



Inside Today

Article

Voters' Sovereignty and Exercise of Power

by Kabir U Ahmed

Page 4

Focus

Arrest the rot; Election '96: Manifesto analysis

Page 5

International

Gowda govt expected to win confidence vote

Centrist govt can solve political crisis: Ciller

Page 8

Business

Khulna City Corporation announces Tk 191cr budget

India's trade with South Asian states jumps 50pc

Pages 6, 7

DSE MARKET

DSE price index 902.06 (+0.06%)
Market capital Tk 6125.02 cr.
Transactions in volume 176605
Transactions in value Tk 4.27cr

CSE MARKET

CSE price index 395.78
Market capital Tk 3309.52 cr.
Transactions in volume 1255
Transactions in value Tk 15.00 lakh

Metropolitan

Dhaka Day by Day



Dwindling Hobby of Angling
Page 3

All set for election tomorrow

By Staff Correspondent

All preparations for tomorrow's parliamentary polls have been completed as the nation is poised to elect 300 Jatiya Sangsads members from among a total of 2574 contestants.

Eighty-one political parties have fielded candidates. Besides, 281 independents are in the electoral race.

Political parties and candidates made last-minute frantic campaigns which ended at midnight last night. The campaign had started on May 22 under an election code of conduct.

The Election Commission (EC) completed all preparations for the election within a time span of about two months. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) took over on April 9 and started the preparations by launching a programme for updating the voters' list. The process ended on April 27 with the inclusion of about six lakh new voters.

About 40,000 members of

Editorial on page 4

and the election officials.

The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) had earlier said that any irregularity would be dealt with severely. The problem of fast and efficient communications, which had posed problems in previous elections, has been overcome by using the communication system used by the law enforcement agencies, the CEC had pointed out on Friday.

Although sporadic incidents of election-related violence were reported from Bijoila, Sylhet, Narayanganj and Jhenaidah, the CEC again expressed

See Page 12 Col 8

Last-minute campaign

By Reaz Ahmad

At the closing hours of electioneering before it officially came to an end at midnight last night, the candidates from all the eight Jatiya Sangsads constituencies in the capital made frantic campaigns.

Candidates and political parties put an end to their hectic three-week electioneering midnight last night. The campaigning had begun on May 22 under a Code of Conducts formulated by the Election Commission.

By noon, door-to-door campaigning by and large stopped in most city areas and the workers and supporters were on streets to bring out colourful processions with election symbols, posters, banners and festoons.

After the door-to-door vote begging and campaigning, the candidates were still anxious about the large number of undecided floating voters, on whom the polls results would largely depend, according to some party workers.

The whole Dhaka city turned into a city of processions with the citizenry enjoying the gaiety and frenzied last-minute electioneering by

See Page 12 Col 4



Last-minute campaign by Awami League (L) and BNP (R) in the city yesterday.

Star photo

BNP conspiring to manipulate polls results, alleges Hasina

By Staff Correspondent

Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina has expressed the apprehension that BNP may rig the polls with help from certain quarters.

"But, if it (BNP) fails in these efforts it may seek to overturn the people's electoral verdict by creating a law and order crisis in the country," she said.

The AL president was making a statement before a gathering of newsmen from home and abroad at a city hotel yesterday evening.

"BNP may also attempt to manipulate the announcement of the election results, although the Chief Election Commissioner has sought to allay these concerns," Hasina said.

"Conspiracies against a free and fair election must not be permitted to succeed," she stressed.

The AL chief said that there was apprehension widespread in the country that the President, acting for the BNP, would use the security forces to tilt the election results in favour of his party. "Recent developments in the military cantonments may be used by him for this purpose," she added.

In this regard, she referred to the May 18-20 developments in the armed forces and actions taken by the President. She said the President was being accused of violating the

See Page 12 Col 5

Urkarchar Union in Raujan (Chittagong-6).

Awami League claimed Sumon to be a party worker.

Seven of the injured — Alimuddin (15), Shamsul Huq (35), Abdur Rashid (22), Shahjahan (30), Abdur Rashid (35), Gajendra Das (70) and Mohammad Faruq — were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

In Chittagong, at least 25 people were injured in pre-election clashes between the activists of the Awami League and the BNP yesterday. Police said five activists of Awami League were injured when BNP supporters attacked the an AL election camp at

See Page 12 Col 1

Seriously injured Sumon

Urkarchar Union in Raujan (Chittagong-6).

In another incident, Awami League activists allegedly attacked the house of CCC ward commissioner M A Malek in the town at about 7 pm firing shots and hurling bombs at the house.

They also damaged furniture of the house. None was reported hurt in the incident.

At Nath Para of Uttar Halishahar (Chittagong-8) seven people were injured in a clash between the supporters of BNP and Awami League.

The clash ensued when two election processions of the two rival organisations confronted in the house.

