

VOL. X NO. 291 REGD. NO. DA 781 • www.dailystarnews.com • DHAKA THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2000

20th JS session starts today

By Staff Correspondent
The Jatiya Sangsad goes into session at 11 a.m. today with the mainstream opposition parties continuing to boycott parliament proceedings.

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury, who had earlier made three attempts to bring the opposition back in the House, is unlikely to take such move this time around.

"But my invitation to the opposition is still open," said the Speaker while talking to The Daily Star at his parliament chamber yesterday.

It will be the 20th session of the seventh parliament and the seventh consecutive session sans the opposition who allege that they do not get proper treatment in the House. However, the opposition MPs registered a brief attendance during the 18th session.

The session is scheduled to run until November 23. However, a decision to this effect is likely to be taken at a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee scheduled at 10 a.m. The committee will also fix other businesses for the session.

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Inside Today

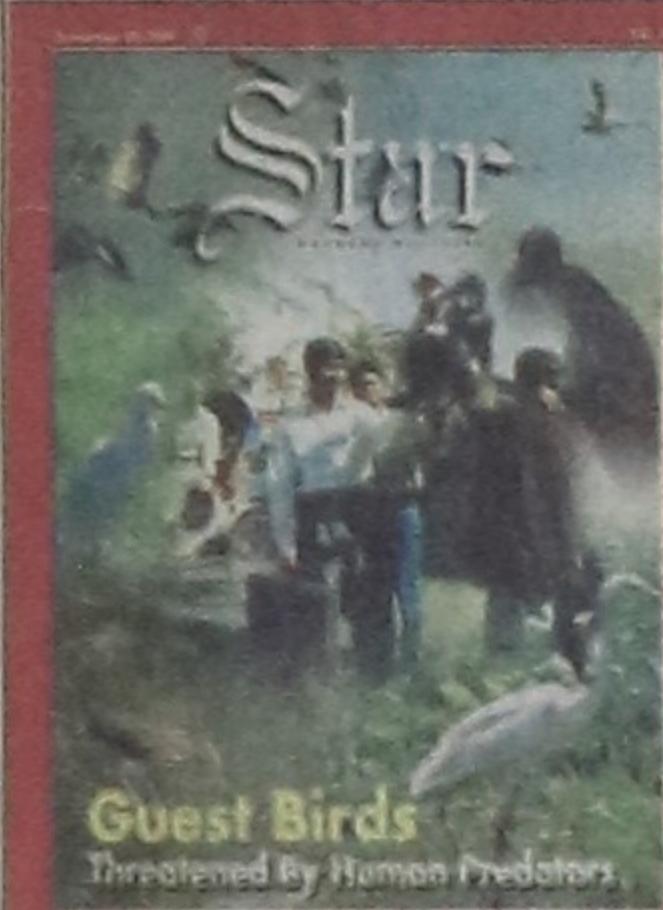
Article

Women's Agenda in Bangladesh: A Political Discourse
Column: Panorama
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Supplement

One page supplement on 'Primary Education Week' on Page 9

Announcement



This week's cover story reveals the fate of migratory birds in our country and describes how we can save them from the face of extinction.

Dhaka International Trade Fair-2001 Secretariat Export Promotion Bureau

122-124, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

Subject: Inviting applications from local/foreign organisations for participation in the "Dhaka International Trade Fair-2001" to be held from 20-01-2001 to 19-02-2001

Applications in prescribed form are invited from interested local/foreign public and private organisations for participation in the "Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF)-2001" to be held from 20-01-2001 to 19-02-2001 at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka at the joint initiative of the Ministry of Commerce & Export Promotion Bureau.

2. (a) Application form of local participants may be collected from the Finance & Accounts Section of Export Promotion Bureau, Dhaka on payment of its price (non-refundable) as mentioned below:

- Pavilion Tk. 5,000/-
- Mini-pavilion Tk. 3,000/-
- Stall Tk. 1,000/-

(b) Local applicants may submit their application form at the Bureau's Secretariat alongwith a Bank Draft/Pay Order for 5% of the prescribed rent as earnest money under Head of Account "Dhaka International Trade Fair Fund" and attested copies of valid Trade Licence, VAT Registration Certificate, Export Registration Certificate as well as PRC (if any), Receipt of Last Income Tax return showing TIN number. Applicants for Fast Food items must enclose a price list showing retail price of each food item.

3. (a) Application form of foreign participants will be supplied free of cost. The foreign participants should submit their application through their Missions in Bangladesh and those having no mission in Dhaka may apply through Govt. Trade bodies of their country;

(b) Every foreign applicant should submit Bank Draft for an amount of US\$ 300/- as security money alongwith the application;

(c) Pre-shipment Inspection (PSI) is mandatory for import of goods into Bangladesh;

(d) Clearance of goods will be allowed on submission of PSI report and on payment of customs duties and taxes or Bank Guarantee for equivalent amount at the time of clearance of goods.

