LIST OF FBCCI ELECTION CANDIDATE PUBLISHED

Annisul Huq, Rouf Chy may contest for president

UNB, Dhaka

Former BGMEA president Annisul Huq was declared nominated director of FBCCI yesterday as the election board of the apex trade body published the list of valid candidates to contest its upcoming

On the other hand, President of Bangladesh Vegetable Oil Refiners and Vanaspati Manufacturers Association MA Rouf Chowdhury will have to win a direct voting to become FBCCI director as he was declared a valid candidate to contest the election.

The two business leaders from the association group are widely expected to contest for the post of Bangladesh Chambers of Osman Gani. Commerce and Industry (FBCCI).

In this 2007-09 term, the FBCCI president will be elected from the Association Group as per the FBCCI rules.

In another major development yesterday, the FBCCI Election Board received an application to reconsider the candidature of Rouf Chowdhury as he was a director of the apex trade body for the last three consecutive terms, said a source at the FBCCI

According to FBCCI Articles of Association section 14 (V), one cannot continue as FBCCI director for the fourth consecutive term.

The source said the Election Board, however, did not discuss the issue. It would be considered at the FBCCI Appeal Board if it gets such an application.

As per the published list, 24 candidates from the association

'Chief of Army Staff, General

Moeen U Ahmed called for

utilising every inch of land for

He made the remark while

addressing a meeting on the

Char Jubli Habib Ullah Mia Hat

High School premises in

Subornachar upazila yesterday.

solved through boosting pro-

audience that two-thirds of

allocated money of develop-

ment projects used to be wasted

development activities as full

funds are being used in devel-

irrigation pump machine, one

power tiller and one urea ferti-

liser machine among the mem-

opment activities," he said.

Samabaya Samity.

High School.

earlier.

boosting food output.

UNB, Noakhali

group will contest the election on March 17. From them, some 1,215 voters of the group will elect 12 directors through voting.

Around 30 nomination papers have been submitted for this group, but the Election Board declared six nomination papers invalid for various reasons, including improper signatures of seconders, loan defaulters and court

In this group, the Election Board also excluded five voters of Bangladesh Restaurant Owners' Association from the final voter list in light with the court judgement. They are Khandaker Ruhul Amin, Selim Ahmed Hena, Sheikh Mohommed Jaynal Abadin, Alhaj president of the Federation of Abdul Gafur (Sagir) and Alhaj

In the chamber group, some 316 voters will elect 12 directors from 28 valid candidates. Nomination of one candidate in this group has been declared invalid.

The 38 elected and nominated directors -- 24 elected and 14 nominated directors from the two groups -- will choose their president, first vice-president and vicepresident through an election to be held on March 19 at 4:00pm.

Aushad Shilpa Samity, Kazi Belayet

Hossain of BFFEA, Abdul Matlub

Ahmed of Bangladesh Insurance

Association, Kamran Tanvir

Rahman of BJMA and Abdul Hai

Utilise every inch of land

for boosting food output

Sarker of BTMA.

conduct the election in his threemonth tenure. Manzur took over charge of the Apart from Annisul Huq of the federation chamber on December association group, six other nomi-8 with the assurance that he would nated directors of FBCCI are AKM facilitate the election as early as Nurul Fazal Bulbul of Bangladesh Association of Banks, SM possible. Shafiuzzaman of Bangladesh

On the same day, the dispute over membership got settled in the court, paving the way for holding the election.

The nominated directors from

the Chamber Group are Ebaydul

Haque Chand (Barisal Chamber),

Mohammed Amirul Haque

(Chittagong Chamber), Aftab-Ul-

Islam (DCCI), Shaharuzzaman

Mortoza (Khulna Chamber), AKM

Rafigul Islam (MCCI), Md Hasen

Ali (Rajshahi Chamber), and

Junnun Mahmud Khan (Sylhet

stalled over a membership dispute

of a FBCCI member-body, BGMEA,

prompting the Ministry of

Commerce, the regulatory author-

ity, to extend the tenure of the Mir

Nasir Hossain-led Board of

the election in the extended period

due to a court order over the mem-

charge of the apex trade body on

September 5, 2005 for a two-year

Commerce on December 6

appointed Syed Manzur Elahi as

administrator of the apex trade

body with the main assignment to

term until September 5, 2007.

However, they could not hold

The Nasir committee took over

Meanwhile, the Ministry of

Directors up to December 6, 2007.

The FBCCI election had been

Chamber).

bership dispute.

The FBCCI Election Board announced the fresh election schedule on January 13.

UK hopes for fair polls, not Kenya-like ones

UNB, London

British Foreign Minister David Miliband has expressed optimism about holding of a free, fair and credible election in Bangladesh, saying the British government does not like to see Kenya model

"We hope the state of emergency will be lifted and Bangladesh will return to genuine democracy through fair and credible elections," he told Bangladeshi-British journalists at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in LondonWednesday afternoon.

Miliband, who was in Bangladesh on a two-day visit from February 8 and held talks with government, opposition and military figures, said the army has no political ambition in Bangladesh and is cooperating with the civilian government.

Asked about corruption cases against politicians, particularly the two former prime ministers, he said Britain wants that due process and international standard should be followed so innocent people are not punished.

"We don't support any individual, we support independent judiciary, strong institutions and democratic process," he said.

The British minister praised the current voter registration with photographs, saying it will contribute to holding free and fair voting.

Terming his first ever visit to Bangladesh "fruitful", Miliband said Britain will work with Bangladesh in combating adverse impacts of floods and changes in climate.

Miliband also praised British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Anwar Choudhury for taking bilateral relations to a new height.

ACC NOTICE TO HASINA SC hearing on appeal Mar 9

UNB, Dhaka

The Supreme Court yesterday adjourned until March 9 the hearing on an appeal against the High Court judgment declaring illegal the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) notice asking detained former prime minister Sheikh Hasina to submit her wealth statement.

On Nov 21, last year, a High Court division bench, upon a writ petition of Awami League President Sheikh Hasina, declared illegal the ACC notice that had asked Hasina to submither wealth report.

A day after her arrest on July 17 last year in connection with an extortion case, the ACC, through the jail authorities, served the notice on Hasina asking her to submit the statement of her movable and immovable property to the commission within seven working days.

Hasina filed a writ petition with the High Court challenging the legality of the ACC notice and own the legal battle.

Tanjila Sara footbridge opens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A newly constructed footbridge opens in Paribagh, a busiest area of the Dhaka city, yesterday.

The footbridge constructed with the financial support of EXIM Bankwas named after Tanjila Sara, a student of Vigarunnisa Noon School and College, who was killed in a road accident at the sameplaceonApril 14 in 2005. EXIM Bank Chairman Nazrul Islam

Majumdar formally inaugurated the footbridge. Members of the board of directors of the bank, officials of Dhaka City Corporation and family members of Sara were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, MM Abu NaserWaheed, father of Sara, called on the government to take steps to ensure road safety, and also urged the people to use the footbridge to cross the road.

Death anniversary



Today is the 14th death anniversary of journalist Anwarul Islam Bobby, says a press release. On this day

in 1994, he died of leukemia in Dubai on his way to

London for treatment. On the occasion, food will be served among the destitute.

His friends, relatives and admirers are requested to pray for the departed soul.

He was the founding editor of The Daily Life of Chittagong, The Pulse, medical journal, and now

defunct The Morning Sun. He was also one of the founders of nowdefunctThe BangladeshTimes.

Abul Basher (Monir)

Today is the 2nd death anniversary of Abul Basher (Monir), a freedom fighter, and social worker, says a press

On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at his residence at 10, Tejturi Bazar at Farmgate in the city after Juma prayers today. His friends and relatives are

requested to attend the

programme and pray for salvation

of the departed soul.

mark the Swairashashok Protirodh Dibash (autocracy resistance day). Reserve 5pc quota for people

Members of Moddho February '83 Smrity Sangrakkhan Parishad place wreaths at the memorial square in front of Shikkha Bhaban yesterday to

POWER PLANT

Govt mulls Bibiyana deal in July operation in 2011.

