Home asks law ministry to speed up penning law against terrorism STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In the wake of the continued bomb attacks by Islamist militants, the home ministry in a letter yesterday urged the law ministry to speed up the drafting of a law to contain terrorism.

The home ministry proposed the anti-terrorism legislation in line with similar laws that are in force in different countries including the USA, UK, Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan and India. The proposal pointed out the changed aspects of terrorist activities in the country and underlined the necessity of crafting a new law providing for stringent punishments including the capital one for such crimes.

The home ministry prepared the proposal in consultation with a panel of jurists and sent it to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The PMO in turn forwarded the proposal to the law ministry last July to pen the law. But four months on, the home ministry is yet to hear anything from the law ministry about it, home ministry sources said.

MEETING WITH HASINA Howells for free polls, action against bombing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The visiting UK Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Dr Kim Howells yesterday made a plea for action against bomb attacks in Bangladesh

There should not be any bomb attacks or 'terrorist activities' in Bangladesh, the British minister told journalists as he emerged from a meet ing with the Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence in the capital.

Howells said they want a free, fair and neutral election in Bangladesh so that it can emerge as a strong country, both in terms of economy and democracy. The whole world will be watching the election carefully, he added. SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Bishwa Ijtema

MAKING FRESH VOTER LIST EC high-ups in dark as 3 lakh staff getting job

SHAKHAWAT LITON

With the disagreement over preparing a fresh voter list for the next parliamentary election remaining in the Election Commission (EC), the EC secretariat is set to complete recruitquestionable ing around three lakh enumerators and other officials for the work by next tion commissioners) suggested that the

The two election commissioners, M Munsef Ali and AK Mohammad Ali, have both expressed their ignorance about the ongoing task for preparing a fresh voter list and questioned the legality of these appointments.

voter list. So, I can't say anything what is happening," he said. Talking to The Daily Star yesterday,

a fresh one

On the basis of a unilateral decision Election Commissioner Mohammad Ali said, "The appointments are being of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) made as per the decision of the chief MA Aziz, the EC secretariat has also election commissioner rather than the planned to start training programmes for the recruited officials at the begindecision of the Election Commission. ningofDecember So, the legality of the appointment is

"We are determined to complete Munsef Ali said they (the two electhe recruitment by November 20 and have planned to complete the training appointments can be made for revising programmes by December," a senior the existing voter list, not for preparing official at the EC secretariat told The Daily Star.

The EC secretariat has started the "The Election Commission did not take any decision on preparing a fresh process of recruiting about 2.4 lakh enumerators, 70,000 supervisors, 6,235 assistant registration SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

ATTACK ON JUDGE Sylhet bomber tight-lipped

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Sylhet kotwali police could not extract any significant information from the suspected JMB cadre Obayed Prodhania during the 4-day remand, which ended yesterday

He had been arrested Thursday evening from his village Bishnupur under Chandpur police station in connection with the bomb attack on Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal Judge Biplob Goswami and was taken to Sylhet on Friday. After the remand he was sent to a

detention cell by the magistrate in the afternoon He may be sent to the capital now

for interrogation by the Joint Interrogation Cell (JIC), a police official said.

During the remand he said he had no link with the IMB, and claimed that not know h e d i d SEE PAGE 15 COL 3



Visiting UK Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Kim Howells meets Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office vesterday

Charmonai Pir terms Jamaat

Fazlul Karim yesterday termed Jamaate-Islami as the "enemy of Islam," the cause of Islam

He was speaking at a meeting organised by the Shyamnagar unit of the ISA in Sathkhira.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

formed under the Public Procurement Regulations of 2003 by the Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) of the Implementation, Monitoring, has showed another example of and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the complete indifference by not comply government, on October 18 disqualiing with a governmentfied the non-compliant bidder --Harbin -- on the ground that did not

CHANDPUR POWER PROJECT

CMEC, China -- within four weeks. The Panel, comprising retired law secretary Md Asaduzzaman, ex-chief engineer of the PDB CJ Kabir and former vice president of the FBCCI Abul Qasem Haider, had grilled the PDB for grossly violating all rules and regulations in the tender. It asked the PDB to immediately start technical and commercial negotiation with the available lowest and technically SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

An eviction squad of Dhaka City Corporation demolishes a number of illegal structures adjacent to the Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

BIRD FLU **China confirms 3 human cases**

Boykilled by BSF in Kurigram BDNEWS, Kurigram

PDB ignores review enemy of Islam OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira panel's directive Islami Shashantantra Andolon (ISA) Ameer Charmonai Pir Maulana Syed **STAFF CORRESPONDENT** saying that it does not do anything for When the country starves for power, the Power Development Board (PDB)

The Charmonai Pir also blamed

amaat, key partner of the four-party coalition, for the recent countrywide bomb blasts, referring to the recovery of bomb materials from the possession t h e

commissioned Review Panel's directive for concluding contract with the submit any Technical Proposal at the successful bidder for a 150-megawatt Second Stage of the Two-Stage Chandpur Power Project within the Bidding Process and instructed the stipulated time. PDB to sign contract with the techni-The independent Review Panel, cally compliant lowest bidder --

from Jan 26

BDNEWS, Gazipur

The three-day Bishwa Ijtema, the second largest congregation of the Muslim community after Hajj, will begin on January 27 on the bank of the Turag river in Tongi.

It is expected that about four million Muslim devotees, from home and abroad, will attended the Ijtema.

The Bishwa Iitema has started in Bangladesh since 1967.

province of Hunan and one in the eastern province of Anhui, the official China reported its first three con-Xinhua News Agency reported. Both firmed human cases of bird flu areas reported outbreaks in poultry vesteray as the government raced to in the past month. vaccinate billions of chickens, ducks

AP, Beijing

Experts are especially worried and other poultry in a massive effort to about the potential for bird flu to stop the spread of the virus. The World spread and mutate in China because Health Organisation said the victims of its vast poultry flocks and their contracted the virulent H5N1 strain of close contact with people. It also is a bird flu, and two of them died. major migration route for wild fowl. The Health Ministry confirmed which experts two human cases in the central SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

(BSF) shot dead a Bangladeshi boy on Roumari border in Kurigram in the afternoon yesterday.

The Indian Border Security Forces

The deceased was identified as Asir Uddin (14).

BDR and local sources said Asir Uddin of the Algarchar village of Roumari, was collecting grass at a field near zero line close to the International Border Pillar no. 171 and 127.

At one stage, a BSF patrol team of Baldangiri camp fired on him without any provocation, leaving him dead on the spot. Later, BSF members took away the body.

Though BDR told BSF to hold a flag meeting in this regard and hand over the body to them, BSF did not respond.

Jalil, Maya face wrath of Hanif supporters

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Awami League (AL) General Secretary Abdul Jalil and City Secretary Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya came under fire of City President Mohammad Hanif's followers vesterday.

A chaotic situation prevailed at the AL central office over the presidency of a preparatory meeting of City AI organised as part of the preparation to hold a 14-party grand rally on November 22.

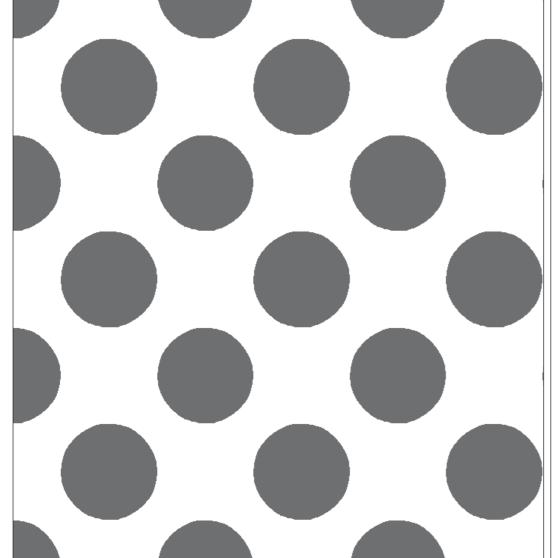
Followers of Hanif boycotted the meeting and held a rally and brought out a procession. They also chanted slogans against Jalil and Maya.

Witnesses said leaders and activists following Hanif were outraged when the meeting began SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Prayer Timing

November 17		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-05	5-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-21	5-24
Esha	7-00	7-30
Source: Islamic Foundation		





EDITOR: MAHFUZ ANAM-Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd., 229 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd. 52 Motifineel C.A., Dhaka-1205, 8124964, 8124955, 8124966, Fax: 8125155, 8124964, 8124955, 8124955, 8125155, 8124964, 8124956, 81