ISSB exam schedule

The ISSB examinations for the candidates of 50th BMA long course began

ISSB has already issued letters regarding the exams to the candidates. If anybody do not receive it two days before the exams, he should contact ISSB. The telephone numbers are 8828735 (direct), and 9870011, Ext.-

The candidates have been asked to bring in the original copies of all

Following are the roll numbers of the candidates whose exams will take place on May 11, 15 and 20.

without consulting the Supreme

President will decide on the recruit-

ment procedure of the assistant

judges, the level of entry to the

long been opposing the idea of

judiciary and instead demanding a

separate Judicial Magistrate

(Posting, Promotion, Grant of

Leave, Discipline, and Conditions of

Services) Rules and Regulations,

and Code of Criminal Procedure

(Amendment) Bill are vet to be

finalised and would be discussed in

chaired yesterday's meeting,

attended, among others, by LGRD

Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuivan.

Information Communication

Technology Minister Moyeen Khan

and secretaries of the ministries

huge price for that," Dr. Kamal said.

intensifying, parliament is not what

people had hoped for a vibrant

forum where people's representa-

tives could be expected to debate

staved away from the last city cor-

poration elections while voter turn-

ging and election of identified terror-

ists, he particularly cited the allega-

tion of the orchestrated defeat of a

candidate in Rajshahi City

Corporation election through rig-

new summary trial law, Dr Kamal

Hossain, who is one of the writers of

the country's constitution, said his

party was scrutinising the law in the

light of the constitution and would

give its reaction about it later. The

law has been dubbed as a black law

at the conference room of Dhaka

Reporter's Unity (DRU) was

attended among others by Gono

Forum leaders Saifuddin Ahmed

Manik, Pankaj Bhattacharya,

Advocate Zahirul Islam, Mofidul

The press conference organised

Replying to a question about the

Dr. Kamal said the opposition

Referring to allegations of rig-

on national politics, he said.

out was also thin.

ging and terrorism.

by the opposition.

Islam and ATM Hakim.

Confrontational politics has been

Industries Minister MK Anwar

The administration cadre has

mation of a unified service for the

The drafts of the Judicial Service

iudicial service.

the next meeting.

The JSC with the advice of the

Hasina

About the just-ended City Corporation elections, Hasina stuffing, threat and intimidation. Moreover, the turnout was 10-15 per cent meaning that some 80 to 90 per cent of city-dwellers rejected the elections under the Khaleda government

The meeting held at the house of AL president of USA chapter Prof Khaled Hassan was attended, among others, by former president of US Awami League Dr Enayetur Rahim, Hasina's political secretary Saber Hossain Chowdhury, general secretary Abdus Salam, ex-MP Shamim Osman, Tanjim Ahmad Sohel Taj MP and Attorney Alamgir.

Farasat Ali, Faruq Ahmad, Nurul Islam Bangalee, Luthful Karim, Piaru Javed, Jashim Mahmud, Chandan Dutta and Khasruzzaman Khasru, among others, addressed the meeting.

Washington Dallas Airport Saturday afternoon, Sheikh Hasina was greeted by leaders and workof Awami League and its front organisations as well as other

"He should not allow ward compursue for money.

by ward commissioners must be scrutinised by an independent body and then money should be released

ing takeover by the new mayor. transfers, some apprehend suspension and some are afraid that hoodlums might start dictating terms.

"What is most bothering in our work is interference by outsiders. We are often unable to say 'no' to top activists of ruling party or some ward commissioners who walk into our offices and dictate terms," another official said.

Out-going Mayor Mohammad Hanif might meet DCC officials

Four children

FROM PAGE 1

Later, the Lalbagh police came and arrested Ramzan.

It was later found that three of the children -- Rumana Akther, 10, Shorna, 8, Mohammad Hossain, 6 -are sisters and brother. Their father Ruhul Amin resides at 133, JN Saha Road, Balur Ghat at Lalbagh. The other girl, Marium Lamia, is the daughter of SM Billal of 148, JN Saha Road. They are students of the Jagot Mohan Government thoolatla

They were abducted from the street in front of their residences at about 8:30pm. Ramzan, a resident of 116, Posta, Lalbagh, came on a rickshaw and offered them a free ride to a nearby shop, where, he said, their parents were waiting for

After taking the kids to the shop, he offered them serbat mixed with intoxicating substances. The kids fell unconscious after taking the

Ramzan later confessed to intoxicating the kids and said he was taking them to an organised gang.

