DHAKA

Govt giving special privilege to infamous loan defaulters: LDA

Police obstruct procession of left-leaning group's procession

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday obstructed a procession of Left Democratic Alliance (LDA) -- demanding and end to corruption in banking sector of the country -- in front of GPO in Gulistan.

At least 50 leaders and activists of the alliance held a rally in front of Jatiya Press Club and then brought out the procession towards finance ministry, but could not reach there due to police obstruction.

Activists demanded putting an end to corruption and looting in banks and the financial sector. They also spoke out against enabling loan defaulters in the name of rescheduling and giving them unfair advantages.

Speaking at the rally, Hamidul Haque, convener of Bangladesher Samajtantrik Anodolon, alleged that the Awami Leagueled government is giving special privileges to infamous loan defaulters, as the party assumed



Police obstructed the procession trying to make its way to finance ministry.

power using "black money from those people". "Former home minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir looted a huge amount of money through Farmers Bank Limited that was later

closed due to loan scam, and now an influential group backed by the government has restarted it with the name Padma Bank," he claimed. He alleged that the prime minister is

patronising loan defaulters and a so-called industrialist by making him an MP from her party. "Finance ministry is going to waive the loans to facilitate such businessmen," Hamidul added. Bacchu Bhuiyan, a representative from

Ganasamhati Andolon, said destitute farmers in villages are facing trials due to cases filed against them for failing to pay paltry loans, but it is astounding that the government is trying to save these "corrupt businessman" by waiving their loans. Saiful Haque, general secretary of Bangladesher

Biplobi Workers Party, said the government is preserving the interests of only the five percent people of the country who are corrupt, as they do not need the masses any more. "This country is not for the masses, as they have no right to vote." He urged the government to take stern

action against those involved in loan scams. 'Otherwise, corruption will severely hamper the country's development," Saiful said. Among others, Bangladesher Communist

Party (CPB) general secretary Shah Alam, Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal central leader Bazlur Rashid Firoz and Bangladesher Samyabadi Dal (Marxbadi-Leninbadi) central unit leader Manosh Nandi also spoke at the rally.

Mothers' role in national progress recognised

35 women conferred Ratnagarva Maa 2018 award



Award recipients at the programme yesterday.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In her 69 years of life, Nirmala Rani Roy had to face a lot of obstacles but the mother of six never gave up.

She was married off when she was 16 and a student of seventh grade. Five years later, at the beginning of Liberation War in 1971, her husband went to India to train as a freedom fighter, leaving behind Nirmala and their three sons. Nirmala's husband Ardhendu Shekhar Roy later worked at a refugee camp.

Fearing for their safety, the young mother along with her children fled to India to be with her husband. They all reunited and returned to Bangladesh after the war, but their hardship did not end.

"I have a long history of struggles, especially centring the Liberation War. One can write a book based on those stories,' said Nirmala, a resident of Faridpur.

PHOTO: STAR

The Daily Star | 3

"After the war, my other sons were born. Their father had a low-ranking government job. I had to face adversities a lot to take care of my family and educate our sons," she added.

Despite the hardship, the homemaker never considered discontinuing the education of her children. She tried her best to encourage them to be successful, and they did not disappoint. Three of her sons are journalists, two lawyers, and one teacher.

"My sons are not only successful in their professional lives but they also have morals as I taught them. They always look after me," said Nirmala, who has been confined to a wheelchair for the last four years.

As recognition of her efforts, Nirmala yesterday received 'Azad Products Award Ratnagarva Maa 2018'.

Including her, a total of 35 mothers SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Sagar-Runi Murder No progress in probe after 65 court dates COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday again asked the investigation officer of Sagar-Runi murder case to submit a probe report before it on June 26. With this, Rapid

Action Battalion and other agencies have taken more than 65 dates for completing the probe into the murder. Metropolitan Magistrate

Debbrata Biswas passed the order after Assistant Superintendent of Police Mohiuddin Ahmed of Rab also IO of the case, failed to submit the probe report

yesterday. Earlier, different courts expressed their dissatisfaction over the investigation by different agencies, including Rab.

On February 11 in 2012, Runi, senior reporter of private TV channel ATN SEE PAGE 4 COL 5 Happy ending for a desperate father

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A father, who was caught stealing a packet of milk for his 11-month-old daughter from Shwapno super shop's Khilgaon outlet, landed a job at the company yesterday.

Sabbir Hasan Nasir, executive director of ACI Logistics Ltd, told The Daily Star, "We handed over the appointment letter to the jobless father with the support of Jahidul Islam, senior assistant commissioner of Khilgaon Zone [of Dhaka Metropolitan Police]."

"He will start working with us from Monday (today) as 'sourcing executivegeneral merchandise'," Sabbir added.

Earlier on Friday around 8:45pm, some people caught a 28-year-old man red-handed while he was trying to run away after stealing a milk packet from a Shwapno store.

AC Jahidul Islam was on duty at a check post, just opposite the super shop, on Shaheed Baki Sharak near the Khilgaon Taltola Market.

Noticing a gathering, Jahid sent a police team to check what happened. 8,000 but he lost the job three months Some locals and a security guard of back, said Jahid. the super shop dragged the man to the check post, AC Jahidul Islam, wrote in a authorities gave a job to the unemployed Facebook post.

"A man from the gathering shouted, drawing my attention, This man was running away after stealing.' The security guard of the super shop then told me that he was running away after stealing a packet of milk from the store," Jahid wrote.

