FBCCI elections held

From Page 1 Col 7

Md.Yunus, A. Gafur, Capt Shamsul Haq and Shafiullah Chowdhury, Khorshed Ali Mollah of the Independent Panel, which fielded only eight candidates, was also in the running, as were MA Kamal and Karim Chowdhury.

The elections were held with unprecedented enthusiasm despite earlier uncertainty over reports that a city court had issued a temporary injunction on Saturday.

All 840 of the eligible voters were earlier provided with identity cards and their signatures were cross-checked when the voters entered the building. The candidates were given special name cards

pinned to their chests. Fourteen ballot boxes were set up in separate booths on the third floor of the Federation Bhaban in Motifheel. A huge colourful canopy was erected on one side of the busy thoroughfare in front of the building for the voters, candidates and their supporters. The presidential candidates also set up separate pavilions on either side of the road for their supporters, which often created traffic jams in the country's main commercial district.

A steady stream of voters started coming since morning. The whole area bore a festive look with posters and banners of the candidates projected and pasted all around. The nearby parking lots were packed above capacity with Pajeros and other latest model expensive sedans as cellular telephone-toting candidates and their supporters were seen making last-minute campaign pitches outside." The country's rich and the mighty were all there.

Voters were encircled by campaigners trying to hand over campaign materials as they entered the multi-storied Federation Bhaban to cast their ballots.

Voter turnout was very high as 817 out of a total 840 voters cast their ballots - 597 out of 614 for the Association group and 219 out of 226 voters for the Chamber group.

Enthusiasm among the voters was also high because for the first time in 21 years they got an opportunity to elect the office-bearers under a direct voting system.

"It is good that the proxy voting system has been abolished, because in the past the candidates didn't even bother to approach the voters to get elected." said Gulnar Zaman one of the few women voters of the Bangladesh Dress Makers' Association, "Now that we have our voting rights we can select the right candidates to lead the federation.

Voters from various district chamber bodies also felt that the direct voting system gives them a greater voice and hoped that now the federation's leaders would also work for their interests as well.

Mosharraf Hossain Akhand, a voter from the Jhalakathi Chamber of Commerce, said that earlier voters from the mufassil chambers were usually neglected but this time around they can at least vote for the

candidates of their choice. "We want the federation to solve our problems but they have failed us in the past because they remained busy with big things. But now since they have to seek our votes, hopefully they will work to uphold our interests also," he added.

A record 82 candidates contested the polls for the 32 executive posts, including a president, a vice-president and 30 executive committee members. They will have a two-year term of office.

Under a rotating system the posts of president and vicepresident are held alternatively by the Association group and the Chamber group. This year the post of president goes to the Association group as the outgoing president Mahbubur Rahman was elected from the Chamber group.

Seven candidates vied for the presidency. They were: Salman F Rahman of the Oushad Shilpa Samity, Redwan Ahmed, MP of the Garments Manufacturers and Exporters' Association, Mirza Abu Mansur of the Hardware and Machinery Merchants' Association, M A Kashem of the Jute Spinners' Association, Kazi Shafiqul Islam, the outgoing vice-president, Nurul Islam of the Cold Storage Association and F I Mohsin Bulbul of the Contractors' Association.

Three of the presidential candidates also fielded 15 member panels for the EC

There were four vice presidential candidates: Khandaker Rashiduzzaman Dudu of the Kushtia Chamber, M Lutfur Rahman Khan of the Madaripur Chamber, Mohammad Ali Sarker of the Rajshahi Chamber and Abdul Latif Siddiqui of the Tangail Chamber.

The Council of Chamber Presidents backed a 16-member panel with Rashiduzzaman Dudu as its vice presidential candidate. The panel includes the presidents of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Dhaka Chamber, the Sylhet Chamber, the Narayangani Chamber and the vice-president of the Chittagong Chamber.

All candidates campaigned hard during the past month or so. Full-fledged campaigns were launched replete with projection meetings-cum-dinners in posh city hotels, advertising campaigns in the national newspapers and even door-door calls on individual voters. One presidential candidate even employed the services of a publicity firm for his campaign. Some candidates also made lavish arrangements for food and accommodation for the out-of-town voters.

