

# EU-EOMB report

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"These practices contribute to creating a heated atmosphere and hinder the development of a peaceful election process."  
"LTOs have reported numerous violations of the electoral code of conduct for political parties and candidates, which questions the authorities effectiveness in enforcing these rules."

However, they reported that the authorities in charge of implementing the election process are generally carrying out their task in a fair way.

The observation report of the European said due to limited implementation of the procedure regarding postal ballots, the mission is concerned that a large number of Bangladeshi citizens' police, military, polling officers, local observers, prisoners could be disenfranchised in the coming election.

Regarding voter list, it said various political parties complaints have been presented to the European observers regarding deliberate inaccuracies in the enrolment. But, no concrete documentation was supplied to support the allegations.

"European observers notice the existence of freedom of movement

## EC warns Hasina

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Yusuf Gazi (Chandpur-4), Sultan Mohammad Monsur Ahmed (Moulvibazar-2), and Shahjahan (Laxmipur-1).

BNP-led four-party alliance: Abdul Mannan Talukder (Sirajganj-3), Dr Shafiqur Rahman (Moulvibazar-2), Habibunnabi Sohel (Rangpur-3), Mufti Abdus Sattar Akon (Bagerhat-4), Ridwan Ahmed (Comilla-6), Mawlana Abdus Sobhan (Pabna-5), and Harunur Rashid (Nawabganj-3).

Apart from these candidates, Abdur Razzak of the 11-party alliance, Shawkatul Islam of JP and SM Shahin (independent) in Moulvibazar-2, and Emdadul Haque of MP in Narail were also cautioned.

# Khaleda: False promises

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of paddy and jute, rather they increased prices of all essentials.

She promised that if elected, her government would construct a bridge over Jamuna river at Doulatpur.

She introduced BNP candidate AZM Rezwanal Haq, who also addressed the rally.

At Birampur rally, Khaleda sought vote for four-party candidates to save the country and Islam. She alleged that tear gas shells were fired inside mosques and bombs were exploded in church during AL rule. "But they are now trying to bluff people saying that they would not do anything against Islam, if voted to power. Don't be misled by them," she said.

The BNP chief said people are now united under the banner of the four-party alliance because they do not want to see AL's "misrule" again.

She sought vote for Jamaat-e-Islami nominee in Dinajpur-6 Azizur Rahman Chowdhury, who is con-

testing against immediate past AL lawmaker Mostafizur Rahman Fizu.

At Panchbibi in Joipurhat-1 constituency, she addressed a big meeting where she introduced alliance nominee Abdul Alim who is contesting against AL nominee Abbas Ali Mondal.

Thousands of people greeted her when Khaleda Zia reached Khelal College premises at about 1 pm yesterday. She addressed a rally there in favour of BNP nominee Yusuf Khalilur Rahman.

Some angry BNP supporters halted some vehicles of Khaleda's motorcade at Akkelpur as she did not address a crowd there. They were however dispersed by police and the motorcade moved ahead.

Addressing rallies at Dhamorhat in Naogaon-2 and at Badalgachhi in Naogaon- 3, Khaleda said the four parties have united under one platform to form the next government.

# CMP identifies

**FROM PAGE 12**  
Bostami, Chalitatali, Muradpur, Bohaddarhat, Bakalia DC road, Patharghata and Pahartali College area.

The city has three constituencies - Chittagong-8 (Doublemooring-Port-Pahartali-Kattali), Chittagong-9 (Kotwali) and Chittagong-10 (Chandgaon-Boalkhai).

About 30 police teams and 45 mobile teams of Detective Branch will be on duty in those areas to ensure free, fair and peaceful voting. CMP sources told this correspondent yesterday.

These areas are being controlled by different notorious terrorist groups led by "listed terrorists" belonged to Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS), student wings of Awami League, BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami respectively.

Of the 20 areas, BCL cadres and "terrorists" control 11 areas, followed by 'Sajjad Bahini' of ICS which controls five areas.

