Mufti Hannan

Sayem near the Bashundhara project on September 19, 2003.

On completion of the five-day remand, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) produced them with the help of the Rapid Action Battalion before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court, Dhaka with a prayer for a 10day remand.

Hannan and Mafiz were on remand in connection with the killing of Arif alias Dil on November 5, 2001 while Mizan in connection with the bomb attacks on CPB grand rally at Paltan on January 20, 2001.

In his forwarding report, CID Inspector and Investigation Officer (IO) of the Dil murder case Humavun Kabir said Hannan and Mafiz provided important information on the killing and the information was being verified. Therefore, they should be confined in the custody until the investigation completes, the IO said.

On the other hand, CID Inspector and IO of the CPB bomb blast case Syed Momen Hossain said Mizan gave important information on the bomb blasts and the information was being verified.

Therefore, he should be confined in the jail custody until the investigation completes, the IO said.

In the yesterday's forwarding report of the Badda double murder, CID Inspector and IO Abdul Baten said Hannan and two others were directly involved in the killings. They, along with their accomplices, killed the victims and dumped the bodies into a canal adjacent to the Bashundhara project. So, they need to be guestioned to find out the clues to the killings and whereabouts of their accomplices, the IO added.

Caretaker chief FROM PAGE 1

advisers, keeping the vital ones under his control.

He holds the Chief Adviser's Office, Armed Forces Division, Cabinet Division, EC Secretariat, NGO Affairs Bureau, defence, establishment, foreign affairs, home and education ministries and Bangladesh Public Service

After hearing both sides Metropolitan Magistrate Towfigul Alam placed Hannan, Mafiz and

Mizan on an eight-day remand. Earlier on September 10 and 16, Hannan, Mafiz and Mizan were shown arrested in the Ramna Batamul blast case and a court placed them on a 13-day remand.

On September 19 and 21 Hannan and Mafiz were shown arrested in connection with the bomb blasts at the rally of Communist Party of Bangladesh at Paltan on January 20, 2001, and was placed on 14 days' remand in two phases.

Moreover, Hannan was remanded for 120 days' in connection with the cases filed with different police stations in the city for bomb blasts across the country on August 17 last year.

Teachers

FROM PAGE 20 operate, ignoring 7000 other insti-

On his last day as minister on October 29, Farruk approved the establishment and operations of East Delta University in Chittagong, owned by former livestock and fisheries minister Abdullah Al-Noman and Dhaka-based ASA University, owned by an NGO, ASA. It had been decided earlier not to allow any new private universities or institutes to operate.

BNP cadres have captured the governing bodies of all schools colleges, technology institutes and madrasas and they will try to engineer the next general election Quazi Faruque said.

Through issuing an ordinance the caretaker government should remove all the governing bodies within seven days and give the responsibility to the deputy commissioners and upazila nirbahi officers (UNOs) for ensuring free and fair lection." he added.

NFTE leaders Azizul Islam, Prof Asadul Haq, Prof MA Sattar, Prof Mohammad Ali Chowdhury Manik SMA Jalil and Prof Sirajul Haq Alo were present at the conference among others.

Meanwhile, NFTE will hold a representatives' meeting of six divisions in the capital on November 9 instead of holding a grand rally.

Butenis meets JP

FROM PAGE 20

four-party alliance if all the parties and alliances participate in the next

Butenis met former president Ershad as part of her continuous talks with major party leaders about the political situation in the country and the general elections. Earlier she met Awami League President Sheikh Hasina and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia.

During the meeting. Ershad told Butenis that his party would participate in the coming elections and will help the caretaker government hold a free and fair election.

Jatiya Party (JP) Secretary General Ruhul Amin Hawlader and Vice-chairman Golam Mosih were also present during the meeting.

Following the meeting, Butenis told reporters. "I hope all the political parties participate in next election."

US Ambassador to Bangladesh Patricia Butenis also met Jamaat-e-Islami chief Matiur Rahman Nizami vesterday and urged all political parties not to resort to violence.