Sanitation campaign

From Page 1 Col 3 on health and sanitation.

Most of the people interviewed responded positively to the change in their sanitation habits and suggested that using pit or water-seal latrines were letter than using branches of local "gim" trees that usually hang over the rural canals to allow people defacate in water.

Bill-boards, posters and placards with sanitation messages were seen prominently displayed at the schools, local office buildings, walls of shops market places and other buildings in the palm-fringed villages of Barisal.

A recent Bureau of Statistics survey said 46 per cent of the total rural families of Barisal Division now use at least one form of sanitary latrines, either pit or water-seal type.

The national average shows that only 30 per cent of the families use hygienic latrines. Yet, the country is exposed

to diarrhoea and other endemic diseases that claim some seven lakh children every year. The deaths of children caused only by diarrhoea stands at 2.5 lakh a year.

"If people can be truly made convinced of their benefits and they are properly mobilised such good result in so short a time can be easily achieved," said Md. Abdur Rahim Khan. Sub-Assistant Engineer of Gaurnadi Public Health Engi-

neering (PHE) Department. The Public Health Engineering Department is one of the major implementing agencies involved in supplying concrete slabs, pans and other parts of the hygienic latrines.

The department is also supplying tubewells and helping rural people sink those.

One of the main reasons behind the sanitations success in Barisal is that the government officials delivered services to the doorstep of the rural people, observed many who

talked with The Daily Star. The UNICEF-supported Integrated Approach for improved sanitation as the campaign is called, involves almost all the government departments having network at the union level.

Besides, the Non-Governmental Organisations like Grameen Bank, CARE, CARITAS and NGO Forum for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation helped reach the services at the grass-roots level.

These organisations together are engaged in an intense publicity campaign Organising countrywide meetings, rallies and processions, distributing posters, screening video-films and miking on the benefits of hand washing. drinking safe water and hygienic latrines.

"Rural people respond quickly when they understand their benefits," commented Keshab Chandra Das. Headmaster of the Uttarkul Secondary School.

The school having 375 students has earned quite a name for its role in the Barisal's effort for improved sanitation.

At the initial stage of the campaign, bands of young boys and girls led by their teachers used to go out to the villagers to convince them to remove their canal side open and hanging latrines.

Later, people began accepting the new ideas from their sons and daughters and installed hygienic latrines.

"This campaign can really kick off similar other rural development programmes because once villagers believe you and start following you, there is no end", said Md. Nuruzzaman, PHE Sub-Assistant Engineer at Banaripara.

"In Barisal, the beginning has just begun," he added.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Printed & Published by A. S. Mahmud, Managing Director, on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd, 52, Motifheel C/A, Dhaka-1000, from City Publishing House Ltd, 90 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205, FABX: 500092-4, Commercial: 500091 (Direct), Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA.

Tributes paid to Malek Ukil

Leaders of the Awami League yesterday warned against any tactics to thwart the agitations for a caretaker government to conduct na tional elections, reports UNB.

"The demand for a caretaker government is no longer the demand of any political party, it has become a national demand." Awami League Presidium member Abdul Mannan said at a memorial meeting. "The people will not tolerate any dilly-dallying regarding this demand," he added.

The Awami League organ ised the meeting at its central office in observance of the seventh death anniversary of former Speaker and Awami League president Abdul Malek

Presided over by Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, the meeting was addressed by Zillur Rahman, Amir Hossain Amu, Abdul Jalil, Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Kamrul Islam, Nurul Majid Humayun, Obaidul Kader and Reazuddin

Taslima Nasreen

From Page 1 Col 8 A case was filed against Taslima Nasreen on June 4 by the Officer-in-Charge of Motifheel Police Station for hurting the religious sentiment of the Muslims through an interview with an Indian English language daily. Taslima left the country on August 9.

Taslima's lawyer Idrishur Rahman argued that the plaintiff did not have proper authorisation from the government and there were some irregularities and illegalities in filing the ease.

