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Still undecided on new law on e-commerce

Govt body thinks amendments should suffice

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There might, after all, be no new law for the e-commerce sector, as per yesterday's meeting of a high-powered committee formed by the government in light of the ongoing fraud in the sector.

The existing laws would most likely be amended to bring the errant sector into line, said AHM Shafiquzzaman, additional secretary to the commerce ministry, who chaired the meeting of the 16-member committee at the secretariat.

"Formulation of a law is a long procedure. So, most of the committee members called for amending the existing laws," he told reporters after the meeting, which was the first of the committee formed on September 27 to recommend the government of measures to protect the interest of consumers and merchants of e-commerce platforms.

Still, a new law is not off the table.

A nine-member sub-committee has been formed to recommend whether a new law is needed or the amendment of the existing laws are enough to protect the interests of the consumers and merchants, he said.

The sub-committee comprised of representatives from the Bangladesh Bank, the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection, the Bangladesh Competition Commission, the legislative wing of the ministry of law, justice and parliamentary affairs, the a2i programme of the

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Smiling, two girls in school uniform enjoying the rain on the Dhaka University campus while trying to keep dry under an umbrella. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

RAJARBAGH PIR NHRC wants his dens shut

Full text of HC order reveals

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The National Human Rights Commission had recommended shutting down the dens of Rajarbagh Darbar Shareef's Pir Dillur Rahman and its branches to stop them using religion to deceive people and grab property by filing false cases.

This was revealed Monday in the full text of a High Court order asking the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to inquire into Dillur Rahman's assets, the organisations he is involved in and to submit a report to the HC before November 30.

The HC also directed the Counter Terrorism and Transitional Crime Unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police to conduct a probe to find out whether Dillur Rahman and Ulama Anjuman Al-Bayanat has any connection with militancy and to submit a report to it by the same date.

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Cops rescue five of eight missing girls

Two of them 'raped for days'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police rescued five girls, of the eight who went missing from the capital's Mirpur area, from Dhaka and Netrakona in the last two days.

According to the law enforcers, two of the rescued girls were "raped during their abduction".

The teenage rape victims were admitted to One-Stop Crisis Centre (OCC) at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday after police rescued them on Monday.

DMCH doctors found marks of abuse on the victims after conducting tests on them, said sources.

Bilkis Begum, coordinator of the OCC at DMCH, said, "The forensic tests were conducted on them and we'll be able to say what happened once we get the reports."

The Detective Branch (DB) of police said two friends went out of their homes in Mirpur Ansar Camp around 10:00pm on September 29.

While roaming around the area, four youths, who were known to the victims from before, abducted them, they added.

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ROAD TO FREEDOM
THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Freedom first: Tajuddin

OCTOBER 6, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZZA SAJEN

TAJUDDIN'S INTERVIEW
Tajuddin Ahmad, prime minister of People's Republic of Bangladesh, today said the Bangladesh issue would be resolved only by complete victory of freedom fighters on the country's battlefields.

In an exclusive interview with Swadhin Bangla Betar the Bangladesh prime minister said, "There cannot be any negotiation with anyone before our four-point demand is conceded by the Pakistani rulers. These conditions are recognition of the sovereignty and independence of Bangladesh, unconditional release of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, withdrawal of all Pakistan troops from the country, and adequate compensation for the damage and destruction caused by the Pakistani army."

He further said, "If narrow national interest and the question of world strategy prevent any country from extending its cooperation and support to us, then it should remain neutral on the issue. For, to oppose a national liberation movement directly or indirectly is to stand against the concept of independence and other human values."

Commenting on the success of the freedom fighters during the last six months, Tajuddin Ahmad said, "What the Mukti Bahini has achieved during these few months will remain imperishable in the pages of history as an example of unprecedented courage and valour."