UNB, Dhaka

The government plans to sign a contract for the 450MW Bibiyana power plant project by the end of July this year. Md Abdul Jalil, director general of Power Cell, a reform implementation wing of the Power Division under the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral

Bhaban in the city yesterday. After signing the contract, he said, it will take three years to implement the project. The plant is expected to go into

He said quota system in BCS has

helped backward and minority

people to come forward, but has

ignored a vast section the people

with disabilities who have the

SM Sohel, convener of

Protibondhi Chhatra Sangha, said it

is the responsibility of the govern-

ment to provide job opportunities

people with disabilities in different

fields, he urged the government to

reserve five percent quota for them.

cer of ADD, Sabiha Sultana, mem-

Quoting success stories of the

Fazlul Azim, human rights offi-

to the people with disability.

Resources, announced the govern-

ment plan at a briefing at Bidyut

The Power Cell had organised a 2. day conference of bidders in the city on February 11-12 to clarify different issues on the Bibiyana power plant project.

About 20 representatives from four pre-qualified bidders attended the conference. Top officials of Power Division, Power Cell, Power Development Board (PDB), Power Grid Company of Bangladesh, Petrobangla and other officials concerned represented the government at

the conference. Jalil said the bidders were found very serious. They are very happy with the programme of the government for implementing the project.

"We've asked them to submit their financial and technical offers by mid-June. We've a plan to complete the selection process within a short time and then award the contract by the end ofJuly2008,"he said.

Jalil said under the present bidding process after submission of technical and financial offers, there will be no scope for any kind of negotiation. "Everything will be done on the basis of

Huge VoIP equipment seized in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cig.

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday seized huge illegal Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) equipment from an apartment owned by Khalilur Rahman, chairman of KDS Group, and arrested one person in this connection.

The arrestee, identified as Md Amanullah, 23, said that he has been doing illegal VoIP business for the last two years using different cyber cafes.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-7 raided the apartment at the top floor of the four-storied building at Sugandha Residential Area at around 5:00pm and seized the

Ustad Jagadananda passes away



Noted musician Ustad Jagadananda Barua passed away due to old age complications at the city's Centre

early yesterday at the age of 88. He left behind his wife, three

sons, two daughters and a host of relatives, admirers and students to mourn his death. He donated all his movable and

immovable properties for the development of music and established an institution called Dhruba Parishad, said a release of Bangladesh Buddhist Association. His was cremated at his village

in Rangunia yesterday.

Lokman Sheikh

Lokman Sheikh, father of Sheikh Khairuzzaman, manager (Public Relations) of Jibon Bima Corporation, passed away due to old age complications yesterday at the age of 80, says a press release.

Kazi Shahidul Islam

The jail authorities yesterday

the condition of Hasina is serious. She even could not come down to the ground floor from the first floor of the special jail to meet relatives

They also called on the government to release Hasina immediately on the humanitarian grounds considering her condition.

they would arrange treatment for Hasina's eyes as soon as

He along with IG (Prisons) Zakir Hassan and Hasina's personal press release.

UNB adds: Some 201 lawyers of

Sheikh Hasina to send her abroad for proper treatment. They also demanded withdrawal of all the "false cases"

against Hasinaher.

The signatories to the statement include Shafique Ahmed, Mahbub-E-Alam, Shahara Khatun, AFM Mezbah Uddin, Yusuf Hossain Humayan, Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed, Shamsul Huda Manik, M Rahmat Ali, Abdul Mannan Khan, AM Amin Uddin, Bashir Ahmed, M Enayetur Rahim, Mahbub Ali, Fazle Noor Tapash, Nurul Islam Sujan, MK Rahman, SM Rezaul Karim and Mamtaz Uddin Mehedi.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detained Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday said she has no confidence in the treatment and medical tests arranged by the jail authorities. Hasina, also a former prime

jail authorities

minister, however, agreed to receive treatment for her eyes under the supervision of the jail authorities, her relatives told reporters. "How can I believe there will be

no manipulation of medical test results when the judgments are written before my trial," Hasina said to her relatives who met her at the special jail on the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises.

