



EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you

The Daily Star as a newspaper and its editor-publisher individually, are the proud recipients of the highest tax payer award in "Journalism" category for two years in a row. This is also the case with our sister publication Prothom Alo and its editor-publisher, Matur Rahman. Our respective owning companies, The Mediaworld Ltd and the Mediastar, have also been given the highest tax payer awards. The story does not end there. Our printers, Transcraft Ltd, owned and managed by Transcom, won the highest tax payer award in that category and whose owner, Latifur Rahman and his family, has been awarded the prestigious "Tax Bahadur" award.



From left, Latifur Rahman, chairman and CEO of Transcom Group; Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star; Rokia Azfal Rahman, chairperson of Mediaworld, the owning company of The Daily Star; and Matur Rahman, editor and publisher of Prothom Alo, pose after being awarded by the NBR at a ceremony in Dhaka yesterday. Latifur Rahman's family won the "Tax Icon Family" award from Dhaka, Mahfuz Anam and Matur Rahman became the top taxing journalists while Rokia Azfal Rahman received an award on behalf of Mediaworld for being one of the top taxpayers in the print and electronic media category.

PHOTO: STAR

Honour for top taxpayers

Accolade for The Daily Star, Prothom Alo; 'Kar Bahadur' award for Latifur Rahman's family, 83 other families

For the first time, the government yesterday honoured 84 families from across the country with the title "Kar Bahadur" or tax icons for paying big amounts of tax with exemplary compliance for a long time. It also recognised 141 taxpayers, including

76 individuals, at the national level for depositing with the state coffer large amounts of tax in their respective sectors in fiscal 2016-17. At the district and city corporation levels, 292 taxpayers were recognised by the National Board of Revenue. In Dhaka, Khwaja Tajmahal's family is at the top of the list of "Kar Bahadur" families, fol-

lowed by ABM Shafiqul Alam's family and Transcom Group Chairman Latifur Rahman's family. The government conferred the accolade on them as part of its efforts to encourage high-income families to pay tax properly. The editors and publishers of The Daily Star

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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Import of sugar gets govt nod

Singapore-based firm to supply 50,000 MT; Chinese company given Ashulia expressway job

The cabinet committee on purchase gave the go-ahead to Agropact at a meeting at the Cabinet Division yesterday, with Finance Minister AMA Muhith in the chair. The company will import sugar at \$465.27 per tonne as the lowest bidder among two.

Industries ministry officials said the government has decided to import 1 lakh tonnes sugar to boost its stock and keep the prices stable.

According to an official at the state-run Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC), they took the initiative to import sugar so that the private importers cannot hike the price by creating an "artificial crisis".

The BSFIC under the industries ministry produces sugar at 15 mills by crushing locally-grown sugarcane. It also imports sugar on behalf of the government.

Sources at the ministry said it had a stock of only 36,566 tonnes of sugar on November 2. The stock would come down to 16,364 tonnes after distribution of sugar among the law enforcement agencies.

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Five-star prison!



HINDUSTAN TIMES ONLINE

Two weeks ago, the glitzy Ritz Carlton hotel in Riyadh was the site of an international conference promoting Saudi Arabia as an investment destination, and about 3,000 officials and business leaders in attendance.

Now the hotel is temporarily serving as a luxury prison where some of the kingdom's political and business elite are being held as part of a crackdown on corruption that may change the way the economy works.

Government ministers, businessmen and many royals were being held inside Ballroom B of the luxury hotel, the New York

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Be fair, open in handling trials

US urges Saudis as Riyadh rejects reports of prince's death in graft purge

The US State Department said on Tuesday it was urging Saudi Arabia to be "fair and transparent" in its handling of any prosecutions stemming from a sweeping corruption probe that has resulted in the arrests of dozens of top Saudi officials.

State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said the United States had no advance knowledge of the corruption crackdown that unfolded over the weekend and resulted in the detention of members of the royal family, ministers and investors, including prominent billionaire businessman Alwaleed bin Talal.

