

Road, rail links in most places remain disrupted

By Staff Correspondent

Rail and road links in most areas of the country remained snapped for the third day yesterday as the Opposition-led non-cooperation programme while clashes and bomb blasts left at least 14 persons injured in the city.

Ten people were injured in a clash between opposition and ruling party activists at Sayedabad in the city. Police lobbed tear gas shells when the opposition activists tried to damage a double-decker BRTC bus near the Jatiya Press Club.

A planned rally of Awami League could not be held in front of the Press Club due to police action. Bombs were also blasted at Tophkana, GPO Crossing, Gulistan, Mirpur, Farmgate and some places in the old parts of the city.

FBCCI criticises political leadership

Salman F Rahman, the FBCCI president, yesterday delivered a damning criticism of the country's political leadership and their handling of the agonising political crisis that persisted unabated, reports UNB.

In a press statement, he said that the situation had worsened to the extent where the functioning of civil society has come to a painful halt and the citizens at large have reached a point of intolerable frustration.

Responding to the extension of the 'civil disobedience' programmes by another two days, Salman said that the shutdown of normal economic activities was destroying the country and causing great harm and pain to the people.

The protestion paraded through Nawabpur, Sadarghat, Navabazar, Jatraban, Postagala, Shyampur, Hazaribagh, Shahjahanpur, Badda, Mouchak, Moghbazar and Bangla Motor areas in the morning.

The press release said BNP worker Yusuf was shot by armed hoodlums of opposition parties when an anti-terrorism procession was proceeding near Nawabazar. He was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain strongly condemned the incident and demanded exemplary punishment to those responsible.

Dhaka University unit of the Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal also brought out a procession to protest against the so-called non-cooperation movement of the Opposition. The procession paraded Nilkhet, New Market, Science Laboratory and Elephant Road and ended at Shahbagh.

Police rounded up 18 people from different spots. Our DMCH correspondent reported that four persons were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital with bomb injuries.

Nine trains left Kamapur station but only two of those could cross the Tongi junction before 9 am.

Railway sources here said that a group of people ransacked the Kustia rail station and took away signal restorer and some keys needed for railway operations. Police cleared barricades on Dhaka-Chittagong rail line at Bijapur near Comilla Station at 10 am. But opposition activists put up barricade there again. Police removed it again around 11:30 am.

In the western zone, only in the Khulna-Paradah route, trains moved normally for the second day yesterday.

Two international flights, one for Calcutta and the other for Singapore, and one domestic flight for Chittagong were cancelled.

Our Khulna Correspondent reported that some bombs were blasted in front of the Picture Palace cinema in the city.

The Khulna Bas Association has decided to refrain from attending courts protesting alleged intimidation by some JCD workers.

Our Staff Correspondent from Barisal reported that a half-day hartal was observed in the town at the call of the opposition there protesting arrest of Awami League and Jatiya Party leaders.

Initiate dialogue to solve crisis: Gano Forum

The Gano Forum (GF) yesterday gave a fervent call to all concerned quarters to take up initiative for a dialogue to hold elections under a caretaker government on the basis of national consensus for peaceful solution to the political crisis, reports BSS.

In a statement, the Forum said because of the political crisis for the last two years the people are passing days amid clashes, terrorism and economic hardship.

The press release said BNP worker Yusuf was shot by armed hoodlums of opposition parties when an anti-terrorism procession was proceeding near Nawabazar. He was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain strongly condemned the incident and demanded exemplary punishment to those responsible.

Dhaka University unit of the Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal also brought out a procession to protest against the so-called non-cooperation movement of the Opposition. The procession paraded Nilkhet, New Market, Science Laboratory and Elephant Road and ended at Shahbagh.



Police lobbed teargas shells to disperse the pickets in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

— Star photo

3 killed

From Page 1

erupted at noon when armed BNP supporters allegedly attacked the Chhatra League activists who were picketing in the district town.

