

ACC arrests two in sting operations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in two separate sting operations on Wednesday and yesterday arrested two government employees for taking bribe.

A complaint received on its hotline, 106, prompted the ACC to entrap a science and technology ministry office clerk, Sultan Hossain Talukdar, in Dhaka's Mirpur area.

A nine-member team of the ACC made the arrest as Sultan came out of a house after collecting Tk 50,000 bribe from blind jobseeker Mizanur Rahman, said Pranab Kumar Bhattacharya, ACC's public relations officer.

Sultan had promised Mizanur, a pesticide vendor, a job in exchange for Tk 3 lakh and Mizanur paid Tk 80,000 months ago. Mizanur reminded Sultan a number of times over the past few months about his promise and the ACC repeatedly demanded for more payment, according to the case statement.

Mizanur's wife, also blind, called the Sultan hotly and complained about asking a Tk 50,000 when Sultan called her husband, asking a Tk 50,000 payment for an arranged job interview.

The team members of ACC took position around Mizanur's Mirpur house and while Sultan was leaving Mizanur's home with Tk 50,000, ACC caught him," said Pranab.

ACC's Deputy Assistant Director Nazim Uddin filed a case with Shah Ali Police Station on Wednesday night.

In another operation yesterday, an ACC team arrested a clerk of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority's (BRTA) Narsingdi office while he was taking bribe from a driving licence applicant.

Yesterday around 11:00am at BRTA's Narsingdi office, the clerk, Suron Kumar Saha, was collecting Tk 10,000

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Two dancers performing at a cultural event on the second day of a three-day long "Thai Festival in Bangladesh". The Royal Thai Embassy in Dhaka organised the programme at the Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centre in the capital's Bashundhara residential area yesterday. Afterwards, a panel discussion titled "How to promote cooperation in the education sector between Bangladesh and Thailand" took place. PHOTO: STAR

'Undermining Flag' Petition warrants arrest warrant for Khaleda

Court to decide on Sunday
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday set Sunday for passing an order on whether it would issue an arrest warrant for BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in a case over undermining Bangladesh's map and the national flag.

Metropolitan Magistrate Nahi issued the order after AB Siddique, president of Jananetti Parishad, a pro-Awami League organisation, submitted a petition seeking an arrest warrant for Khaleda for her failure to comply with its order.

Earlier on March 22, the same court had issued a summons against Khaleda



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70pc of children suffer from lung diseases

Star, Lung Foundation, Beacon pharma roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lung-related diseases are on the rise at an alarming rate in the country and around 60 to 70 percent of the children are suffering from lung diseases, speakers said at a roundtable yesterday.

Awareness on prevention of the diseases rather than cure is more important, they also said at the roundtable titled, "Working Together for Better Lung Health", marking World Lung Day, to be observed globally for the first time this year on September 25. The discussion was organised jointly by The Daily Star, Bangladesh Lung Foundation (BLF) and Beacon Pharmaceuticals Ltd at the newspaper's office in the capital.

Awareness needs to be raised about the causes of lung diseases, such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), tuberculosis, asthma and pneumonia, the participants said.

While the government will do its part, efforts of different social platforms and organisations and role of the media is vital in fostering the awareness, they also said.

Environmental pollution, rapid urbanisation, unplanned industrialisation, smoking and high density of population are some of the major challenges that lay in the path of ensuring respiratory health for all, they observed. Referring to data gathered from international medical journal Lancet, a handout provided at the roundtable indicates COPD and lower respiratory tract infections as two of the top five killer diseases in Bangladesh.

Nationwide surveys conducted by pulmonologists in 1999 and 2010 show a two-fold increase in respiratory diseases, it says.

According to data collected from child specialists, the handout says 60 to 70 percent children seeking medical attention in the country are suffering from lung diseases.

BLF Secretary General Prof Ali Hossain said 65 million people suffer

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Give your best

PM asks new police officers at Sarda passing-out parade; seeks votes for AL at another Rajshahi programme

UNB, Rajshahi

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked new officials of police cadre to put in their best efforts to protect the fundamental and human rights of people while discharging their duties.

"It's my firm belief the young police officials will be engaged in ensuring the overall welfare of people and the country's development with their acquired knowledge, discipline, professionalism, honesty and integrity," she said.

The prime minister was addressing the passing-out parade of the 34th BCS batch of assistant superintendents of police (ASPs) at the Bangladesh Police Academy in Rajshahi.

Hasina directed the new ASPs to uphold the glorious role of the members of Bangladesh Police played during the Liberation War and to work following the path of their predecessors with patriotism, professionalism and unbound bravery.

She took salute, inspected the parade and distributed medals among the best performing ASPs.

A total of 150 ASPs, including 26 female ones, passed the course.

The premier distributed medals among the best police officers of the course.

Hasina said there is no need to raise demands before her government for the development and progress of Bangladesh



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MBBS Admissions SC rules over HC ruling over 2nd time candidates

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday froze a High Court order that stayed the mark deduction for applicants retaking the medical college admission test.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division stayed the HC order until October 3, three days before the scheduled MBBS admission tests.

Chamber Judge Justice Hasan Foez Siddique passed the order following a petition filed by the government seeking stay on the order. He also asked the government to file a leave to appeal petition with the SC challenging the HC order and fixed October 3 for hearing the petition.

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Head Tajdin Hassan, head of marketing; and Shuvashish Roy, digital marketing manager of The Daily Star, on behalf of the newspaper, receive awards in "Best Digital Advertising Campaign" and "Best in Social Media Engagement" categories of the South Asian Digital Media Awards 2017 given by World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers at a hotel in India's Chennai yesterday.

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Bus driver found dead in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A bus driver was found dead inside his rented room in Ramchandradi bus stand area of Araihazar upazila in Narayanganj yesterday.

Sahabuddin, 35, used to live with his family at a house in the area. At times, he also stayed at the rented room.

Sahabuddin left his house around three days back and did not return, said MA Haque, officer-in-charge of Araihazar Police Station, Quotinghaz Police members.

When his wife and daughter went looking for him at the rented room, they saw through the window that his body, tied with wires, was lying inside.

From the injury marks on his neck, police suspected that Sahabuddin might have been strangled to death, said the HC.

The body was sent to Narayanganj General Hospital for an autopsy.

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