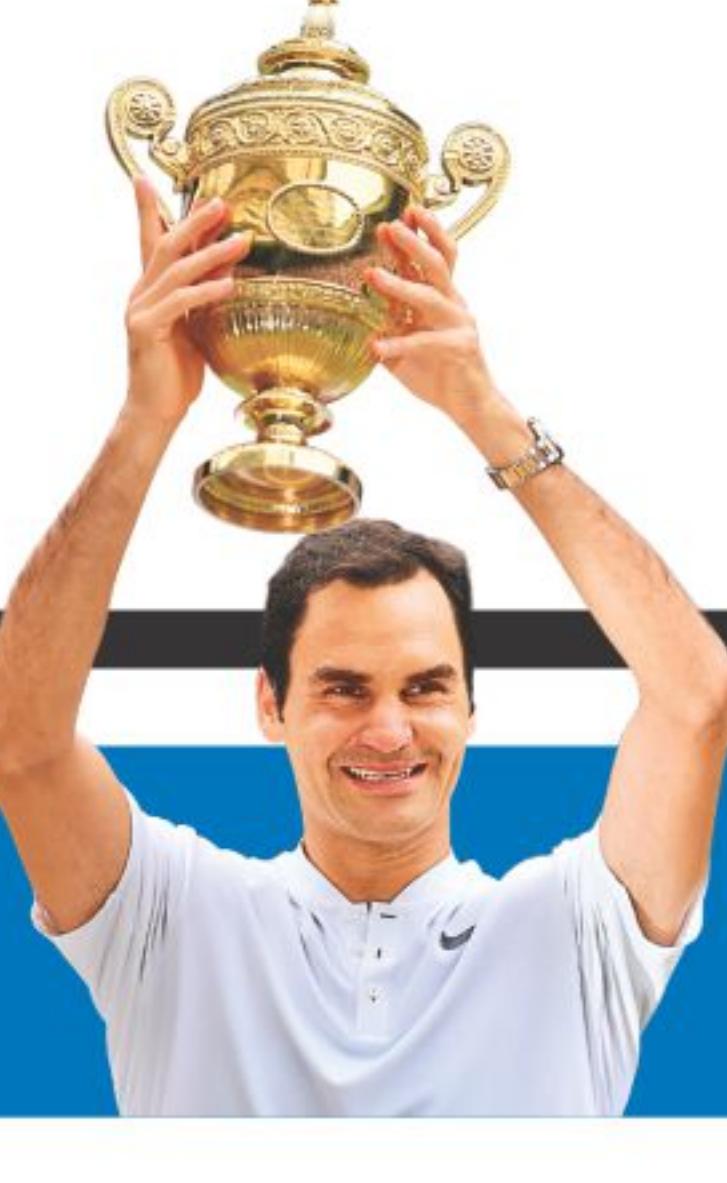
Shilpkala event pays homage to Sudhin Das and Karunamaya Goshwami

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ROGER REIGNS SUPREME

Roger Federer claims a record eighth Wimbledon crown by beating Marin Cilic

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TANNERY RELOCATION IMPACT

Situation getting better, slowly

Saving the Buriganga still depends on stopping pollution upstream

PINAKI ROY

The quality of the Buriganga water in Dhaka improved to some extent after the tanneries of Hazaribagh were shut down recently. Tests by Department of Environment (DoE) say so and so do the people of the area.

Eminent poet Nirmalendu Goon recently wrote on his Facebook page, "Now the life of the Buriganga, the mother of Dhaka city, will revive. Even a few days ago, the river water was so stinky that it was impossible for anyone to stand on the banks. But now the water is not so stinky."

Goon built a house in Kamrangirchar on the banks of the river and named it "Buriganga".

It's true. The stench of the Buriganga, the life-line of Dhaka city, has reduced after the discharging of liquid waste from Hazaribagh tanneries stopped and due to onrush of water from upstream in the rainy season. But experts say that a lot more needs to be done.

The water of the river turned into a flow of liquid waste over the last two decades or so due to discharging of household and industrial waste. But the government initiative to relocate the Hazaribagh tanneries shows a ray of hope as the river might survive eventually if other sources of pollution were stopped.

People living on the Buriganga seemed relieved a little as the quality of



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This canal in the capital's Hazaribagh is slowly getting back its stream. Only a few days ago, water could not pass through it due to the mindless dumping of tannery and household wastes for years, inset. But the city corporation has finally removed parts of the dirt to save the waterbody.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



4 of 'Sarwar-Tamim' group 'surrender'

Rab cordons off JMB den in Ashulia for 14 hours; three bombs defused



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four operatives of outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh surrendered yesterday, around 12 hours after Rab personnel cordoned off a tin-shed house in Ashulia where the militants were holed up, the crime-busters claim.

