What's on today

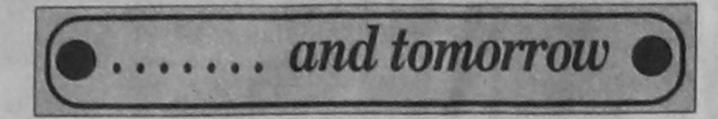
Seminar: Bangladesh Itihash Parishad will hold a seminar on 'Bangla Language: Past, Present and Future', National Professor and language activist Dr Sufia Ahmed will be accorded a reception at the seminar. Keynote speaker: Prof Dr Sufia Ahmed. Venue: Kabi Sufia Kamal auditorium. National Museum, Shahbag. Time: 4:30 pm.

Installation ceremony: The installation ceremony, freshers reception and cultural evening 2000 will be held. Chief guest: Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru. Venue: TSC auditorium. DU campus. Time: 6:00 pm.

Uttam Kumar Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen Jhinder Bandi starring Uttam Kumar and Arundhati Devi. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium. Road No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

Scholarship awarding ceremony: Bangladesh Police Women's Welfare Society Punak, will hold the scholarship awarding ceremony of 'Shamsul Haq-Maliha Khatun-Nargis Trust'. Chief guest: State Minister for Women's Affairs Prof Zinatun Nesa Talukdar. Venue: Police auditorium. Rajarbagh. Time: 5:00 pm.

Regional workshop: A four-day regional workshop on "Assessment of Floral Biodiversity and Preparation of Action Plan for South Asia" will be inaugurated. Venue: Bangladesh National Herbarium (adjacent to the National Botanic Garden). Time: 9:30 am.



Uttam Kumar Retrospective: Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen Antony Firingi starring Uttam Kumar and Tanuja. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road No 2. Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

Weather

No change in temperature Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by

temporary gusty wind may occur at a few places over all the six divisions of the country till 6 pm today, reports UNB. Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the

country during this period. Met office said. The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 34.8 degree Celsius at Jessore and the lowest 24.2 degree Celsius at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:42 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:28 am. Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity

recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were: Humidity in City/Town Temperature in Percentage Morning Evening Dhaka Chittagong 24.8 Rajshahi Khulna 25.5 Barisal 29.4 24.2 Sylhet 33.2 25.4 Cox's Bazar

HERE and THERE



SMM Rahman Zohurul Haq

Assoc of Biman Retired Officers

A general council meeting of the ad-hoc committee of ABRO (Association of Biman Retired Officers) was held at BATC auditorium. ZIA, Kurmitola, on Friday, says a press release.

The new office-bearers of the executive committee of ABRO were elected for a term of two years (2000-2002), at the meeting. The new office-bearers are: Captain S M M Rahman (Retd) (president). M A Chowdhury (Mahi) (vice-president). Rafigul-Islam (vice-president). Md Zohurul Haq (general secre- aedes mosquitoes. tary), Md Delwar Hossain Khan (treasurer). Ashraiuzzaman leaflets published by (organising secretary), K B Amin (joint secretary), A Y M Mohsin Chowdhury (office secretary). Md Muzibul Haque the National Scout Bhaban to-(cultural secretary), Alima morrow at 3 pm

Chowdhury, A K Fazlur Rahman. Aminur Rahman and A F Chowillinry texecutive mem

Bangladesh Scouts

The seventh emergency meeting for the prevention of dengue fever was held at the National Scout Bhaban. Kakrail. vesterday to create awareness among the people, says a press

Presided over by M Fazlur Rahman. Chief National Commissioner and Secretary. Ministry of Science and Technologv. the meeting took some decision for the prevention of dengue fever in Dhaka and all

Under this massive programme, the scouts and rovers of various schools, colleges, universities and madrashas are carrying out clean-up programme in their own educational institutions to eradicate

They are also distributing Bangladesh Scouts on dengue fever and its prevention. A grand rally will be held at

FEMA concerned at Jhalakati-2 by-poll situation

Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) has expressed concern at the evolving situation surrounding Jhalakati-2 bypoll being held today, reports

In a press statement yesterday it said reports of violation of electoral code of conduct by the ruling party candidate in cluding holding out promises of development activities in the area are not conducive to free

and fair polls. FEMA said it has taken note necessarily in Jhalakati of the warning and cautions administered by the Election sources said party's rank and Commission and would urge appropriate punitive action in order that the violators cannot reap benefit of their action.

COAB clarification

By Staff Correspondent

Cable Operators' Association of Bangladesh (COAB) in a clarification yesterday said that the Information Ministry has not given any directive to cable operators but has "requested" the COAB not to transmit pro- said. Impa and Fuljhuri were grammes of satellite channels later shifted to Khulna Hospital

other than BTV, ETV, Channel- as their condition deteriorated. i, BBC, CNN, and ATN Bangla for 24 hours starting from 12 Alamgir Hossain, son of Zahumidnight on August 14 on the rul Huq of Arja Narayanpur viloccasion of 25th death anniver- lage in Sadar thana was also sary of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

A statement signed by S M proper facilities of treatment, COAB said "The COAB leaders to Khulna. has assured the minister that they will honour the "request of town have become panicky folthe ministry.

From page 1

Auranga

ate arrest of the trio for their alleged involvement in terrorist activities in the city.

Auranga, Liaquat and Hannan were once linked with Jubo League. There are many allegations of murder, robbery and other criminal activities against them, according to police and press reports.

However, an AL source in Dhaka added that the former Jubo League leaders would be staying in Barisal overnight and would not hang around un-

About today's by-election AL file has been advised to guard against opposition move to capitalise on any flaws in the election process.

"We're hopeful of an easy sail in the by-elections. So there is no question of giving the opposition a chance to make an issue out of it," said an AL leader.

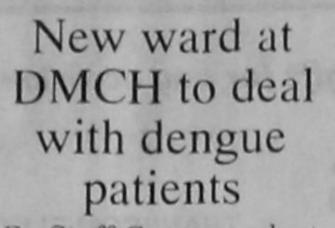
Dengue

From page 1

Earlier, dengue patient release.

shifted to Khulna hospital. Sadar hospital authorities said that in the absence of Anwar Parvez. Convenor of the they are to shift dengue patients | cialty of Psychiatry in

Meanwhile, people of the lowing outbreak of the disease.



By Staff Correspondent In view of the outbreak of dengue in the city, the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) authority decided to open a separate ward exclusively to accommodate patients with dengue fever.

During visit to the ward No 4 on the first floor of the hospital. doctors and nurses were seen busy looking after patients inside mosquito bed nets. "We now have 38 patients with dengue fever," said one doctor at 2 pm yesterday standing beside a patient at the ward. There was rush in the hospi-

tal but both authorities and doctors claimed that it was in control of the situation. "We have enough supplies at least to deal with any patient suffering from dengue infection." said another doctor.

Brigadier Badrul Munir, director of the hospital said that the decision came following a high level meeting of DMCH doctors with state minister for health and family welfare Prof M Amanullah on Friday.

Four-party alliance protests Nasim's remarks

The central liaison commit tee of the four-party allied opposition protested remarks of Home Minister blaming opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia for inciting terrorists to commit murders, reports UNB.

The rebuttal came from a meeting of the liaison committee at 29 Minto Road yesterday that was presided over by BNP vice-chairman Shamsul Islam.

Anwar Zahid of BNP, Kazi Firoz Rashid and Saifur Rahman of JP, Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujaheed and Mohammad Quamaruzzaman of Jamaat and FH Aminee and ARM Abdul Matin of IOJ attended the meet-

The liaison committee in a statement quoted the Home Minister as saying at a public meeting at Chuadanga that terrorists killed journalist Shamsur Rahman with provocation from Begum Zia

"His (Home Minister) remarks featured lack of commonsense and meant that the government is making its ill attempt to protect the real killers of Shamsur Rahman."

The statement further said trials and investigations of many recent killings in different areas across the country were not being held or advancing as many ruling party leaders and workers are involved inthose incidents.

The opposition liaisons also urged the people to make August 6 countrywide dawn-to-dusk list hartal a success.

