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Voter roll updating starts Jul 25

EC to take special measures to prevent Rohingya enrolment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) will start updating the voter list from July 25, taking some special measures to prevent Rohingyas from becoming voters.

Representatives of the EC will go door to door in each constituency until August 9 to collect information on prospective voters, Muhammad Abdullah, secretary of EC Secretariat, told journalists after coming out from a coordination meeting of the EC's central committee formed for updating the voter list held at the election secretariat.

He also said the commission has taken special measures for 30 Upazilas to prevent Rohingyas from becoming voters during the voter list updating programme.

"There are some special areas from where Rohingyas registered as voters. Earlier, 20 Upazilas were considered as special areas. But this year, we have defined 10 more Upazilas as special areas," Abdullah said.

To become voters from these areas, people must show their own, their parents or their uncles or aunts' NID cards.

The EC Secretary said there are special committees in the 30 Upazilas to keep Rohingyas and other foreigners away from the electoral process.

Foreign Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali recently

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A Dhaka South City Corporation worker fogging yesterday right in the middle of a street in Azimpur in the wake of the capital's chikungunya outbreak. Aedes aegypti mosquitoes, which transmit the viral disease, breed in clean and stagnant water, and spraying pesticides on a dry road around mid-day hardly makes sense. Passersby had trouble breathing because of the fogging.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

ASHULIA MILITANTS Three of them left families months ago

STAR REPORT

At least three of the four militant suspects arrested in Sunday's raid on an Ashulia den were out of touch with their families for months.

The leaders of "Sarwar-Tamim group" of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) told them to do so, said a Rab official quoting the arrestees.

Irfanul Islam of Chittagong's Raozan upazila went traceless after he left home on May 2 to go to a coaching centre in Chittagong city, his uncle Azam Khan told The Daily Star.

As his family failed to reach him on his phone, they lodged a general diary with Hathazari Police Station the next day.

"We did not notice anything suspicious about Irfan, who passed HSC from Chattagram Biggan College last year," said Azam.

Another arrestee Mozammel Haque alias Masud, 18, who studied in a

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TK 325CR EMBEZZLEMENT ACC to charge Aslam Chy, 3 others

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission is going to press charges against BNP Joint Secretary General Aslam Chowdhury and three others for misappropriation of about Tk 325 crore from AB Bank in Chittagong between 2011 and 2013, ACC officials said.

The commission yesterday approved the charge sheet submitted by its investigator. It would place the charge sheet before a court soon.

Three other accused in the case are: Chairman of Chittagong-based Rising Steel Mills (RSM) Ltd Jamila Naznin Mawla, its Managing Director Amzad Hossain Chowdhury and Director Jasim Uddin Chowdhury.

The ACC, however, dropped the name of the private bank's then deputy

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UAE behind Qatar media hacking

Says report, Abu Dhabi denies allegation

AGENCIES

The United Arab Emirates arranged for Qatari government social media and news sites to be hacked in late May in order to post false quotes linked to Qatar's emir, prompting the Qatar-Gulf diplomatic crisis, the Washington Post reported on Sunday, citing US intelligence officials.

The Qatari emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, had been falsely quoted in May as praising Hamas and saying that Iran was an "Islamic power," the Post reported. In response, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Egypt and Bahrain cut diplomatic and transport ties with Qatar on June 5, accusing it of supporting "terrorism". Qatar strongly denies the allegations.

Qatar said in late May that hackers had posted fake remarks by the emir, an explanation rejected by Gulf states.

The Post reported that US intelligence officials learned last week of newly analysed information that showed that senior UAE government officials discussed the planned hacks on May 23, the day before they occurred.

The officials said it was unclear if the UAE hacked the websites or paid for them to be carried out, the newspaper reported. The Post did not identify the intelligence officials it spoke to for the report.

Meanwhile, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash told the BBC yesterday the Post's report was "untrue".

UAE Ambassador to the US Yousef al-Otaiba also denied the report in a statement, saying it was "false," the Post said.

"What is true is Qatar's behaviour. Funding, supporting, and enabling extremists from the Taliban to Hamas and Gaddafi. Inciting violence, encouraging radicalisation, and undermining the stability of its neighbours," the statement said.

