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# Appoint OCs from BCS cadre

*Recommends ACC in its annual report, says this will restore people's confidence in police*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

To provide better public service at a root level, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has recommended appointing BCS cadre officials as officers-in-charge of police stations.

"Often there are allegations that victims are not getting the expected service. In some cases, there are allegations of misconduct, harassment, misuse of power and corruption .... Therefore, officials with ranks of assistant superintendent of police or additional superintendent of police could be posted as officers-in-charge of police stations," said the ACC in its annual report.

The commission believes people will have more faith in BCS cadres posted as OCs.

The government has agreed to the recommendation in principle.

ACC Chairman Iqbal Mahmood, accompanied by commissioners AFM Aminul Islam and Md Mozammel Haque Khan, yesterday handed over the report to President Abdul Hamid at the latter's Bangabhaban residence cum office.

After receiving the report, President Hamid asked the ACC to ensure proper punishment of the corrupt

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In summer heat, vehicles stuck in gridlock on the capital's Airport Road around 2:00pm yesterday, which was the seventh day of Ramadan. The city's perennial problem of traffic jam seems to have become even more severe at many places mainly due to traffic mismanagement.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

# ANTIBIOTICS ALARM Now four adults suffer side effects at RMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Four more patients suffered extreme side effects from the antibiotics they were administered with through intravenous infusion at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital on Sunday night.

The patients were all adults, aged between 30 and 60, at the orthopaedics ward, said Prof Alamgir Hossain, head of the department.

Afterwards, the RMCH suspended the use of four drugs on all patients.

The incident with the orthopaedic patients occurred soon after a committee, headed by the medicine department's Prof Mohammad Hasan Tarik, began to investigate the adverse reactions to the drugs among some children.

Earlier, some 14 paediatric patients, aged between two and eight, had adverse reactions to intravenous infusions of the same antibiotics at the hospital on Saturday night.

The next day, the hospital authority stopped using four drugs -- two antibiotics, an antacid and an antispasmodic -- on children. The drugs had been supplied by a state-owned pharmaceutical company.

In yesterday's incident, injections of Ceftriaxone and Flucloxacillin were

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# HC annoyed at failure to test Wasa water

*Raps LGRD ministry*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday expressed dissatisfaction at the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) for not complying with its order to examine the quality of water supplied by the Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) through a committee.

During the hearing of a writ petition filed by Advocate Tanvir Ahmed, the HC bench of Justice JBM Hassan and Justice Md Khairul Alam said only 22 bottles of water from 11 zones in Dhaka are needed for testing.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Tanvir said he submitted the report to the HC following several print and social media reports.

On May 8, the LGRD minister submitted a report to the HC mentioning that it had formed a four-member committee to examine the quality of the Wasa water.

Deputy Attorney General Motaher Hossain Sazu told The Daily Star that the bench expressed dissatisfaction at the LGRD ministry as it sought four months'

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# Controversy, protest as BCL unveils committee

*Married ones, non-students, expelled activists among 301-member body*

SAYED MOHMUD ULLAH and ASHIK ABDULLAH APU

The pro-Awami League student body Chhatra League yesterday announced its 301-member full-fledged central committee, touching off controversy and demonstration by some of those who could not make it to the new committee.

The committee included a few married people, non-students, extortionists, expelled BCL men, drug dealers and addicts, according to sources in the student organisation.

Besides, BCL insiders said, many dedicated leaders and activists were deprived, while those with alleged connections with BNP, its pro-student wing Chhatra Dal as well as Shibir have been included in the new committee.

The 301-member full-fledged central executive committee was formed about a year after BCL's 29th national council on May 11-12 last year. Later, Rezwanaul Haque Chowdhury Shovon became president and Golam Rabbani general secretary as nominated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on July 31 that year.

According to the BCL constitution's section-5 (Ga), married, non-student, businessmen and employers cannot get any post in the BCL committee. But its incumbent president and general secretary have picked some "controversial" people, ignoring many dedicated leaders and activists, said sources in the student body.

Shovon and Rabbani could not be reached for comments despite repeated attempts. Shovon did not pick up calls from these correspondents while Rabbani's phone was found switched off.

