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### FBCCI election today

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hopful of winning the election. "I believe voters will franchise their rights to uphold the leadership of the Chamber group and thus preserve their own interests."

He said he had visited district level chambers and talked to the local leaders about the problems "I will try my best to solve their problems," he added. Yussuf Abdullah Harun said, "I will strengthen the FBCCI to bring dynamism in the country's economy if I am elected."

When asked whether he was backed by Awami League as alleged, he said, "I might have political affiliation personally but being a President candidate I only represent business community."

This year the FBCCI president will be elected from the chamber group and the vice-president from the associations group for a 2-year term.

According to FBCCI election rules, the President and 15 executive committee members will be elected by direct votes of 254 members of the 56 chamber bodies of the country.

The vice-president and another 15 executive committee members will be elected by direct votes of 659 voters from the 135 associations.

The candidates for the post of vice-president are Kazi Shaiful Islam of Bangladesh Leather Goods and Manufacturers Association, Amin Lashkar of Bangladesh Milk and Dairy Association and M A Kamal of Paint Manufacturers Association.

Twenty-nine candidates are

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**PHILIPS**

## Minister should head Privatisation Board Legal framework for disinvestment proposed

After a dismal performance, the Privatisation Board has proposed that a legal framework be made for disinvestment and the Board be headed by a minister to step up the process, reports UNB.

The recommendations were put forward recently to the Cabinet Sub-committee on Finance and Economic Affairs after discussing the issues at a meeting of concerned secretaries, official sources said.

The Board suggested that all the legal basis of every privatisation process, including the privatisation policy, be mentioned in the proposed legal framework.

Moreover, it said, the issue of providing necessary legal immunity to the Board, including its officials and personnel involved in the privatisation process and payment, could be considered in some cases.

Suggesting that a minister head the Board for making it an effective institution, it said adequate power and authority could be delegated to various tiers of decision-making process to accelerate the decision-making.

The Board noted that it should have full authority to identify enterprises with priority as selection of candidates is an important factor for privatisation and for speeding up the entire process.

It contended that attractive compensation package should be provided while retrenching the surplus workers and employees from the enterprises before the disinvestment.

Before disinvestment, the enterprises should be made, as far as possible, free from all sorts of liabilities, including downsizing the manpower in a logical stage, it said.

Citing its past experience, the Privatisation Board said most buyers are not interested in purchasing assets with liabilities, rather they want to take over clean, liability free fixed assets.

Many buyers, especially the foreigners and Bangladeshis living abroad, informed the Board that they were eager to purchase such industrial units which are totally free from liabilities.

Under the existing policy, a buyer has to reach an agreement with the ministry concerned to shoulder the long-term loan. But realisation of such loan has become uncertain as no bank guarantee against the loan money is mandatory.

It was learnt that the buyers who took over the units under the Ministry of Textiles could not repay the installments of their long-term loan despite repeated reminders.

The Board proposed that the government shoulder all the

### Bid to sneak into Malaysia: 75 including Bangladeshis held

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 16: A group of 75 Bangladeshis, Nepalese and Indian migrant workers were arrested today trying to sneak into Malaysia aboard two boats from Thailand, police said, reports AP.

As many as 1 million illegal immigrants, mostly Indians and Bangladeshis work in Malaysia, drawn by the high wages of a booming economy that is growing by 8 per cent a year.

The group arrested today was landing at 4 am on a beach in an uninhabited area of Kampong Tepi Laut, along Malaysia's Indian Ocean coast about 30 miles (50 kilometers) south of the Thai border, the Bernama news agency reported.

Two other boats escaped, said Deputy Superintendent of Police Zakaria Embi. A group of 23 migrants from Nepal, India and Bangladesh was arrested Monday in the same area after arriving aboard a Thai boat.

About 750,000 foreigners work legally in Malaysia, which has a work force of 8.3 million.

### Kins of Khaled Mosharraf urge people Evaluate Nov 3, 7 incidents in correct perspective

The close kins of late Major General Khaled Mosharraf urged people of Bangladesh to evaluate the incidents of November 3 and November 7, 1975 in their correct perspective so as to set right certain inaccuracies in our national history, reports UNB.

Making a pointed reference to the incidents of early November, 1975 Begum Salma Mosharraf, widow of General Mosharraf, said, "My husband did not stage a coup on November 3 to capture power. It was not an army coup."

It was intended to restore chain of command in the armed forces, she said.

