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HC asks for list of loan defaulters

Terms situation in banking sector unstable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the Bangladesh Bank to submit a list of borrowers with more than Tk 1 crore in default loans as part of its efforts to salvage the banking sector from its current unstable situation.

In response to a writ petition filed by Human Rights and

Peace for Bangladesh, the court also asked the BB governor to present a report containing details of the money laundered overseas and the steps taken to recover the funds.

The HC bench of Justice FRM Nazmul Ahasan and Justice KM Kamrul Kader came up with the order on the grounds

that an unstable situation has been created in the banking sector and necessary steps are needed to overcome it.

The court issued a rule asking the respondents to explain why their failure or inaction to stop various irregularities,

why their failure or inaction to stop various irregularities, illegalities and corruption in case of sanctioning of loans and waiver of interest against bank loans in the last 20 years should not be declared illegal.

The rule asked them to show causes why their failure to

recover the loans from the defaulters in the past two decades should not be declared unlawful.

The respondents are secretaries to the cabinet division and the prime minister's secretariat, ministries of finance, the financial institutions division and law, the BB governor, SEE PAGE 12 COL 4



Dancers ushering in the first morning of Spring on the premises of Fine Arts Faculty of Dhaka University yesterday morning. Jatiya Barshabaran Utsab Udjapon Parishad organised the event.

RASHED SHUMON

Dec 30 polls challenged in High Court

7 BNP candidates file petitions, citing huge anomalies in their seats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Seven BNP candidates yesterday filed separate election petitions with the High Court challenging the legality of the December 30 national election to their constituencies, citing widespread irregularities.

In the petitions, they appealed for cancelling the election results of their constituencies and directing the Election Commission to hold fresh elections there.

The BNP leaders are Saiful Islam Firoz from Jhenidah-4, Naser Rahman from Moulvibazar-3, Hafiz Ibrahim from Bhola-2, Jahiruddin Swapan from Barishal-1, Shah Riazul Hannan from Gazipur-4, Abul Kalam Azad from Tangail-7 and Abdul Hai from Munshiganj.

The HC is yet to set any date for hearing the peti-

> Ruhul Kuddus Kajol, a SEE PAGE 12 COL 2

40 injured in attack on Ahmadiyya

A CORRESPONDENT, Panchagarh

At least 40 people, including 20 policemen, were injured in Tuesday night's attack on several houses and shops of Ahmadiyya people in Ahmadnagar village of Panchagarh Sadar upazila.

The district administration formed a

five-member probe committee led by Additional District Magistrate Ehtesham Reza and asked it to submit the report in three days. The injured policemen took treatment

at Panchagarh Sadar Hospital. Five wounded villagers were referred to Rangpur Medical College Hospital, said Pradip Kumar Banik, resident physician of the hospital.

On Tuesday night, several hundred supporters of Islamist groups -- Sammilito Khatme Nabuwat Shangrakkhan Parishad, Iman Akida Rokkha Committee and Touhidi Janata -- blocked the Dhaka-Panchagarh highway in Sher-e-Bangla Park area.

They demanded cancellation of a prescheduled three-day convention of the Ahmadiyya community, said Golam Azad,

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A welcome sight at Madhur Canteen

BCL, JCD share table at the historic canteen first time in 9 years

DU CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) went to Madhur Canteen yesterday for the first time in nine years, after which they shared the same table with Chhatra League leaders, ahead of the upcoming Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducsu) polls.

Around 10:40am, a group of JCD activists, led by its DU unit president Al Mehedi Talukder and General Secretary Bashar Siddique, entered the canteen on the university campus and stayed for more than two hours.

President and General Secretary of the organisation's central unit Razib

Ahsan Akramul Hasan later joined them.
Soon after hearing the news, BCL men of different halls of the university

on behalf of the pro-Awami League student organisation BCL, its DU unit General Secretary Saddam Hussain welcomed the leaders of JCD, the

pro-BNP student organisation.

The JCD leaders also exchanged greetings with Chhatra Union Central President Liton Nandi, Vice-President Tuhin Kanti Das, and Samajtantrik Chhatra Front's university unit President and General Secretary Salman

Siddique and Pragati Bormon Toma, who were there at that time.

Earlier on February 7, JCD leaders brought out a procession on the campus after almost nine years, after submitting a memorandum to the vice-chancellor.

The previous procession of the JCD on the DU campus was brought out on January 18, 2010, which was attacked and foiled by BCL leaders, including the then general secretary Siddique Nazmul Alam.