The BNP activists attacked the medicine shop of the district Awami League secretary, triggering the clash. Police at one stage lobbed tear-gas shells and fired rubber bullets to disperse the two belligerent groups.

District BCL treasurer Abdur Rashid suffered bullet injury when the Chhatra League activists came under fire, allegedly from the house of district BNP president Advocate Habibur Rahman in Madhapur area.

Rashid was first rushed to Sadar hospital. From there he was being shifted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital, but died on the way.

The news of Rashid's death ignited a stormy protest as several thousand people massed into the house of district BNP president Habibur Rahman and set it on fire. They caught and chopped Rahman's grandson, Suman, 28, to death.

Police, however, managed to rescue the BNP leader and took him to the thana.

Meanwhile, at least 20 people were injured in clashes in Nokla thana in the district. In Nokla, BNP workers ransacked Mukhtijodha Sangsad office and several shops while AL and BCL activists damaged the BNP office.

Responding to another question, Richardson said his meetings with Begum Zia and Sheikh Hasina, as 'good and constructive.'

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

US Congressman

From Page 1

This is a great country that has made enormous progress since 1971. But I worry that political divisions may be harming Bangladesh internationally and harming its economy. The time has come to have a political dialogue that will resolve these problems.

Stating that he would like to come back to Bangladesh again, he said: 'I will report back to the Congress and to the administration about my visit.'

US ambassador David N Merrill and Director General of the Americans Desk in the Foreign Ministry M Ashraf-ud-Dowlah were present during the briefing. Richardson left for London on way back to the US.

Bill Richardson also had more than one hour meeting with Prof Muhammad Yunus when he visited the Grameen Bank's head office in the city yesterday.

Richardson, who had a longtime association with Yunus, showed keen interest in replicating some Grameen projects in his constituency in New Mexico.

Richardson also invited Dr Yunus to visit New Mexico. Yunus is due to visit Florida in May this year at the invitation of its Governor to deliver a key-note speech on micro-credit programme.

They also discussed about the global Micro-credit Summit scheduled to be held in Washington in February, next year where a goal is expected to be set to reach micro-credit to 100 million poorest families by the year 2005.

Responding to another question, Richardson said his meetings with Begum Zia and Sheikh Hasina, as 'good and constructive.'

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

Dhaka's role in peacekeeping praised

US Congressman William Richardson yesterday said Bangladesh was playing an important role in the international arena for maintaining global peace, reports UNB.

The American lawmaker, here on a two-day visit was talking to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia when he called on her at the PM office yesterday afternoon.

He especially mentioned that Bangladesh had played a generous role in the restoration of democracy in Haiti and peacekeeping in Bosnia.

The US Congressman termed bilateral ties in different fields, including trade and commerce, as excellent and hoped that the Dhaka-Washington relations would strengthen in the days ahead.

Richardson, a Democrat, told the Prime Minister that he met with the US First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, before his Dhaka visit and she had given him a good brief about Bangladesh.

He said Hillary had apprised him that Bangladesh achieved a tremendous success in a good number of fields, such as free primary education, food for education and women education, in recent years.

Richardson, who had a longtime association with Yunus, showed keen interest in replicating some Grameen projects in his constituency in New Mexico.

Richardson also invited Dr Yunus to visit New Mexico. Yunus is due to visit Florida in May this year at the invitation of its Governor to deliver a key-note speech on micro-credit programme.

They also discussed about the global Micro-credit Summit scheduled to be held in Washington in February, next year where a goal is expected to be set to reach micro-credit to 100 million poorest families by the year 2005.

Responding to another question, Richardson said his meetings with Begum Zia and Sheikh Hasina, as 'good and constructive.'

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

The Midnight File

Clinton orders series of measures against Cuba

WASHINGTON, Feb 26: President Bill Clinton ordered today a series of measures to be taken against Cuba in response to its shoot-down of two US civilian aircraft during the weekend, the White House announced. The White House gave no details on what steps Clinton had ordered he ordered, reports AFP.

