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## Voters get chance to correct ID card errors

EC starts special programme in Dhaka July 4

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) will launch a special programme in Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) areas on July 4 for correcting the errors in national identity (ID) cards.

The programme has been taken to end voters' dissatisfaction with the errors, though the EC earlier said that it would not take up any steps for correcting mistakes in the ID cards.

In the month-long programme, all sorts of assistance in correcting the ID card errors as well as getting the ID cards, will be provided through 15 server rooms set up across the capital.

According to EC directives,

senior officials of the voter registration project 'Preparation of Electoral Rolls with Photographs and Facilitating the Issuance of National Identity Cards,' finalised the plans for the drive at a meeting yesterday, sources said.

As per the plans, each of the 15 server rooms will be kept open from 9:00am to 5:00pm from Sunday to Thursday. On Friday, the server rooms will remain open from 9:00am to 12:00pm till the end of July.

Registered voters will have to visit the specified server rooms for their respective areas to collect their national ID cards or correct any errors in them, if found.

The EC might take similar steps in other parts of the country, if

necessary, officials engaged in the voter registration, said. "However, no major complaint over ID cards was raised in other places of the country," a senior official said.

The central control room of the voter registration project at Dhaka Cantonment on June 22 drafted a schedule for the drive in Dhaka city and yesterday's meeting finalised the plans for the task, sources said.

A total of 36.35 lakh voters have been registered in the new voter list with photographs for the DCC areas. The number was 46.96 lakh on the previous voter list prepared in 2006.

Though the registered voters did not make any complaints over the authenticity of the fresh voter

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## Dhaka willing to resolve Rohingya, border issues

CA tells Myanmar envoy UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed has said Bangladesh is willing to resolve the issues of repatriation of the Rohingya refugees and maritime border demarcation with Myanmar through discussion.

The head of the caretaker government said this when outgoing Myanmar Ambassador U Nyan Lynn made farewell call on him at his office yesterday.

Emphasising exchange of high-level visits between the two neighbouring countries, the CA said he is looking forward to the visit of Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar General Maung Aye to Bangladesh.

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Pedestrians use the street at Farmgate in the capital as pavements are usually overcrowded during the day. A traffic police is seen helpless trying to control the rush of people and vehicles.

## Govt to beef up market monitoring

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government would beef up market monitoring in order to know about market trends in advance, Commerce Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman yesterday said.

He was talking to reporters at his secretariat office following a meeting of the price-monitoring committee.

The committee comprises representatives from the Federation of Bangladesh

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## Hasina's right ear damaged

Says US specialist

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former prime minister and Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina's right ear is impaired but she can now hear fairly with her left ear after doctors adjusted the hearing device installed into her ears, according to ear specialist Dr Michael B Fosi.

The ear specialist said there is no possibility of success in repairing her right ear even after treatment, according to a report of New York based news agency News World.

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### Prayer Timing

June 27

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Dhuhr	12-30	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-54	6-57
Esha	8-17	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation



Over 100 trees are being chopped down at Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University to make room for an extension of the dormitory. The photo was taken yesterday.

## Nepali PM quits making way for Maoist govt

AFP, Kathmandu

Nepal's veteran prime minister announced his resignation yesterday in a move that paves the way for a new Maoist-led government following the abolition of the monarchy.

The announcement by centrist politician Girija Prasad Koirala, who is 83 and in failing health, resolves a political stalemate over powersharing that followed the declaration of a republic on May 28.

The Maoists have positioned their leader, Prachanda, to replace him as leader of the landlocked Himalayan nation and one of the world's poorest countries.

The prime minister, whose Nepal Congress party was soundly defeated by the Maoists in the polls for the 601-member assembly, called on the ultra-leftists to form the next government.

"I declare I have given up the prime minister's post through this assembly today," Koirala told the recently elected constitutional assembly.

"With me or without me, we all need to maintain the culture of consensus," he said.

"I appeal to them (the Maoists) to garner consensus for the formation of a new government under their leadership," Koirala also said in a statement read out by Ram Chandra Poudel, Nepal's peace

minister.

The Maoists and Congress -- Nepal's two main parties -- have been arguing for weeks over who will become the first president and prime minister of the world's youngest republic.

On Wednesday, they reached a deal that the president and prime minister will be elected through the assembly that will draft Nepal's new constitution.

"Now we all must focus on drafting a new constitution by giving up our petty political differences and ending confusion," Poudel said.

Prachanda and second-in-command Baburam Bhattarai

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## JAGANNATH HALL 25 trees felled to construct new building

DU CORRESPONDENT

Jagannath Hall authorities of Dhaka University (DU) have cut down 25 trees on the hall premises, and prepare to chop down 50 more soon to make room for a new building.

The five-storey building would be constructed in between the hall pond and Udayan High School. Estimated to cost around Tk 14 crore, it is expected to accommodate around a thousand students.

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## 82pc pass Dakhil examinations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The pass rate in this year's Dakhil examinations under the Madrasa Education Board has increased to 82.06 per cent from the previous year's 65.87 per cent.

The results of SSC (vocational) exams under the Technical Education Board are also better than the previous year's. The pass rate in the board is 62.88 per cent while it was 51.08 per cent last year.

The pass rate in Madrasa Education Board this year is 9.88

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## Twin bombings kill 38 in Iraqi cities

AFP, Ramadi

At least 38 people were killed in two massive bomb attacks in Iraq yesterday, 20 of them dying at the hands of a suicide bomber as they held an anti-Qaeda meeting, officials said.

The bomber blew himself up in a municipal office in western Iraq's Anbar province, killing the local mayor and at least 19 senior mem

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## AUG 21 ATTACK Pintu, Hannan to be produced before court

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday directed jail authorities to produce detained former deputy minister Abdul Salam Pintu, Harkatul Jihad (Hujj) chief Mufti Abdul Hannan and 12 others before it on July 13.

Judge KM Rasheduzzaman Raja of the Second Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court fixed July 13 for hearing on charge framing against Pintu, Hannan and 20 others in connection with the August 21 grenade attack case.

The case was filed for the grenade attack on an Awami League (AL) rally on August 21, 2004 that left 23 people dead and 200 injured.

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## N Korea hands over nuclear dossier

US will lift sanctions against Pyongyang

AFP, AP, Beijing/Washington

North Korea handed over details of its nuclear programmes yesterday, clearing the way to be removed from the US terrorism blacklist amid years of efforts to persuade the North to abandon the atom bomb.

Six months behind schedule, officials delivered the dossier to China -- the host country for the six-nation talks since 2003 that have tried to entice the North into exchanging nuclear weapons for aid and diplomatic concessions.

The declaration of the secretive nation's nuclear materials, facili-

ties and programmes was not expected to include a list of its actual atomic weapons, which would come in a later phase of the complex negotiations.

But the provision of the other information -- which will face a rigorous verification programme -- marks a key step in efforts to get the North to give up its nuclear weapons, which it has said it needs to deter a US attack.

The US administration of George W Bush, who famously included North Korea in his self-styled "axis of evil," swiftly

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## Meena Media Award 2008

Meena Media Award was introduced in 2005 by UNICEF to recognize outstanding work on Child Rights in print and broadcast media. News, articles, features and television programmes, that investigate and explore children's issues to improve the lives of children in Bangladesh, or provide healthy entertainment for children, and were published, produced and broadcast in Bangladesh, are eligible to compete for the award.

- Entries are invited from Bangladeshi citizens in two age groups: a) Young (18 yrs and under) and b) Regular (above 18 yrs of age) in the following categories:
  - (1) Print Media Reporting (news reports, features, post editorials);
  - (2) Print Media Creative (articles, stories, poems);
  - (3) Television Reporting (news reporting, interview, feature, documentaries);
  - (4) Television Creative (Programmes other than news e.g., short film, plays, songs, skits etc.)
- Entries may include journalistic pieces and also creative pieces that have been published in newspapers and periodicals or was shown on Television, in either Bangla or in English, between June 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008. Books are not eligible for entry.
- Published material must be at least 300 words, and broadcast material must be at least 1 minute long.
- Two copies of actual publication or two copies of broadcast material in DVD must be submitted.
- Entries must include a cover letter, clearly stating full name, age, address, and phone numbers of the entrant, the type of entry, and a synopsis (not more than two paragraphs).
- A panel of eminent judges will evaluate each submission individually. Winners will be selected on the basis of combined decision of the panel of judges.
- Only winners will be contacted by the end of October 2008 and subsequently invited to an award ceremony.
- The following prizes will be awarded in each of the above categories in both age groups, subject to receiving sufficient number of eligible entries:
  - First Prize: A Crest, A certificate and Tk. 50,000.
  - Second Prize: A Crest, A Certificate and Tk. 25,000.
  - Third Prize: A Crest, A certificate and Tk. 15,000.
- One individual, agency or group may submit upto 5 entries, however, will be considered for one award only.
- UNICEF Staff and dependents are not eligible to compete. Entrants who are affiliated with any UNICEF supported project must clearly mention so in their entry. In such event concerned staff will not partake in the panel of judges.
- UNICEF reserves the right to cancel the awards or any category thereof, because of insufficient entries or any other compelling reason.
- Solicitation, plagiarism, or use of any unfair means may lead to disqualification of an entry or revocation of a prize.
- Young people living in remote and hard to reach areas of Bangladesh, particularly those who are underprivileged and marginalized will receive special consideration.

Deadline: All entries must be received on or before July 31, 2008 at the following address:

Meena Media Award  
Communication & Information Section, UNICEF Bangladesh  
BSL Office Complex, 1 Minto Road, Dhaka 1000

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