TARIQUE'S DEFAMATION

Judicial probe

against AL

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Quader on January 23, 2007.

Metropolitan Magistrate Abdur

Rouf Khan will conduct the judicial

inquiry of the case against Jalil while

fix the date and conduct the probe

Jalal Ahmed directed three metro-

politan magistrates to conduct

judicial probe into three separate

CMM's Court on November 19 for

conducting 'malicious campaign

After hearing the petitioner,

Metropolitan Magistrate AJM

Abdullahel Baqui ordered judicial

inquiry into all the three cases

without taking the matter into direct

In the complaint against Hasina,

Tarique mentioned that she

(Hasina) told a public meeting at

Paltan Maidan on November 3, "The

son of 4-party alliance chief drives Tk 2 crore car, wears suit worth Tk 1

lakh and squanders thousands of crore of taka in gambling abroad,"

and "a syndicate of 2 lakh and 86

thousand crore taka is being run at

In the charge against Quader,

the complainant said he (Quader) at

a press briefing on November 4 said

"The New York Stock Exchange has

awarded Tarique Rahman with a

medal. How much taka is needed to

get it, what is the source of this

to know what Tarique carried in 435

suitcases and bags on his trip to

Saudi Arabia for performing the

Umrah? Why and how the

Malaysian government has confis-

Tarique quoted AL general

secretary as telling the newsmen on

November 16, "Apu, APS of Tarique,

met the inspector general of police

(IGP) and pressurised him for the

posting of 15 BNP men as officers-

in-charge (OCs) to the police sta-

tions of Gopalganj, Faridpur,

widely published and telecast

statements of the AL leaders are

false and baseless aiming to under-

The petitioner said all these

Shariatpur and Madaripur."

mine his political image.

dents here vesterday.

Station in the morning.

2 die in Cta

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two people including a one-year-

old boy died in two separate inci-

Ruhi, son of Md Ismail, died after

falling down from the rooftop of a

three-storey building at Pannapara

under Double Mooring Police

father took him to the rooftop and

became engaged in taking care of

labourer was knocked down by a

Chittagong-bound passenger bus

on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at

Kadam Rasul area under Sitakunda

He was identified as Mohammad

The victim was admitted to

Chittagong Medical College and

Hospital where he succumbed to his

some orchids and plants there.

upazila at around 7:00am.

Ali. 25. son of Md Ibrahim.

injuries at around 10:30am.

He met the tragic end when his

In the other incident, a day

Quader also said "People want

money, people want to know."

cated the money of Tarique?"

Tarique filed the cases with the

Mizanur Rahman against Quader. Magistrate ABM Abdul Fattah will

into the case against Hasina. Earlier on November 26, CMM

Hasina is vet to be fixed.

vant documents.

defamation suits.

against him.

Hawa Bhaban.'

secretary

6 killed in road crashes

At least six people were killed and 17 others injured in separate road accidents in Cox's Bazar, Mymensingh and Barguna yester-

day. Our Correspondent from Cox's Bazar reports: Three people were killed and 10 others injured in a road accident at Kharoliya under Ramu upazila in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

Police said the accident took place at around 7:30am when driver of a Cox's Bazar-bound jeep from Eidgao lost his control over steering. The jeep fell into a ditch breaking the railing of a bridge near Kharoliya Bazar, leaving three passengers dead on the spot and

Police seized the jeep but its driver managed to escape, sources

Of the dead, two were identified as Mafizur Rahaman, 40, son of Sayed Ahmed of village Rashed Nagar under Ramu upazila and

Obaidul Hoque, 22, son of Abdul Karim of village Kharoliya. The identity of another aged about 30 could not be known immediately.

Our Correspondent from Mymensingh adds: At least two people were killed and seven others injured, two of them critically, in separate road accidents at Muktagacha and Phulpur upazilas yesterday.

The victims were identified as Bajendra Chandra Das, 50, of village Payer Kandi at Muktagacha upazila and Basir Uddin, 22.