"I don't think any problem can be resolved through violence." she told reporters after almost an hour-long

meeting at the Jamaat central office. Iranian Ambassador to Bangladesh Mohammad Beheshti

Monfared also met the JP chief later at his office. They discussed issues of bilateral interest and international issues, a JP leader told reporters. They also discussed holding the next elections in Bangladesh in free, fair and impartial manner.

Ershad met Khaleda on Wednesday and discussed the terms and conditions of his joining the BNP-led coalition. BNP Senior Secretary General Tarique Rahman also held a meeting with Ershad on Tuesday. The JP chairman is taking his time to discuss the matter with his party leaders. He told reporters that discussions are going on before a final decision is made.

Meanwhile, the extended meeting of JP scheduled for November 4 and 5 has been suspended until further notice. A fresh date for the meeting would be announced later, a party press release said. JP district unit presidents and general secretaries were supposed to join the meeting. JP sources said the meeting was suspended due to the current volatile political situation.

Adviser Fazlul

Islam said at a press conference in its hall room.

He termed Justice Huq's remarks as a clear interference with the rights of political party guaranteed under the constitution. "Justice Hug also violated his path of office by expressing his ill will against the

Rokanuddin Mahmud, who were also echoed similar views about the resignation of Justice Huq for his "snide" remarks as an adviser that impaired the image of the caretaker government.

Reacting to the comments of Justice Huq, Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud said political observation

He termed the caretaker government a "deformed baby" and said indicating adviser Justice Huq, why did he raise the question of animal 'The baby must be under strict observation to see if he inherits any

He said the prime task of the caretaker government for holding free and fair elections is to reconstitute the Election Commission by removing the "controversial" CEC

Justice MA Aziz and his colleagues but the government has not yet taken any steps in this regard.

Pointing a finger at Justice MA Aziz, Dr Kamal said: "It is not his personal property he inherited. He must be removed forthwith as he violated the court orders and failed to present a fair voter list. SCBA President Barrister Amir

UI Islam said the allocation of portfolios to the advisers "have not been done properly and ignored the expertise of the advisers in their respective fields.

He urged CM Shafi Sami and Lt Gen (retd) Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury to guit voluntarily from the caretaker government as "their professional dignity has been undermined by allocating them less important portfolios.'

Abdul Baset Majumder Mahbubey Alam, Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mian, Khandkar Mahbub Hossain, Yusuf Hossain Humayun, Abdul Matin Khasru, Dr Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury, AM Amin Uddin, M Enayetur Řahim, Bashir Ahmed, Mahbub Ali, Nurul Islam Sujan and Abdul Mannan Khan were, among others, present at the press conference.

8 die

when a truck from Satkhira collided with a bus on Wednesday night, killing four passengers of the bus on

Of the dead, three were identified as Ziaur Rahman,30, Truck driver Katu,35, and helper Anwar,38. Identity of the other could not be

Police seized both the vehicles.

Amnesty

Asking for impartial and immediate investigations into recent acts of killing, arson, ransacking of homes, shops and offices and targeted political violence, the world's largest human rights organisation said these reported incidents of violence strongly demonstrate the need for human rights to be the cornerstone for political programmes.

"All political parties must promptly address every report of involvement of their members in these acts of violence and cooperate fully with measures to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice," the AI said in a public statement on Wednesday.

The AI also noted that during a recent public briefing to all political parties on the crucial role they can play to stop human rights violation in Bangladesh, it had recommended that all the parties take responsibility for preventing their members from committing human rights abuses and bring to justice anyone involved, regardless of their party

The rights watchdog called on the political leaders to make certain that people's rights of freedom of expression and assembly are respected at all times and that all political gatherings, campaigning or expressions of dissent in the run up to the elections are peaceful.

Ershad may join

FROM PAGE 1

The scheduled extended meeting of the JP has been suspended until further notice. A fresh date for the meeting would be announced

general secretaries were supposed to join the meeting.

JP (Ershad) was a component of the four-party alliance when it was formed in 1999, but the former military ruler quit it in April 2001. several months before the last

Meanwhile, Ershad yesterday said his party is preparing to participate in the next general elections.

