

SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED

From documents to packages, FedEx delivers peace of mind reliably to over 212 countries worldwide. Our integrated network of 590 planes, 38,500 vehicles and 1,37,000 people, promises smooth delivery every step of the way. We can even advise you on the status of your shipments; thanks to our unique computerised global tracking system. So the next time you have got to send a package, relax - call your FedEx agent BANEX to deliver your package hassle-free -on time- to your satisfaction.

For more information call-Dhaka, Tel : 9565114, 9883927, 9130647 894213, 808803, 9345261 DEPZ 9338931 Chittagong, Tel: (031) 712127, CEPZ (031) 740108, Khulna, Tel: (041) 725008, N'Ganj, Tel: 9714336

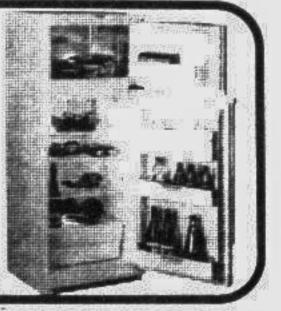


Refrigerator & Freezer

Instalment facility available

Transcom Electronics Limited
Authorized distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA Dhaka: 815307-10, 819625-9 Ctg.: 716353, 723578 Khulna: 720304 Bogra: 6215

ART290 - 265 Litres



Down to Earth

City's Parking Pains

By AS M Nurunnabi

Of late, the city's parking problems have assumed ominous proportions. Leaving aside the locust-like proliferation of rickshaws which are the major causative factor for traffic jams, the increasing trend of indiscipline observed in the city in respect of parking of motorised transports bears equally grave responsibility for causing traffic chaos at present.

It's quite apparent that large numbers of cars and other motor vehicles, newly acquired. are steadily hitting the city roads. This phenomenon, combined with the horrific continuous addition of new rickshaws, make availability of road space for parking a very difficult proposition. In this situation, indiscriminate parking at random of cars, trucks and buses on comparatively busy roads have been posing very serious problems, adding to the already horrendous traffic jams in the city.

In developed countries, there are parking lots for the busy areas like the commercial zones, shopping arcades and the like. In places where there are highrise, multi-storied buildings, specific facilities for parking are provided. In many cases, they have underground parking lots and even multi-storied

ones above ground level. Such kind of indiscriminate parking as seen in this city not only impedes the movement of comparatively slow-moving traffic but also creates problems for pedestrians. If we look at the principal commercial centre at Motijheel, we will find the magnitude of tribulations caused by such free-style park-

10 held on charge

of throwing acid

on two sisters

day arrested 10 people from Ka-

pasia thana of the district in

connection with throwing acid

as Sultanuddin Shikdar, Badal

Mia, Maleka Begum, Marium

Begum, Bashiruddin, Harmuz

Ali, Shamsul Huq, Abdul Hai,

Shamsul and Nurul Huq. They

were produced before the court.

But principal accused Minto is

her sister Ruma, 8, of village

Chandpur suffered burn in-

juries when Minto along with

his accomplices threw acid on

them as Irin refused his mar-

Young man

From Page 1

took him to a group of youths

who were waiting in front of a

house under Block-A. Then the

gang started hitting Sagar with

leaving Sagar on the road in

fatally wounded condition.

Hearing his scream, local peo-

ple rushed to the spot and took

Sagar to Dhaka Medical College

Hospital (DMCH) where the at-

tending doctors declared him

Sagar's family after its autopsy

at the DMCH morgue vesterday.

the CMM's Court yesterday, po-

lice said, adding that Taimur's

accomplices went into biding

victim, filed a murder case with

Mirpur thana on Thursday

night accusing ten persons, in-

cluding Sayed and Taimur, of

SAARC summit

From Page 1

an assassination attempt or

terrorist action, the govern-

ment today ordered schools

closed near the hotel where

leaders of seven countries will

stay during the summit meet-

of the capital to beware of ven-

dors' pushcarts or ice cream

vans, which have been used in

the past to conceal bombs. They

cautioned owners of cheap ho-

tels to scrutinize new guests,

and advised residents not to al-

low their live-in domestic ser-

paramilitary forces will guard

the seven heads of government

when they meet in Colombo and

Govt docs

From Page 1

Nearly 6,000 police and

vants entertain strangers.

in Bentota.

