FROM PAGE 12 The nomination forms will be

scrutinised on October 15. October 22 has been set as the last date for withdrawal of candidature.

The Sirajganj-1 fell vacant after the death of former health minister and Awami League MP Mohammed Nasim on June 13.

The Dhaka-18 fell vacant following the death of former home minister and Awami League lawmaker Sahara Khatun on July 9.

2 girls raped

FROM PAGE 12

the incident, the OC added In another incident, police held two people on charge of raping a 16-year-old girl in Chattogram city's Agrabad early yesterday.

The arrestees are Nuri Begum and her boyfriend. The main accused Chan Mia was on the run, said Swadip Kumar Das, officer-in-charge of Double Mooring Police Station.

The victim from Feni came to visit her paternal aunt in Chattogram a few days ago. On Sunday night, Nuri Begum, a friend of the victim's cousin, and her boyfriend took the girl to one Chan Mia's house where Chan raped her with the help of the duo, said the OC.

The victim is undergoing treatment at the One Stop Crisis Centre of Chattogram Medical College

The police official said a case was filed against the three with his police

[Our correspondents in Chattogram and Noakhali contributed to this report]

19 MCAs

FROM PAGE 12 consumption of cloths, thereby reducing dependence on other countries for textile.

19 MCAS LOSE CA MEMBERSHIP Nineteen members of the Bangladesh Constituent Assembly, expelled from the Awami League Party, have ceased to be members of the Assembly, according to a notification of the Constituent Assembly of Bangladesh, says a handout issued today. The notification says that in accordance with the provisions of Clause (2) of Article 3 of the Bangladesh Constituent Assembly Members (Cessation of Membership) Order 1972, the general secretary of the Bangladesh Awami League party has informed the acting Speaker of the Constituent Assembly that these members, who were elected on the basis of nomination and ticket granted by the party have been expelled from the party. They have therefore ceased to be members of the Constituent Assembly of Bangladesh with immediate effect. STUDY GROUP TO DISCUSS FLOOD CONTROL PROBLEMS The second meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission today discusses constitution of a study group to look into the problems of flood control in the northern region of Bangladesh and West Bengal. The proposed

SOURCES: September 30, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

study group will consist of experts

from Bangladesh and India and

will send its findings in the form

of recommendation to the Joint

River Commission. The meeting

also discussed the mechanism of

preparing a multi-purpose scheme for

People with

the Sylhet-Kachar basin.

FROM PAGE 12

the lockdown measures enforced by Boris Johnson during the height of the pandemic in the UK, between March 23 — when formal lockdown was announced — and June 1.

Lead author Dr Elena Ratschen, a health scientist at the University of York, says the people who reported poor mental health also scored highly for the strength of their bond with the pet.

'We also discovered that in this study, the strength of the emotional bond with pets did not statistically differ by animal species, meaning that people in our sample felt on average as emotionally close to, for example, their guinea pig as they felt to their dog,' she said.

'It will be important to ensure that pet owners are appropriately supported in caring for their pet during the pandemic.'

Most of those who took part in the research perceived their pets to be a source of considerable support.

But more than two thirds (68 per cent) reported being worried about how their animals would cope with the drastic change Covid-19 introduced to our way of living.

Concerns ranged from restrictions on access to veterinary care and exercise, to not knowing who would look after their pet if

they fell ill. Co-author Professor Daniel Mills, a life scientist at the University of Lincoln, said: 'This work is particularly important at the current time as it indicates how having a companion animal in your home can buffer against some of the psychological stress associated with lockdown.

4th phase flood likely to ruin crops

hours, said a bulletin of Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre

"The major rivers of the Upper Meghna Basin in the North-Eastern region of the country are in falling trend, which may continue in next 48 hours," said the bulletin that was released at 9:00am yesterday.

At least seven rivers were flowing above danger level yesterday at eight stations across the country, read the FFWC bulletin.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) vesterday forecasted that light to moderate rain and thunder showers, accompanied by temporary gusty wind, was likely to occur at one or two places over Rangpur, Mymensingh, Sylhet, Chattogram, Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna and Barishal divisions today.

Besides, moderately heavy rainfalls may occur at isolated places over the country, said the BMD forecast that was released at 6:00pm yesterday.

In Lalmonirhat and Kurigram, Aman Paddy and winter vegetables on around 12,000-acre land have been submerged in last few days, according to DAE officials.

"I cultivated various types of winter vegetables on four bighas of land. Most of my lands remained submerged in

the last six days," said Rajendra Nath Barmon, 65, a farmer of Panga village in Rajarhat upazila of Kurigram.

"I cultivated early varities of winter vegetables on eight bighas of land. Around half of my land was submerged," said Lakhman Chandra Sen, 60, a farmer of Kurul village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

A vegetable trader Abdus Salam in Lalmonirhat town's Goshala Bazar told the Daily Star that the supply of vegetables already decreased, causing a price hike.

Contacted, Kurigram's DAE Deputy Director (DD) said, "We encourage farmers to re-cultivate vegetables on the affected lands.

In Bogura, around 1,085 hectares of Aman paddy and 45 hectares of vegetables remained submerged in the

"I cultivated carrot in 50 decimal of land. All of my land remained submerged for the last five days. will have to incur a loss of around Tk 12,000," said Nunu Pramanik, a resident of Baghopara village in Bogura Sadar upazila.

Contacted, the district DAE's DD Dulal Hossain said, "Rain and flood will cause a delay of the supply of winter vegetables this year."

In Gaibandha, around 4,245 hactres of cropland have been inundated by

In Nilphamari, Aman paddies on around 1,356 hectors of land have been inundated in the latest flood, posing the risk of a loss of around Tk 2 crores, said DAE officials.

"I cultivated potato on one bigha land. But all of my potatoes have been damaged by flood," said Fazal Kadir, a farmer of a village in Kishorganj Sadar upazila.

Contacted, the district DAE's DD Obaidur Rahman Mondol said the losses would be higher, if water does not recede within next 3 to 4 days.

In Panchagarh, vegetables on around 77 hectares of land and Aman paddies on around 106 hectares of land have been damaged by the latest flood, according to DAE officials.

In Thakurgaon, vegetables around 20 hectares of land and ground nut on around 100 hectares have been damaged, said Aftab Ahmed, DD of the district DAE office.

"I planted cauliflower on around 30 décimals. All have gone under water. I think that most of these have been damaged," said Latit Barman, a farmer of Dakkhin Bathina village in Thakurgoan Sadar upazila.

correspondents Lalmonirhat, Bogura, Nilphamari and Thakurgaon contributed to this

Buddhists still wait for justice

intelligence and law enforcement agencies in preventing the mindless

The probe, conducted by a judicial identified 298 people as responsible for the attacks. It also made recommendations that include helping improve the competence and standards of the administration, restricting posts on social media, and awakening a sense of patriotism in people, HC sources said.

Another probe led by police blamed the then superintendent of police of Cox's Bazar and officer-incharge of Ramu Police Station for their failure. While the probe committee recommended action against the then OC AK Nazibul Islam, it did not suggest any action against the then SP Selim Md Jahangir.

The final probe report, by the home ministry, mentioned that 205 people were involved in the mayhem, which was planned at least 10 days ahead in four phases.

The police have reportedly submitted seven charge sheets against 385 people to the lower court concerned in Cox's Bazar, in connection with the cases filed with Ramu police station over the incident. However, the people accused in

administration, and intelligence agencies.

Only some leaders and activists Jamaat-e-Islami and including Tofail Ahmed, chairman of Naikhyangchhari upazila of Bandarban, have been named in the charge sheets.

The petitioners have also been showing apathy in moving for a hearing, causing delays for the HC to give a final decision regarding the

"I am not taking any move for a hearing of the writ petition due to overburdening of the relevant High Court benches with other cases. Besides, the court remained closed at different times due to vacations and the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. I will pray to a High Court bench after it starts full regular functions when the pandemic is over," Jyotirmoy Barua told The Daily Star on September 24.

Barrister Jyotirmov also said almost all of the accused in the Ramu violence ases are now out on bail.

Advocate Md Eunus Ali Akond, the other writ petitioner, told this correspondent on September 26 that the HC bench headed by Justice Mirza Hussain Haider had not held a hearing of his writ petition, as the matter did not get a serial for hearing in the list.

the charge sheets do not include any officials in the police, local would not pray to any bench for

hearing his petition, as the judges may not accept his petition for its final hearing due to an overburdened caseload.

At least 1,000 more judges need to be appointed to the HC for quick hearing and disposal of cases, Advocate Eunus added. 2012 RAMU VIOLENCE

On September 29 and 30, 2012, a group of zealots unleashed violence on the Buddhist community in Ramu by spreading a rumour that a Facebook post derogatory to the Holy Quran was made on the Facebook page of a local Buddhist youth, Uttam Barua.

An investigation by The Daily Star revealed that the Facebook profile, with the picture demeaning the Holy Quran which apparently instigated the violence, had been faked.

The bigots set fire to Buddhist temples and houses, vandalising and looting more than 50 houses in Ramu. They also attacked Mushurikhola crematorium at Khurushkul village in Cox's Bazar Sadar upazila and tried to attack the houses of the Hindus in Kharulia village.

The following day, the zealots attacked and ransacked five Buddhist temples in the bordering Ukhiya upazila and damaged two Hindu temples in Palongkhali union of the upazila. They also set alight and ransacked Buddhist houses in Hoaikong union of Teknaf upazila.

Proposal No. ISDSD-12(78)/2020

They looked away

the college, is convening the committee while hostel superintendents Jamal Uddin and Jiban Krishna Bhattacharya are the members.

Several current and former students of the college alleged that hostel superintendent Jamal Uddin has for years silently supported the BCL activists to keep control of the hostel and never took any steps against them despite several complaints.

The prime accused of the case --Saifur Rahman -- used to live in the bungalow designated for Jamal, from where police recovered a pistol, four sharp weapons and other arms.

Abdul Karim Kim, coordinator of Sangkhubdho Nagorik Andolon in Sylhet, said, "This is a matter of great surprise that the college's probe body has a member who is under question for being most careless about the situation over the years. In this manner, there will be a baseless probe where the main issues of allowing criminals' control over the hostel will be overlooked.

"The depth of the problem is not limited to the crime of a few youths, but college authorities, law enforcers and the administration cannot denv their negligence over the rise of college-centric criminals. A judicial probe body must be formed to probe the whole scenario," he said.

Contacted, hostel superintendent Jamal Uddin told The Daily Star that he was not in Sylhet the night the rape took place inside the hostel and returned the next morning.
When asked why the BCL activists

were allowed to occupy the hostel for years, Jamal said, "Not for years, but since the college hostel is closed

due to the coronavirus pandemic of the department of mathematics of since March, they [BCL activists] took control of the hostel due to lesser monitoring. We removed them from the bungalow and other rooms earlier, but after Eid-ul-Azha, they occupied them again," he said.

Saleh Ahmed, principal of the college, said, "The decision [to form the probe body] was made in the academic council. There is no way a member can influence the probe body; instead, being the senior-most hostel superintendent, he can guide the body accordingly.

SIX ARRESTED, THREE IN **REMAND**

So far in the case, six persons, including four named accused, have been arrested by the law enforcers from different parts of Sylhet, Sunamganj and Habiganj districts.

The arrestees are Saifur Rahman, Shah Mahbubur Rahman Roni, Arjun Sarker, Robiul Islam, Rajon Miah and Md Ainuddin.

Rajon Miah and Md Ainuddin were not named in the case, but police arrested them upon finding their direct link to the case after questioning Mahbubur, said Rab-9 Media Officer ASP Obain Rakhaine.

Meanwhile, Saifur, Mahbubur and Arjun were produced before Sylhet Metropolitan Magistrate Court-2 where judge Saifur Rahman granted a five-day remand for each, said Jyotirmoy Sarker, additional deputy commissioner (media) of Sylhet Metropolitan Magistrate.

"Police are trying to locate and arrest the remaining accused --Mahfuzur Rahman Masum, Tarek Ahmed and one unnamed person,

Covid-19 death toll

the ambulance, and all I could say was 'goodbye'," Chiodi, 50, told AFP.

"I regret not saying 'I love you' and regret not hugging him."

With new cases again surging worldwide, governments have been forced into an uneasy balancing act: virus controls slow the spread of the disease, but they hurt already reeling economies and businesses

The IMF has warned that the economic upheaval could cause a "crisis like no other", though the Fund's outlook appears brighter now than it did in June.

Europe, hit hard by the first wave, is now facing another surge, with Paris, London and Madrid all forced to introduce controls to slow infections threatening to overload

A million Madrid residents are under partial lockdown, with the city and the surrounding region at the epicentre of Spain's second wave.

In Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman urged citizens to keep to strict hygiene measures. Masks and social distancing in

shops, cafes and public transport are now part of everyday life in many cities around the world. Mid-September saw a record rise in

cases in most regions and the World Health Organization has warned virus deaths could even double to two million without more global collective action.

Infections in India, home to 1.3 billion people, surged past six million yesterday, but authorities pressed ahead with a reopening of the battered South Asian economy.

'Neo JMB' rising again?

"We came to know that Abul Abbas Alto reorganise and launch attacks." Bangali Hafizullah is his organisational CTTC unit but failed to give the chief's

current location. As the chief and most of the Sura members are abroad, only some sleeper cell leaders of the outfit are now steering the activities inside the country, the official added.

Asked about the new leadership, Saiful Islam, deputy commissioner of CTTC unit, told The Daily Star that they have learned about the changes in "Neo JMB".

"We have got some organisational names and we are now collecting information about their activities and whereabouts. We will be able to specify once our investigation completes," he added.

A high official of CTTC unit said the "Neo JMB" declared the new leadership following the arrest of Shibbir Ahmed, 22, last month.

Shibbir allegedly used to maintain communications with some ISinspired militants in the Philippines, Indonesia, the United Kingdom, France and Afghanistan. "We are suspecting he was one of

we may interrogate him again if necessary," said the official, wishing not to be named. In fact, the CTTC official said, they first came to know about the previous

the key planners of the outfit and

chief, Abu Mohammad, from Shibbir's statement. According to the new declaration, the outfit's plan is to secure its online communications, get arrested members released and increase its

strength. The "Neo JMB" lost much of its strength following the killings of its chief coordinator Tamim Ahmed Chowdhury and many other key leaders in anti-militancy drives in the aftermath of the Holey Artisan Bakery attack in 2016.

Yet, the militants have been trying

Just before the Eid-ul Azha this July, name. He is of Bangladeshi origin and the Police Headquarters issued alert about possible attacks by Neo JMB as officials said there was intelligence that the so-called IS decided to announce formation of a new wing

called "Bengal Ulayat". Around that time, a 10-member sleeper cell of the outfit tried to conduct subversive activities in different areas of the country.

Officials say the outfit planned to carry out its first attack in recent times at Shahjalal shrine on July 23 but that was foiled. The next day, they left an improvised

explosive device (IED) in the capital's Paltan area. It later exploded but no casualty or injury was reported. On July 31, the cell members blasted a small crude bomb at a

temple in Naogaon but no one got The outfit also claimed to have "killed a practitioner of witchcraft" in Gazipur on July 31. Police said they never found a body but the matter was

being probed. The outfit is now running its activities online and its members are maintaining communications with each other through encrypted applications, especially "Wire" and "Telegram", according to CTTC officials who came to know it after interrogating some recently arrested members.

A recent CTTC research said the number of terrorist incidents has come down significantly but radicalisation is on the rise. CTTC chief Monirul Islam echoed the same at a programme on Sunday. The DC of CTTC unit, Saiful Islam,

it is mostly focusing on strengthening online communication. "We have already increased our

said the outfit does not have much

strength to conduct any major attack;

online vigilance to track them," he

As of yesterday noon, a total

Bangladesh Bank

Information Systems Development and Support Department Head Office, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000



Website: www.bb.org.bd

Invitation for Tenders		
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH		
1	Ministry/Division	Not applicable.
2	Agency	Not applicable.
3	Procuring entity name	Bangladesh Bank.
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6	Invitation for	The Procurement of Warranty, Maintenance and Related Services of Image Qualifier, HSM and MICR
		Scanner for Bangladesh Bank Offices.
7	Invitation Ref. No.	ISDSD-12(78)/2020
8	Date	28 September 2020.
KEY INFORMATION		
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method.
FUNDING INFORMATION		

Own source 10 Budget and source of funds Development partners (if applicable) Not applicable PARTICULAR INFORMATION Project/programme code (if applicable) Project/programme name (if applicable) Tender package No. ISDSD-12(78)/2020 Warranty, Maintenance and Related Services of Image Qualifier, HSM and MICR Tender package name Scanner for Bangladesh Bank. Time Tender publication date 28 September 2020 Not applicable. Tender last selling date 17 Date Tender closing date and time 19 October 2020 03:00pm Tender opening date and time 19 October 2020 03:15pm Name & address of the office(s) Address No conditions apply for sale, purchase or distribution of tender documents Receiving tender document

BB eTender System (etender.bb.org.bd) and one hard copy document. Opening tender document Information Systems Development and Support Department (ISDSD), Bangladesh Bank, 28th Floor, Head Office, Motijheel, Dhaka. Place/date/time of None. Time Pre-tender meeting (optional) Date Not applicable INFORMATION FOR TENDERER Tenderers having 5 years overall business experience and minimum specific Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer experience as Supplier in supply of Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC)/Delivery of

Goods with AMC of at least ONE active or running contract of similar nature, complexity and methods/technology completed over a period of five (5) years. Evidence of Work Order/Support Continuing Certificate mentioning amount, item list. date etc. are required. Brief description of goods Warranty, Maintenance and Related Services of Image Qualifier, HSM and MICR Scanner for Bangladesh Bank. Brief description of related services Three years warranty service. Price of tender document (Tk) Not applicable.

Identification of lot Completion time in weeks/months Tender security Lot Location amount (Tk) No Information Technology items ISDSD 5,00,000/-03 years from the Start date of Warranty, Maintenance and Related Services upon contract PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS Md. Amir Hossain Pathan.

Information Systems Development and Support Department, Bangladesh Bank, Head

amir.pathan@bb.org.bd

Office, Motijheel, Dhaka. 9530481 Contact details of official inviting tender 9530101 30 The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the tender proceedings. DCP: 48/2020-2543

Name of official inviting tender

Date: 28-09-2020

Designation of official inviting tender

Address of official inviting tender

ব্যাংকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা Sd/-Md. Amir Hossain Pathan কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন। Systems Manager Phone: 9530101, E-mail: amir.pathan@bb.org.bd

Systems Manager.

Among the 32 deceased, 22 were

32 more die

males and 10 were females. Two of them died in their homes while the rest in hospitals, said the press release. Four of them were aged between 41

and 50 years, nine between 51 and 60 and the rest 19 were above 60 years old, added the release.

One of them was from Mymensingh division while three each were from country, according to the press release.

Chattogram and Rajshahi and the rest 25 were from Dhaka division. So far, nearly half those who died

suffering Covid-19 were from Dhaka division alone.

of 2,619 Covid-19 patients were undergoing treatment in general beds and 285 in ICU beds at the Covid-19-designated hospitals across the