4. Rents for Pavilion covering an area of 50'x50', Mini pavilion covering an area of 25'x25' & Stall covering an area of 20'x15' are as follows:

For Local Participants (in Taka) For Foreign Participants (in US Dollar)

a. Pavilion Tk. 2,25,000/- a. Pavilion US\$ 4500/-

b. Mini-pavilion Tk. 1,25,000/- b. Mini-pavilion US\$ 2800/-

c. Stall Tk. 70,000/- c. Stall US\$ 1800/-

5. Last date of submitting application at the Fair Secretariat of the Bureau is 30th November, 2000.

6. For detailed information, DITF-2001 Secretariat at the Export Promotion Bureau's Head Office may be contacted.

Director
Dhaka International Trade Fair-2001 Secretariat
Export Promotion Bureau
Phone: 9560787, 9552245-49
Fax: 880-2-9568000

CD-1033

Prodigal missions

Officials waste public money on hotel bills, different allowances

Star Report

Bangladesh missions in different countries wasted public money amounting to Tk 69.04 lakh in fiscal 1996-97 as officials there paid more hotel bills than they are entitled to and also drew foreign and entertainment allowances, violating rules.

These were detected in the latest annual audit report prepared by the Comptroller and Auditor General's Office and submitted to the President and the Parliament Secretariat recently.

Audit was conducted in 34 missions out of 69 and 61 audit objections involving massive financial irregularities were made.

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Indian cricketers undergo tough workout

Sports Reporter

The Indian cricketers had a tough practice session under the watchful eyes of coach Anshuman Gaekwad at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday morning.

Saurav Ganguly's men spent more than two hours at the nets before going through exercise and stretching session. Contrastingly, their opponents relaxed in the posh surroundings

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Nov 9		5.15 pm
Nov 10	6-10 am	

Prayer Timings

November 9

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-00	5-35
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-25	5-30
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Ershad may get bail upon surrender

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Party Chairman H M Ershad may be granted bail within 48 hours of his surrender before the trial court for his conviction in a graft case, according to a counsel for the former military ruler.

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Government to allow more cell phone companies

By Mustak Hossain

The government will allow some more mobile telephone companies to make the service cheaper. Preparations are on to float tender in this regard early next year, a highly placed source in the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication (MOTP) said.

The call rates now charged by the four companies are high compared to people's income, he said. Allowing more companies will create competition in the sector, lower the call rates and make the service affordable to people.

The new companies will be given GSM (Global System of Mobile) license to meet the increasing demand for telephone in the country, he said.

There are about 2,00,000 mobile phone users in the country now and the number is rising by 125 per cent annually, other sources said.

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Closest US presidential polls ever

Florida recount keeps Bush, Gore in anxious wait

WASHINGTON, Nov 8: Americans awoke without a new president today after Republican George W Bush saw his apparent victory over Democrat Al Gore snatched away, at least for the time being, pending a recount in Florida, report agencies.

Gore, who had called the Texas governor to congratulate him after television networks declared Bush the winner, called him back an hour later and retracted his concession when Bush's lead in Florida evaporated and the state became too close to call.

Addressing what was meant to be a victory celebration for Bush in Austin, Texas, Bush campaign chairman Don Evans said he hoped and believed Bush would be the next president of the United States, telling them the Republican carried Florida by more than 1,200 votes.

"I think we've gone into extra innings but we're still about to win this contest," Fleischer told ABC. Daley described Gore's mood as "up," saying at this point Gore and his running mate Sen. Joseph Lieberman were ahead both in the popular vote and in electoral votes.

"There's no reason to concede when you are winning an election," Daley told NBC.

The Democrats brought in former Secretary of State Warren Christopher to oversee the recount in Florida. "He's going to make sure it's done in a professional way," said Daley.

Neither candidate made a public statement in the astounding post-midnight election finale, but Bush campaign chairman Donald Evans said, "We hope and believe we have elected the next president of the United States."

Gore had called Bush to congratulate him and then gone to the war memorial in downtown Nashville, Tennessee, to make a concession speech. Instead, campaign manager Daley appeared before the crowd and said the race was not over.

"Until the results in Florida become official our campaign continues," Daley said to cheering supporters.

In Austin, Texas, Bush spokesman Evans told a crowd waiting for a victory speech that Bush believed he had won Florida and the presidency.

