

JUST A HOOK TO SOME LOVED ONES' SAFETY TO US



HIGHEST SELLING 12 CEMENT for more than years

SHAH CEMENT

LIFTING PRY EDUCATION LEVEL

A bitter tale of 2 ministries

WASIM BIN HABIB

The much-hyped elevation of primary education up to class-VIII is not going to happen anytime soon.

After months of red tape and shifting blame between the ministries of education, and primary and mass education, the education ministry now says the primary education level will remain up to class-V until further notice.

On Sunday, the ministry sent a letter to the primary and mass education ministry secretary in this regard.

In the letter, the education ministry says it cannot give the go-ahead to the primary ministry's proposal to introduce class-VI at all government primary schools before a new decision is made by the cabinet on this matter.

As part of implementing the National Education Policy-2010, the primary and mass education ministry this August sought approval from the education ministry to introduce class-VI at the primary school.

"It seems the initiative of upgrading primary level education from the existing class-V gets stalled once again," said an official of the primary ministry, seeking not to be named.

DISCORD SURFACES

On May 18 last year, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid at a meeting on implementation of the National Education Policy announced the decision of elevating primary education level up to class-VIII from the existing class-V and officially shifted the responsibility for grades six and eight to the primary and mass education ministry.

All the educational activities from classes-I to VIII would now be supervised by the primary and mass education ministry, he said at the meeting attended by Primary and Mass Education Minister Mostafizur Rahman.

Nahid also said all these decisions were made in light of

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Sand traders occupy the Turag filling the west side of the Goltoli-Ashulia road near Diabari with sand.

DU VC panel illegal: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday declared illegal the three-member panel elected by the Dhaka University senate on July 29, and directed the DU authorities to finish the process for constituting a full-fledged senate in six months to elect the panel for appointing its new vice-chancellor.

It also declared illegal the notice issued by DU authorities for holding its senate's special general meeting on July 29 to elect the panel.

The bench of Justice Zinat Ara and Justice Kazi Md Ejanul Haque Akondo came up with the verdict after holding a final hearing on a writ petition filed challenging the legality of the notice issued by the DU registrar on July 16.

Sixteen teachers and registered DU graduates filed the petition with the HC in July saying that there is no full-fledged DU senate at this moment although a 105-member full-fledged senate has to be formed through nomination and election.

Petitioners' lawyer Barrister Mustafizur

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CJ may fly to Australia on Friday

SC authorities invite to president

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court authorities yesterday sent a letter to the president informing him that Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, who is now on leave on health grounds, would go to Australia to see his daughter on the presidential aircraft.

The letter, signed by Md Zakir Hossain, registrar of the Appellate Division of the SC, said the CJ may leave on Friday or any nearest date and stay there till November 10, a top official at the court told The Daily Star.

Sinha has been on a

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AL, BNP square off over polls-time govt

EC DIALOGUE

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and RASHIDUL HASAN

The ruling Awami League is going to propose introduction of electronic voting for the next general elections and request the Election Commission to follow the constitutional provision under which the incumbent prime minister would remain the head of the polls-time government.

The BNP, on the other hand, is against the e-voting as it fears the election results would be manipulated through the system.

The party would also press for holding the polls under an election-time 'supportive government', saying the parliamentary election would not be free and fair if it was held under the PM.

If it is not possible to ensure e-voting across the country, the AL would like to have the system introduced in some particular constituencies which are at city corporation areas, said sources at the party ahead of its dialogue with the EC at Nirbachan Bhaban on October 18.

The party is also likely to propose unified



posters during the polls. For example, each poster would carry the names, photos and party symbols of all the candidates in a constituency in an alphabetical order.

The AL would suggest that army remain as a strike force amid suggestions from many political parties for deployment of Armed Forces during the elections, the sources told The Daily Star recently.

During the talks, the AL delegation would argue that the election-time government would not only carry out the routine work but would also extend its full support

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Four VCs on draft list of AL subcommittee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four vice-chancellors and 11 teachers of public universities were included in a draft list of the ruling Awami League's subcommittee on education and human resources.

Shamsunahar Chapa, education and human resource affairs secretary of AL, on Monday signed the draft list of 49 people that also included party lawmakers and leaders.

Sources in AL said the list would be finalised after discussions within the party.

According to the party constitution, a subcommittee should be formed for every secretarial department in order to make its activities more dynamic. The AL has 19 secretarial departments.

Former Rajshahi University VC Dr Abdul Khaleque has been named

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Happier marriages for healthier hearts

AFP, Paris

Men whose marriages grow stronger over the years have healthier cholesterol and blood pressure than peers whose unions fall apart, said a study yesterday that hinted at unexpected health perks of relationship counselling.

Researchers got more than 600 men in Britain to rate the "quality" of their marriage at two points in time - when their child was three, and then again nine.

The men could describe their union as consistently good, consistently bad, improving, or deteriorating.

Another 12 years later, the team measured the participants' health.

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Hindu priest, wife found dead in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police recovered the bodies of a Hindu priest and his wife from a temple at Purangon union of Sanktania upazilla yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Swapan Dey, 60, and his wife Chinu Dey, 47, said Sub-Inspector Mizan Uddin of Sanktania police.

"They were found dead inside their residential room beside Shree Shree

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10 burnt in Ctg factory

One dies in hospital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A worker was killed and 10 others suffered burn injuries when melted iron fell on them at a steel factory in Chittagong's Sitakunda yesterday.

Shah Alam, 32, was declared dead when he was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

He was one of the six injured who were moved to the DMCH from Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) for better treatment.

Abdul Karim Das, head of burn and plastic surgery unit at the CMCH, told The Daily Star that five sustained 60-100 percent burns of their bodies, while the other around 20 percent burns.

Five other wounded were released from the CMCH after primary treatment, he said.

Contacted, Abdullah Harun Pasha, senior station officer of Choto Kumira fire station in Sitakunda, said on information, they went to CMCH.

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With his entire body bandaged, a steel mill worker lies in his bed at the burn unit of Chittagong Medical College Hospital. At least one worker died and 10 others were seriously burnt in an accident in a steel mill at Sitakunda yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Failure to sign Teesta deal a major setback

Says PM's adviser

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Failure to sign the Teesta River Water Sharing Agreement was a major setback for Bangladesh, Prime Minister's International Affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi said yesterday.

"Obviously, our failure to sign the Teesta agreement has been a major setback. Not because we have been deprived of water, but the very feeling that we could not sign an agreement has created a feeling in Bangladesh," he said.

In response to a former Indian diplomat's question on the deal, the adviser said, "I agree that it is not a matter of sharing of water, but of management. And that is why during the last visit of the prime minister, we noted that the emphasis has shifted. We still focus on Teesta. The prime minister made it very clear. But we are also focusing on the Ganges Barrage project. That is how you manage water."

Bangladesh Research Institute (BRI) and New Delhi-based Observer Enterprise Foundation (ORF) jointly organised the two-day dialogue on Bangladesh-India Security in the city's Lakeshore Hotel. BRI Chairman Farooq Sobhan and former High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty also spoke at the inaugural session of the eighth round of the dialogue.

Because the Indian Line of Credit, Gowher said the way India extended help to Bangladesh was absolutely wonderful and a third of its LoC came to Bangladesh.

But the progress of the Line of Credit is disappointing. A recent newspaper report said only \$600 million of the first

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