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# The Daily Star

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**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Dhaka second in SAARC quiz contest**

Bangladesh got second prize in the quiz competition at the two-week long cultural programme for SAARC countries held recently in New Delhi, reports BSS.

**ALWC meets tomorrow**

The adjourned meeting of Awami League central working committee will be held at 3 pm on Tuesday at 29, Minto Road. Party General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, MP, has requested all concerned to attend the meeting. A meeting of the party's constitution and manifesto sub-committee was held Sunday with Abdus Samad Azad in the chair. The meeting was adjourned till 10:30 am Tuesday, reports UNB.

**Dewan made APIO of PID**

AQS Dewan yesterday took over as Additional Principal Information Officer (current charge) of the Press Information Department. Dewan has succeeded Tofazzal Hossain who has gone on leave preparatory to retirement (LPI). Dewan was Deputy Principal Information Officer of the same department before taking over APIO, reports BSS.

**Jamuna erosion hits 800 families**

SIRAJGANJ, Sept 13: About 800 families became homeless in the district as erosion by the river Jamuna intensified further during the last three days. Water Development Board sources said Matiarpur and Kachuahta villages of sadar thana have been devoured by the river Jamuna forcing about 600 families to abandon their homestead, reports UNB.

**JASASS city body formed**

A 51-member new executive committee of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik Sangstha (JASASS), Dhaka metropolitan city unit, was formed yesterday with Syed Imran Saleh Prince as its President and Fazlullah Faiz General Secretary. The new committee was formed at an emergency meeting of the central convening committee presided over by its Convenor Amzad Hossain, reports BSS.

**Eight including woman arrested**

## Arms haul from Freedom Party headquarters

By Staff Correspondent

Police arrested eight persons including a woman and recovered a large quantity of illegal arms and ammunition in a lightning raid on the Freedom Party central office in Dhanmondi Sunday evening.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police including Detective Branch (DB) officials began the raid at 8:30 pm and continued it until 9:30 pm yesterday.

The arrested persons were Rubi, Ashraf Alam, Motaleb, Ali Azam Sarker, Abul Kalam, Rezaur Rahman, Mizanur Rahman and Yusuf Hossain. All

the arrested persons, aged between 18 and 30 were taken to Dhanmondi Police station, according to a police source.

The Dhanmondi office of the Freedom Party remained under police guard till late last night.

Police recovered one sawed-off rifle, one shotgun, two pistols, a revolver, two rifles, one grenade, 10 crackers, different types of knives and a large quantity of ammunition, police said.

Police also recovered one stereo cassette player, 16

video and a large number of audio cassettes and five passports belonging to Yunus Patwary, Nasimuddin, Nasiruddin, Moniruddin and Tareq Kabir from the Freedom Party office.

Police seized Taka 22,000 in cash from the party office, according to sources.

As police, working on a tip off, began cordoning the party office at Dhanmondi Road No-15A (new) at 8:15 pm. Party workers, in and outside the office tried to escape, witnesses said.

Police instantly arrested eight people. According to eyewitnesses two were picked up from Dhanmondi Lake area.

The arrested lady claimed that she was innocent and not connected with the Freedom Party at all. She had gone to the Freedom Party office just before the raid to look for her 10-year-old son, she claimed.

The recovered arms, ammunition and other articles were brought to the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMI) control room, according to police.



Cache of arms recovered from Freedom Party head office last night. More picture on Back Page.

— Star photo

## Dhaka won't accept people sent by Delhi



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had a meeting with the high ranking army officials at the army headquarters in Dhaka yesterday afternoon. Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan was present. A BSS report said Begum Zia who is also incharge of Defence Ministry discussed training and development of army during the meeting. It was a part of the regular meetings of the Prime Minister with senior military officials.

By Toufique Imrose Khalidi

Dhaka will not accept the so-called, illegal immigrants whom New Delhi plans to deport.

Responding to reports that India has taken up a programme for the "deportation of illegal infiltrators from Bangladesh," authoritative sources said there was no question of taking anybody without proper identification.

"We won't accept them ('migrants') unless the Indian authorities provide documents that they are our citizens", the sources quoted Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman as saying to illustrate Bangladesh's position.

However, Bangladesh Immigration officials at the Benapole border received 132 people from Indian border. See Page 12 Col 1

## We will force govt to halt violence : Hasina

GOPALGANJ, Sept 13: Awami League President Sheikh Hasina today (Sunday) called for a pragmatic policy and steps to improve the lot of the vast rural poor in the country, reports UNB.

"Development of village is the key to a vibrant national economy but village people were left deprived over the years socially and economically," she said.

Hasina made a personal donation of Tk 50,000 for the construction of a hostel of the college.

Presided over by Principal Molla Mohammad Nurunnabi, the function was also addressed by District Awami League leaders Mohammad Ali Khan Abu Mia, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, former QUCSU VP Sultan Mohammad

Mansur Ahmed, Jubo League leader Sheikh Maruf and VP of the college students union Mahabubur Rahman.

The Awami League chief was bitterly critical of the government for what she said patronising terrorism on the campuses in a planned way destroying the future of students and the nation as well.

"For greater interest of the future generation, we will force the government to halt violence," she said. "It's our responsibility to build up students as worthy citizens so that they can dedicate themselves to the cause of the people and the country."

Hasina appealed to all conscious citizens to come forward in building up an educated and disciplined nation. See Page 12 Col 6

## Opposition giving lip service in curbing terrorism : Salam

Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Abdus Salam Talukder yesterday said that the government had proved its sincerity in curbing terrorism through suspending the activities of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal on the Dhaka University campus, reports BSS.

Addressing as the chief guest and anti-terrorism rally at Mirpur in city, the Minister called upon all to come forward to check terrorism through creating socio-political resistance.

The Minister said the present government was pursuing all its efforts to establish rule of law and an administration free from corruption as part of its election pledges. "A certain quarters is impeding the gov- See Page 12 Col 2

## PM orders funding jute buying

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday directed concerned authorities to fund purchase of jute in the private sector and solve problems of the jute sector, reports BSS.

The directive was given when a delegation of Bangladesh Jute Mills Association (BJMA) led by its Chairman Dr Naymur Rahman called on the Prime Minister at her office in Dhaka Sunday evening.

The reform programme for Bangladesh jute sector prescribed by the World Bank got prominence during her discussions with the BJMA delegation.

The BJMA leaders earlier appealed to the Prime Minister to finance purchase of jute in the private sector for salvaging the sector from its pitiable condition. See Page 12 Col 2

## Ilias charged with two murders, sent to jail

By Staff Correspondent

A top JCD leader, Ilias Ali, was charged with two murders and sent to the Dhaka Central Jail Sunday.

Ilias Ali, General Secretary of the now-dissolved Central Committee of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of the BNP, was picked up from his Shyamoli residence by the Detective Branch (DB) of Police Thursday afternoon and detained at its Minto Road office for nearly 70 hours for questioning.

Police processed the arrest-order Saturday night charging Ilias with the murders of an unidentified man and a student Ashrafur Mamun on August 30 and September 4 respectively on the Dhaka University campus.

The JCD leader was escorted to the Dhaka Metropolitan Magistracy under tight police security Sunday afternoon.

Case-files were placed before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at around 4 pm and he ordered that Ilias be sent to jail.

A jail source said that Ilias was taken to the Dhaka Central Jail at 5:30 pm yesterday.

Ilias Ali has been charged under Sections 302 (committing murder), 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting with firearms), 149 (illegal assembly with common intention), 448 (trespassing), 326 (injuring someone gravely) and 307 (attempt to murder) of the Bangladesh Penal Code (BPC), according to a police source.

According to a police source, the JCD leader has

been named the main accused in the two murder cases lodged with Ramna Police earlier. During bloody gunbattles between two factions in the JCD, an unidentified man, reportedly insane, was shot dead August 30 and two students of the University, Ashrafur Mamun, and Mahmud Hossain were gunned down September 4. Both students were JCD activists.

Ilias was elected General Secretary June 16 this year and the BNP chairperson Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia dissolved the JCD central committee September 6 following the violence on the Dhaka University campus.

Five years ago, Ilias along with 11 others, was expelled from the Dhaka University for his alleged involvement in campus terrorism.

See Page 12 Col 8



Ilias Ali

## UNGA to discuss repatriation of Rohingyas

The forthcoming session of United Nations General Assembly will discuss repatriation and proper resettlement of the Rohingya refugees sheltered in Bangladesh.

Diplomatic sources told UNB Sunday the issue would be taken up whether raised by Bangladesh or not in the UNGA session.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman left for New York early Sunday to attend the 47th session of UNGA beginning tomorrow.

The sources said the annual assembly of the 179-member world body would take stock of the eviction of the Myanmar Muslims from their homes and their exodus into neighbouring Bangladesh during the scheduled discussion of issues on violation of human rights and global refugee problems.

The UN committees concerned will also appraise the findings of different sources to determine if the situation in the Myanmar Province of Arakan is congenial to safe return of the refugees, who

See Page 12 Col 8

## Police raid 3 DU halls; arms recovered

By DU Correspondent

Police recovered some arms and ammunition and arrested three outsiders during a three-hour raid on three residential halls of the Dhaka University Sunday.

In the pre-dawn raids on Salimullah, Zahurul Huq and Jagannath halls of the University, police recovered two sawed-off rifles, 61 bullets, four cocktails and three hand telephone sets, police sources said.

Police arrested two outsiders Imroka Hossain, 22, of Pabna, Abul Kalam Azad alias Shabuj, 22 of Barisal from Zahurul Huq Hall and Md. Salim Ahmed, 21 of Satkhira from Salimullah Hall.

According to police sources, the arrested three were staying illegally in the halls. See Page 12 Col 3

## AL constitution body finalises recommendations

Star Report

The Awami League sub-committee for amending the party constitution yesterday finalised its recommendations which included the formation of an advisory council and the incorporation of the concept of forming a shadow cabinet.

According to party insiders, the sub-committee also recommended creation of two new portfolios in the party Central Working Committee, increase in the number of Presidium members allocation of specific responsibilities for them the tenure of the See Page 12 Col 2

## PDF presses for consensus in curbing terrorism

By Staff Correspondent

The Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) Sunday stressed the urgent need for arriving at a national consensus in rooting out terrorism from the country.

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the front observed that the deteriorating law and order situation coupled with terroristic activities had created a grave crisis in all spheres of society.

Presided over by Shams-uddoha, MP, the meeting noted that the recent incidents in Dhaka University had See Page 12 Col 5

## High-level meet to fix newsprint price soon

By Inam Ahmed

A high level inter-ministerial meeting will be held soon to decide the fate of newsprint prices, according to concerned sources.

The meeting will decide on lowering price furnace oil to bring down the production cost of newsprint. The secretaries of Industries, Finance and Energy See Page 12 Col 6

# Thai polls: Democrat Party heading toward victory

BANGKOK, Sept 13: Moderate Democrat Party leader Chuan Leekpai, looking set to win the most seats in Thailand's general election, refused to stake a claim to the prime ministership late Sunday, reports AFP.

Chuan was interviewed live on television from his southern constituency of Trang as the latest computer projections gave his Democrat Party 79 seats in the 360-seat house of representatives.

"There is a procedure. We should not talk too much about forming a government, we have to wait for the official result," Chuan told a throng of reporters.

"Who will be nominated prime minister depends on the political parties because no single party has an outright majority," he said.

The projections forecast that Chuan and his three most likely allies in a coalition government would only scrape a

majority in the lower house.

The Democrats' likely partners include Chamlong Srimuang's Palang Dharma (moral force) party, projected to win 45 seats, and the New Aspiration Party of Chaowalit Yongchayudh, which seems to be heading for 51.

The fourth of the so-called "angel" pro-democracy parties likely to join a democrat-led coalition would be the solidarity party, projected to win seven seats.

If the projections are correct, the coalition would command a total of 182 seats.

They might be joined by the Seritham (liberal democratic) Party of former house Speaker Arthit Urairat, projected to win nine seats, analysts say.

Both Chamlong and Chaowalit said the Democrat Party should be the core party in a governing coalition.

Among the other parties expected to make a strong showing was the Chart Thai

(Thai Nation) Party, which is traditionally supported by big business interests and is projected to win 75 seats.

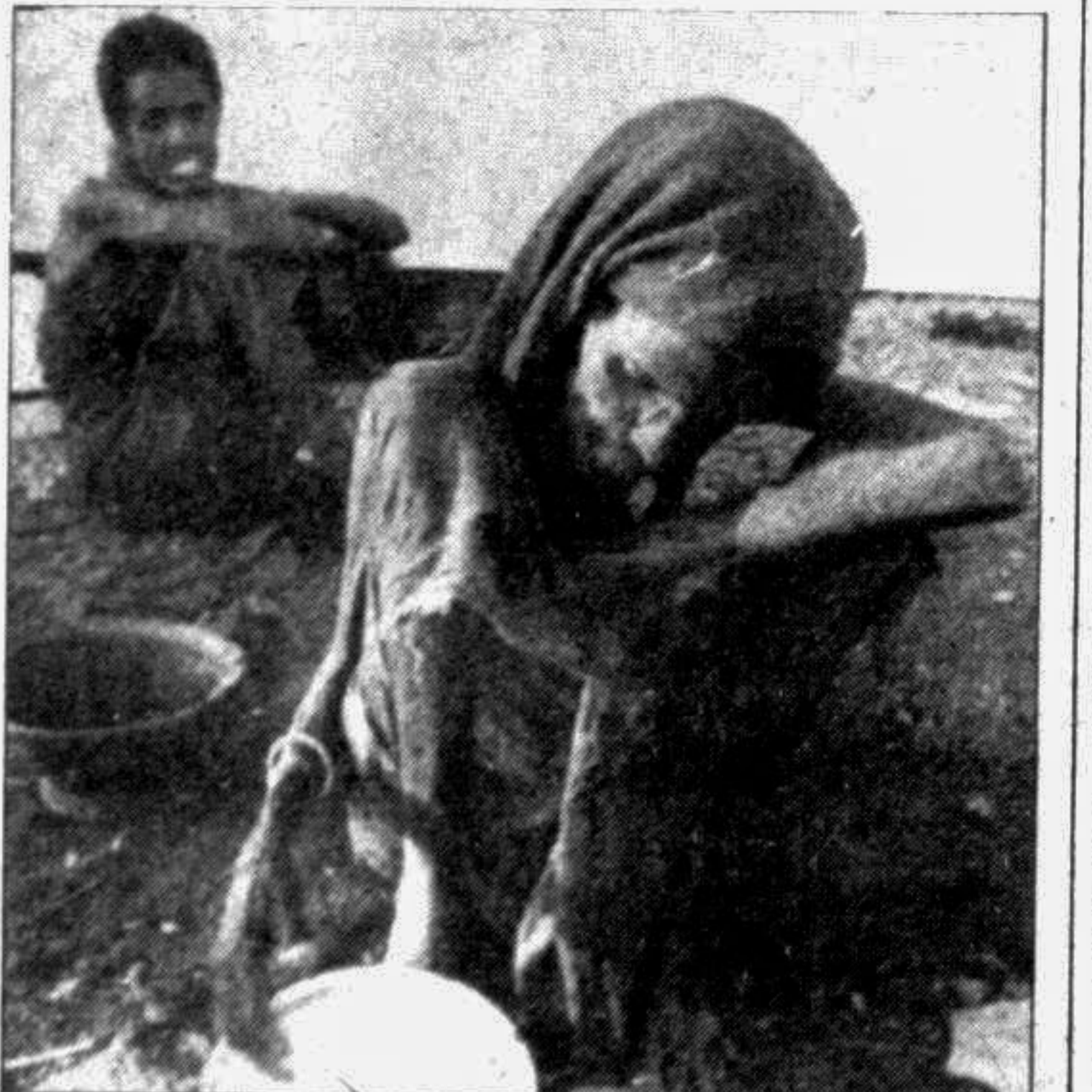
Chart Thai was one of the main members of the pro-military coalition which nominated former army strongman Suchinda Kraprayoon as prime minister after the last elections here in March.

Chuan, 54, is a former lawyer and 23-year political veteran from southern Thailand who has held various min-

isterial posts since first being elected a member of parliament in 1969.

He is believed by political analysts to be acceptable to Thailand's military establishment, which Sunday promised not to interfere in the formation of a new government.

The pledge came from both army commander Vimal Wongwanch and Air Force Chief Gun Pimarnthip in separate interviews with reporters.



A famine victim eats rice Sunday in Baihoda, a bush town in Somalia. —AFP photo