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ACC official took Tk 40 lakh bribe from me

Alleges DIG Mizan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Deputy Inspector General of police Mizanur Rahman, who is facing a probe by the Anti-Corruption Commission over allegation of amassing wealth illegally, has alleged that an enquiry officer took Tk 40 lakh as bribe with the false promise of exonerating him of all charges.

ACC began the probe in May last year. Mizan came under the spotlight in January last year when allegations arose that he forcibly married and tortured a woman. He was soon withdrawn from his post at Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

ACC appointed its Director Khandaker Enamul Basir to enquire into his wealth.

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Mizan said, "In January this year, Basir called me to submit my salary statement. I submitted the salary statement of my 28-year-long career."

"Basir then asked me to call his personal number as conversations on his official number is recorded," he added.

"I bought him [Basir] a mobile set and a SIM card as well," Mizan further claimed.

"Around January 10, Basir met me at Ramna Park and demanded Tk 50 lakh," he said, adding, "Basir said he could clear all charges against me."

Mizan said, "I gave him Tk 25 lakh on January 15 and Tk 15 lakh on February 25."

Asked about the source of that money, Mizan said he

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Scores of protestors occupy the Dhaka-Chattogram highway during a blockade by fishermen and their family members protesting the 65-day fishing ban. The two-hour protest began from 10:00am in Sitakundu upazila. Inset, commuters wait in long tailbacks which formed on the highway due to the protest.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

FISHING BAN AT SEA Fishermen block highway in Ctg for hrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

People leaving Chattogram or heading towards the city were stuck in long tailbacks for several hours after fishermen blocked Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Sitakunda upazila yesterday, demanding the lifting of an ongoing ban on fishing at sea.

The barricade was put up in Faujdarhat police outpost area at 10:00am and removed two hours later after the authorities assured them of taking the demand to the high-ups.

During the protest, long-route buses, lorries, and covered vans were standing still on both sides of the highway.

The government for the first time imposed a 65-day ban on fishing at sea from May 20 to July 23, to ensure smooth breeding of marine fish.

Talking to The Daily Star at the spot, fisherman Priyonth Jaladash of the port city's Sagorika area said the ban came as a blow to their livelihood.

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Cops allowed ex-Sonagazi OC to leave

They did it despite arrest warrant issued two days back

STAR REPORT

Rangpur police authorities allowed former Sonagazi officer-in-charge Moazzem Hossain to leave for the capital two days after a Dhaka court issued an arrest warrant against him on May 27.

On May 29, Moazzem left Rangpur for Dhaka after being summoned by the Police Headquarters, said Rangpur range Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Devdas Battachariya yesterday, adding that Moazzem had been unofficially absent since then.

Moazzem remains traceless and his cellphone has been switched off since he left, said Md Shariful Alam, staff officer to the DIG. He had apparently told the authorities that he would return within four to five days, Sharif added.

The DIG said he had received the arrest warrant on Saturday.

Earlier, the district's Superintendent of Police Kazi Moniruzzaman said he received the arrest warrant on June 3, contradicting media claims that a copy of it had reached the Feni SP office on May 31. Moniruzzaman also said the warrant

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TMC-BJP GUN BATTLE Four shot dead in West Bengal

18 supporters injured

AFP, Kolkata

A gun battle between supporters of India's ruling right-wing party and a regional rival has killed four people in West Bengal, police said yesterday, as violence raged in the tinderbox state.

At least 18 others were injured in the clashes that broke out Saturday in the eastern state that has been on edge since Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) launched an aggressive campaign to win parliamentary seats last year.

"Three of the dead were BJP workers while the other was a (regional) Trinamool party supporter," a police official told AFP.

Local BJP leader Mukul Roy tweeted that three BJP workers were shot dead and a Trinamool minister said one of his party members was killed in the fight.

Violence peaked across the state during the general election in April-May and has continued even after results were announced, giving a massive nationwide victory to the BJP.

