



PM to get Women's Leadership Award

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will be honoured with the Global Women's Leadership Award for her outstanding leadership in advancing female education and women entrepreneurs in Bangladesh, Asia and the Asia-Pacific region. The award, a lifetime honour, will be conferred on Hasina by US-based NGO Global Summit of Women during the "2018 Global Summit of Women" to be held on April 26-28 in Sydney, Australia. "It's a lifetime recognition," said Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali, adding that Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe got

JMB man gets bail thru' fake guarantor

Defence uses fictitious man in bail bond; court accepts it as 'mistake'

SHARIFUL ISLAM and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

A top leader of banned Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh has secured bail in a militancy case using a fictitious guarantor in the bail bond.

But Bulbul Ahmed Sarker, who according to police was the second-in-command of Chittagong JMB, could not come out of jail as he faces seven more cases, including for murder and possession of arms and explosives.

The Metropolitan Sessions Judge of Chittagong granted him bail on November 18 last year in a case filed in 2012.

Police arrested him based on information gleaned from another suspected JMB operative named Ershad Hossain Mamun. Mamun, who was arrested with bomb-making materials, told a court that Bulbul was the second top leader of Chittagong JMB, police said.

In the bail bond, the guarantor is named Md Jamal, son of late Akhtar Hossain of Tulshipara village in Gaibandha. But police later found there is no such person at that address, according to the police investigation report submitted to a Chittagong court.

The Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI), Chittagong Metro, came to know about it during verification of the guarantor's name and address.



Bulbul Ahmed



FAKE CURRENCY FACTORY BUSTED

Counterfeit Tk 1,000 and Tk 500 notes and note-making materials are seized by Rab at a home in Narayanganj's Dakshin Shastapur area yesterday. The elite force also detained two people there in connection with the incident. Law enforcers said fake currency producers used to supply the notes to the capital and its adjoining areas.

PHOTO: STAR



Hamid takes oath for second term

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Md Abdul Hamid yesterday took oath as the head of state for the second consecutive term at a ceremony held at the Bangabhaban.

Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury administered his oath of office in presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, among other dignitaries, at the Darbar Hall of Bangabhaban.

The ceremony saw Abdul Hamid signing the oath of office after he was sworn in by the Speaker, while the cabinet secretary conducted the function.

Wearing a black Mujib coat and a white panjabi, Hamid along with the Speaker entered the Darbar Hall at 7:38pm.

A military band played ceremonial music at that time.

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When time fails to heal

Rana Plaza survivors, victims' families remember the day their lives changed forever



TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

Renuka Barai trod lightly on the edge of a hyacinth-filled lowland which once housed the ill-fated Rana Plaza factory complex. She stopped at the western side, a vacant look across her face.

A huge crowd had gathered around the place in front of a sculpture of a pair of hands holding a hammer and a sickle-- a symbol of proletarian unity. Fiery

speeches were being hurled from loudspeakers. But nothing distracted Renuka. She could not embrace the unity at the moment.

"This is the place where my son worked and died. It is where I lost everything," said the 45-year-old mother, her eyes brimmed with tears.

Her son Titu Barai, 29, was on his shift in one of the garment factories housed in the building when

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GAZIPUR, KHULNA CITY POLLS AL, BNP seek win to boost their morale

STAR REPORT

The ruling Awami League and its arch-rival BNP have taken the Khulna and Gazipur city polls seriously as it will be a crucial test of their popularity ahead of the next national election slated for December.

The parties believe wins in the May 15 city polls will boost the party men's morale to fight the next Jatiya Sangshad polls.

The AL, serving a second consecutive term in office, wants to start its preparations for the national election with campaigns for city corporation polls, party leader said.

According to them, central AL leaders will take part in the electioneering. The party also wants to engage its lawmakers in the campaign, if allowed by the Election Commission.

On the other hand, the BNP has already designated its two standing committee members as coordinators of the city polls. Some central BNP leaders will join the electioneering in Gazipur and Khulna cities, said party sources.

The BNP said the two city polls are going to be an "acid test" for the EC before the parliamentary election.

Meanwhile, candidates launched polls campaigns in the two cities yesterday after the allotment of electoral symbols by the EC. The mayoral polls will be held on partisan lines while the councillor elections will be non-partisan.

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TARIQUE'S CITIZENSHIP He submitted passport to UK Home Office to seek asylum

Says BNP, trashes Shahriar's claim

STAR REPORT

Amid claim and counterclaim of the government and the BNP over whether Tarique Rahman gave up his citizenship, the latter yesterday said he submitted his passport to the Home Office of the United Kingdom for seeking asylum.

"Tarique Rahman sought a temporary political asylum and got it. Submitting passport is a necessary procedure for seeking asylum," said BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday.

He was addressing a press conference at the party's Nayapaltan central office yesterday, a day after State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam had come up with some documents

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Honourable Prime Minister
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