# Paul Newman passes away

house near Westport, publicist Jeff Sanderson said. He was sur-

rounded by his family and close In May, Newman had dropped

plans to direct a fall production of "Of Mice and Men," citing unspecified health issues.

He got his start in theater and on television during the 1950s, and went on to become one of the world's most enduring and popular film stars, a legend held in awe by his peers. He was nominated for Oscars 10 times, winning one regular award and two honorary ones, and had major roles in more than 50 motion pictures, including "Exodus," Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," "The Verdict," "The Sting" and "Absence of Malice."

Newman worked with some of the greatest directors of the past half century, from Alfred Hitchcock and John Huston to Robert Altman, Martin Scorsese and the Coen brothers. His co-stars included Elizabeth Taylor, Lauren Bacall, Tom Cruise, Tom Hanks and, most famously, Robert Redford, his sidekick in "Butch Cassidy" and The Sting.

He sometimes teamed with his wife and fellow Oscar winner, Joanne Woodward, with whom he had one of Hollywood's rare long-

when asked if he was tempted to stray. They wed in 1958, around the same time they both appeared in "The Long Hot Summer," and Newman directed her in several films, including "Rachel, Rachel"

and "The Glass Menagerie." With his strong, classically handsome face and piercing blue eves, Newman was a heartthrob just as likely to play against his looks, becoming a favorite with critics for his convincing portrayals of rebels, tough guys and losers. "I was always a character actor," he once said. "I just looked like Little Red Riding Hood.'

underdogs in real life, giving tens of millions to charities through his food company and setting up camps for severely ill children. Passionately opposed to the Vietnam War, and in favor of civil rights, he was so famously liberal that he ended up on President Nixon's "enemies list," one of the actor's proudest achievements, he

A screen legend by his mid-40s, he waited a long time for his first competitive Oscar, winning in 1987 for "The Color of Money," a reprise of the role of pool shark "Fast" Eddie Felson, whom Newman portrayed in the 1961 film "The Hustler."

Newman delivered a magnetic performance in "The Hustler," playing a smooth-talking, whiskey-

# Party registration

Given a relaxed registration process, BNP too does not face any major problems in fulfilling the

EC officials said the commission's plans to ensure registration by October and announce election schedules in the first week of November are quite uncertain now due to complications within the

ing the registration conditions.

The same day the HC issued a rule on the government and the EC asking them to explain within two weeks why three RPO sections including the ones barring the registration of religion-based parties should not be declared illegal.

talks with the EC, Jamaat and IOJ said they do not accept some of the registration conditions, and demanded that those be scrapped

Particularly, they opposed the condition that says a political party shall not be qualified for registrarun counter to those in the constitution of the country.

shall be adjudged ineligible to register also if its constitution seems to encourage discrimina-

Jamaat and IOJ have reservations also about having a specific provision in the party constitution of at least 33 percent positions at all committees reserved for

women by the year 2020.

To get registered, both the parties will have to incorporate new provisions in their constitutions expressing allegiance to the constitution of Bangladesh. Presently, the objectives in their

election commissioner said to be in politics in Bangladesh one must pledge allegiance to its [country's] constitution, the supreme law of ion.

Leaders of Jamaat and IOJ said the EC should suspend the registration till the December 18 polls

"The matter [registration provisions] is now sub judice. The Election Commission should not enforce the provisions until the court's rule is settled," Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid told The Daily Star yesterday.

Jamaat's Assistant Secretary General Mohammad Kamaruzzaman said, "We will have to wait till disposal of the

Talking to The Daily Star, he said the alliance leaders will discuss the issue at today's meeting.

Abdul Latif Nezami, IOJ secretary general, said, "We may not take any step for registration until the rule is settled."

Referring to some criteria for registration, he said the EC set those to put the Islamic parties in a difficult situation.

tains that the alliance would take common decisions on registra-

If Jamaat and IOJ stick to their plan not to move before disposal of the HC rule, they might miss the time limit for registration.

According to the EC's announcement, political parties must apply by October 15 for registration on meeting the stipu-

from vacation on October 12.

There has not been any move yet for a vacation bench to hear the rule, said court sources.

fied copy even in last four weeks, sources at the EC Secretariat said.

In response to the EC initiative commissioners Tuesday.

cussions, they announced BNP would apply for registration and participate in the polls under the new electoral provisions.

said it was only his personal opin-

#### Govt urged to finalise chugging pool shark who takes on machine readable passports and Minnesota Fats -- played by Jackie visas," Abdur Rob Hawlader, direc-

Daily Star yesterday. He said everything should be done on an urgent basis otherwise meeting the deadline will be very difficult.

tor general of the passport and

immigration department, told The

"Even if we start issuing the passports in September 2009 it will not be easy to convert all handwritten passports into machine readable ones in five years," he observed adding the country has over 1.2 crore handwritten passports which must be converted by

November 2015. The department already received Tk 2 crore to appoint an international consultant and applications for the job were invited.

It hopes to appoint a consultant within a couple of months, who will have at least a year's experience in preparing machine readable pass-

The consultant's responsibilities will include monitoring, evaluation and supervision of the project, and training passport officials and employees.

The consultant will also develop a master plan for introducing the machine readable passports and

Bangladesh desperately requires introduction of MRPs to bring an end to the frequent harassment its citizens face during international travel.

MRPs will also help curb forgery of passports, which are often used for human trafficking.

If Bangladesh fails to comply with the ICAO requirement by April 2010, the country's access to international manpower market as well as its citizens' chances of getting all types of foreign visas will be at risk, immigration officials said.

The last Awami League (AL) government first took the initiative for introducing MRPs in 1998.

BNP-Jamaat-led four-party alliance government later took a fresh initiative, but their Tk 1,546 crore mega project for

MRPs, MRVs and national identity cards was scrapped following controversies over appointment of a consultant and tender document manipulation in 2006. Some 115 out of 187 member

nations of ICAO, including India and Pakistan, already issued machine readable passports to

Bangladesh is a member of ICAO, a global forum for civil avia- last two years," Motia said.

newspapers, senior journalists,

leaders of the Jatiya Press Club,

BFUJ and DUJ, and other profes-

sionals were present at the iftar

Khaleda Zia said she would

exchange Eid pleasantries with all

at the Ladies Club on Eskaton

Garden Road in the city on the day

Meanwhile, four-party alliance

leaders are scheduled to meet

today to discuss issues related to

the upcoming parliamentary

(EC) latest decision to ease party

registration criteria and the dates

for upazila elections will also

come into discussion, said a BNP

leader adding that the alliance

might declare its decision regard-

ing the parliamentary election

Besides discussing their prepa-

rations for the election, the alli-

ance leaders might also announce

demonstrations for realising their

demands for lifting of the emer-

gency, deferring of the upazila

election dates, and release of all

tions and participation in the

election," Islami Oikva Jote

Secretary General Abdul Latif

"We will discuss our prepara-

detained political leaders.

today after the meeting.

The Election Commission's

election, said alliance insiders.

FROM PAGE 1

### Bihari camp

FROM PAGE 16

The Bihari families, who have been living in the building since 1971, had been refusing to leave the building, as they have no other place to go to.

Four consultants from the International Organisation for Akhtar, a resident.

In a machine readable passport Most of the inhabitants of the the data on the identity page is encoded in optical character recogkarchupi and jari artisans. nition format. Most passports in the

world can now be read by machines. Once the project is implemented, passport seekers will be able to apply online, reducing several residents of the house. mistakes in spellings of names and Then part of the top floor balother details, experts said adding

that online applicants will still have to go to passport offices for being photographed and finger printed. team later rescued them later. There will be offices in all 64 districts of the country for passport

### AL starts work

delivery, said official sources.

tion also a specialized United

Nations agency that codifies prin-

ciples and techniques of interna-

tional air navigation, and fosters

planning and development of

Migration (IOM) are voluntarily

assisting Bangladesh's effort to

introduce MRPs. They are also

expected to monitor the work of

the consultant to be appointed.

international air transport.

FROM PAGE 1

Awami League single handed, Motia said

She said, "What ever we want to do we will do it collectively. We want to compete in elections... we will go for it with Sheikh Hasina. If anyone thinks about elections without Hasina, he or she is making a mistake."