"I asked the guard, what kind of milk. The security guard replied, 'A packet of Nan milk for kids."

AC Jahid further wrote that the thief looked like a decent man, that made him curious. "I asked him why he stole, and the man, with tears in his eyes, replied 'Sir, I've been unemployed for the last three months. I have a child at home but don't have money to buy milk."

Jahid further mentioned in the Facebook post that he realised how desperate the father was. The police official then asked the

security guard about the price of the milk

packet, and paid for it, letting the man The man used to work in a mobile phone shop with a monthly salary of Tk

"I am very happy that Shawpno father," Jahid said.



A boy takes a relaxing dip in the lake in the scorching heat at Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday.

Noor Hossain Chattar, also known as Zero Point, is in dilapidated state. The prominent landmark in Gulistan -- at the heart of Dhaka's commercial district -- bears marks of years of neglect, be it in the broken-down bricks and tiles at its base, or numerous posters plastered across it. PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

to return home Wednesday

UNB, Dhaka

Road, Transport and Bridges Minister and Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader, who was undergoing treatment in Singapore, will return home on Wednesday.

He will return around 6am in a Biman Bangladesh Airlines flight, said Shaikh Walid Faiej, public relations officer of Bridges Division.

The minister talked to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina over phone at 10:20am (Singapore time) yesterday.

Obaidul Qauder was admitted to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University hospital on March 3 following breathing complications. Tests revealed three blockages in his coronary artery. He was flown to Singapore the next day for treatment.

The minister underwent a bypass surgery there on March 20.

Obaidul Quader Govt records show small fraction of death on roads Says CIPRB director

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over 20,000 people die in road accidents every year in Bangladesh, but government records reflect only a small fraction of it, said Salim Mahmud Chowdhury, director of Centre for Injury Prevention and Research Bangladesh (CIPRB), yesterday.

Road traffic injury is a leading cause behind death of people globally, he said, adding that their research shows it is the second leading cause of injury-related mortality among all populations in Bangladesh.

Talking to The Daily Star during the closing ceremony of a weeklong programme arranged by CIPRB in Banani marking United Nations' Global Road Safety Week, he said according to CIPRB data, an estimated 23,000 people die from road accidents annually in Bangladesh. World Health

Organisation (WHO) estimated the number of road crash casualties in Bangladesh as 24,954 in 2016, he said.

"The number of annual deaths from road traffic injury varies in different reports. However, road accident deaths as per First Information Reports [FIR] of police puts the number between 2,500

and 3,500." He said motorcyclists and passengers and drivers of buses are among the most vulnerable to road accidents in Bangladesh. About 63 percent of all registered vehicles in Bangladesh are motorcycles, which is a road safety concern, especially in Dhaka city, he said.

Marking road safety week, CIPRB arranged the informal gathering of traffic police officials, distribution of awareness-raising leaflets, and a "first responder training" for rover scouts of BAF Shaheen College.

Xulhaz-Tonoy Murder

Charge sheet awaits home ministry's approval

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday sent the charge sheet prepared against eight suspected militants of Ansar-al Islam in connection with Xulhaz-Tonoy murder case to the home ministry for its approval.

After it is approved, the charge sheet will be placed before a Dhaka court, said Mohibul Islam, deputy commissioner of Counter

Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CITC) unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP). The murders were carried out on instructions of Maj (sacked) Syed Ziaul Haq,

military wing commander of Ansar al-Islam,

CTTC officials said quoting the charge sheet. Four of the accused -- Mozammel Husain alias Saimon, Arafat Rahman, Md Sheikh Abdullah, and Asadullah -- are in police custody.

Meanwhile, four others including Maj (sacked) Zia, Akram Hossain, Sabbirul Haque Chowdhury, Zunaid Ahmad alias Maulana Zuned alias Zunaid are on the run.

Suspected militants killed former USAID **APPAREL FAIR** official Xulhaz Mannan and his friend Venue: Drik Gallery Mahbub Rabbi Tonoy inside Xulhaz's Kalabagan flat on April 25, 2016.

DHAKA TODAY

Beauty and Fashion Fair 2019 Venue: Sayeedana Community Centre, Dhanmondi Time: 11am

ART EXHIBITION

The Work of Creation by Kazi Ghiyasuddin Venue: Bengal Shilpalay, Lalmatia Time: 12pm

Time: 10am

ART EXHIBITION Bodyspace Mindscape by Wakilur

Rahman Venue: Dwip Gallery, Lalmatia Time: 3pm

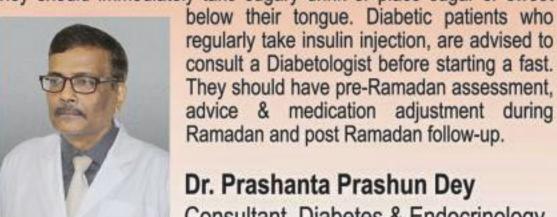
APPAREL EXHIBITION

Mirpur Eid Exhibition – 2019 Organiser: Manvik Events Venue: Setara Convention Centre, Mirpur Time: 10am



Fasting and Diabetes

Those diabetic patients who take anti diabetic drugs to control their blood sugar should seek advice from Diabetologists before starting a fast. Diabetic patients are strongly advised for regular self-monitoring of blood glucose. If diabetic patients experience low blood sugar levels (known as a hypo glycaemia) & feel dizzy, sweaty and disoriented, they should immediately take sugary drink or place sugar or sweet



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