Police also warned residents

since the incident.

killing Sagar.

The body was handed over to

Taimur was produced before

Nurul Islam, brother of the

The gang fled the scene

machetes indiscriminately.

riage proposal on Tuesday.

Nazmun Nahar Irin, 15, and

absconding.

on two sisters, reports UNB.

GAZIPUR, July 24: Police to-

The arrested were identified

ing. Existence of kutcha bazars all over the area is another undesirable factor together with the large number of pavement hawkers which cause deterioration of proper environment of this important commercial centre. This is a cause for concern, because creation of proper image for this place is a matter of significance, particularly for foreign investors, diplomats' and businessmen.

In this context, some hawkers point out that they are compelled to eke out a living by their occupation on pavements but the rich people occupy the roads by haphazard parking of their cars. This is indeed one of the reasons for the stupendous traffic jams in the Motifheel Commercial Area. Apart from the parking space in front of the Uttara Bank building and some isolated spots for parking purpose, there is reportedly no parking space in the whole area at Motifheel. As a result, motor vehicles belonging to banks, insurance companies and other commercial concerns and also to visitors are parked in several lines on both sides of the main roads.

The Dilkusha Commercial Area is particularly conspicuous in this respect.

The New Elephant Road similarly witnesses large-scale irregular parking. About a decade ago, this road was a 'no parking' area. Things have since changed, making that road an area of heavy traffic congestion. Another such road is the Green Road.

Among the shopping arcades in Dhaka, the Eastern Plaza and the Nahar Complex stand

From Page 1

are to reduce child and mater-

nal death rates to an 'acceptable

level' by next five years and to

check population boom so that

it reaches a 'replacement level'

said, "The proposed national

health policy will also address

the existing problems in hospi-

tal management. For an effi-

cient management system, de-

centralisation of hospital ad-

ministration has been pro-

sure accountability of all

health service providers and

make the services more client-

tors, nurses and other staff at

thana health complexes have

been given special attention

while formulating the policy.

for special attention with 13

strategies for implementation

of plans.

The policy aims at 15 areas

The policy will also address

issues like local government

participation to ensure ac-

Full time attendance of doc-

focussed and cost-effective.

The proposed policy will en-

The Health Secretary also

by the year 2005.

out as big bottlenecks in the easy flow of traffic on the Sonargaon Road, because of heavy jamming by transports

in this area. It is felt that in the interest of easing traffic congestion, there is an urgent need for a change of outlook in the matter of provision of parking space. The traffic management authority is the best judge to de-termine how some good results may be obtained by declaring certain roads as 'no parking' zones. At the same time, the question of constructing underground parking facility and also of multi-storied ones may be considered

It is understood that the Dhaka City Corporation has a project for construction of multi-storied parking facility at a suitable site in the city. If parking lots in busy areas can be laid out under private sector also, this may yield quite good income from the owners of the parked vehicles in such locations, by way of realisation of parking charge

The steadily increasing number of new motorised transports and their unavoidable need for parking at suitable spots has now become an urgent issue. Since the quantum of open space for that purpose is very limited in the city, the answer seems to lie more in the construction of vertical parking facilities. As the traffic problems of the city have already become stupendous, some measures of relief may be achieved by provision of adequate parking space both under the public and private sectors on a priority basis.

riences and policy changes made by the countries to in-ESP: 60pc allocation volve the civil society in carrying out the ICPD action plan. The programme of action

was agreed upon by 179 nations in an International Conference held in Cairo in 1994. The Cairo conference recognised the comparative advantage of the NGOs in relation to government agencies.

will focus on partnership of the government with civil society in the implementation of the ICPD programme of action. It is being held as part of a series of international activities to review the progress of the action programme of the Cairo Con-

successes and constraints and recommend key future actions to accelerate the progress of the

Samad Azad

From Page sion about development activities in greater Sylhet. The government is very much sincere for development of the area Work on many roads and bridges are going on and a good number of other projects are under process, the minister

Samad Azad said, as the date for announcement of Upazila elections is nearing, some leaders are trying to create intra party chaos to facilitate their encouraged, he said.

of Sylhet and I am ready to keep them on my head, but I do not know where lies the wrong. want to go to people in each thana accompanying Suranjit Babu and all other leaders."

The function was also addressed by among others Syed Rafiqul Haque MP and District Fishery Officer Abdul Mannan Miah. Deputy Commissioner lqbal Hossain Khan presided over the function.

this morning.

Flood-affected people have taken shelter at the Sher-e-Bangla School and College building at Maghbazar in the city.

— Star photo

PM: Join relief work

From Page 1

severe. The Prime Minister said usually various diseases claim more lives in the aftermath of flood. So steps should be taken to ensure adequate medicines. water purification tablets, ORS and other essential for the flood-affected people, she said.

ficials to maintain adequate food stock and ensure supply of seedlings to the farmers when the flood water will recede.

floods in the country, she laid emphasis on timely dredging of

highways should be constructed keeping in mind the possibility of floods and sufficient outlets should be kept for easy flow of

schools and colleges and government institutions in the flood-prone areas, you should consider the flood and construct those according to the

Flood From Page 1

946.321 people of 231,644 families. Flood and diarrhea have claimed four lives. Flood situation in Sunam-

Flood Warning Centre officials said all major rivers in the north, northwestern and northeastern regions registered further rise in most of the

said the southeastern hill basin, covering the greater Chittagong and hill tracts region, where the situation was improving following the first hit of floodings last week, may experience fresh floods within a

continued to rise till yesterday.

needs of the area," she suggested the officials.

The meeting was told that there is an adequate stock of foodgrains to face any possible disaster and steps are being taken to make more stocks as further precautionary measure. The government machinery

in the flood-affected areas are working vigorously to ensure food and shelter for the flood victims, the officials said. adding that sufficient relief and medicine are being supplied in the affected areas.

The meeting decided that special prayers will be offered at mosques, temples, churches and other places of worshipping from next Friday, seeking divine blessings of the Almighty for the safety of the people.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria Health Minister Salah Uddin Yusuf, Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, Shipping Minister A S M Abdur Rab. State Minister for Disaster Management Talukder Abdul Khaleq, Army and Navy chiefs, Cabinet Secretary and concerned officials were present in the meeting.

Barisal-5 From Page 1

notification of the results. There is no way to entertain the ruling party request at this stage." Chief Election Commissioner Mohammad Abu Hena told this correspondent last

Quoting relevant electoral rules the CEC however observed: "Anyone interested to challenge the result is now free to go to the Election Tribunal."

While requesting the EC not to gazette the results of the byelection, the AL argued that a probe into the opposition allegations of irregularities was "essential to project transparency of the EC and government's commitment to fair elec-

The by-election was held on July 20. BNP candidate won the polls by a margin of 9909 votes. Before the announcement of

unofficial results of the polls, the local BNP had complained to the Returning Officer that the ruling party had rigged votes at least in 11 centres out of a total However, results of the polls

showed that the BNP candidate own in most the 11 centres.

Japan likely to ease sanctions on Pakistan

TOKYO, July 24: Foreign and to not transfer nuclear Minister Keizo Obuchi said today that Japan will consider joining other industrialised nations in easing economic sanc-tions against Pakistan as pun-ishment for its nuclear testing. reports AP.

Japan has been assessing how other advanced nations would react to Pakistan's plea to ease economic sanctions, Obuchi said.

"It's time for Japan to start considering whether it should move toward easing sanctions," Obuchi told a news conference earlier today. "Economic conditions in Pakistan are severe."

But Japan considers such a step on the condition Pakistan promises to stop nuclear testing

have waged a movement under the banner of a 'committee for resisting fee-hike'.

The student organisations active on the DU campus excepting Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) reacted sharply to the authorities' decision to raise tuition fees. Ganotantrik Chhatra Oikya

(GCO), an alliance of left-leaning student organisations enforced a day-long strike at Dhaka University on Thursday protesting the decision. A section of general students attacked the offices of the VC. Pro-VC and the Treasurer on Wednesday protesting the enhancement of tuition fees and other charges.

The general students called a two-day strike on July 26 and 27. GCO also gave similar action programme while BCL and JCD extended their support to the ongoing agitation by the general students. Bangladesh Chhatra Federation also gave a call for strike on July 26.

technology to third countries. he added.

Separately, Foreign Min-istry spokesman Sadaaki Numata said Japan supported fresh IMF loans to Pakistan because Islamabad has shown a 'certain' positive stance toward nuclear non-proliferation, Kyodo News reported.

From Page 1

gum Khaleda Zia in a statement last night expressed her deep concern, condemnation and resentment at Rubel's death due to "cruel torture" by the Detective

"This heinous act has exposed the state of human rights in the country," she said. "The fascist government has put the

The Leader of the Opposition and torture in police custody and violation of human rights have become rampant under the rule of the present government.

are increasing because culprits are not punished. "This government has developed a habit of detaining opposition activists on suspect and torturing them on political grounds. Such practices have surpassed mediaeval barbarism," said the statement The Opposition Leader called

upon all pro-democracy political forces and the people to be united to resist such fascist activities. In this regard she also drew the attention of human rights organisations home and

action against those responsible for Rubel's death.

Gas: Foreign buyers

late last year when it discovered that while purchasing gas from foreign oil companies under Production Sharing Contract (PSC), the government would buy gas from Cairn at a rate of 2.6 dollars per unit while it would sell the same gas at 1.2 dollars. The question is why did Petrobangla discover it so late? Why was this question not

However, as Cairn started selling gas two months behind the original schedule of April. the price, which is adjusted every quarter, changed to 2.25 dollars a unit (buying) and 1.1 dollars a unit (selling)

The Finance Ministry is worried over paying of such bill which, when different foreign companies would start supplying gas and power, would rise up to 10-15 million dollars a month. Therefore, it is considering gas export as a solution to

"The purpose of the energy sector of any country is to pro-

energy so that the economy can grow on it. It is the basic force of any economy. How can anyone even think about exporting gas when we need to think about utilising it ourselves?" said an

Currently, the country is producing around 750 mmcfd to 800 mmcfd of gas while it needs more gas supply. Sources said that of the gas supplied, a good quantum can not be utilised because of technical problems in the power and tertiliser sectors. which consume around 80 per

The projected demand for gas shows a dramatic upward trend in the coming years. With a current proven gas reserve of 10.3 trillion cubic feet (TCF), Bangladesh must discover some 2.5 TCF of fresh gas reserve by 2000 to maintain the present trend of consumption. And by

"If the existing exploration foreign companies in order to export our gas, which we must utilise judiciously to boost our economy," he stressed.

ঢাকা ওয়াসার সমানিত গ্রাহক সাধারণের

অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ঢাকা ও সরবরাহ ব্যবস্থায় প্রভাব ফেলিতে পারে

ওয়াসা-জঃতঃ-২৩৭/১৮ BB-699



ঢাকা ওয়াসা

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

Dhaka-1000 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 866772-4, Commercial: 866771, Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email address: dstar@bangla.net

From Page 1 of assault on Shamim.

Dagonbhuiyan thana in Feni The family was residing in the Siddheswari house since 1968.

Hospital declared him dead.

Police said they had picked up Shamim, suspecting him as illegal possessor of firearms. The plainclothesmen held him

Family members said Shamim, a BBA final year student, was held by the detectives some time after he returned home from the university.

academic records.

"It is an accident," said a senior official of the Metropolitan Police, when asked how the university student died in police custody.

other official, replying to a question from this correspondent about the alleged torture on the youngman. He added, the investigators always follow some 'methods' of interrogation. Sometimes, they need to carry out 'hard interrogation,' he continued. "No one is willing

The official, however, said

Shamim's father, quoting his sons, said detective police called Shamim saying that they wanted to discuss something with him. Later they took him

ing Services Minati Sharma.

confessed that he had arms.

His father intervened at that time saying. "What has happened. Talk to me. He is my

nored the father's request and with Shamim in their custody.

Shamim's brothers — Mohiuddin and Jewel - rushed to the BD office and waited till about 10 pm to talk to the officials concerned.

sick and was taken to the DMCH. They rushed to the hospital where they found Shamim dead, added his father.

Mongolian govt

ULAN BATOR, Mongolia, July 24: Under fire for a bank merger. Mongolia's threemonth old coalition government resigned en masse today after losing a vote of no-confidence, reports AP. The minority Mongolian

People's Revolutionary Party had demanded the vote follow-

countability in the decen tralised hospital administration, effective use of funds and better preventive as well as curative healthcare services. Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof Badruddoza Chowd-

hury, who was head of one of the five sub-committees involved in formulation of the draft policy, was not present at the press conference. Replying to a question in this regard, the Health Minister

said. "In a letter to the Health Secretary, Prof B Chowdhury alleged that his opinions were not reflected in the draft pol-

Some members of the committee that formulated the draft policy were also present at the press conference. They included National Professor Nurul Islam, Director General of Health Directorate Professor K M Nurul Anwar, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor A K Azad Choudhury, BMA Secretary General Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, representative of BMPA Dr Moniruzzaman Bhuiyan, and Director of Nurs-

5 DB men arrested

Rob lodged a murder case with Ramna thana yesterday morning. None was named as accused in the case. He said in the FIR that a team of plainclothesmen held his son, assaulted him and later doctors at the Dhaka Medical College

Before the murder case was filed, DB SI Hayatul Islam Thakur lodged an unnatural death case in this connection. In his FIR, the SI said that Shamim was held under Section 54 for interrogation. Later he fell sick and was taken to the DMCH where doctors declared

him dead. for recovery of the firearms.

Senior police officials admitted that Shamim had good

However, the policemen said that the young man was also charged in another case with Gulshan thana about a year ago. But they were yet to find out details of the case.

"It is not desirable," said an-

to kill a man."

"We are waiting for the autopsy report to confirm the allegation

to Minto Road At about 7:30 pm, BD personnel brought Shamim back in front of his house. They told him he would be freed if he had

But the plainclothesmen ig-

asked him to come to Minto Road. At that time, family members including women came out of the house hearing a hue and cry as policemen were indiscriminately beating Shamim in the presence of a crowd. Later, they left the spot

At about 10:30 pm, a BD official told them that Shamim fell

Meanwhile, Shamim's body was handed over to his family after autopsy at the DMCH yesterday afternoon. He was buried at Azimpur graveyard.

resigns

ing a feud with the government over its decision to merge a state bank with a private bank.

Hasina also directed the of-

Referring to the recurrent Hasina said the roads and

"While constructing the

the flood so far has affected

gani and Kushtia also worsened

A bulletin issued vesterday

It said the situation will aggravate in the Brahmaputra (Jamuna), Ganges (Padma) and Meghna basins, covering the entire north and central Bangladesh, where the rivers

Rushing waters from upstreams aggravated the flood situation further in the lowlying areas of the capital. The Turag river was flowing 50 centimetre and 23 centimetres above danger levels at Mirpur and Tongi respectively.

Obuchi poised to become PM Ltd, pointing out that Obuchi is yond the party, Kajiyama, who supported by the same party served for a time under Hashimoto, could be in line for a prominent spot in an Obuchi

"Today is a new start for me." he told reporters, vowing to work inside the party to make it more appealing to voters. Party dissidents were disappointed. There were rumblings

in the party that some of the more disaffected members could defect or abstain from the Parliament vote, but the num-

"I was surprised. I thought

bers were small enough that the threats were unlikely to block an Obuchi premiership. declaring that more than half of Japan's debt-laden banks

privatising Japan's massive postal-savings system, was the would be the runner-up," said ity to approve me.'

police. DU talks From Page 1

police and the people in a state of direct confrontation while using the police force for partisan ends. in the Jatiya Sangsad alleged that incidents of death, rape

She viewed, such incidents

abroad. She also demanded stern

vide its infrastructure with gas Sylhet which will run up to the and power or any other form of

Petrobangla was shocked

raised when PSC was signed?

Cairn submitted its first bill of 1.7 million dollars for the supply of 60 million cubic feet of gas a day (mmcfd) for 22 days, which the government will pay in foreign currency. The Finance Ministry will have to arrange monthly payment to Cairn from now on.

pay for the gas purchase.

cent of the total gas produced.

2010, another 18 TCF of fresh gas reserve should be added, an energy expert noted. activities by foreign companies can ensure this gas supply, the second round block bidding should be suspended till it is really required. There is no logic behind signing PSCs with

ঢাকা ওয়াসা জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি

মহানগরীতে বন্যা পরিস্থিতির অবনতি হইয়াছে। বন্যা পরিস্থিতির অবনতির ফলে কোন কোন এলাকায় ওয়াসার গভীর নলকৃপগুলি বন্যা কবলিত হইয়া পড়িয়াছে। এই সকল গভীর নলকৃপ সচল রাখিবার জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসার সর্বাত্মক প্রচেষ্টা অব্যাহত রহিয়াছে। বন্যা পরিস্থিতির আরও অবনতি হইলে পানি উৎপাদন এতদব্যতীত বন্যার ফলে গ্রাহক সাধারণের ভূ-গর্ভস্থ জলাধার এবং পানির সংযোগ লাইনের মাধ্যমে পানি দৃষিত হওয়ার আশক্ষা রহিয়াছে। তাই সম্মানিত গ্রাহক সাধারণকে পানি ফুটাইয়া পান করিবার জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসা বিনীত অনুরোধ করিতেছে। সাময়িক এই অসুবিধার জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসা গ্রাহক সাধারণের নিকট দুঃখ প্রকাশ করিতেছে।

Published by the Editor from City Publishing House Ltd., 90 Kakrail,

policy yesterday. He said, "Doctors who are interested in private practice would be given the opportunity in hospitals and thana health

complex under certain rules and regulations." Doctors engaged in teaching. training and emergency services will be given 'non-practicing allowance to keep them away from private practices. the ministers said.

Federal Express

The World On Time

President hosts

dinner for judges President Shahabuddin Ahmed hosted a dinner for the sitting and retired judges of the Bangladesh Supreme Court at Bangabhaban last night, re-

Among others Chief Justice ATM Afzal, former vice president Justice A K M Nurul Islam, Justice Kemaluddin Hossain and Justice Debesh Chandra Bhattacharya attended the din-

Hasina to visit flood-hit Comilla, Feni today

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will visit Comilla and Feni districts today to see the Gumti and Muhuri river embankments damaged by flood, reports UNB. She will visit the embank-

ments at Muradnagar in

Comilla and at Parshuram in Feni, parts of which were washed away by gushing waters. UNFPA roundtable from July 27

By Staff Correspondent A four-day international roundtable on "the role of civil society in implementing the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)' will begin in the city on July 27. said a UNFPA press release

Speaker of the Jatiya

Sangsad Humayun Rashid

Chowdhury, Health Minister

Salahuddin Yusuf and UNFPA

Executive Director Dr Nafis Sadik are expected to address the inaugural session of the roundtable. A total of 70 participants from 40 countries will attend the roundtable, jointly organised by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Bangladesh government. It will discuss programmes, expe-

The roundtable in Dhaka

terence. Besides, it will also identify

He said "I do not like to make any comment against any of the party leaders. None of the senior leaders is supposed to break party discipline. Senior people should be careful in making comments."

people in getting nominations. Intra-party feuds should not be "I want to honour the leaders

The minister left for Dhaka

slump in our country has a big impact on Asia and the rest of the world, we have to pull Japan out of recession as soon as we can," he said. It was uncertain, however, if Obuchi - backed by the largest and most traditional wing of the party — was up to the tough

task of the major changes ana-

lysts say are needed to solve the

myriad problems his country

So far, he has prescribed an

faces.

From Page 1

"Because the economic

income tax cut worth 6 trillion yen (42.6 billion dollar) and 10 trillion yen (70.9 billion dollar) in new spending to kickstart economic growth and spur lagging consumption, moves that economists say are needed but might not be enough. "There will be a new face, but no big policy changes," said

Shigenori Okazaki, a political

analyst at SBC Warburg Japan

cliques that were behind Hashimoto. The vote followed what was by Japanese standards a roughand-tumble campaign for party president, an open race that was

younger dissidents who argued the staid ruling party had to abandon backroom politics and appeal directly to voters to enhance its popular support. Kajiyama, 72, jumped into the race after establishing himself in recent months as an economic reformer, at one point

favourite of party rebels. As the second-place finisher with appeal both inside and be-

should be allowed to fail.

Koizumi, 56, who has proposed

forced by a boisterous band of

Still, critics attacked the party for being resistant to

Koizumi. "I guess the LDP has not developed enough flexibil-