RUPALI LOAN SCANDAL 7 more officials suspended **OUR CORRESPONDENT,** Barisal

Seven more Rupali Bank officials of the Nathullabad branch have been suspended in connection with the irregularities in sanctioning Tk 25 crore loans to 16 BNP leaders.

Bank sources said a letter signed by the bank's general manager (head office) suspending the officials reached Barisal on March 29. SEE PAGE 19 COL 1

AFP, Berlin

impasse

জাতীয় নির্বাচন ২০০৭

- Editor

Announcement

🖗 সিপিডি

প্রথমজ্ঞালো

The Daily Star

Council breakthrough.

Council on Wednesday unani-

mously approved a non-binding

statement giving Iran 30 days to

abandon its uranium enrichment

activities, ending a weeks-long

and this gives us the chance to stay

"We've had tactical differences

Prayer Timing March 31		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-20	6-25
Esha	7-45	8-15
Source: Islamic Foundation		

We would

like to thank

all the

readers who

are sending

elections.

in their valuable comments

and views on the CPD,

Prothom Alo and The Daily

Star supported civil society

initiative for an accountable

development process in the

context of the upcoming

Starting from Saturday, April

1, we will print readers'

comments on "An

accountable development

Iran given 30 days to stop nuke activities

UN body unanimously okays statement

together as we move forward," Rice said en route from US Secretary of State Washington after the Security Condoleezza Rice called yester-Council deal, a compromise struck day for a long-term strategy to after weeks of haggling, notably thwart Iran's suspected nuclear with Russia. arms ambitions as major powers

"When you are taking a first met in Berlin after a UN Security step, the unity of ... the Security Council is extremely important." The 15-member Security

The talks in Berlin bring together Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States -- the United Nations Security Council's five veto-wielding permanent members (P-5) -- plus Germany, one of three European powers that have pursued nuclear talks with Tehran. The UN talks had been marred

by differences between the United States and its Western allies on the one hand and Russia and China on the other over how to coax Tehran away from sensitive nuclear research.

The statement that finally prevailed is a watered-down version of a Franco-British statement that calls on Iran to meet demands from the UN nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

It expresses clear concern that Iran is trying to acquire nuclear weapons secretly, demands that Iran comply with the wishes of the SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

Bangladesh Secretariat in the capital. Police barricaded all roads leading to the aovernment's administrative hub ahead of the 14-party opposition combine's sit-in

programme

yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAC

The deserted

streets sur-

rounding the



AFP, Dhaka

The World Bank said yesterday it would lend three billion dollars to Bangladesh through 2009 and would put good governance at the heart of its aid programme.

for Bangladesh was approved Board, the lender said in a state-

"The (strategy) puts governance at centre stage. Governance will be the core focus in every sector we

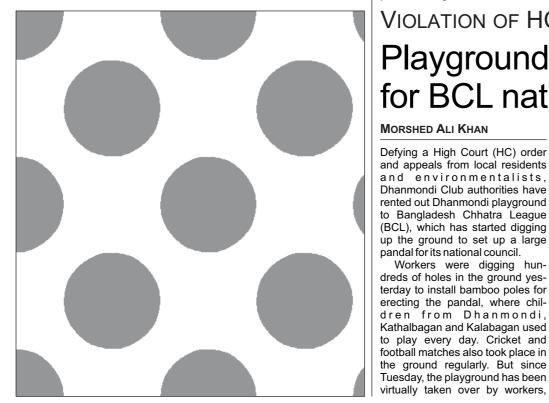
Tata to submit review report early April STAFF CORRESPONDENT bank-supported project," country

\$2.5B INVESTMENT

Tata Group yesterday informed Bangladesh government that it will submit a review report on its \$2.5 billion investment plan by the first week of next month

The Indian industrial giant was supposed to submit the report by the end of March. Sources in the Tata

SEE PAGE 19 COL 6





A worker digs a hole in Dhanmondi Playground in the capital yesterday as a pandal is being erected for the national council of Bangladesh Chhatra League

VIOLATION OF HC ORDER Playground rented out for BCL nat'l council

there.

MORSHED ALI KHAN

Defying a High Court (HC) order and appeals from local residents and environmentalists, Dhanmondi Club authorities have rented out Dhanmondi playground to Bangladesh Chhatra League

About 50,000 activists of the BCL will join the two-day council beginning on April 3, said Liaqat Shikder, president of the student bodv.

who have piled up bamboo poles

they were refused a

Bandage left in woman's abdomen

a private clinic a month ago.

abdomen

Surgeon Farida Khanom Rosi

operated on Roksana Begum on

February 28 but accidentally left a

piece of dressing cloth inside her

after surgery OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

'Dereliction of duty' by a surgeon has left a woman dying at Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) with a critical wound in her abdomen The country assistance strategy after she underwent an operation at

