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BNP urges govt to refrain from rigging by-polls

A meeting of the BNP's national executive committee sec retariat vesterday called on the government to refrain from any attempt to implement the 'blueprint' of rigging, terrorism and harassment in the coming by-election, reports UNB.

The meeting, held at the party's central office with BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuivan in the chair, demanded resignation of the Home Minister and Education Minister for what it said 'failure in curbing terrorism' and 'creating anarchy on campuses.

It condemned the 'partisan' role of the Speaker denying the Opposition members right to speak in the House and giving more opportunity to Treasury bench members. It criticised the distortion of Opposition members' speeches by BTV.

The meeting expressed an guish over the killing, terrorism. filing of false cases, arrest and harassment across the country particularly in educa tional institutions including Dhaka University and different medical colleges.

It demanded immediate release of the arrested opposition workers and withdrawal of false cases against them.

About recent incidents in Bogra, the meeting demanded judicial inquiry, punishment of the responsible people, compensation to the victims, release of the arrested people and withdrawal of all cases filed af ter the incidents.

The meeting warned the government of signing any accord with India on the sharing of the Ganges water at the cost of country's interest. It demanded of the government to realise due share of the water.

The meeting expressed concern over price hike and deteri oration of law and order throughout the country and demanded necessary steps in

Criticising the failure of government to combat flood situation, the meeting demanded adequate relief and rehabilitation measures for the flood victims.

It demanded formation of pay commission with representatives of workers.

killed, it was also said that the

"autocrat" was ousted. "I am

also called autocrat after my

departure. If the president un

der the presidential system is

autocrat, then I am the youngest

about the allocation of the can

tonnient and Gulshan resi-

dences to Begum Khaleda Zia

Ershad said being the army

chief he gave the cantonment

residence to her at a token price

of one taka considering her as

the spouse of an army officer

residence at a cost of Tk 101

only so that Begum Zia could

rent from the house.

try's independence.

national leaders.

common people."

colleagues.

maintain her family with the

"I tell you, Mr Speaker, it

was my responsibility to look

after her family. I consider

General Zia's children as my

children," he said. Ershad.

however, said Begum Zia occu-

pied two more houses adjacent

to her cantonment residence il-

The former president paid

tribute to Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman and late Pres-

ident Ziaur Rahman also for

their contribution to the coun-

Mujib's affection for him and

candidly said there should not

JS tidbits

From Page 1

the proposed budget. The legis-

Ershad, citing a Tagore poem,

Awami League made fun out of

earned crores of taka. We

promise you, we'll use it to

change the lot of the people, not

ours", Shamin told the House

amid thumping by his party

Chief Whip, Deputy Speaker

first-time MP from Narayan-

ganj to speak for five-minutes

more after his attractive delib-

eration apparently pleased the

the Deputy Speaker told

Shamim, "I was an MP with

your father and I am now with

Speaking on the proposed

budget, BNP lawmaker M

Shamsul Islam proposed the

ruling AL open a school to teach

politicisation and said, "Such a

school will also attract students

tions of politicisation against

the former BNP government the

former minister said: "What

you've done in the last two

months, we could not do in the

laughter in the House by citing a

tale of Nasiruddin Hodja while

ridiculing the lawmakers who

claimed that no roads were

constructed in their respective

areas during the BNP rule. "We

constructed 9,000 km of roads.

If their claims are true, then

where are the roads and if the

roads were made, then where do

they exist", he asked.

The BNP MP also caused

Reacting to frequent accusa-

from abroad".

five years.

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While giving the extra time,

Treasury bench members.

Abdul Hamid allowed the young

Following a request from the

President Ziaur Rahman.

He gave her the 196 Gulshan

not as a family of a president.

In a personal explanation

Ershad: I have won president Ziaur Rahman was

autocrat.

From Page to caretaker government of Justice Shahbuddin Ahmed legal, the 1991 general elections and former Prime Minister Be-

gum Zia legal?"

The former president said he had resigned "voluntarily" to avoid martial law and uphold democratic and constitutional rule in the country.

"I had enough scope to impose martial law. I could do that, but I didn't want martial law. I took risk and resigned to continue democratic and constitutional process," he told the

liouse. In a note of self-criticism the former president said: "I do not believe in politics of killing ... It is not possible to remain in power through killing. I apologise to the departed soul of Noor Hossain. I welcome the construction of the Noor Hossain

Square. In a counterattack on the Begum Zia government, Ershad said as many as 137 people were killed during the controversial election staged on February 15 by the BNP government. "But where the memorial square will be erected for those 137 people. for the killing of workers, peasants for fertiliser and Lafbagh massacre?"