'Sajjad Bahini' is led by Sajjad Khan, an absconding accused in the

sensational eight-murder case and the prime accused in the ward commissioner Liaquat murder case.

The remaining four areas are controlled four "listed terrorists" belonging to JCD, the sources said.

The 11 areas are controlled by BCL cadres led by Mamun (ward commissioner Mamunur Rashid now in jail), Sunil, Dulu, Masum, Chhira Akbar, Mehedi Hasan, Hazi Belal, Alo and Senior Ilias.

The JCD cadres who control their four areas are led by Morshed Khan, Alam, Iqbal and Samrat.

CMP sources said, a written suggestions detailing strategies to maintain law and order in those 20 vulnerable areas on the election day have already been sent to higher authorities in Dhaka.

"Besides, additional cautionary measures will be taken so that none can dare to resort to any illegal and unfair means to rig the polls," said a top official of CMP preferring anonymity.

# Laden's whereabouts

**FROM PAGE 12**  
the clerics announced their unexpected ruling on Thursday after two days of debate.

But Hamid Haqqani, leader of a seminary in Pakistan where several Taliban leaders studied the Quran, insisted he was still in Afghanistan.

"There is no chance of him leaving. The decision of the Islamic scholars was only advisory in nature," Haqqani said.

Another source close to the Taliban said bin Laden actually relished a direct "confrontation" with US military forces in Afghanistan.

"He is still there. This is a moment he has been waiting for," the source told AFP.

The Taliban has refused repeated requests to extradite bin Laden to face trial in connection with the 1998 bombing of two US embassies in Africa, for which he has been indicted in New York.

The Taliban's ambassador to Pakistan, Abdul Salam Zaeef, reiterated Friday that handing bin Laden over to the United States was out of the question an apparent indication that he remained in Taliban-controlled territory.

Bin Laden's al-Qaeda (The Base) network operates cells around the globe, while his henchmen in Afghanistan are powerful Islamist leaders in their own right, with connections throughout Central Asia, Russia, the Middle East and Africa.

The Taliban militia, which has

## Arabs: Coalition

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coalition to fight "terrorism" after the deadly September 11 attacks on New York and Washington.

Moussa noted Arab states had imposed a similar a condition in 1990 when the United States was building up a coalition to eject Iraqi troops from Kuwait.

"This is the second time in a dangerous international crisis in which the condition of action, coordination and cooperation is to exclude Israel," he said.

Moussa said he did not expect any American retaliation against an Arab state.

"I do not expect that to happen. We have not received any assurances, but I don't think that will happen," Moussa said. "If any Arab country was touched, all fundamentals will change," he added without elaborating.

## Sarishabari

**FROM PAGE 12**  
of Awami League candidate Maulana Nurul Islam and the offices of Awami League and its front organisations in different parts of the district in last two months.

Police are not arresting the listed terrorists, rather they are harassing the activists of Awami League and its front organisations, the alleged.

The leaders demanded arrest of the killers, withdrawal of the OC of Sarishabari thana and in-charge of Tarakandi Investigation Centre.

Awami League leaders Giasuddin Pathan, Sanwar Hossain Badsha, Advy Abdullah and Mozammel Haq Tara, among others, addressed the press conference.

## India may halt

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logue process."

The two leaders were to have met next week during the UN General Assembly, but the Sept 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington forced a cancellation.

The Times interviewer described Vajpayee as "distracted over Washington's failure so far to take India's concerns into account in its overall strategy to combat terrorism."

Vajpayee was quoted as saying, "No statements had emanated from Washington to suggest that the US, though appreciative of India's offer to support its war against terrorism, was in a mood to focus on India's bitter experience of terrorist activities on its soil."

US Ambassador Robert Blackwell had no immediate comment, but was meeting yesterday with India's foreign and defense minister, Jaswant Singh.

## Kitty Hawk

**FROM PAGE 1**  
tioned in the western Pacific was one of five US naval vessels to hoist anchor in Yokosuka yesterday.

The others were the destroyer USS Cashing, the guided-missile destroyer USS Curtis Wilburn, the frigate USS Gary and the oiler USNS Rappahannock, said Cmdr. Matthew Brown, a Seventh Fleet spokesman.

US officials have declined to comment on any of the movements, but the ships are believed to be steaming toward the Indian Ocean in anticipation of reprisals against Osama bin Laden and his allies in Afghanistan in connection with the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

The Kitty Hawk is one of 11 US vessels stationed at Yokosuka, a naval facility about 45 kilometers southwest of Tokyo that is home to the US Seventh Fleet. The 81,123-ton, 1,069-foot flattop typically carries about 70 aircraft and a complement of 5,500 sailors, naval aviators and Marines.

It was due to be escorted out of Japanese territorial waters by about 10 destroyers and other naval vessels from Japan's Marine Self-Defense Force, which were assigned as part of stepped-up efforts by the Tokyo government to guard US installations, spokesman Hiroshi Oka said.

## Train accident

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report at 8 pm.

Police, however, said three people were killed in the accident but failed to give the injury figure.

"With severe injuries along with severed legs and hands, many of the injured were seen moaning," Haider told the news agency.

As road communications with upazila and district headquarters from he station are not smooth, sufferings of the injured people increased.

Following the accident, local people attacked the railway station office and cut off its telephone lines.

A relief train from Dhaka left for Izzatpur station.

## Jayalalitha

**FROM PAGE 12**  
by November 13 to continue as Chief Minister. Responding to Jayalalitha's contention that people's mandate is supreme, the Supreme Court bench said the people's verdict should be in consonance with the Constitution.

Jayalalitha quit as Chief Minister soon after the apex court's judgement and she is now expected to nominate someone as her successor to the post.

The verdict by the Supreme Court puts a big question mark over the political future of Jayalalitha, the film star-turned-politician, as she has never relished the idea of any center of power either in the government or in her party other than herself.

# Pre-polls clashes

**FROM PAGE 12**  
UPDF blamed its rival PCJSS for the killing.

Our Correspondent from Feni writes: At least five people were injured in a gunfight between BNP and Awami League supporters at Amtali in Sadar thana yesterday morning.

The clash erupted at about 11 pm following ransacking of a BNP election office.

Earlier, a gang of armed youths attacked some BNP activists while they were taking tea at a tea stall at Rajarbar. Four BNP activists were injured in the attack.

In another incident, some armed men set ablaze Chhagalnaiya BNP office early yesterday morning. BNP blamed their rival Awami League for the incident.

In Begerhat, at least four people were injured in an attack allegedly by the activists of the BNP-led four-party alliance at Mohilapur village in Morelganj upazila on Thursday night.

Witnesses said the four activists of Awami League came under the attack when it brought out a procession in the area at about 7 pm.

Two of the injured Abdur Rashid Shikder and Abdul Jalil were admitted to Barisal Medical College Hospital while two others Abdur Rab and Milton to Projpur Hospital.

In Sirajganj, at least 25 people were injured, four of them seriously in separate clashes between AL and BNP supporters at different places in Sirajganj district yesterday.

Of them eight were injured in

## Former cadre of PBCP shot dead in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Khulna*

Azizul Huq Bachchu, 40, owner of a shrimp farm and an armed cadre of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) was shot dead by some unidentified miscreants at his house at Dhamalia village under Dumuria thana of Khulna district early yesterday morning.

According to police, Bachchu was sleeping when assailants fired shots at his head through open window of his bedroom. He died on the spot.

The murder was a sequel to intra-party rivalry, police added. His wife Shaily Begum lodged a case with Dumuria thana in this connection.

Bohuli five in Bahirgola under sadar upazila and 12 in Shahjampur upazila.

Police and witnesses said the clashes erupted when processions of both the parties confronted.

In Narayanganj, an election camp of BNP at Ailpara in Siddhirganj thana was ransacked by a group of miscreants yesterday.

The attackers beat up BNP workers in the camp and created panic by firing blank shots. BNP claimed that eight of their workers were injured in the attack.

Kamal Hossain, president of Siddhirganj thana BNP, blamed Awami League for the attack but Awami League denied its involvement in the incident.

In Pabna, a clash between the supporters of 4-party alliance and an independent candidate left some 30 people wounded at Ishwardi yesterday.

Sources said the clash took place in the morning when supporters of independent candidate Habibur Rahman Habib, who was expelled from BNP, made indecent remarks about a local BNP leader.

Supporters of Habib damaged four motorbikes belonging to alliance workers and ransacked their seven election camps.

Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control within an hour.

## 26 licensed arms deposited in Chittagong BSS, Ctg

A total 26 licensed arms including revolver and pistols have been deposited so far with different thanas of the district including Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP).

More than 250 cartridges and bullets from the licensed arms owners were also deposited in the last three days, CMP and district police sources said.

Twenty-one persons, most of them businessmen, handed over their licensed pistols and revolvers to 12 thanas under CMP while only five arms were deposited with 15 other thanas of the district.

Chittagong City Corporation Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury deposited his pistol with Panchlaish police station yesterday.

# High-rises on Panthapath

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it is only for use of the doctors and officials of the hospital.

Besides, there is a back-up power generator at one corner of the parking lot while part of it has been enclosed for use as a prayer room.

Big property developers like Sheltect, Concord, the Structural Engineers, Tridhara, Bashundhara, Shuvastu, Borak and Navana have built or are building high-rise structures along the road. There are about two dozens of plot owners at Panthapath, who have signed contracts with developers to build high-rise buildings there. Apart from a few, none of these developers has complied with the parking provision of the construction rules.

Most of these high-rise buildings are semi-commercial with shopping complexes on the first few floors and apartments on the rest. In most cases, developers have kept provision for parking at the basement exclusively for apartment owners.

For the shopping complexes, let alone a parking space, the developers have not even built a driveway where shoppers can stop their vehicles for unloading.

"The entire stretch of the Panthapath with all the lanes and by-lanes is already choked. And when these tall commercial buildings start their business, the impact on environment, traffic and society would be extremely negative," said a top traffic division official on condition that his name would not be

published.

A Rajuk town planner admitted that these buildings would create 'enormous urban problems' and make the entire area 'very, very crowded'.

In the nearby Hatirpool area, only one shopping complex has completely changed the scenario, forcing the traffic department to make the Sonargaon Road one way. Although the shopping complex has enough parking area in the basement, the rush of vehicles routinely causes snarl-ups.

"When the developers get Rajuk approval, their plans match perfectly with the rules. However, during construction they deviate from the approved plan and ignore provisions for parking and other facilities," said the Rajuk town planner.

The law, he said, requires that a developer leave 23 square feet for parking space for every 200 square feet built.

According to some developers, the trend to deviate from construction rules started with the manifold hike in price of land and absence of monitoring by Rajuk or any other authority.

Although many town planners and architects are critical of Basundhara City, "one of the largest shopping centres in South Asia", the massive complex sprawled, over four acres of land with 1,700 stalls of different sizes, has a 50-foot drive way and underground parking

## Larma vows

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and its central leader Chandra Shekhar Chakma, among others, also spoke at the meeting.

"It will not be possible to hold election by deploying army in the hill districts," Santu Larma said.

"Still there is time to postpone the election in Chittagong Hill Tracts. Otherwise, we have to resist it."

The voter list has been prepared with a view to establishing an "Islamic imperialism", he said. "The government is continuing the election process ignoring our political rights."

He said the immediate past Awami League government "deceived" the hill people because it signed an agreement but did not implement it. The caretaker government is also behaving like the former government.

Criticising the AL government, the PCJSS leader said, as per the agreement, the "settlers" were supposed to be rehabilitated elsewhere. But the cluster villages were expanded instead of rehabilitating the "settlers" in other places.

