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Britain goes to polls

From Page 1
ocialist commitments and rep-

ositioned in the center.

Major, at a final campaign

news conference at party head-

quarters, said the advantages of

another Tory term, were "too

good to give up" to Labour, "a

well-packaged, marketing

scam."

Blair, party leader since

1994, has been ahead in polls

for nearly three years.

A Gallup poll published to-

day in the pro-Conservative

Daily Telegraph put Labour on

51 per cent support, compared

with 31 for the Conservatives

and 13 for the Liberal Democ-

atic Party. The error margin

of the survey of 1,038 people

was three points.

West Indies score

249 for 9

Sports Reporter

West Indies piled up an im-

posing 249 for nine against In-

dia in the third one-day inter-

national at Armos Vale in St

Vincent yesterday.

Put into bat, hosts Caribbeans lost their in-form

batsman Shivaraj Chander-

pal early. But one-down Brian

Lara and opener Stuart

Williams, who made highest 75,

buckled down to task to take the

team out trouble.

In reply, India scored 32 for

1 in nine overs, losing their star

skipper Sachin Tendulkar.

DSE index

From Page 1

ical Adviser to PM, Dr M A

Malek, was attended by FBCCI

President Yusuf Abdullah Ha-

run, former advisers to Justice

Habibur Rahman's caretaker

government Prof Wahiduddin

Mahmud and Manzoor Elahi,

Finance Secretary Dr Akbar Ali

Khan, Dr Mashirul Rahman,

SEC Chairman Dr Haroonur

Rashid, President of East-West

University, Dr Farashuddin,

and Khawaja Golam Kuddus,

former chairman of DSE.

But there was no decision at

the meeting to dissolve the

council of the DSE. Dr Ha-

roonur Rashid, chairman of

SEC told The Daily Star last

night.

If tomorrow's vote mirrors the polls, Blair could win by the biggest landslide since Labour ousted Winston Churchill at the end of World War II in 1945.

Blair needs 330 seats for a bare majority in 659-member House of Commons — newly enlarged from 651.

If elected, Tony Blair will be the youngest Prime Minister of Britain of this century at the age of 43 and his Labour Party will make a comeback to power after 18 years.

Before Tony Blair, incumbent Prime Minister John Major, 54, was the youngest prime minister since 1945.

About 44 million eligible voters are expected to cast their votes from 7 am to 10 pm.

Some 3,717 candidates including 685 women are contesting the elections.

Prime Minister John Major's Conservative Party, Opposition Leader Tony Blair's Labour Party and Liberal Democratic Party of Paddy Ashdown are the main contestants.

Muggers fire on police in city: Sergeant stabbed

By Staff Correspondent

A gang of muggers opened fire on police and stabbed a traffic sergeant on the road near Sonargaon Hotel in the city yesterday afternoon.

However, police arrested two of the muggers and recovered from them one gold chain and an automatic dagger, police said.

The injured sergeant Mostafizur Rahman was under treatment at the Police Hospital.

A gang of four muggers opened fire on police when fleeing after snatching a gold chain and money from two rickshaw passengers at about 1:15 pm.

The two arrested were identified as Rofiqul Islam and Sumon, said police adding Sumon stabbed the police sergeant when he was caught.

Three cases have been filed with Tejgaon thana.

Govt cancels

From Page 1

name of Kambar Ali, Chairman of Musica, in December last year, according to some sources in the ministry.

A handout issued by the ministry yesterday said that permission for the programme was cancelled.

"Permission used to be given for various organisations to hold programmes with participation of foreign artistes. In the name of giving donation to various charitable organisations some groups took advantage of the situation and without complying with agreements with invited foreign artistes, realised their own objectives. This created an adverse reaction among the public and tarnished the image of the government," the handout said.

Kamal Wares said he has reasons to believe that an organised gang is working in the Bangladesh Bank counter where there is no proper system of depositing cash chalans.

Later, they met the Governor of Bangladesh Bank and appraised him of the incident. They also lodged an FIR with the Motijheel thana after the OC declined to accept a general diary.

Khaleda

From Page 1

in last election.

Begum Zia said after assuming power this government was implementing its pledges given to its masters one after another which caused destruction of the economy, education, foreign policy, agriculture, industry and other sectors of the country.

The Leader of the Opposition said a government that cannot protect the interest of the country and its people and signed "anti-state" and "anti-people" agreements with a particular country has no right to stay in power.

"Wrath of Allah might fall on those who betrayed the people and its motherland," she said, adding, "there are also symptoms of wrath of Allah falling on the country."

"They must quit power because Allah himself does not like the betrayer," said the BNP chief.

Three cases have been filed with Tejgaon thana.

Raqibul Huda

From Page 1

15 last Mirza Raqibul Huda was suspended from his post.

On January 24, 1988, 24 people were killed and a large number of people were injured by indiscriminate police firing at a protest procession led by Sheikh Hasina and other leaders of the 15-party alliance at Chittagong.

Advocate Shahidul Huda as the complainant filed a complaint case before the Court of the CMM, Chittagong under section

302/107/323/326/201/427/297/342 of the Penal Code against Mirza Raqibul Huda and others.

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