In Dhaka yesterday the highest temperature was recorded at 35.2 degrees

See Page 12 Col 7

Presiding officers in Feb 15 polls were not paid full honorarium

By Mizan Ali

Funds allocated as honorarium of the presiding officers in the February 15 parliamentary elections were partly misappropriated, revealed an investigation into allegations in this regard carried out by the Election Commission Secretariat, EC sources said.

Judge Latifur Rahman of the Appellate Division later on June 9 upon a petition of the government ordered stay of the HC order till 11:30 am yesterday and also fixed the matter for hearing yesterday in the full bench of the Appellate Division.

Attorney General M Nurulah submitted on behalf of the government that Ershad is not equally circumstanced with other party chiefs or candidates and as such Article 27 of

See Page 12 Col 2

broadcast the same along with the speeches of other party leaders within the time limit prescribed by the election authorities.

The HC had also issued a rule nisi upon the Secretaries, Ministry of Information and Ministry of Home Affairs, the Election Commission and other authorities concerned to show cause as to why they should not be directed to allow Ershad to address the electorate over radio and television as per the script submitted to the authorities.

Pending hearing of the rule

HC had directed the respondents to record Ershad's speech either in the TV or radio bhabans or in the Dhaka Central Jail and telecast and

See Page 12 Col 1

Reaction to unfairness in polls may not be normal: Khaleda

By Staff Correspondent

BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed the hope that the caretaker government would be able to hold tomorrow's election in a free, fair and impartial manner and said that her party would accept the election results.

Addressing a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel in the city at about 10 last night, Begum Zia, however, alleged that problems had already surfaced in some areas where neutrality was not being maintained so far fairness of the election was concerned.

"We've informed the Election Commission (EC) of the

Polls : Tk 19 cr allocated for law & order

By Staff Correspondent

The budget allocation of the Home Ministry for the maintenance of law and order for the June 12 parliamentary elections stands at Tk 18.79 crore, according to official sources.

The highest allocation goes to the Ansar and VDP with Tk 9.49 crore followed by police at Tk 5.71 crore, the army Tk 2.26 crore, for BDR Tk 0.789 crore, while the allocation for the air force, navy and Coastal Guard together stands at Tk 0.53 crore.

See Page 12 Col 4

incidents and requested it to take appropriate measures.

Any failure on the part of the EC, fairness of the election may be questioned and in that case the reaction may not be normal", she said while replying to questions by the journalists from home and abroad.

Asked to comment on allegations that BNP was conspiring to rig the election, Begum Zia said, "The question of rigging cannot arise unless the election is held."

BNP's relations with the army now, Begum Zia said, "BNP has no relation with the army... at least there is no political relation. We do politics with the people who are our source of power. While in power, BNP had its relation with the army on the issue of protecting the national independence and sovereignty. BNP did that much for the army which was needed to build up a strong army."

The Defence Ministry had been vested in the President under the 13th constitutional amendment since the President is the only elected person in the caretaker government besides being the Commander-in-Chief, she told another questioner regarding the controversy on the issue. "Defence Ministry has been placed under the President so that he can take appropriate measure on the question of the country.

See Page 12 Col 4

Khaleda Zia

Shahabuddin murder

Zulu gives his confessional statement

By Staff Correspondent

The weather on polling day tomorrow is likely to be rainy and sultry, the Met office said yesterday.

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by gusty wind may occur in one or two places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Barisal, Khulna and Sylhet divisions.

The pattern of weather which is prevailing now is likely to continue, a Met office official said when asked about the weather on the voting day.

The temperature on election day is also likely to remain nearly unchanged. The rainfall is likely to be extremely light, another weatherman pointed out.

No person can resort to terrorist activities and irresponsible behaviour or intimidate a voter or a man engaged in election activities or show

See Page 12 Col 6

Shamsul murder

No arrest yet

By Staff Correspondent

The killing of Shamsul Huq, a trader at Kamrangirchar in the city late night Saturday was sequel to an fight in a local terrorist group, police sources said.

He was later sent to jail.

Zulu was arrested from the city's Agargaon area on Thursday night and was placed

See Page 12 Col 2

Shamsul murder:

No arrest yet

By Staff Correspondent

The killing of Shamsul Huq, a trader at Kamrangirchar in the city late night Saturday was sequel to an fight in a local terrorist group, police sources said.

None was arrested in con-

See Page 12 Col 2

Ban on 3 types of vehicles

The government has ba-

nanced the movement of motor

cycles, microbuses and jeeps

from 6 pm today till 6 am on

Thursday. BSS quoting an

Election Commission press

releases said.

The Election Commission

has asked the authority not to

apply this ban on the vehicles

having yellow number plates

belonging to various embassies, UN agencies and foreign NGOs.

MARBLE MARBLE MARBLE

WE HAVE HUGE READY STOCK OF
ITALIAN CARRARA, PERLA SICILIA,
BOTICINO, INDIAN KESSWARI GREEN,
MALAYSIAN AND PAKISTANI MARBLE
OF DIFFERENT TYPES.

NIRMAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.

199, TEJGAON 1/A, DHAKA.

TEL : 605957, 607363 SHOW ROOM : 861985