Addressing a press conference yesterday evening, she said it was a first notable protest against the assassination of Bangabandhu to topple illegal regime of Khandaker Mush-taque.

The press conference was also addressed by younger brother of Khaled Mosharraf and State Minister for Land, Hajj Rashed Mosharraf, and leaders of Khaled Mosharraf Smriti Parishad Captain (ret'd) Humayun Kabir, Matiur Rahman and Mobarak Hossain.

Salma Khaled noted with deep anguish, her husband was not only done to death but also defamed for alleged involvement in anti-state activities.

Replying to a query regarding the observance of Revolution and Solidarity Day on November 7, Rashed Mosharraf said they had no demand to press for in this regard.

## Permanent water accord

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undertaking its water management planning," he said.

The minister put forward four reasons for reaching a permanent solution on the water-sharing problem. Enumerating he said, it was immediately necessary to plan the country's needs for drinking water. "As the level of ground water is going down we need to prevent it from sinking further."

"Secondly, we need to look into our irrigation requirements," he said. The third reason is that salinity was increasing gradually and intruding into the southern region and "this needs to be stopped," he added.

He said the fourth reason for reacting a permanent solution was that the Sunderbans region which had the largest mangrove forest in the world was gradually facing extinction due to intrusion of salinity and this had to be prevented.

"Without delaying further, what we need now is a solution an immediate and a permanent solution," the Water Resources Minister reiterated.

Razzak said any delay in reaching a water accord would seriously affect large parts of the country which is already in the grip of desertification, facing environmental changes and people in the area are facing economic hardship.

Abdur Razzak observed that he was optimistic about a solution to the problem of water sharing between the two coun-

## JP candidate

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ganj 2 US 2391 seat.

Addressing a press conference at Habiganj Press Club tonight Khan said that he would not participate in any other election under the present government and added "I will convince my party leadership to take a stand that JP will no more contest any election under this government."

He termed yesterday's by-polls, "worse than those in Magura and Laxmipur." He would reconsider his political position if he did not succeed in convincing JP leadership about boycotting elections under the present 'vote doctri' government, he added.

The JP leader said that in the name of 'national consensus' the present government has just 'dug the grave of consensus' by acting against his party.



Parents of Tareq addressing a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. —Star photo

## Transfer case to DB

From Page 1

napped," alleged Mohammad Abul Kashem at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club.

He also alleged that an influential quarter was trying to 'sabotage' the case. "I am receiving anonymous phone calls threatening my life."

"I feel insecure under such circumstances," he said, adding that he had requested all concerned for help, "but nothing has come up so far."

He also urged the authorities to bring Lubna back from London for recording her statements in Dhaka. "She fled after the incident," he claimed.

Tarek, a student of North-South University (NSU) has been missing since the night of August 14 when Rocky, son of Fakrul Islam Munsif, a former state minister called him out of the house for a dinner at a Chinese restaurant, Kashem said.

Kashem, quoting Rocky, claimed that Tarek and his friends had dinner at the Steamboat Restaurant in the city and went to the Zia International Airport at about 4 am and then to Meghna ferryghat Lubna, a friend of Rocky accompanied them, he added.

Rockey, along with his parents went to his residence the next day at around 11:30 am to inform that Tarek had jumped into the river and drowned, said Kashem. "The trousers, shirt, shoes and wrist watch of my son was then returned," he told the press conference.

Kashem had lodged a case with Gazaria thana under Munsiganj district naming Rocky as the main accused. Rocky was arrested, taken on remand twice for interrogation and released on bail recently.

The case was taken up by the CID on August 21. Some of Rocky's friends were also interrogated in this connection.

## Intending hajjis asked to deposit house rent by Oct 31

Intending hajj pilgrims have been advised to deposit their advance house-rent to the scheduled banks within the October 31 deadline, reports UNB.

The time limit will not be extended further, said a PID handout yesterday.

The intending hajjis have been asked to deposit the advance house-rent of Tk 16,000 to the banks concerned — Sonali Bank, Agrani Bank, Janata Bank, Rupali Bank, Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Pubali Bank and Islami Bank.

The government will take all responsibilities including making passport, visa, immigration formalities and endorsement of foreign currencies.

## Vehicles damaged

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went on rampage on Mirpur Road in front of Dhaka College at about 12 noon to protest the arrest of its college unit leader HIM Javed.

