

Iajuddin fit for light work, short meeting

S'pore doctor said

UNB, Dhaka

Confusion has been created over "misquoting" the information given by the specialist physician about President Iajuddin Ahmed's post-operative health condition, a Bangabhaban release said yesterday, asserting that he still needs rest.

Citing the recommendations made by Dr Morris Chu, consultant physician of Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore, the Bangabhaban release clarified that it is recommended that the president should not return to his official work and office for 8 weeks from the date of coronary artery bypass surgery (from May 26).

"After his return to Dhaka, he should be allowed to rest for 1-2 weeks to improve his general and cardiovascular health. During the period, he may be permitted some light work and short meetings."

Tax ombudsman takes office in couple of days

Karim made new NBR chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first tax ombudsman of the country, Khairuzzaman Chowdhury, is likely to take office in a couple of days.

The government has appointed Chowdhury for a four-year term as the tax ombudsman to oversee the taxpayers' accounts.

Chowdhury spent his last day at office yesterday as the chairman of National Board of Revenue (NBR).

The tax ombudsman will have the same privileges and status of a High Court judge.

The appointment letter of the ombudsman stated that the role of the tax ombudsman would be to help curb corruption of tax officials.

Edn to suffer as teachers plan tougher agitation

SURANJITH DEABNATH

Uncertainty looms large over the country's primary, secondary and higher secondary education as both non-government and government teachers are going for tough programmes including indefinite strike for better pay while the budget approved for fiscal year 2006-07 has not allocated the fund needed for meeting the demand.

The primary teachers, who earlier postponed their work

abstention and hunger strike, announced resuming tough agitation if their demands are not met by July 31 while teachers of non-government schools, colleges and madrasas will go on indefinite strike from the first and second week of this month.

Nearly eight lakh teachers and employees under 40 associations have already observed separate action programmes like hunger strike, work abstention, rallies and demonstrations for realisation of

their demands.

Tk 750 crore would be required to meet the teachers' demands -- Tk 400 crore to nationalise non-government primary teachers' jobs, 250 crore to provide 100 per cent government salary for teachers of non-government high schools and colleges, 65 crore for elimination of wage discrimination of the government primary school teachers, 40 crore to nationalise the community primary

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German goalkeeper Jens Lehmann dives in vain as the curling shot of Italian defender Fabio Grosso (not picture) kisses the back of the net during extra time of the semifinal match.

Italy break hosts' hearts

Late 2 goals take Azzuri to final

AFP, Dortmund

Italy scored two sensational late goals in extra-time to book their place in the World Cup final for the first time in 12 years with their 2-0 win crushing the dreams of host nation Germany early today.

Normal time had failed to produce a goal in the semi-final clash and it looked like penalties were on the cards deep into extra-time. But Italian defender Fabio Grosso scored deep into extra-time with a brilliant curling effort and substitute Alessandro Del Piero added a second to break Germany's hearts.

Italy, who won the last of their

three titles in 1982 beating West Germany 3-1, will face either France or Portugal in Sunday's final at Berlin's Olympic Stadium.

For Germany a third place play-off in Stuttgart on Saturday will be little consolation.

Germany had never lost in Dortmund but Italy produced their best display of the tournament to reach the final and give the football fans back home something to celebrate in the wake of Serie A's

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MACHINE-READABLE PASSPORT SCHEME

Home ministry seeks quick nod of purchase body

German firm selected thru 'restricted' tender

SHARIER KHAN

The home ministry is seeking hurried approval of the cabinet purchase committee for a Tk 1,561 crore (1,73.54 million euro) 'programme' on machine-readable passport, visa and national identity (ID) card under the revenue budget.

The finance ministry has not cleared this scheme and the current budget has no allocation of funds for it. But the home ministry has selected German company Giesecke and Devrient (G&D) GmbH for the job through a 'restricted' tender. If the G&D is awarded contract for it, the company would implement it within five years.

Sources said the government has not yet framed any law to make

national ID cards mandatory for every citizen, neither has it established the National Registration Department (NRD), which is supposed to be the implementing authority of the scheme. The NRD is also supposed to issue the ID cards to the citizens.

"The reason for such a hurry in awarding contract for the scheme to G&D ahead of the next general election is to ensure that the business lobby behind the company gets its commission," said a highly placed source. One of the top young leaders of the 'alternative centre of power' of the government is pushing the project contract for it.

Sources pointed out that the home ministry plans to have the finance ministry clear the scheme upon its approval by the purchase

committee. Home ministry Additional Secretary Mohammad Mohsin told The Daily Star that this is "not a project but a programme." Asked whether the home ministry processed the project proposal through the planning or finance ministry as is typical for any other government project, he said this programme would be funded under the revenue budget.

The government initiated the project for machine readable passport a few years ago. The home ministry later tagged the national ID card issue with it although the two schemes are quite different from each other.

On April 24, 2004, the home ministry formed a 13-member committee including representatives of the BUET and headed by its

additional secretary. This committee was assigned to determine how the government could introduce machine readable passport, visa and national ID card. The committee in its report recommended setting up of the NRD and restructuring of the immigration and passport department, and suggested how these should deal with the new passport, visa and ID card.

The home ministry accordingly submitted a proposal to the cabinet committee on public administration reforms and good governance on September 25, 2004. The cabinet body recommended it in principle and the prime minister approved it on October 16, 2004.

As per the PM's approval, in the first phase of the project, 15 lakh new applicants and 35 lakh old

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Stray violence marks hartal

STAR REPORT

The countrywide dawn-to-dusk hartal enforced yesterday by the Awami League (AL)-led 14-party opposition alliance passed off quite peacefully in the capital and elsewhere in the country, except for some stray incidents of police attacks on pro-hartal pickets and processions.

Around 50 persons were injured during clashes between the hartal supporters and law enforcers -telling BNP activists, in some cases-at different places of the country while police picked up around 27 opposition activists in the capital.

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A 14-party female activist lashes out at the police surrounding her as she tries to resist arrest during hartal hours at Russell Square in the capital yesterday.

GARMENT WORKERS' UNREST

50 Savar units shut after fresh clashes

JU CORRESPONDENT

At least 50 garment factories in Savar were closed yesterday following clashes between the workers and the law enforcers that left at least 40 people injured.

Some two thousand workers of IRIS Fashion Ltd (IFL) gathered on the factory premises early in the morning following a rumour that one of their co-workers had been clubbed to death and dumped inside the factory.

They were demanding immediate information about their 'missing' colleague and punishment to those who attacked the workers at IFL on Sunday night.

The factory owners and the law enforcers by this time did not act to scotch the rumour.

The workers who have already been demonstrating for better conditions including a raise in their salaries for the last few days got even more furious at the

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EC mulls changes in electoral laws

Political parties' registration may be made mandatory; Polls expenditure ceiling to double

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The Election Commission (EC) is planning to make registration of political parties mandatory, a hitherto optional provision in electoral laws, which was introduced five years ago and has been conveniently ignored so far by the major political parties.

According to sources the EC is also planning to increase the ceiling on a candidate's election expenditure to Tk 10 lakh from the previous ceiling of Tk 5 lakh.

In addition, it is mulling over introduction of tougher punishment including imprisonment for

six months and fine of Tk 50,000 for irregularities in electoral campaigns, and reintroduction of the EC's power to cancel candidatures, the sources said.

Directed by the EC, officials of its secretariat started preparing a draft of the proposals, but the commission has yet to decide when it will submit the reform proposals to the government, as it is seemingly buckling under the burden of the task of updating the voter list, the sources added.

"We don't know when the Election Commission will send the proposals to the government," a

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VOTER LIST

New EC secy sceptic about updating method

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The newly appointed Secretary to the Election Commission (EC) Secretariat Abdur Rashid Sarkar, who was appointed to the post yesterday by the establishment ministry, expressed his doubt about the success of the EC's current method of updating the voter list soon after his posting.

"I can say in light of my experiences that anybody may show his willingness to get enlisted on the voter list. But it is difficult to think that people will go to the election offices to delete names from the list," Rashid Sarkar, who was the secretary to the Ministry Of Food And Disaster Management, told The Daily Star yesterday.

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বিস্মিল্লাহির রাহমানির রাহিম

মতিঝিলের সবচেয়ে কাছের আবাসিক প্রকল্প

গ্রীন মডেল টাউন

আপনিও থাকুন আমাদের সাথে...

-জাহিদ হাসান-মো দম্পতি

আমিন মোহাম্মদ গ্রুপ

বিকাশিত ভান্ডার

আমিন মোহাম্মদ ল্যান্ডস ডেভেলপমেন্ট লিঃ

প্লট # ১০০, ১০১, ১০২, ১০৩, ১০৪, ১০৫, ১০৬, ১০৭, ১০৮, ১০৯, ১১০, ১১১, ১১২, ১১৩, ১১৪, ১১৫, ১১৬, ১১৭, ১১৮, ১১৯, ১২০, ১২১, ১২২, ১২৩, ১২৪, ১২৫, ১২৬, ১২৭, ১২৮, ১২৯, ১৩০, ১৩১, ১৩২, ১৩৩, ১৩৪, ১৩৫, ১৩৬, ১৩৭, ১৩৮, ১৩৯, ১৪০, ১৪১, ১৪২, ১৪৩, ১৪৪, ১৪৫, ১৪৬, ১৪৭, ১৪৮, ১৪৯, ১৫০, ১৫১, ১৫২, ১৫৩, ১৫৪, ১৫৫, ১৫৬, ১৫৭, ১৫৮, ১৫৯, ১৬০, ১৬১, ১৬২, ১৬৩, ১৬৪, ১৬৫, ১৬৬, ১৬৭, ১৬৮, ১৬৯, ১৭০, ১৭১, ১৭২, ১৭৩, ১৭৪, ১৭৫, ১৭৬, ১৭৭, ১৭৮, ১৭৯, ১৮০, ১৮১, ১৮২, ১৮৩, ১৮৪, ১৮৫, ১৮৬, ১৮৭, ১৮৮, ১৮৯, ১৯০, ১৯১, ১৯২, ১৯৩, ১৯৪, ১৯৫, ১৯৬, ১৯৭, ১৯৮, ১৯৯, ২০০, ২০১, ২০২, ২০৩, ২০৪, ২০৫, ২০৬, ২০৭, ২০৮, ২০৯, ২১০, ২১১, ২১২, ২১৩, ২১৪, ২১৫, ২১৬, ২১৭, ২১৮, ২১৯, ২২০, ২২১, ২২২, ২২৩, ২২৪, ২২৫, ২২৬, ২২৭, ২২৮, ২২৯, ২৩০, ২৩১, ২৩২, ২৩৩, ২৩৪, ২৩৫, ২৩৬, ২৩৭, ২৩৮, ২৩৯, ২৪০, ২৪১, ২৪২, ২৪৩, ২৪৪, ২৪৫, ২৪৬, ২৪৭, ২৪৮, ২৪৯, ২৫০, ২৫১, ২৫২, ২৫৩, ২৫৪, ২৫৫, ২৫৬, ২৫৭, ২৫৮, ২৫৯, ২৬০, ২৬১, ২৬২, ২৬৩, ২৬৪, ২৬৫, ২৬৬, ২৬৭, ২৬৮, ২৬৯, ২৭০, ২৭১, ২৭২, ২৭৩, ২৭৪, ২৭৫, ২৭৬, ২৭৭, ২৭৮, ২৭৯, ২৮০, ২৮১, ২৮২, ২৮৩, ২৮৪, ২৮৫, ২৮৬, ২৮৭, ২৮৮, ২৮৯, ২৯০, ২৯১, ২৯২, ২৯৩, ২৯৪, ২৯৫, ২৯৬, ২৯৭, ২৯৮, ২৯৯, ৩০০, ৩০১, ৩০২, ৩০৩, ৩০৪, ৩০৫, ৩০৬, ৩০৭, ৩০৮, ৩০৯, ৩১০, ৩১১, ৩১২, ৩১৩, ৩১৪, ৩১৫, ৩১৬, ৩১৭, ৩১৮, ৩১৯, ৩২০, ৩২১, ৩২২, ৩২৩, ৩২৪, ৩২৫, ৩২৬, ৩২৭, ৩২৮, ৩২৯, ৩৩০, ৩৩১, ৩৩২, ৩৩৩, ৩৩৪, ৩৩৫, ৩৩৬, ৩৩৭, ৩৩৮, ৩৩৯, ৩৪০, ৩৪১, ৩৪২, ৩৪৩, ৩৪৪, ৩৪৫, ৩৪৬, ৩৪৭, ৩৪৮, ৩৪৯, ৩৫০, ৩৫১, ৩৫২, ৩৫৩, ৩৫৪, ৩৫৫, ৩৫৬, ৩৫৭, ৩৫৮, ৩৫৯, ৩৬০, ৩৬১, ৩৬২, ৩৬৩, ৩৬৪, ৩৬৫, ৩৬৬, ৩৬৭, ৩৬৮, ৩৬৯, ৩৭০, ৩৭১, ৩৭২, ৩৭৩, ৩৭৪, ৩৭৫, ৩৭৬, ৩৭৭, ৩৭৮, ৩৭৯, ৩৮০, ৩৮১, ৩৮২, ৩৮৩, ৩৮৪, ৩৮৫, ৩৮৬, ৩৮৭, ৩৮৮, ৩৮৯, ৩৯০, ৩৯১, ৩৯২, ৩৯৩, ৩৯৪, ৩৯৫, ৩৯৬, ৩৯৭, ৩৯৮, ৩৯৯, ৪০০, ৪০১, ৪০২, ৪০৩, ৪০৪, ৪০৫, ৪০৬, ৪০৭, ৪০৮, ৪০৯, ৪১০, ৪১১, ৪১২, ৪১৩, ৪১৪, ৪১৫, ৪১৬, ৪১৭, ৪১৮, ৪১৯, ৪২০, ৪২১, ৪২২, ৪২৩, ৪২৪, ৪২৫, ৪২৬, ৪২৭, ৪২৮, ৪২৯, ৪৩০, ৪৩১, ৪৩২, ৪৩৩, ৪৩৪, ৪৩৫, ৪৩৬, ৪৩৭, ৪৩৮, ৪৩৯, ৪৪০, ৪৪১, ৪৪২, ৪৪৩, ৪৪৪, ৪৪৫, ৪৪৬, ৪৪৭, ৪৪৮, ৪৪৯, ৪৫০, ৪৫১, ৪৫২, ৪৫৩, ৪৫৪, ৪৫৫, ৪৫৬, ৪৫৭, ৪৫৮, ৪৫৯, ৪৬০, ৪৬১, ৪৬২, ৪৬৩, ৪৬৪, ৪৬৫, ৪৬৬, ৪৬৭, ৪৬৮, ৪৬৯, ৪৭০, ৪৭১, ৪৭২, ৪৭৩, ৪৭৪, ৪৭৫, ৪৭৬, ৪৭৭, ৪৭৮, ৪৭৯, ৪৮০, ৪৮১, ৪৮২, ৪৮৩, ৪৮৪, ৪৮৫, ৪৮৬, ৪৮৭, ৪৮৮, ৪৮৯, ৪৯০, ৪৯১, ৪৯২, ৪৯৩, ৪৯৪, ৪৯৫, ৪৯৬, ৪৯৭, ৪৯৮, ৪৯৯, ৫০০, ৫০১, ৫০২, ৫০৩, ৫০৪, ৫০৫, ৫০৬, ৫০৭, ৫০৮, ৫০৯, ৫১০, ৫১১, ৫১২, ৫১৩, ৫১৪, ৫১৫, ৫১৬, ৫১৭, ৫১৮, ৫১৯, ৫২০, ৫২১, ৫২২, ৫২৩, ৫২৪, ৫২৫, ৫২৬, ৫২৭, ৫২৮, ৫২৯, ৫৩০, ৫৩১, ৫৩২, ৫৩৩, ৫৩৪, ৫৩৫, ৫৩৬, ৫৩৭, ৫৩৮, ৫৩৯, ৫৪০, ৫৪১, ৫৪২, ৫৪৩, ৫৪৪, ৫৪৫, ৫৪৬, ৫৪৭, ৫৪৮, ৫৪৯, ৫৫০, ৫৫১, ৫৫২, ৫৫৩, ৫৫৪, ৫৫৫, ৫৫৬, ৫৫৭, ৫৫৮, ৫৫৯, ৫৬০, ৫৬১, ৫৬২, ৫৬৩, ৫৬৪, ৫৬৫, ৫৬৬, ৫৬৭, ৫৬৮, ৫৬৯, ৫৭০, ৫৭১, ৫৭২, ৫৭৩, ৫৭৪, ৫৭৫, ৫৭৬, ৫৭৭, ৫৭৮, ৫৭৯, ৫৮০, ৫৮১, ৫৮২, ৫৮৩, ৫৮৪, ৫৮৫, ৫৮৬, ৫৮৭, ৫৮৮, ৫৮৯, ৫৯০, ৫৯১, ৫৯২, ৫৯৩, ৫৯৪, ৫৯৫, ৫৯৬, ৫৯৭, ৫৯৮, ৫৯৯, ৬০০, ৬০১, ৬০২, ৬০৩, ৬০৪, ৬০৫, ৬০৬, ৬০৭, ৬০৮, ৬০৯, ৬১০, ৬১১, ৬১২, ৬১৩, ৬১৪, ৬১৫, ৬১৬, ৬১৭, ৬১৮, ৬১৯, ৬২০, ৬২১, ৬২২, ৬২৩, ৬২৪, ৬২৫, ৬২৬, ৬২৭, ৬২৮, ৬২৯, ৬৩০, ৬৩১, ৬৩২, ৬৩৩, ৬৩৪, ৬৩৫, ৬৩৬, ৬৩৭, ৬৩৮, ৬৩৯, ৬৪০, ৬৪১, ৬৪২, ৬৪৩, ৬৪৪, ৬৪৫, ৬৪৬, ৬৪৭, ৬৪৮, ৬৪৯, ৬৫০, ৬৫১, ৬৫২, ৬৫৩, ৬৫৪, ৬৫৫, ৬৫৬, ৬৫৭, ৬৫৮, ৬৫৯, ৬৬০, ৬৬১, ৬৬২, ৬৬৩, ৬৬৪, ৬৬৫, ৬৬৬, ৬৬৭, ৬৬৮, ৬৬৯, ৬৭০, ৬৭১, ৬৭২, ৬৭৩, ৬৭৪, ৬৭৫, ৬৭৬, ৬৭৭, ৬৭৮, ৬৭৯, ৬৮০, ৬৮১, ৬৮২, ৬৮৩, ৬৮৪, ৬৮৫, ৬৮৬, ৬৮৭, ৬৮৮, ৬৮৯, ৬৯০, ৬৯১, ৬৯২, ৬৯৩, ৬৯৪, ৬৯৫, ৬৯৬, ৬৯৭, ৬৯৮, ৬৯৯, ৭০০, ৭০১, ৭০২, ৭০৩, ৭০৪, ৭০৫, ৭০৬, ৭০৭, ৭০৮, ৭০৯, ৭১০, ৭১১, ৭১২, ৭১৩, ৭১৪, ৭১৫, ৭১৬, ৭১৭, ৭১৮, ৭১৯, ৭২০, ৭২১, ৭২২, ৭২৩, ৭২৪, ৭২৫, ৭২৬, ৭২৭, ৭২৮, ৭২৯, ৭৩০, ৭৩১, ৭৩২, ৭৩৩, ৭৩৪, ৭৩৫, ৭৩৬, ৭৩৭, ৭৩৮, ৭৩৯, ৭৪০, ৭৪১, ৭৪২, ৭৪৩, ৭৪৪, ৭৪৫, ৭৪৬, ৭৪৭, ৭৪৮, ৭৪৯, ৭৫০, ৭৫১, ৭৫২, ৭৫৩, ৭৫৪, ৭৫৫, ৭৫৬, ৭৫৭, ৭৫৮, ৭৫৯, ৭৬০, ৭৬১, ৭৬২, ৭৬৩, ৭৬৪, ৭৬৫, ৭৬৬, ৭৬৭, ৭৬৮, ৭৬৯, ৭৭০, ৭৭১, ৭৭২, ৭৭৩, ৭৭৪, ৭৭৫, ৭৭৬, ৭৭৭, ৭৭৮, ৭৭৯, ৭৮০, ৭৮১, ৭৮২, ৭৮৩, ৭৮৪, ৭৮৫, ৭৮৬, ৭৮৭, ৭৮৮, ৭৮৯, ৭৯০, ৭৯১, ৭৯২, ৭৯৩, ৭৯৪, ৭৯৫, ৭৯৬, ৭৯৭, ৭৯৮, ৭৯৯, ৮০০, ৮০১, ৮০২, ৮০৩, ৮০৪, ৮০৫, ৮০৬, ৮০৭, ৮০৮, ৮০৯, ৮১০, ৮১১, ৮১২, ৮১৩, ৮১৪, ৮১৫, ৮১৬, ৮১৭, ৮১৮, ৮১৯, ৮২০, ৮২১, ৮২২, ৮২৩, ৮২৪, ৮২৫, ৮২৬, ৮২৭, ৮২৮, ৮২৯, ৮৩০, ৮৩১, ৮৩২, ৮৩৩, ৮৩৪, ৮৩৫, ৮৩৬, ৮৩৭, ৮৩৮, ৮৩৯, ৮৪০, ৮৪১, ৮৪২, ৮৪৩, ৮৪৪, ৮৪৫, ৮৪৬, ৮৪৭, ৮৪৮, ৮৪৯, ৮৫০, ৮৫১, ৮৫২, ৮৫৩, ৮৫৪, ৮৫৫, ৮৫৬, ৮৫৭, ৮৫৮, ৮৫৯, ৮৬০, ৮৬১, ৮৬২, ৮৬৩, ৮৬৪, ৮৬৫, ৮৬৬, ৮৬৭, ৮৬৮, ৮৬৯, ৮৭০, ৮৭১, ৮৭২, ৮৭৩, ৮৭৪, ৮৭৫, ৮৭৬, ৮৭৭, ৮৭৮, ৮৭৯, ৮৮০, ৮৮১, ৮৮২, ৮৮৩, ৮৮৪, ৮৮৫, ৮৮৬, ৮৮৭,