

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

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Tax ombudsman takes office in couple of days

Karim made new NBR chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The first tax ombudsman of the country, Khairuzaman 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

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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.

PHOTO: AFP

## 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

TODAY'S MATCH  
Portugal v France  
12:45 am (Thursday)  
Munich

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.

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## Edn to suffer as teachers plan tougher agitation

SURAJIT DEBNATH

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

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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

## 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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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 source said.

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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 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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## শীন মডেল টাউন

বিসিম্বাইর আহমদীন পাইম

মতিবালের সবচেয়ে কাছের আবাসিক প্রকল্প

আপনিটি থায়ুন আয়াদুর স্বামৈ...

জাহিদ হাসান - মো দম্পত্তি

আয়াদুর স্বামৈ

আমিন মোহাম্মদ স্ল্যাট্স ডেভলপমেন্ট লিঃ

বিসিম্বাইর আহমদীন পাইম

টেলিকমিউনিকেশনস লিঃ

টেলিকমিউনিকেশনস লিঃ