

বিশ্ব বলেছিলো- পদ্মা সেতু 'সম্ভব না' একজন প্রধানমন্ত্রী আর ১৬ কোটি বাঙালি বলেছিলো- 'কেন না!'

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SHAH CEMENT

Land ministry official turns land grabber

Arrested by ACC, sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A personal officer at the land ministry grabbed about 16.5 decimal land of Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (Rajuk) in the capital's Gulshan in 2004, an ACC probe has found.



Kutubuddin Ahmed

The anti-graft body arrested the man, Kutubuddin Ahmed, now officer on special duty (OSD), from Segunbagicha yesterday in a case filed in this connection with Gulshan Model Police Station.

Mirza Zahidul Alam, ACC deputy director and investigation officer of the case, produced him in a magistrate court, which ordered sending him to jail.

In 2008, during the caretaker government rule, a special court sentenced Kutubuddin to 13 years in jail for illegally amassing wealth worth Tk 1.44 crore and concealing information in his wealth statement submitted to the ACC.

He, however, got acquittal from the High Court. The Anti-Corruption Commission later filed an appeal, now pending with the Supreme Court, said its lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan.

Using his influence, Kutub had three gazette notifications issued from the ministry over return of the land to its owners from whom Rajuk earlier had acquired it, according to the case statement.

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A stack of counterfeit Indian rupees seized from a fake note factory located inside a flat in the capital's Monipuripara area. Eight people were arrested in connection with the illicit trade.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Rab busts fake note factory

8 arrested; 52 lakh fake Indian rupees seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

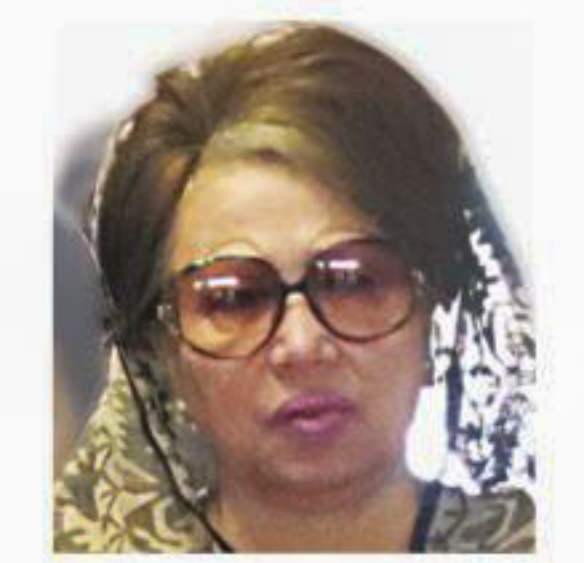
Rab yesterday arrested eight persons, including two females, from different areas in the capital and seized Rs 52 lakh in counterfeit Indian notes from a fake rupee factory.

The equipment and ingredients seized from the factory located in a flat in the capital's Monipuripara could produce fakes amounting to Indian Rs 10 crore, Mufti Mahmud Khan, Rab's Legal and Media wing director, said while briefing journalists on the spot yesterday evening.

The fake rupees were produced in the flat and mainly used to buy goods from the bordering area of the northern districts, Mahmud said.

Sometimes the gang members sold the fake notes in the bordering areas to those travelling to India.

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Khaleda's bail plea hearing tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The hearing of the bail petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in a case filed over the 2015 arson attack on a bus in Chaudhagram upazila in Comilla will be held tomorrow.

Comilla Senior Judicial Magistrate Judge Mustain Billah passed the order yesterday, asking the jail authorities to produce her before court during the hearing.

Khaleda, who has been in Dhaka old central jail since the High Court

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Monitor medical waste disposal

HC orders forming committees in all divisions, asks why ETP should not be set up in hospitals, diagnostic centres

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the government to form a three-member committee at all the eight divisions to monitor and supervise medical waste management at hospitals and diagnostic centres.

It also asked the authorities concerned of the government to explain why they should not be directed to set up effluent treatment plant (ETP) in every hospital, diagnostic and other medical centre for the disposal and treatment of medical garbage.

Most of the hospitals and diagnostic centres in the country are allegedly dumping untreated medical waste along with other garbage, polluting the environment and putting public health in danger.

Yesterday, the HC said the committee, to be headed by a divisional director of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), would be constituted under the Medical Waste Management and Processing Rules, 2008.

The other two members would be nominated by the divisional commissioner and director general (DG) of the Department of Environment (DoE) respectively, Deputy Attorney General Motafer Hossain Sazu told The Daily Star, citing the HC order.