"Before the end of its tenure, the AL government created new problems in the hill districts," he said, stressing the need for establishing "Jummunationalism".

Santu Larma also alleged that the government and members of armed forces jointly tried to foil today's meeting. Many hill people who were on way to the meeting faced problems, he claimed.

## Cable TV men

**FROM PAGE 12**  
unidentified miscreants. Police was unable to arrest anybody in connection with the murder till last night.

The shutdown came at a time when people had been anxiously watching CNN and BBC to find out about the latest developments in the US-Afghan conflict over the issue of extradition of Saudi dissident Osama Bin Laden.

With cable services suspended, many viewers called the newspaper offices yesterday to know the latest developments centring the issue. Some expressed their resentment about the COAB decision.

COAB leaders could not be contacted despite repeated attempts.

## Class committee

**FROM PAGE 12**  
Daganbhuiyan Sadar camp of the 'class committee' led by committee's upazila captain Ratan, the joint team seized over 100 bombs from an under-construction building just adjacent to the camp.

The arrested are Jamaluddin, Yusuf Nabi, Omar Faruq, Khalilur Rahman, Shohag, Shamsul Alam Khokon, Shahjahan, Nezamuddin, Ayub Ali, Nooruddin, Sumon, Noor Mohammad, Yasin, Al Amin and Humayun.

space for 1,200 vehicles.

Officials of the Basundhara City, however, claim that they have taken all the aspects of building and construction rules before launching the project.

"The problem is not with us but with other big developers who do not have respect for law. Look at all the tall buildings around the area, none has adequate parking facilities," an official of the Basundhara project said.

Nevertheless, anticipating traffic chaos once the complex starts business, executives of the Basundhara project proposed the government that it would extend support to build a flyover in the area.

An official of the Department of Environment said that they were aware that these tall buildings would pose various problems, but still had to issue environmental clearance.

"We have no other option than issuing environmental clearance once the developer produces certificates from the Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA), the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB), Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA), Fire Service and the DCC.

"We all know how things work in government offices, but now we will have to look into the problem seriously. Otherwise, in the near future, we will not be able to move from one place to the other in the city."

# Young achievers commit

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students will use your knowledge profoundly for building a better world."

Drawing attention to the recent terror attacks in the USA, Carter said, "I wish you would be able to have higher education in colleges and universities in a terrorism-free and congenial atmosphere."

Prof Abdullah Abu Syeed in his speech urged students to be patriot and to work for the country to ensure that it gets a place in the world map as a self-reliant country.

"If you love and work for your country, the nation will pay you back many fold in the long run," Syeed said.

He pointed out that there is a growing trend among brilliant students to leave the country and settle abroad. Syeed urged brilliant students not to leave but to work for betterment of the country and the nation.

He underscored the need for acquiring knowledge, building confidence and having love for the motherland to establish it as a stronger nation in the world.

The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam in his speech said the inten-

tion of the daily behind organising such an event is to share the moment of glory of the best and the brightest so as to inculcate a sense of patriotism in young hearts and minds.

He said the theme of the award giving ceremony is to salute the nation builders of tomorrow.

"We want you to go to the best Universities of the world and get the best education you can get. But at the end of your quest for knowledge and skills you must return to this place, to this people, to this culture, to this value system, to this collective heritage, to this history, to this geography, to the unfathomable, inexplicable, intangible and invisible love affair called patriotism."

He said, "Today we salute for what you are super achievers. But we also salute in the hope for what you can be super nation builders."

Earlier, Syed Fahim Munaim, Managing Editor of The Daily Star, welcomed the guest, students and parents at the function. Aneek Intesar Ahmad from Scholastica and Debnya Adeeef Huq from South Breeze School spoke on the occasion representing the "A" level And

"O" level.

The award giving ceremony took an interesting turn when it was announced that three Grameen cell phones would be awarded to three 'A' level best students through a lottery among six students. Dr. Mohammad Yunus picked the names and amid a cheering crowd, the three awards went to Mostafa Jamal Afgani of Dhanmondi Tutorial, Shams Muhd Iman of Manarat International School and Asif Zahir of Scholastica.