He advised Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to construct a victory memorial for the democracy martyrs.

Referring to the word "autocrat" he and his regime branded with. Ershad said if he is called autocrat, then it meant "good government, good administration and development. I am not ashamed of that, I am proud of

The JP leader said when Bangabandhu Mujib was killed on August 15, it was said that the autocrat was ousted. When

JS body discusses Aug 25 incident

The high-profile Business Advisory Committee at a meeting yesterday discussed the untoward incident that took place during deliberation on law and order in Parliament on August 25, reports UNB. Speaker Humayun Rashid

Chowdhury presided over the meeting, attended by all members of the committee, both from Treasury and Opposition benches.

It termed the incident unwanted and painful and decided that the Speaker, as per previous announcement, would inform the House of the matter and take necessary steps re-

garding the members involved in the heckling. Leader of the House Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina, LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman, Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed, Post and telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim, Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid, Chief Whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof AGM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Chief Whip of the Opposition Khandaker Delwar Hossain, Leader of Jatiya Party Parliamentary Party Hussain Muhammad Ershad, advocate M Rahmat Ali and Kazi Shamsur Rahman attended the

meeting. Finance Minister SAMS Kibria attended the meeting at a special invitation while MK Anwar was present on behalf of Leaders of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia.

Secretary of the Parliament Secretariat Abul Hashem and Additional Secretary Khandaker Abdul Haq were also present; said a Sangsad release.

BCL-JCD clash in Sirajganj: 30 injured

SIRAJGANJ, Aug 27: At least 30 people were injured in a clash between rival student groups in Sirajganj University College today, reports UNB.

Witnesses said Chhatra League and Chhatra Dal supporters fought a pitched battle on the campus and adjoining areas over hurling abuse at the Prime Minister from the procession of JCD.

Three bombs were exploded during the hour-long clash. JCD alleged that BCL supporters attacked their peaceful procession without any provocation.

Fifteen of the injured were admitted to Sadar Hospital. The house of Jubadal leader. Tofazzal Hossain, adjacent to the college, also came under attack.

DCC driver assaulted

By Staff Correspondent A driver of a garbage van of the Dhake City Corporation (DCC) was assaulted by a group of unidentified people at Dhanmondi in the city last

Abdur Rob. 35, was severely assaulted when he reportedly requested one person not to dump the garbage outside the dustbin near Mirpur Road and Road No. 3 intersection, witnesses said. The DCC employees were collecting the garbage from the dustbin at the time at about 11-55 pm

Khulna JCD leader stabbed

KHULNA. Aug 27: A JCD leader and student of the Khulna Commerce College Sha hanoor Kabir Nayan, was stabbed and injured critically in an attack on the campus today. reports UNB.

Witnesses said the injured Shahanoor was attacked by a group of miscreants at about 12 noon while talking to some of his friends. He was admitted to the Sadar Hospital

At a press conference in the evening at the local press club the district unit of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, the student wing of BNP, condemned the attack and blamed the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League, the student front of ruling Awami League for the attack.

ROYAL MARRIAGE ENDS TODAY: File photo dated July 29, 1981 shows Prince Charles and the Princess of Wales on the balcony of Buckingham Palace on their wedding day. Prince Charles and Princess Diana, who recently agreed upon the terms of their divorce, will officially be -AFP/UNB photo divorced as of today.

Two stabbed in city

college student, were injured in separate incidents in the city vesterdav

Nazrul Islam. 22. a first year student of Titumir College re ceived injuries in his head and back when his rivals stabbed him at South Kafrul under Mir pur thana yesterday morning. Now under treatment at the Dhaka Medical College Hospi tal (DMCH), his condition was critical, hospital sources said

The relatives of the victim said. Nazrul, an activist of the ruling party backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), was working for by election and had an altercation with one of his companions Mohsin. At one stage. Mohsin stabbed him severely

In another incident, a group of extortionists stabbed a fish vendor and snatched Taka 14,500 from him at the DIT market, Kawran Bazar, under Teigaon thana in the morning.

Delwar Hossain, 28, received injuries in his hands and right leg. He was admitted to the DMCH in a critical condition.

Sudanese plane hijack bid ends

STANSTED, England, Aug 27: A marathon hijack drama ended peacefully here today when six armed lraqis seeking political asylum surrendered to police after commandeering a Sudanese airliner to a London regional airport, reports AFP.

The hijack was "successfully concluded," said Essex chief police constable John Burrow.

Have You Seen This, Mr Mayor?

