

Nothing to be done beyond constitution

CA tells European Commission team

UNB, Dhaka

President and Chief Adviser Prof Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday categorically said that nothing is to be done beyond the constitution regarding the Election Commission.

He cleared the caretaker government's stance apparently on the critical question of removing CEC Justice MA Aziz during a meeting with a delegation of the European Commission, comprising ambassadors and high commissioners, at Bangabhaban.

Iajuddin said his caretaker government has already taken various steps for holding the coming general election "in a free, fair and neutral manner".

He also informed the European diplomats that his interim government is holding discussion with all

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29 contractual jobs cancelled
19 changes at DS level

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The interim government last night cancelled contractual government jobs of 29 officials including the jobs of three secretary-rank officials, and made 19 changes in deputy secretary-level posts.

Nine deputy secretaries were transferred, eight OSDs (officers on special duties) were posted in different ministries, and two other officials were placed on deputation.

There is however about 200 more officials working on contracts.

Secretary to the Establishment

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Zidane flies in today

SPORTS REPORTER

Zinedine Zidane, arguably the most influential footballer in the post Pele-Maradona era, will arrive in Dhaka tonight by a Singapore Airlines flight.

A 1998 World Cup winner and a losing finalist at Germany 2006, the

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At a press conference at the AL Dharmundi office, Jallal also urged BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan not to try to protect the

"It's a hard time for the nation and the people want to see an active and courageous leadership," he observed.

"Set a precedent dealing with at least one area of massive corruption facing the nation during the tenure of the caretaker government," he added.

He then described power situation, price of essentials, Chittagong port, and law and order as the areas most prone to crisis.

He also urged the president to listen to everyone but take decision on the basis of his own reasoning.

Yunus called on the advisers of the caretaker government also to set at least one example of ridding a sector of corruption.

Hold at the Darbar Hall of the Bangabhaban amid tumultuous applause at intervals, the maiden state reception was attended by caretaker government advisers, former ministers, secretaries, diplomats, political leaders, artists, literati, and civil and military officials.

Yunus won the peace prize on August 13.

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President and Chief Adviser Iajuddin Ahmed hands over a crest to Prof Muhammad Yunus at a reception accorded last night in honour of the microcredit guru who won this year's Nobel Peace Prize.

Khaleda's portrait at last removed from EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Portraits of former prime minister Khaleda Zia was finally taken down yesterday afternoon from the conference room of the Election Commission (EC) seven days into the power handover by the BNP-led four-party alliance.

The photograph was removed from the wall after a journalist drew the EC secretary's attention to it during a press conference organised at the EC conference room.

"I am sorry, very sorry that the picture was not removed yet," said Secretary to the EC Abdur Rashid Sarker when a journalist pointed to the government order of removing photographs of the previous premier from government offices.

"It's unfortunate," he added.

The EC secretary reprimanded the EC officials and instructed to take the photograph down immediately.

Meanwhile, the EC authorities

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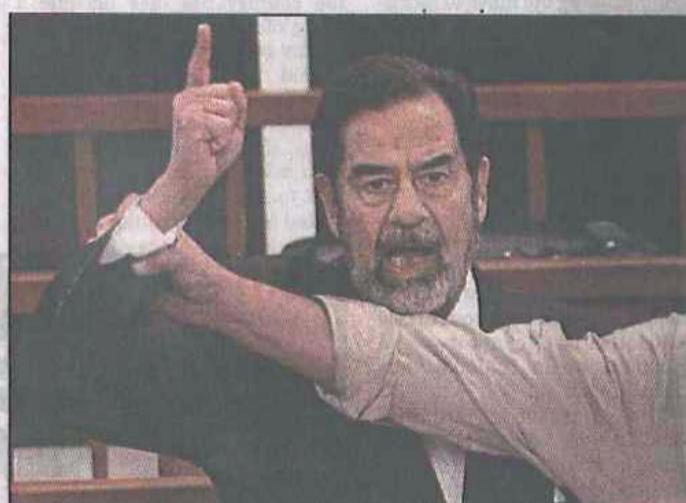
Saddam, half brother sentenced to hang

AGENCIES, Bagdad

A visibly shaken Saddam Hussein was found guilty of crimes against humanity yesterday and sentenced to hang by the US-sponsored court that has been trying him in Bagdad for the past year.

Two other senior aides, including his half-brother Barzan al-Tikriti, will also hang if automatic appeals fail in the coming months. His vice-president was jailed for life and three minor officials of his Baath party were sentenced to 15 years.

Shortly after the verdict was read out at noon (0900 GMT) in a heavily fortified Bagdad courtroom that was once a Baath party office, clashes broke out between gunmen and US and Iraqi troops in two Sunni Muslim neighborhoods of the capital.



Ignoring a bailiff's attempts for interruption, former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein yells at a Bagdad court that sentenced him to death yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



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14-party asks BNP not to pressure CG

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League-led 14-party alliance yesterday urged opponent BNP-led four-party coalition not to pressure the caretaker government but help it create a congenial atmosphere for holding the upcoming general elections in a free and fair manner.

Awami League (AL) General Secretary and 14-party Coordinator Abdul Jallal alleged that the four-party alliance placed its 10-point demand to the caretaker government as part of a conspiracy to foil the next election.

Reiterating their demand for immediate removal of the CEC, three election commissioners, the EC secretary and 300 upazila election officers by November 11, Jallal

JMB man rues missed chance to kill Suranjit

A CORRESPONDENT, Sunamganj

An operative of banned Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) has told a Sunamganj court that he would have been very happy if he had killed Awami League (AL) Presidium Member Suranjit Sengupta.

At the court of First Class Magistrate Hazera Khatun on Friday, Naim alias Hafiz admitted responsibility for the bomb blast at a public rally of Suranjit five years ago.

He said that the AL leader was their target and he was sorry that he could not kill him.

The blast on July 21, 2001 left one killed and 50 others injured.

Naim alias Hafiz was produced before the court amid tight security. Investigation Officer Sri Ram

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Dutch-Bangla Bank Foundation Scholarship for meritorious and needy students



Dutch-Bangla Bank Foundation awards scholarships to meritorious and needy students studying at different levels i.e. H.S.C., Bachelor & Master degree level for full academic period. The Foundation also awards Fellowships for conducting research at M.Phil, PhD. & Post-Doctoral level.

In continuation to its scholarship awarding program, the Fundation is now inviting application from the students who have passed the H.S.C. in 2006 & fulfill the following minimum requirements.

Eligibility for the scholarship:

Minimum CGPA Science Group (Without 4th subject)	Minimum CGPA other than Science Group (Without 4th subject)
Students who have passed H.S.C. from the institution situated in 06 City Corporation areas	Students who have passed H.S.C. from the institution situated outside 06 City Corporation areas
4.80	4.4

Amount and Duration of Scholarship:

Academic level	Scholarship period	Monthly Scholarship	Annual Grant for Reading Materials
Bachelor	2-5 Years (Renewable)	Tk. 2,000.00	Tk. 5,000.00

Other criteria of the scholarship:

- The scholarship will be renewable from year to year basis for the entire duration of a particular course subject to satisfactory result/academic performance duly certified/recommended by the Principal/Institutional Head.
- Students availing scholarship from other sources will not qualify for Dutch-Bangla Bank Foundation (DBBF) scholarship. In case of opting for DBBF scholarship one has to surrender the scholarship now available (if any) from other sources.
- A DBBF scholarship holder shall not apply for other scholarship. In case of availing other scholarship he/she will have to surrender the DBBF Scholarship.
- 80% scholarship will be earmarked for rural students.
- 50% scholarship will be earmarked for female students in both the cases of awarding scholarship to the students of urban and rural areas.
- Prescribed application form will be available in all the branches of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited. Where there is no branch of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited, the applicant may apply in plain paper giving personal and academic details along with copies of certificates, mark sheets, Income certificates of father/mother/guardian, 4 copies recent passport size color photographs (duly attested by the institutional head) and recommendation from the Institutional Head/Departmental Head.

Students who enjoyed DBBL Scholarship at H.S.C level (on S.S.C result) should mention it clearly at the top of the form/application.

Application should reach Co-ordinator, Dutch-Bangla Bank Foundation, Senakalyan Bhaban (5th Floor), 195 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 on or before January 25, 2007.

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