Shamim acting JP secy-gen

By Staff Correspondent
Shamim Al-Mamun, a joint secretary general of the Jatiya Party, has been made the party's acting secretary general in view of the detention of Anwar Hussain Manju.

This decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the JP Presidium held yesterday evening in the city with the party's acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury in the chair.

The meeting demanded immediate release of JP presidium member Barrister Moudud Ahmed and secretary, general Anwar Hussain Manju and other opposition leaders including Mohammed Nasim and Matiya Chowdhury.

It also demanded cancellation of the results of February 15 polls and election under a neutral caretaker government.

JP leaders Shah Moazzem Hussain, Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, Advocate Mahbubur Rahman and Abdus Sattar attended the meeting, says a press release.

Meanwhile, the city unit of JP has shifted its today's scheduled rally to February 29 in view of the extension of the non-cooperation programme.

EC directive

From Page 1

Meanwhile, legal experts pointed out that since elections to any of the polling stations in the 10 constituencies could not be held within the stipulated time limit of 90 days after the dissolution of the 5th Jatiya Sangsad, there is no scope to overcome the constitutional limit.

This latest announcement of adjournment of elections to 10 constituencies also indicates a change in the EC's interpretation of the Constitution on the matter, noted an EC source.

He said that on polling day the district commissioners of Brahmanbaria and Gaibandha informed an high official of the EC about the difficulty in holding the elections in two constituencies of the districts.

He added that when the DCs informed that elections in any of the polling stations in these two constituencies were not possible, the EC official responsible for overall co-ordination of receiving election results directed them to hold elections in at least one polling station of both these constituencies on grounds of constitutional obligation.

The source questioned if the 90-day limit to hold elections in at least one polling station of the constituencies was valid then why it should not be valid for those 10 constituencies where elections could not be held at all during the time limit.

The 10 constituencies where election could not be held are: Gaibandha 2, 3, 4 and 5 constituencies; Rangpur 3, 5 and 6; Sirajganj 1 and 6; and the Kishoreganj 1 constituency, the sources said.

Repolling in over 2500 polling stations of 74 constituencies are to be conducted under this same initiative, the sources added.

Does anybody

From Page 1

the people in general. In the face of all such unpopular acts of the government, the opposition parties have embarked on this irresponsible act of calling for continuous work stoppage, and thereby bringing public anger on themselves, instead of the government.

What will it take for the opposition to understand that with growth of the private sector, with of larger and larger number of people who are self employed, and with more and more of the middle class getting into business, there is now a reasonably large economy outside the realm of the government. This sector, which is really the driving force behind Bangladesh's newly found growth impulse, and is the foundation for our future prosperity (if it is ever allowed to come), also gets hurt when frequent strike are called. There is no relationship between the government and this sector, and as such the opposition only ends up eroding its support base when it alienates this sector by adopting programmes that hurts it so much. To this group, if we add the day workers, the small shop owners, the rickshaw pullers, tempo drivers and street vendors, then we are talking about a sizable population whose support is critical for any mass movement. This support the opposition now risks losing.

Opposition must come to its senses and realise that in its total, uncontrolled and unthinking hatred of the government, it is taking actions and adopting policies that are destroying the very foundation of our country.

By its own excesses, the opposition is giving a new lease of life to the ruling party.