He was talking to reporters following a meeting with US Ambassador to Bangladesh Patricia

situation in the country and the general elections. Earlier, she met Awami League President Sheikh Hasina and BNP chief Khaleda Zia.

chairman Golam Mosih were also present at the meeting.

hope all the political parties will participate in the next election." The US ambassador also met

Rahman Nizami yesterday, and urged all political parties not to resort to violence.

"I don't think any problem can be resolved through violence," she told reporters after almost an hour-long

They also discussed holding the next elections in Bangladesh in a free, fair and impartial manner, a JP

BNP-led

he find anyone competent for the posts?"

"What Mannan Bhuiyan said after the 14-party combine placed the 11-point demand to the chief adviser was beyond his authority.' said Badruddoza, adding he (Mannan Bhuiyan) was not asked to reply on that as 14-party did not place their demands to Mannan Bhuivan.

"We are confused and suspect if they are running the caretaker government," said a sceptic LDF chief, also a former president.

LDP demands termination of the chief election commissioner, the three other election commissioners and the secretary to the EC immediately and reconstituting the Election Commission

LDP also demands termination, punishment and transfer of the police officers who went overboard with their abuse of power during the demonstration programmes of the opposition parties in the last five

among others at the press confer-

Contracts, projects

activities and get their priorities right, observed Akbar Ali, a former

cabinet and finance secretary. He said the government expenditure is more than its revenues and for this, the caretaker government will spend on a priority basis over the next three months.

"Our main objective is to leave a stable economy for the next government," he added. He said not for mere three days

rather for the next three months the caretaker government should be under strict watch so that it can perform its duties properly. "An elected government is

accountable to the people who evaluate its [government's] performance through election," said the adviser adding, "As we are not an elected one, we should be kept under some kind of surveillance by the political parties and the people Asked about the skyrocketing

prices of essentials, he said he is

hopeful the prices will come down

shortly. "I am lucky to be in charge at a time when various seasonal vegetables are becoming available in the market and this will obviously

help to reduce the prices," he said.

office at about 9:30am yesterday and met secretaries of finance division, commerce and telecommunications and some other high

The other advisers of the caretaker government too formally began their work yesterday. They were allocated portfolios on Nednesday night

Senior officials made courtesy calls on them.

Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury adviser for power, energy and mineral resources, entered the secretariat at 10:00am. He told reporters that first he will try to understand how much could be done during this short period and set his plan of actions accordingly.

Information. Water Resources and Religious Affairs Adviser Mahbubul Alam and Health and Family Welfare Adviser Prof (Emeritus) Sufia Rahman also talked to the press on their first day

They said they will remain busy mostly with the election-related activities during the 90-day period.

CEC to consider

commissioners are constitutional posts and we have been appointed through a special process." Aziz told reporters at his office yesterday.

"We have been working based on that process and our work will continue until the election is over," he said, hinting at his unwillingness to resign, when newsmen asked about his reaction over some caretaker government advisers'

opinions in favour of reconstituting the Election Commission (EC). "This is a constitutional post and I

believe all the advisers know that fact. There are some rules that should be "I do not believe that the advisers think the disputes relating to the EC would be removed if I resign," he said

adding, "I cannot say anything beyond the constitution and they should not also.
"If the advisers request me to esign, I will consider their request," the CEC, however, said after a while. "But so far, there has been no contact

between the caretaker government "How can you say a free and fair

election is not possible under my authority?" the CEC threw a counter question to the reporters who referred to observations of different political parties and civil society groups.

The CEC declined to comment on how long it will take to print the updated voter lists with photos of the voters.

Asked if he thinks that the election will be a meaningful and fair one in case the 14-party combine boycotts the election, Aziz said, "This is a hypothetical question and its answer would also be hypothetical." But he did not say the answer

On clean candidates, Aziz said, Those who will nominate the candidates know better than us who is honest and who is not. They also know about the income and expenditure of their candidates. The Anti-Corruption Commission also has better mechanism to find out the information.'

