

### C'wealth finance ministers' meet begins in Colombo today

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Finance and Planning Shah Abul Hossain left here for Colombo yesterday to attend the Commonwealth Finance Ministers meeting.

The minister is leading a three-member Bangladesh delegation. Other members of the delegation are secretary of the economic relations division Ismail Jabiullah and secretary of the finance division Siddiqur Rahman Chowdhury, an official press release said.

The three-day meeting begins in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo today.

The State Minister is expected to return home on September 15.



Gulistan area during hartal hours yesterday. The Awami League-led 14-party opposition combine called the hartal protesting police atrocities on opposition activists during Election Commission siege programme on September 6.

## NDI wants govt-opposition talks to resolve crisis: AL

UNB, Dhaka

The visiting National Democratic Institute (NDI) delegation yesterday expressed deep concern over the prevailing political situation in the country.

"The NDI delegation recommended dialogue between the ruling party and the opposition to resolve the political standoff," Sajib Wazed Joy, son of Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina,

told the reporters after an Awami League delegation had hour-long meeting with NDI at The Hotel Radisson in the evening.

Joy was a member of the AL delegation that also included Kazi Zafarullah MP, Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury, AMA Muhit, HT Imam, Asaduzzaman Noor MP, Dr Mashiur Rahman and Mohammad Ziauddin.

Muhit told the reporters after

the meeting that they expressed concern to the NDI delegation over the newly updated voters' list alleging that the list include some 1.4 crore false voters that would change the result of the upcoming general election.

The two sides exchanged views on how to ensure free and fair parliamentary elections and on the opposition's proposal for electoral reforms, he said.

## Many left out of voter list by EC

### Reveals Fema survey

Election Commission (EC) staff left out a notable number of households and voters while updating the existing voter list, a sample survey carried out by Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (Fema) in six constituencies of all the six divisions revealed, says a press release.

The survey conducted during July 21 and August 20 said 241 houses of the total surveyed 690 dwelling houses in Dhaka-10 constituency were not visited by the Assisting Officers appointed by the EC for delivery and collection of claims, objections and applications for correcting and updating the

particulars of the voters.

At least 304 out of the surveyed 2156 houses were left out in Chittagong-9 constituency, while at least 15 per cent of the surveyed 1515 houses of Barisal-5 were left out by the Assisting Officers making it clear that a number of voters were not registered in the updated voter list.

The EC officials visited all the surveyed houses of Rajshahi-2 constituency, but 51 people of those houses were left out for registration, while no complaint was received from the houses visited by the EC officials and surveyed by Fema in Sylhet-1 and Khulna-2 constituencies.

## Domestic help commits suicide in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A domestic help committed suicide at Adabor in the city yesterday.

Bilkis Akter, 17, daughter of Keramat Ali Khalifa of Shariatpur, used to work as domestic help at Shantinir Monsurabad Housing in the city.

Badrul Amin, the house owner, told police that Bilkis had been suffering from mental disorder for a long time.

Adabor police recovered the body at around 10:45am from one of the bedrooms of the flat as hanging from the ceiling fan.

An unnatural death case was filed with Adabor Police Station in this regard.