Police said the accident occurred when a speeding truck bound for Mymensingh hit a tempo on Mymensingh-Tangail highway at Maizbari in Muktagacha, leaving tempo passenger Bajendra Chandra Das dead on the spot and two other passengers injured. The injured were admitted to Mymensingh Medical college Hospital (MMCH).

Meanwhile, tempo driver Basir Uddin was killed and five other

passengers were injured when a Phulpur-bound truck collided headon with the tempo on Mymensingh-Haluaghat road at Chandpur under Phulpur upazila yesterday.

The injured were admitted to Phulpur Upazila Health Complex. The bodies were sent to MMCH

murgue for autopsy. UNB from Barguna says: A septuagenarian was killed in a road accident at Patharghata upazila vesterday

Police and witnesses said Jabbar was injured when his motorcycle collided with another motorcycle coming from opposite direc-

He was rushed to the local hospital where he succumbed to his njuries at about 9:00am.

The accident took place when Jabbar of Nizlathimara village in Patharghata was returning home from Patharghata town by a hired



BNP-led Four-party alliance stages a demonstration at Nayapaltan in the city yesterday protesting countrywide

blockade and anarchy by 14-party combine.

Advisers acting as AL underlings

Bhuiyan said they would not accept FC reconstitution if the initiative hampers electoral process. Power has to be handed over to an elected government after completing the election within 90 days, and there is no alternative to it. he added.

"We will take to the street if you (CG) do anything for any particular party," the BNP stalwart warned.

Criticising the CG, he said, " It is acting as a lackey of the Awami League and this is why it took no action nor arrested a single person when this party enforced a blockade

The former LGRD and cooperatives minister again resented contin-

FROM PAGE 16 election and told them that a free

and fair election is still not possible

under this prevailing situation," AL

President Sheikh Hasina's political

secretary Saber Hossain

Chowdhury told reporters after

John Gastright concluded his

meeting with AL President Sheikh

Emerging from an hour-long

meeting with Hasina, Gastright

said that all political parties should

stay flexible with an open mind and

creative ideas in the interest of

holding a free, fair and non-violent

The visiting US secretary appre-

ciated the AL-led 14-party alliance

for calling off its non-stop country

wide blockade programme and

hoped that they would not impose

the programme again. "We do not

support any political violence," he

Gastright, accompanied by

Patricia A Butenis, the US ambas-

sador in Dhaka, also hoped that the

EC would spare its best effort to

produce a best possible election

acceptable to the people of

alliance's stand and said an elec-

tion before implementing their

demands that they had placed

before the members of the advisory

Saber reiterated the 14-party

Hasina at Sudha Sadan.

election in Bangladesh.

cials and asked the CG to stop the

"Don't transfer officials with no links to holding of election," he said. Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General and former minister Ali Ahsan Mujahid said CG advisers should not act like 'B-team' of the

On the proposed EC reconstitution, he said "You (CG) must not ask any election commissioners to go on leave. If you try to do so, we will enforce programmes to halt it.'

Former minister Mirza Abbas leged that the advisers are trying to implement AL's agenda, and threatened to keep them 'confined' if

council, cannot be acceptable to

The alliance's demands include

reconstitution of the EC, a fresh

polls schedule cancelling the one

already announced and updating

the voter list again as per the

Supreme Court directive, he

tion for being flexible, Saber said

they could be flexible with strategy,

frame to prepare the updated voter

list and put emphasis on the pro-

cess of the updating, Saber

Rahman and former high commis-

sioner Ziauddin were present at the

US Deputy Assistant Secretary for

South and Central Asian Affairs

John Gastright yesterday dis-

cussed with the acting chief elec-

tion commissioner (CEC) how to

bring corrections on the updated

"The Election Commission has

undertaken seven days plan to

correct the voter list and to get that

list in the best possible shape for

He was talking to journalists

the election day," said Gastright.

. AL leaders Abdul Jalil, Salman F

but not with policy.