বাংলাদেশ পেশাদার প্রকৃত্তকারক ও রক্ষণীকারক সমিতি

বিজিএমইএ নিৰ্বাচন '৯৬

নিৰ্বাচনের তারিখ পরিবর্তন

এতদ্বারা বিজিএমইএ'র সকল সদস্যের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে বিজিএমইএ'র নিৰ্বাচন অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ এখন ২৮ ফেব্রুয়ারী '৯৬ এর পরিবর্তে ২৯ ফেব্রুয়ারী বুধ-পতিবার পুনর্নির্ধারিত সময় অনুযায়ী অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। সকাল ৯ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ৫ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত বিজিএমইএ কার্যালয়ে ভোট গ্রহণ করা হবে। ২৯ ফেব্রুয়ারী নিৰ্বাচিত সময়ের মধ্যে সকল জোটায়কে উপস্থিত হয়ে তাদের মূল্যবান ভোট প্রদানের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হ'ল।

সচিব
বিজিএমইএ
& নিৰ্বাচন বোর্ড

বি জি এম ই এ নিৰ্বাচন '৯৬

অনিবার্য কারণবশতঃ সম্মিলিত পরিষদ এর উদ্যোগে জনাব রেদোয়ান আহমেদ এর নেতৃত্বাধীন প্যানেল পরিচিতি সভা আগামী ২৮-০২-৯৬ইং রোজ বুধবার বিকাল ৬ ঘটিকায় হোটেল সোনারগাঁও পুলসাইডে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। উক্ত পরিচিতি সভায় পেশাদার শিল্পের সম্মানিত মালিকবৃন্দকে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য সবিনয় অনুরোধ জানাচ্ছি।

সম্মিলিত পরিষদ
মনোনীত প্যানেল

নং	প্রার্থী	ভোটার নং	প্রতিদান
১০	জনাব কে. এম. জামান (রোসেল)	১০৮	আশা পার্কেস লিঃ
১১	জনাব মোঃ নূরুল হক	৩০৪	মূল পার্কেস লিঃ
১২	জনাব এম.এম. রেজাউল হক	৬৫২	বালকট পার্কেস লিঃ
১৩	জনাব আশরাফউদ্দিন আহমেদ	৬৬৯	ফারকট পার্কেস লিঃ
১৪	জনাব শফিউল ইসলাম	১১৬	জাম এপারেলস লিঃ
১৫	জনাব মোঃ নূরুল হক সিকদার	৮০০	পদ্মল পার্কেস লিঃ
চট্টগ্রাম অঞ্চল			
১৬	জনাব মোঃ এমদাদুল হক চৌধুরী	১১০০	দ্যা নারী এপারেল ইন্টারন্যাশনাল (গ্রো:) লিঃ
১৭	জনাব আফর উদ্দাহ খান	১১০৩	দ্যা নীড এপারেলস (গ্রো:) লিঃ

কুতুবউদ্দিন আহমেদ
এন ডায় গ্রুপ
সমবরকারী ঢাকা

মোস্তফা গোলাম কুদ্দুস
চুং হিং গ্রুপ
এশান সমবরকারী ঢাকা

মোঃ নাসিরউদ্দিন
এন জেড এন গ্রুপ
সমবরকারী চট্টগ্রাম

US Congressman

From Page 1

This is a great country that has made enormous progress since 1971. But I worry that political divisions may be harming Bangladesh internationally and harming its economy. The time has come to have a political dialogue that will resolve these problems.

Stating that he would like to come back to Bangladesh again, he said: 'I will report back to the Congress and to the administration about my visit.'

US ambassador David N Merrill and Director General of the Americans Desk in the Foreign Ministry M Ashraf-ud-Dowlah were present during the briefing. Richardson left for London on way back to the US.

Bill Richardson also had more than one hour meeting with Prof Muhammad Yunus when he visited the Grameen Bank's head office in the city yesterday.

Richardson, who had a longtime association with Yunus, showed keen interest in replicating some Grameen projects in his constituency in New Mexico.

Richardson also invited Dr Yunus to visit New Mexico. Yunus is due to visit Florida in May this year at the invitation of its Governor to deliver a key-note speech on micro-credit programme.

They also discussed about the global Micro-credit Summit scheduled to be held in Washington in February, next year where a goal is expected to be set to reach micro-credit to 100 million poorest families by the year 2005.

Responding to another question, Richardson said his meetings with Begum Zia and Sheikh Hasina, as 'good and constructive.'

