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Fair polls not possible

ISLAMABAD, Jan 22: Cricket hero-turned-politician Imran Khan today demanded that President Faroog Ahmed

saving fair elections were not possible under him, reports Addressing a news conterence ahead of elections due on February 3, Imran accused Leghari of having entered into a secret deal with former prime

Leghari immediately resign

minister Nawaz Sharif to help him to win the polls. Fair elections cannot take place with Leghari in power." said Imran, who heads his

Movement for Justice Party founded by him in April last Asked whether his party

would boycott the polls if the

President did not resign, he said "we are keeping all options

Party sources said no deci-

sion had been taken by the

party to suspended its current

electioneering campaign. Pakistan's main fundamentalist party. Jamaat-e-Islami. and a few other religious groups

Young man stabbed, robbed in city

By DMC Correspondent At least three persons were

injured in separate incidents in the city vesterday. A young man was stabbed

and robbed of Tk 4000 by a group of muggers at a slum near the Suhrawardy Hospital yesterday afternoon, witnesses and hospital sources said. The victim Milon, 20, who

received injuries in his left hand was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). in another incident. Habib

22. a businessman, was injured. when a gang of miscreants stabbed him at Kaptan Bazar at about 6:30 pm. He was admitted to the

An autorickshaw driver was

seriously injured when a rickshawpuller stabbed him at Sarulia vesterday evening. Shahjahan, 32, was admitted to the DMCH with injuries

From Page 1

Amidst hue and cry, he al-

Calling the recent slide in

lowed M K Anwar of BNP to ask

the capital market a "share

market scam". Anwar said it

not only rocked the economy

ment in the country, but also

He said the past BNP gov-

ernment imposed a lock-in in

the share market so that no-

body, particularly the foreign

portfolio investors, can manip-

and profiteers with alliance of

maroaries manipulated the

market and the government in-

tentionally allowed them to do

M K Anwar, a former com-

merce minister, also alleged

that the persons blamed for the

'capital market scam' were

found accompanying the prime

minister during her trips

med alleged that the Securities

and Exchange Commission

(SEC), which is responsible for

regulating the capital market.

had failed to protect the market

shares in the name of some

'signboard-based companies'

like Shine Pukur Holdings are

being sold and asked the fi-

nance minister whether it

Mirza Azam alleged that

Major (Retd) Hafizuddin Ah-

But the black marketeers

and closed the doors of invest-

and demanded more supple-

in his head. JS: Stock market

mentaries.

one more question.

shook the whole world.

ulate the market.

so, he alleged

abroad.

from scandal

would be stopped.

have boycotted the elections, calling for a purge of the corrupt before the polls. Deposed prime minister

Benazir Bhutto also demanded vesterday. Leghari's resignation after he dismissed her on November 5 Finance Ministry, Bangladesh

for alleged corruption and misrule. She has repeatedly expressed fears the polls would be Imran said he would formally convey his demand to Leghari. "A fraud is being played with the entire nation. he said, accusing Leghari of

having gone back on his promise to hold corrupt politicians to account and bar them

other." Imran said He said it was because of this bargain that Sharif, president of Pakistan Muslim League Party, had supported the January six formation of a Council for Defence and Natio-

Imran alleged that the ad-

have been put on the rolls in a National Assembly constituency in Lahore, where he is contesting against Sharif, a rich industrialist, he said.

He said Leghari had not fulfilled his pledge to limit election expenses, adding that "big money is flowing around freely' in the campaign.

JCD-BCL clash

From Page

Ahmed and Raihan - were admitted to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) with bulle' wounds. The rest were taken to the Patiya health complex.

sion of a shop at the bazar was the cause of the clash.

control

The visiting World Bank directors had a meeting with government officials on Financial

- PID photo WB team From Page 1 ment secretary. Energy secretary and administrative reorganisation committee chairman.

Earlier, the WB delegation exchanged views on financial

sector reforms at a high-level meeting here at the conference room of the Finance Ministry Finance secretary, Banking Division secretary of the

Bank governor and Banking Sector Reform Committee

occasion

Probe body resumes

chairman were present on the

Jessore Jail revolt

hearing tomorrow The Enquiry Commission

headed by Justice Habibur Rahman Khan will begin its second phase of activities on Jessore Jail revolt tomorrow. reports BSS. The Commission will hear

the testimony of officials of the administration, law enforcing agencies and Jessore Jail at Jessore Circuit House from 4 pm of January 24 to January 30. an official handout said in Dhaka yesterday. The Commission earlier

heard the testimony of 47 others in this connection.