"They belong to Sarwar-Tamim group of JMB," Mufti Mahmud Khan, Rab's Legal and Media Wing director, said at a media briefing on the spot.

The group has been named after Sarwar Jahan, who jumped to death while trying to flee during a Rab raid in

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CREATING LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

Can do nothing now

Says CEC; the EC can 'step in only after announcing election schedule'; roadmap to next JS polls unveiled

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission cannot intervene if any registered political party's activities are hampered before the announcement of election schedule, Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda said yesterday.

The EC will be able to step in once the schedule is announced, he added.

Huda said this when a reporter drew his attention to a recent incident where law enforcers tried to stop several political party leaders to hold a meeting at Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (Rob) President ASM Abdur Rob's Uttara residence on Thursday night.

Stating that the government and the Election Commission have a responsibility to create a level-playing field for all political parties, Huda said, it was not for the EC to see "which political party makes what sort of statement in Paltan or Suhrawardy".

"We have no role in ensuring political



KM Nurul Huda

parties' right to hold meetings. The Commission will take appropriate action if anyone creates hindrance to election campaigns of any party and intimidate voters after the election schedule is announced," he said.

The incident in Rob's house was widely criticised. Political leaders, including BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, condemned it.

Contacted, BNP's Standing Committee Member Moudud Ahmed said, "It is their [EC's] duty to ensure a congenial atmosphere for all political parties all the time."

Unveiling a year-long roadmap for the next parliamentary elections at the EC secretariat in the capital, the CEC yesterday hoped that the EC would keep the next parliamentary elections free from any sorts of interference.

"It is not only about government influence, but also about the influence of any political party as well as local and

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NEWS ANALYSIS

TIRADE AGAINST SC

AL following in JP footsteps?

SHAKHAWAT LITON

MPs in the current Parliament seem to have followed in footsteps of their predecessors in the fourth Jatiya Sangsad to launch an aggressive attack on the Supreme Court for scrapping a constitutional amendment.

Twenty-seven years ago, in the fourth Parliament controlled by Ershad-led autocratic government, MPs launched a broadside against the apex court and its judges for the verdict to partially scrap the eighth constitutional amendment.

In the discussion held in January 1990, Jatiya Party MPs used improper words against the SC judges in their free style speeches as the verdict delivered in September 1989 irked the then government.

After 27 years, in the current 10th Parliament, Awami League MPs launched a broadside on Sunday against the SC for scrapping the 16th amendment that had empowered the Parliament to remove apex court judges on grounds of misconduct or incapacity.

There are many similarities between the nature of the fourth and tenth Parliament which needs to be noted to

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TOP QUOTE

"We're hearing the footfall of another flood. Some crops have already got damaged in flashflood but we have enough stock [rice] and we're importing more."

PRIME MINISTER
SHEIKH HASINA
AT OSMANI MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Dead in police report, alive in reality

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
BRAHMANBARIA

Azad Hossain Bhuiyan had to file a writ petition at the High Court on 11 July, challenging a police report that declared him dead.

A permanent resident and businessman of Akhaura upazila of Brahmanbaria, Azad's troubles began when he decided to go for Hajj.

A police clearance is a required document for those wishing to go for the annual Islamic pilgrimage to Makkah.

Sources said Azad Hossain Bhuiyan, son of late Sattar Bhuiyan of Barakuripika village of Akhaura upazila, registered for Hajj this year. During that time, the Sub-Inspector (SI) of Akhaura Police Station, Abul Kalam, who is presently working in Daudkandi Model Police Station of Comilla, called Azad to the police station. Due to some emergency work in Dhaka, Azad could not meet him at the time.

A few days later SI

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OBITUARY



Our family is deeply saddened to inform you that Alhaj Ashraf Uddin Ahmed a renowned businessman and recipient of CIP for a number of times passed away (Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raijin) at a Hospital in Dhaka on 16th July 2017 at 07:30am due to old age complications. His Janaza will be held at Achmita George Institute field on Monday 17th July at 10:30am and will be buried at the family graveyard of Ashtoghor, Achmita, Kotiadi, KISHOREGANJ. Kindly pray for the departed soul.

FAMILY MEMBERS



The Rangamati-Khagrachhari link road opened only to light vehicles yesterday, more than a month after a landslide

left it badly damaged. However, it's not clear when the road will be ready for heavy vehicles again.

PHOTO:
ANVIL CHAKMA