She said work is also going on to prepare their election manifesto.

The AL leader said even though the AL and the EC have no major differences regarding the Representation of the People Order (RPO), 2008, the AL wants stop to all religion-based politics. She said the AL does not want to curtail the rights of expatriates in politics.

Motia said her party is going to take various measures in line with the RPO, including curbing the use of muscle power and black money in elections. She said the party would nominate eligible candidates for the elections. She, however, said everything will be finalised after Hasina returns home.

Motia said if anyone wants to serve the country, first that person has to work for three years and get involved with the general people. "We will collectively take real and

pragmatic steps after discussions to pull the country out from the edge of the cliff where it was taken by the their citizens five-year rule of BNP-Jamaat alliance government followed by the

into temporary accommodation at a nearby madrassa building.

"We risk incidents like this every day as the building is so dilapidated and risky, but we have nowhere to go. We have no property and we don't have enough money to rent accommodation outside," said SM

building are Benarasi weavers or

Two similar incidents occurred in the building earlier. On October 5, last year the ceiling of a room on the ground floor collapsed injuring

cony collapsed in January this year trapping some residents in their rooms for hours. A fire brigade

The Biharis first moved in the building in December 1971 when the building was being used by the International Committee for Red Cross as a shelter home for the Biharis after the liberation war.

It was an under-construction building at the time intended for the Water and Power Development Authority (Wapda) employees. Later, it became their permanent abode, as they were never rehabilitated from here.

Originally built for 24 families the building is now home to over 86 families numbering 500 members.

Sadakat Khan, president of Stranded Pakistanis Youth Rehabilitation Movement, said "The building was completed in stages but has since become worn out over the last 37 years. It is now a serious risk to live in the building but these people have no where else to go."

"After the incident in January this year, the government served its residents with a notice to evacuate the building, pledging to rehabilitate them but nothing has happened so far. These people continue living here despite all the risks," he added.

#### Eid food

FROM PAGE 16

The price of battery chicken rose by Tk 10-15 per kg during the last two days. They are now retailing between Tk 125 and Tk 130. The price of free-range chicken went up by Tk 10 per piece.

Traders blame the huge demand for chicken ahead of Eid for the hike.

The price of beef rose by Tk 20-30 per kg last week. Beef is now selling between Tk 200 and Tk 250 a kg while the price of mutton climbed up by Tk 20 a kg. A kg of mutton was selling for Tk 320.

Price of sugar saw a fresh hike yesterday as prices rose by Tk 2 a kg. A kg of sugar was selling between Tk 38 and Tk 42. It was between Tk 36 and Tk 40 a day before. The price of non-brand vermi-

celli, a major item prepared in Eid, rose by Tk 10 per kg last week. Now vermicelli is selling between Tk 55 and Tk 60 a kg.

The price of imported onions went up by Tk 2 a kg during the three days. Now they are selling between Tk 18 and Tk 24.

Prices of non-brand palm oil and super palm oil rose by Tk 7 per kg. However, the price of soya bean oil remained unchanged.

### Ex-Ansar

FROM PAGE 16 Shahidullah said his brother might

have been killed due to a dispute over a piece of land between his brother and Abdul Latif as a case was pending with the court over the issue and Latif was threatening his brother with life to withdraw the case. Officer-in-Charge of Uttar Khan

SM Alamgir Hossain told The Daily Star that the incident might have occurred due to past enmity and no one had been arrested in this connection till yesterday evening.

### Hasina to file

petitions since the bench did not

FROM PAGE 16

have the jurisdiction to hear the petitions filed on September 22. Meanwhile, another HC bench

of Justice Sheikh Rezowan Ali and Justice Md Rais Uddin will deliver order tomorrow on another bail prayer filed by Hasina in an extortion case filed against her by businessman Noor Ali. This bench has recently fixed the date for delivering order on the case. Earlier on July 7 the HC stayed

for two months all proceedings against Hasina in connection with the two cases and issued separate rules on the government and the ACC to explain why the cases against her should not be quashed. ACC Deputy Director Sabbir

Hasan filed the barge-mounted power plant case with the Tejgaon Police Station on September 2 last year accusing Hasina and six others its two local partners to win a

on December 9 the same year accusing the AL chief and six others of corruption and abuse of power while awarding three abandoned gas fields to Canadian energy company the Niko Resources Ltd incurring a loss of Tk 13.6 crore to the state exchequer.

