

## FEMA to observe municipal polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Fair Election Monitoring Alliance (FEMA) will monitor all municipal elections to be held on February 12 through its district chapters by deploying mobile teams as well as stationary observers.  
The National Committee of FEMA has decided to observe the polls in all the 213 polling stations of 15 Pourashavas under 13 districts considering the importance of the municipal elections in urban life, said a press release.  
FEMA has already geared up its district committees and necessary materials such as checklists etc. have already been dispatched to them.  
The Election Commission has also been requested to direct the Returning Officers of all the Pourashavas to issue accreditation cards to FEMA volunteers deployed to observe the polls.  
According to the Election Commission, a total of 2,77,908 voters will exercise their right of franchise to elect their representatives to their respective Pourashavas.



Bank Employees Federation accorded a reception to Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman at Patan Maidan in the city yesterday.

## BCS senior scale exams Mar 9-10

BSS, Dhaka  
Examinations for scale promotion of BCS cadre officials will be held on March 9 and 10 instead of February 13 and 14 due to unavoidable reason.  
Admit cards of the examinations have already been sent to the candidates with new schedule of the examinations, an official handout said.  
Candidates who did not get the admit cards yet were asked to collect the duplicate admit cards from Bangladesh Public Service Commission office in Dhaka.

## Enforcement of laws a big challenge, says Moudud

BSS, Dhaka  
Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed said here yesterday that enforcement of laws was "a big challenge" in this sub-continent because of its geo-political reality and socio-economic background.  
People of the subcontinent are soft-hearted and closely interrelated to each other owing to its socio-economic structure and political system that have made it very difficult to enforce laws properly," he said while speaking as the chief guest at a workshop on Case Management and Court Administration for District Courts in the CIRDA auditorium here.  
Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and Centre for Institutional Reform and In-

formal Sector (IRIS) of the University of Maryland jointly sponsored the workshop.  
Chaired by Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury, the workshop was also addressed by the Chairman of Legal and Judicial Capacity Building Project Implementation Committee for Supreme Court, Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim, and the director of the project, Kaz Habibul Awal.  
The World Bank is providing Tk 229 crore to the legal and judicial capacity building project for reforming case management and court administration.  
The main objective of the project is to make the civil judiciary system transparent and ensure quick disposal of cases.  
Of the amount, Tk 115 crore is earmarked for infrastructure de-

velopment, Tk 35 crore for case management and court administration, Tk 32 crore for training and rest of the money will be spent for procuring computer components to pave the ways for establishing people's easy access to the judicial system.  
Charles Nihan, Chief of IRIS, placed a draft report on Case Management and Court Administration.  
Barrister Moudud said reform of the judiciary has become a national issue and that is why we need to bring about a radical and immediate change in it, keeping pace with the demands of the time.  
Quality as well as quick disposal of cases within the existing system of the judiciary cannot be improved without its reforms, he said.  
The law minister in his speech mentioned about the Section 54 of Cr PC and said it is very unfortunate that Section 54 is being widely misused while there is a specific guideline for the application of the section.  
The minister said some times we have seen that the lawmakers themselves were breaking the law, as a result people were losing confidence in the laws day by day.  
In this regard he said reform is very much essential for us to ensure fair and timely justice to make society suitable for living peacefully so that the people could regain their trust in laws.  
Describing some recent burning issues like environment, women's rights, foreign and private investment the minister said judges and officials of the law administration should keep in mind the prospect and development of the people as well as the nation.  
The law minister suggested involving the lawyers side by side the judges in the workshop to help them realise importance of the issue as because without the sincere cooperation of the lawyers the judges are fully helpless in speedy dispensation of laws.  
Moudud said our government believes in good governance, so we are very much eager to bring about changes by reforming the country's existing judicial system as good governance could not be ensured without a modern judiciary.

## JU admission tests from Feb 11

JU CORRESPONDENT  
Tests for admission into first year honours classes for the 2001-2002 session at the Jahangirnagar University (JU) will begin February 11, official sources said.  
Admission tests of 'Ka' Unit (Science Faculty) will be held on February 11 and 12, with tests for 'Electronics and Computer Science', 'Mathematics and Physics' on the first day and 'Environmental Science', 'Statistics', 'Geological Science' and 'Chemistry' on the second day respectively.  
Tests of 'Gha' unit (Life Science Faculty) will be held on February 13 and 14. Tests for 'Botany' and 'Zoology' will be held on the first day and the written tests for 'Biochemistry and Molecular Biology' and 'Pharmacy' on the second day.  
'Kha' unit (Social Science Faculty) tests will be held on February 16 and 17. Tests for 'Business Administration', 'Government and Politics' and 'Urban and Regional Planning' will be held on the first day while 'Economics', 'Anthropology' and 'Geography and Environment' on the second.  
Admission tests of 'Ga' unit (Arts Faculty) will also begin on February 18. Tests for 'International Relations' and 'English' will be held on that day while tests for 'History', 'Philosophy', 'Drama' and 'Dramatics', 'Archaeology' and 'Bangla' will be held on the following day on February 19.  
No tests will be held on February 15 and 17 due to holidays, official sources said.  
Classes and examinations of the current batches will remain suspended during the admission tests, sources added.  
About 44 candidates will vie for a single seat in the admission tests. Total 38,340 candidates are likely to appear in the admission tests for about 800 seats in the 24 departments under four faculties. Besides, some 100 more students will be enrolled under different quotas including quota for university teachers, officers' and employees' ward quota, freedom fighters' ward quota and players' and cultural activists' ward quota.  
Results of the written tests will be published on March 14 in different national dailies and the university website (www.juniv.edu).  
Interviews of candidates will be held on March 21, 23 and 24 while the final result will be published on March 31. Admission from the merit list will take place from April 1 to 11 and from the waiting list from April 20 to 25.  
Classes of this session will begin from May 4 next year, sources added.



Altamira arranges a 21-day fashion show titled "Ballads and Colours of Ekushey" at its gallery yesterday.

## JU classes suspended till Feb 28

JU CORRESPONDENT  
Classes of Jahangirnagar University will remain suspended from today (Saturday) till February 28 due to annual sports, admission tests, Sharashwati Puja, International Mother Language Day and Eid vacation, sources said.  
All classes and examinations scheduled for today and tomorrow will remain suspended for annual sports. Also classes and examinations scheduled for February 11 through 19 will remain suspended due to first year honours admission tests.  
Meanwhile, the university will be closed on February 17 due to Sharashwati Puja and from February 21 to 28 due to International Mother Language Day and Eid-ul-Azha vacation.  
Classes, examinations and official work of the university will resume on March 2, sources added.

## Telecommunications Control Commission formed

BSS, Dhaka  
A five-member Bangladesh Telecommunications Control Commission was formed on January 31 to expand telecommunications management for socio-economic development and ensure telecommunication and Internet service facilities for the maximum number of people at a reasonable cost.

## Govt to nominate Managing body chief of colleges

BSS, Dhaka  
The post of the president of managing committees of the colleges up to 12<sup>th</sup> class including non-government intermediate colleges and schools will be nominated by the government.  
The nomination will be given from among the parliament members of the respective constituencies, deputy commissioners, retired civil servants and noted educationists and social workers of the locality, an official release said here yesterday.

## Effective steps to stop fire incidents at garment factories demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
Karmajibi Nari (KN), an initiative for working women, yesterday brought out a procession in the city demanding effective measures to prevent fire incidents at garment factories.  
Starting from National Museum at 4pm, the rally ended in front of National Press Club after parading some city street. Workers from the city's different garment factories, Savar EPZ and Tongi industrial areas took part in the procession.  
Earlier, KN held a rally in front of the National Museum which was addressed among others by KN president Shirin Akhter, Sharmin Kabir, Fatema Hossain, Shelly, Anjuman, Firoz, Lipi and Shabnam.  
They alleged that both government and garment factory owners failed to take any effective steps to avert accidents caused by fire or ensure a congenial working atmosphere for workers.  
They also alleged that due to the wrong policy taken by the government as well as factory owners, the country's garment sector had to suffer not only financial loss but also loss of manpower.  
The KN leaders said a total of 200 garment workers had been killed while several thousand were injured due to fire at garment factories over the last 11 years.  
They said that the committees formed to investigate the fire incidents had also made recommendations for reduce the danger of fire but nothing could be done so far.  
They demanded a parliamentary decision with regard to averting incidents of fire in garment factories.

## JCD sweeps BIT, Rajshahi polls

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi  
Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) swept the elections of the central students union (CSU) of Bangladesh Institute of Technology (BIT), Rajshahi on Wednesday.  
JCD also got 23 seats out of 36 in the hall unions while Shibir won 13 seats.