He expressed dissatisfaction over a flurry of questions from the newsmen. "I will inform you if I have something new," he told the reporters.

Jail Killing Day today

and AHM Qamaruzzaman, minister for home affairs, relief and rehabilitation, were gunned down inside the Dhaka Central Jail.

The day is known as the 'Jail Killing Day'. Only 79 days after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh

Muiibur Rahman and most of his family on August 15, 1975, the power usurpers took the desperate bid. A murder case was filed with Lalbach Police Station the following day, but the then government halted the process of trial by promulgating an ordinance that indemnified the assassins which apparently blocked

was scrapped during 1996-2001 Awami League rule. The trial was also delayed due to

the investigation and trial of the

killings for about 21 years until the law

On October 20, 2004, a Dhaka court sentenced three to death, awarded life imprisonment to 12 and acquitted five in the long-awaited

verdict of the historic Jail Killing Case. Those to walk the gallows are resalder (retd) Muslemuddin, dafadar (dismissed) Marfat Ali Shah and dafadar (dismissed) Abdul Hashem Mridha, all on the run.

Former BNP lawmaker KM Obaidur Rahman, Shah Moazzem Hossain, Nurul Islam Monzoor, Taheruddin Thakur and additional secretary of foreign ministry Khairuzzaman, who were freed on bail soon after the BNP-led four-party coalition came to power, were

relieved of the charges Three of the 12 awarded life term imprisonment -- Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Faruk Rahman, Lt Col (retd) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan and major (retd) Bazlul Huda -- were sentenced to death in Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman murder

imprisonment are Lt Col (dismissed) Khondaker Abdur Rashid, Lt Col (relieved) Shariful Hag Dalim, Lt Col (retd) SHMB Noor Chowdhury, major (Retd) AKM Mohiuddin Ahmed, Lt Col (retd) AM Rashed Chowdhury, major (relieved) Ahmed Shariful Hossain, captain (retd) Abdul Majed, captain (relieved) Kismat Hasem, captain (relieved) Nazmul Hossain for abetting the murderers.

In a press statement yesterday Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina said the killing of four national leaders was part of the antiliberation force's long-drawn conspiracy to render the nation leaderless.

The anti-liberation force that killed Bangabandhu occupied the state power unconstitutionally and enacted laws to save the killers of four leaders and Bangabandhu, Hasina said, adding, "The same evil force is still active to destroy the country's development and stability

The AL will hoist the national and party flags at half-mast and black flags atop party offices in Dhaka and elsewhere at 5:30am in observance of the Jail Killing Day, Leaders and workers of the AL and its front organi-

Call for removal

Medical University (BSMMU) on November 17 transparent and fair. Terming the vice chancellor (VC)

the BSMMU 'partisan' and 'corrupt', the SCP said they should be replaced by honest and competent persons. Reading out a written statement, Iqbal Arslan alleged that the VC was directly involved in the incident of setting fire to his office room on

investigation. Besides, complaints against Dab General Secretary AZM Jahid Hossain must also be probed, he said.

Saturday and demanded proper

The SCP demanded restructuring the 'corrupt' and 'politically influenced' adiministration in Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH), Red Crescent Holy Family Medical College and Hospital, Dhaka Shishu Hospital, Dhaka National Medical College and Hospital and different private hospitals

health sector on political considerations must be cancelled and 'corrupt' Dab and BMA representatives on the committee of Health and Family Welfare Ministry have to be removed, they said. The health ministry order to

increase the service charge at every government hospital should be cancelled immediately, they demanded. Those present at the press con-

ference included SCP President AFM Ruhul Hague, Vice President Abu Shafi Ahmed, Joint General Secretary Jamal Uddin Chowdhury, former VC of BSMMU Prof Mahmud Hasan, former director general of health Prof Syed Mohasser Ali and BSMMU unit SCP President Sharfuddin Ahmed.

Advisers for

FROM PAGE 1

thinking about the legal aspects in this regard," he added.

