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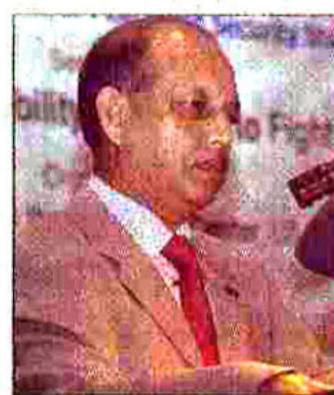
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Army chief feels need for constitution review

Says an elected govt, parliament should do so for effective governance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Moeen U Ahmed

Army chief Gen Moeen U Ahmed yesterday said the constitution should be reviewed through a "constitution commission" for preparing new laws and mechanisms to ensure accountability and effective governance.

Moeen hinted that an elected government may undertake the constitution review after elections are held by the end of 2008 when a constitution commission might be formed to prepare "relevant new laws" and ensure "horizontal accountability."

He said two years is not enough

to "heal the rot of the past 35 years" and as such the next elected government must continue the reforms currently being undertaken by the caretaker government.

"Citizens of Bangladesh are seriously thinking that we need to review our constitution as per the requirements of the day," said Moeen in answer to a question from the audience at a seminar titled "Democratic accountability and way to curb corruption".

Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS) and the American Centre organised the seminar at Hotel Radisson.

Presenting his keynote speech

to an audience he termed "citizens of hope", the army chief attacked the past political governments saying Bangladesh has never had "real democracy" in the last 35 years.

"...Democracy is certainly not achieved only elected government and depriving its people," he said.

Moeen also noted that NGOs need to be more tightly regulated. The NGOs have no accountability, he said adding that he believes they spend 40 percent of their budget on themselves rather than the organisation and its beneficiaries.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Sabina now in better condition
CA donates Tk 4 lakh for her treatment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Condition of ailing Sabina Yasmin has improved slightly and she might fly to Singapore today for better treatment.

Physicians of the renowned singer, who is suffering from cancer, yesterday said she was better than on the previous two days. Her liver function improved and body temperature was under control.

Cancer and medicine specialist Lt Col (retd) Mofazzel Hossain,

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

Zillur criticises Mainul for his comments on Hasina, Khaleda

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League (AL) presidium member Zillur Rahman yesterday protested Law Adviser Mainul Hossain's remarks terming Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia 'failed leaders' and his call to the people to boycott the two leaders.

"His (Mainul) unguarded remarks proved that he is not a representative of a neutral government," Zillur said in a press statement.

The adviser reportedly made

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited
YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER

Farmers line up for urea at dealers' shops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Thousands of farmers in 12 upazilas of Bogra have been lining up at fertiliser distribution outlets in their frantic effort to buy urea for their crops.

A number of fertiliser dealers said low stock of fertilisers caused by inadequate supply is the reason behind the ongoing crisis.

Atul Chandra Saha, manager of Parul Enterprise, a fertiliser dealer in Shariatpur upazila, said for the

month of July, only 10 tonnes of urea has been allocated for the store against a requisition of 20 tonnes. Only 13 tonnes of urea was allocated for the dealership last month when the requirement was 20 tonnes.

A frustrated farmer Montu, from Kuptala village in Shariatpur upazila, said that he needed 100 kg of urea for the Aus he had planted on two bighas of land 12 days back. So far he managed to apply only 10 kg urea. His crop will be ruined

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Khaleda denied permission to visit Sabina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia could not visit ailing iconic singer Sabina Yasmin yesterday as the authorities did not permit her to go the hospital on grounds of security concerns.

The former premier was scheduled to visit Sabina in Labaid Specialised Hospital in the capital at 4:00pm but law enforcers informed her just before she was to leave her house that she would not be able to go to the hospital for security reasons.

Meanwhile, Ashraf Hossain,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

In their testimonies for former state minister for planning Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir in a graft case, all the three defence witnesses told the court that they know him as an honest person.

Prosecutor of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC)

Mohiuddin since 1989 when he

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

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Eminent persons tell court Alamgir honest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

For the first time since the special courts started functioning in May to try high-profile corrupt suspects, two eminent citizens and a foreigner yesterday appeared in one court as defence witnesses.

In their testimonies for former state minister for planning Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir in a graft case, all the three defence witnesses told the court that they know him as an honest person.

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Agreement for sharing ATM/POS network



Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited (DBBL), Southeast Bank Limited (SEBL) and Bangladesh Electronic Payment Systems Ltd. (BEPS) sign an agreement for sharing ATM/POS Network. Md. Yeasin Ali, Managing Director of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited (DBBL), Neaz Ahmed, Managing Director of Southeast Bank Limited (SEBL) and Maruf Alam, Chief Operating Officer of Bangladesh Electronic Payment Systems Ltd. (BEPS) signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations. A. H. M. Nazmul Quadir, Additional Managing Director of DBBL, K. S. Tabrez, Deputy Managing Director (Administration) of DBBL, Ghulam Kabir, Deputy Managing Director (Operation) of DBBL, Abul Kashem Md. Shirin, Senior Executive Vice President & Head of Information Technology of DBBL, Moyen Uddin Ahmed, Executive Vice President & Head of Card of DBBL, S. M. Jahangir Akhter, Vice President & Deputy Head of Information Technology of DBBL, Syed Imtiaz Hasib, Deputy Managing Director of SEBL, Md. Abdul Wali, Senior Vice President & Head of Card of SEBL, Md. Abdus Sabur Khan, Senior Principal Officer & Manager Operation of SEBL, Kazi Ashfaq-Ur-Rahman, Executive Officer of SEBL, Saiful Alam, Chief Technical Officer of BEPS and Ryan Dias, Business Development Manager of BEPS were present on the occasion. **DBBL owns the nation's largest ATM fleet.**

Take advantage of DBBL's ATM Fleet and broaden your reach

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