Commission to implement reforms in local govt bodies soon

ciate Administrator of the UNDP headquarters in New York Rafeeuddin Ahmed, called on him at his Secretariat office. Zillur said Union Parishad will be further decentralised.

activities of the Zilla Parishad He told the delegation that

bers of the Upazila Parishad through direct vote and for representation of the villagers in the Union Parishad The LGRD Minister said every tier of the local government

structure will be made accountable to people's representatives and the centre-point of rural economic activities Members of the UNDP dele-

gation praised the government's epoch-making steps for more democratisation of local government bodies as well as administrative and economic em powerment, said an official

ness to provide necessary technical and project assistance for strengthening the local government institutions.

A high-powered commission will be set up soon for strengthening the local government bodies and making them peo ple oriented, reports UNB.

The commission will im plement necessary reforms. LGRD and Cooperatives Minis ter Zillur Rahman told a high level delegation of the UNDP yesterday.

The delegation, led by Asso-

will be strengthened and the Upazila system will be revived to realise hopes and aspiration of the rural population. provision would be made for electing chairman and mem

CMH for a long time. Farooq may be

Col (retd) Faroog again for further interrogation following the expiry of his six-day remand vesterday, according to officials sources.

Following the clearance from the Home Ministry on August 21 and the next day the Criminal Investigation Departmen. (CID) took him on remand for six days for the interrogation.

 Col (retd) Faroogur Rahman, Col (retd) Shahriar Rashid Khan and Major (retd) Khairuzzaman - were picked up by the police from the city on August 13. They were sent to the Dhaka Central Jail on a 30-day detention under Special Powers Act A separate case were lodged

against Col (retd) Farooq with the Cantonment thana under the Arms Act.

Production in Jamuna Fertiliser factory disrupted

duction in the Jamuna Fertiliser Factory was disrupted today as tension was mounting in the factory following an attack on the CBA general secretary last week, reports UNB.

Factory sources said a group office on Tuesday last CBA leaders demanded im-

mediate removal of Azizur

They alleged that Aziz had been transferred from the factory on charge of corruption in 1995, but recently managed to return to the factory with the help of a state minister.

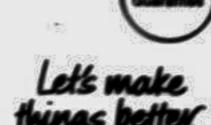
Task force soon to improve city's traffic system

A task force will be formed to improve the city's messy

The decision was taken yes terday at a meeting with Home Minister Rafiqul Islam in the

Among others. Dhaka City

meeting. The Home Minister directed



things better

PHILIPS

Foreign diplomats meet Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina held informal talks with foreign diplomats and representatives of development partners here yesterday, reports

The Prime Minister ex changed pleasantries with the Dhaka-based diplomats and representatives of donor coun tries and agencies during the in formal meeting at her official residence at Ganobhaban in the afternoon. Foreign Minister Abdus

Samad Azad, Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria, Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed, State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Abul Hasan Chowdhury were present. Among the senior Awami

League leaders present on the occasion were Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, Abdul Mannan MP Begum Sajeda Chowdhury MP. Abdul Momen MP and Abdul

PM visits injured Alamgir at CMH

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina vesterday visited the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) to see the condition of Alamgir, who was injured in Saturday's violence in Bogra. reports UNB. The Prime Minister, who

brought Alamgir to CMH from Bogra by helicopter on Sunday enquired about his health and directed the doctors to take special care for his treatment. Hasina stayed some time beside Alamgir and consoled him

touching his forehead and prayed for his early recovery. The Prime Minister also visited Sumit, son of Ataul Hag, a secretary to the government Sumit was injured in a road ac-

with motherly affection by

cident recently She enquired about the condition of Ishrat Jahan, a cadet college student who was also injured in a road mishap. She has been undergoing treatment at

taken on remand again

Star Report

Police may seek remand for

Three retired army officers

JAMALPUR, Aug 27: Pro-

of hoodlums, allegedly led by former CBA general secretary Azizur Rahman, attacked the incumbent CBA General Secretary Morshed Talukder in his

Rahman

traffic system and maintain peace in its bus and launch terminals, reports UNB.

Mayor Mohammad Hanif, Commissioners, Communications Secretary Waliul Islam. Home Secretary Rejaul Hayat, Inspector General of Police and high officials of the departments concerned attended the

the police and other authorities concern to take strict measures in maintaining peace in the city's bus and launch termi-

Khaleda: AL making

From Page 1 and held the government re-

Transcom Electronics Limited

Dhaka: 815306-9, 819625-9, 889993 Ctg.: 501082, 503578, Khuina: 20304, Bogra: 6215

Official licensee of Philips Bectronics N.V. for lighting products, radio and TV sets

place following direct instruction from the Prime Minister. She claimed that the situa-

hartal for indefinite period She, however, said that the students did not fire any gunshot and that the death of the pofiring by police. BNP chief also accused the

of the coming by-polls by repressing her party workers ussmall country and we get every information as regards their intrigues," she noted

party took over.