He was engaged by the gang to collect kids from different parts of the city. The Lalbagh police said they are investigating the matter to

The children were later handed over to their parents.

Meantime, Ramzan was produced before the CMM's court yesterday afternoon.

BADC

FROM PAGE 1

While its areas of activities have shrunk substantially, the BADC could not shed its excess staff, who now have no specific work to do. And the crisis has ballooned in

recent time as the corporation has to

divert money from different projects

to pay salary to its staff. For the last two months, it even could not pay its field-level labourers. Giving specific examples, Member Director (Irrigation) of the BADC Abdul Hamid said although 2,044 staff are required to run the corporation's irrigation

programmes, there were almost double the number on the BADC payroll for this purpose. Director (Seed) of BADC Moklesur Rahman said although the number of seed sales centres have been reduced to 100 from over 400, the number of staff remains the

However, the BADC still remains the lone public sector organisation, selling pure seeds for some 11 million farmers in the country.

Having a wide range of

resources including warehouses, research stations and seed processing units, the BADC has already been substantially down-Since 1993, the government spent over Tk 232 crore to say goodbye to 13,000 of its staff in hree phases of a 'golden handshake' programme.

But unless the government finds some more work, it would require further culling.



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia speaks at a presentation meeting on the present activities and future action plan of the

the parliament or the Speaker under

this act may expel any working

It proposes empowerment of the

journalists from the parliament at

House and its Speaker as magis-

trate to summon anyone and issue

warrant of arrest against the offend-

ers under the proposed act.

According to provisions of the bill,

the speaker with the approval of the

House can award punishments

including jail terms and fines to the

of precedence of the state an MP

would enjoy the status of a Supreme

Court judge and he/she would be

entitled to a flag inscribed with the

monogram of the parliament. The

flag would be used in the car and

house of the lawmaker and none

given immunity to the lawmakers as

regards criminal charges against

them and has empowered the

speaker to punish strangers in the

parliament for misconduct as

House or in the meeting of a parlia-

mentary committee about the

President, Speaker, Supreme Court

judges or MPs or a subjudice matter

have also been made punishable

Defamatory comments in the

The proposed legislation has

should disregard it, the bill said.

The bill suggests in the warrant

Hannan, Lilu Mia, Matin Mia, Abdus Shafiq, Ansar Ali and Abdus Salam. The court also ordered them to pay a fine of Tk 10,000 each, in default to The court acquitted accused

arrest of them. The sentence would begin from the date of their arrest or

reserved ward 5, Sheuli Begum of reserved ward 10. Rahela Khatun of reserved ward 28, Mesbah Uddin Khan of word 49, Bina Alam (winner) of ward 23, Abul Hasem of word 43, Farid Uddin of Ward 79, Sabbir Ahmed of ward 59, Shahida Akther of ward 6. Md Farukur Rahman of ward 24. Jovnal Abedin of ward 52. Mahmudul Alam of ward 37, Nabi Ullah Nabi of ward 86, Anwarul haque of ward 82, Sahadat Hossain of ward 83. Imama Hossain of word 20, Shaheen Parveen of reserved ward 19, Ahsan Ullah Aman of ward 66 and Sheikh Bazlur Rahaman of

8 get life term

Samad alias Dipu, Manik Miah, suffer another one year jail.

Mahmudul Hague of the charge. Among the convicts, Abdul

Hannan, Shafique, Ansar Ali, Abdus Salam, and Abdus Samad alias Dipu had been absconding. The court ordered immediate

related offences on the election day.

15 ex-secys ng physical and psychological Mizanur Rahman, Ambassador

torture on them in the name of remand instead of respecting the rule of law," the statement said.

The former secretaries said that although there was a provision of producing the accused arrested under the Section 54 before the magistrate within 24 hours and before the court after police remand, the rule is not being complied with.

The statement alleged that sedition cases were being filed indiscriminately for minor reasons on a whim of the authorities. The statement referred to the

recent arrests of former state minister and renowned economist Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, journalist Shahriar Kabir and Assistant Private Secretary to the former prime minister Bahauddin Nasim. The former secretaries termed

arrest and torture during police remand 'unlawful' and contrary to human rights. Although Dr Mohiuddin Khan

Alamgir was a diabetic, he was not provided with necessary food and medicine, the statement alleged.

It is not only violation of human rights of individual persons but 'creation of bad image' of the country abroad, continued the statement.

Instead of resolving the critical problems facing the country, such incidents would deepen the political conflict and widen the gulf between the government and the civil society

The former secretaries, Abul Mal Abdul Muhit, M Anisuzzman, ATM Shamsul Haq, Khondaker Asaduzzaman, Mohammad Ali, SM Akram, Dr SA Samad, Dr Moshiur Rahman, Ambassador Mostafa Faruq Mohammad, Ambassador

Dulu's killers FROM PAGE 12

family. Police are guarding the house of Dulu at Namo Bhadra.

Talking to this correspondent Dulu's father Nader Ali Sheikh alleged that police took him to Boalia thana and asked him to put his signature on two papers. "They took me to the thana and

told me to sign two papers after taking my statement".

Rajshahi Metropolitan Police Commissioner Enaetullah Khan, when asked, said Dulu was not a member of any political party and there was no political cause behind About the allegation that police

are trying to hide Dulu's political identity, Khan said the question does not arise because he was not a member of any party.

Dulu's body was buried at his family graveyard at Namo Bhadra after Zohr prayer yesterday.

After autopsy, police, took the body and Dulu's family members to their home in Namo Bhadra in police

LGRD and Cooperatives Ziaul Haq Zia and other senior officials.

the city unit of the BNP, and city BNP General Secretary Abdus Salam met the LGRD minister at his

mayor, who is also holding the portfolio of fisheries and livestock is ready to resign. But he did not get any instruction from the prime minister yet.

Although there is no legal bar to holding the two posts simultaneously, Khoka will resign from the cabinet whenever the prime minister asks him to do so, the sources added.

The BNP standing committee member, KM Obaidur Rahman, may be inducted into the cabinet after Khoka's resignation, the sources

Saudi Arabia for Umrah from May 2 to May 6 or 7, as the swearing-in ceremony has been scheduled for

The city unit will accord a grand reception to the new mayor on his return from Saudi Arabia, said sources in the BNP.

They said it is 'mysterious' that a lawmaker from the region, who is also an adviser to the prime minister, is 'silent' over the murder of a leading monk like Gyanojyoti. Cremation of the monk's body in

Mohiudddin Ahmed. Ambassador

Momtaz Hossain, Jagannath Dey

Ctg Buddhists

FROM PAGE 12 incident in a 'misleading way.' They

resented the arrest and remand of

the wife of the monk's brother and

two other Buddhists, saying any

religious Buddhist cannot kill a

and Khan Amir Ali.

an 'unusual hurry' due to reported pressure from some certain quarter indicates an evil design to save the culprits, the committee leaders A written statement was read out

at the press conference by Advocate Rana Dasgupta and it was attended by, among others, Prof Banosree Mohathero, Dr Bikiron Barua, Pranesh Kanti Barua and Dr Jino Byodhi.

Meanwhile, CID is likely to take up investigation into the case in two or three days, sources said.

Cabinet body discusses NGO activities

A meeting of the cabinet committee on reviewing the activities of the NGOs and its rules and regulations was held here yesterday with LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdu Mannan Bhuiyan in the chair.

The meeting discussed different issues including necessary cooperation from the government for smooth running of the activities of the NGOs in the country.

Committee members Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khondokar Mosharraf Hossain, Industries Minister M K Anwar Information Minister Tariqul Islam, Education Minister Dr Osman Farrug and Social Welfare Minister Ali Ahsan Muhammad Muiahid attended the meeting.

Secretaries to the concerned ministries were present.