MEETING WITH CEC

explained.

About Gastright's recommenda-

They did not give the EC a time

the people or to the friends of the

they do not give up such move Aman Ullah Aman said the

advisers are echoing the views of AL President Sheikh Hasina.

Chaired by Mayor and city BNP President Sadeque Hossain Khoka, the rally was also addressed by BNP leader Gayeshwar Chandra Ray, Jamaat leader Delowar Hossain Saidee and Bangaladesh Jatiya Party leader Shamim Al Mamun.

Saturday's programme: The BNP secretary general yesterday announced that the four-party will hold rally at the city's Muktangon and bring out processions at district headquarters on that day.

following his meeting with acting

CEC Justice Mahfuzur Rahman in

plan.," Gastright said adding, "They

have got intensive efforts to correct

plan to move forward to get the list

n the best possible shape for the

on the plan and he is impressed by

t. "We will see progress within the

The US deputy assistant secre-

tary and the acting CEC also dis-

cussed a recent survey report on

the updated voter list by National

Democratic Institute (NDI), a US

the survey report where it said 1.22

crore names registered on the

updated voter list are either excess

the EC planned to target those

areas that had been identified in the

survey as having the largest num-

EC's plans and programmes as

well as its efforts to prepare 35,000

polling stations and over two million

poll workers to carry out a success-

ful and credible election peacefully.

Gastright also spoke about the

About working with NDI, he said

NDI on last Saturday unveiled

He also said the EC is working

the voter list."

election," he added.

based organisation.

next few days.

or dunlicates

"They (EC) have seven days

"What we need now is a detailed

Appeal for help





boy, has been suffering from Acute Myeloblastic Leukemia (Blood

Toushik, son of Md Tarek Imtiaz Khan, is now undergoing treatment at Haematology Ward of Dhaka

sion of Prof Syed Khaiul Amin. Doctors are now giving Towshik

They said after chemotherapy, a bone marrow transplantation may be needed. This will cost Tk 30 to 35

Corporation, is not in a position to afford this expensive treatment.

Tarek Imtiaz Khan. Savings Account No-84303. Janata Bank, Purana Paltan Branch, 22 Purana Paltan, Dhaka. Mobile No-0152399360.

Court asks 36 former MPs

Bangladesh.

Ullah of Savar, Abdul Halim of Joypurhat, Advocate Khairul Enam of Laxmipur, Master Majibur Rahman of Shariatpur, Prof Abdul Mannan of Meherpur, Hasibur Rahman Swapan of Sirajganj, Abdul Kader Siddiqui of Tangail and Fazlur Rahman Patal of

Other lawmakers are Aman Ullah Chowdhury of Mymensingh, KG Hamida Khatun and Abdul Alim Mridha of Narsingdi, Salahuddin Ahmed of Dhaka, Abu Abbas of Netrokona, Sirajul Islam of Narayanganj, Sagufta Yesmin Emily of Munshiganj, Goutam Chakrabarty of Tangail, Afsar Uddin Ahmed of Gazipur, Dr Ashraf Hossain Mollah, Rawshan Ara Hena of Bhola and Shahjahan Miah of Chapainawabganj.

The other ex-lawmakers are Dr Mizanul Haq, Nawab Ali Abbas Khan of Moulavibazar, Azizul Haq Mollah of

to military cooperation, give a

negative signal to the whole world

and affect Bangladesh's participa-

tion in the UN peacekeeping mis-

sion," the visiting US government

functionary said in an interview with

with the leaders of major political

parties, advisers to the caretaker

government and the Election

Commissioners over the election

issues, said he was optimistic about

free fair and credible elections here

He observed that the caretaker

government and the Election

seriously to move the process for-

list, he said the Election Commission

vesterday briefed him about the

preparatory plans as to how they are

Gastright, who had consultations

FROM PAGE 16

the UNB.

ward.