39,500 hectares brought under Aman cultivation in Narsingdi

NARSINGDI, July 30: A total of 39,500 hectares have been brought under Transplanted Aman Paddy Cultivation programme in the six upazilas of Narsingdi district in the current season, reports BSS

According to Agriculture Extension Department office, 29,500 hectares have been brought under High Yielding Variety (HYV) of aman paddy and the remaining 1.000 hectares under local variety.

The production target has been fixed at 81,470 metric tons

Upazila wise break up of land are as follows: 3,500 hectares in Narsingdi Sadar Upazila, 8,500 hectares in Raipura, 4.100 hectares in Polash, 8,500 hectares in Shibpur 9,500 hectares in Monohardi and 5.400 hectares in Belabo

33 arrested

CHITTAGONG, July 30: Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) arrested 33 people on various charges from different areas of the city during the past 24 hours ending 6 pm yesterday. reports BSS. Besides, a mugger was caught

red-handed at Chowmohoni in the city. He was identified as Mohammad Babul, 25.

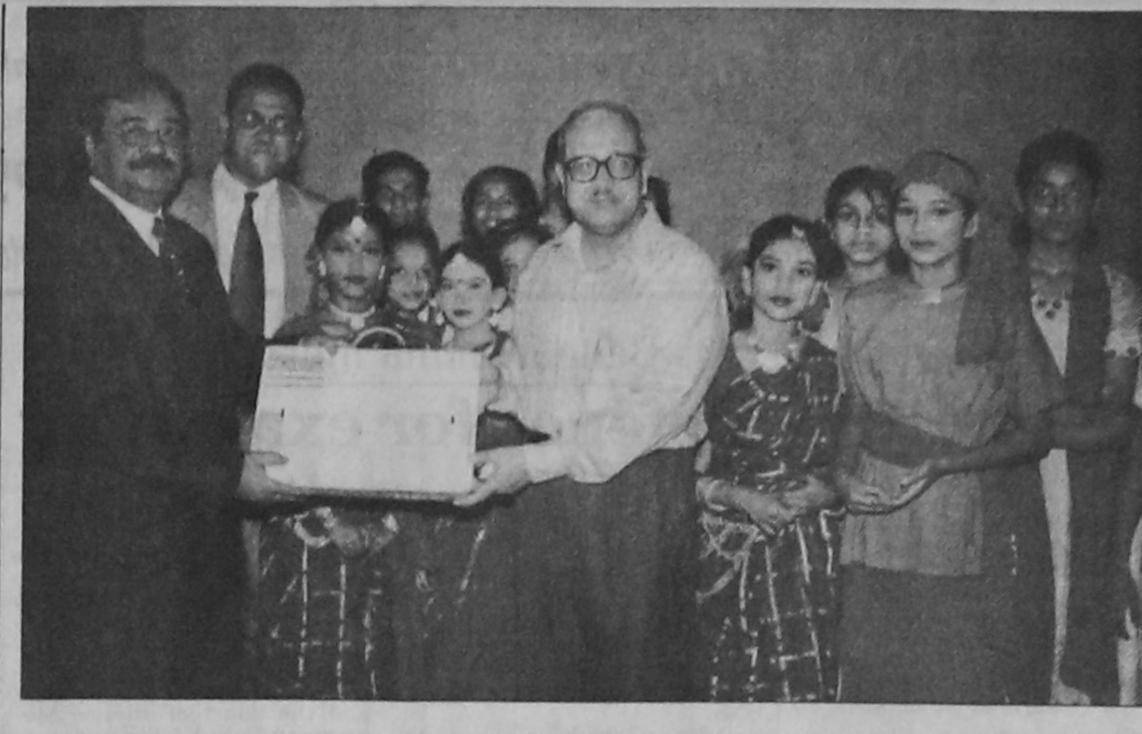


Obituary

Dr M Nasirullah, a consultant psychiatrist died at his village home in Brahmanbaria on July 25. He was 60, says a press

Life Member of Bangladesh Association of Psychiatrists, Dr Nastrullah worked in London for a long time. After returning home, he took active initiative to develop psychotherapy as a subspe-

Bangladesh. Bangladesh Association of Psychiatrists expressed deep shock at his death.



Qamar Hussain, acting Senior Country Executive and Ershad Hossain, Head of Treasury of American Express Bank Limited, handed over equipment to Ibrahim Khaled, convenor of Kachi Kanchar Mela, an organisation for the children, recently as part of the bank's community service activities.

