ELECTORAL REFORMS

send team to

The leaders of Liberal Democratic

Party (LDP) yesterday urged the

Commonwealth delegates to send

a group of representatives for

initiating talks on electoral reforms

including Election Commission, its

subordinate structure and voter list.

whole gamut of issues while talking

to the visiting two-member delega-

tion comprising Asia Europe

During the conversation, LDP

raised issues like excessive

politicisation of administration. security, influence of money and

muscle. Besides, they insisted on

establishing a media cell in the EC to monitor the role of all the TV

Channels, as the BNP leaders

In response to LDP's asking for

an observatory team to come at

least one week before the election.

Commonwealth delegation mem-

ber Sharfuddin said, they would

discuss the issue with their

Dhaka proposes

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury,

ambassador and permanent repre-

sentative of Bangladesh to the United

Nations, proposed adoption of a

resolution on culture of peace at the

UN General Assembly on Friday

Bangladesh has been tabling annu-

the Bangladesh Ambassador said:

"Bangladesh has always been in the

forefront of initiatives promoting

greater understanding and tolerance

among different nations, religions

He said this was because of the

He attended his office at New

Bailey Road in the city on the day as

usual. Later, he along with his two

colleagues went to an agent's outlet

to collect money but found it closed.

Shoeb then sent back his col-

Shoeb, son of Saidur Rahman, is

A general diary has been filed

Anybody knowing his where-

abouts has been requested to call at

DHÃKA

TODAY

Transparency International will hold a

roundtable on 'The Election

Commission: Expectations,

achievements and duties'. Venue: Barc

Bangladesh National Women Lawyers

Association (BNWLA) organises a

media workshop titled 'Voices against

domestic violence towards a safer

home'. Venue: YWCA conference

room, Mohammadpur. Time: 9:30am.

The premier show of a documentary

titled 'SOS' directed by Shahriar Kabir

Centre Inn. Time: 10:00am.

Media workshop

leagues and told them he would wait

there for some time. Since then he

a resident of Tolarbagh in Mirpur.

with Ramna Police Station.

Shoeb alias

Chayan, man-

ager of People's

Distribution

Company Ltd.,

missing since

November 1,

culture of pluralism that is a part of

Bangladesh's national ethos.

This is a resolution that

In a speech introducing the draft

resolution on

peace at UN

owned most of the channels.

Secretary General.

culture of

Bss, New York

and civilisation."

Missing

says a press release

has been missing

01715517640.

Roundtable

LDP leaders concentrated on a

initiate talks

says a press release.

LDP urges C'wealth to

METROPOLÎTAN/NEWS

13 killed in road accidents

At least 13 people were killed in separate road accidents in Chittagong, Rangamati, Rajbari and Satkhira yesterday and on Monday

Our Staff Correspondent from Chittagong reports: Five people, including a woman and her son. were killed in two separate road accidents at Mirersaria and Satkania in the district here yesterday.

Four people were killed in a collision between a truck and an auto-rickshaw on a by-pass road of Dhaka-Chittagong highway between Mastan Nagar and Baroiyarhat under Mirersarai upazila at around 11:30am.

The accident left all the passengers and driver of the auto-rickshaw killed on the spot.

Three of the dead were identified as Mahmuda Khatun, 48, her son Amin Sharif, 28, and driver Feroz,

RU CORRESPONDENT

available at higher prices.

People of Rajshahi have been

experiencing acute kerosene,

octane, diesel and petrol crisis for

the last ten days since vendors are

selling the scanty amount of fuel oil

kerosene agents alleged they have

been receiving inadequate supply

of fuel against their demand.

Sources said local traders and

dealers collect fuel from Harian Oil

Depot in the city. The fuel comes

Harian depot in-charge Abdu

Khalek said that as they did not get

kerosene supply in the last ten

days, their containers are remain-

ing empty. Due to severe oil crisis

in Chittagong, the crisis has been

waved in the Rajshahi region, the

Another large oil depot of

Rabiul Islam, manager of

Halima agency said, they are not

getting half of their demand. They

MANICHATTAR MURAL

Natore is almost empty, the

sources said.

sources claimed.

24-hour

to RCC

within 24 hours.

ultimatum

RU CORRESPONDENT

The agitated Raishahi citizens and

cultural activists threatened to launch

non-stop agitation programme

including besiege of Nagar Bhaban if

the Manichattar Mural is not rebuilt

banner of Manichattar Protection

Action Committee yesterday evening

staged a protest rally on the

Manichattar premises with the sculp-

tor of the mural, also principal of

Rajshahi Art College SH Azad in the

Raishahi Press Club Secretary

authority is demolishing historical

to be united against whimsical steps

ment firm that got lease of the place for

On face of agitation, the advertise-

The sculpture signifies a flower

that warns people about six deadly

child diseases saying 'Immunise your

Kumari water treatment plant.

partial demolition of the mural.

of the city corporation.