The responsibilities and duties of the committee would include providing license to the proper authority for disposing and processing medical waste, renewing or cancelling the license, monitoring and supervising activities of the license holders and giving them necessary instructions.

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Saarc in trouble

India says it's difficult to go ahead with the summit

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

The prospects of reconvening the 2016 Saarc Summit, that was to be held in Islamabad but got cancelled following a major terror attack on an Indian army camp, look bleak as India has made it clear that given continued cross-border terrorism from Pakistan, it is difficult to go ahead with the summit.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi conveyed New Delhi's stand when the issue of rescheduling the Saarc Summit came up for discussion during a meeting with his Nepalese counterpart K P Sharma Oli, who was in India on a three-day visit, on Saturday. Nepal is the current Chairman of Saarc.

"The Prime Minister (Modi) mentioned that he very enthusiastically participated in the Kathmandu (Saarc) summit, but given the current state of play where there is cross-border terrorism - and this is a disruptive force in the region--it is difficult in such circumstances to proceed with such initiatives," Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay

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Runaway train rolls for miles in India



AFP, New Delhi

India's railway ministry said yesterday a "ghastly" accident was narrowly avoided after 22 train coaches carrying some 1,000 passengers became detached from the engine and sped backwards for miles before being stopped.

The runaway carriages in the eastern state of Odisha rolled for 12 kilometres before being brought to a shuddering halt by rocks placed on the tracks by railway staff.

A spokesman for the railway ministry's eastern division said none of about 1,000 passengers were injured in the incident Saturday night.

But seven railway employees who did not follow proper procedures have been suspended and an investigation launched into how the carriages

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Limon's house set on fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhalakathi

The house of Limon's family was set on fire allegedly by supporters of the secretary of Sauria union unit Awami League in Jhalakathi's Rajapur early yesterday. It was apparently done to grab another piece of land of theirs in the same area.

Limon's father Tofazzel Hossain alleged that some 15-20 people, led by Humayun, secretary of ruling AL Sauria union unit, attacked the house around 3:00am.

The attackers also vanda

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SIBL Foundation Hospital & Diagnostic Center

PRAYER TIMING APRIL 9

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-40 12-45 4-45 6-21 7-45

JAMAAT 5-15 1-15 5-00 6-24 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Schoolgirl 'gang-raped' in Dinajpur

Another 8-year-old raped in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A schoolgirl was allegedly gang-raped at a Sal forest in Birganj upazila of Dinajpur on Saturday evening. Police arrested five people yesterday in this connection.

The arrestees are Rashidul Islam, 35, Abdul Mojid, 35, Mohammad Suman, 22, Md Sultan, 23, and Rubel Hembram, 22, all from different villages in the upazila.

A case was filed with Birganj Police Station by the girl's father on Sunday, accusing the five men of the rape. The girl identified the alleged rapists, said Akkas Ali, officer-in-charge of the station.

According to the case statement, Rashidul was acquainted with the girl. He and his friends picked her up from Kabirajhat area of the upazila on Saturday afternoon saying they would drop her home.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Thousands of new ledgers are being made as traders are set to discard their old ones after all outstanding dues are settled and start afresh on Pabela Baishakh, the first day of the Bangla New Year. The photo was taken from Ghatfarhabeg in Chittagong.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Dozens of Saudi detainees to face 'terror' trial

ANTI-GRAFT CRACKDOWN

AFP, Riyadh

Dozens of Saudi detainees caught up in a government anti-graft crackdown could be referred to courts specialised in cases of national security and terrorism, Asharq al-Awsat newspaper reported yesterday.

They include individuals who refused to agree to confidential settlements with the government, and others believed to be guilty of "a greater offence", the pan-Arab daily quoted Saudi Arabia's deputy attorney-general Saud al-Hamad as saying.

"Each of these cases will be dealt with separately. Some will be examined by departments specialised in money laundering, while others will be referred to courts specialised in issues of national security and terrorism," Hamad said.

In November, 381 Saudi royals, ministers and tycoons were detained in an anti-corruption crackdown led by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

Attorney General Sheikh Saud al-Mojeb said in January that the majority had been released after agreeing to financial settlements totalling over 400 billion riyals (\$107 bn) in various forms of assets and cash.

To date, 56 people are known to remain in custody, their whereabouts unknown since the initial holding place -- the Riyadh Ritz-Carlton -- was re-opened on February 11.

Saudi Arabia's prosecutor general has launched fresh investigations and judicial proceedings against those detainees, Asharq al-Awsat said, quoting the deputy attorney-general.

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