

BASIC BANK SCAM
 SC displeased
 as ACC didn't
 name Bacchu,
 others in case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday expressed discontent at the Anti-Corruption Commission for not naming former BASIC Bank chairman Sheikh Abdul Hye Bacchu and its ex-board members in two loan scam cases involving Tk 75 crore.

"We do not want the Anti-Corruption Commission to maintain any 'pick and choose' policy in implicating accused in such cases, as nobody is above the law. All the allegations must be investigated with importance. Legal action will be

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

Project nightmare

Govt counting Tk 5.65cr in losses every month as project to reopen Chittagong chemical plant overruns

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

The government is incurring a loss of around Tk 5.65 crore every month as a 14-month project to reopen the country's lone state-owned chemical factory could not be implemented in more than four years.

The loss has been nearly Tk 82 crore since May last year, when the Tk 115 crore project to restart Chittagong Chemical Complex (CCC) in Sitakunda was extended for the second time.

Worse still, no light could be seen at the end of the tunnel as yet, thanks to a Chinese company's failure to get the plant going again and the authorities' negligence in this regard.

The authorities concerned have calculated the loss of one year only from May 2016. The project has overrun by nearly three years. Loss incurred during the rest of the period has not been calculated officially yet.

But CCC officials said the factory was facing a production loss of Tk 16 lakh every day.

Putting the net loss of every month at around Tk 5.65 crore, the officials alleged that irregularities have plagued the project since its inception.

Against this backdrop, the Anti-Corruption Commission has opened an investigation into the matter. In a letter on June 14, the graft watchdog asked the Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC) to turn in all relevant project documents.

The factory was closed in December 2002 as it had been incurring a loss of about Tk 15 crore every year. Taken up in April 2013, the project was due to end in December 2014.

The BCIC gave the job to "inexperienced" Wuhan Anyang Science & Technology Co Ltd (WASTCL). It had even paid the Chinese

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



KEY POINTS

Chinese company stops work in June, leaves site

Project overruns by nearly three years

Blame trade on between Ctg plant and Chinese company

ACC starts investigation in June



Injured people react after a van crashed into pedestrians in Las Ramblas, downtown Barcelona, yesterday.

PHOTO: NBCNEWS

Terror attack kills 13 in Barcelona

AFP, Barcelona

At least 13 people were killed yesterday when a driver deliberately slammed a van into crowds on Barcelona's most popular street in an attack claimed by the Islamic State group.

Police said they had arrested two suspects after the assault, the latest in a wave of vehicle rampages across Europe in recent years.

The IS propaganda agency Amaq claimed that "soldiers" from the jihadist group carried out the attack, according to the Site Intelligence Group which monitors Islamist websites.

Witnesses told of the panic unleashed in an area thronging with local residents and tourists in Spain's second biggest city, as world leaders united in condemning the carnage.

"We can confirm there are 13 dead and

SEE PAGE 17 COL 2



TOP QUOTE

"Had Ziaur Rahman not rehabilitated the killers of Bangabandhu, another clique of killers could not have shown the audacity of killing Zia."

AWAMI LEAGUE GENERAL SECRETARY
ABDAUL QUADER
 AT A PROGRAMME IN DHAKA

Immense sufferings, scanty response

Shortage of food, drinking water piles misery on flood victims; situation unchanged in some dists, worsening in other areas

STAR REPORT

With water level in all major rivers falling below the danger mark upstream, flood situation in northern districts shows signs of improvement.

But the miseries of tens of thousands of people in the flood-hit areas are far from over.

Inadequate government relief and crises of food and drinking water have compounded their woes. Prices

of rice, lentil and vegetable have gone up in the affected areas as crops on vast swathes of land got damaged.

A number of flood victims complained that relief provided by the authorities was insufficient to meet their daily needs.

Abdul Latif, a flood victim in Rehai Gabsara village in Tangail's Bhuapur, said they are facing a shortage of drinking water as most of the tube-wells in the area have gone under water.

Though floods hit the district three days ago, relief distribution was yet to start there.

However, Mohammad Ashraf Hossain, upazila nirbahi officer of Bhuapur, said relief programme would begin today and would continue.

Flood situation remains unchanged in Jamalpur and Sirajganj while it has worsened in Manikganj, Munshiganj and Shariatpur.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

Mayor Annisul still in ICU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) Mayor Annisul Huq, who was admitted to a hospital in central London after falling ill, is still in the intensive care unit.

"Anis bhai [brother] is still in the ICU," wrote media personality Abdun Noor Tushar in a Facebook post yesterday afternoon. Noor was giving updates on the condition of the mayor on his Facebook page.

He urged Bangladeshis in London not to gather at the hospital as it might hamper the mayor's treatment.

SEE PAGE 17 COL 4



A goods-laden truck stuck in yet another flooded diversion on the Jamalpur-Sherpur highway at Purar Ghar area in Sherpur yesterday morning. These conditions bring huge sufferings for people using the road.

PHOTO: ABM AMINUL ISLAM

CRACKING FOR QUALITY

Bashundhara launches...

instant noodles

stick noodles

pasta

NUTRITION FOR HEALTHY LIFE

- with protein
- vitamin
- iron
- calcium
- iodine

Bashundhara
 Food & Beverage Industries Ltd.
The Home of Nutrition