Meanwhile, DIG (Prisons) Maj Shamsul Haider Siddiqui said the jail authorities have told Hasina that she could have the medical tests done outside the jail if she wishes so. She needs to undergo some

important medical tests soon, he

allowed five relatives of Hasina to meet her as she is suffering from high blood pressure and ear, eye and kidney problems. They are Sultana Sheikh Rekha, Tahmina Sheikh, Mahbub Ara Gini, Afreen Taposh and Tania Shams. Talking to reporters, they said

and lawyers, they added.

DIG Maj Shamsul Haider said

physician Dr ABM Abdullah will meet her today to discuss her treatment.

the Supreme Court yesterday demanded release of detained ailing Awami League President

equipment worth over Tk 20 lakh. The seized equipment include 6 quintums, 60 cellular sets, three media converters, one IPS and huge cables.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong



Point Hospital

Kazi Shahidul Islam, a freedom fighter and general secretary of Gohala union Awami League in Gopalganj, passed away due to a cardiac arrest at Suhrawardy Hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 55, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, son and

daughter and a host of relatives to

mourn his death. Hafeza Khatun

Hafeza Khatun,

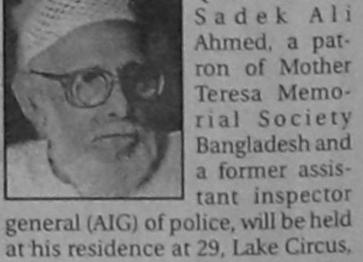
mother of Rafiqul Islam Manik, former president of Gazi Bhaban Shopping Centre Shop

Association, passed away at her Shantinagar residence in the city due to old age complications on Wednesday at the age of 79, says a

She left behind four sons, two daughters, grandchildren and a host of relatives to mourn her death.

She was laid to rest at her family graveyard at her village home at Kalagachia.

Qulkhwani Oulkhwani of



prayers today.

Bangladesh and a former assistant inspector Kalabagan in the city after Asr

He passed away due to old age complications at his residence on Thursday, says a press release.

Sightsavers Int'l, Brac sign deal on eye care service

present on the occasion.

Sightsavers International, UK, and Brac recently signed an agreement for providing eye care services to the beneficiaries of 'Support to Targeted Ultra-poor people (STUP)' programme of Brac, says a press release. Dr Caroline Harper OBE, chief

executive of Sightsavers International, and Brac Chairperson Fazle Hasan Abed signed the agreement on their respective organisations during her recent visit to Dhaka. During her visit, Dr Harper represented Sightsavers

International in a four-day interna-

tional conference of International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) in Chittagong. The conference was organised with a view to achieve goals of

'VISION 2020: The Right to Sight'.

She participated in the meeting

of IAPB Board of Trustee as a mem-Dr Harper also called on Women and Children Affairs Adviser Rasheda K Choudhury during her

visit. She also met other senior government and non-government officials, donors and leaders in the corporate and media sector.

General Moeen tells Noakhali meeting arrival, he went to Gassapia village where he inaugurated small

> chairman of the Trust Bank operated by the Sena Kalyan Trust, inaugurated the bank's Feni branch.

solve the food deficit problem Export Processing Zones (EPZ) owned by the Armed Forces. in the country for boosting its nor will it bring down prices of rice. Food deficit has to be problem-ridden economy.

have only eight," General Comilla Cantonment and 33 General Moeen told the Moeen said the Trust Bank General Moeen assistant vice-president of

a helicopter from Feni. After uplift projects.

U Ahmed said.

Speaking on the occasion

duction," he said, calling for example India has set up 250 utilising 30 crore hands of 15 EPZs in the country where we Major General Aminul Hasan,

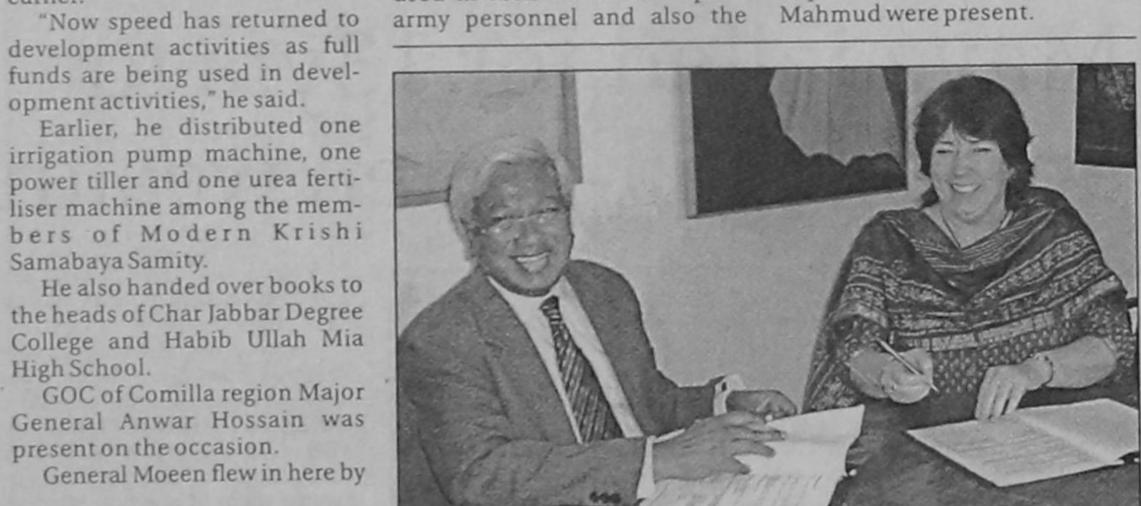
milk farm project of the army. Earlier, the army chief, also

"Import of food would not the need for setting up more the abandoned Feni Airport

"Country's people will be able to play an effective role in the country's development process by depositing their money with this bank," Moeen

Talking on EPZ, General Moeen said the government has already approved the setting up General Moeen underscored of an Export Processing Zone at

Trust Bank Managing Director Iqbal U Ahmed gave "Utilising our concept and the welcome speech on the occasion. Trust Bank Manager infantry division GOC Major Speaking on the activities of General Anwar Hossain and said dividends of the bank are corporate and marketing used in assistance of the poor department of the bank Aftab



Dr Caroline Harper OBE, chief executive of Sightsavers International, UK,



No change in temperature likely UNB, Dhaka Weather is likely to remain dry over the country in the next 12 hours

until 6:00pm today. Mild to moderate cold wave that is sweeping over Rajshahi division and the regions of Mymensingh, Tangail, Comilla, Srimongal, Jessore, Satkhira and Barisal may continue, Met office said. Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the

country during early morning, it said, predicting nearly unchanged night temperature over the country. Highest temperature 27.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 6.2 degrees Celsius at Ishwardi. The sun sets in the capital at 5:53pm today and rises at 6:31am

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some

Humidityin

tomorrow.

major cities and towns yesterday were:

ty/ Iown	in celsius		percentage			
	Max	Min		Morning	Evening	
haka	24.3	10.8		38	27	
hittagong	25.0	12.9		53	40	
ajshahi	23.2	06.7		65	48	
hulna	23.5	10.7		52	41	
arisal	24.2	09.7		52	52	
lhet	24.5	10.9		73	43	
ox's Bazar	27.0	13.7		55	44	
COLUMN DESIGNATION OF THE PARTY	NAME AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY.					

with disabilities in govt jobs Speakers urge govt Handicapped Students) at Dhaka ties in government service, the STAFF CORRESPONDENT Reporters' Unity auditorium. private sector would never give any While delivering the inaugural opportunity to these people," said Speakers at a press conference Enamul Haq, capacity building speech, Liton Baruri, general secretary of Protibondhi Chhatra Sangha, officer of ADD Bangladesh, while said, "There is 30 percent quota for presenting the keynote paper.

yesterday urged the government to reserve five percent quota in government services for the people with disabilities to bring them into the mainstream of society. They said the Public Service

