

DU Senate

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(Awareness) and the independents came out successful.
The elections were held on Tuesday simultaneously at four centres — Dhaka University, Mymensingh Agricultural University, Chittagong University and Barisal B.M. College.

The unofficial results show 80 per cent of 3,105 voters voted for 119 candidates to elect their 25 representatives.
This was the first election held through direct ballot. Earlier, the election was held through postal ballot which gave rise to adoption of many illegal practices. The polls of the Senate, popularly known as parliament of the university, were held amidst great enthusiasm among the voters.

The White Panel was sponsored by DU teachers — Dr Serajul Islam Choudhury and Dr Anwarullah Choudhury, and Reazuddin Ahmed and Amanullah Kabir, President and Secretary General of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) respectively.

The elected persons are: Glasuddin Ahmed Choudhury (Gias Kamal Choudhury), Dr A. F. Imam Ali, A.S.M. Shahidullah Khan, Kazi Nurul Islam Faruqi, Husna Banu Khanam, Tofael Ahmed Choudhury, Sarwar Jahan, Prof M. Shariful Islam, Abul Kalam, Abul Hossain Ahmed Kamal, Dr Nurul Islam, Khodeza Begum, Tawhidul Anwar, Abdur Rashid, Fakhru Islam Choudhury, Belayet Hossain, Abdul Mannan Choudhury, Quazi Kholiqzaman Ahmed, Ahmed Fazel Hassan Choudhury, Mohammad Ali, Abul Kashem, A.A.M.S. Arefin Siddique, Masih Malik Choudhury, Mahfuza Khanam and Md Serajullah. Gias Kamal Choudhury polled the highest number of votes.

The official results of the polls will be announced by the election commissioner today at 11am at the registrar's building of Dhaka University.

India

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his hand when Congress boycotted Parliament for two days last week in protest over alleged police surveillance of his home.

Elections were seen as a last resort which no party wanted and which could result in widespread electioneering violence with little change in the political map.

Venkataraman delayed his decision on whether to hold new elections, allowing attempts for a new coalition to play themselves out, and until Parliament passed an interim budget to allow the government to function for the next four months.

Chandra Shekhar took over the government after the collapse of the National Front coalition led by VP Singh last November. Singh's 11-month government disintegrated in internal disputes under the pressure of religious and caste riots.

Women candidates require to deposit Tk 5,000

The intending candidates for election to the 30 reserved seats for women members in parliament will have to deposit Taka 5,000 in cash or its treasury/sub-treasury receipt (original) along with the nomination papers to the Returning Officer on March 30, reports BSS.

Otherwise, the nomination papers will be treated as rejected, the Election Commission said and pointed out that not more than one deposit would be required for a person who has been nominated by more than one nomination paper.

According to an earlier announcement, the secretary, Election Commission who has been appointed the Returning Officer to conduct the election will receive the nomination papers on March 30 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Ministers

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those who want to undo the verdict of the people expressed through the free and fair elections.

An extended meeting of the central executive committee of BNP, scheduled to be held tomorrow, is not expected to take any decision in this regard. It would be a sort of get-together to take stock of the situation and adopt routine resolutions, the BNP leaders said.

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Published by the Editor on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at Offset Printing Dialogue Publications Ltd., 19 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Editorial, News & Commercial offices: 28/1, Toynee Circular Road, Dhaka-1000. Tel: Editorial & News: 863036. Commercial: 863035. PABX-246023-4. GPO Box No. 3257 GRAM: DAILY STAR, DHAKA.



From left: Envoys of France, Germany and Malaysia called on BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia on Wednesday at her Banani party office. —Star photo



A smiling Sheikh Hasina encourages a child who is participating in a painting competition organised by Muktiyoddha Sanghati Parishad on Wednesday on the eve of anniversary of Bangabandhu's birth. —Star photo

AL leadership

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leaders of the party to visit their respective areas soon to brief the cadres about the stand of the party.

After reviewing the party's performance in parliamentary elections and analysing the political situation in the country, the Awami League Working Committee meeting was adjourned till 4 p.m. of March 19. The committee began its meeting Tuesday afternoon at the central office of the party with the party chief Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Among the 54 members of the committee, 45 attended the meeting. The absentees included party's president member Dr Kamal Hossain, reportedly sick.

A party spokesman told newsmen that while reviewing the recent parliament elections, the AL Working Committee members deliberated on the results of the polls which was shocking for them.

The resolutions and decisions of the meeting will be made public today (Thursday). According to party source, most of the committee members agreed that AL's electioneering was not adequate to face the opponents. They also mentioned that a good number of candidates had financial constraints.

The participants in the Working Committee meeting also said their overconfidence

Raushan's writ

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Appearing on behalf of the state, Attorney General Aminul Huq said the respondent had submitted all the relevant papers and documents in support of the detention of former President. The hearing will resume today (Thursday).

The court earlier heard the writ petition challenging the detention of Begum Raushan Ershad.

UNB adds, Barrister Huq expects a judgement of Raushan's petition today (Thursday).

One killed

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The attackers fled away after a two-hour battle, they added. They claimed that the attackers included some members of the 'Sarbahara Party'.

Local people said the Ansar camp on the abandoned property was set up evicting the residents from there two years back. A case was lodged by some people to retrieve ownership of the vested property, they added.

Police said the armed attack was launched to take forcible occupation of a part of the land. But the Ansars alleged the attack was made on their camp.

Students strike

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A) hold student union offices. Islami Chhatra Shibir leaders at the rallies demanded immediate arrest of and exemplary punishment to the killers of Feroz.

Meanwhile, in a press statement Kazi Rashiduddin and Abdus Sattar, President and General Secretary of Democratic League, Chittagong city unit, condemning the killing of Feroz Mahmud said, it was provocative when the country was achieving democracy following an impartial, fair and free election. They called upon the law enforcing agencies to arrest and punish the criminals.

One hundred and five members of Chittagong District Bar Association on Wednesday condemned the killing of Feroz.

Jamaat MPs to take oath 18 March

The newly elected Parliament members of Jamaat-e-Islami will take oath on 18th March.

Six towns fall to Kurds

NICOSIA, Mar 13: Kurdish rebels tightened their grip on Iraq's northern Kurdistan today after having purged Sulaymaniya of remaining government troops, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported, says AFP.

The agency said the government's crack Republican Guard had meanwhile stepped up attacks with napalm bombs in a bid to regain full control of Basra in southern Iraq, the country's second largest city.

The Iraqi Kurds managed to take a firm hold of the towns of Jalula, Qareh, Anjir, Kallehjo and Jabbari, IRNA said, quoting a Kurdish refugee. Iraqi Kurds who have entirely surrounded Kirkuk city were closing in on government forces there, the refugee told IRNA.

Also in northern Iraq, a helicopter was shot down today as it tried to strafe insurgents, IRNA reported, quoting a spokesman for the dissident Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK).

The chopper went down in the Kalar region of Sulaymaniya province, the spokesman said, identifying the dead pilot and co-pilot as Kamal Abde Razik and Mahmoud Abbas Lafteh.

Heavy fighting was reported around the eastern town of Khanaqin, on the border with Iran.

Iran's spiritual guide, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, stressed meanwhile that only Islam is capable of saving the people of Iraq from the misfortunes that it has long suffered under the malevolent policy of its leaders.

Reuter from Baghdad adds: Iraq said today that "traitors" engaged in a rebellion against Saddam Hussein were doomed to failure and accused the United States of seeking to fragment Iraq, reports Reuter.

The government newspaper Al-Jumhuriya, referring directly to a two-week-old uprising in Iraq's Kurdish north and Shiite south, warned: "Iraq is not an easy prey for the masters of evil and ambition."

steps of British colonialism during the occupation of Iraq". Iraqis accuse Britain of imposing a policy of "divide and rule" during its 16-year mandatory rule of the country after World War One.

The ruling Baath Party daily Al-Thawra criticised US Foreign Secretary James Baker's visit to the region. Describing it as "an episode which continues the previous episodes of conspiracy against the Arab cause."

Another report adds: Iraq, its economy battered by the Gulf war, has introduced new coins carrying the legend: "Victory is ours."

The new high denomination coinage was announced in two

Priority to education

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regime had accepted many terms and conditions of donor countries, the new government would be compelled to follow those.

Begum Zia said though the autocratic regime was ousted by a mass movement, the trial of the autocrat was still awaited. She said trial of the autocrat must be completed, otherwise autocracy might raise its head again.

Begum Zia said that all culprits must be arrested and put on trial as everyone was equal in the eye of law.

The APSU leaders told Begum Zia that they would initiate a Movement to expedite Ershad's trial.

They hoped that antagonistic politics would not be practised between the opposition and the government in future. They also hoped that the future government would realise the short term demands of students which had been included in the 10-point demand of the student community.

The student leaders also hoped that the BNP government would give priority to the education sector unlike the past regime.

BNP MPs to take oath Mar 18

The MPs-elect belonging to BNP will take oath on March 18 at 12-30 pm at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, party sources said on Wednesday, reports UNB.

All the BNP MPs have been asked to turn up there in time. BNP has secured a single majority with 138 seats out of 298 on stake in the February 27 parliamentary election, held under a caretaker government.

All the newly elected MPs will be sworn in the fifth parliament by Chief Election Commissioner Justice Abdur Rauf on March 17, 18 and 19. Speaker of the dissolved 4th parliament Shamsul Huda Chowdhury has designated the CEC for the administration of oath, as most political parties declined oath-taking from him.

Salahuddin

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a fundamental change in the Constitution must be brought in case of handing over of executive power to the Council of Ministers, he opined.

He however said the Acting President can ask for advice of the Supreme Court to end any constitutional problems. If the Constitution is found inadequate in discharging executive powers, new provisions can be made under the Sub-Clause 3 of the Clause 55 of the Constitution, he said.

He said there is no alternative to handing over power to a sovereign parliament to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of the people.

He said his party favours parliamentary form of government to end centralisation of power.

presidential decrees published in Baghdad newspapers Wednesday. No explanation for the move was given.

AP from Madrid says: The Iraqi Ambassador has asked for political asylum in Spain, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday, and a newspaper said the action could be part of a wider move by Iraqi diplomats to isolate Saddam Hussein.

Over the weekend, Arshad Tawfiq Ismail turned over weapons to police and burned documents in the garden of his Madrid Embassy before requesting asylum and going into hiding under police protection, the daily ABC reported Tuesday.

Priority to education

ernment offices. The leaders hoped that these posts would be filled soon, they also urged for increasing the age limit for government jobs.

The student leaders demanded arrest of persons responsible for killing Doctor Milon and put them on trial.

The leaders also demanded immediate measures for arresting Niru-Obhi ring.

Those who attended the meeting were: Amanullah Aman, Khairul Kabir Khokan, Ashim Kumar Ukil, Jahangir Sattar Tinku, Shafi Ahmed, Nasimuddoza, Kamal Hossain, Fazlul Huq Milon, Bazlur Rashid Firoz, Nur A Bakul, Sirajul Munir, Mamunur Rashid, Mohsin Sarkar, Syed Jahangir, Moklesur Rahman, Abdus Sattar, Gazi Shamsuddin Khan, Akhtar Sobhan, Faizul Hakim and Moslehuddin Shaheen.

BNP MPs asked to collect ID cards

By Staff Correspondent
MPs-elect of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) have been requested to collect their Identity Cards from AKM Feroz Noon, House Number-5, Road Number-10, Dhanmondi residential area.

A press release of the party said members will need Identity Cards during taking oath of office.

One killed, two injured in storm in city

By Staff Correspondent
A tea-boy Kamal was killed and two others including a child were injured when wall collapsed at Pir Yemant Market near Nur Hossain Square in Dhaka on Wednesday, police said.

A sudden thundershower occurred Wednesday noon at a few places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna divisions. Kamal died on the spot when a wall broke and fell on them.

The two injured persons are: Nanjan (18) and Nurul Amin (12). They were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

The dead body of Kamal was sent to DMCH for autopsy. A case has been filed with Ramna thana.

JP rallies in Ctg, Jaipurhat

JAIPURHAT, Mar 13: Jatiya Party activists Wednesday, for the second consecutive day, brought out processions in the town demanding immediate release of ousted President H.M. Ershad, reports UNB.

The processionists led by local JP leaders and chanting "we have brought Shah Moazzem out of jail, we will also bring Ershad" paraded the main city streets and later held a rally in front of local party office.

Deposed President Ershad has been interned in a house, declared a sub-jail, in Gulshan area of Dhaka.

Speakers at the brief rally warned of launching intensified movement to press home their demand to release Ershad.

BSS Adds: Jatiya Party, Chittagong south unit, brought out a procession in the city Wednesday demanding immediate release of Shamsul Alam Master, General Secretary of the unit and Jatiya Party candidate in the recently held parliamentary election from Chittagong 11 Patiya constituency.

Ershads

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the name of her husband or father but purportedly meant for Raushan Ershad.

They also undervalued the cost of the plot and charged only Taka 33 lakh instead of the standard price Taka 60 lakh, it was alleged.

The complainant further alleged that the construction cost of the proposed 16-storied building in the name of "Janata Publishers Ltd" was estimated at Taka 15 crore, which again is disproportionate to know sources of the allottee's income.

The case was filed under sections 419, 420, 406, 120 and 471 of Bangladesh Penal Code (BPC).

Railroad on Jamuna bridge

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on self-reliance strongly advocated cutbacks in military spending and luxury imports to reduce dependence on foreign assistance.

The report called for effective moves for reducing aid dependence and suggested drastic cuts in the consumption pattern of the wealthy sections of people for five years.

Only 25 per cent of the total foreign aid is spent in Bangladesh, the report said. It did not however elaborate how the rest 75 per cent of the foreign aid is spent.

Twenty nine Task Forces, formed by the interim government, submitted their reports. The Task Force reports include those on Jamuna Bridge, transportation and self-reliance.

The report on Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge said difference of opinions exists on the issue of railroad construction on the bridge. The consultants saw it economically viable to construct the bridge with a metergauge rail. But, it noted, the International Development Agency (IDA) thinks benefits to be accrued at an additional cost for construction of railways that are not acceptable, despite its economic feasibility.

The report said the drawing and design of JMB has been prepared in such a way that metergauge railways can be installed on the bridge by strengthening the super structure guarder without extra load on its foundation as suggested by IDA, the coordinator of the donor agencies for the bridge.

The report noted tender documents and selection of consultants for JMB construction have been finalised. Tenders for construction of the bridge, river management work and access road were scheduled to be floated on September 1, 1990. The move was stalled under instructions from IDA. IDA has questioned the financing probability in the context of economic activities.

The Midnight File

Soviet-Turkey sign friendship treaty

MOSCOW, Mar 13: The Soviet Union and Turkey signed a treaty of "friendship good neighbourliness and cooperation" on Tuesday, the Soviet news agency Tass reported. The treaty re-established arrangements made under a treaty of 1923 which was abrogated by former Soviet leader Josef Stalin when Turkey joined NATO at the beginning of the cold war, reports AFP.

Five killed in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, Mar 13: Rebels rained rockets and mortar bombs on the western Afghan town today killing five people and wounding 36, the official Kabul radio reported. The broadcast, monitored in the Pakistani capital Islamabad, said 88 rockets and mortar bombs landed in the town, reports Reuter.

Catto new head of USIA

WASHINGTON, Mar 13: President George Bush Wednesday named Henry Catto, now ambassador to Britain, the head of the US Information Agency. He would replace Bruce S Gelb, whose two-year tenure has been marked with controversy. Bush announced he was sending Gelb to Brussels to be US ambassador to Belgium, reports AP.

US-Soviet summit likely in May

MOSCOW, Mar 13: A Soviet-US summit meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and President George Bush, postponed from February, could take place in May, the official Tass news agency said today. Tass quoted Gorbachev's spokesman Vitaly Ignatenko as saying the Soviet Union would view with interest US Secretary of State James Baker's views on the timing of the summit, reports Reuter.

Janet signs top record contract

NEW YORK, Mar 13: Janet Jackson has signed what is believed to be the best paying contract in the history of recording. The Times said the singer, songwriter and actress signed an exclusive contract with Virgin Records that has been widely reported to yield as much as 50 million dollars for three to five albums, reports AP.

Vintage bombs found in Manila

MANILA, mar 13: Three World War Two-vintage bombs powerful enough to blow up a five-story building were dug up today underneath a race horse stable in a populous Manila neighbourhood, Philippine police said. The bombs were unearthed by workers building a new stable outside a race track where Japanese forces kept a garrison in the war, police commander Captain Felix Arevalo said, reports Reuter.

PLO concession

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saying the organisation was willing to compromise in order to get Israel to the negotiating table Wednesday accused the media of distorting his position, reports AP.

Bassam Abu Sharif, Chief Political Adviser to Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat, was said to have accepted a Palestinian state comprising something less than the complete West Bank and Gaza Strip and drop its demand to negotiate with Israel on an equal footing.

But Abu Sharif told state-run Jordan Radio that statements attributed to him by Britain's Sky News was

"absolutely not true and a groundless report".

Abu Sharif reiterated his organisation's support for United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which include a land-for-peace agreement as the basis for settling the lingering Arab-Israeli dispute.

"It is unfortunate that these (Western) organisations are trying to distort our positions", Abu Sharif told Jordan Radio. There is absolutely no truth to this news.

He said: "We have a copy of the interview and it does not include any... concessions at all", he said.

should be stopped, the Task Force suggested.

It also pleaded uniform pricing policy to rationalise fares of different transports. The report called for measures for streamlining implementation of development projects and restoration of financial discipline.

The long-term strategy for the development of the transport sector should be, according to the Task Force, the following:

1. Rational use of land in layout and design, 2. Separate lanes for slow-moving transports in cities and towns, 3. Construction of national and regional highways in consideration of their costs involved, 4. Development of connecting roads with rural growth centres, 5. Joint research on international river management with neighbouring countries i.e. India, Nepal, Bhutan and Burma situated on the same deltaic region.

The Task Force report on self-reliance has identified several objectives. They include emphasis on quality of aid rather than quantity, reduction of dependence on aid, substantial growth with reduction of poverty within the current decade, and building institutions to achieve local self-reliance. It also suggested strategies to achieve the objectives.

The report advocated for evolving indigenous capability to identify and prepare projects. Negotiating skill and capacity of the nation has to be enhanced.

The report said utilisation of local materials, local ideas, local expertise and local talents should get top priority, and special care should be taken in engaging foreign consultants.

On the role of external aid, the report suggested that foreign aid should aim at building capabilities to achieve self-reliance.