The Opposition leader also alleged that any elections — be it JS by-polls or local government polls - would not be held

"The popularity of the gov ernment has declined to the

border pillars along Meghalaya

of boundary pillars in Indo-Bangla border areas, specially

this year, said a PID handout. Led by Winston Simon Pariat, Special Director of Land Records and Survey of Megha-

lava, the delegation members also included B Lyngdoh, Director of Land Records and Survey, Additional Director SS Giri Lyngdoh and Assistant Director TS Sangma.

Additional Secretary in charge of the Ministry of Land Syed Margub Murshed, Chairman of Land Appeal Board (Secretary) AH Mofazzal Karim and Director General of the Directorate of Land Records and Survey Md Shafiuddin were present.

Tripti Begum

From Page 1 dent, she alleged that local police and people have been trying to treat her as Kalpana Chakma, which was completely

Tripti Begum, Seikh Shukur Mahmud, is yet to be traced.

given commitment to the administration that they would extend full support in restoring law and order in Bogra and would not create any obstruction in normal activities of police provided the policemen on duty do not include those involved in the recent firing.

APSU leaders also handed over a memorandum to the DC to send it to the Prime Minister's office. In the memorandum APSU leaders appealed for raising the amount of compensation from Tk one lakh to Tk five lakh for the victims' families of those killed in police firing in the town in the last few

Responding to students' appeal, the DC also gave assurance that no bus or mini-bus would move on the road in front of the Azizul Haq College for the next 40 days

As per an earlier programme the APSU plans to put up a road barricade at Sathmatha in the town tomorrow and enforce a day-long hartal the day after

PM: Teachers

From Page 1

Acting president of the asso-

ciation Golam Mohammad placed a five-point demand of non-government primary teachers that includes nationalisation of all registered primary schools. There are about one lakif

added. Secretary general of the association Monsur Ali and joint secretary Mohit Chandra Gobinda also spoke on the occa-

lowest level in its two-month-

rule," Begum Zia said, "The two-

the recent incidents at Bogra sponsible for those.

Replying to a question, in this regard Begum Zia claimed that the recent acts of killing and repression at Bogra took

tion there would have worsened further had she not stopped the people from going ahead with liceman at Bogra was from the

government of designing a blueprint to jeopardise fair holding ing police. "Bangladesh is a very

Besides, she added, 40 to 45 of her party activists had been killed in the terrorism let loose by the ruling party in collaboration with the police since the

in a free and fair manner under the present government.

Construction of

from Nov likely A four-member delegation from the Indian state of Meghalava met State Minister for

Land Alhaj Rashed Mosharaf at his secretariat office in the city yesterday, reports UNB. They discussed matters relating to construction, reconstruction and repairing works

in the Meghalaya state. The construction work is expected to begin from November

But the so called husband of

Transport strike From Page 1

correspondent that they had

the movement of the non-government primary teachers during the rule of BNP government and said her government is sympathetic towards them and is willing to do its best to address their problems.

teachers in 20,000 non-government primary schools, he

clashes.

month-old Prime Minister cannot go anywhere without helicopter now because she has been isolated from the people." "Realising this," she added the government has opted for the path of terrorism and re-

pression to win the by-polls forcefully. The BNP chief also alleged large-scale repression and harassment" of her party activists on the campuses and elsewhere in the country. "Forty pine members including the President of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal Shahiduddin Choudhury

Anney have been arrested from

the Dhaka University alone." she said. She claimed that the Election Commission would not be able to ensure a free and peaceful by-polls since massive transfers of government officials were on ahead of the polls and a congenial atmosphere for fair election

Replying to another question the BNP chief said she is not afraid of the government plan to lodge cases against her on corruption charges. 'I'm ready to face any case as per the law of the land ... I'm not

afraid of the government plan

was absent.

The press conference was also addressed by the BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and attended by some other party leaders including Abdus Salam Talukdar, M Saifur Rahman, Khandakar Delwar Hossain Rafigul Islam Mia, Nazrul Islam Khan and Morshed Khan.

Speaker rejects 71 call attention notices

Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid vesterday accepted three call attention notices, out of 74 submitted by parliament members under the Rule 71 of the Rules of Procedures, reports UNB.

The three notices accepted by the Deputy Speaker were submitted by Nazimuddin Alam (BNP-Bhola). Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya (Awami League-Chandpur) and Mirza Azanı (AL-Jamalpur).