Amitava Ghosh, MD, Aptech Worldwide, Moniul Chowdhury, MD, New Zealand Milk, Bangladesh, and Rezwana Bin Farook of Aptech Computer Education also spoke briefly on the occasion on behalf of the three partner organisations.

Aptech Computer Education, Ovaltine, New Zealand Milk, Bangladesh and GrameenPhone Limited sponsored the prizes for the winners. Tina Hussain of the Star weekend magazine moderated the award ceremony.

The full list of the student awardees will be published in a special supplement next week.

# War fears grow

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followers or share their fate.

"Whether we bring our enemies to justice or justice to our enemies, justice will be done," Bush said in a speech to a joint session of Congress that set forth his doctrine for an all-out assault on those he called enemies of freedom.

He said all evidence gathered so far pointed to bin Laden and his Al Qaeda organization as responsible for the carnage at the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon that left more than 6,500 people dead or missing.

Nervous investors piled out of equities and the dollar yesterday on worries of imminent US retaliation after Bush, telling the US military to get ready, vowed: "The hour is coming when America will act".

European shares tumbled 6 per cent to three-year lows as markets took fright at a possible war and its economic fallout. Investors seeking a safe haven switched to the Swiss franc, cash and bonds. Oil prices also firmed on talk of conflict.

"Fear has overtaken everything in the shorter term. And stocks have got to discount Armageddon before they look cheap," said Deutsche Bank managing director Nigel Cobby.

The London Stock Exchange, Europe's biggest share market, evacuated its headquarters after a security alert that coincided with a sell-off that wiped more than \$100 billion off the value of blue-chip stocks. Police would not say what triggered the alert.

Last week's attacks have also led to massive job losses at US airlines, reeling from the costs of new security measures and plunging travel demand.

Congressional leaders and the White House agreed yesterday on a \$15 billion bailout plan for the industry, which the House of Representatives was expected to vote on later in the day.

## "With Us Or Against Us"

With the United States rapidly deploying warplanes and aircraft carrier groups to the Middle East and Indian Ocean, Bush gave the Taliban an ultimatum that also included shutting Qaeda training camps in the impoverished country.

"These demands are not open to negotiation or discussion. The Taliban must act and act immediately. They will hand over the terrorists or they will share in their fate," he said.

In a resolute address met by two dozen standing ovations from the floor of the Congress, Bush told foreign governments, "Either you are with us, or you are with the terrorists".

"From this day forward, any nation that continues to harbor or support terrorism will be regarded by the United States as a hostile regime," Bush said.

In a sign of differing approaches that could complicate Bush's push for a global coalition, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad of mainly Muslim Malaysia said defeating terrorism would also require justice for oppressed Islamic populations.

"Hunting terrorism with weapons alone will not solve the problem

completely as long as the anger among the oppressed still exists," said Mahathir, who has pledged support for US action to punish those behind the attacks.

Tens of thousands of Afghans, including Taliban officials, have streamed out of major cities for the relative safety of the countryside and for the borders of Pakistan and Iran amid growing expectations of a punishing US military strike.

United States launched attacks on their central Asian nation and that Muslims had an obligation to respond with jihad, or holy war.

"It would be a showdown of might," he said. "We will never surrender to evil and might."

On Thursday, the council, or shura, of clerics said bin Laden, a 44-year-old multimillionaire based in Afghanistan, must be persuaded to leave, though not expelled. Zaeef said the move was only a suggestion.

"If Osama voluntarily leaves Afghanistan, he may," Zaeef told the Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press agency.

Aiming to head off charges he is waging war on Islam, Bush called bin Laden's militants traitors to the peaceful teachings of their faith and said America's fight was not with Muslims.

In Afghanistan's neighbour Pakistan, where support for the Taliban runs high, demonstrators set fire to shops and stoned cars yesterday in protest at President Pervez Musharraf's decision to side