Car bombs kill 7 in Algeria

ALGIERS, Jan 22: Two powerful car bombs killed at least seven people in Algiers Tuesday, hours after Islamic extremists threatened more massacres in the wake of a bloody weekend that left nearly 100 dead, reports AFP. The first blast ripped

through a crowded street as a bus passed a booby-trapped car during the afternoon rush-hour period, killing at least six peo-

The Algerian security services first put the toll at five dead and several wounded, but witnesses said the blast had killed at least 16 people riding on the bus and injured more than 40 others.

Mannan Bhuiyan From Page 1

included in the recent Ganges water-sharing treaty signed by Bangladesh and India.

The BNP secretary general criticised the government for agreeing with the Indian proposal to conduct joint operation against insurgency in the north-eastern region of India. Why shall we invite the insurgency inside our country." he asked.

The meeting was also addressed by former Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali MP, Dr Aftab Uddin Ahmed, journalists Sadeq Khan, Gias Kamal Chowdhury, and Reaz Uddin Ahmed, advocate Mia Sadequr Rahman, BNP leader Habibur Rahman Habib, DUCSU general secretary Khairul Kabir Khokon, and leaders of Bhasani Sangsad.

Journalist Syed Zafar, member-secretary of the Sangsad, presided.

KAFCO

From Page 1

vention and necessary remedial actions to resolve the problems.

Dr Towhidi reminded that the continuation of the prevailing situation would have disastrous consequences for KAFCO's operation and the safety of over 600 employees as well as their families.

The negative impact of the current violence at KAFCO site on the foreign governments who have participated in and supported KAFCO, on KAFCO's foreign shareholders and on the future of foreign investment in Bangladesh need not be emphasised, he added.

The shareholding structure of KAFCO is: Bangladesh government - 43.4 per cent, KAFCO Japan Investment Corporation - 31.3, Haldor Topsoe A/S of

Denmark - 14.9. Commonwealth Development Corporation of UK - 4.4, International Fund for Developing Countries. Denmark — 4.4 and Stamicarbon b v of Holland — 1.6 per

Meanwhile, the CBA leaders have threatened to make the KAFCO inoperative if any of them is arrested.

thanked the Chair. * * *

was taken back and smilingly

Court told during hearing of writ

Killings except that of Mujib were incidental

By SC Correspondent

The constitutionality of the Indemnity Ordinance cannot be questioned before any court as it was made during the Martial Law which has been termed as Supra Constitutional Law by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, said Barrister Qurban Ali, counsel for the petitioners of the writ filed chal-

lenging the Indemnity (Repeal) Replying to the arguments of the amici curiae and that of the Attorney General yesterday, he also submitted. "The Indemnity Ordinance is being encountered emotionally and the Indemnity

(Repeal) Act. 1996 is nothing but an outcome of that emotion." He praised the advisors of late president Ziaur Rahman for inserting Bismillah-hir-Rahman-ir-Rahim' and the sentence. "Absolute faith upon Almighty Allah" in the Constitution in order to neutralise the

provisions of Article 7 which speaks. "People is the supreme authority of all power. "Since Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed simultaneously

held two sorts of power, one under the Martial Law and the next under the Constitution as

7 DCC officials suspended

The Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) vesterday suspended its seven officials including the Chief Health Officer for their

failure in combating mosquito menace in the city, a DCC press release said, reports BSS. The suspended officials will

face departmental cases.

According to the press release, Chief Health Officer of DCC Dr Ashraf Uddin has been replaced for his failure to take

necessary steps in this regard.

The six other doctors of the

Corporation were charged with

'negligence of duties'. The six assistant health officers are: Captain (retd) A B K M Zulfikar, Dr Alhaj Mohammad Abu Bakar Siddiqi, Dr Alhaj Mostafizur Rahman, Dr Mohammad Shahidur Rahman, Dr A L B Iftekhar Rasul

and Dr Latifur Rahman.

4 bills sent to special body

Four bills were sent to the special committee seeking its recommendations after scrutiny within four days, reports BSS.

The bills are Rangamati Hill District Local Government Parishad (Amendment) Bill 1997. Khagrachhari Hill District Local Government Parishad (Amendment) Bill. 1997, Bandarban Hill District Local Government Parishad (Amendment) Bill, 1997 and the Aartha Adalot Rin (Amendment) Bill. 1997.