Adviser M Azizul Haque told reporters that the caretaker government cannot force the CEC out of his office but can request him to resign. "The chief election commissioner issue should be handled in line with the constitution as there are some barriers." he said.

The advisers' desire to make the EC effective echoed the longstanding demand of major political parties and the civil society.

CEC MA Aziz, meanwhile, told reporters yesterday that he would consider if the advisers ask him to resign from his post.

The advisers' council meeting also discussed issues of reshuffling the administration and improving law and order, and focused on creating an environment acceptable to all political parties for the polls within next 15-20 days.

"We will have to create a level playing field to ensure participation of all political parties in the next parliamentary elections," Adviser Dhiraj Kumar Nath said. On improving law and order,

Mashud Chowdhury told reporters, "We will keep continuing vigilance on the law and order situation. Sources said adviser Dr Akbar Ali Khan proposed forming separate

Adviser Lt Gen (retd) Hasan

committees on reshuffling of administration, and law and order. At the meeting President and Chief Adviser Prof lajuddin Ahmed asked the advisers to work efficiently and the advisers also assured him of their dedication to

run the ministries assigned to them. On the first day in office yesterday, a number of advisers expressed determination to remain free from any corruption.

THE WAY EC BECAME

CONTROVERSIAL Since his appointment to the post on May 23 last year, CEC Aziz locked horns with the then two election commissioners over preparing a fresh voter list ignoring High Court directives. The Supreme

controversial fresh voter roll illegal. As the two election commissioners had been strongly opposing preparation of the fresh voter list. the government in a hasty move appointed justices Mahfuzur

win majority in the commission. From the very first day at office, the newly appointed election comto prepare the fresh voter list, the draft of which was published on May 3. The draft list prepared at a cost of over Tk 40 crore rolled 9.13 crore

On May 23, the Supreme Court

cancelled the draft. The EC later updated the voter list--this time also amid widespread controversy-and came up with a staggering 9.32 crore voters giving

printing of the updated voter list.

mance of the chief adviser.

give him an A+ for what he has

done," Yunus commented on

Shibir leader

FROM PAGE 20

Witnesses said the clash erupted Bulu, former adviser to the women and children affairs ministry, attacked a rally of the supporters of former lawmaker M Hashem at

about 3:30pm. The injured are undergoing treatment at upazila health complex and clinics.

Local administration imposed Section 144 in and around the upazila headquarters to avert further clash. Additional police have been deployed.

Hasina

press statement.

The AL chief said the caretaker government will have to make the voter list flawless by restructuring the Election Commission, canceling the 'fake' voter list and distributing

transparent ballot box in the elec-

Hasina alleged that the immediate past BNP-Jamaat alliance

Panama to get Security **Council** seat

are able to have a sovereign

consensus.

developments.

dialogue to reach a dignified

General Assembly said before the

compromise was announced that

the General Assembly would vote

on the issue Tuesday. But diplo-

mats later said the vote could be

brought forward in view recent

up of 15 members, including five

veto-wielding permanent mem-

bers -- China, the United States

France, Britain and Russia -- and

accusation on

Syria and Iran yesterday dismissed

a US accusation that they are trying

to topple Lebanon's government

with their Lebanese ally Hezbollah.

the government of Prime Minister

Fouad Siniora was "a blatant inter-

ference" in Lebanon's internal

affairs and vowed to pursue its

"This pure vilification is meant to

demand for a national unity govern-

raise turmoil in Lebanon and cause

fallout with Syria, which paid with

blood to maintain Lebanese inde-

pendence and sovereignty," an

newspaper Baath said.

editorial in Syria's government

Wednesday Washington had evi-

dence that Syria, Iran and their allies

in the Shi'ite Muslim group were

preparing to topple the Beirut gov-

ernment, which is dominated by US-

The comments came a day after

Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan

Nasrallah gave Siniora and his

majority allies until the middle of this

month to agree on the formation of a

unity government or face protests

The White House said on

Hezbollah said the US backing of

10 non-permanent members.