# Obama, McCain

FROM PAGE 1

McCain, 72, frequently referred to his age and experience.

Sometimes he joked at one point he waggled his eyebrows and quipped that the moderator didn't think he could hear the question and other times he went out of his way to mention the foreign countries he has visited and the years he has spent on Capitol

"I have a long record and the American people know me very well," he said.

But Obama, a 47-year-old serving his first term in the Senate, challenged McCain frequently and offered himself as someone who can be trusted to make sound choices.

Obama noted that he opposed invading Iraq, while McCain supported it. He said McCain has voted with the unpopular President Bush 90 percent of the time. He argued McCain backs corporate tax breaks and lax regulation that have contributed to the Wall Street economic crisis.

"We have to recognise that this is a final verdict on eight years of failed economic policies promoted by George Bush, supported by Senator McCain," Obama said.

Obama sought to connect with voters who might have doubts about a relative newcomer to national politics, a black man with an exotic name and background. He talked often about the struggles of ordinary Americans "the nurse, the teacher, the police officer who, frankly, at the end of each month they've got a little financial crisis going on.

In a long exchange with McCain over the Iraq war, Obama tried to avoid being seen as soft or reluctant to use force when neces-

An early opponent of invading Iraq, he stressed that his position was prompted partly by worries that it would distract from hunting down Osama bin Laden, and he said withdrawing from Iraq now would free up resources to reenergize that hunt.

Obama suggested McCain might overreact to national emergencies, noting that the Arizona senator has talked about "extinction" for North Korea and joked about bombing Iran.

McCain accused Obama of seeking to "snatch defeat from the jaws of victory" in Iraq. He said the "surge" of US troops has reduced violence there and withdrawing would destabilize the country and the entire region.

Asked what lessons he had learned from the long war, McCain said, "that you cannot have a failed strategy that will then cause you to nearly lose a

On Iraq and many other issues. McCain said Obama was naive, experienced, confused. He criticised Obama for saying he would meet with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad without precondition. "This is dangerous. It isn't just naive; it's dangerous," McCain said.

The two bickered at times, talking over one another and throwing accusations of twisted words and false statements. But Obama sometimes acknowledged agreements with McCain concessions that might reinforce

### Bomb blast

FROM PAGE 1 have been set up across the city to

capture the attackers. "It was lunchtime, and we heard a loud bang. There was smoke everywhere. People were on the ground," a local shopkeeper told

"I picked up three people, and there were 10 others with injuries on the ground," added Basant Kumar, another witness. "My brother was hit in the ear."

India is currently gearing up for the Muslim Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan and the Hindu festival of lights, Diwali, next The government also unveiled

security measures to tackle what Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said were "vast gaps" in intelligence gathering.

Obama's claim to be a politician who can find common ground and reduce confrontation in

Washington. The stakes were high as the two rivals walked on stage. The polls gave Obama a modest lead and indicated he was viewed more favourably than his rival when it came to dealing with the economy. But the same surveys show McCain favoured by far on foreign

policy. The candidates stood behind identical wooden lecterns on stage at the performing arts centre at the University of Mississippi for the first of three scheduled debates with less than six weeks remaining until Election Day. The two vice presidential candidates will meet next week for their only debate, and Obama and McCain each put in a plug for his own running mate.

But there was a difference: Democrat Joe Biden made the round of post-debate television shows. NBC and CNN said they invited McCain's running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, who has granted only three interviews since joining the ticket a month ago, but she declined.