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Two killed in 'gunfight' with Khulna cops

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two suspected drug peddlers were killed in a "gunfight" with police in Khulna yesterday while another man was injured in a separate incident.

The deceased were identified as Guddu Babu, 26, of Kathalia under Jhalakathi, and Al Mahamud, 25, of Talikhali under Bhandaria of Pirojpur.

Monira Sultana, assistant deputy commissioner at Khulna Metropolitan Police, told The Daily Star that the "gunfight" took place near the city's Probhati Railway Government Primary School around 5:30am during a police drive there.

The two injured men were sent to Khulna Medical College Hospital where doctors declared them dead on arrival.

Police recovered a few bullets and fire-arms from the spot.

"Guddu Babu was accused in two murder and a drug cases filed with different police stations in Khulna. Al Mahamud was facing four cases, including a murder," the ADC said.

Talking to The Daily Star, Al Amin

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Trudeau meets his Syrian namesake



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Justin Trudeau has met his younger Syrian namesake.

The Canadian Prime Minister came face to face with two-month-old Justin Trudeau Adam Bilan – the son of a Syrian couple who fled war-ravaged Damascus to start a new life in Canada.

The boy's parents, Muhammad and Afraa Bilan, named their newborn son after the Prime Minister to pay tribute to his open refugee policy and show their gratitude for the offer of refuge.

The get-together took place at the Calgary Stampede on Saturday where the baby snoozed contently while Trudeau held him.

The couple arrived in Montreal in February of last year in the midst of Canada's bitterly cold

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Akhaura OC summoned

He falsely reported a businessman dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the officer-in-charge of Akhaura police in Brahmanbaria to appear before it on July 23 in connection with his report in which he had falsely identified a businessman as a dead man.

An HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice Md Ataur Rahman Khan served the summons upon hearing a

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING JULY 18
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-15 12-45 5-00 6-54 8-15
JAMAAT 4-50 1-15 5-15 6-58 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

BISWAJIT MURDER HC verdict on Aug 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court will deliver its verdict on the death references and appeals in the sensational Biswajit Das murder case on August 6.

Proprietor of Amantron Tailors in the capital's Shakhribazar area, Biswajit, 24, was hacked to death in public on his way to the tailoring shop in the capital's Shakhribazar during a countrywide road-blockade programme on December 9, 2012.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists of Jagannath University attacked him with machetes, iron rods and hockey sticks in front of Bahadur Shah Park. The activists had reportedly mistook him for a picketer.

Yesterday, the HC bench of Justice Md Ruhul Quddus and Justice Bhishmadev Chakraborty fixed August 6 for delivering the verdict after concluding the hearing on the death references and appeals for 15 days.

On December 18, 2013,

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To build it anew, the authorities of a primary school taking down the structure of the school building in Char Haldibari village of Lalmonirhat on Wednesday. Floodwater has been receding in the area since that day but the erosion has left the structure unusable.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

BAMBOO IN CONSTRUCTION

Engr, contractor to be charged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission is going to file a charge sheet against a sub-assistant engineer of the Department of Public Health Engineering and two others in the case filed for using bamboo sticks instead of iron rods in the construction of Meghdomor Government Primary School in Gaibandha.

The ACC yesterday approved the charge sheet. In the investigation of the case, ACC's Assistant Director Md Jakaria found that Arif Billah Dakua, the sub-assistant engineer, Abdul Khaleque, contractor of the construction work, and Saiful Islam, a construction worker, attempted to use bamboo sticks to misappropriate money.

The anti-graft body's Public Relations Officer Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya said the charge sheet would be submitted before the court soon.

According to the charge sheet, the engineer also did not maintain any log book of the work.

On April 18 last year, the ACC filed the case against the contractor and the sub-assistant engineer for allegedly using bamboo sticks instead of iron rods in the construction work with Gaibandha Sadar Police Station.

Police arrested Arif and Khaleque and produced the two before a Gaibandha court that sent them to jail.

Locals said Khaleque started the construction work after being awarded the work for Tk 8,50,000 as the lowest bidder on September 2015.

The construction workers worked at night and used bamboo sticks instead of iron rods, they alleged.

On April 9 last year, locals stopped the work and demanded exemplary punishment of the contractor.