



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia addresses MPs-elect of the four-party alliance during a reception at Sheraton Hotel in the city yesterday.

Let's work together

Khaleda for dialogue with Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has urged Awami League President Sheikh Hasina to come forward and work together to build the nation and improve people's lot.

"Let's work together... let's forget the past... let's work together to free the country from hunger and poverty, to root out terrorism and corruption," the would-be prime minister said while addressing the newly-elected MPs of the four-party alliance at Hotel Sheraton yesterday evening. "Let us sit in the parliament and resolve our differences through discussion."

The BNP and the alliance, she said, would not treat the opposition the way the AL government did in and outside the Jatiya Sangsad. "We want to make the parliament the centre of all activities. We will give maximum opportunity to the opposition and allow them to speak to make the parliament strong and effective."

Khaleda also sent out a call to forget the past and think about the future.

"There was a difference of opinion when we were in power and you launched a movement. Similarly, there was a difference of opinion when the Awami League was in power and thus we launched a movement. That stage is over. Let's forget what we all did in the past and think positively for the future."

She also sought opinions and suggestions from all political and social quarters to help the BNP and its allies run the country in way that will "benefit the nation".

"To us, individual and party interest is insignificant. Our primary concern is betterment of the country and the people."

Bangladesh is a glittering example of communal harmony, she said.

"Here every citizen, irrespective of cast and creed, has

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Sumon's mother forced out of AL meet, Maya hooted at

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sheer appearance of some Awami League leaders in public places still draws wrath from party workers.

A section of party workers think some of the party leaders and their wards have earned ban name for the party, causing its debacle in the October 1 general election.

Minutes before AL chief Sheikh Hasina reached the party's central office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city yesterday afternoon, agitated party workers forced a leader of Dhaka city Mohila Awami League (women's unit of AL) out of the office.

Nasibun Ahmed, whose son Sumon is the prime accused in the sensational double murder in the city's Sutrapur area, had to leave the office without attending a joint meeting of the city unit of AL.

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AL won't go for non-cooperation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League yesterday budged from its rigid stance on a non-cooperation movement scheduled to be launched on October 11.

Addressing a joint meeting of the party's city chapter in the capital, AL President Sheikh Hasina announced that she would embark on a cross-country tour after October 10 to revamp the organisation, get ideas about the 'rigging' and plan ways to scale up a movement.

"I'll meet thana committees in Dhaka after October 10 and then go on a countrywide tour," Hasina told several hundred party leaders and workers who gathered at the AL central office premises on the Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday afternoon.

Earlier, the AL had set an October 10 deadline for the Election Commission to cancel the results of the October 1 election. It threatened that it would go on a non-cooperation movement from the

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Awami League President Sheikh Hasina addresses a gathering of party leaders and activists at the AL central office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city yesterday.

Stay on 7 Munshiganj centres

Fresh voting in 83 centres today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Voting in 83 polling stations in 15 constituencies, where polling was suspended due to violence and intimidation on October 1, takes place today amid tight security.

Re-polling in seven centres of the Munshiganj-4 constituency was suspended yesterday following a High Court stay order. A single-member vacation bench of Justice Abu Sayed Ahmad passed the stay order upon a writ petition filed by Awami League candidate Mohammad Mohiuddin Ahmed.

The BNP-led four-party alliance has already secured two-thirds majority in the 300-seat parliament. However, the fate of candidates who were leading by close margins in the 15 constituencies will be decided in the re-polling.

The Election Commission (EC) has sent ballot papers of various colours to check use of ballots already used in the October 1 election, EC sources said. According to the EC statistics, the four-party alliance was leading in 11 seats and Awami League in three. Two 'rebel' candidates of the BNP and the AL were leading in two other seats. Election in the Cox's Bazar-3 constituency was suspended following the death of the alliance nominee two days ahead of the polling and it has been rescheduled for November 1.

Re-polling will be taking place in Bagerhat-5, Barisal-6, Mymensingh-5 and 6, Kishoreganj-1 and 4, Shariatpur-1, Moulvibazar-1 and 2,

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BNP elements take over control of underworld

AL hoodlums driven away from market, bus and launch terminals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Within 24 hours of election results, gangs of hoodlums belonging to the BNP-led four-party alliance have started taking over control of the city's underworld activities by chasing away the Awami League gangsters.

The emerging faces of the underworld have already taken over markets, bus terminals and important parking lots, which generate

crores of taka in black money every day. The AL hoodlums had controlled all these installations over the last five years.

The BNP gangsters first targeted the city's bus terminals. The money generated in these terminals amount to lakhs of taka every day. Hundreds of buses use the city's four major terminals and each has to pay a pre-set toll, ranging between Tk 100 and 200, to the hoodlums on arrival and before departure.

According to transport-sector employees in Mahakhali, Syedabad and Gabtoli, these hoodlums operate with close links with their respective political leaders and enjoy "great support" from police.

On October 2, the Syedabad bus terminal fell into the hands of the Munna Group, one of the most notorious crime rings in the city. Armed men of Munna Group attacked the terminal, exploding crackers, and chased away members of the Kalam Group, which had long enjoyed blessing of the past AL government.

However, local people say that Munna Group may face eviction any time by another gang, known as the

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Kabul bombed

REUTERS, Kabul

The Afghan capital was under attack last night as unidentified planes dropped at least four bombs, witnesses said.

"I could hear the planes and there were at least four loud explosions," said Reuters correspondent Sayed Salahuddin.

"A black plume of smoke is rising. It seemed to be very big," he said.

Shibir captures all CU halls

UNB, Chittagong

Islami Chhatra Shibir activists yesterday captured all dormitories of the Chittagong University without any resistance.

Witnesses said 17 armed Shibir cadres took position at Shah Amanat Hall while 16 at Shahjalal, 20 at Abdur Rab, 30 at Suhurawardy, 8 at Alawal and 9 at F Rahman Halls.

They removed the portraits of Bangabandhu from hall offices and damaged those.

Earlier on Saturday, the Syndicate in an emergency meeting decided to reopen the university halls yesterday and resume classes on Wednesday.

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Special Election Analysis
Prof Rehman Sobhan

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Oct 8		5-39 pm
Oct 9	5-53 am	

Prayer Timings		
Oct 8		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-13	4-30
Maghrib	5-46	5-51
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation