

CCC POLLS

# Alliance partners skip meet with Mir Nasir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

All three partners of the BNP-led ruling alliance on Tuesday night boycotted a meeting with BNP candidate in Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) polls Mir Mohammad Nasiruddin following a

conflict within the alliance. Sources said the leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh Jatiya Party and Islami Oikya Jote abstained from joining the meeting to protest BNP's unwillingness to fulfill its partners' demands for fielding ward commissioner candidates.

Mir Nasir convened the meeting at his Enesel Mansion office to discuss the sharing of nominations for ward commissioner posts among the alliance partners. Sources said the partners were disappointed on Saturday when

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

## Students protest madrasa's no to Independence Day programme

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Several hundred students of a madrasa brought out a procession on Tuesday protesting the madrasa authorities' unwillingness to organise Independence Day programmes on the madrasa premises.

The madrasa authorities had to close the madrasa on Tuesday amidst high tension when the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## Prime Minister Khaleda Zia inaugurates Apollo Hospital at Bashundhara in the capital yesterday.



PHOTO: PID

## Kibria family to display signature banners today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Family members of Shah AMS Kibria will display signature banners collected from different parts of the country and abroad in front of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban today to

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

## Mobile court to check travel agents' licences

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a bid to prevent illegal manpower exports by fake travel agents, the government has decided to form a mobile court headed by a first class magistrate who will check the licences of travel agents. An inter-ministerial meeting at the civil aviation ministry yesterday decided that the mobile court will also comprise members from the civil aviation and home ministries

and representatives of the Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh (Atab). The meeting also discussed amending the existing civil aviation act to make provision for depositing a certain amount of money against each travel agent while issuing a licence. Currently the recruiting agents have to deposit Tk 15 lakh to the government for getting a new

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## Kazakh cops hold 4 Bangladeshis

UNB, Dhaka

Four Bangladeshi citizens were detained yesterday at Aktobe in Kazakhstan while trying to illegally cross the territory, police in Kazakhstan said.

They tried to pass through Kazakhstan to the Russian

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## Annan cleared over oil-for-food scam

Report questions his handling of the affair

AGENCIES, United Nations

Questions raised by a probe of the UN oil-for-food programme for Iraq may have given critics more ammunition against the world body, even

though Secretary-General Kofi Annan was cleared of corrupt practices.

A report on Tuesday from an

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

## India to buy 12 Mirage aircraft

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Close on the heels of the US offer to sell F-16 and F-18 warplanes to India, a key committee of the Indian cabinet on Tuesday decided to purchase 12 French Mirage-2000-V aircraft, capable of carrying nukes, from Qatar.

A meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security chaired by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh also approved a major defence shopping list.

The list includes the purchase of 11 Dornier aircraft from Germany, induction of nine patrol vessels for

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

## Rejoinder

Masud Miah, special superintendent of CID police in Dhaka, claimed in a rejoinder to The Daily Star that the allegations published against him on March 21 in a news

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Prayer Timing		
March 31		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-20
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-20	6-25
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

