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4-party warns against managed polls
Holds countrywide rallies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the BNP-led four-party alliance yesterday vowed to resist any initiatives to hold a stage-managed election warning that the alliance would not participate in any such election.

"We will never take part in any election where we will be restricted, but resist such an election," BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain said at a rally at city's Engineers Institute.

The four-party alliance organised the rally to press their five-point demand including the lifting of emergency and scrapping of the amended Representation of the People Order (RPO).

Similar rallies were organised by the alliance across the country yesterday.

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Researchers to find right BNP candidates

Survey to be launched in a day or two

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN and RASHIDUL HASAN

BNP will launch a countrywide survey in a day or two to pick out prospective candidates 'with clean image' for the December 18 parliamentary election.

The party has already appointed 150 professional researchers to do the job.

Besides finding suitable candidates, they will prepare a report on constituency-wise strength of the organisation.

Some BNP leaders however said the survey will get momentum only after the constituency re-demarcation issue is settled at courts.

Primarily, the researchers will confine their work to 150 constituencies. At this time, they will not

- 150 professional researchers appointed
- 12 subcommittees started work
- Looking for candidates with good image
- Reformists have chance to be picked up
- No survey in seats with least prospect

research, analysis and the work on election strategies.

According to party sources, former energy adviser Mahmudur Rahman and journalist Shafik Rehman, among others, are members of this team.

Mahmudur Rahman, however, told The Daily Star last night that he has no idea about the survey.

BNP insiders said Shafik Rehman will play a key role as a member of the team that has already set a number of questions for the respondents.

"We hope the researchers will leave the capital for the constituencies within a day or two," a member of the team told The Daily Star last night.

He also said at least three would

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Meeting with Khaleda focused on BNP's poll participation
Says Hossain Zillur

UNB, Dhaka

Commerce and Education Adviser Dr Hossain Zillur yesterday said his recent meeting with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia focused on participation of her party in the forthcoming parliamentary elections.

"It was basically part of our continued contact to maintain an atmosphere of trust among ourselves. We must all be confident," he told reporters at his secretariat office.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Army officer 'takes care' of SC cause list
Alleges Barrister Rafique

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Barrister Rafique-ul Huq, principal counsel of former premiers Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina, has alleged that a junior army officer "takes care" of the cause list for hearing of petitions by the chamber judge of Supreme Court.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

AL sticks to associates, ignores RPO changes

Finalises proposals to amend party constitution for EC registration

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

The Awami League (AL) has finalised draft proposals for amending the party constitution to get registered with the Election Commission (EC) but kept the provisions for associate organisations and foreign chapters.

The provisions of keeping these bodies contradict the registration laws laid down in the revised Representation of the People Order (RPO).

According to the RPO, political parties willing to get registered

shall have specific provisions in their constitutions prohibiting formation of any associated or affiliated bodies consisting of teachers and students, employees and labourers of financial institutions and other professionals. It

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

PARTY REGISTRATION

BNP, Jamaat seek one week more

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday formally asked the Election Commission (EC) to extend the time limit for registration by a week.

They said they want to sit with the caretaker government before

applying to get registered. Besides, they need more time to complete preparations for registration.

According to the current deadline, political parties must apply by October 15 for registration on meeting a set of criteria.

The parties prayed for time in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

'Fugitive' Mojahid busy holding meetings

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Police could not arrest Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid, wanted accused in the Barapukuria coal mine corruption case, at his Uttara home.

The Jamaat leader went into hiding following the issuance of the arrest warrant against him, police told the trial court yesterday.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Global financial crisis fear rattles local investors

STAR REPORT

The stock market yesterday suffered a heavy decline as fears of fallout from the global financial meltdown ran deep on the home front.

In yesterday's trade, retail investors were nervous, paving the way for institutional investors to buy heavily into the market.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) held a joint news briefing at the DSE premises to calm the market jitters.

"Historically, there is no relationship between our capital market and global capital markets,"

said Farhad Ahmed, executive director of SEC.