Hundreds of city people under the

from Khulna and Parbattyapur.

The filing station dealers and

37, while identity of another victim could not be known immediately.

The auto-rickshaw was com-

pletely smashed in the accident. Meanwhile, a minor schoolgirl identified as Rubi Akter was killed when a Cox's Bazar-bound passenger bus from Chittagong knocked her on Arakan Sarak (Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway) at Satkania, sources said.

The accident occurred when Rubi was standing beside the road in front of a house where she along with her parents went to visit relatives at around 7:00am, said the sources.

Our Correspondent from Rangamati adds: Five people were killed in a road accident at Chandraghona Lichubagan area in Kaptai upazila on Monday night.

Quoting witnesses police said the accident took place when a four stroke auto-rickshaw from Chandarghona Lichubagan with four passengers collided head-on with a bamboo loaded truck at around 10.15pm, leaving four passengers and its driver dead on the

The diseased were identified as driver Zakir Hossain, 34, Asrafuzzaman, 25, Md Shahjahan,65, his wife Jannatun Nur Begum,48, and Monotosh

Police sent the bodies to Rangamati Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

Police seized the truck but the driver managed to escape

A case was lodged with Chandraghona Police Station in this

UNB from Raibari reports: Two fruit traders were killed when a truck plunged into a roadside ditch at Boalia crossing in Pangsha upazila on Monday night.

The victims were identified as Manjil, 40, and Mohammad Jahangir, 30. Both hailed from Haripur village in Kushtia district.

fruit-laden truck from Dhaka fell into the ditch at about 11:00pm when the driver lost his control over the steering, leaving Jahangir on the spot. Critically injured Maniil died on the way to hospital.

Police recovered Jahangir's body from under the truck yesterday

Driver and helper of the truck fled the scene.

Another report from Satkhira adds: A motorcyclist was killed and two other riders were injured when a truck hit his motorcycle at Ferozpur crossing on Satkhira-Munshiganj road on Monday night.

Locals said Mominur Rahman died on the spot when a goods-laden truck hit his motorcycle at about

The injured were rushed to a local



demanding reform in the Election Commission and a free and fair election.

Memos to President

'Remove CEC, three commissioners'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sammilita Nagorik Andolon and Peshajibi Samannay Parishad yesterday jointly submitted a memorandum to the President and Chief Adviser (CA) to caretaker government demanding immediate implementation of their 6-point demand.

These included removing the chief election commissioner (CEC), three election commissioners and secretary of the Election Commission, updating the voter list and making the administration neutral by removing all pro-BNP-

The demands also included taking steps to ensure neutrality of the state medias and private television channels, recovering illegal arms and cancelling arms license given during the previous government and taking measures against the religious militant groups, black money holders, terrorists and identified' godfathers.

President's Assistant Personal Secretary Abdul Gani Hawlader received the memorandum.

Speaking on the occasion, the leaders of the organisations said they were disappointed as the President did not meet them although he was scheduled to do so. They said the President should remove CEC Justice MA Aziz, three

election commissioners and EC secretary to prove himself neutral. Proshika Chief Dr Kazi Faruque

Ahmed said the steps taken so far to reshuffle the administration is just

He said the politicised administration, which is virtually an extension of the BNP, is still in place as the BNP loyalists are being appointed to the same posts by turns.

Dr Kamrul Hasan Khan said the President should take all steps necessary for holding a free and fair

Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, editor of The Bangladesh Observer, said the main obstacle to holding an acceptable election is the CEC and three commissioners.

Without their removal a free and fair election will not be held in the country, he added.

He urged the President to remove the CEC and others to prove himself that he is not the representative of a political party, rather he is neutral and unbiased. Writer and columnist Shahriar

Kabir, Principal Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, cultural personality Nasiruddin Yusuf, woman activist Shirin Akter and steering committee member of the Sammilita Nagorik Andolon Golam Kuddus were present on the occasion.

Meanwhile, Joy Bangla Sangskritik Jote also submitted a memorandum to the President and Chief Adviser (CA) to caretaker government demanding implementation of 11-point demand by 14party combine.

Hasina demands punishment to culprits

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday strongly con-

November 3 when she came out of her house at Kamrangir Char to answer a call of nature.