Wednesday by the World Bank

engage, and sector governance

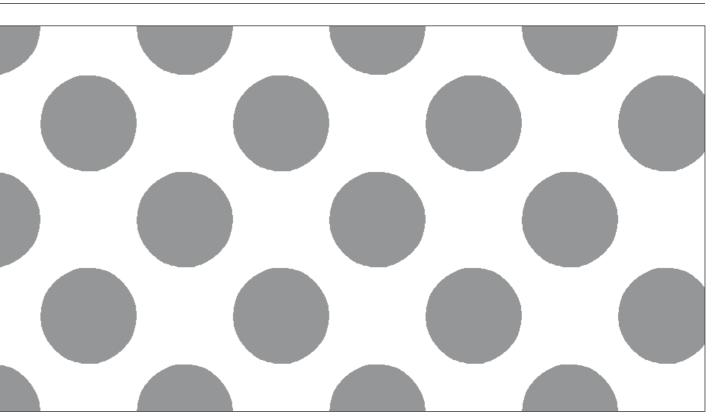
less than a dollar a day, was placed at the bottom of graft watchdog Transparency International's corruption list last month for the fifth vear in a row. Group said the submission of the Under pressure from multilateral report is being delayed as they are lending agencies such as the World making some corrections in their Bank, Bangladesh set up an indeinvestment proposal. pendent Anti-Corruption SEE PAGE 19 COL 6

director Christine Wallich said in the

the 140 million population lives on

Bangladesh, where nearly half

statement



process and the national election 2007," and

the need to elect "clean candidates" in The Daily Star. In the coming weeks we will continue printing your comments written within a word-limit of 500. We again invite you to participate in this forum and make your voice count in our democracy.

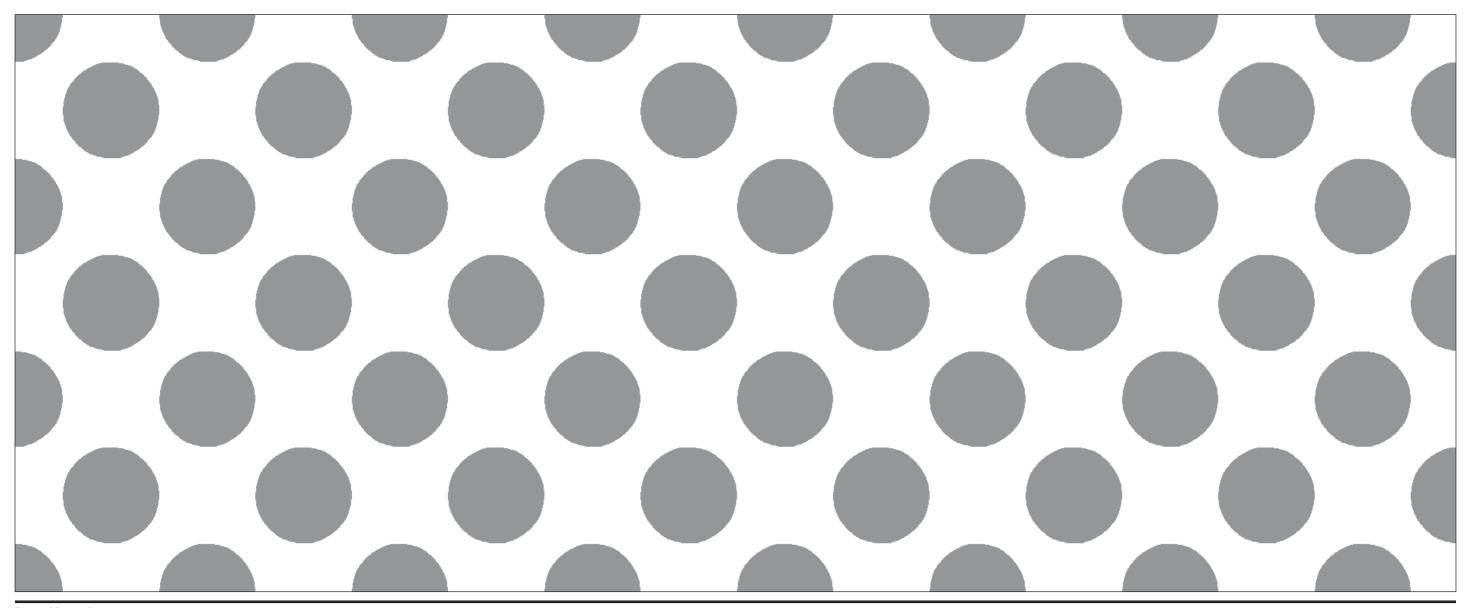
> (BCL), which has started digging up the ground to set up a large

pandal for its national council. Workers were digging hundreds of holes in the ground yesterday to install bamboo poles for erecting the pandal, where children from Dhanmondi, Kathalbagan and Kalabagan used to play every day. Cricket and football matches also took place in the ground regularly. But since Tuesday, the playground has been

space at Paltan Maidan for the council. "We then asked the government to give us an alternative space but it did not. So, we took

permission of Dhanmondi Club

authorities," he added. But DCC officials said Dhanmondi Club has no authority to rent the field out to anyone. "The playground belongs to the DCC and only it can rent it out. Dhanmondi Club itself is illegally SEE PAGE 19 COL 8



EDITOR: MAHFUZ ANAM-Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd., 229 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd. 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1208, 8124966, Fax: 8125155, 8126154, GPO Box No: 3257, www.dailystarnews.com, E-mail: dseditor@gononet.com