Moderator Jim Lehrer's opening question concerned the economic crisis. While neither man committed to supporting bailout legislation taking shape in Congress, they readily agreed lawmakers must take action to prevent millions of Americans from losing their jobs and their

Both also said they were pleased that lawmakers in both parties were negotiating on a compromise. Neither could offer specifics

about how the potential \$700 billion price tag of a Wall Street bailout might affect their ability to implement all the campaign promises they've made. McCain jabbed at Obama, who he said has requested millions of

including some after he began running for president. As he does frequently, the Republican vowed to veto any lawmaker's pork barrel project that reaches his desk in the White House. McCain said a freeze on most

dollars in pork barrel spending,

government spending was worth considering, except for veterans, defence and "some other vital Obama said the problem with

that was that some Biograffic

needed more money. He mentioned early childhood education as an example. "The problem with a spending freeze is you're using a hatchet

where you need a scalpel," he said. The presidential hopefuls are scheduled to debate twice more, at Belmont University in Nashville on Oct. 7 and at Hofstra University in Hempsted, New York, on Oct. 15.

### Pak tribesmen

FROM PAGE 16

the tribes sheltered them, viewing them as successors of the "Mujahedeen" who fought the Soviet occupiers of Afghanistan in

In 2003, Islamabad launched army operations at Washington's behest in the tribal belt, especially the notorious Waziristan area, but civilian deaths helped to radicalise and fire up many more tribesmen against the government. Pakistani authorities have in

recent years made major efforts to

win the support of leading tribes-

men in a bid to drive out foreign al-Qaeda militants and isolate the most hardcore Taliban command-Yet that policy -- combined with US and Afghan suspicions that

elements in Pakistan's intelligence agencies still back the Taliban -has caused tensions with Washington, which wants Islamabad to launch an all-out offensive.

Pakistan complied and in August launched a military push in Bajaur, the smallest but increasingly the most dangerous of the country's seven tribal regions. The army said Friday the operation had left 1,000 militants dead.

# UN chief tells CA

FROM PAGE 1 during the meeting.

The CA said Bangladesh's commitment to attaining the MDGs is continuing and the country is on the track. MDGs have been achieved in many areas, he added.

Ban Ki-moon said achieving MDGs by Bangladesh would be symbolic and an example for all UN member countries. Fakhruddin said the UN secre

tary general during his visit to Bangladesh will see for himself the socioeconomic progress and the success achieved by the country.

Despite two back-to-back floods and powerful cyclone Sidr, Bangladesh overcame the situation by its own resources, he said and mentioned the farmers' extraordinary performance in producing bumper crop with the necessary

input support by the government. The CA said the government has made food stock of more than one

million tonnes by procurement. On general election, he men-

million voters to hold a free, fair and credible election on December Referring to the recently held municipal and city corporation

tioned the completion of voters'

list with photographs of over 80

that a good election would be held in Bangladesh under the leadership of Fakhruddin. Ban Ki-moon warmly wel-

CA's Press Secretary Syed Fahim Munaim briefed newsmen about

the meeting. Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Women and Children

Affairs Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury, CA's Press Secretary Syed Fahim Munaim and Bangladesh's Permanent Representative to UN Ismat Jahan were present.

#### criteria. But Jamaat and IOJ will have to bring major changes to their constitutions to get registered as political parties.

BNP-Jamaat alliance. On August 28, Jamaat's secretary general filed a writ petition with the High Court (HC) challeng-

In the third-round electoral

tion if objectives in its constitution Another provision says a party

tions on grounds of religion, race, caste, language or sex.

The EC however did not respond to the demands.

constitutions contradict the preamble in the country's. Talking to reporters of late, an

are over.

Asked about his party's stance,

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain main-

There is little prospect of Jamaat's writ petition being heard before the Supreme Court returns

The EC has yet to respond to the rule as it did not receive the certi-

to relax the registration, a BNP delegation led by its Vicepresident MK Anwar met the After around two hours of dis-

But three hours later, Anwar

Obaidul Qader

departure from higher authorities, AL sources added. When contacted, a senior official at the airport immigration yesterday evening told The Daily Star that Obaidul Qader left the legal bar to his going abroad. "He is airport without approaching the

the flight saying they did not

receive any instructions about his

an hour at the VIP lounge "We received instructions from higher authorities not to allow Qader leave the country," he added wishing anonymity. Later, Qader returned to the

immigration after spending over

BSMMU and got readmitted. The AL leader told reporters at the BSMMU that he is a victim of political conspiracy. None has the right to let me die slowly depriving me of proper medical treatment, Qader said. Qader's counsel advocate AKM Amin Uddin Manik in a statement

said the home ministry was

departure for New Delhi on

September 17 for medical treatment.

The ministry verbally informed them

that there was no restriction on his leaving the country. He also said a medical board Mainul Islam Mostaq.

headed by Prof Anisul Huq at the BSMMU on September 7 referred Qader to the Apollo Hospital in Delhi for treatment of splinter injuries he sustained in the August 21 grenade attacks on an AL rally on Bangabandhu Avenue in 2004. Amin Uddin also said there is no

on bail in all the cases filed against him, "he said. He hoped that the government would soon allow him leave for Delhi for medical treatment. Otherwise, Qader might be crip-

pled permanently, he added. Qader, also a former state minister, was arrested on March 9 last year during the caretaker government's crackdown on corruption suspects. Meanwhile, 16 former leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL)

in a joint statement yesterday

criticised the government for

barring Obaidul Qader from leav-

ing the country for medical treat-

informed in writing about Qader's The former BCL leaders include Advocate Boloram Poddar, Shahajada Mohiuddin, Rafiqul Islam Kotwal, Marufa Akhter Popy, Saifuzzaman Shikhar and Khan

#### Gleason -- and becomes entangled with a gambler played by George C. Scott. In the sequel -- directed by Scorsese -- "Fast Eddie" is no longer the high-stakes hustler he once was, but rather an aging liquor salesman who takes a young

pool player (Cruise) under his wing before making a comeback. He won an honorary Oscar in 1986 "in recognition of his many and memorable compelling screen performances and for his personal integrity and dedication to his craft." In 1994, he won a third Oscar, Newman had a soft spot for the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian

Award, for his charitable work. His most recent academy nod was a supporting actor nomination for the 2002 film "Road to Perdition." One of Newman's nominations was as a producer; the other nine were in acting categories. (Jack Nicholson holds the record among actors for Oscar nominations, with 12; actress

As he passed his 80th birthday, he remained in demand, winning an Emmy and a Golden Globe for the 2005 HBO drama "Empire Falls" and providing the voice of a crusty 1951 car in the 2006 Disney-Pixar hit, "Cars." But in May 2007, he told ABC's

Meryl Streep has had 14.)

"Good Morning America" he had given up acting, though he intended to remain active in charity projects. "I'm not able to work anymore as an actor at the level I would want to," he said. "You start to lose your memory, your confidence, your invention. So that's pretty much a closed book for me."

**ROM PAGE 16** she got down from a bus at Cox's Bazar Bus Terminal around 9:00pm Friday. The woman told reporters at the hospital yesterday that Sunny was watching TV in her room as she was

having dinner around 11:00pm

Friday. He around midnight asked

Foreigner 'raped'

her to go to the beach with him. As she refused, he raped her. She alleged that none from the guesthouse came to her rescue even though she screamed and pressed the call bell several times.

Superintendent of Police of

Cox's Bazar Bonoj Kumar

Majumder told The Daily Star over

telephone that a case was filed in

this connection and they have already arrested Sunny. Officer on duty at Cox's Bazar Police Station Delwar Hossain said

Sunnywas a staff of the guesthouse.

First Chinese

FROM PAGE 16

the capsule, Xinhua said earlier, citing Yang Liwei, who piloted China's maiden space flight in 2003. The Chinese Internet offered forum for local enthusiasts to

express their pride over the fledg

unavoidable once the astronaut left

ling space power's achievements. "Go China! Go Zhigang! We wish you good luck!" said a typical posting on popular web portal Sina.com The astronauts, who took off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in the desert of northwest

China late Thursday, had passed

most of their first day in space preparing for the walk. On Friday, Zhai and his colleague Liu Boming spent 12 hours unpacking and assembling the special China-made space suit that must be used during the walk outside the Shenzhou craft.

of perfect weightlessness as it is impossible to create a real zerogravity environment on Earth, the paper said. As part of China's space programme, two more unmanned craft will be launched by 2010, as well as another manned spaceship with a crew of three to start work on

