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Carry out 11 tasks within Nov 3 to prove neutrality

Hasina meets Iajuddin to spell out demands, She will declare next course of action from rally if he fails test

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League-led 14-party alliance leaders met President and Chief Adviser to the caretaker government Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday and demanded that he should perform 11 urgent tasks, including reconstitution of Election Commission (EC) and neutralisation of civil and police administrations, within November 3 to prove his neutrality.

The chief of the non-party interim government assured the eight-member delegation of the 14-party alliance led by Awami



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina meets President and Chief Adviser to the caretaker government Prof Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday.

11 major tasks for chief adviser

The 11 major tasks which Awami League President Sheikh Hasina outlined during her meeting with the president, also chief adviser to the caretaker government, at Bangabhaban yesterday:

ELECTION COMMISSION
The chief election commissioner, three election commissioners and EC secretary should be removed and EC secretariat reconstituted. Appointment orders of all partisan

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AL takes time for proposing other advisers' names

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Formation of the caretaker government is likely to take at least two more days as Awami League (AL)-led 14-party coalition has taken a 24-hour time to propose names for the posts of 10 advisers.

Although an eight member coalition delegation led by AL President Sheikh Hasina yesterday

1,000 held as security upped

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

About 1,000 people have been arrested since Sunday night in the capital after security was beefed up with the deployment of a large number of Rapid Action Battalion

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Retaliate in similar way, if attacked

Khaleda tells rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former prime minister and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday asked people to remain alert against any move to foil the next general election and create constitutional crisis.

She also urged her party men to retaliate in similar way if attacked by their political opponents.

Urging all other political parties to help caretaker government hold a free and fair election, she said, "President has taken up the charge of chief advisor constitutionally".

She was addressing a huge rally in front of the BNP central office at Naya Paltan to declare a three-day programme against anarchy and vandalism of the 14-party com-



Dhaka mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka presided over the rally, attended by a host of 4-party alliance leaders and thousands of

workers. The BNP chairperson asked them to take serious preparation for a vote revolution in the upcoming polls. "We must go ahead with our roadmap for development," she said amid applause and slogans from the audience.

She accused the Awami League for killing 24 people in the last few days. "The caretaker government must have to take action against persons involved with these killings."

"We showed enough of our patience and won't tolerate anymore. We know how to tackle someone trying to create anarchy."

"From now on, if anyone tries to attack on my workers, we will hit back."

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CHIEF ADVISER SWINGS INTO ACTION

9 secys lose jobs, 18 others transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In his first move after swearing in as the chief of the caretaker government, President Iajuddin Ahmed last night cancelled contractual appointments of nine secretaries and transferred 18 other high ranking bureaucrats, according to a government announcement.

Dr Kamal Uddin Siddiqui, principal secretary to the immediate past prime minister (PM), is the most

prominent among the secretaries whose jobs were terminated. He is the most benefited bureaucrat of the immediate past BNP-led four-party alliance government. His job tenure was extended five times breaking all previous records in the civil administration.

The rest of the secretaries who received pink slips are Secretary to the President's Office Akhter Hossain Khan, secretary to the immediate past prime minister

Khandokar Shahidul Islam, Communications Secretary M Shafiqul Islam, Shipping Secretary M Rafiqul Islam, Agriculture Secretary Kazi Abul Kashem, Housing and Public Works Secretary Iqbaluddin Chowdhury, Information Secretary Abdul Quaiyum, and Labour and Employment Secretary Capt (retd) Sujauddin Ahmed.

Cancelling the contractual

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Dr Kamal offers Iajuddin ways to prove neutrality

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent Jurist Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday said President Iajuddin Ahmed violated the constitution and has become his own chief adviser.

He also said reshuffling of the administration and re-constitution of the Election Commission are the principal tasks of Iajuddin as the chief adviser to purge the two vital institutions of partisan influence.

"We will realise that President Iajuddin is neutral if he appoints new officials removing all politically appointed officials including the secretary to the president, his

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Commentary

Will he serve the Nation or his benefactors?

Answer to this will determine our future and Prof Iajuddin's place in history

MAHFUZ ANAM

At the outset, one thing must be made clear to the President, also the caretaker chief. His splendid isolation is over. He has voluntarily chosen, some will say with inappropriate hurry, to be in the thick of politics. Consequently, he will have to bear the brunt of what being in politics means -- most importantly,

to be under constant public and media scrutiny. Compared to the Presidency being a constitutional post, the caretaker chief's is an extremely complex political one, and as such his every move, every utterance, every use of words, every action and even his silence and non-action in matters will be subject to severe examination by

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4 killed, 300 hurt as violence continues

Ex-JCD president beaten up in Faridpur

STAR REPORT

Four people died and around 300 people were injured following violence between activists of Awami League (AL)-led 14-party alliance and the BNP-led four-party combine at different districts of the country yesterday.

AL activists allegedly murdered a Jamaat-e-Islami leader at Ashashuni upazila of Satkhira Sunday night. The fourth consecutive day of clashes saw the death toll rise to 28 with an AL activist

succumbing to his injuries in Netrakona yesterday.

The dead were identified as Arman, 32, Jubo League activist of Maji Char of Sadar upazila in Kishoreganj, Zohed Ali, 55, Jamaat president of Khazura union of Ashashuni upazila in Satkhira, Jamirul Islam Jamu, vice-president of Kushita town Jubo League, and Mir Kashem, 35, AL general secretary of Mohanganj municipality, who died yesterday in the hospital after he was injured in a clash on October 28.

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Dishonesty the power sector policy

SHARIEF KHAN

The BNP-led alliance government's handling of the power sector reminds what Aesop had said hundreds of years ago -- "honesty is the best policy". In other words, dishonesty is the worst policy. In its five-year rule, the alliance government has allowed dishonesty to dominate various executive decisions in the power sector. As a result, the government has failed miserably in the power sector and the nation is bearing the brunt of it.

This failure is a sharp contrast to the success in the power sector during the previous Awami League rule. The AL government had brought in around 1,300 MW electricity generated in private sector. The biggest reason of this success was honesty and predominantly corruption-free handling at the highest level of the govern-

ment. As the alliance government is set to hand over power to the caretaker government this week, the country is reeling under a load-shedding of 2,200 MW. Had the AL not pursued private power,

this load-shedding would have hit more than 3,000 MW. The country presently consumes 5,200 MW.

That the 4-party government has failed in the power sector is well reflected in the incidents of the Kansat killings in January and countrywide anger and protests in August-September this year. People want uninterrupted power supply, but the level of load-shedding exceeded all limits of tolerance.

The discontent over power supply forced the otherwise indifferent government to change its power minister twice.

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Dhaka gingerly steps into normalcy again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The capital has started coming back to life again from yesterday evening just after 14-party coalition announced withdrawal of its Dhaka siege programme.

Earlier, the siege programme, aiming to resist Justice KM Hasan from assuming the office of the caretaker government chief, created a disquieting stagnation in the city which persisted from Friday night to Monday evening.

Residents of Dhaka city refrained from coming out of home

during the day yesterday. Panic-stricken people hardly even went to kitchen markets or brought their vehicles out, but a number of inner-city buses were seen operating on the roads. Academic institutions also remained closed but banks and other commercial offices started operations in a limited scale.

But as soon as the blockade had been withdrawn the city started to come back to life, leaving the 'worse than haral' scenario behind.

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Ctg port resumes operation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country's premier Chittagong seaport resumed operation yesterday afternoon following the withdrawal of countrywide siege programme by the 14-party combine.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Over 17 lakh hits overload Star online edition

The server that hosts The Daily Star online edition temporarily shut down yesterday (from 6:00pm-9:30pm) due to capacity overload of 17 lakh 85 thousand hits. We regret the inconvenience to the readers.

... Figures speak of Our achievement...

City Bank's remarkable growth during last 6 years

Particulars	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Sep-06	Growth over 2000 to Sep-06
Shareholders' Equity	42.31	50.31	78.38	79.72	141.75	195.84	241.46	471%
Deposit	1380.43	1718.40	1968.33	2004.63	2223.70	3064.78	3719.82	169%
Advance	996.45	1272.92	1388.49	1477.85	1702.78	2332.63	3004.55	202%
Investment	161.44	197.79	251.14	337.93	316.14	364.83	636.01	294%
Foreign Exchange	1083.78	1748.53	1847.61	2501.24	3010.86	3958.22	4635.85	
Remittance	88.26	95.33	100.02	149.34	246.68	415.87	476.51	

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	June '06
Operating Profit	18.83	40.74	55.12	67.59	92.21	124.89	83.18
Profit before Tax	6.67	22.26	6.56	20.35	82.31	113.09	52.88
Classified Loan ratio (%)	39.57%	31.17%	30.50%	14.17%	10.57%	5.71%	5.53%
Provision required	190.67	216.22	219.06	105.08	98.76	64.24	96.95
Provision held	118.47	131.46	174.46	105.08	109.36	66.47	96.95

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