Bogra, Suranjit Sen Gupta of Sunamganj, Advocate Rahmat Ali of Gazipur. Barrister Ziaur Rahman Khan of Savar Rawshan Flahi of Sirajganj, Shakhawat Hossain of Jessore, Abdul Matin Chowdhury of Narayanganj, Prof Panna Kaiser of Comilla, Khondaker Asaduzzaman of Tangail, Tahura Ali of Kurigram, Abu Hena of Rajshahi, Golam Mohammad Siraj of Bogra and Abdullah Wazed of Brahmanbaria.

Dewan Salauddin owes the board Tk 96,157 while Nevamat Tk 73,249. Alim Tk 2.23.557. Enam Tk 1.74.904. Maiibur Rahman Tk 3.21.181. Prof Mannan Tk 4,25,336, Swapan Tk 55,655, Kader Siddiqui Tk 42,357, Patal 2,08,235, Aman Ullah Tk 3,22,154, Hamida Tk 1,89,480, Alim Mridha Tk 1,72,364, Salauddin Ahmed Tk 3,44,289, Abu Abbas Tk 2,88,486, Sirajul Islam Tk 2,16,475, Emily Tk 2,16,475, Goutam Tk 2,98,410, Afsar Tk 1,08,575, Dr Ashraf Tk 72,170, Hena Tk 1,64,328 and Shahjahan Tk 19,934

Dr Mizan owes the board Tk 4,08,875 while Abbas Khan Tk 9,428, Azizul Haq Tk 65,785, Suranjit Tk 68.909. Rahmat Ali Tk 2.28.461. Barrister Zia Tk 1,36,079, Rawshan Elahi Tk 5,39,275, Shakhawat Tk 2, 75,867, Matin Chowdhury Tk 2,07,885, Prof Panna Kaiser Tk 2.16.415. Asaduzzaman Tk 6.33.313. Tahura Tk 2.75.541. Abu Hena Tk 2,76,996, Siraj Tk 4, 66,470 Bogra and Wazed Tk 8,81,911.

In the complaint of the cases, the accounts officer mentioned that the former lawmakers did not clear their dues even after they were served notices. As such, the accounts officer prayed to the CMM for realising the fine from the amount of revenue under section 7(A) of the provisions of Telegraph Act 1985.

Day today UNB, Dhaka The main political parties, including

Democracy

BNP and Awami League, will observe 'Democracy Day' today.

On this day in 1990, the then autocratic regime stepped down in the face of a mass upsurge, paving the way for restoration of democracy

In a message on the occasion, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia paid glowing tributes to the martyrs for their supreme sacrifice during the

anti-autocratic movement for establishing democracy. She prayed for salvation of the departed souls and conveyed her sympathy to the people who were njured or tortured in many ways

during the nine-year democratic "The democracy-loving people will always remember their contribu-

tions with a great respect," she said adding, "Today, democracy is again at stake as conspiracies are on to destroy the democratic process. Khaleda said election is a prereg-

uisite to democracy, but the old enemies of democracy are trying to impede the election process so that people cannot exercise their demo-

"We've to resist them and foil their evil designs," she said, urging the people to work together to give the hard-earned democracy a strong footing.

In a separate message, Al President Sheikh Hasina described the day as very significant in pulling down the then autocratic government and restoring democracy.

She hoped that democracy would be ever lasting, voting rights of the people would be established and the people would get rid of all evil forces.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Shishu Hospital under the supervi-

chemotherapy along with blood transfusion to keep him alive.

lakh, they added.

Tarek, an official of Bangladesh House Building Finance

So he has appealed for help from

the generous people of the society. Contributions can be sent to Md

<u>DhãkA</u>

Media festival Ichchey Media Group, supported by Save

the Children Sweden-Denmark will hold a theatre and media festival. Venue: Rabindra Sarobar, Time: 3:00pm.

Discussion

Freedom Fighters Peoples Council will hold a discussion on 'Duties of the

Anniversary

programme

Roundtable

auditorium. Time: 3:00pm.

fair elections, he said.

