The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police has sued M Tajul Islam, chairman of Aziz Teachers and students of Dhaka University yesterday Co-operative Commerce demanded removal of Kazi Wasi Uddin, additional and Finance Credit Society secretary to the fisheries and livestock ministry, for his Limited, in a money laundering case on charges remarks over the recent study on milk conducted by the of embezzling Tk 300 crore and siphoning off around a hundred crore of customers' they formed a human chain at the base of Raju Memorial Sculpture to extend their support to Prof ABM Faroque, money, to Canada.

A CID team earlier arrested Tajul, 69, from Motijheel on Wednesday.

with the intention of raising awareness, as he considered the matter to be a threat to public health. The remarks that "Tajul amassed around the additional secretary made are not acceptable," said Prof Tk 300 crore from 11,425 customers, which was "The additional secretary should be removed and collected from 80 branches of the organisation," CID's punished. He is insulting the researcher through offensive speech, whereas he should have conducted further research special superintendent in this regard, since the issue concerns public health," he Molla Nazrul Islam told reporters at a press briefing On June 25, a group of DU researchers led by Prof at its headquarters in

Faroque said they detected detergent and three types of Malibagh yesterday. antibiotics in packaged milk, after testing seven samples However, it had approval from the Department of of widely-sold pasteurised milk from five brands and three Cooperatives for only 26 The university's pharmacy department subsequently branches, he said.

On Thursday, a Dhaka A senior official of ministry of fisheries and livestock court put Tajul on two days' remand in another case researchers if they fail to show their study published in a filed in May for allegedly embezzling Tk 16 lakh from a customer.

> A money laundering case was filed with Ramna Police Station against Tajul, his

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DHAKA MONDAY JULY 15, 2019, ASHAR 31, 1426 BS

'Additional secretary

should be removed'

DU teachers, students extend

support to Prof ABM Faroque

Under the banner of "Students of Dhaka University",

"Prof Faroque disclosed the test result to journalists

ASM Abdur Rahman, dean of Pharmacy faculty.

DU CORRESPONDENT

university's pharmacy faculty.

samples of unpasteurised milk.

peer-reviewed journal.

denied any involvement with the study.

conducting their second round of study.

on July 9 threatened to take legal action against DU

they found traces of four antibiotics in ten samples after

The same researchers on Saturday announced that

Speaking at the programme, Md Abduz Zaher, associate

who led the researches.

added.



An activist sits on a road barricade while another sits on the road on the path of an oncoming bus, protesting gas price hike. Left Democratic Alliance, a coalition of eight left-leaning political parties, organised the protest in front of Jatiya Press Club yesterday from where they marched towards the energy ministry.

PADMA BRIDGE

Most challenging part over, say engineers STAR REPORT

The work of much-anticipated Padma Bridge witnessed a major development yesterday, as construction of all 294 piles of the bridge were completed by last "There were complications over several

piers. With the completion of boring of the last pile, there is no major problem [in the project]," Project Director Shafiqul Islam told The Daily Star yesterday.

The 6.15km bridge would have a total of 42 piers, and each pier would have six or seven piles, except for the first and 42nd

Work for boring the seventh pile of 26th pier started at around 11:35am yesterday and was completed shortly after 10pm, engineers said. Work of bottom section of the pile

rest of the work was scheduled to start on Saturday.

However, the authorities had to change

was completed on Wednesday, and the

the date due to bad weather.

An engineer of the project said it usually takes 6-10 hours to complete boring of a pile. However, this pile took longer, the engineer, wishing anonymity, said. Dewan Abdul Quader, an executive

engineer of the project, said "We are feeling very relieved that the most challenging work of the Padma Bridge is coming to an end." "The pile driving work faced several

challenges... But we are successful in our bid to win over the mighty Padma," Abdul Quader told our Munshiganj correspondent. Not only local and foreign officials

and workers, but also people of the area expressed relief as the piling work was nearing its completion, our correspondent reported. Piling work of the bridge started in

2014 but complexity arose over the design of 14 piers as differences emerged between the information obtained through

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BYLC to train 10,000 youths in four years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center will provide training to some 10,000 youths in a span of four years to develop their career-oriented competitiveness to succeed in the job market.

During this time, it is expecting to arrange jobs for 4,000 of the trained youths from different universities and also to fund 30 young entrepreneurs.

BYLC held a press conference yesterday at Pan Pacific Sonargaon hotel to brief the media in this regard.

The goal will be achieved under a project titled "Creating a sustainable and prosperous future for Bangladeshi SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

bound to pay salaries of its employees from internal income. Except 40 or 50 employees.

As of June this year, the sum of unpaid salaries stands at Tk 692 crore, said leaders of the association.

employees have not received any pensions, amounting another Tk 120

we have come here to draw attention of honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina," Abdul Alim Mollah, president of BAPS told The Daily Star.

"All services in all municipalities will remain suspended and we will not move away from here [Jatiya Press Club] until our demand is met," he

Thousands of municipal workers demonstrate for arrears Several thousand employees of

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

the municipalities from across the country yesterday staged a sit-in in front of Jatiya Press Club, demanding their salaries be paid from state funds, like other government employees'. Due to fund crunch of the local

government bodies, employees have not been paid their salaries for various periods -- ranging from several months up to five years, according to leaders of Bangladesh Association of Paurashava Services (BAPS). By law, all 327 municipalities are

of those, no municipality generates enough revenue to pay salaries of the

Besides, some 964 retired

crore, they said. "We got no solution from discussions with the high-ups of the ministry [of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives]. Now

In March last year, the ministry formed a seven-member committee, Mahbub Hossain, by



A section of demonstrators in front of the Jatiya Press Club.

additional secretary development wing) of the Local Division, Government submitted a report recently.

The committee recommended the on the road. government to pay the due salaries, and to form another committee to resolve the pension issue.

"We have rejected the report, because it has said nothing about our main demand of salaries from state fund," Abdul Alim Mollah said.

Earlier in the morning, they also held a rally in the auditorium of the Engineers Institution of Bangladesh in Dhaka as part of their pre-scheduled series of programmes.

Following the rally at noon,

(urban thousands of demonstrators brought out a procession and took position on the road in front of Jatiya Press Club, slowing down vehicular movement

PHOTO: STAR

"In 2009, I retired after 25 years in service. But I haven't been paid my pension yet. I don't have money to buy medicines," said 77-yearold Abdul Hakim, who came from Bagerhat municipality.

Contacted, Additional Secretary Mahbub Hossain of Local Government Division declined to comment on the matter. Secretary of LGRD Ministry Helaluddin Ahmed could not be reached for comments despite repeated attempts.

Traders, businessmen demand at human chain STAFF CORRESPONDENT delay the trial process. He should Police Station, said police will submit be given exemplary punishment Traders and businessmen in Old

Dhaka's Nawabpur area yesterday demanded capital punishment for the rapist and killer of Wari schoolgirl Samia Afrin Saima.

More than 300 people under the banner of Nawabpur Shop Owners' Samity formed a human chain in the area, seeking justice for the sevenyear-old.

Saima's father Abdus Salam said, "As the accused has admitted to the crime, there is no reason to immediately."

Ensure capital punishment

for Wari schoolgirl's killer

businessman, also urged parents to remain alert. Chowdhury Asifur Rahman,

president of Bangladesh Electrical Motor Pump Importers' Association, sought Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's intervention in ensuring quick trial of child rapes and maximum punishment for rapists.

Speaking at the event, Azizur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Wari

a charge sheet against the accused soon. He too hoped that justice will The mourning father, also a be served to the bereaved family.

Khandakar Monirul Haque, president of Nawabpur Shop Owners' Samity, thanked law enforcers for arresting the perpetrator quickly and

demanded speedy trial of the case. Jailed Harun Or Rashid, the lone accused in the case filed over the rape and murder of Saima, confessed that he had killed her after rape on July 5 so that she cannot disclose his

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



People demand justice for Saima at the human chain.

added. headed

Witness deposition halted due to leaky ceiling at ICT-1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 could not record the testimonies of witnesses yesterday as a leaking ceiling damaged the computer network of the special court.

Although data of the computer network was recovered after a five-hour attempt, the authorities have to establish a new network immediately, tribunal officials said.

An official said on several occasions, they have informed the authorities concerned about the ceiling leaking during rain but to no avail.

The incident happened 16 months after a part of the ceiling of the old High Court building that houses the International Crimes Tribunal collapsed, he said. Part of the ceiling of the courtroom

collapsed during proceedings in 2012. Besides, parts of the ceiling of the building's west block, which houses the chief prosecutor's office, had collapsed several times -- forcing the chief prosecutor to write to the authorities for renovation

of the century-old building at least twice. The government set up ICT-1 in March 2010 and ICT-2 in March 2012 in the east block and later allotted the west block to the chief prosecutor's office.

According to documents, the building opposite Curzon Hall of Dhaka University was constructed in the beginning of the 20th century. On behalf of the tribunal's registrar,

Star that rainwater leaked through the

Khondoker Mehdi Maswood, senior IT consultant of the tribunal, told The Daily

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HALL-MARK SCANDAL Jasmine lands in jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent Hall-Mark Group Chairman Jasmine Islam to jail after she surrendered before it in a graft case.

Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka passed the order, after Jasmine surrendered through her lawyer.

Earlier on June 16, the Supreme Court cancelled the permanent bail to Jasmine (granted on March 10), and directed her to surrender before the trial court within four weeks.

Showing respect to the apex court, their client surrendered before the court, the lawyer said. On November 1, 2016,

the ACC filed the case with Motijheel Police Station accusing Jasmine and 15 others of misappropriating Tk 85.87 crore from Janata Bank. On November 5, 2017

-- following a bail petition by Jasmine -- the HC issued a rule asking the ACC and the government to explain why she should not be granted bail in the case. Jasmine, wife of Hall-

DIGITAL SECURITY LAW

Govt to look into objections, says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Anisul Huq yesterday said the government will take all necessary steps to stop misuse of the digital security law.

"We [govt] will look into sections of the digital security law on which some stakeholders have objections," he said.

The minister said this while speaking to reporters after a meeting with an 11-member delegation of the European Union led by its Ambassador to Bangladesh Rensje Teerink at his Gulshan residential office. Anisul said, "I want to reiterate that the

act was not formulated to curtail people's

constitutional rights, freedom of speech or freedom of press. The law has been formulated to resist cybercrimes." US Ambassador Earl R Miller and

Canadian High Commissioner Benoit Préfontaine also attended the meeting. The minister said the delegation had

some concerns over the law and they met him to discuss it. "Today, discussions took place on Section 43 of the Digital Security Act,

2018 [relating to search, seizure and arrest without warrant]. I have heard their statements and assured them of discussing the issue with the government," he said.

rules of the law," the minister added. The Digital Security Act was passed in parliament last year, drawing criticism from

journalists, rights groups and civil society members. SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

"Besides, I have assured them of talking to them about the issue further, during framing