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CA praises role of lawyers in establishing rule of law

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday appreciated the lawyers for their role in establishing the rule of law in the country and hoped that they would maintain their contributions.

The CA said this when a delegation of Bangladesh Bar Council, led by Attorney General and Chairman of the Bar Council Fida M. Kamal, made a courtesy call on him at the Chief Adviser's Office.

The Bar Council leaders reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate with the government in maintaining the rule of law.

The delegation members also included Khandokar Mahub Hossain, Shafiqur Ahmed, Abdul Baset Majumder, Munsurul Haq Chowdhury and Chisti Sohrab Hossain Sikder.

Law Adviser Mainul Hossain, Law Secretary Kazi Habibul Awal and Secretary of the CA's office Kazi M. Aminul Islam were also present.

AL might join consensus govt if it is free of war criminals

Says Ashraful

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League (AL) may weigh the possibility of joining a national government if it comprises pro-liberation, democratic and secular forces, the party's acting general secretary yesterday said.

Syed Ashraful Islam, however, ruled out joining hands with war criminals and communal forces in a unity government.

The AL leader was talking to reporters at an Iftar party organised by Dhaka City (North) unit of Sweschchhasebak League -- the

Bhuiyan supports proposal on 'consensus govt'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expelled BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday voiced support for former president A.Q.M. Badruddoza Chowdhury's proposal for a government based on national consensus.

"It is high time to do this even though it could be done before or after the elections," he said while talking to reporters at his Gulshan home. He said, "Election is a must."

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Polls before Oct '08

CEC reveals plan; says voter roll has to be complete by July

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda yesterday disclosed a plan for holding the parliamentary elections before October next year by preparing the voter list with photographs within July, three months earlier than the deadline.

"The voter list with photographs should be ready in July next year if we can achieve our target in line with the projection. And in that case, the [parliamentary] elections can be held before October," Huda told reporters at his office.

The chief adviser also recently announced that the parliamentary polls will be held earlier than the

set deadline if the voter list is ready earlier.

The Election Commission (EC) also plans to simultaneously hold polls to five city corporations-- Dhaka, Rajshahi, Khulna, Sylhet and Barisal-- in between March and April next year as the voter lists for these areas will be ready by January.

Huda also disclosed the EC's comprehensive plan to kick off the nationwide field level task for voter listing on a large scale from early next month.

The field level job for simultaneously preparing the voter list with photographs and national identity cards will begin in 76 upazilas of 64 districts with a target to register around 1.63 crore voters

by next December. The ongoing task of listing around 92 lakh voters in 34 places will be completed by the third week of next month.

"We hope 21-26 percent of the whole task will be done in December, registering 2.53 crore voters," Huda said. The EC estimates that the total number of voters will be nine crore.

Earlier on July 15, the EC announced the much-talked-about electoral roadmap for holding the next national polls, stipulating that a voter list will be ready by October 2008 and the stalled parliamentary polls will definitely be held by December.

In its original plan announced

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ACC hunts for info about wealth of Hasina, family

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has issued notices to all deputy commissioners (DC), land registration offices and 41 banks, asking them to report if detained former premier and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina and her family members own any moveable or immovable wealth.

The ACC notices--served between September 27 and October 4--asked the authorities concerned to send reports regarding the wealth of Hasina, her husband M. Wajed Miah, son Sajeb Wajed Joy and daughter Sayema Wajed by October 18.

The DCs of 64 districts have been instructed to scrutinise documents and evidence to examine if Hasina and her three family members own any moveable and immovable property in areas under their

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Owners asked to pay RMG workers' wages, bonus by tomorrow

Govt assures them of quick release of cash incentives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday asked garment factory owners again to pay the wages and Eid bonuses to their workers by tomorrow to avert any uncalled for incident before the Eid-ul-Fitr, but the owners said it will be 'very tough' for many of them to comply with the government request.

Leaders of the readymade garments (RMG) sector sought cooperation from the government in

getting soft bank loans to pay the workers' salaries and bonuses.

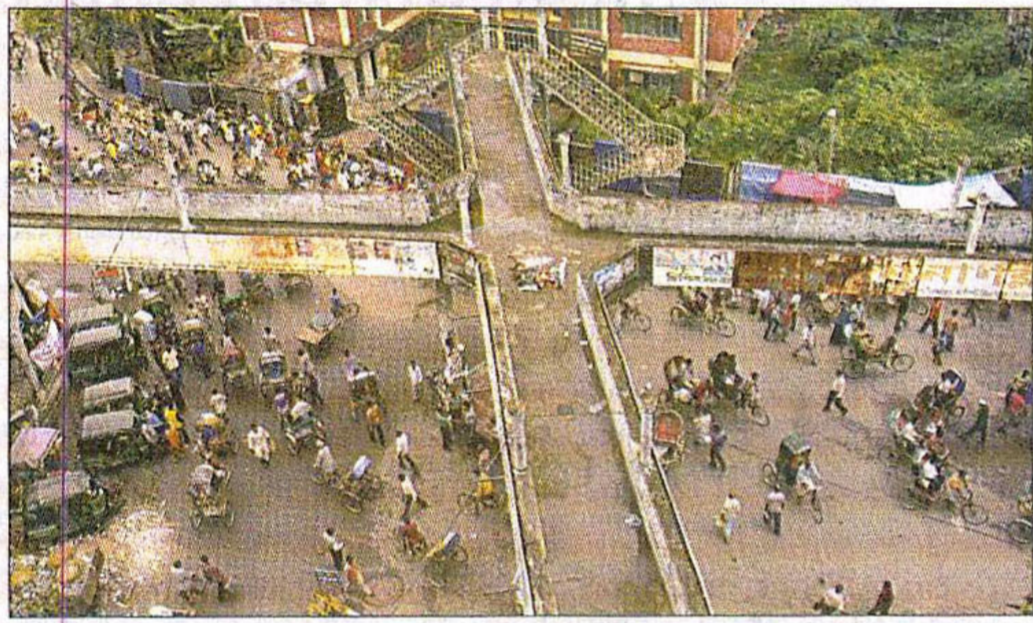
Warning the factory owners of possible lawsuits under the labour law for not ensuring minimum wages in their factories, the government also expressed its stance of zero tolerance towards any kind of provocation for violence in the sector, and ordered law enforcement agencies to bring to book any worker, trade union leader or non-governmental organisation (NGO) if they are found to be involved in

such provocations.

"We want to avoid any kind of unwanted situation before the Eid. Pay the wages and bonuses by October 11 anyhow, so the workers can celebrate the Eid without any difficulty," Labour and Employment Adviser Anwarul Iqbal told the RMG sector leaders at a meeting yesterday.

The three-member advisory council on law and order on October 4 asked garment factory

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Four people sleep on the Bangla Bazar foot-over bridge in the old part of Dhaka yesterday. Apparently, pedestrians hardly ever use the bridge.

PHOTO STAR

Arrest warrant against ex-Jamaat MP Shahjahan Chy, Morshed Khan's son

UNB, Ctg

The Divisional Special Judge's Court here yesterday issued arrest warrants against former Jamaat lawmaker Shahjahan Chowdhury and ex-foreign minister Morshed Khan's son Faisal Morshed Khan for not appearing before it in a corruption case.

Judge Majnul Ahsan issued the arrest warrants against the two and fixed October 18 for hearing.

On October 1, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed the charges with the CMM Court, Chittagong, against former

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Ex-BNP MP Munshi jailed for 13 yrs

Convicted of amassing wealth illegally; his wife, sons acquitted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A special court yesterday sentenced former BNP lawmaker Manzurul Ahsan Munshi to 13 years in jail for acquiring wealth illegally and concealing information on his property.

Judge Ashraf Hossain of Special Court-5, however, acquitted Munshi's detained wife Mazeda Ahsan Munshi and their absconding sons barrister Rizviul Ahsan Munshi and Rizwanul Ahsan Munshi of all the charges against them as those were not proved.

Munshi was handed down 10

years' rigorous imprisonment for acquiring wealth illegally and three years' simple imprisonment for concealing information in his wealth statement submitted to the ACC. He will have to serve total 13 years in jail, as the sentences will run consecutively, not concurrently.

The court also fined him Tk 65 lakh, in default of which he will have to serve an additional year in jail.

The court ordered release of Mazeda who was sent to jail following her surrender to the court on July 8.

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RMG workers block road for leave allowance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Agitating workers of three garment factories yesterday blocked the road at Shewrapara in city's Mirpur area for leave allowance suspending traffic movement on Rokeya Sarani for an hour.

Thousands of commuters returning home after office hours suffered terribly as several hundred vehicles remained stranded on the busy road from 4:15pm to 5:15pm.

The blockade resulted in a long tailback on both side of the road stretching over an area of one kilometre.

The workers lifted the blockade after the owner of the three factories -- Outright Fashion, Outwear Fashion and another fashion -- came

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Falu charged with misuse of govt relief materials

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday pressed charges against detained former BNP lawmaker Mosaddak Ali Falu and one of his associates in a case filed in connection with misuse of government relief materials.

An order to attach all properties

of Firoz Mahmood Iqbal, former assignment officer of detained former prime minister Khaleda Zia, was issued yesterday in a case filed in connection with failing to submit wealth statement to the ACC.

Besides, a Dhaka court yesterday issued arrest warrants against former BNP lawmaker M

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Dhaka to revive efforts to have greater market access for LDCs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will revive efforts for greater access of manufactured goods from least developed countries (LDCs) to big markets as the new chair of the coordination council of LDCs as part of its push for a bigger role in UN-based organisations.

Foreign Adviser Iftekhar A Chowdhury told this at a press briefing yesterday.

Bangladesh has been elected chairman of the coordination council of LDCs on October 5 following a tense diplomatic stand-off between a number of African and Asian states on the sidelines of the 62nd UN General Assembly sessions.

The latest role is part of a broader effort by the foreign ministry to utilise the UN mechanisms in a greater way, as described in the 10-point foreign policy plan revealed by the foreign adviser last week.

Iftekhar said, "Multilateral

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6 killed as two buses collide in Comilla

STAR REPORT

At least six people were killed and 10 others injured yesterday as two buses collided on Dhaka-Chittagong highway at Basantapur in Chouddagram upazila.

The dead are Moulana Motiur Rahman, 45, Hafiz Mahabubur Rahman, 36, Anwar Hossain, 42, Syed Ismail Hossain, 47, Abdus Samad, 43, and microbus driver Serajul Islam, 37.

All the victims hailed from Mirpur in Dhaka.

Police said a Dhaka-bound microbus collided head-on with a Chittagong-bound passenger bus "Modina Express" at about 5:30 am leaving four people dead on the spot and injuring 12 others.

Two of the wounded died on the way to hospital.

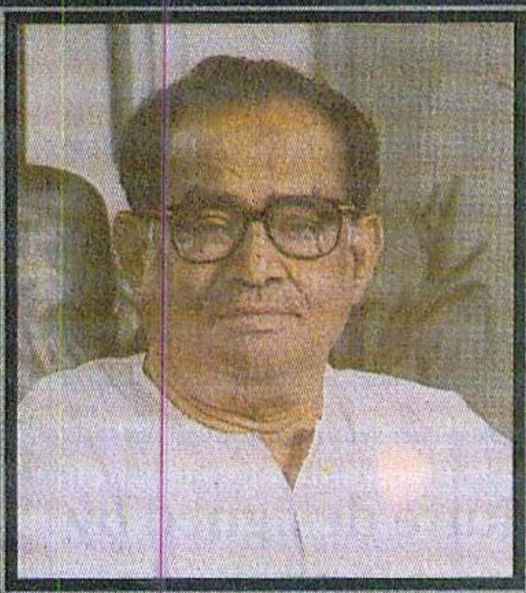
The injured were admitted to different hospitals in Comilla and Chouddagram.

The bodies were sent to Comilla Medical College Hospital morgue for post mortem.

A case was also filed* with Chouddagram Police Station.

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প্রথম মৃত্যুবার্ষিকী



মরহুম সৈয়দ মাহমুদ আলী
(প্রতিষ্ঠাতা, আকিজ গ্রুপ)

আমাদের আনন্দ, বেদনা, প্রতিটি মুহূর্ত পঞ্চাচন্দা, আর কণ্ঠের একটি বচন, গভীর শ্রদ্ধা ও স্নানবাসায়- আপনি আছেন প্রতিটি মুহূর্তে...

শেখের আর্থ-সামাজিক উন্নয়ন ও শিল্পক্ষেত্র

আগ-উৎসর্গিত আমাদের প্রাণপ্রিয় এই মানুষটির আত্মার শান্তি ও

মহান আল্লাহ তাআলার কাছে তাঁর জ্বলন্ত মার্গচরিত কামনায় দেশবাসীর নিকট দোয়া প্রার্থনা করছি।

আকিজ পরিবার

কিম্বদ্বার্সি রাহমানি রাহি

ঈদ মোবারক

পপুলার লাইফ
-এর অগণিত
গ্রাহক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক ও
শুভানুধ্যায়ীদের জানাই
পবিত্র ঈদ-উল-ফিতর
এর শুভেচ্ছা।

জুলাই ২০০৭ পর্যন্ত অর্জিত প্রিমিয়াম	৳ ১৮৪,৫২,০১,৭২০
লাইফ ফান্ড (জুন ২০০৭ পর্যন্ত)	৳ ২৬১,৬৫,৮৭,২৬৭
পরিশোধিত মৃত্যু দাবী (জুন ২০০৭ পর্যন্ত)	৳ ৫,৮৬,৪১,২২৯
ক্রেডিট রেটিং	এ- (এ মাইনাস)

পপুলার লাইফ ইনস্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
প্রধান কার্যালয় : পিপলস ইনস্যুরেন্স ভবন, ৩৬ দিলকুশা বা/এ (৪র্থ তলা), ঢাকা-১০০০
ফোন : ৭১৭৪১৫৭-৬০ ; ফ্যাক্স : ৯৫৭০৮৮০