Speaker From Page 1

Chowdhury said, "The sixmember committee I formed on 24 December, 1996 with Bangabir Kader Siddiqui as its head, was not one guided by the JS Rules of Procedure. It's an administrative body.

Quoting relevant Clauses of the JS Secretariat Act, 1994, that conferred the administrative authority of parliament on the Speaker, Humayun Rashid Chowdhury said, "As part of my administrative job. I had formed the committee to recommend on certain issues. Therefore, this committee can't be defined by the Rules of Procedure.

The task of the committee is purely recommendational and neither the committee nor its chief has been given any administrative duty, said the Speaker terming Razzak Ali's comment as to how Kader Siddiqui would provide security to the Sangsad Bhaban as irrel-

the president, any of his words

became a law," he submitted. With reference to the killings other than that of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, he said that those were incidental killing

during such a coup. In his reply Barrister Qurban Ali mainly reiterated his earlier submissions and ar-

guments. He may conclude his reply today and after that Attorney General Barrister K S Nabi will also reply to the arguments of

the amici curiae and that of Barrister Qurban Ali. DU student

assaulted By Staff Correspondent A female student of Dhaka University was assaulted allegedly by a leader of the

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on the varsity campus vesterday afternoon, witnesses said. According to sources, Jakir Hossain, the president of the JCD Zia Hall unit and a JCD central committee member.

slapped the girl in front of the Arts Faculty building at around 4:30 pm. The girl is a third year student of English. Khondkar Ashraf Hossain, a

teacher of English, rescued the girl and informed the proctor

who rushed to the spot but did not find the accused.

could not be contacted last

The proctor Dr Nur-un-Nabi

PAC meet From Page 1

"We have started scrutinising the government reports of 1987. We are optimistic of making substantial progress provided we can continue to work uninterrupted, said a member of the committee. Replying to a question, he

said that the working environment in the committee was 'very good'. "No member of the committee so far tried to pursue any partisan outlook while working in the committee," he added. Yesterday's meeting was at

tended by Colonel (retd) Shawkat Ali. Abdus Shahid, Abul Kalam Azad, Khandaker Asa duzzaman, Engineer Mosharraf Hossain and A F M Mustafa Kamal of the ruling Awami League and M K Anwar and Major (retd) Hafiz Uddin Ahmed of the BNP. The committee is scheduled

to meet again at 10:00 this morning. It is expected to scrutinise 23 audit objections regarding financial irregularities in the Works Ministry.

Zobaida Rashid From Page 1 Mohammad Joinul Abedin on

Tuesday heard the bail petition yesterday and passed the bail Inspite of the bail order Zobaida Rashid will not be able

to come out of the jail as she is also a charge-sheeted accused in the August 15, 1975 killing case. Advocate Mahbubur Rahman told The Daily Star that

the bail petition of his client in the 15th August killing case is fixed for hearing on January 25 in the court of Mohammed Azizul Haq, 7th Additional District and Sessions Judge. Dhaka. Zobaida Rashid was arrested

on November 2, from her house in Gulshan, for allegedly possessing unauthorised arms and ammunitions. It was alleged in the FIR that

during the search in her residence police recovered one pistol, one revolver, one short gun and some bullets from her possession.

In the defence case she told that the recovered arms belonged to her husband who has valid lisense against them. After her arrest she was im-

plicated and shown arrested in the 15th August, killing case.

Sangsad tidbits From Page 1 voice-vote. the Speaker caused it's you to answer now. No mat-

At this stage, Joynal Abedin Faruk was heard telling the minister with folded hands. "Forgive me, I don't want the reply to my notice. Given the floor to ask a ques-

ter what happened in past."

tion on his notice, Faruk said "The performance of the minister has impressed me. After the minister's address. I don't need any new doctor for Senbagh now want to know if any fresh doctor would be appointed at the Pabna mental hospital."

This caused cheers and giggle in the Opposition bench while shouts gripped the Treasury

In his turn, the health minister, claiming to have not understood Faruk's question, said, "Despite your refusal, I shall appoint new doctors in your area because, you may not return to the House next time."

Rising on a point of order, Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain of BNP told Speaker Humayun Rashid Choudhury, "Perhaps, you've forgotten my name. That's why, despite your attempt, you could not mention 'my name while giving me the floor." Taken by surprise, the

Speaker told the BNP member.

"It's only two days back, I visited your area, offered namaaz and had talks with you there. What are you talking about, Dr Khasruzzaman of AL blamed Mosharraf Saheb?" The former BNP minister

During a heated debate on

laughter in the House by his humourous remark, "Probably, the voices for 'No' are not being heard during Ramadan (the month for fasting)".

The Speaker's comment prompted the Opposition BNP lawmakers utter a big 'No' at the top of their voices during the next voice-vote.

BNP deputy Abdul Kalam Azad tried to pick on Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim saying, "The minister has inherited a Sajano Bagan (manicured garden) in the telecommunications sector and he is just opening different projects, ready to take

A smiling minister retorted, "I did - L'receive a garden rather I derived from the past regime an abandoned land where I'm trying to blossom flowers.

Getting the floor, BNP whip A Y M Khalilur Rahman drew the attention of the Deputy Seaker to a TV camera which. he said, barred the Chair from seeing him. "If so, then how could I see

you and give you the floor?",

asked the Deputy Speaker.

"It was possible after I requested the TV cameraman to shift," replied the Opposition lawmaker. In a similar incident, Sharif

Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid for not looking at him. Abdul Hamid told an angry Sharif, "I can see everybody. but I can't give floor to every-

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Load shedding Sitakunda power

station gheraoed

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Jan 22: Over 2,000 workers of Anwara Jute Mills at Barabkunda under Sitakunda thana gheraoed the local power sub-station and put up a barricade on the Chittagong-Dhaka highway this morning to protest load shedding and frequent power disruption in the mills.

Police rushed to the spot and forced the angry workers to withdraw their action pro-

During the barricade traffic on the highway was disrupted for one hour, witnesses said.

Farmers attack Palli Bidyut office in Jessore

From Our Correspondent JESSORE, Jan 22: A sub-inspector of police was injured in a clash with farmers at Monirampur today.

The angry farmers attacked the Palli Bidyut Samity-2 office in protest against load shedding affecting Irri-Boro cultivation in Monirampur. According to police, farmers

and furniture. A contingent of Monirampur thana police rushed to the spot to protect the PBS office from the mob attack.

from various parts of the thana

stormed the PBS office break-

ing its doors, windows, glass

A case has been registered.

Reception to Sheikh Rehana in Calcutta CALCUTTA, Jan 22: Sheikh

Rehana, daughter of Bangaban dhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman said here today that the ideals of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and the bold and uncompromising role played by the Bangabandhu would always inspired us, reports BSS. She called upon all concerned to come forward for the

Sheikh Rehana was speaking at a reception arranged by Agragami Mohila Samity, a women organ of Forward Block

at Netaji Mela this evening. Oparajita Goppi, president of Agragami Mohila Samity presided. Prasanta Das Gupta deputy chairman of All India Forward Block West Bengal Committee, also spoke on the occasion.

welfare of human society.

West Bengal Minister for Food and Civil Supply Kalimuddin Shams, Bangladesh deputy high commissioner Jahangir Saadat were also present on the occasion.

Earlier in the morning Sheikh Rehana met with noted Indian writer Annada Shankar Ray and stayed for sometime with him at his residence. Dr Ray presented to her some books written by him.

Cold spell From Page 1

gal, where the minimum temperature was 5.2 degree Celsius on January 19.

The meteorologist said Tuesday's rain and the chilly winds made life difficult in most parts of the country, including Dinajpur and Rangpur, where the authorities distributed warm clothes among

Dinajpur recorded the lowest temperature of 10 degree Celsius yesterday followed closely by Rangpur, notching 10.6 degree Celsius. Earlier on January 18. mercury slided to six degrees and 7 degrees respectively in

Dinajpur and Rangpur. The day's warmest place was Teknaf in the south-eastern fringe of the country.

The Deputy Commissioner of Dinajpur told The Daily Star on Tuesday that he had received warm clothes for distribution among the distressed people. "But I need blankets for which I have asked the authorities," he

The DC said there had been no report of death due to cold in Dinajpur. The Dhaka City, the floating

population experienced the

most biting cold on Tuesday, when drizzles compounded their woes with strong winds. and the night temperature down to 11.5 degrees. Poor people lighted fires in the city pavements and street

corners yesterday evening in their attempt to warm themselves while parts of the city plunged into darkness due to power failure. The numbers of poor families huddled together to stave off the biting cold with whatever materials they could gather to make fires for warming themselves.

As the night temperature dipped they competed with each other for a place to sleep in the stadiums, shopping malls and arcades.

Rickshaw pullers, cart pushers and hawkers abandoned their work to hurry home. Even the shopping streets of Dhaka found less buyers for the second day yesterday as they preferred to stay home in the evening because of the cold spell.