It was the first time the two tried

to assemble the suit in conditions

the lab or space station, according to the China Daily. After China sent its first man into space in 2003, it followed up with a two-man mission in 2005. The astronauts also had time

Friday to enjoy the view, witnessing

16 sunrises during their first 24 hours in orbit, and to sample the 80-dish menu they brought with them on their 68-hour mission. Sleep was necessarily limited, but the spacecraft has sleeping bags hooked to the wall of the craft. However, the astronauts were told to keep their hands inside the bags in order to avoid them accidentall

contact while asleep, Xinhua said. The Shenzhou VII is scheduled to land in the northern Inner Mongolia region after the mission is completed.

Zia orphanage

FROM PAGE 16

pushing a button or flipping

submission of charge sheet in the On July 3 this year, the ACC filed the Zia Orphanage Trust case with Ramna Police Station, accusing Khaleda, her son Tarique Rahman and five others of misappropriating or abetting in defalcation of Tk 2.1 crore that was meant for spending on the welfare of orphans.

The five other accused are late

president Ziaur Rahman's nephew

Mominur Rahman, former BNP

lawmaker Kazi Solimul Haque,

Syed Ahmed, Gias Uddin Ahmed

and Sharfuddin Ahmed. The case was filed under sections 409/109 of the Penal Code, section 5(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1947 and section 15 of the Emergency Powers Rules 2007.

Khaleda to start

BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain will preside over the alliance meeting in his Nam flat in the capital at

11:00am. On September 23, after a meeting with the EC, BNP leader MK Anwar told reporters that BNP will get registered with the EC under the new electoral provisions and contest in the December 18 parliamentary poll. But just three hours later, he recanted his statement claiming it had been his personal opinion,

Party insiders said outcome of

the meeting between MK Anwar-

led BNP delegation and the EC will

also be discussed in today's alliance meeting and a formal announcement regarding their participation in the poll might also Asked about the meeting's agenda, alliance component Bangladesh Jatiya Party's (BJP) Chairman Andaleeve Rahman

not a party decision.

they will discuss the latest political situation as well as issues related to the upcoming general election. "We already raised the demands for lifting the emergency and for deferring the upazil

Partho told The Daily Star that

### Nezami told The Daily Star yesterelections," he said. Rejoinder, our reply

Institute of IT (DIIT) said The Daily Star report which stated that DIIT was in a list of 56 banned branches of foreign universities is very much unfortunate for the institute.

The DIIT has sent a legal notice

to the University Grants

Commission (UGC) demanding

justice and seeking to have its

name removed from the UGC list of

In a separate statement, Daffodil

56 banned branches of foreign universities, said a statement signed by the institute's executive director. OURREPLY

FROM PAGE 1

The main focus point of The Daily Star report was that UGC has declared illegal 56 branches of foreign universities in the country and all outer campuses of some tioned in the report. private universities. The report also dealt with the fact that some of these branches woo HSC passed students for admission through false promises in their advertise-The above three institutes did

UGC and education ministry on

not disagree with this point

August last year decided to close down all approved and unapproved outer campuses established by different private universities due to allegations of 'selling' certificates and imparting low quality education. Following the decision UGO

declared around 100 outer cam

puses of different private universi-

ties illegal. These included outer

campuses of Northern University

and International Islamic

University Chittagong. The Daily Star published the two lists -- banned branches of foreign university and banned outer campuses of private universities -- quoting the UGC. The Daily Star did not prepare the lists. UGC provided the lists men-

is a legal institute. The Daily Star has no intention to tarnish the reputation of any legal institution but always writes against irregularities, as demonstrated in this report. So, we stand by our report.

of helping Wartsila Power Development Ltd Consortium and power-plant deal depriving the lowest bidder. The ACC official filed the other The sending of a legal notice by case with the Tejgaon Police Station DIIT to UGC does not prove that it

polls, the CA said these were the indicators of free and fair elections. The UN secretary general hoped

> comed the CA and the members of his delegation at his office.

### term marriages. "I have steak at home, why go out for hamburger?" Newman told Playboy magazine