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**CORRIGENDUM**  
We regret to note that, a typographical mistake has made in our published advertisement captioned "Career in Pharmaceutical Marketing" in page no. 3 dated 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2002. The corrected line will be "Human Resources Department, GPO Box 2962, Dhaka to reach us on or before 25<sup>th</sup> February 2002".  
**OPSONIN**

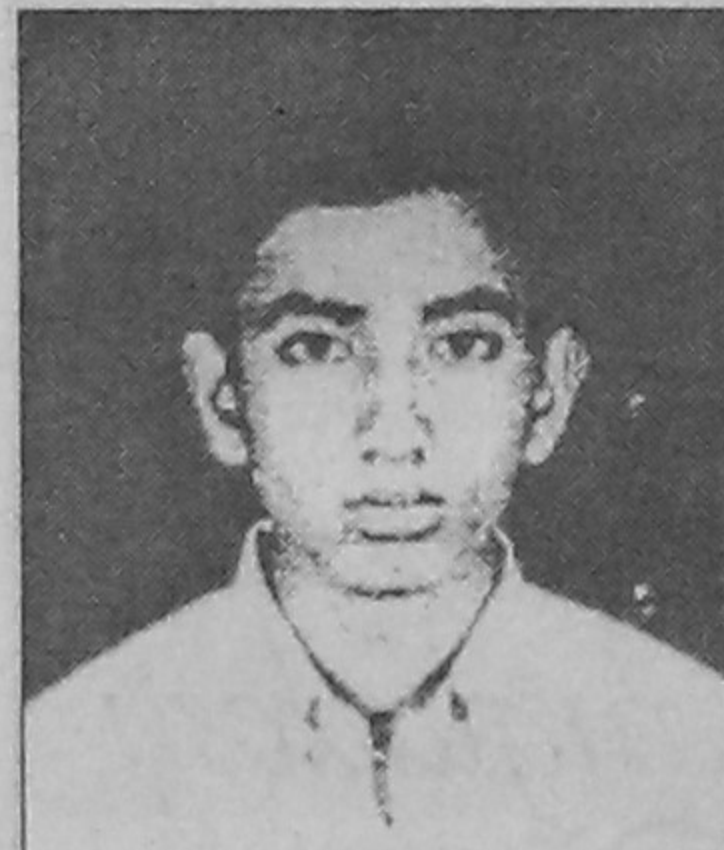
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## Congratulations

**Obtains Ph.D**  
Mohammad Hasan Sarowardy, lecturer of Political Science Department of Government Bangla College, Mirpur has obtained Ph.D from the University of Rajshahi this year, says a press release.  
The thesis of his Ph.D was "People's Participation in Bangladesh Politics: A study of June 1996 Parliamentary Elections" with UGC fellowship.  
Hasan hailed from Mangalpaia village under Kaliganj thana of Jhenidah district.

**Obtains Ph.D**  
Shabbir Hussain, a regular Research Scholar of the Department of Economics, University of Dhaka has successfully completed his Ph.D in Economics last year, says a press release.  
Shabbir is the first Pakistani being awarded Ph.D in Economics from the University of Dhaka. Over the past twenty five years he is the second successful candidate being awarded Ph.D Degree in Economics from Dhaka University. He holds his MSc Degree from the prestigious school, The London School of Economics, University of London(UK) and MBA from Pakistan.  
**Stands First Class First**  
Iftekharul Alam Masud stood first class first in MA final examination 1998 (held in 2001) from the Arabic Department of Rajshahi University, says a press release.  
His thesis in MA was "Hassan b. Thabit and his role in War Poems" while former Chairman of the Arabic Department of RU Prof Abdus Salam was the supervisor.  
Masud also got first class first in BA (Hons) from the Arabic Department.  
He participated a number of language courses at home and abroad and passed with excellent grade.



**Appeal for help**  
A M Shahidullah (Palash), a meritorious student of Aptech Computer Dhanmondi Centre and Dhaka College, has been suffering from blood cancer (Aplastic Aemia), says a press release.  
Doctors have recommended sending him abroad for treatment, but his family is not in a position to afford it.  
Generous people have been requested to come forward to help save his life.  
Contributions can be sent to the following savings account: Foundation for Social Justice, No-01-1263730-01, Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank, Dhaka. Interested persons can also call at 9128354-8 (Aptech Dhanmondi Centre).  
A music concert has been jointly organised by Aptech Computer Education and Wizard Showbiz to raise fund for him on February 14 at Dhanmondi Women Complex.



Karmajibi Nari brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding effective measures to prevent fire incidents in the garments factories.

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