



Probe if he's the right one jailed

HC asks for judicial enquiry into man serving time for mistaken identity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the authorities concerned to launch a judicial enquiry into the allegation that an innocent man has been in jail instead of a convict in a drugs case.

The man in jail is Manik Hawlader while the convict is Manik Mia of Shariatpur's Bhedarganj upazila. Hawlader, who claims to be innocent, has been in Sirajganj jail since he was arrested on November 28, 2020.

The HC ordered the chief judicial magistrate (CJM) of Shariatpur to conduct the enquiry in order to identify the actual accused of the case and to submit the probe report to the HC in 30 days.

Special Tribunal-1 of Sirajganj and its jail superintendent have been asked to assist the chief judicial magistrate conduct the probe.

The HC also issued a rule asking its respondents to explain why the arrest of Manik Hawlader and his imprisonment without verification of the names, addresses and other details of both the men should not be declared illegal.

In the rule, the court asked them to explain why they should not be directed to release Manik Hawlader from jail, Deputy Attorney General Tushar Kanti Roy told The Daily Star.

Secretaries of the home and law ministries, deputy commissioner and CJM of Shariatpur, deputy commissioner of Sirajganj, judge of Special

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1



Standing amidst a paddy field, a farmer applies fertiliser to his crops on a Jamuna char in Tangail's Bhuapur upazila. Despite working dawn to dusk to grow each batch of paddy, many farmers like him hardly get fair prices for their produce. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Daily deaths, Covid-19 infections rise again

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh's novel coronavirus caseload rose to 551,175 yesterday after the health authorities confirmed 845 new cases in 24 hours till the morning.

Fourteen Covid-19 related deaths were reported during this period, pushing up the local fatalities to 8,476.

A total of 1,117 people recovered from the virus infection during the same 24-hour period, according to the Directorate General of Health Services. So far, 504,120 patients (91.46 percent) have recovered.

Bangladesh reported its first novel coronavirus cases on March 8 last year and the first death on March 18.

Meanwhile, the daily

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5

4 EC officials sued for forging NID cards

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Four election officials in Kushtia have been sued for their alleged involvement in National Identity Card forgery.

Using the fake NID cards, a gang attempted to grab a house on 2.5 bighas of land, a property estimated to be worth around Tk 100 crore, in Kushtia city.

Senior District Election Officer Anisur Rahman filed two cases with Kushtia model and Kumarkhali police stations on Thursday over the incident. In both cases, a few sections of the Digital Security Act (DSA) have been used, Anisur told The Daily Star yesterday.

According to the case statements, the property in Kushtia city is owned by MMA Wadud, a resident of 110 NS (Nabab Seraj-Ud-Daula) Road, and five members of his family. A gang forged six NID cards under their names and other details and tried to grab the property.

After the incident came to light, the Election Commission launched an investigation and found evidence that four officials and an employee of the Kushtia District Election Office were involved in the forgery.

The case with Kushtia Model Police Station was filed under Section 20 of

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6

ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Bhashani's support for non-cooperation movement



Maulana Bhashani addressing a mammoth gathering at Paltan Maidan on March 9, 1971.

MARCH 9, 1971
SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

'LA-KUM DEE-NU-KOOM WA LEE-YA DEEN'
Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani addressed a mass gathering at Paltan Maidan on March 9. In his address, he proclaimed full support to the ongoing non-cooperation

movement and called upon the people to continue the struggle unless success was achieved. He further stated that if the government does not accept Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's demand by March 25, he would join hands with Bangabandhu and launch a mass movement.

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

'We could not fulfil people's expectations'

Says outgoing ACC chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission could not completely fulfil people's expectations regarding curbing graft, outgoing ACC Chairman Iqbal Mahmood said yesterday.

"People have high expectations from the ACC... I am leaving office with dissatisfaction that we could not fulfil people's expectations to that level," he said.

Iqbal was addressing a views-exchange meeting with the media at the ACC headquarters in the capital's Segunbagicha before a farewell ceremony.

Iqbal said he carried out

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6

Dolphins have personality traits similar to humans



INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Dolphins have similar personality traits to humans and primates, despite evolving in completely different environments, according to research.

The project, which studied 134 bottlenose dolphins held in captivity around the world, has

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

45 'BCL men' sued for vandalising, looting shop

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barishal

Some 45 alleged BCL activists were sued yesterday over ransacking and looting a store selling clothes, shoes, and perfume in Barishal city.

According to the case statement, around 40 to 50 youths came to the

SEE PAGE 13 COL 6



PRAYER TIMING MARCH 9
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-15 12-45 4-30 6-05 7-30
JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A skeleton of a giraffe has been placed at the entrance to the country's first anatomy museum, set up at Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Sciences University. The giraffe died at the national zoo in Dhaka in 2019 and the museum authorities preserved the huge skeleton spending Tk 2.5 lakh. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

600 miners march off coalmine

Cite being confined to Barapukuria coalmine site for months, and poor living, working conditions

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Over 600 miners of Barapukuria Coal Mining Company Limited in Dinajpur left the project area Sunday night protesting against unbearable working conditions.

They alleged that their Chinese employer forced them to stay inside the project area despite the poor living conditions there and tortured them in the name of maintaining health safety.

Their departure affected coal production in Parbatipur upazila of Dinajpur, which supplies coal to Barapukuria Coal-fired 525MW Power

SEE PAGE 13 COL 1

PROTESTS IN MYANMAR Crackdown on, 3 more killed Shops, factories, banks closed in Yangon

REUTERS

Three demonstrators were killed in Myanmar yesterday, witnesses said, while shops, factories and banks were closed in the main city Yangon in protests against last month's military coup.

Security forces were also deployed at hospitals and universities, state media said.

Two of the victims died of gunshot wounds to the head in the northern town

SEE PAGE 13 COL 3

WE MOURN



MRS. BAKHTUNESSA CHOWDHURY (1932-2021)

With profound grief, we regret to inform you that **MRS. BAKHTUNESSA CHOWDHURY**, mother of MR. AZAM J CHOWDHURY, Honorable Chairman of East Coast Group passed away on 2nd March, 2021 at Square Hospital, Dhaka (Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Rajiun).

East Coast Group family is deeply mourning the sad demise of their revered guardian. We pray to the Almighty for the salvation of the departed soul and convey our deepest condolences to the bereaved family.



East Coast Group