Hanıt

FROM PAGE 12 When pointed out that his party, the Awami League, did not support his idea of metropolitan government, he said, "The AL government set up a committee for coordination between the Dhaka City Corporation and

other utility agencies.' The outgoing mayor also criticised the mayor-elect for contesting the elections without resigning from the cabinet. "How can the election

be fair if it is contested by a minister?" he asked. Hanif, whose five-year term was extended by another three years due to legal tangles, highlighted his achievements in the last eight vears. "I don't claim grand success. but I had no dearth of sincerity to

serve the city dwellers as their first

ever elected mayor," he told journal-

He also brushed aside allegations of corruption and malpractice during his tenure. He also claimed to have kept the DCC free from political influence and said he treated all commissioners equally irrespective

of their party affiliations. To a question. Hanif said it was he who launched the Janatar Mancha that sponsored public agitation against the BNP govern-

ment in 1996. "I am ready to face trial if I had done anything wrong to fight injustice. Let them try me," he said, referring to legal actions against

former minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir in connection with the controversial Mancha. To another question, he said the DCC now owes TK 80 crore to its

listed contractors and the amount would be higher if other areas of work are taken into consideration.

PM: Reduced charges

and future action on different plans

Omar Faruk made the presentation

munications technology.

Prime Minister Khaleda was

phone charges for STD, NWD and

prime minister digital exchanges

out of 26 under implementation

taking power to know the progress of the ministry and its directorates. Telecommunications Secretary

in the conference room of the minis-The ministry has fixed three key objectives in light of the prime

minister's directive for improvement and expansion of telecommunications services down to rural areas. The objectives are to increase

the number of telephones on a large scale to make it available to the people, expand telecommunications network to all districts, upazilas and remote areas of the country, and apply telecommunications as the main medium of speedy development of information com-In the presentation meeting,

apprised that T&T had already installed 34,000 new phone connections from October 2001 to April Also, the meeting was informed.

ISD calls during both peak and offpeak hours had been reduced by 40 to 50 per cent. According to commitment of the

have been installed in 25 upazilas

compete with public sector. Making BTTB more dynamic and competitive, setting up E-post in all district headquarters and 900 more branch post offices in rural areas and operating automatic letter sorting are the other programmes

Post and Telecommunications

United Kingdom and Australia. Although the EC is constitutionally independent, its secretariat Minister's Office and faces difficulty

operates directly under the Prime at various levels while implementing it plans and programmes, the officials said. The EC has to conduct elections

to two crucial local government bodies - the Upazila Parisad and the Union Parisad and therefore, needs maximum freedom, they said. In the present political context, politicians feel the election is free and fair if their party wins and they

talk of massive rigging when their party loses. "Such views exist because the election authority now depends on the government for its day-to-day functions," said a top election official requesting not to be named.

Thursday's meeting would also

discuss creation of 96 more posts, ranging between assistant secretary and joint secretary, in the commission's organisational structure. Due to non-implementation of a

posts in the EC organogram remain In November 1997, a cabinet

proposed service rule, some 1,400

committee meeting instructed the

the rule within a month. But, the service rule lost way in bureaucratic

During the Awami League rule, Chief Election Commissioner MA Syed wrote to the prime minister to implement its recruitment rule so that the commission didn't have to depend on the officials from other public offices to carry out the huge task of a general election. The then government paid no heed to the CEC letter.

Thursday's meeting would also work out a plan to take effective measures to fill in the vacant

Hartal FROM PAGE 12

during a chase and counter chase between workers of BNP and AL.

Point in the evening, Fazle Hossain Badshah, RNC's mayoral candidate who lost the polls, announced a programme for a 'grand rally' at Shaheb Bazar on May 2 as part of a movement for cancellation of results of the 'blueprint election' and

alleged there had been ballot

US Awami League leaders

Earlier on her arrival at the

Nagar Bhaban

have to be very strict about every expenditure," said the official add-

missioners to come to Nagar Bhaban with self-made projects and "Instead, every project proposed

on priority basis," the official said. At the Nagar Bhaban yesterday, every official this correspondent talked to was apprehensive of changes the DCC would face follow-Some apprehend indiscriminate

Rahman, Md. Shahjahan, Shawkat Ali, AKM Jahangir Hossain, Abu Hena, Nazir Hossain and Abdus Sobhan The proposed law stipulates publication of secret decisions,

FROM PAGE 1

tee's next meeting.

people's right to know.

reports, documents or proceedings of the parliament as punishable offences As the bill defines the persons other than MPs and parliament

secretariat officials as 'strangers'.

devise an effective mechanism to

coordinate the functions of the

service organisations, which he said

Khoka's "belated" realisation for a

metropolitan government and

wished him success. But the outgo-

ing mayor, speaking at a press

conference in the city, blasted his

successor for not supporting him

when he was desperately trying to

political party... and he (Khoka) is

now speaking for a metropolitan

government only after winning the

election," he said, "It's a must for

effective co-ordination among all

service agencies aimed at serving

Hanif raised the demand for a

metropolitan administration two

years after he became the first

elected mayor of Dhaka as he faced

difficulties in ensuring civic ameni-

He also met the then prime

minister Khaleda Zia to share his

response to the move, Hanif said

the government was not co-

plan with her. Finding no positive

"I did not get support from any

Hanif yesterday appreciated

his predecessor had failed.

have his scheme executed.

the city dwellers better."

ties to the residents.

telecommunications ministry yesterday.

bills seeking spl

power, privileges

of lawmakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Parliamentary Standing

Committee on the Private Members

Bills and Resolutions at a meeting

yesterday discussed the much

powers and privileges of the MPs.

talked about the bill seeking special

According to sources, the meet-

ing found some clauses in the

proposed law contradictory to

fundamental rights and asked the

authorities concerned to place

relevant information at the commit-

Ruling party MP Abu Hena

piloted the bill on April 4 that

appears to be a tool to throttle the

freedom of press, denying the

Presiding over by committee Chairman Md. Mozammel Haque,

the meeting was also attended by

Md. Tazul Islam Chowdhury, Abu

Yusuf Khalilur Rahman, Md Khalilur

defined by it.

perative Soon after the Awami League came to office, Mayor Hanif submitted a proposal to the local government ministry seeking to set up a coordination body of different service organisations such as the DCC

WASA, DESA, Titas, BTTB, DMP, Bangladesh Railway, and Rajuk. The proposed body was named as Dhaka Metropolitan Planning and Development Authority (DMPDA). The DMPDA aimed to stop wastage of resources caused by a lack of coordination among the service organisations as well as to ensure smooth services to the city

But the ministry found the DMPDA proposal "impractical" and

nothing moved. Explaining reasons for the nonexecution of the DMPDA, officials said it was a huge task involving amendments of laws that guided the city bodies. Besides, they added, the government was also unwilling to surrender its authority on other service providers, especially the

DMP, to the DCC. Still, there were other obstacles in the way of forming such a government. Every service organisation in

lawmakers opposed any hasty resignation letters to Sheikh Hasina.

heads the ALPP. AL lawmakers would go to parliament for a day before resigning to put on record the repression, torture, corruption and plunder of the

Sources close to the AL president hinted at the possibility that party legislators would join the next session of the parliament, a crucial one for various factors. The first budget of the new

government is likely to be presented before the parliament in its next session. Besides, there is a strong possibility that parliamentary standing committees on various ministries would also be formed in that AL General Secretary Zillur

Rahman confirmed that all the 58

A presidium member of AL, on condition of anonymity, told The

ment session, but whether or not it would join soon is a decision to be taken by the party policy makers after Sheikh Hasina's return from the USA. Priest murdered

of the UPDF, Gyanodarshi Chakma, 24, was gunned down by a group of armed tribals yesterday morning at

Upazila, on April 22. Police later arrested Archimedes Chakma, elder brother of Gyanodarshi, and found one localmade gun, two army uniforms and three rounds of spent cartridges

EC receives From Page 12

of ward 5, Noor Jahan Hague of

The commission has referred these disputes to the election tribu-

nal headed by a Joint District Judge. Magistrates of mobile courts punished 49 persons for polls-

Cry about metro govt the city had a considerable amount set aside for development works which involved hundreds of contractors and workers, they observed.