Both the BJP and Trinamool, led by the firebrand Modi critic Mamata Banerjee, accuse each other of killings, intimidation and corruption.

Sandeshkhali, the site of the latest gun battle, remained tense yesterday with more than 100 police personnel standing guard in the area, witnesses told AFP.

The BJP, which has traditionally held sway in the Hindi-speaking belt in the north, has been trying hard to pick up support in West Bengal where Banerjee's party has dominated for close to a decade.

It won 18 seats in the general election in West Bengal, up from the two that it managed in 2014, en route to its nationwide win. Trinamool won

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Two held for setting teen girl on fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Police in the last two days arrested two people on charge of attempting to kill a schoolgirl by setting her on fire in Rajbari's Sadar upazila.

Shilpi Begum, 40, is the wife of Zahangir Majhi from Kholabariya village and Golam Raihan Shetu, 24, is the son of Md Babul from Khankhanapur village.

Shetu was arrested from Khankhanapur around 11:00pm on Saturday and Shilpi was held from Goalanda Mor area around 12:00 pm yesterday, said Swapan Kumar Majumdar, officer-in-charge of Rajbari Sadar Police Station.

Shilpi is the maternal aunt of Shetu, the OC said.

Earlier on Thursday, four people in burqas entered the girl's house around 12:30pm when she was alone and dragged her to a nearby jute field, the OC said.

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Early Tintin cover sells for \$1.1 m

AFP, Washington



An original drawing used for the first published "Tintin" cover was sold at auction on Saturday in Dallas for \$1.12 million, the Heritage Auctions house told AFP.

The identities of seller and buyer have not been released.

The illustration, by Tintin creator Hergé (the pseudonym of Belgian cartoonist Georges Remi), shows the plucky young reporter sitting on a tree

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Man held on rape charges

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

A man has been arrested in Narsingdi on charge of raping a hearing-impaired woman.

Police picked up Oli Ahmed, 45, from Baganbari village under Belabo upazila yesterday, said Fakhruddin Bhuiyan, officer-in-charge of Belabo Police Station.

According to the victim, she was home alone when her neighbour Oli, a father of two children, raped her on Thursday morning.

She filed a case that

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PRAYER TIMING JUNE 10

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-50 8-15
JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-55 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Three killed in 'shootouts' in Dhaka, Feni

STAR REPORT

Three men were killed in separate "gunfights" with law enforcers in Feni and Dhaka early yesterday.

In Feni's Sadar upazila, two suspected drug peddlers were killed in a "gunfight" with members of Rab-7 in an abandoned house near Fatehpur rail crossing early yesterday.

One of the two dead was identified as Mahbul Hossain Rubel, of Cumilla's Chandina upazila, while whereabouts of another could not be known immediately.

Rab-7 Deputy Director Squadron Leader Safayat Jamil Fahim claimed that a team of the elite force conducted a raid at the abandoned house on information. During the raid, a group of criminals opened fire, forcing them to retaliate.

After the "gunfight" ended, Rab recovered the two bodies from the spot, he added.

Rab also claimed to have recovered a pistol, a locally

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A new boat being built, an endeavour that can cost up to Tk 2 lakh, in preparation for the upcoming monsoon season. Almost 2,000 people -- especially those from the five nearby chars -- use such boats every day to cross the Jamuna river. The photo was taken from Bogura's Dhunat upazila recently.

PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUJ

DIP soon to be restructured

Says home boss

Bss, Dhaka

The Department of Immigration and Passports will be reorganised soon, said Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal.

He made the statement yesterday while talking to journalists at his ministry office.

The remark came after a journalist raised a question about Biman Bangladesh Airline's Captain Fazal Mahmood who was held at Qatar airport without his passport to fly Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina back home.

"When immigration police asked him to show his passport, he [Fazal Mahmood], said that his passport was in his bag," the minister said, adding that a sub Inspector of Immigration Police was suspended temporarily in this regard.

During the press briefing, the home minister also said

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