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

Dhaka's role in peacekeeping praised

US Congressman William Richardson yesterday said Bangladesh was playing an important role in the international arena for maintaining global peace, reports UNB.

The American lawmaker, here on a two-day visit was talking to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia when he called on her at the PM office yesterday afternoon.

He especially mentioned that Bangladesh had played a generous role in the restoration of democracy in Haiti and peacekeeping in Bosnia.

The US Congressman termed bilateral ties in different fields, including trade and commerce, as excellent and hoped that the Dhaka-Washington relations would strengthen in the days ahead.

Richardson, a Democrat, told the Prime Minister that he met with the US First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, before his Dhaka visit and she had given him a good brief about Bangladesh.

He said Hillary had apprised him that Bangladesh achieved a tremendous success in a good number of fields, such as free primary education, food for education and women education, in recent years.

Richardson, who had a longtime association with Yunus, showed keen interest in replicating some Grameen projects in his constituency in New Mexico.

Richardson also invited Dr Yunus to visit New Mexico. Yunus is due to visit Florida in May this year at the invitation of its Governor to deliver a key-note speech on micro-credit programme.

They also discussed about the global Micro-credit Summit scheduled to be held in Washington in February, next year where a goal is expected to be set to reach micro-credit to 100 million poorest families by the year 2005.

Responding to another question, Richardson said his meetings with Begum Zia and Sheikh Hasina, as 'good and constructive.'

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

Richardson, a Democrat from New Mexico, mentioned that he had two specific reasons for his current trip. First, he wanted to know more about the Grameen Bank, particularly its lending programmes to the poor without any collateral and that he had invited Dr Yunus to visit his home constituency to help replicate the programme.

Secondly, he wanted to know first hand about Bangladesh's political situation and the state of its democratic institutions.

The influential US legislator who sits on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said he had been able to learn a lot about Bangladesh, its problems and the issues it faces.

The Midnight File

Clinton orders series of measures against Cuba

WASHINGTON, Feb 26: President Bill Clinton ordered today a series of measures to be taken against Cuba in response to its shoot-down of two US civilian aircraft during the weekend, the White House announced. The White House gave no details on what steps Clinton had ordered he ordered, reports AFP.

Shamim acting JP secy-gen

By Staff Correspondent
Shamim Al-Mamun, a joint secretary general of the Jatiya Party, has been made the party's acting secretary general in view of the detention of Anwar Hussain Manju.

This decision was taken at an emergency meeting of the JP Presidium held yesterday evening in the city with the party's acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury in the chair.

The meeting demanded immediate release of JP presidium member Barrister Moudud Ahmed and secretary, general Anwar Hussain Manju and other opposition leaders including Mohammed Nasim and Matiya Chowdhury.

It also demanded cancellation of the results of February 15 polls and election under a neutral caretaker government.

JP leaders Shah Moazzem Hussain, Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, Advocate Mahbubur Rahman and Abdus Sattar attended the meeting, says a press release.

Meanwhile, the city unit of JP has shifted its today's scheduled rally to February 29 in view of the extension of the non-cooperation programme.

EC directive

From Page 1

Meanwhile, legal experts pointed out that since elections to any of the polling stations in the 10 constituencies could not be held within the stipulated time limit of 90 days after the dissolution of the 5th Jatiya Sangsad, there is no scope to overcome the constitutional limit.

This latest announcement of adjournment of elections to 10 constituencies also indicates a change in the EC's interpretation of the Constitution on the matter, noted an EC source.

He said that on polling day the district commissioners of Brahmanbaria and Gaibandha informed an high official of the EC about the difficulty in holding the elections in two constituencies of the districts.

He added that when the DCs informed that elections in any of the polling stations in these two constituencies were not possible, the EC official responsible for overall co-ordination of receiving election results directed them to hold elections in at least one polling station of both these constituencies on grounds of constitutional obligation.

The source questioned if the 90-day limit to hold elections in at least