



BLACK MONEY WHITENING

No scope to invest in land

Finance Bill passed in parliament

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliament yesterday passed the tax measures for fiscal 2019-20, scrapping the opportunity to invest black money to buy land.

This scope was proposed in the Finance Bill 2019, placed in parliament on June 13.

However, the scope for investing black money in construction, in special economic zones, Hi-Tech parks as well as for buying residential buildings or apartments will remain as proposed.

The House also reduced tax on retained earnings and reserves of companies to 10 percent from initially-proposed 15 percent in the face of outcry from businesses, who argued that the step would discourage business expansion and investment.

Lawmakers also passed the proposal to



cut tax on stock dividend to 10 percent, a move taken to bolster confidence of small investors.

Usually, the finance minister places proposals for changes in tax measures after the prime minister tables her recommendations. This year, although Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal was present in parliament, he did not say a word about the changes.

The finance ministry also did not share any written brief about the changes with journalists, a break from the tradition. It did not brief the media either.

In her speech, Sheikh Hasina said the government initially proposed to impose 15 percent tax on stock dividend to encourage listed companies to pay cash dividend to

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Pakistan pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi celebrates after scalping a wicket in a World Cup encounter against Afghanistan in Leeds yesterday. He returned figures of four for 47 from his ten overs to help restrict Afghanistan to a paltry 227 for nine.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Busy days for Mash ahead of Indian challenge

SPORTS REPORTER from Birmingham

The Hyatt Regency in Birmingham became a busier hotel over the last two days. When the Bangladesh team arrived here on June 25, it became a hub of sorts for subcontinental visitors in the stronghold of the south-east Asian community in Britain, but it reached another level on Friday when the Indian team arrived at the same hotel. For once on their World Cup trek through the UK, Bangladesh's supporters will be in the minority.

Bangladesh had faced the full volume of Indian support during their Champions Trophy semifinal in 2017 here, and Indians swamped

the streets on the day of the match and overwhelmed the Bangladeshi support inside the arena, much as their team did to their opponents. So when Bangladesh take on India in their World Cup match at Edgbaston on July 2, they will be underdogs in every sense -- in terms of playing ability, tournament position and recent results between the two teams.

It is an encounter that, depending on whether or not India beat hosts England today, Bangladesh will have to win to stay alive in the race to the semifinals. On Friday night, while Birmingham was abuzz with weekend revellers, Mashrafe came out in front of the hotel for some fresh air and while that would

have caused a small commotion of Bangladeshi selfie-hunters on other nights, Mashrafe was more or less left alone as Indian fans tried to talk their way through tough hotel security and failed. Mashrafe recalled how overwhelming the support for India was the last time.

Although the match was still four days away, the wheels in Mashrafe's head were already turning about finding a way past a team that was yet to be defeated in the World Cup. Would it be better to bat first or bowl first if they won the toss? They lost by nine wickets after batting first and scoring 264 in 2017. Bowling first would open the possibility of them

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Pakistan survive a scare

AFP, Birmingham

Pakistan scraped to a three-wicket victory over Afghanistan in a topsy-turvy encounter of the World Cup at the in Headingley yesterday.

Pakistan struggled in their chase of 228, having lost six wickets by 40 overs. But some heroic batting from Imad Wasim and Wahab Riaz saw the former champions across the line, with two balls to spare. The win took Pakistan to nine points from eight games, and they will play their final group game against

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AUSTRALIA DEMOLISH NZ -- 53



LINKS WITH RIFAT KILLERS

Local AL leaders accuse each other

Protests on in Barguna for arrest of killers

STAR REPORT

Senior Awami League leaders in Barguna are now accusing each other of having links with the killers of Rifat Sharif who died after being hacked in broad daylight in the district town on Wednesday.

Many of the accused were seen actively participating in different programmes of the AL and its associate organisation Jubo League, said locals.

One of the main accused, Sabbir Hossain Nayan alias Nayan Bond, is a close associate of advocate Sunam Devnath, son of local lawmaker Dharendra Deb Nath Shambhu, alleged Barguna AL Vice-President Delwar Hossain, adding that Nayan managed to build a good relation with the local police because of that "identity".

Sunam, however, denied having any ties with Nayan. "Our political rivals are trying to gain political mileage out of the killing. Nayan did not belong to our group," he said.

Talking to The Daily Star, Shambhu said, "The accused is from my rival group which is spreading propaganda against me to damage my political career."

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'NOTHING HAS CHANGED'

Although talks over Bangladesh's chances of reaching the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup semifinals took centre stage in discussions, in recent times the focus has shifted to the possible retirement of ODI skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza. With less than 48 hours to go before Bangladesh's crucial match against India in Birmingham, Mashrafe spoke of injury management, his thoughts on retirement and other issues in an interview with The Daily Star's Sakeb Subhan, which you will find on S1.

GOVT HOSPITAL

Most lacking even basic equipment

70pc public healthcare facilities don't have thermometers, stethoscopes, blood pressure gauge, weighing scales, torchlights



The dilapidated state of the Boromi union sub-centre health facility in Sreepur of Gazipur.

PHOTO: STAR

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Seven out of every ten healthcare facilities in Bangladesh do not have all of the six basic equipment required to treat patients, a government survey finds.

The preliminary report of Bangladesh Health Facility Survey (BFHS) 2017 paints a dismal picture of the country's public healthcare system as it found only 28 percent of health facilities having all six basic equipment items, like thermometers, stethoscopes, blood pressure gauge, weighing scales for infants and adults, and torchlights.

Most health centres had four or five of the basic equipment, but not all six at once.

Conducted by National Institute of Population Research and Training, the survey covered 1,524 health facilities and 5,400 service providers from eight divisions. A total of 40 teams led by doctors collected data from the health facilities.

It assessed public facilities, private facilities with at least 20 beds, and nongovernmental healthcare facilities in the formal sector, meaning those facilities that maintain widely accepted licensing, training, and policy standards.

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3 YEARS OF CAFÉ SIEGE

Threat not big, worry still there

SHARIFUL ISLAM and MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

The IS-inspired "Neo JMB" and al-Qaeda-influenced Ansar Al Islam, which carried out targeted attacks between 2013 and 2016, have lost much of their strength, but are still active in cyberspace, motivating followers to join militancy.

Counterterrorism officials believe the terror outfits have little capacity to launch any organised attacks and can only perpetrate small and indiscriminate incidents.

Still law enforcers are on high alert especially after they intercepted communications between "Neo JMB" members regarding the third anniversary of Gulshan café siege.

The JMB offshoot -- "Neo JMB" as law enforcers call it -- was behind the country's worst-ever terror attack which led to the killing of 20 hostages, including 17 foreigners, at the Holey Artisan Bakery in Gulshan on July 1, 2016.

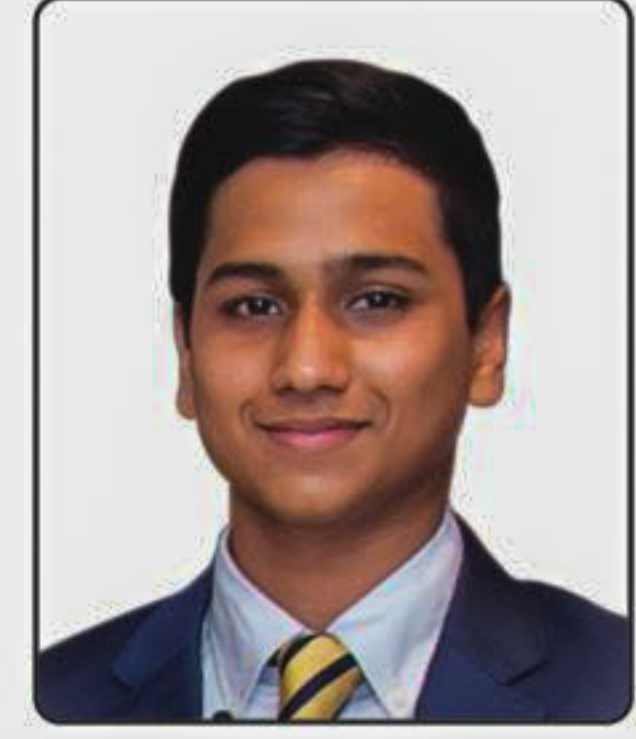
Two police officers also got killed after they responded immediately.

Besides, five attackers and a restaurant staffer died during the Operation Thunderbolt that brought an end to the nerve-racking 12-hour hostage crisis at the posh eatery.

In July last year, police pressed charges

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In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful



FARAAZ AYAAZ HOSSAIN
April 15, 1996 - July 1, 2016

FARAAZ'S 3RD DEATH ANNIVERSARY July 1, 2019

On July 1, 2019, we will commemorate the third death anniversary of our beloved Faraaz, this will mark three years since the night we lost him during the horrific terrorist attack at the Holey Artisan Bakery, the mindless massacre of 23 that shook Bangladesh and stunned the world.

Faraaz's sacrifice that night, during the terrorist attack, his decision to stay and protect his two dear friends continues to bring immense pride to our entire family. His embodiment of his unshakeable values of courage, friendship and humanity continue to be our source of strength and has become a moral compass.

We are simply overwhelmed by those who have bestowed honours and recognitions on Faraaz, both at home and abroad, for his display of core values. His sacrifice has today touched hearts beyond borders, regardless of race, religion or nationality. The love Faraaz has garnered from those he knew and even those he did not, continues to invigorate us.

Three years since July 1, 2016, we, Faraaz's parents, brother, grandparents, family and all those who knew him, urge you to remember him for his act of valour and deep belief in humanity. We pray to the Almighty for his Eternal Peace and to grant him a Heavenly Abode.

We extend our gratitude for the unstinting support and love that has encircled us from all sections of society, both at home and abroad.

We, Faraaz's family, wish your kind presence at the Milad to be held on **Monday, July 1, 2019 after Asr prayer (5:30pm) at House #NE(J)- 4, Road # 83, Gulshan-2, Dhaka- 1212.**