NIXON URGES FOR ADDITIONAL FUND
US President Richard Nixon today requested the Congress to

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Indigenous man burnt to death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

An indigenous man was burnt to death allegedly by a settler who poured petrol on him after attacking him with a brick in Khagrachhari's Ramgarh upazila yesterday evening.

The deceased is Chai Thoai Marma, 65, said Rajib Chandra Kar, inspector (investigation) of Ramgarh Police Station.

"Police arrested one Mohammad Sharif who primarily confessed that he injured Chai Thoai with brick first and then burnt him by pouring petrol", said the inspector.

Chai Thoai later rushed to Ramgarh Upazila Health Complex where he died, the inspector added.

Ma Ma Ching Marma, daughter of Chai Thoai, said "On Sunday some unidentified criminals set fire on our house by pouring petrol but fortunately we put off the fire."

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Russian crew to shoot first movie in space



AFP, Moscow

A Russian actress and director yesterday arrived at the International Space Station (ISS) in a bid to best the United States and film the first movie in orbit.

The Russian crew is set to beat a Hollywood project that was announced last year by "Mission Impossible" star Tom Cruise together with NASA and Elon Musk's SpaceX.

Actress Yulia Peresild, 37, and film director Klim Shipenko, 38, took off from the Russia-leased Baikonur Cosmodrome in ex-Soviet Kazakhstan as scheduled.

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2 convicted of rape, murder executed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Two men handed death sentence for raping and killing two girls were hanged in Jashore Central Jail.

The convicts were Mintu alias Kalu and Azizul of Rayalakeshipur village in Chuadanga's Alamdanga upazila. Their bodies were handed to their families.

The executions were carried out at 11:45pm on Monday, jail official Tuhin Kanti Khan told reporters later that night.

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PRAYER TIMING OCTOBER 6

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-15 5-53 7-30

JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 4-30 5-56 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

Yaba pills worth Tk 2.7cr seized, five held

UNB, Cox's Bazar

Border Guard Bangladesh has arrested five suspected drug peddlers in Cox's Bazar and seized 90,000 pieces of yaba tablets worth over Tk 2.7 crore.

The arrestees are: Shamsul Alam, 25, Akhter Hossain, 35, Md Hossain, 28, Jamir Hossain, 50, and Md Kefayetullah, 30.

Acting on a tip off that a trawler carrying a large consignment of counterfeit goods might arrive at Mistri Ghat from Myanmar on Monday, a team of BCB-2 battalion in Teknaf raided an anchored vessel, Colonel Mohammad Faisal Hasan Khan, chief of the battalion, told reporters.

After conducting a thorough search, the BCB team seized the yaba tablets stashed inside the oil tank and took the five "drug peddlers" on board the vessel into custody.

In another incident, a patrol team of the BCB-2 battalion seized some

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The iron bridge, on right of the photo, over the Badura canal near Mallik Bari Bus Stop in Pirojpur Sadar upazila has been in this sorry state for the last seven years. People built a bamboo bridge to cross the canal. Thousands of locals use this bridge with difficulty every day.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

WORK ON CLIMATE, PHYSICAL SYSTEMS Trio wins Nobel Prize in Physics



Manabe Hasselmann Parisi

AFP, Stockholm

US-Japanese scientist Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann of Germany and Giorgio Parisi of Italy yesterday won the Nobel Physics Prize for climate models and the understanding of physical systems, the jury said.

The Nobel committee said it was sending a message with its prize announcement just weeks before the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow, as the rate of global warming sets off alarm bells around the world.

"The world leaders that haven't got the message yet, I'm not sure they will get it because we are saying it. But ... what we are saying is that the modelling of climate is solidly based in physics theory," said chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics, Thor Hans Hansson.

Manabe, 90, and Hasselmann, 89, share one half of the 10-million-kronor (\$1.1-million, one-million-euro) prize for their research on climate models, while Parisi, 73, won the other half for his work on the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems.

"Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann laid the foundation of our knowledge of the Earth's climate and how humanity influences it," the Nobel Committee said.

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