As the mayor was insisting, the

Awami League government finally

formed a coordination body, which

was nowhere close to the proposed one as regards its authority and responsibility. The body with the local government minister and the mayor being its alternative coordinators miserably failed to deliver. It had only a few meetings and those too were not represented by

all the service providers in the

capital. And, none of the decisions the committee had taken in those few meetings were implemented. With growing conflicts between the DCC and all other relevant bodies, worsened all the more by the tension between the mayor and the minister, the so-called coordination committee virtually ceased to

In fact, the move for a metropolitan government goes back to mid 1980s when a similar proposal was submitted to the local government ministry. But it never saw daylight.

Govt 'welcomes' AL 'willingness' March 20, majority of the party party legislators deposited their

committees were not being constituted and decision regarding women's reserve seats could not be Since its polls debacle on

October 1 last year, AL is keeping off

parliament sessions. The new

parliament already had two ses-

sions covering 66 working days and

the next one is likely to be the budaet session. If the 58 AL lawmakers continue to boycott parliament session for 24 more days, they would lose their seats because of 90-day absence at a stretch

In a dramatic move on March 14, nine-hour joint meeting of AL Central Working Committee (ALCWC) and party MPs decided, in principle, to resign en masse from parliament. Party leaders said the decision was taken in view of removal of Bangabandhu's portrait from public offices and unabated repression on the opposition by the government. But at a meeting of the AL

Parliamentary Party (ALPP) on

move to submit their resignation letters to the Speaker. They, however, agreed that all of them would deposit their resignation letters to party chief Sheikh Hasina, who also On the following day, Hasina said

national economy by the BNP-Jamaat government.

Daily Star vesterday that AL was always willingness to join parlia-

Mohalchhari Upazila. Sources said the murder took place following the killing of Sajib Chakma, general secretary of Janosanghoti Samity, Paanchhari

from his residence.

He was produced before the court and sent to iail

Oath taking

Secretariat office vesterday BNP sources said the DCC

Khoka rescheduled his visit to

Other actions envisaged in the five-year plan for implementation by June 2006 are setting up digital telephone exchange in all districts and upazilas, Internet connections to all districts and upazilas. expansion of modern microwave and terrestrial fibre-optic network in the country, connecting Bangladesh with the information superhighway with submarine cable and creating healthy and competitive environment so that private sector can

undertaken. Finance Minister Saifur Rahman,

Minister Aminul Huq, State Minister for Telecommunications Ahsanul Hug Mollah, Political Secretaries to PM, Haris Chowdhury and Mosaddek Ali, T&T chairman, DG of post office and other senior officials were present in the presentation

on February 16 and will continue up to May, says a press release.

3862 (Army exchange)

The candidates also must know how to swim.

Judicial service

tion of the judicial magistrates of the administration cadre. The administration cadre has proposed that the magistrates initially be put on deputation for five years and then offered

a choice to stay in the judiciary or

leave. However, the committee will discuss the proposal in its next meeting scheduled for May 4, according to Law. Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed who attended the meeting The meeting also finalised seven

out of nine rules and regulations for

appointment, suspension and

discharge of officials related to the

BJS. The two undecided rules are

how to absorb the existing magis-

trates in the new system, and how to handle the existing officials from now on till the new system is put in

"The issues are complicated,"

Moudud said, "but a solution would

As per the draft of the BJS rules,

not be difficult to find."

the posts under the proposed body cannot be decreased without the advice of the Supreme Court. No **Politics frustrating**

they were private property, or the awarding of major projects such as power plants or port facilities in a They wanted to see an end to cheating in examinations and an

end to violence in educational

failed to ensure any of that, he

Expressing concern over the rise of terrorism and influence of black money, he said it was time to take a united stand against all such evils. "Let's start a movement to unite the people as well as forge the unity

groups," he said, urging people to build a united movement against terrorism, corruption, power abuse and anti-people activities. He urged the people to join a mass movement to establish their

right to power as they did during the

Language Movement in 1952 and

the Liberation Movement in 1971.

of all professional and civil society

nation pursuing democracy under a parliamentary system of government should have a non-functioning parliament.

"We fought and earned our

independence for parliamentary

democracy, and we had to pay a

He said it was unfortunate that a

EC: Independence authorities concerned to implement

Addressing a rally at the Zero

demanding fresh election.