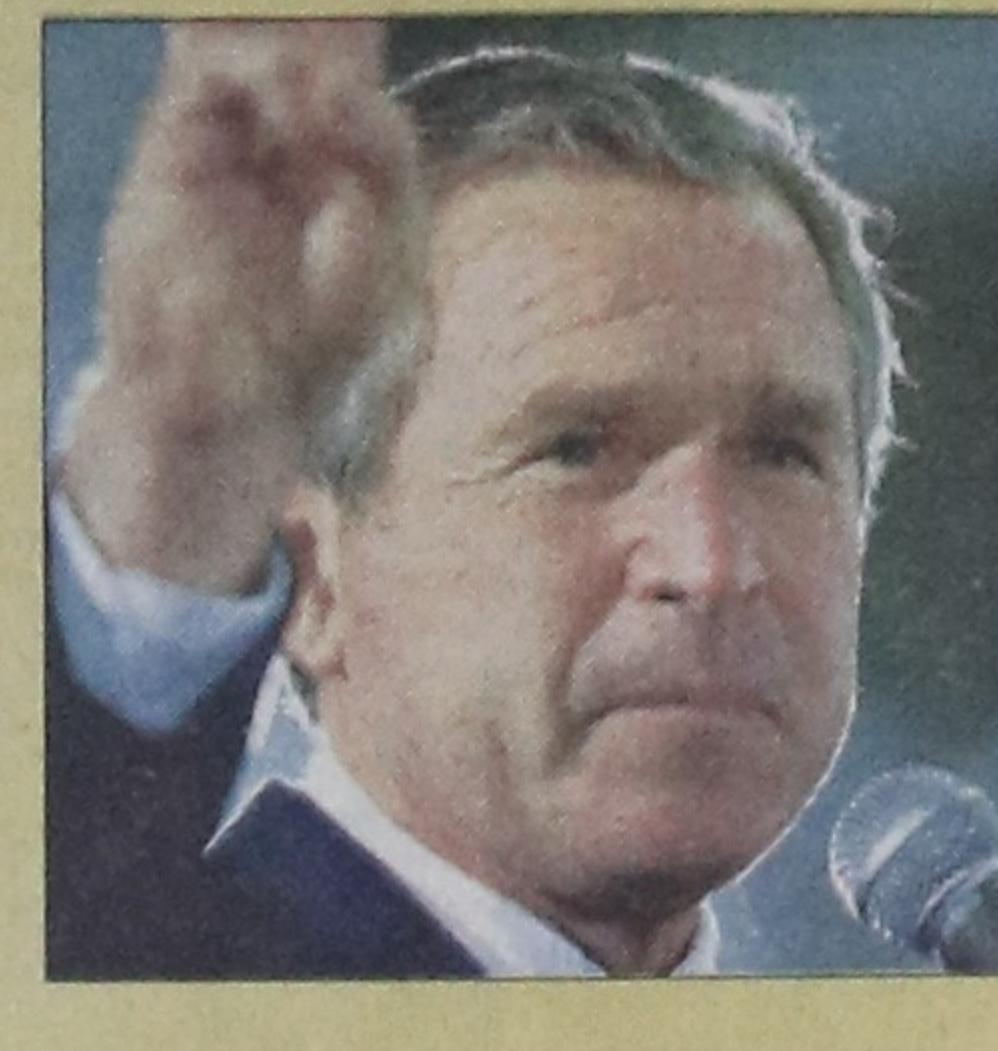
"They're still counting, and I'm confident when it's all said and done, we will prevail," Evans said.

Voters Tuesday chose between the son of former Republican President George Bush and the son of a former senator in an election that teetered between the continuation of Democratic policies and a Republican "fresh start."

"Turnout was surprisingly brisk, with many

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BUSH VS GORE



246 **Electoral Vote** **260**
48,512,648 - 48% **Popular Vote** **48,266,681 - 48%**

PHOTO AFP

Hillary creates history

First First Lady to be elected Senator

NEW YORK, Nov 8: They called her a doormat and even a friend to terrorists. But now Hillary Rodham Clinton's enemies will have to call her "Senator," reports AP.

On Tuesday, she became the only first lady ever elected to public office, easily beating Republican Rep Rick Lazio, a Long Island congressman who had trouble defining himself as more than the "anti-Hillary."

"Thank you for opening up your minds and your hearts, for seeing the possibility of what we could do together for our children and for our future, here in this state and in this nation," said Clinton, with the president and daughter Chelsea by her side. "I am profoundly grateful to all of you for giving me the chance to serve you."

Lazio, in conceding, said the effort was still worthwhile.

"I feel like the Mets," he said, referring to the los-

ers of the recent World Series baseball championship. "I'm proud of this campaign ... We conducted a campaign with integrity and honesty."

In his campaign, Lazio had portrayed Clinton as anti-Israeli because a Muslim group raised \$10,000 for her campaign. She returned the money, and in the end, she won 54 per cent of the Jewish vote.

It also apparently didn't matter that she never lived in New York until she and the president bought a home in the West