Commission (PSC) should formulate specific policy and take necessary steps to ensure five percent quota for these people who constitute 10 percent of the total popula-If the government does not create job opportunities for this group, the private organisations

would never come forward for their

employment, they said, adding that

it would ultimately hinder the over

all advancement of the nation. The press conference was organised by ActionAid on Disability and Development (ADD) in collaboration with Protibondhi Chhatra Sangha (Organisation for

for all the jobs, rather we want five percent quota only for those jobs which we can accomplish with less hazards," he added. Liton also placed a six-point demand and said the government should take the responsibility of reserving five percent quota for the physically challenged people in the 28th BCS examination. At the same time, special test should be introduced for the visu-

freedom fighters, 10 percent for

women, 10 percent for different

districts and 5 percent for indige-

nous people, but there is no quota

"We are not demanding quota

for the people with disabilities."

ally impaired people, he added. encourage the people with disabili-



potentials.

eleven days.

Tanjila Sara footbridge was inaugurated at Paribagh in the city yesterday. Free, fair polls a must for democracy: Zillur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Awami League Acting President Zillur Rahman yesterday said democracy and the rule of law would be established in the country

through a free and fair election and the release of detained party President Sheikh Hasina. From its beginning, the AL is a champion of the rule of law and human rights and it set an example by handing over power peacefully after the end of its five-year tenure in

2001, he said in a message on the eve of 'Democracy Killing Day'. On this day in 1996, BNP held the sixth parliamentary elections with-

national community, he added.

Math Olympiad

9:00am.

The 6th Bangladesh Mathematical Olympiad will begin. Venue: St Joseph Higher Secondary School. Time:

Brac will celebrate its 35th anniversary. Venue: Army Stadium. Time: 3:00pm. Prize giving ceremony

The prize giving ceremony of 'We want

enlightened people', a book reading

campaign organised by Bishwa Sahitya

Anniversary programme

Kendra, will be held. Venue: Ramna Botomul. Time: 9:00am. Workshop The weekly Economic Times organises a two-day workshop for the members of

Launching ceremony The launching ceremony of 'Bhola Jilar

Time: 9:30am.

Reporters' Forum beginning from today.

Venue: Bangladesh Press Institute.

Muktijuddher Itihas' (The history of Bhola district during the War of Liberation) will be held. Venue: National Museum auditorium. Time: 3:00pm. Seminar Oral Health Foundation, Bangladesh

organises a seminar on dental implants

and LSTR therapy '08. Venue: Biam

Art competition Prattasha 2021 Forum and Hunger Free

auditorium. Time: 9:00am.

Forum will jointly organise a children's art competition titled 'The Bangladesh of my dream'. Venue: Liberation War Museum. Time: 3:00pm. **Annual sports**

The annual sports and prize giving

ceremony of Tongi Collegiate School

and College will be held. Venue: Armed

Police Battalion Field, Uttara. Time:

Nagarik Sanghati will hold a discussion

titled 'Agreement with multinational

companies and our right to information'.

Ahmed Manik. Venue: Brothers Union

premises. Time: After Maghrib

will accord a reception to the Dhaka-

based students from Sylhet who did

excellent in the SSC and HSC

examinations in 2006-07. Venue:

Engineers' Institution auditorium. Time:

out the participation of any major

opposition parties and formed the

government, which lasted for only

the history of democracy and parlia-

ment as voters did not turn out and

no parties, except BNP, took part in

to assume power through vote

rigging and manipulation. The

BNP-Jamaat coalition even tried to

return to power by holding such an

election on January 22, 2007 but

failed due to resistance from the

people and pressure from the inter-

He said the BNP's main target is

the election," Zillur said.

"February 15 is a black episode in

9:00am. Discussion

Venue: Moni Singh- Farhad Smrity Trust. Time: 3:30pm. Memorial meeting Brothers Union organises a memorial North Bengal Mineral Resource meeting to pay tribute to Saifuddin

Reception Sylhet Division Development Council

Time: 4:15pm.

prayers.

Book launch World of Children's Books Ltd will launch 'Muktijuddher Golpogatha'. Venue: Bangla Academy premises.