Syria, Iran

Lebanon

REUTERS, Damascus

dismiss US

The Security Council is made

A spokeswoman for the

AFP, United Nations

Panama was expected to be officially nominated vesterday for a post on the UN Security Council after deadlocked Guatemala and Venezuela gave up their bids.

The Latin American and

Caribbean Group (GRULAC) of the United Nations was set to meet Thursday to endorse Panama as a compromise candidate after 47 votes in the General Assembly failed to produce a winner for the seat. Ecuador's UN ambassador Diego Cordovez announced late

Wednesday that Guatemala and

Venezuela had agreed to give up the chase after a heated contest driven by regional geopolitics and the deep enmity between Washington and Caracas. Cordovez made the announcement after he mediated talks at Ecuador's United Nations mission

between Guatemalan Foreign Minister Gert Rosenthal and his Venezuelan counterpart Nicolas "The two foreign ministers have agreed on two issues," said

Cordovez, who mediated between Venezuela and Guatemala. "Both will withdraw their candidacy to the Security Council, and second, Panama will be the country that the three of us will present to the (GRULAC) group" to represent the region, he added, with Rosenthal and Maduro at his side.

Panama is a country "very close to Venezuela for historical reasons, and is welcome at both ends of our continent," Rosentha

had accepted the offer.

All three men said that Panama

hands with Maduro. Guatemala, which Venezuela sought to portray as a US puppet, won all but one round of voting in the 192-member General Assembly over the past three

weeks for the non-permanent

"We are leaving as friends with

Venezuela," he added, shaking

council seat being vacated by Argentina on December 31. But it failed each time to obtain the required two-thirds majority needed to win the rotating council positions, one of ten.

Venezuela under leftist President Hugo Chavez would use a council seat to oppose US measures and openly attack the United States. Chavez, who used an address to the UN General Assembly last September to call US President

George W. Bush the "devil", had

characterised his ability to stymie

Guatemala's candidacy as a ctory over US imperialisn Many diplomats felt Chavez hurt his cause with his undiplomatic comments, but Rosenthal also acknowledged that Washington's support for Guatemala was "a double-edge sword." He added: "Guatemala has waited 61 years to be a member of the Security Council and

can wait five more Guatemala is one of the few UN founding members that has never joined the Security Council.

Venezuela's Maduro said that

the most important thing is that

Buthaina Shaaban told reporters. "They are practicing terrorism while accusing others of it. The problem in Lebanon is US and Israeli interfer-

Aziz, ECs FROM PAGE 1

cause uproar because they know people are not going to support them for the violence they carried out in the last several days.

She alleged that AL wants to

by raising some illogical demands," Earlier, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan told journalists that the elections will be held in time. He said he hopes all political

Russia, China won't

lgor Ivanov indicated in comment Tuesday that Russia could support sanctions as a way to push Tehran into talks, but also left plenty of room for wrangling in the council. Speaking Wednesday in Moscow, South Korean Foreign

Minister Ban Ki-moon, who will take

tives in return, Interfax reported. official told The Associated Press on Wednesday that his government would fulfill a contract to supply air defence missiles to Iran unless Moscow decides to back the inter-

national sanctions that would make

it illegal. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the subject, denied an ITAR-Tass report that said Russia had already started delivering the

signed last December to sell 29 Tor-M1 air defence missile systems to Iran, saying they were purely defensive weapons with a limited range. Meanwhile, Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards test-fired dozen of missiles, including the

vesterday. The report said several kinds of ships finished an exercise in the Gulf that Tehran described as

and defensive power to transregional enemies, and we hope they will understand the message of the manoeuvres." said the head of the Revolutionary Guards, Gen. Yahya Rahim Safavi, in an apparent refer-

Prophet," would take place in the Gulf, the Sea of Oman and several provinces of the country. He did not specify how many troops were The Shahab-3 missile is capable

of carrying a nuclear warhead and is

believed to have a range of more

among the other weapons tested during the manoeuvres was the Shahab-2, which Iran says has a cluster warhead that can send 1,400 homblets at the same time. Solidfuel Zalzal missiles also were launched, as were guided missiles as well as Scud-B, Zolfaghar-73 and