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'Robber' killed in 'gunfight'

A CORRESPONDENT, Jashore

A suspected robber was killed in a "gunfight" between two groups of robbers in Rahmatpur Kanagate area of Jashore's Sadar upazila early yesterday.

The dead is Babar Ali Moral, 40, of Beta village in the district's Dumuria upazila.

According to police, he was accused in 10 to 12 cases filed with different police stations over robbery.

The family of Babar said he had gone missing on Monday while going to his relative's house in Keshobpur upazila of the district. His body was found at a local hospital yesterday noon.

Apurbo Hasan, officerin-charge of Jessore Kotwali Police Station, claimed they rushed to the spot on information about a "gunfight" around 3:30am.

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Rare black leopard seen in Kenya



CNN ONLINE

Turns out, the mythical African black leopard really does exist.

Biologists shot rare footage of the sleek big cat walking majestically in Kenya -- the first time the animal has been photographed in Africa since 1909, said Nick Pilfold, a global conservation scientist at the San Diego Zoo.

Pilfold said they captured the footage after months of watching and waiting. His team of biologists had placed remote cameras to track the leopard population near a conservancy area in Laikipia County last year when they heard reports of a possible black leopard sighting.

"We intensified our camera placement in the area the reports were being made," he said on SEE PAGE 12 COL 4

House help 'raped' by employer

STAR REPORT

A 16-year-old indigenous girl was allegedly raped by her employer in Dhaka's Kalachandpur area yesterday.

The girl's relatives said she came to Dhaka from Jhenaigati upazila of Sherpur in late January. She was employed as a domestic help at the home of an electrician in Kalachandpur.

The alleged rapist raped the girl twice yesterday morning. Knowing the incident, her relatives SEE PAGE 12 COL 5

SEE PAGE 12 COL 5



PRAYER TIMING FEBRUARY 14

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-25 12-45 4-30 5-57 7-15
JAMAAT 6-00 1-15 4-45 6-01 7-45
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

SUICIDE ATTACK IN IRAN

Car bombing kills 27 Revolutionary Guards

AFP, Tehran

A suicide car bombing on a Revolutionary Guards bus in southeastern Iran killed 27 troops yesterday, in one of the deadliest attacks on the elite forces in years.

The assault came as the troops were returning from a border patrol mission, the Guards said in a statement.

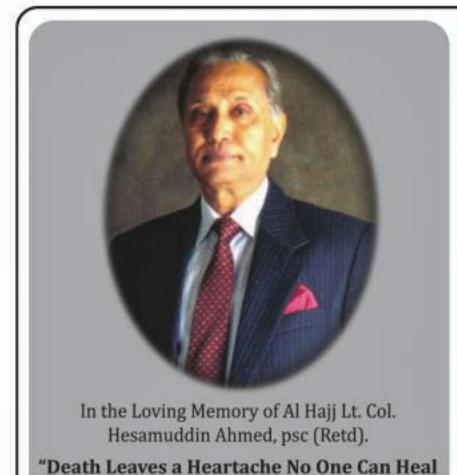
"In this terrorist attack 27 of Islam's brave warriors were killed and 13 were wounded," the statement read, accusing "world domination and Zionist intelligence agencies" of supporting the attackers.

Earlier the official IRNA news agency said "the suicide attack on an Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps personnel bus SEE PAGE 12 COL 2



Bangladesh Chhatra League and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leaders discuss the coming Ducsu polls over tea at Dhaka University's Madhur Canteen yesterday morning. Chhatra Dal leaders entered the canteen for the first time in nine years.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



Love Leaves a Memory No One Can Steal;

Those We Love Don't Go Away,

They Walk Beside Us Everyday."

7th DEATH ANNIVERSARY Hajj Lt. Col Hesamuddin Ahmed, psc (Retd

Al Hajj Lt. Col Hesamuddin Ahmed, psc (Retd). served as a Secretary to the Government of Bangladesh in various ministries. He was the Administrator of the Dhaka Municipality, Chairman of RAJUK and other important corporations.

Being the Founder President of the National Shooting Federation Bangladesh, the Founder Member and Founding Vice Chairman RAOWA, his contributions will always be remembered.

He was associated with UCEP Bangladesh, SAHIC and various sports and social welfare organizations. In recognition of his remarkable contributions in the field of Sports development and social welfare he was awarded the National Sports Award (2003), Atish Dipannkar Gold Medal, Poet Sarojini Naidu Gold Medal, C R Das Gold Medal etc.

- Dearly Missed & Always Cherished by Wife, Son, Daughter, Daughter in Law, Son in Law & Granddaughter