Referring to Taslima's reported comment on the holy Quran, published in the Calcutta daily The Statesman on May 9, the defence lawyer said the accused, through a rejoinder published in the same newspaper on May 11 denied having made the remark. The denial was also published in some Dhaka newspapers and the writer also sent a letter to the Speaker for removing the controversy and confusion, he

The defence lawyers also said that the remarks attributed to Taslima Nasreen by the Indian newspaper were not made deliberately nor did those have any malicious inten-

Public Prosecutor (PP) Abdur Rezzak argued the remarks hurt the religious sentiment of the Muslims and the writer's rejoinder substantiated her earlier comment published in The Statesman.

Quoting Taslima's remarks in her rejoinder that "the holy Quran, the Vedas and the Bible have become out of place and out of time." Rezzak said that these were 'more blasphe-

The public prosecutor also denied the defendant's complaint of 'irregularities and illegalities' in filing the case against Taslima. "The plaintiff had obtained proper permission from the authorities," the

8964 to face BCS psychological test Some 8,964 candidates of

the 16th BCS (Special) have been selected for psychological test, reports UNB.

But the Public Service Commission (PSC) will cancel the candidacy of those who will be unable to fulfil the conditions as mentioned in the advertisement, said a PSC press release yesterday.

Shantibahiniman

From Page 1 Col 8 bullet injuries in his leg.

A group of Shantibahinimen, equipped with sophisticated weapons, suddenly attacked the patrol which was moving from Durlatoli camp.

After the ambush, the security personnel opened fire killing one of the attackers. Another was rounded up with a pistol. One SMC was recovered from the dead.

The armed attackers fled into deep forest after an exchange of fire for half an hour.

With today's incident, the armed Shantibahinimen ambushed security personnel 67 times so far in violation of the ceasefire now in force in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The incidents left eight security per sonnel injured.

Student killed

From Page 1 Col 8 murdered out of enmity among the local bullies.

"Himu was wanted in an attempt-to-murder case lodged with the Gulshan police on February 9 this year," said a police officer referring to Himu's alleged involvement in terrorism, in the area.

Police also said Himu was not in his house on that night. He went out around 10 pm Sunday and found dead early in the morning, according to po-

Himu's father Golam Mostafa — a businessman lodged a murder case with the Gulshan police, but no arrests were made until late last night.



different national issues with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia when they called on her at the Hare Road office yesterday. Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar is seen on her right. - PID photo

Iraqi parliament meets to recognise Kuwait

BAGHDAD. Oct 17: Iraq's parliament convened today to pass a resolution recognising Kuwait, a key step in getting UN sanctions against Iraq lifted, reports AP.

The Revolutionary Command Council, the top decisionmaking body dominated by Saddam Hussein, is thought to have approved the move at a meeting Saturday. Parliament is expected to rubber stamp the decision, diplomats said. Iraq said today it found

positive elements' in the UN Security Council resolution Bombs hurled at Razzak's

Several home-made bombs were hurled at the residence of Awami League leader Abdur Razzak MP last night but he was unhurt, reports UNB.

house

Mohammad Nasir, personal assistant of Razzak, suffered mild injury in his leg when the bombs hit the third floor of his Dhanmondi residence at about 9-15 pm.

When contacted by telephone, Razzak confirmed the incident. He said at least five bombs were hurled when he was about to get into his jeep. Razzak feared that the bombs might be aimed at him.

The AL leader said immediately after the incident some unidentified people hurriedly fled away in a motorbike and a microbus. Police visited his residence and recorded the incident.

From Page 1 Col 4

said before the signing cere-

historically unique moment

and said the agreement would

be a cornerstone for a new

Middle East in which this co-

the hatred, violence and war."

he was delighted by the an-

nouncement. In a statement at

Andrews Air Force Base, he

said, "This agreement reminds

us that moderation and reason

Clinton to attend the signing.

Clinton hosted the White

most of the lands it demanded,

but will lease certain areas in

which there are Israeli settle-

ments or farms, said an Israeli

official in Jerusalem, who spo-

ke on condition of anonymity.

Other land disputes were

settled by swapping territory.

return of 381 square kilome-

ters (152 square miles) of

desert and farmland that Israel

seized after the 1948-Middle

On water, the two sides

agreed to start new projects

on the Yarmouk River to in-

crease the amounts flowing to

Jordan, Israel and Jordan will

Jordan was demanding the

Under the draft, Israel

House ceremony July 25.

Rabin said he would like

are prevailing."

he said.

East War.

operation will serve to replace

President Clinton said today

Rabin called the signing 'a

barring deployment of its troops in the south near the border with Kuwait.

"It (resolution) contains relatively obvious positive as pects," the government newspaper Al-Jumhourva said in a front-page editorial signed by Editor-in-Chief Salah al Mukhear.

lraq had refused to recognise Kuwait, arguing that it is historically part of Iraq. The government has kept up the rhetoric even after its defeat in the 1991 Gulf War, which ended its seven-month occupation of the emirate.

Under a deal brokered by Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, Baghdad agreed to recognise Kuwait with the understanding that the Security Council would set a date for lifting the ban on oil

But it was not clear what effect, if any, the recognition would have.

Withdrawal of ban on IU student politics demanded

By DU Correspondent Some 14 student organisations in a joint statement yesterday demanded immediate withdrawal of the ban on student politics at the Islamic

University (IU). The student leaders in their statement condemned the recent decision of the University Syndicate and termed it

Three Iraqis accused of trying to kill former US president George Bush talk to their lawyer

ask the World Bank to finance

additional projects, a senior

It was Rabin's third visit to

"We sat together throughout

Jordan in two weeks and his

fourth since the July meeting

the night. The atmosphere was

exceptional. The prime minis-

ter and the King went through

the draft of a peace treaty

paragraph by paragraph. We

made very serious progress."

Shimon Sheves, a senior Rabin

aide, told Israel army radio in a

telephone interview from

Haiti

From Page 1 Col 4

Reuter adds: Security offi-

cials confiscated grenades

from the car of Haitian army

commander Major-General

Jean Claude Duperval as he

arrived at the Presidential

Palace housing Aristide, a

source close to Aristide said on

the source said. Duperval later

left the palace in a car to the

crowd of Haitians outside the

palace that Aristide had been

the subject of an assassination

strempt. The crowd quickly

in the square outside.

Duperval was not detained.

Rumours spread among a

Israeli official said.

at the White House.

Amman.

lence.

Sunday.

jeers of Haitians.

agreed to return to Jordan ple watched the flames in si-

undemocratic.

Najeeb al-Waqian in the appeal court in Kuwait yesterday.

Israel-Jordan accord

From Page 1 Col 5

problems of their localities, dren's parks.

Begum Zia stressed the importance of rapid industrialisa tion for overall socio-economic development of the country. The country needs foreign in vestment to speed up the pace of industrialisation and generate employment opportunities. she added.

Referring to her recent visits to Japan and Malaysia, the Prime Minister said the foreign entrepreneurs are keen to invest in Bangladesh but they want a peaceful and stable atmosphere in the country.

has changed abroad, she said adding: "We have proved that we are no longer a nation of problems only." She also mentioned the efficient handing of the post-cyclone situation in 1991 in this regard.

people's welfare. "We have from the villages to improve the condition of the rural people and to stop migration towards the bigger cities, already overburdened with prob-

Turning to the local problems, she assured those would be solved in phases.

ter Jamiruddin Sircar, Moha mmadpur thana BNP president Ehsanul Hug Shetu and other local leaders also addressed the function.

- AFP photo

Plot to kill Bush

Case adjourned

until Nov 14

Iraqis and two Kuwaitis ap-

peared in court Monday to

challenge their convictions for

plotting to kill former

President Bush during his

1993 visit to Kuwait, reports

death, the others to prison

A judge appointed lawyers

for defendants who had not

hired their own and adjourned

the case until November 14 to

allow them time to prepare

organising the assassination

plot as revenge for Bush's

leadership during the 1991

Gulf War, when a US-led coali-

tion drove Iraqi forces out of

Kuwait. Baghdad, however, de-

harm Kuwait," 36-year-old de-

fendant Wali al-Gazali, an Iraqi

told reporters from behind the

A five-judge panel will ex-

amine the legality of the con-

down June 4 by a State

Security Court. The panel can

overturn the verdicts if it finds

they were not in accordance

hurt 14 million Iragis."

with Kuwaiti law.

"I did not come here to

Iraq had been accused of

terms of up to 12 years.

their cases.

nies involvement.

Six were sentenced to

KUWAIT. Oct 17: Seven

PM: stability

including drainage, housing, development of educational institutions, mosques and roads, and setting up of chil-

The image of Bangladesh

Begum Zia listed different

development programmes of her government aimed at the started development works

Education Minister Barris-

government assistance. The district administration

MOULVIBAZAR, Oct 17: A clash between the All Party Students Unity (APSU) and the Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) left 20 students injured at the Moulvibazar Government College today.

The APSU, comprising the

mediately. The injured admitted to the hospital are: Biplab, Saiful, Bablu and Ripan of the APSU and Younus, Mukti, Nazrul and Suleman of the ICS.

Finance Act

this respect.

contradicting the other, cannot be workable and will cause confusions resulting in harassment to the non-residents," the MCCI observed.

Referring to the NBR's in-

structions, the MCCI quoted paragraph 3:8 where it stated that 'A person is not liable to pay any tax in Bangladesh on remittances from abroad out of income carried their Again, in paragraph. I.I of the instructions of Taxation of Foreign Income and Remittances of Bangladeshis residing abroad" dated 25th October 1978, it had been explained that "Once an amount has been received as income in any country outside Bangladesh, any remittance of the same to Bangladesh does not result in receipt of income in

. The MCCI pointed out that. it could therefore, be concluded that foreign income of non-resident Bangladeshis is

been provided in Section 10(5) of the Finance Act 1994, that only money brought to Bangladesh by a non-resident through official channel during the assessment year 1994-95 will not be liable to be taxed if such amount is invested directly in new industry or in stocks, shares or government bonds or securities.

black bars of the cage in the courtroom. "It is a matter of revenge... George Bush has victions and sentences handed as conditional

The MCCI asked the NBR to issue a suitable clarification before any assessment is done on the basis of the provision of the Finance Act, 1994.

6 killed in Karachi violence KARACHI, Oct 17: Six people, including a police officer, were killed today in separate attacks in Karachi, long plagued

The Midnight Eile

by ethnic and political violence, police said. In an ambush by unidentified gunmen, a police officer and his body guard were killed and another officer was injured. Elsewhere, a civilian was shot dead by smipers in a posh area of the city. while three mutilated bodies were found by police from a dry canal on the outskirts of the city, reports AFP.

Angola, UNITA reach accord

LUSAKA. Oct 17: UN mediators said today the Angolan government and UNITA rebels had reached agreement in principle to end nearly 20 years of civil war. Chief UN mediator Alioune Biondin Beye said all points on the agenda had been settled during months of intensive negotiations in the Zambian Capital of Lusaka. He said he expected an accord to be signed in the near future but gave no date, reports Reuter.

19 more bodies recovered

From Page 1 Col 8

seven passengers were still

The Deputy Commissioner has formed a three-member committee led by the ADM. Mohammad Baker, to investigate the boat tragedy. The DC has also sanctioned Taka 50,000, one and a half ton of rice, 103 pieces of lungis, 100 pieces of saree and 200 yards of cloth for the members of the affected families who were still searching for their dear

and near ones. The DC. Enamul Kabir. along with the SP left for the offshore island, 50 km from the beach town early this morning to supervise the rescue operation. Besides, the of ficials and employees of Kutubdia, Chokoria and Moheshkhali thanas were participating in the rescue operation. The officials also visited the houses of the victims to assure their relatives of all possible

has ordered arrest of the

APSU-ICS clash at Moulvibazar: 20 injured

From Our Correspondent

Eleven supporters of the APSU and nine of the ICS were injured. Nine of them were admitted to the hospital.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD). Chhatra League (S-P), Chhatra League (B-K), Chhatra Union and the Samajtantrik Chhatra Front at a press conference this afternoon blamed the ICS for the attack. It demanded a ban on communal politics im-

From Page 1 Col 5 Industry (MCCI) in a recent representation to the National Board of Revenue.