UN Security Council considered program, which Tehran says is the US and other western powers

Eminent jurists Dr Kamal Hossain, Dr M Zahir, Barrister Shafiq Ahmed and Barrister present at the press conference.

is required for probing government's

Referring to the ongoing reshuffle in the civil and police administration by the president and chief adviser in order to de-politicise the administration. Dr Kamal Hossain said: "It's nothing but an eyewash. All the changes in the administration, even allocation of portfolios to the advisers, have been made through remote control keeping the switch in the hands of the immediate-past four-party alliance govern-

Senior Joint Secretary General Tarique Rahman also had a meeting with Ershad on Tuesday.

later, a party press release said. JP district unit presidents and

general election.

Butenis at his Banani office. Butenis met Ershad as part of her continued talks with leaders of major parties about the political

Ershad told Butenis that his party would contest the upcoming elections and will help the caretaker government hold free and fair polls. Ruhul Hawlader and JP Vice-

Later, Butenis told newsmen, "I Jamaat-e-Islami chief Matiur

meeting at the Jamaat central office. Iranian Ambassador to Bangladesh Mohammad Beheshti Monfared also met the JP chief at his office yesterday. They discussed bilateral and international issues.

leader told reporters

at the presidium office of the party. LDP also questioned why the chief adviser (CA) holds the vital ministries and departments that are to play a pivotal role in holding a free and fair election. "What's the reason behind this? Doesn't he have confidence in all his advisers or couldn't

Maj (Retd) Abdul Mannan and Feroz M Hassan were present

Others who were awarded life

through anarchy and subversive

sations will also wear black badges. The day's programmes also include garlanding the portrait of Bangabandhu, placing wreaths at the graves of the national leaders and those killed on August 15, 1975 at Banani Graveyard and offering fateha and organising milad and

All contract appointments in

pro vice chancellor and treasurer of

Court finally declared the draft of the

Rahman and SM Zakaria as election commissioners on January 16 this year apparently for CEC Aziz to missioners supported Aziz's move

voters which triggered enormous controversy over its accuracy.

rise to doubts over its accuracy. The FC is yet to complete the

Prof Yunus

Prof Yunus returned home on Tuesday after a two-week visit to South Korea, China and Japan. He expressed satisfaction over perfor-"He is doing a wonderful job. I will

According to our Noakhali correspondent, 20 people were injured as two factions of local BNP clashed at Soniamuri upazila headquarters when the supporters of Barkat Úllah

FROM PAGE 20 polls. And the caretaker government will have to accomplish all these tasks neutrally." Hasina said in a

voter identity cards She also demanded use of

government had tried to appoint a partisan caretaker chief to cling to power, but the people under the leadership of Awami League and 14-party combine foiled the evil attempt through a tough movement.

demanding a new election. "We do not care about such US Ambassador John Bolton accusations. They're worthless,' campaigned heavily for Syrian Expatriates Minister Guatemala, fearing that

demand.

backed politicians.

about the14-party ultimatum to the chief adviser to fu fil its 11-poin

"Now they are frustrated and out to boycott and foil the next election

parties will participate in the polls. Latin America and the Caribbear

signalled the draft resolution is too strong, the United States indicated it considers the draft too weak Russia's Security Council chief

over as UN secretary-general on Jan. 1, urged Iran to halt uranium enrichment and accept the incen-A Russian Defence Ministry

Defence Minister Sergei Ivanov defended the \$700 million contract

long-range Shahab-3, during the first hours of new military manoeuvres, Iranian state-run television said

short-range missiles were also fired in a central desert area of Iran during the manoeuvres, which

"adventurist." "We want to show our deterrent

ence to the US and other western The general said the 10-day manoeuvres. named "Great

than 1.242 miles. It can reach Israel and US forces in the Middle East. The state-run TV said that

The manoeuvres came as the sanctions on Iran over its nuclear purely geared at civilian use but that fear could hide research on an atomic bomb.