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MP Papul jailed in Kuwait

Sentenced to four years in a bribery case

STAR REPORT

A Kuwaiti court yesterday sentenced Bangladeshi lawmaker Kazi Shahidul Islam Papul and four others to four years in jail in a bribery case.

Issuing the judgment, the court, headed by Counselor Abdullah Al-Othman, also fined them 1.9 million Kuwaiti dinars.

The others sentenced include Kuwait's interior ministry's Assistant Under-Secretary Maj Gen Mazen Al-Jarrah, and Nawaf Al-Mutairi, Hassan Al-Khader and one Bangladeshi named Mohammad Rashidul Islam, report Kuwaiti newspaper Alqabas and other sources. The criminal court also ordered the deportation of

Rashidul Islam after jail terms. Kuwaiti MP Saadoun Hammad and former MP Salah Khorshid, and three Bangladeshis -- Mahbub, Sheikh Masum and Anowar Molla -- who were also accused in the case for bribery, were acquitted.

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Maintaining physical distancing, doctors, nurses and other employees of Mugda Medical College and Hospital wait in gueues on the hospital's third floor to collect registration forms for Covid-19 vaccination. Sixty people were given the jabs at the hospital yesterday, the last day of the two-day piloting of inoculation against the PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN coronavirus.

Frontliners lead from the front

Several ministers also take first jabs as pilot vaccination ends

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two-day piloting of inoculation against Covid-19 ended at five public hospitals in the capital yesterday.

Of the 541 people who got the vaccine shots yesterday, 296 were doctors, according to the Directorate General of

Health Services. On Wednesday, 26 people took their first shot of the twodose Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine after Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina launched the programme from the Gono Bhaban. Political leaders and eminent personalities also joined frontline health workers yesterday to encourage people to take part in the countrywide mass inoculation campaign, scheduled to start on February 7.

Since Wednesday, people have been able to register for vaccination on shurokkha.gov.bd or by using the mobile app titled Shurokkha.

The government plans to vaccinate 60 lakh people in the first month of the campaign and another 50 lakh in the

The 567 people who received their first doses will be observed for seven days.

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TI Corruption Perception Index

Ranking same, but 'graft rose'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has been ranked 146th having scored only 26 out of 100 in the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index 2020. It failed to improve both in terms of ranking and score from the previous year.

The country has been placed at the 12th spot from the bottom, two notches worse from the previous index.

The index has been a flagship research of TI, a Berlinbased global graft watchdog, since 1995. This year, the index has been prepared on 180 countries. There have been instances where more than one country secured the same spot as they scored the same.

Disclosing the findings at a virtual press conference Transparency International Bangladesh SEE PAGE 2 COL 3 | farce. CHATTOGRAM MAYORAL RACE

Shahadat got no vote in 7 centres

Got single-digit vote at 80 centres, polls officials say; all but AL lose deposit

RASHIDUL HASAN and DWAIPAYAN BARUA from Ctg

Defeated BNP mayoral candidate Shahadat Hossain didn't get any vote in at least seven polling centres and bagged single-digit votes at 80 centres in the Chattogram City Corporation Polls, said a top official at the Returning Office in the port city.

BNP leaders say this clearly shows that Wednesday's election was nothing but a

They also alleged that the polls were manipulated through widespread irregularities and the capture of polling centres by the supporters of mayor-elect Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, who contested the election on the ruling Awami League ticket.

The BNP leaders also raised questions about the long delay in announcing results as polling was held through electronic voting machines.

MORE ON PAGE 3,12 SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

Some mistakes made ACC questionable

Observes HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday observed that some mistakes by the Anti Corruption Commission has made the entire institution questionable.

The ACC has done many good things, but made a couple of mistakes like conducting a flawed investigation or prosecuting the wrong person, the HC said.

The bench of Justice M SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

* COMMENTARY Thank you and congratulations

Govt and PM deserve our praise for timely delivery of vaccines

MAHFUZ ANAM

The Daily Star | IPD

Every government is hungry for praise and ours is no exception. Media becomes a government's favourite when it does nothing but praise. That, however, does not serve society or its people. The irony is that it does not serve the government either. It deprives it of the essential, useful and necessary feedback that is like the oxygen for a person's health. Yet all that a government cares about is praise and never really appreciates the crucial role that objective criticism plays.

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