Draft bill presented

From Page 1 "(4) A judge may resign his

office by writing under his hand addressed to the President." Amendment suggested to Article 98 of the Constitution are: "(a) after the words 'the President may,' the commas

and the words, 'in consultation

with the Chief Justice' shall be inserted: and "(b) In the proviso, for the full-stop at the end a colon shall be substituted, and thereafter, the following new proviso shall be added, namely: Provided further that a person appointed as an additional judge under this Article, shall not be appointed as a judge un-

recommendation by the Judicial Commission. (a) either dispose of the case

der Article 95 except upon a

itself; or (b) determine the question of law and return the case to the court or tribunal from which is has been so withdrawn or transfer it to another subordinate court or tribunal together with a copy of the judgement of the division on such question and the court or tribunal, as the case may be, to which the case is so returned or transferred shall, or receipt thereof, proceed to dispose of the case in conformity with such judge-

In Article 111, in place of "all courts," substitution has been suggested as "all courts and tribunal Substitution for the heading

of Chapter II of Part IV has been suggested as "Chapter II-Subordinate Courts and Tribunals" The suggested amendment to Article 114 is "Establishment

of subordinate courts and tri-

bunal. There shall be in addi-

tion to the Supreme Court such

courts and tribunals subordinate thereto as may be establishment by law." Substitution of Article 115, as suggested in the draft bill deals with appointment to subordinate courts. It says: "Appointments of persons to offices in the judicial service or as magistrates exercising judicial functions, shall be made by

ment in that behalf." The suggested amendment to Article 116 deals with "Control and discipline of subordinate

the President in accordance

with law made by the Parlia-

court. For Article 99, the suggested substitution in the draft bill reads: " A person who has held office as a Judge otherwise than as an Additional Judge shall not, after his retirement or removal therefrom, plead or act before any court or authority or hold any office of profit in the service of the Republic not being the office of Chief Adviser or Adviser.

(1), for the words 'any court' the words 'any court or tribunal' shall be substituted; and (b) in clause (2), for the figure '113' the figures and word '109 and 116' shall be substituted. Amendment to Article 109 suggests that the Supreme Court

"shall have superintendence

and control over all courts and

tribunals subordinate to it."

for Article 107 is: "(a) in clause

The amendment suggested

Substitution suggested for Article 110 deals with transfer of cases from subordinate courts or tribunals to the High Court Division. It says, if the High Court Division is satisfied that a case pending in a court or tribunal subordinate to it involves a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of this Constitution, or on a point of general public importance, the determination of which is necessary for the disposal of the case, it shall withdraw the case from that court or tribunal, as the case may be and may

(a) either dispose of the case itself: or (b) determine the question of

Suu Kyi to receive first US honorary degree this week WASHINGTON, Jan 22

law and return the case to the

Myanmar's leading democracy advocate Aung San Suu Kyi. confined by authorities to Myanmar, will receive her first US honorary degree this weekend in Washington, a university said Tuesday, reports AFP. Washington-based American University said it

will present Aung San Suu Kyi with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at a graduation ceremony Sunday. Because the Nobel laureate is

unable to leave Myanmar, the honorary degree will be accepted on her behalf by her husband, Michael Aris, said university spokesman Todd Sedmak Aris also will deliver an ad-

dress that his wife written for the commencement exercise of more than 400 graduating students.

DSE listing From Page 1

tries Ltd. and 1st BSRS Mutual Fund were turned down. Out of the seven applicants.

only Maq Enterprises has submitted full papers and documents according to the listing rules and the DSE Listing Committee in its meeting on January 20 has recommended to the DSE council to list its name with the Exchange

court or tribunal from which it has been so withdrawn or transfer it to another subordinate court or tribunal together with a copy of the judgement of the division on such question. and the court or tribunal, as the case may be, to which the case is so returned or transferred shall, on receipt thereof, proceed to dispose of the case in

ment." In Article III, in place of "all courts" substitution has been suggested as "all courts and tri-

conformity with such judge-

bunals" Substitution for the heading of Chapter II of Part IV has been suggested as "Chapter II -Subordinate Courts and Tribunals".

The suggested amendment to Article 114 is "Establishment of subordinate courts and tribunals. There shall be, in addition to the Supreme Court, such courts and tribunals subordinate thereto as may be established by law.

