
STAR

Two ladies to meet

Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina agree to sit together for a dialogue some time after Eid on Hasina's return from abroad. The much-anticipated talk between the traditional political arch-rivals is considered by many as the most vital step forward to re-establishing democracy in the country, since the move is expected to usher in qualitative changes in the body politic. The two have refused to talk to each other for years, which many believe is the main reason for the politics of confrontation in the country.


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Tidal surge

Over a hundred fishermen go missing when their trawlers capsized in rough waters caused by depression in North Bay on Sept 16. The accompanying tidal surges inundate Patuakhali town, Nijhumdwip, and more than 100 other off-shore islands across the coastal districts, leaving thousands of people marooned. Tidal surges snap ferry services on the Kuakata route in Patuakhali and wash away a flood-prevention embankment along the Baleshawar River in Bagerhat. 25 trawlers with over 300 fishermen on board go under.

Election dates announced: Bangladesh goes to the polls on December 18

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed on September 21 declares that the much-anticipated 9th parliamentary election will be held on December 18 this year, and the polls to upazila parishads will be held in two phases on December 24 and 28.

The EC will announce the detailed schedules for both polls at an appropriate time and the state of emergency will be relaxed for electioneering. Relevant rules and regulations of the state of emergency will be either relaxed or suspended to facilitate electioneering, so the elections can be held in a lively atmosphere with spontaneous participation of all.

Just like old times

Leaders and activists of JCD, student wing of BNP, assault three journalists and at least 10 students of department of mass communication and journalism of Dhaka University on Sep 12. Around two dozen JCD cadres attack the journalists and students near Teacher Student Centre on the campus with iron rods, cricket stumps, sticks, and machetes, seriously injuring a number of students and journalists, who are rushed to hospital.