Meanwhile, the JCD in a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club in the afternoon alleged that the trouble began as the BCL activists attacked the JCD sponsored freshers' reception programme in the auditorium of the college.

No casualty was reported in the violence till last night. Witnesses said that some youths who were slightly injured during the chase and counter-chase were taken to local clinics.

The activities in the markets close to the college almost came to a halt while the traffic movement on the busy Mirpur Road was suspended for about an hour, witnesses said.

Besides, the scheduled freshers' reception programme of the JCD was also disrupted due to the violence, students said.

Regarding the arrest of the JCD leader Javed, Dhanmondi police said that they arrested him from Kataban area as he was wanted in connection with three cases, earlier filed with the Dhanmondi thana. Javed was involved in extortion and terrorism in the area, police added.

Police said that they received eight complaints in connection with the damage of vehicles on the Mirpur Road in front of the Dhaka College during the violence. Extra police forces were deployed to avert further violence, police added.

## BUET teachers to boycott VC

By Staff Correspondent

The teachers of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), now demanding removal of the present Vice-Chancellor, Prof Md Shahjahan, have decided not to cooperate with him and his administration.

The decision was taken unanimously at a meeting of the BUET Teachers' Association (BUETTA) held yesterday with its President, Dr Md Abdur Razzak Akhand, in the chair.

"The BUETTA members will go for an indefinite strike from October 28 if the VC does not resign or is not removed by October 27 and they will assemble at the VC's office on November 3 to press his resignation," said a resolution adopted at the meeting.

Earlier, The Daily Star quoted the CEC as saying "There was no violence, rigging or any sort of irregularities in the by-election," in the seventh paragraph of the story on the by-election published yesterday. The inadvertent mistake is regretted.

## Housewife commits suicide in city

By DMC Correspondent

A housewife reportedly committed suicide by hanging herself in their residence at South Razargang in the city yesterday.

Momtaz Begum, 45, wife of one Monir Hossain, was found hanging in the kitchen early in the morning, according to the FIR filed with Shabujbag thana.

The reason behind the alleged suicide could not be known immediately. Police took the body to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy. An unnatural death case has been filed, police said.

BSS adds: One unidentified youth, aged about 22, committed suicide by hanging himself from a water tank at the Kamalapur Railway yard.

The reason behind the alleged suicide was not known.

The body has been taken to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

## SM Ali

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In observance of his third death anniversary, a *milad mahfil* will be held at The Daily Star office at 4:30 pm today.

Born in Sylhet on December 5, 1928, Ali was one of the few Asian journalists who distinguished themselves in regional journalism.

He started his career as a staff reporter of the newly-launched then Pakistan Observer in 1949 while he was a student of the Dhaka University.

In his long journalistic career, he also served the Bangladesh Observer as its Editor, served the News Chronicle of London and the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Karachi-based newspaper. The Dawn, Lahore-based Pakistan Times, Hong Kong-based The Asia Magazine, The Bangkok Post, Singapore's The New Nation, a regional newspaper The Asian and The Hong Kong Standard.

Besides, his articles and analytical write-ups were also published in leading regional journals including the Far Eastern Economic Review, the Asian Wall Street Journal, the Orientations and the Insight.

S M Ali also worked for the Manila-based Press Foundation of Asia as its Executive Director and started the well-known development feature service Depthnews, and served the UNESCO as its Regional Communications Advisor for Asia and the Pacific.

He authored two books — 'After the Dark Night' and 'Rainbow over Padma.'

## Body found inside manhole in city

By Staff Correspondent

The body of an unidentified man, aged about 35, was found inside a manhole near the WASA building at Kawran Bazar in the city yesterday.

A fire service rescue team recovered the body, reportedly of a sweeper, at around 10:30 am, fire service sources said.

The details about the incident could not be known immediately.

Tejgaon police sent the body to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

An unnatural death case has been filed with Tejgaon thana. Police said they were investigating the incident.

## Voters' ID cards

From Page 1

conduct investigation at district levels as the DCs had been empowered to monitor distribution of ID cards and payments to the 64 local firms concerned. These firms had been awarded the work of printing, processing and delivering more than 5.6 crore voters' ID cards in the country.

The committee, formed on October 12, will submit an analytical report within 80 days, an EC source said.

The committee consists of the Secretary of Inspection, Monitoring and Evaluation Division as Convener, a representative of the Prime Minister's Secretariat with the status of at least director general, a representative of the Planning Commission, at least of Joint Chief level, and a representative of the Finance Division of Joint Secretary level, as members and Joint Secretary (Admn), EC Secretariat, as Member-Secretary.

The EC has officially notified all the secretaries concerned regarding the formation of the committee.

Under the EC bill passed in the Jatiya Sangsad in 1994, every eligible voter must be provided with an ID card before the holding of any general election. The EC has to see the promulgation of an Ordinance every time before general elections to enable it to conduct polls without ID cards.

Reports of irregularities in the allocation of work schedule by the project officials to private firms, default by the firms and negligence to duty appeared in the press over the last one year.

## JS Task Force

From Page 1

ments to the Committee on JS rules of Procedure."

Explaining the reforms in the operational side, Sen said: "The JS needed to have an institute of its own, with a modern legislative information centre, so that the legislators can study different aspects of law. They should also be provided with adequate staff support equipped with modern technology so that the MPs can discharge their responsibilities in an ideal manner."

The task force, in a recent meeting, decided some "immediate tasks" that include: asking out plans for setting up Parliament Institute, analysing the project proposal and working out plans to ensure proper security, making arrangements for training of the members of parliament and officers and employees of the JS Secretariat and modernising the JS medical centre for treatment of the "dignitaries, MPs and officers and employees of the Secretariat."

Some donor countries and international agencies have already made commitments to the JS authorities that they would financially help implement the programmes. The UNDP will coordinate the donor agencies, sources concerned said.

## Gold smuggling

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Commissioner of Chittagong Custom House Abul Kasem, talking to The Daily Star, said that the process had been initiated to issue 'show-cause' notice to the company owning the ship.

He said that the ship had been detained and another thorough search was made into 'every nook and corner' of the ship last night by a team of 25 Customs officials led by an additional commissioner of Customs.

The 160 containers of cargo brought by the ship from Singapore, were unloaded today and delivery of the goods would be made after proper checking, the commissioner informed.

## PM: Set 5-yr target

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Talukdar, Lutfunnesa Haq Bakul, Dolly Cruz and Sultana Kamal and swimmer Brozen Das.

The prime minister mentioned the names of chess player Rani Hamid, swimmer Mosharraf Hossain, athlete late Shah Alam and shooter Atiqur Rahman, who earned fame for the nation through achieving success in their respective events.

Hasina stressed the need for finding out new sports talents in order to uphold the national flags at regional and international sports.

For this purpose, she said, necessary infrastructural facilities should be built and favourable atmosphere created.

Hasina said the nation should be inspired with the motto of "sports for better life and good health" to turn the sports activities into a movement.

She said sportsmen of all parts of the country, not only of

## President

From Page 1

Mayor in various cities of the world, the President said the Mayor might have any political ideology or be member of a political party, but his main function is to ensure ease and comfort of the city dwellers.

Mayor Mohammad Hanif informed the President that coordinated efforts are being made to face acute problems of water logging and traffic jam.

He pointed out that the increasing population along with the increased three and four wheel vehicles have made the life of the city dwellers unbearable.

They Mayor agreed that a consensus on the traffic jam issue is urgently needed and he will take positive steps in that direction.

## HSC results

From Page 1

pm.

Results of the colleges inside Dhaka metropolitan city may be collected from Dhaka Deputy Commissioner by the respective principals or their representatives today at 2 pm. In case of any problem in procuring results, principals have been requested to immediately contact the deputy commissioners or controllers of examinations of the boards concerned.

The handout said the result sheets won't be hanged on the board this year. The daily newspapers Bangladesh Television and Betar would only circulate the merit lists.

The authorities have requested all concerned not to open the result sheets before 4 pm today.

**FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF LATE AL-HAJ JAHURUL ISLAM**

ON THE OCCASION OF FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF LATE AL-HAJ JAHURUL ISLAM, CHAIRMAN, ISLAM GROUP, A MILAD MAHFIL WILL BE HELD AT HIS RESIDENCE HOUSE NO. 8, ROAD NO. 72, GULSHAN-2, DHAKA ON FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER, 1996 AT 4 P. M.

ALL RELATIVES, FRIENDS AND WELL-WISHERS ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND AND PRAY TO THE ALMIGHTY ALLAH FOR THE SALVATION AND ETERNAL PEACE OF THE DEPARTED SOUL.

**MRS. JAHURUL ISLAM & FAMILY.**

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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