Substitution of Article 115

as suggested in the draft bill, says "Appointments of persons to offices in the judicial service or as magistrates exercising judicial functions, shall be made by the President in accordance with law made by the Parliament in that behalf. Suggestions for Article 116 deals with "control and disci-

pline of subordinate courts". It

says: "Subject to the provision

of clause (2), the control includ-

ing the power of posting, pro-

motion and grant of leave and

discipline of persons employed

in the judicial service and magistrates exercising judicial functions shall vest in the Supreme Court. (2) The control regarding promotion and discipline of persons, preferred to in clause

(1), shall be exercised by the

President upon recommenda-

tion of the Supreme Court." Amendment suggested to the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution is, "In Fourth Schedule, after paragraph 22, the following new paragraph shall be added.

The suggested paragraph 23

reads: (1) Notwithstanding the amendment to the Articles 115 and 116 of the Constitution by the Constitution (Fourteenth Amendment) Act 1997, anything done or omitted to be done, any action taken or any order made or anything, action or order purported to have been done, taken or made, or omitted to have been done, taken or made till 31st December 1999. shall, subject to the provision of clause (2), not be deemed void or unlawful on ground of inconsistence with or repugnance to the said Articles 115 and 116.

(2) Anything done or omitted to be done, any action taken or order made, or anything, action or order purported to have been done, taken or made, or omitted to have been done, taken or made as referred to in sub-paragraph (1), shall not be repugnant to or inconsistent with Articles 115 and 116 as existed prior to the amendment by the

aforesaid Act." The committee on Separation of Judiciary was formed on September 7 last

Other members of the committee are Abul Bashar Bhuivan, Mustafizur Rahman, both joint secretaries; Anwarul Huq, Nurul Islam Khan, both deputy secretaries of the Ministry of Law and Justice: Khandaker Md Abu Bakr, solicitor; Kazi Habibul Awal, secretary of Law Commission and Iktedar Ahmed, director of the Judicial Administration Training Institute besides Mirza Asaduzzaman Al Faruk, the former

secretary of Law. The committee held 15 meetings before submitting the report and finalising its recommendations, the sources added.

Knitwear From Page 1

ities by Bangladeshi exporters, toll free entry of knitwear to EC nations without quota, according to sources concerned. Knitwear exports constitute the bulk of Bangladesh's garment exports.

Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) Captain (rtd) Anisur Rahman Sinha, its treasurer Uzair Afzal and another office bearer Bazlul Huq Dipu. The commerce secretary and

The delegation will include

President of the Bangladesh

a director general of the Export Promotion Bureau are the other members of the delegation, according to BGMEA sources. Fertiliser

willing to take rice as its mar-

From Page 1 under Food-For-Work (FFW) is poor because labourers are un-

Some party lawmakers said signing of the Ganges water treaty raised peoples' expectation from the AL government.

ket price is low.

But it could not achieve any major success in drawing foreign investment, arresting the fall in share prices, establishing new industries and removing unemployment, they said, In her winding up speech

Sheikh Hasina asked party MPs to further consolidate party activities at grassroots level and rise above intra-party feuds if any.

Federal Express

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Sector Reform Programme at the conference room of the Finance Ministry yesterday.

under Leghari: Imran

manipulated.

from participating in the elec-"Leghari and Sharif have struck a deal to support each

ministrative machinery was being used to ensure election success of Sharif's party. About 20,000 'bogus' voters

nal Security (CDNS)

Police said, the clash that started at noon was marked by gunfire and explosion of cocktails. A dispute over the posses-

Witnesses said, some shops were also looted during the twohours clash. Police later brought the situation under

were listed with the stock mar ket according to rules of the exchanges and the SEC, and the government does not want to interfere into the matters. He informed that a team of Dhaka Stock Exchange recently

met him and raised allegations

against some of the officials of

the SEC. Charges against DSE

ready been replaced by experi-

Two SEC members have al-

were also brought

enced ones. A high-powered enquiry committee was also constituted to probe the alleged manipulation in the capital market, he said. The finance minister observed that the recent controversy arose due to ignorance and confusion of people about the share market. He said a 10

per cent circuit-breaker was re

cently imposed in the Shanghai Stock Exchange. The stock markets in Hong Kong, Bombay and New York also experienced crash, he said. Supporting the withdrawal of lock-in system, the minister noted that there is no direct

cent slide in the capital market. The lock-in system acted as an impediment to foreign investment in the stock market. he said, adding the system was lifted to expand local investment and encourage foreign investment in the country.

He also informed the House

of various developments in the

market and formation of dif-

ferent committees to look into

the affairs and to stabilise the

link between the withdrawal of

the lock-in system and the re-

Kibria said the companies

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