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ACC moves to bring back ex-IGP Benazir from Dubai

Sends formal request letter to home ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ACC has prepared the necessary documents to initiate the return of former IGP Benazir Ahmed, who was arrested by Dubai Police in the United Arab Emirates.

A formal request letter was finalised yesterday and sent to the home ministry, said ACC Deputy Director Md Hafizul Islam.

An investigation source said the letter contains evidence and information from various cases against Benazir, including corruption, illegal acquisition of wealth, money laundering, and passport forgery.

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A man jaywalks across a road in Dhaka's Paribagh area as vehicles occupy the zebra crossing near a traffic signal. When vehicles block spaces meant for pedestrians, people are forced to move through traffic, putting their safety at risk. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

FROM THE JS GALLERY

Local govt polls may begin Sept-Oct

Says LGRD minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

LGRD Minister Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said the local government elections may begin in phases from September or October.

In response to a query from Jamalpur-3 MP Mostafizur Rahman Babul during the question-and-answer session in parliament, the minister said the government plans to complete elections to union parishads, municipalities, upazila parishads, district councils and city corporations within the next year.

He said union parishad polls are likely to be held first. Responding to a question from reserved-seat MP Selima Rahman, the minister said steps are underway to formalise household waste collection in Dhaka North City Corporation.

He said household waste is collected by private individuals and organisations using vans and transported to secondary transfer stations.

"To ensure proper management, the process of bringing these operators under contract with the city corporation is ongoing. Once the contract process is complete, the use of small covered vans for environmentally friendly waste removal will be considered," he said.



'OC ordered constables to fire at us'

Ex-Shibir leader recalls alleged 2016 shooting in Jashore

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A former Islami Chhatra Shibir leader yesterday told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that police shot him and another activist in the legs after arresting them in Jashore in 2016.

Israfil Hossain recounted the harrowing events of August 4, 2016, when he and his friend Ruhul Amin – then Shibir leaders – were allegedly taken to a deserted road near Bandalitola playground in Chowgachha by police.

Members of Chowgachha Police Station picked them up a day earlier, he alleged.

Israfil said he and Ruhul – both blindfolded and handcuffed – were forced out of the vehicles and made to stand on the deserted road.

"Moshiur, the then officer-in-charge of Chowgachha, then told two constables to fire," Israfil told the tribunal.

He said Ruhul was shot first. Moments later, he was struck on the knee with the butt of a firearm. "Then there was a deafening sound, and I was shot in the knee," said Israfil.

Now working as a public relations officer at Ibn Sina

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Put women at centre of climate adaptation

Speakers call for recognition of their leadership, unpaid work, local knowledge

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at the 3rd Annual Community of Practice Network Convention 2026 yesterday called for greater recognition of women's leadership, local knowledge, unpaid

Resilient Societies (Phase II) project, with support from UN Women.

Dr Md Lutfor Rahman, director general of the Department of Environment, stressed the need to reduce carbon emissions while recognising women's central role in

Dr Rahman said women's contributions should be properly recognised in climate adaptation initiatives.

He also said the department was ready to provide necessary support and facilities to work collectively



care work, and contributions to climate adaptation, agriculture and sustainable development.

The convention, titled "Women Leading Climate Adaptation: Learning and Challenges", was held at the LGED Bhaban in Agargaon, Dhaka.

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) organised the event under the Empower: Women for Climate-

agriculture, climate adaptation and sustainable development.

He said women had historically played a leading role in agriculture and remained at the heart of food production, innovation and community resilience.

Environmental protection must be pursued through practical and economically viable solutions, he said.

towards a climate-resilient future.

Susanne Wadstein, first secretary for Public Health and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at the Embassy of Sweden, said climate change, women's empowerment, and sexual and reproductive health are closely interconnected and must be addressed together.

Addressing civil society

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Referendum must be honoured

Says Jamaat ameer, warns of street action if July charter verdict ignored

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opposition Leader and Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Shafiqur Rahman yesterday warned that if the referendum verdict on the July charter is not implemented in the parliament, it will be realised on the streets.

"What can be resolved in parliament will be resolved there. If not, it will be resolved on the streets. We cannot abandon the people's demand. We are committed, and we will not betray the people. This demand will be realised – if not today, then tomorrow," he said at a views exchange meeting with journalists at the LD Hall of the Jatiya Sangsad.

He said the people's demand was constitutional reform, and that was why the referendum was held, with 70 percent of voters supporting it.

He also said the opposition will not nominate representatives to the government's proposed committee on constitutional amendment.

"If a committee is formed for reform, we will consider it. But for amendment, no committee is needed. That is routine work. Bills will come from the treasury bench, we will join the debate, and

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Abul Barkat gets bail in murder case

No bar to release, says lawyer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted bail to economist Prof Abul Barkat in a murder case linked to the July uprising.

Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Mostafizur Rahman passed the order following a bail petition, said Additional Public Prosecutor Shamsuddoha Sumon.

There is now no legal bar to Prof Barkat's release from jail, said defence lawyer Mohammad Shaheenoor Islam.

Barkat was earlier denied bail by another Dhaka court on Monday, a day after he was shown arrested as a suspect in the case filed over the killing

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Yellow hill tortoises nibbling on papaya and cucumbers at Chattogram Zoo yesterday. Listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, five of these reptiles hatched on June 6, around 120 days after a female tortoise laid seven eggs. With the latest births, 10 tortoises have hatched under the zoo's conservation breeding programme, eight of them surviving, doubling the zoo's yellow hill tortoise population from eight to 16 in four years.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Ad-Din Foundation executive director steps down

No escape from accountability over newborn deaths, says health minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sheikh Mohiuddin, executive director of Ad-din Foundation, has stepped down following the cancellation of the licence of the foundation's Ad-din Medical College Hospital after the deaths of six newborns last month.

The foundation's board of directors has appointed Prof Jamalunnessa as the new executive director, said the foundation in a press release.

Prof Jamalunnessa, also a board member of the foundation, recently retired from the Department of Microbiology at Dhaka University.

Mohiuddin, who served as executive director for a long time, will remain a member of the board, said Tariqul Islam Mukul, director (company affairs) of the foundation, while talking to this newspaper.

Mohiuddin is also the executive director of Ad-din Women's Medical College and president of the Bangladesh Private Medical College Association.

Meanwhile, Health Minister Sardar Md Sakhawat Husain yesterday said those responsible for the deaths of six newborns at Ad-din Medical College Hospital must be held accountable.

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