The new committee is consisted of 61 vice-presidents, 11 joint secretaries, 11 organising secretaries, 32 secretaries, 126 deputy secretaries, 47 assistant secretaries and 11 members.

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# BOAT CAPSIZE Bangladeshi death toll may rise

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of Bangladeshis feared to have died off the Tunisian coast in Friday's boat capsizing may go up, said the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) based on the information communicated by the Tunisian Red Crescent.

"There has been reports suggesting that some 75 migrants were in the vessel bound for Italy. However, Tunisian Red Crescent yesterday informed that the number of people boarding the boat was 85 to 90," said Imam Zafar Sikder, director of Restoring Family Links (RFL) department at BDRCS.

Tunisian Navy and fishermen on Saturday rescued 16 survivors. Of them 14 were Bangladeshis. According to a previous estimation, 37 among 60

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# Coin that could tear up Australian history



MAIL ONLINE

Australia may have been visited by Portuguese seafarers more than 250 years before Captain James Cook arrived on the continent.

That is one theory being examined by scientists in Australia as they try to trace the origins of an African coin which was found on a beach last year.

The copper artefact, which is one of several similar finds, is believed to be a Kilwa coin from what is now Tanzania and could date back almost 1,000 years.

But how the coin ended up on the Wessel Islands off northern Australia is not yet clear.

One possible explanation is that the Portuguese, who had raided Kilwa in 1505, left the coin behind on their travels in south-east Asia. Portuguese seafarers were in East Timor by 1515 and could potentially have reached the Australian mainland.

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**PRAYER TIMING MAY 14**

Fajr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 3:54	12:45	5:00	6:37	8:00
JAMAAT 4:04	1:15	5:15	6:47	8:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

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**SEHRI, IFTAR TIMING**

RAMADAN MAY SEHRI IFTAR				
8	14	6:37		
9	15	3:47	6:37	
10	16	3:47	6:38	

# Tk 2cr cocaine seized from bus in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Rab seized about 340 grams cocaine worth an estimated Tk 2 crore from an inter-city bus in Pabna's Ishwardi upazila on Sunday and arrested two people in this connection, said a press release issued by the elite force.

Mamunur Rashid, 40, is from Kushtia's Kumarkhali and Shah Alam, 29, is from Pabna's Santhia upazila.

Tipped off, a team of Rab-12 intercepted a Dhaka-bound bus of "Shyamoli Paribahan" in Dashuria area around 6:30pm, said a press release issued by Rab-12 Pabna Camp.

Searching the bus, the Rab team found the cocaine and arrested the two on suspicion of transporting the contraband drug, the press release added.

During primary interrogation, the two confessed that they had long been carrying different types of narcotics, the release claimed.

A case was filed with Ishwardi Police Station accusing the two.



Nurses hold a human chain in the capital's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area yesterday, demanding capital punishment for those who raped and murdered Shahinor Akter Tania, a nurse of Ibne Sina Hospital's Kallyanpur branch, on May 6.

PHOTO: STAR

# China strikes back at US

*Hikes tariffs on \$60b worth of US goods from June 1*

AFP, Beijing

China said yesterday it will raise tariffs on \$60 billion worth of US goods from June 1, in retaliation to the latest round of US tariff hikes and Washington's plans to target almost all Chinese imports.

The announcement came after the latest round of US-China trade negotiations ended Friday without a deal, and after Washington increased tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods.

US President Donald Trump had also ordered the start of a process to impose new duties on another \$300 billion worth of Chinese items.

Despite the retaliation, Beijing appeared to give time to find a resolution by setting the June 1 date.

The new rates will target a number of American imports with tariffs ranging from five percent to 25 percent, according to a statement by the Tariff Policy Commission of the State Council -- China's cabinet.

The Chinese response was announced soon after Trump warned Beijing not to retaliate.

"China should not retaliate-will only get worse!" the US president wrote in a series of tweets on trade.

But Beijing appeared to dig in.

"China will never surrender to external pressure," foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said at a regular briefing yesterday.

Global markets remain on red alert over a trade war between the two superpowers that most observers have warned could shatter global economic growth, and hurt demand for commodities like oil.

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