The MCCI said that provision made in this year's Finance Act in respect of exemption of remittance by a non-resident contradicts the corresponding provision of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1984 and also the relevant instructions issued earlier by the National Board of Revenue in

"These two provisions, one

Bangladesh," not taxable in Bangladesh.

On the other hand, it has

Pointing to the fact that the remitted amount will be liable to be taxed, if it is not invested in the prescribed manner, the MCCI described the exemption

union, as the local people continued demonstrations demanding his arrest alleging that the engine boat was faulty. He has gone into hiding The boat, salvaged from the

channel, was seized today by police.

engine boat owner Shaker-

ullah. Chairman of Baraghup

The 19 bodies, recovered today, were buried. A gayebana janaza was held at Kutubdia this afternoon. The local unit of BNP organised a condolence meeting at Kutubdia and the speakers demanded confiscation of all the riverine vessels. owned by Shakerullah and his immediate arrest and punish-

Local MP Mohammad Ishak. Gana Forum leader advocate Zahirul Islam, principal of Cox's Bazar Mahila College Osman Sarwar Choudhury and other local leaders also visited Kutubdia to console the affected families. UNB adds: Local units of all major po-

Gaebana Janaza' at Kutubdia Thana Parishad Bhaban premises at 11 am with several thousand people attending. All the educational institutions - schools, colleges and madrassas - remained closed.

litical parties organised a

traders kept their shops shuttered in all six unions, including Baraghup where a single joint-family, 'Matbar Paribar', lost its 28 members. The same engine boat had earlier also met with accidents twice in the river Karnaphuli in November last year which left 28 passengers dead and

again in August this year in

Moheshkhali channel in which

40 were killed, local people

Wails silence.

From Page 1 Col 8 near and dear ones when the heavily overloaded boat, fitte with a shallow tubewell engin capsized in the Kutubdia char nel off here while heading to

the Maheshkhali island. Zafar lost his mother Not Begum, two sisters, a sister-in law, a niece and several other relatives in the tragedy tha until this afternoon had cla med 64 lives. Over 30 othe passengers of the sunken boa

were still missing. The tragedy has finishe our Matarbari village, None wi ever smile here again," he be

moaned. Zafar told the DC and th SP on realising that the size the bridal party ha swelled t nearly 170 he had wanted t hire a second boat. But th boatman of the ill-fated boa assured him that their vesse was capable of carrying th load.

Zafar, who was rescued b local people in an unconsciou state, was sitting on the roof e the covered boat. Nearly 7 other passengers were eithe rescued or managed to swir

ashore. With the thought of mar riage now far removed from his mind, Zafar was totally dis traught after watching as man as 28 of his kith and ki buried in hastily dug up grave in the family cemetery. No on had any words to console him

Ninian

From Page 1 Col 7 Election Commission Bill al ready moved in Parliament and said that further amendmen to the proposed Bill could b made. But whatever is to b done must be within the framework of the Constitution

On the question of date o the dialogue, he said the gov ernment side expressed their readiness to join the dialogu and "it will now depend on Si Ninian to fix a convenien

It is learnt that the Deputy

Leader of the House conveyed the outcome of the talks to the Prime Minister after the meeting. Meanwhile, Opposition Chief Whip Mohammad Nasin

cerity of the ruling party abou immediate holding of the dia logue and "we cannot wait for an indefinite period." The Opposition, he said has already proposed the

last night questioned the sin-

yenue, agenda and a date for the dialogue. But the government side has seemingly resorted to dilly-dally tactics.