Trial of patrons of terrorists demanded

Speakers at an anti-terrorism meeting yesterday demanded trial of the patrons of the terrorists on charge of treason and setting up anti-terrorism cells across the country, reports BSS.

They expressed concern at the 'inefficiency in state intelligence and lapses in Prime Minister's security' as terrorism has emerged at the state level from its origin of extortion. These views were expressed

at a meeting of "Santrash Birodhi Santi Andolon", an anti-terrorism social movement of Bangladesh Bar Council, held at CIRDAP here. Convenor of the Andolon

Barrister M Amir-ul Islam presided over the meeting which was addressed by Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, Pro-Vice Chancellor of National University Prof Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir, cultural personality Hasan Imam, former ambassador Waliur Rahman and Dhaka Uni-

versity senate member Advocate Syed Ahmed.

Opening the meeting, Barrister Islam called for creating a strong social movement to root out terrorism from society. He alleged that a vested quarter has been trying to jeopardise the hard-earned democracy and peace in the country through creating an anarchic situation. He was critical of an agency

that is holding seminars and symposiums in the name of electoral process reforms.

Prof Azad Chowdhury said terrorism has changed its shape in the recent past. He said terrorism has now reached the state level as political parties and divided over their narrow interests. He criticised the remarks of

some opposition political leaders on the attempts at Prime Minister's life, saying Sheikh Hasina is not merely a party leader but also the elected head of the total population of the

Prof Chowdhury said those

Bangabandhu murder

From page 12 Abdul Matin and chief security officer Mohiuddin were present during the incident. But the investigation officer didn't make them witnesses. The 10 didn't discharge his duties properly by dropping them from the witness

About the items of occurrence, advocate Sobhan told the court that the FIR mentioned it as 4:30-8:30 am, the charge sheet as 4:30-5:30 am and the judgment at about 5 am. There are different versions about the time of occurrence.

He also submitted that PW-2 told the trial court that he didn't hear bugle on that day while PW-4 said he heard it and the national flag was hoisted "On the other hand, PW-5 said that the flag was hoisted at 4:45 am on that day, usually which used to be done at 6 am.

Other highlights of his argument were: Major (retd) Bazlul Huda should get benefit of doubt due to confusion regarding his identity.

Accused's retraction showed repression, including electric shock, was unleashed to compel them to make confessional

Major (retd) Khairuzzaman was arrested in this case as he like others was "awarded by job in foreign mission" after the incident. But he was relieved of State defence of Major (retd)

Bazlul Huda in trial court acted in favour of the plaintiff. Statements of those who made confession not involving

them in the incident but men-

Rahman's wife

From page 1

said already controversy had been created on her comment about granting bails to dangerous criminals. "But someone has to take the risk of speaking the truth. What I am saying. saying in national interest.

Sajed Rahman, brother of - and his sister-in-law Sanjita Parveen accompanied Selima Akhtar.

"None should be unfortunate like me by losing her husband. The killers should get exemplary punishment," said the widowed wife of the slain journalist as tears rolled down her cheeks. She sought help of the Prime

Minister for the victim's fam-The Prime Minister con-

soled the weeping lady and her two daughters. Sejuti is reading in class nine and Pranoti is only two years old. The Prime Minister caressed her with motherly affection and presented a flower to share the baby's sorrow. The Prime Minister also

handed over a cheque for Tk 2 lakh to Selima Akhtar. State Minister for Energy

Prof Rafigul Islam and President of Jessore Press Club Azmal Hossain Farazi were present. Farazi handed over a memorandum to the PM demanding speedy trial of the

tioned name of Huda is not

legally accepted. Virtually, the case has no le-"gal FIR as It had three ones. The first one of 1976 should have been considered as real FIR and the next two, including the current one filed on October 2. 1996, as statement under Sec-

The IO didn't go to depth of the case. The current case is a story written by him from October 2 to January 15, 1997, the day he submitted the charge

There should have been 11 charges in connection with 1 killings at Dhanmondi 32.

Among the prosecution lawyers present were Deputy At torney General Bazlur Rahman Chhana, AAG Haider Ali and AAGs for this case Mosharrat Hossain Kajal, Nurul Isman Sujon and Sahara Khatun.

Following a query from the court, DAG Chhana informed that the prosecution would in form about extradition of Major (retd) Huda during their ar-

Opposition

From page 1 down to 'zero' and it has become "completely isolated" from the people, the leaders said.

They said AL heavyweight and party candidate Amir Hossain Amu was miserably defeated in this constituency in every parliamentary election in the past and this time also he will have the same if the election is free and fair

Talking to The Daily Star yesterday, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said the by-polls in Jhalakati-2 would again prove that no election under the AL government and the present Election Commission could be free and fair.

He pointed out that influential AL leader and Food Minister Amir Hossain Amu is contesting this election against Elen Bhutto, an independent Shamsur Rahman, his two candidate and widow of Zuldaughters - Sejuti and Pranoti figar Ali Bhutto MP. But the government has taken all steps to rig the polls. Elen Bhutto will certainly

win the polls with a huge margin if people can cast votes freely but the government has resorted to 'various tactics to snatch away victory of the independent candidate, Bhuiyan He said they have come to

know that supporters and activists of Elen Bhutto are being harassed, arrested and threatened by the authorities and many activists were forced to leave the constituency. Even police deployed for protection of Elen Bhutto obstructed her mass contact programme, showing lame excuses like security reasons. The BNP leader said

Jamiruddin Sircar had resigned from the cabinet and contested by-polls in Dhanmondi-Mohammadpur constituency in 1991, but Amu is yet to resign and he along with many other ministers and MPs made people, violating the code of conduct of election.

should be tried on charge of

found to be patrons of terrorism

Hasan Imam proposed creating cells to identify terrorists across the country. He smelled 'rat' in the police department and said they should be identified immediately. He also criticised lapses in Prime Minister's security arrangements.

One suspected Harkatul Jehad link arrested

COX'S BAZAR, July 30: Police arrested Abul Khair, 50. suspecting his link with Harkatul Jehad and its leader Mufti Abdul Hannan, reports

Khair, a resident of Taifalong village under Ukhia thana had link with a group of Tal-Mufti Hannan is wanted in

connection with making and planting bombs in Kotalipara. Earlier in 1996, police arrested 41 Taliban activists with arms from the deep forest of Thainkhala

Police sources said Khair used to supply food to Taliban at that time. Police is interrogating him.

30 hurt as rival groups clash at Rajshahi

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, July 30: At least 30 people were injured, two of them seriously, in a clash between two groups of youths in the city last night The seriously injured, iden-

tified as Sohel, 18, and Kartik. 20, were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. Witnesses and police said. two rival groups of the city's

Kadirganj and Darikharbone locked in clash at about 8 pm as a sequel to previous enmity. Both the groups used handmade bombs, cocktails, revolvers, pipeguns and ram dao during the clash. They also ran-

sacked some houses and looted

shops, police said. Police later brought the situation under control.

Shell From page 1

Sangu operation. Many local experts had earlier said the 25year old rig was inappropriate

for the operation. In its bid to bring in a new rig. Shell floated an international tender. However, the of fers given by different rig operating companies did not fit the tight budget recommended by Petrobangla

"Most of the new offers ranged between 40,000 and 45,000 dollars for a day's use. In contrast, Shell used to spend less than 20,000 dollars per day for the old rig," said a source in Petrobangla. Later at Petrobangla's suggestion, Shell again deployed the old rig.

"This rig is now being used in an exploratory well drilling at Sandwip. This operation is expected to be completed within 45 days," said the Shell source, adding, "after that, we will mobilise it to South Sangu."

"We would not abandon the South Sangu scheme. We think there is oil there and by drilling a new well through diversion we can gather further information about the gas prospect there as well as why our drilling string got stuck," he added. "Initially we are guessing that it was not the fault of the rig."

With a Petrobangla approved budget of 11.5 million dollars. Shell started the drilling programme in South Sangu under block 16 late last year. Though the task was expected to be completed by January, progress in the drilling was delayed due to geological and technical problems.

South Sangu is the first operation of Shell Oil in Bangladesh after it acquired 50 per cent of Cairn's interests in various promises to the local | Bangladesh including the gas producing off-shore Sangu gas field last year.

Battle of ballots

transfer of two police officials following complaints by Independent candidate Elen Bhutto, widow of Jatiya Party (Mizan-Manju) MP from the constituency Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. The seat fell vacant following his death.

The ruling Awami League's candidate in the by-polls is Party stalwart and Food MinisterAmir Hossain Amu.

Eight others including one from her husband's party - Advocate Jalil Uddin Howlader are also contesting the election virtually without campaigning. The mainstream opposition parties have boycotted the Amu conducted a hectic

campaign with active support from cabinet colleagues including Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed, Water Re sources Minister Abdur Razzak, Deputy Food Minister Dhirendra Debnath Shmabhu, State Minister for Textiles KM Jahangir, about two dozen party MPs and a number of party

Chief Whip of Parliament Abul Hasnat Abdullah also threw his weight behind Amu. Abdullah is managing the show on his behalf, party sources

ducted a low profile campaign. hardly holding mass rallies. She made door to door visits to seek votes. Supporters of the AL candi-

Elen Bhutto however con-

date said the opposition parties are quietly backing Elen but she denied this. Her brother Mizanur Rahman Choudhury told newsmen

today they are facing 'pressure' and may not be able to field agents in many polling centres. He also said presence of 'outsiders' is posing a threat to the voters and supporters of Elen, many of whom declined to work as her polling agents. But the AL candidate denied

District administration sonnel.

complaint about such threat. Observers from the US embassy. FEMA and some other organisations today visited Jhalkati.

A total of 1.90,787 voters including 98,628 in Sadar will cast their vote from these centres. Some 429 booths have been set up in two upazilas -

Names and symbol of nine candidates are - Amir Hossain Amu of Awami League - boat, Independent Elen Bhutto (wife of Zulfikar Bhutto) - television, Prof Rafiqul Islam of Jatiya Party (Ershad) - plough, Adv Jaliluddin Hawlader of JP (M-M) - orange, Krishok Mohammad Sadeque of Krishok Sramik Mukti Andolon - cock. Moulana SKM Nurul Islam Netaji of Jatiyatabadi Palli Dal cauliflower and SM Rafiqui Is-

has identified 66 out of 122 centres "vulnerable" and taken tight security measures for holding the byelection smoothly.

committee formed by the EC has received 24 complaints of which 23 have already been sent to the Election Commission. Of them. seven were lodged against Amu, four against Elen and the rest against Jalil. As many as 226 magistrates.

4,282 security forces and 1500 officials will work all day long. Local office sources said 122

polling officers had been appointed to conduct polling. Of a strong corps of security forces, 1220 Ansar personnel. 1400 police, 732 battalion Ansar, 300 BDR and 330 APBN men will roam around in sev-

In each centre, a magistrate will lead a 30-member force comprising police, BDR, armed Ansar battalion and APBN per-

while Chayan, though in touch

with the ruling party, is yet to

Laxmipur-2, Barisal-5 and

Pabna-2 became controversial

while several others went al-

most unnoticed as the main-

stream opposition neither con-

cially the BNP changed by-elec-

tion strategy time and again.

After fighting 15 by-polls in the

first phase, the main opposi-

tion party boycotted two con-

ging. But later it participated in

three and won in two. The last

time it contested a voting was

when by-poll to Pabna-2 seat

Since then, it has skipped all

the seven by-elections includ-

Jhalakathi-2 constituency has

added a new dimension to the

opposition's election politics.

Unlike contesting or opposing

or ignoring by-elections as they

did in the past, the opposition

workers are rallying behind in-

dependent candidate Elen

Bhutto, who is the main rival of

ruling party nominee Food

BOI: Investors

From page 1

tiple entry visa for the entire

period of their job. Any foreign

investor is eligible for multiple

Chairman of Masse Manufac-

turing Ltd. Gopal Khiatani. al-

leged that when he went to BOI

to renew the work permit and

visa of one of his expatriate

employees, officials there re-

later renewed the work permit

and visa for six months and

said that it would not be re-

newed further, Khiatani alleged.

particular employee had to re-

new his visa and work permit

five times during the last six

ever said that after discussions.

the Home Ministry recently

started issuing multiple entry

The FICCI President how-

He also mentioned that this

fused to do it. However, they

A member of FICCI and

entry visa for three years.

Minister Amir Hossain Amu.

And the latest by-poll in the

ing today's.

took place in December 1998.

The opposition parties, espe-

A few by-polls like those in

make a formal return.

tested nor opposed those.

later taken back into AL fold

cated by those who bagged more than one seat in the 1996 general elections. A court injunction withheld another such voting in the Bhola-1 constituency.

their seats. Election was held twice in a Rajshahi seat-firstly due to floor-crossing in parliament by Dr Mohammad Alauddin and again after Alauddin, who won that by-poll, died. Alauddin and another BNP

MP Hasibur Rahman Swapan lost their seats after they joined the council of ministers with- secutive polling alleging rigout consent of their party. The Tangail-8 seat fell va-

However, he lost to the ruling party nominee.

From page 1 Besides, BIWTA's head office and its officials at Sadarghat also confirmed that the SKS project on 2.15 acres of 'land'

was "totally illegal" On Thursday, BIWTA asked all the encroachers to remove their illegal constructions from the river and its foreshores under the Dhaka River Port within 30 days. Otherwise, proper action including demolition of the constructions will be

BIWTA is the conservator of the 17 kilometre area of Buriganga from Kholamora to Fatulla-Dharmaganj and the foreshores on both sides of the river area. Any permanent or makeshift construction on the river or its foreshore needs

added.

Speaking on the occasion, Mayor Mohammad Hanif said. "It is impossible on my part alone to control Aesdes mosquito. People must take part in the current programme to clean the mosquito breeding

He said Aedes mosquitos in

the city will be under control

soon. "Apart from larvaeciding. which is usually done, we have started vigorous spraying of both aldulticide and larvaecide." The Mayor said spraying has been intensified, particularly

from where dengue infection has been reported. Contradicting the Mayor's

Dr Ashraf Uddin, then said, We have mobilised our full strength and are trying to monitor implementation of the pro-

Sadar and Nalchhiti.

lam of Liberal Party - oar. The Election Commission

Meanwhile, the inquiry

presiding officers, 429 assistant presiding officers and 244

eral striking groups.

New record of by-polls

From page 1

So far, 10 lawmakers have

died, necessitating by-polls to

cant when incumbent lawmaker Abdul Kader Siddique resigned and sought re-election as an independent candidate.

Eighteen of the by-elections had participation of all the major political parties. But BNP and its allies boycotted 10 bypolls, virtually making the electoral battle a one-party affair and in cases, an intra-party fight of Awami League.

Nevertheless, some of the opposition-shunned by-polls also saw tough contests as rebels challenged the AL candidates. Interestingly, three AL rebels - Panchanan Biswas, Chayan Islam and Raihanul Haq - won the by-polls in Khulna-1, Sirajganj-7 and Raishahi-5 seats respectively.

Panchanan and Raihan were Buriganga

encroached upon the river and

prior permission from BIWTA Aspirin

in areas around hospitals and

statement, some of the newsmen pointed out that there are many vulnerable areas in the city where spraying by DCC men is yet to be noticed. Chief Health Officer of DCC

gramme.

FICCI members James Ash-

visa to foreigners who have work permit "We earnestly hope that the process, which has just started, would not stop," Bhuivan said. The FICCI members also mentioned that corruption and cumbersome bureaucratic pro-

said that corruption was a major problem obstructing reforms. Excessive discretionary authority of the administration, compounded by poor salary of government officials. are the main reasons for corruption," he said. Bureaucracy is greatly re-

sponsible for poor implemen-

tation of reform programmes,

he said. The reform pro-

cess are the two major impedi-

ments to foreign investment in

Earlier, the FICCI President

the country.

grammes, when implemented. are so diluted by the bureaucracy that these lose their bite." On privatisation, Wali Bhuiyan said the process has to be expedited and infrastructure sectors like telecommunication, power generation and dis-

tribution, road and air com-

munication should be left to the

He also said there is no justification for the government to remain in the business. "The government should remain as the policy maker and supervise performance of the private sec-

worth and A Q Chowdhury also spoke on the occasion

private sector.