Hut, Gulshan. Time: 2:45pm.

freedom fighters in the present crisis'. Venue: Moni-Singh Farhad Trust. Time:

Pizza Hut will host a daylong anniversary

programme amid fanfare. Venue: Pizza

A roundtable on 'TB Control programme

Civil society' organised by NTP, Brac and

New Age will be held. Venue: Cirdap

and established democratic process

by holding three free and fair elec-

tions and peaceful transfer of power.

To maintain the process.

Bangladesh needs to have free and

largest moderate Muslim democ-

racy. "World needs Bangladesh

democracy...we are keenly watch-

In reply to a question, he hoped

the next elected government would

implement policies to address the

issues of corruption, extremism,

literacy, business-friendly policy, and

infrastructure development with a

ing it in Washington," he noted.

Besides, Bangladesh is the third-

vandalise business house in Khagrachhari

BNP men

JP (Ershad)

voters

UNB, Dhaka

won't contest

polls with fake

Jatiya Party (Ershad) will not

participate in the upcoming gen-

eral election without exclusion of

1.22 crore fake voters, reforms in

the election commission and

It was announced at a rally at

Panthapath in the city yesterday as

part of the party's simultaneous

movement of laying siege to the

current political impasse, speak-

ers at the rally said the country

will face a serious crisis unless

the caretaker government takes

steps to reform the election

president Syed Abu Hossain

Babla, the rally was addressed

by party leaders Nasim Osman,

Tajul Islam Chowdhury, Anwar

Hossain and Prof Igbal Hossain

Presided over by Dhaka city

Expressing anxiety over the

Election Commission.

commission

creating a congenial atmosphere.

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhar

A group of local BNP cadres yesterday vandalised the business house of a journalist in the district town damaging valuables worth Tk 2 lakh and injuring two people on the spot.

The injured were identified as Md Manir Hossain, 25, son of Manik Mistri of Masterpara village and Chhutan Barua, 28, an employee of Munna Library.

They are undergoing treatment

at Khagrachhari Sadar Hospital. Sources said while local journalists were sending their news in the evening from 'Penguin Computer Centre' owned by Nurul Azam, staff reporter of Dainik Shamokal, a group of BNP cadres appeared in the scene and vandalised the business house

The group comprising 40 to 50 local hooligans led by BNP activists Millat. Mahfuz. Absar. Abdus Salam. Ashraf, Mamun, Nurul Alam, Riaz Uddin Ripan and Saidul Islam took part in the attack, sources said.

Locals alleged that the group earlier vandalised a number of other business houses also.

The incident sparked resentment among the local journalists who demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to the persons involved in the attack.

Local Awami League leaders condemned the incident.

Ensure people's right to vote: CPB

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) President Manzurul Ahsan Khan yesterday said democracy in the country cannot be ensured by only keeping the riches' interest in the name of creating 'level playing

US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs John A Gastright calls on Awami League

President Sheikh Hasina at Sudha Sadan in the city yesterday. On his left is US Ambassador to Bangladesh Patricia A

Reconstitution of the Election Commission (EC) is a must ensure people's participation in the level playing field, he said.

He urged the caretaker government to reconstitute the EC by cancelling the 'fake' voter list and ensure all people's right to vote including indigenous, religious minority and slum dwell-

The CPB President was speaking at a rally at Muktangan in the city as part of their ongoing movement.

Addressing the rally, Manzurul said the idea of army deployment would not resolve the prevailing crisis. The crisis must be resolved democratically, he added. Referring to the US Deputy

Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs John Gastright's visit in the country, he said the US wants to make the country a subordinate state. Presided over by Ahsan Habib Lavlu, General Secretary CPB

Dhaka Committee, the rally was

also addressed by central leaders

Dr Dibalok Singha, Ruhin Hossien

Prince and Mahbubul Alam.

As a part of the ongoing movement, CPB will hold a rally and bring out a protest procession in front of

Begum Rokeya Day Dec 9

Citibank, NA Bangladesh will observe "Begum Rokeya Day" on December 9, says a press release.

In line with Begum Rokeya's vision and life long effort for women education and empowerment, Citibank will present books to the top fifty girl's schools and colleges of

The programme is likely to be attended by the leading women of the country from different fields including current and former advisers of the caretaker government, ambassadors of different diplomatic missions, economists, lawyers, NGO personalities, media and cultural personalities and the principals of different girls schools and

colleges across the country. Citibank's corporate client Summit Power Limited will partner

with Citibank in this regard. This is part of Citibank's philosophy in making the communities at which it has a presence a better place bringing people together.

Obituary



tor of Students' Welfare of Buet, passed away on November 30 at the age of 26 says a press release

Tanim Sajeed

Hossain, son of

Prof Dr M

Monowar

Hossain, direc-

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at Buet Central Mosque after Asr prayers on Friday. Friends, relatives and admirers

have been requested to attend the

Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Mehedi Ibrahim Nizami, an Awami League leader, will be held at his residence at 25/8 A, South Pirerbagh near Oli Market at Mirpur in the city after Asr prayers today, says a press release. Mehedi, also a social worker.

at the age of 62. He left behind his two sons and a

Relatives and friends have been

requested to attend the qulkhwani.

daughter to mourn his death.

see in the last 24 hours that people are eager to develop creative solupassed away at his residence at tions and move the process for-Pirerbagh in the city on December 3 ward," he said. Asked about the controversy over the Election Commission and voter

seven days, set up 35,000 polling centers and deploy two million employees for election to restore the confidence of the people and the political parties Beyond that, he said it is the

responsibility of all parties involved, including political parties, caretaker government and the Election Commission, to come up with the specifics to resolve any problem. "I believe the caretaker govern-

ment is working seriously to make sure the level playing field," he added. About the fresh debate on holding

Commission are working hard and election within 90 days or beyond, Gastright said the people and the parties of Bangladesh will take the "I am particularly impressed to decision. "I am confident that Bangladesh will have an election," he said. He said political leadership

should be flexible in approach to the Election Commission, caretaker government and other parties keeping an open mind for a creative solution for free, fair and non-violent polls the people deserve

Asked what the US position going to update the list in the next would be if any party finally stays away from the polls, or voting is marred with rigging, he said: "Certainly international community will not endorse the results."

Coming polls will be most monitored, says Gastright

The US deputy assistant secretary for South Asia noted that the election is going to be held under a close watch by a large number of international observers. "This is going to be the most thoroughly monitored election in the history of Bangladesh," he said.

He said close to 400 international observers-around 300 from the EU and 71 from the USA-will be arriving here for monitoring the elections Besides, thousands of Bangladeshis will be trained to observe the polls. Asked why the election in

Bangladesh is so important for the USA, he quipped: There is a number of reasons for that as Bangladesh is no longer "George Harrison's Bangladesh of 1971" He observed that the country has

made fantastic accomplishment by

achieving 6to 7 percent economic

growth and progress in social sector

world-class port. To another question, he said the United States does not support any

party. "We support Bangladesh, free and fair elections and whichever government the people of Bangladesh choose.' Describing Bangladesh-USA

relations as superb, Gastright said another free, fair and democratic election will further strengthen the existing relations.

Rise in temperature likely

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today. Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country

during early morning, Met Office said. Night temperature may rise slightly over the country, it added. Highest temperature 29.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 10.8 degree Celsius at Srimongal

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Temperature Humidity in

The sun sets in the capital at 5.11pm and rises at 6:29am tomor-

Oity/ 10 WII	Tomporatare		i idiilidity iii	
			in ce	Isius
percentage				
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	27.1	15.1	77	74
Chittagong	27.8	14.5	77	65
Rajshahi	26.8	12.7	71	78
Khulna	27.5	14.8	79	75
Barisal	27.7	14.2	86	87
Sylhet	28.4	14.5	83	71
Cox's Bazar	29.0	15.2	56	72