DU clashes

From Page 1

claimed. The two student organisations recently clashed for control over the Registrar's building areas which is considered to be the most "lucrative area" for collection of toll. The JCD had control over the area but BCL recently "captured" the Mohsin

hall, situated behind the Registrar building. Some contractors doing construction works on the campus said toll is collected at the rate of three per cent of the total cost of the work.

The toll money is initially

divided between BCL and JCD.

which later trickles down to various tiers in the leadership of both the organisations, the sources said. The student organisation having 'stronghold' in a particular area collects tolls there. The toll money collected from other areas not controlled by

any particular party or group, is usually divided, the sources A ten crore taka construction work near the science library has now drown the attention of leaders of the student organisations. The Gopalganj faction of BCL captured Shahidullah Hall with the intention of gaining control over the

science library area. The Daily Star earlier published findings of a study on "Campus Violence: Dhaka University" conducted last year by the students of the International Relations Department of the university. It had pointed out that a section of teachers and officials of the DU, some political circles and influential quarters "patronised the campus terrorism for their vested interest." "Some teachers even provided safe passage to the identified terrorists," the study

A section of the teachers. fearing loose of their privileged positions and due to pressure from influential quarters also maintain silence over the issue of campus terrorism, noted the study. "Various inquiry committees formed to find out the reasons of campus terrorism failed because of it.'

DU women's halls From Page 1 protesting the alleged attacks

on JCD activists at DU and their arrests by police. The campus was calm yesterday due to the thin presence of students. A good number of

residential students of the uni-

versity have already left their

dormitories fearing fresh

All classes and examinations of the university were earlier declared suspended by the authorities till August 29 following a series of clashes between the student fronts of the ruling Awami League and oppo-

sition BNP.

Electronic Toaster

By DMC Correspondent Two persons, including a

handout.

They expressed their eager



This is the pitiable condition of an important road connecting Adamjee Court building corner with the main Motijheel road, opposite the MCCI Building which reportedly pays over Tk 6,64,336 as municipal tax annually. Other adjacent buildings, such as, Islam

Chamber also pay high rates of municipal tax. The tax sayers wonder when they will

expect some return of the tax paid. The phogoraph was sent to The Daily Star by a reader.

Nurunnabi Committee report From Page 1 employees, which will issue a

5.89,577.

tive structure.

ficial Secrecy Act should be amended so as to permit dissemination of information. The committee recommending regrouping some ministries to integrate their work for better functioning, has suggested among others setting up two

Under the Communication Ministry, all overall communication matters shall fall including the railways, roads, highways and the Jamuna bridge. The Transport Ministry shall look into the affairs of Shipping, Civil Aviation, Tourism, Posts and Telecommunications, it has been proposed. The committee suggested that the number of government

organisations be downsized

from their present number of

257 to 224. It has recommended

abolition of several govern-

ment departments and direc-

torates including abolition of the Office of Chief Controller of

Imports and Exports, Depart-

ment of Textiles, Marketing Di-

ministries, one the Ministry of

Communication and the other

Ministry of Transport.

to open new diplomatic mis-

sions without studying eco-

nomic feasibility and viability,

It also suggested that the of-

the sources added.

rectorate of under the Ministry of Commerce, Department of Inspection and Supplies and the Department of Investigation under Ministry of Finance. It found out that there were overlapping in the functions of many existing government departments and some were now not required with the ongoing deregulation. Many organisations have been recommended tor merger. The Nurunnabi committee

suggested that government em-

ployees be reduced by 48,000

from the current strength of

The committee, however, stated that if its reorganisation plan was implemented, these 48,000 government employees could be absorbed. During the study, the committee found the present strength of government employees to be: 30,691 in Class-I,

ficer in all government organisations and to whom he was to report. The organisation chart prepared by the committee gives a chain of command, area of control and a comprehensive look at the government hierar-15,192 in Class-II, 4,33,504 in chy, the official sources said. Class-III and 1,10,190 in Class-IV. It noted that both Class-III and Class-IV employees had a Talking to The Daily Star. good deal of mobility and with Chairman of the Committee little or no re-training they Nurunnabi Chowdhury said:

could be accommodated in the "The report is with the government. We have done our job. It newly streamlined administrawas a hard task. I am sure this It recommended setting of a government would take up the central body for the transfer recommendations in right earnest."

special service book keeping his

or her posting and service

sent out two sets of question-

naires to 267 government or-

ganisations, including security

agencies. Of which, detailed

The Committee reviewed the

replies were received from 257.

function of each and every gov-

ernment organisation and the

nature of their work and made

recommendations about the

size, function and the equip-

ment for the government de-

partment. It also prepared a job

description for every Class-I of-

The Nurunnabi Committee

and posting of Class III and IV