"We continue to encourage Saudi authorities to pursue the prosecution of people they believe to have been corrupt officials; we expect them to do it in a fair and transparent manner," Nauert told a briefing. "We call on the government of Saudi Arabia to do that."

Nauert said the United States had received assurances from the Saudi government that it would do so, but another US official later told reporters that she had misspoken and that they had no such assurances that they could discuss in public.

Asked about Saudi Arabia's increasingly tough talk toward Iran and Lebanon, Nauert pointed to what she said was Iran's destabilizing activity and the Lebanese Hezbollah group's past record of attacks against US military personnel.

Saudi Arabia accused Lebanon on Monday of declaring war against it because of aggression by Hezbollah, the Lebanese Shia group backed by Iran. Saad al-Hariri, the Saudi-allied Lebanese prime minister, resigned on Saturday, blaming Iran and Hezbollah in his resignation speech, reported Reuters.

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Tremor jolts Dhaka, some other dists

UNB, Dhaka

A tremor jolted different parts of the country, including the capital, yesterday morning.

Measuring 4.7 on the Richter scale, the tremor was felt around 10:50 am, said Maminul Islam, a meteorologist at Dhaka Met office.

He said the epicentre of the 49-second quake was in Tripura, India, some 75 kilometres off Dhaka.

However, no damage or casualty was reported.



SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING NOVEMBER 9

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5:00 12:45 3:45 5:25 7:30

JAMAAT 5:35 1:15 4:00 5:30 7:00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



সর্বোচ্চ করদাতা গ্রেটওয়াল সিরামিক এর ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক

বাংলাদেশে আধুনিক টাইলস শিল্পের রূপকার "গ্রেটওয়াল সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লি." এর ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব মো: সামছুল হুদা ২০১৪-২০১৫ কর বৎসরের মাস্য আয়বোর্ডে ২০১৪-২০১৭ কর বৎসরে কর অঙ্কন - ০১, ট্যাক্সম এর সর্বোচ্চ করদাতা হিসাবে জাতীয় রাষ্ট্রপতি বোর্ড (এনবিআর) কর্তৃক নির্বাচিত হয়ে স্বদেশীয় গ্রহণ করেন। "গ্রেটওয়াল সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লি." গভ চার বছর ধরে কাটশিল্ড, এগ্রাইজি এবং ডাটা, ডান্ডা উত্তর কবিশপনার্টে এর অধীনে সর্বোচ্চ ডাটা প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান হিসাবে নির্বাচিত হয়ে আসছে। স্বদেশীয় কেম্বে, ট্যাক্স মার্ট ও সন্দরপন হুদে মনে ট্যাক্সম লিটি মেয়র জনাব আ.জ.ম. নাঈর উদ্দিন।

বাংলাদেশের অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়নে অসামান্য অবদান রাখার জন্য এবং এ সম্মাননা পাওয়ার জন্য গ্রেটওয়াল সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লি: এর স্বদেশীয় ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব মো: সামছুল হুদাকে গ্রেটওয়াল সিরামিক ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ লি: এর সকল করকর্তা, করদাতা, গ্রাহক ও গভমুদাধীনার পক্ষে একটি আন্তর্জাতিক হস্তাক্ষর ও অভিনন্দন।



CONVICTION IN BRIBERY CASE HC commutes jail term of Huda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday commuted the jail term of former BNP communication minister Nazmul Huda to four years from seven years in a bribery case filed during the regime of the military backed caretaker government.

The court also directed Nazmul Huda to surrender before the trial court within 45 days after receiving the copy of the [HC] verdict. Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

The HC bench of Justice Bhabani Prasad Singha and Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam modified the lower court judgment and sentenced Nazmul Huda to four years imprisonment after hearing an appeal filed by Nazmul Huda and his wife Sigma Huda challenging the lower court judgment.

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Advertisement for Pubali Bank Limited featuring a large red bow graphic and text: 'আধুনিক ব্যাংকিং সেবার অধিকার নিয়ে সিলেটের চৌশল রোড-এ পুরানী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর ৪৫৬ তম শাখার স্টেশন রোড শাখা'.