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SURPRISE CABINET SHUFFLE

Khosru, Reaz quit

Altaf to head commerce ministry



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a surprise move, Commerce Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury resigned from the cabinet yesterday, with Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury replacing him.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Reaz Rahman also lost his portfolio in yesterday's abrupt cabinet reshuffle that reassigned him as advisor to the same ministry.

President Iajuddin Ahmed accepted resignation of both Khosru and Reaz.

The changes have left State Minister Lutfozzaman Babar alone at the helm of the home ministry.



Expressing his reaction, Altaf said, "I have not been removed, but promoted."

Without explaining why he quit

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Khosru rules out leaving BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, who resigned as commerce minister yesterday citing 'personal reasons', has ruled out leaving the BNP and joining former president Badruddoza Chowdhury's alternative political stream.

He also rejected that his resignation was distantly linked to the main opposition Awami League's much-

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Altaf terms it a promotion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

New Commerce Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury yesterday termed his portfolio change as a promotion, hours after Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury was replaced by the former home minister in a third shake-up of the cabinet.

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Reshuffle draws mixed reaction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The sudden cabinet reshuffle has drawn mixed response from the ruling BNP.

Several policymakers and senior leaders of the party said axing of some ministers and state ministers

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PHOTO COURTESY: MUKTUDDHO JADUGHAR

The day we took up arms for independence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

From this day there was no other way, but war. The war that changed the course of Bangladesh's history forever. From today there was no other mind but revenge for the genocide. From today, there

was no other aspiration but freedom, freedom from Pakistani occupation.

The mantra that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman spelled in his call for independence 33 years ago spirited a nation to defy one of

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INTERNET TELEPHONY

Regulators yet to set licensing rule

STAR REPORT

The state telecoms regulator has failed to set modalities for a licensing regime for the internet telephony even three months into the process due to disagreement between the government and stakeholders over routing the internet traffic.

The government wants a single gateway to keep tabs on traffic and ensure that all the revenues generated from calls and value added tax (VAT) on them go to the public coffers. The telecoms stakeholders however want multiple gateways to derive all the benefits the VoIP has on offer, sources said.

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JS session to run till May 6

Awami League smells conspiracy in extension

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The current parliament session is set to become one of the longest-running sessions as the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) yesterday decided to drag it up to May 6 with a 30-day break, drawing flak from the main opposition.

A meeting of the BAC with Speaker Jamir Uddin Siran in the

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Guerrilla women recount valour

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

They look like any other ordinary rural women living in want and social deprivation. But they proudly nourish memories of valour of a war they fought to win freedom for the country in 1971.

Some of the valiant women who never had the chance to go to school fought with firearms as guerrilla fighters. Some risked their lives to

work as informers of freedom fighters. Some sheltered the warriors, provided them with food and attended to the injured in hospitals. Many were brutally tortured at the camps of Pakistani occupation forces.

A few of them -- simple, yet extraordinary -- shared their memories with The Daily Star. They say they went to war not for personal

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PHOTO: STAR

Left to right: Valiant freedom fighters Tahera Begum, Sakina Begum, Kanchanmala, Urmila Roy lament their ignominious life in want and social deprivation 33 years after independence.

Daily Star



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