DSE Chief Executive Officer Salahuddin Ahmed Khan said investors should not worry too much about any fallout from the global financial crisis on the local stock market.

The DSE General Index, the benchmark index of the premier bourse, slipped 80.63 points, or 2.74 percent, to 2855.93 points. The DSE All Share Price Index dropped 68.99 points, or 2.83 percent, to 2366.46 points.

Earlier in a letter to the World Bank, the central bank discounted the impact of the global financial

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Only Anwar, Shamsul show up in the dock

Khaleda, others asked to appear Oct 16; petition to quash Barapukuria case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday again directed BNP Chairperson and former prime minister Khaleda Zia and other accused in the Barapukuria coalmine corruption case to appear before it on October 16. A number of the accused failed to appear before the court on health grounds yesterday, the date scheduled for their appearance in court.

Khaleda Zia, M Saifur Rahman, Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Motiur Rahman Nizami, Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain and Altaf Hossain Chowdhury were not at

the court yesterday.

Metropolitan Sessions Judge of Dhaka Md Azizul Haque on October 6 directed Khaleda Zia, former BNP minister M Saifur Rahman, Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami and former minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan and other accused to appear before it on October 12 (yesterday).

Meanwhile, Khaleda filed a petition with the High Court (HC) to quash the proceedings of the case against her. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) had filed the case.

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We Deeply Mourn

The Board of Directors and the employees of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited are deeply grieved at the sad demise of **Alhaj Abdul Kader Mia**, a renowned businessman of the country and father of Mr. M. Sahabuddin Ahmed, Founder Chairman of Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited & Chairman of Dutch-Bangla Bank Foundation on October 12, 2008 (*Inna lilahi ----- Rajeun*).

We express our heart-felt condolences and sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and pray to the almighty Allah for the salvation of the departed soul.



Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited
YOUR TRUSTED PARTNER

আমরা শোকাহত

নারায়ণগঞ্জের বিশিষ্ট শিল্পপতি ও বাংলাদেশ ইয়ার্ণ মার্কেট এসোসিয়েশনের প্রতিষ্ঠাতা এবং সামসুদ্দিন স্পিনিং মিলস্ লিমিটেড, করণী নীট কম্পোজিট লিমিটেড এবং কে এন এস রোটর মিলস্ লিমিটেড এর ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক জনাব মোঃ কুতুবউদ্দিন আহমেদ এর পিতা **আলহাজ্ব আব্দুল কাদের মিয়া**

গতকাল ১২ অক্টোবর ২০০৮ সকাল ৭.১৫ ঘটিকায় বার্ষিক্যজনিত কারণে ঢাকাস্থ সেন্ট্রাল হাসপাতালে শেষ নিশ্বাস ত্যাগ করেন (ইন্না-লিল্লাহি ওয়া ইন্না ইলাইহি রাজিউন)। কোম্পানী সমূহের সকল শ্রমিক, কর্মচারী, কর্মকর্তা, পরিচালক ও শেয়ারহোল্ডার বৃন্দ মরহমের বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফিরাত কামনা করছি এবং শোকাহত পরিবারের প্রতি গভীর সমবেদনা জ্ঞাপন করছি।

আগামী ১৭ অক্টোবর, ২০০৮ রোজ শুক্রবার বাদ আসর ১৩৭/৫, বি. বি. রোড, নারায়ণগঞ্জস্থ নিজ বাসভবনে মরহমের কুলখানি ও দোয়া মাহফিল অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। উক্ত দোয়া মাহফিলে সকলকে অংশ গ্রহণের জন্য বিনীত অনুরোধ জানানো যাচ্ছে।

- সামসুদ্দিন স্পিনিং মিলস্ লিমিটেড
- করণী নীট কম্পোজিট লিমিটেড এবং
- কে এন এস রোটর মিলস্ লিমিটেড- এর

পক্ষে সকল শ্রমিক, কর্মচারী ও কর্মকর্তা, পরিচালক ও শেয়ারহোল্ডারবৃন্দ।

The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like, and do what you'd rather not.

~Mark Twain



See next day...