Hasina along with her party leaders vesterday visited the girl who is now undergoing treatment at the onestop crisis centre at Dhaka Medical

politics of repression, she told report-

The AL chief consoled the girl and

Dr Bilkis Begum, who examined the victim, told The Daily Star yester-

Kamrangirchar police said they

Local people staged a demonstration in protest against the incident after AL leader Haji Mohammad Selim

They will also hold a protest rally in

Bhairab

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

clash between the activists of Awami League and Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) at Bhairab

supporters of local AL leader Hazi Abu Bakkar, also chairman of Sadekpur Union, attacked supporters of BNP leader Tafazzal Hug with firearms at a tea stall at village

Later, they were locked in a fresh

BSS, BTV journos demanded

Bss, Dhaka

Leaders of BFUJ and DUJ yesterday demanded reinstatement of the journalists terminated during the last five years from Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) and

They called upon the adviser for information of the caretaker government to take proper steps to implement their demand by November 11.

The leaders also demanded to give due promotion and other benefits to the journalists who were deprived of their rights during the previous government

They leaders were addressing a

the central newsroom. Chaired by unit chief Ehsanul Karim Helal, the meeting was conducted by deputy unit chief M Enamul Haque Babul. Journalists' leaders Igbal Sobhan

Chowdhury, M Shahjahan Miah, Abdul

Unit members Shamsul Alam

The meeting was adjourned until 1:00pm on November 11.

Section Chief Sayed Sharfuddin Leaders of Sammilita Nagorik Andolon wait in front of Bangabhaban in the city yesterday to submit a memorandum and Political Affairs Staff of Democracy Section Julia Broadbent from the Commonwealth Secretariat at the residence of LDP RAPE OF AL MAN'S DAUGHTER Secretary General Major (retd) Abdul Mannan.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

daughter by BNP cadres and demanded exemplary punishment to the persons responsible.

College Hospital (DMCH). She said the BNP cadres attacked

The BNP-led four-party alliance, which has resorted to repression during its regime, is still pursuing the

Hasina also said the police at first refused to file the case soon after the incident but registered it 24 hours

day that physical evidence of rape and marks of injuries were found in

visited the victim's house yesterday

12 shot as AL,

The clash began at 6:00pm when

clash, leaving 12 bullet-hit.

Bangladesh Television (BTV).

in BSS and BTV.

meeting organised by BSS unit in

Belal, M Saiful Islam Shamim, Anup Khastagir and Obaidul Gani Raihan Oxfam GB and Geography and

Report launching

Reception A reception will be accorded to Poet Mahbubul Alam to mark his 80th birth anniversary. Venue: National Museum

Discussion

will hold a discussion to mark the November 7. Venue: Bhasani Bhaban. Time: 3:00pm

A mob burn down a bus at Banani in the city after two garment workers were killed in separate road accidents in the

Acute fuel oil crisis in Rajshahi

received only 6,000 litres yester-Nayan petroleum staff Kabir said, they have stopped selling octane and petrol as they are not

getting fuel oil as per their require-Meanwhile, the vendors are realising additional price of kerosene. Kerosene is being sold at Tk 50 per litre while Tk 33.32 is the maximum retail price, fixed by the

government, the sources said. On the wake of price hike and soon.

have a daily demand of 18,000 severe crisis of kerosene, the price of other fuel oils also increased in litres of kerosene while they the city. Liquefied gas and firewood

also saw a hike in the price. Jamat Khan, a leader of Rajshahi Protection Movement Council, a professional body of the city, urged the caretaker government to ensure smooth supply of

He said, if the government fails

to control the market price, they



Rise in temperature likely

Cox's Bazar

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country having chances of light rain at one or two places over Khulna, Barisal Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm

Night temperature may rise slightly over the country during the period, Met Office said. Highest temperature 33.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday

at Chittagong and lowest 20.2 degree Celsius at Jessore and The sun sets in the capital at 5.15pm today and rises at 6:09am

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Humidity in in celsius percentage Max Morning Evening Dhaka 30.4 23.4 33.3 Chittagong 24.0 80 86 82 89 82 72 30.6 Raishahi 29.6 Khulna 22.5 30.1 22.4 Barisal 28.0 22.8 Svlhet



1412 from eminent science writer Dr Muhammad Ibrahim at a function at Bangla Academy in the city on Monday.

Millionaire Desa storekeeper arrested in Narayanganj OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Narayanganj

The police arrested BNP leader and millionaire Desa storekeeper Abdullah Al Mamun from Hirajheel in Siddhirgani yesterday.

Mamun, joint secretary of Siddhirganj thana BNP, was arrested on charge of demanding Tk 10 lakh in tolls from Abdul Hye, managing director of a private company at Purana Paltan in Dhaka. He is also an accused in a murder case filed with Chhagalnaiva Police Station.

Sources said Mamun, storekeeper of Sales and Distribution unit of Siddhirganj Desa (Dhaka electric Supply Authority), amassed crores of taka through corruption and plunder after the four-party alliance government took over in 2001.

There are many allegations of extortion and land grabbing against Mamun, also the president of Siddhirgani thana JASAS and Shimrail Chhinnamul Hawakers' Some 84 electricity metres were

cases were filed in this connection. but the police did not take any action against Mamun for reasons unknown. Sources in the Siddhirganj Desa office said Mamun was recently

stolen from the Desa store and

in Dhaka, but he did not join his Even the officers and employees of Siddhirganj Desa office were hostage to his whims, they

transferred to Narinda Desa office

Ctg mayor slates CA for retaining public holiday on Nov 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury yesterday accused president and chief adviser (CA) to the caretaker government of being a loyalist of BNP by observing November 7 as a 'government holiday' and publishing supplements in newspapers on

behalf of the government. "The president and CA has exposed his affiliation blatantly toward a political party, BNP. Such action by him is in fact a violation of the oath he took as the chief of the interim government," alleged Mohiuddin, also the coordinator of Chittagong divisional 14-party alliance, while speaking at the Central Shaheed Minar.

The mayor said the president has so far failed miserably to make an impression of his neu-

He alleged that a certain vested quarter was attempting in vain to spoil the democratic movement of the people by dragging the army into City AL Vice President Belayet

Hossain and Gono Forum leader M

Kafiluddin also spoke in the gather-

Obituary

Sarder Hemayet Hossain, father of Ruhin Hossain Prince, secretary of the central committee of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), passed away due to a cardiac arrest at a clinic in Khulna yesterday at the age CPB president Manjurul Ahsan

Khan and general secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim in a statement condoled the death of Sarder Hemayet and conveyed sympathy to the members of the family.



Colonel Taher Sangsad forms a human chain in front of the High Court in the

Nat'l Revolution, Solidarity Day observed

city yesterday demanding trial of the 'killing' of Colonel Taher.

The National Revolution and Solidarity Day was observed yesterday across the country commemorating the sepoy-people uprising that took place this day in 1975 to protect national independence and sovereignty.

On November 7, 1975, soldiers and people unitedly foiled a "conspiracy" against the national independence and sovereignty. The then chief of army staff, Ziaur Rahman, was freed from captivity in Dhaka cantonment during the political turmoil.

A milad-mahfil was held at Bangabhaban Jam-e-mosque after Asr prayers on the occasion. President lajuddin Ahmed attended the religious function. A special prayer was offered, seeking "continued progress and welfare of the country and the nation". Special prayers were offered in

mosques, temples, churches,

pagodas and other places of wor-

ship across the country for peace

and progress of the nation. Newspapers published supplements while Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar aired special programmes highlighting the significance of the day.

mahfil and special darbar.

People passed the day in a

The Armed Forces hoisted

national flag and arranged milad-

relaxed mood, as the day was a public holiday. Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) observed the day with elabo-

rate programmes that included hoisting national and party flags atop party offices, offering prayers at the grave of late President Ziaur Rahman, placing wreath at the mazar and milad mahfil. Leaders and activists of the BNP and its front organisations visited the

grave of Ziaur Rahman and offered

prayers and placed wreaths. BNP front organisations and affiliated socio-cultural bodies also organised discussions, seminars, milad-mahfil, Qurankhwani, video shows and cultural functions. Some other organisations,

including Awami

Swechchasebok League,

Muktijoddha Oikya Parishad and

Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, observed it as 'freedom fightersepoy killing day'. Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) organised a discussion at Taher Auditorium in the capital in observance of the day as 'civil-military

Satkhira, Shariatpur, Jamalpur and

upsurge day'.

with daylong programmes The day was also observed with various programmes in Savar,

In Rajshahi, the day was observed

The girl was raped on the night of

the girl because her father attended

gave money to her mother for her

arrested one youth in this connection on Monday.

BNP clash in

Twelve people were shot during a upazila last night

Moutopi, Bhairab police said.

Reinstatement of

Jalil Bhuyian, Altaf Mahmud, Omar Faruque, Swapan Saha, Azizul Islam Bhuiyan, Amirul Momenin, Saiful Islam Talukdar, Abdul Mannan, Shaban Mahmud and Borun Bhoumik spoke at the meeting.

also spoke.

will be held. Venue: Lakeshore Hotel.

Premier

Environment of Dhaka University will be held. Venue: LGED Bhaban. Time:

A report titled 'Serve the essentials' by

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal