

## Court declines to receive bail petition of Khaleda

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday did not receive the bail petition of detained former prime minister Khaleda Zia in a graft case filed with Tejgaon Police Station on September 2.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Jalal Ahmed declined to accept the petition for hearing, saying that he had no jurisdiction to pass any order on the bail petition of a graft case.

In the petition, the defence lawyers mentioned that the government had filed the case against Khaleda, her younger son Arafat Rahman Koko and 11 others under sections 409/109 of the Bangladesh

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## Ex-MPs Aminul, Beltu sued for extortion

STAR REPORT

Former post and telecommunications minister barrister Aminul Haque was sued yesterday for extorting Tk 40,500.

Meanwhile, a fresh case was filed against former BNP lawmaker Shahiduzzaman Beltu and four others on charge of extortion, reports our Jhenidah correspondent.

Mohammad Alamgir of Mohishalbari under Godagari upazila lodged the case against former minister Aminul with the Rajshahi first magistrate's court.

Magistrate Mohammad Hossain directed Godagari police to take necessary steps in this regard.

Godagari Women's College principal Abdur Rashid was also

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## Coasts evacuated on tsunami alert

STAR REPORT

Hundreds of people ran for safety evacuating beaches after the authorities yesterday evening issued a tsunami warning, for the first time in the country, following a massive earthquake that hit Indonesian island Sumatra.

District administration and Red Crescent activists spread along the Cox's Bazar beach at 7:30pm and asked tourists to leave the beach immediately. Using megaphones they announced that a tsunami might hit the coastal belt at around

midnight.

The water level at Cox's Bazar shore unusually rose by about 2.5 feet at 8:20pm, sparking panic among tourists and residents of the resort town.

The national football team training on the beach returned to the hotel after the warning. Later, they were shifted to Cox's Bazar Circuit House.

Patuakhali district administration imposed a red alert at Kuakata sea beach, and coastal Kalapara and Galachipa upazilas for an indefinite period following the

tsunami warning. Officials have started shifting all inhabitants to safer places.

District administration officials using loudspeakers started making announcements to make people aware about the situation.

DC Office sources said they received an emergency message at about 7:30pm from the Ministry of Relief and Disaster Management about the possible tsunami and directive to take necessary actions.

Kalapara upazila administration sources said they evacuated all

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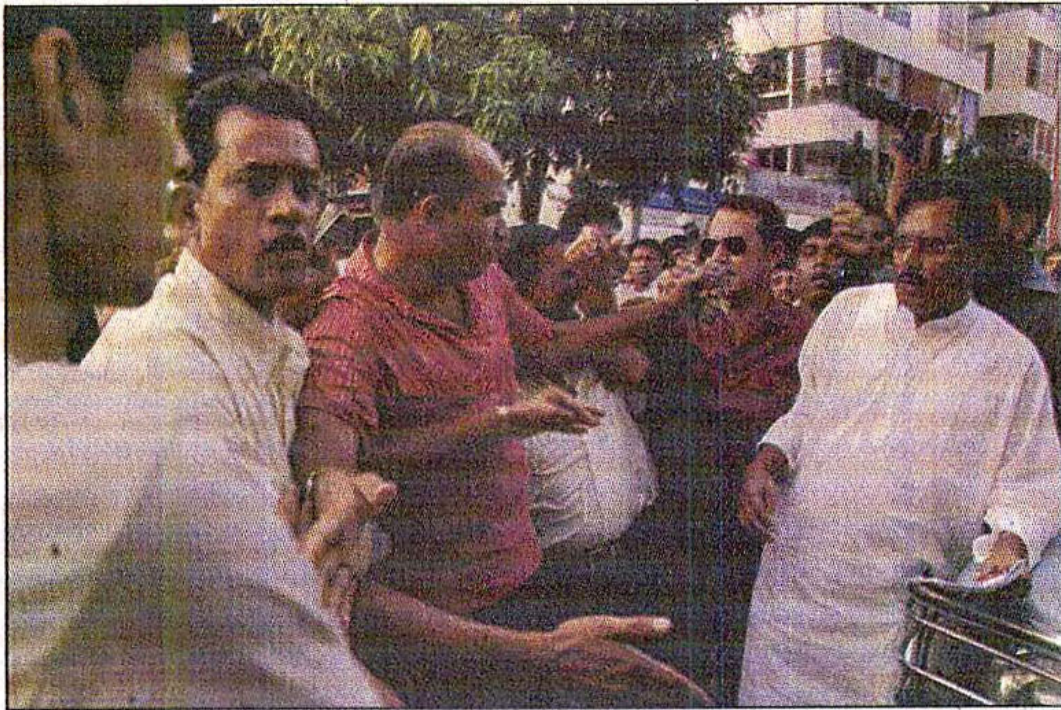


PHOTO: STAR

Awami League (AL) activists attack reformist AL Organising Secretary Abdul Mannan as he comes out of a meeting of the party's working committee at the Dhanmondi party office yesterday.

## ELECTORAL REFORM TALKS IOJ against transparent ballot box

Calls for disbanding student, overseas fronts UNB, Dhaka

The Election Commission (EC) yesterday opened a three-month-long dialogue with political parties for finalising the draft of the electoral reform proposals in preparation for holding the general election.

On the first day, the EC sat with Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ), which lent support to an EC proposal for disbanding parties' student and overseas fronts. It also stood against using transparent ballot box for the polling.

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## 11 left-leaning parties form new alliance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eleven left-leaning parties yesterday floated a new political platform named Democratic Left Alliance (DLA) with the objective of what it said is materialising the ideology of left politics to help establish a democratic Bangladesh.

Formation of the DLA was announced at a press conference held at Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) yesterday.

The parties that comprise the new alliance include Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Jatiya Ganofront, Bangladesh Workers Party, Biplobi Oikya Front, Ganotantrik Majdur Party, Bangladesh Communist Party (ML), Bangladesh Ganotantrik Andolon, Shramajibi Mukti Andolon, Bangladesh Samyabadi Dal (MLM), BSD (Mahbub) and

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## Amu-led leaders face party workers' wrath

AL working committee demands Hasina's release

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shouting that no reforms would be implemented in the Awami League (AL) without the release of detained party President Sheikh Hasina, a number of agitated AL workers yesterday abused four senior party leaders including the acting general secretary at the party's Dhanmondi office.

The leaders faced abuses and one of them was assaulted while going to attend the AL Central

Working Committee (ALCWC) meeting and also when returning. Chanting anti-reform slogans, they also kicked cars of two of the leaders and went rough against two others known to be loyal to senior presidium member of the party Amir Hossain Amu.

AL workers believe that Amu has taken a firm stand against Hasina. And this has created resentment among the party workers about Amu and those loyal to him.

The four are AL acting General

Secretary Mukul Bose, Organising Secretary Abdul Mannan, Prof Abu Sayeed and AKM Jahangir Hossain.

The ALCWC meeting demanded release of the party chief and expressed firm determination to continue legal battle to free her. Hasina is detained since July 16 on extortion charges.

Party workers grew agitated as Jahangir arrived at the party office at about 3:50pm. Chanting slogans

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## EC wants fresh polls if 50pc 'no votes' cast

Election laws being rewritten

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The Election Commission (EC) is seeking to introduce an option of casting 'no votes' for the voters in the upcoming parliamentary election with a provision for holding fresh polls to a constituency if fifty percent or more of the cast votes there turn out to be 'no votes'.

In the EC's draft ordinance for promulgating new election laws, repealing the current one, it included a number of new provisions including one of scheduling one or more days for holding the poll, changing the current provision of scheduling only one day for polling.

In another significant move, the EC is seeking to introduce a provision of taking into cognisance the

reports submitted by election observers, for taking actions against any reported irregularity in the poll. The current election law does not have any such provision.

The EC earlier initiated a move for bringing reforms to the existing electoral law -- Representation of the People Order, 1972. But now it plans to formulate a new order repealing the one promulgated in 1972, as it prepared a large number of proposals aimed at rewriting the order, sources in the EC said.

"In light of the current reality, it is necessary to make new laws for holding parliamentary elections," says the draft ordinance, which will be promulgated to make the finalised electoral reform proposals

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## IMF terms to be made public before any deal

Finance adviser says

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam said the government will scrutinise conditions and make it public before finalising any new deal with International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"If the IMF proposes any new package deal to Bangladesh, the government will make the final decision after examining conditions behind the deal," said Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam after his final meeting with visiting IMF mission yesterday.

The visiting IMF mission led by Thomas Rumbaugh, adviser of Asia and Pacific IMF departments, came to Dhaka last week and discussed with the adviser yesterday at the Ministry of Planning.

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## BNP office to stay shut until council settles dispute

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As both groups of the BNP stick to their claims of being the mainstream, the BNP central office at city's Naya Paltan will remain close until the party council decides who will use the office.

Sources said leaders in the league of expelled BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan have requested the authorities concerned not to open the BNP office before settling the party's

leadership. They are planning to hold the party council as soon as possible to reorganise the party.

Meanwhile, leaders loyal to detained BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia are thinking about not to create any pressure on the authorities to open the party office, believing this will expose the split condition of the party and may drag public sympathy from them.

Both groups once again claimed their right to receive letters from

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## Shamim Osman gets 8yrs for tax-dodging Chowdhury Alam, his wife handed 10yrs in jail for extortion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday sentenced former Awami League (AL) lawmaker AKM Shamim Osman to eight years' rigorous imprisonment for concealing wealth information and dodging tax.

The absconding AL leader, who did not appear before the court despite several notices and was tried in absentia, will have to pay Tk

17.68 lakh in fines in default and suffer six months more in jail. The court also ordered confiscation of his property.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka court yesterday sentenced Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Ward Commissioner Chowdhury Alam and his wife to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment (RI) each for extorting Tk 15 lakh from a construction firm in 2004.

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## 6 army men testify before probe body

2 DU students admit to torching army vehicle

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six members of the army team that had been camped on Dhaka University campus last month, testified before the judicial probe commission yesterday on the recent violence there.

Justice Habibur Rahman Khan, who heads the one-member commission, later told journalists that he will call to his office the police personnel who were on duty on the campus during the violence.

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## 12 die in Bogra road crashes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

At least 12 people, including a mother and her eight-year-old son, were killed on the spot in two road accidents in Bogra yesterday.

In the first accident, ten banana traders died and one was injured when the cement-laden truck carrying them rolled over at Mirzapur in Sherpur upazila on Bogra-Dhaka Highway at around 5:00am burying the victims under the cement bags.

The springs of the truck's front tyre broke down when it was passing through a pothole causing the fatal accident, police said.

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We deeply condole the sad & sudden demise of



Alhaj Engineer Md. Harun Salam, a director of the Standard Bank Ltd., who was the son-in-law of Kazi Akramuddin Ahmed, Chairman, Standard Bank Ltd., died in a tragic road accident while going to Chandpur to distribute relief among the flood victims on September 4, 2007.

We pray to the Almighty Allah for the salvation of his departed soul and convey our heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

Shahabuddin Ahmed

SS Engineering & Construction Ltd.

and

Shahabuddin Trading Co.

DCC Building (4th & 9th Floor)

77, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka.

## পপুলার লাইফ ইনস্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিঃ

এর পক্ষ থেকে সমগ্র দেশবাসীকে জানাই  
স্নাহ রহস্যমানের শুভেচ্ছা

হে ঈমানদারগণ, তোমাদের উপর রোহা ফয়দ করা হয়েছে যেমন তোমাদের পূর্ববর্তীদের উপর ফয়দ করা হয়েছিল যাহাতে তোমরা তাকওয়া অবলম্বন করতে পার। (আল-কোরআন)

রোহাফের নিয়ম:

নাওফাইজত আনু আত্মা গাদাম মিন শাহী রামাদানাল মোবারাক ফারদালাকা ইয়া আল্লাহ ফাতাহালাল মিন ইল্লাকা আনতাস সামাইল আলীম।

ইফতারের সোয়া:

আল্লাহুয়া সুমতু লাকা ওয়াআ'লা মিসকি আফতারতু।

রোহাফের ফাইদত:

হাদীসে তুদসীতে ইরশাদ হয়েছে: আদম সন্তানের নেক আমলের প্রতিদান দশ থেকে সত্তর গুণ পর্যন্ত বাড়িয়ে দেয়া হয়। কিন্তু রোহা পালন এর চেয়ে বাড়িক্রম।

আল্লাহ পাক বলেন:

রোহা আমারই জন্য এবং এর প্রতিদান আমি নিজেই। কেননা, রোহাদার একমাত্র আমারই সন্তানের উদ্দেশ্যে পানাহার ও প্রবৃত্তি চাহিদা পরিত্যাগ করে।



হাদীসে সাহীহ ও ইফতারের সময়ের পার্থক্য

ঢাকার সময়ের পরে

স্থান	সময়
গাজীপুর, টাঙ্গাইল, পদ্মা	৮ মিনিট
দিনাজপুর, পঞ্চগড়	৭ মিনিট
রাজশাহী, মেহেন্দিপুর	৬ মিনিট
জয়পুরহাট, ঝালকাঠি	৫ মিনিট
নাটোর, নওগাঁ, সাতক্ষীরা	৫ মিনিট
লালমনিরহাট, বগুড়া, যশোর	৪ মিনিট
কুষ্টিয়া, খিনাইদহ, পাবনা, রংপুর	৪ মিনিট
খুলনা, গাইবান্ধা, সিরাজগঞ্জ	৩ মিনিট
ফরিদপুর, বাগেরহাট, জামালপুর	৩ মিনিট
মালদাহাট, ফালগুটি	১ মিনিট

ঢাকার সময়ের পূর্বে

স্থান	সময়
বান্দরবান, রাঙ্গামাটি	৬ মিনিট
সিলেট, চট্টগ্রাম	৫ মিনিট
সুনামগঞ্জ, ফেনী, হবিগঞ্জ	৪ মিনিট
কুমিল্লা, বি.বাড়িয়া, নোয়াখালী	৩ মিনিট
নরসিংদী, মুন্সীগঞ্জ, পটুয়াখালী	১ মিনিট

## স্নাহ ও ইফতারের সময় সূচী

রহমতের ১০ দিন					মাগফেরাতের ১০ দিন					নাযাতের ১০ দিন				
কমরান	সেপ্টেম্বর	বার	সাহরী	ইফতার	কমরান	সেপ্টেম্বর	বার	সাহরী	ইফতার	কমরান	অক্টোবর	বার	সাহরী	ইফতার
১	১৪	শনি	৪-২৪	৬-০৭	১১	২৪	সোম	৪-২৮	৬-০৭	২১	০৪	বুধ	৪-০২	৬-০৮
২	১৫	রবি	৪-২৪	৬-০৮	১২	২৫	মঙ্গল	৪-২৮	৬-০৮	২২	০৫	বুধ	৪-০২	৬-০৮
৩	১৬	রবি	৪-২৫	৬-০৯	১৩	২৬	বুধ	৪-২৯	৬-০৯	২৩	০৬	শনি	৪-০৩	৬-০৯
৪	১৭	সোম	৪-২৬	৬-১০	১৪	২৭	বুধ	৪-২৯	৬-১০	২৪	০৭	রবি	৪-০৩	৬-১০
৫	১৮	মঙ্গল	৪-২৬	৬-১০	১৫	২৮	শনি	৪-৩০	৬-১০	২৫	০৮	সোম	৪-০৪	৬-১১
৬	১৯	বুধ	৪-২৬	৬-১০	১৬	২৯	শনি	৪-৩০	৬-১১	২৬	০৯	মঙ্গল	৪-০৪	৬-১১
৭	২০	বুধ	৪-২৭	৬-১০	১৭	৩০	রবি	৪-৩০	৬-১১	২৭	১০	বুধ	৪-০৫	৬-১১
৮	২১	শনি	৪-২৭	৬-১০	১৮	৩১	সোম	৪-৩১	৬-১১	২৮	১১	বুধ	৪-০৫	৬-১১
৯	২২	শনি	৪-২৮	৬-১১	১৯	০১	মঙ্গল	৪-৩১	৬-১১	২৯	১২	শনি	৪-০৬	৬-১২
১০	২৩	রবি	৪-২৮	৬-১১	২০	০২	বুধ	৪-৩১	৬-১১	৩০	১৩	শনি	৪-০৬	৬-১২

\* চাঁদ দেখার ওপর নির্ভরশীল।

(উপসংস্কৃতি সূচী ঢাকা কোম্পানী কর্তৃক প্রস্তুত)



পপুলার লাইফ ইনস্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিমিটেড

প্রধান কার্যালয়: পিপলস ইনস্যুরেন্স ভবন, ৩৬ দিলকুশা বা/এ (৪র্থ তলা), ঢাকা-১০০০

ফোন: ৯১৭৪১৫৭-৬০; ফ্যাক্স: ৯৫৭০৮৮০