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## All parties to take part in polls

CA expresses hopes to British minister Brown

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday told British Minister of State for Asia, Africa and the United Nations Lord Malloch Brown that his caretaker government hopes that all the political parties will participate in December 18 general elections and a new government will take over after the polls.

"Political parties will certainly come as what we are doing, doing by consulting them. The government and the Election Commission are discussing with the political parties. A new government will be formed after the election," he was quoted as telling the visiting British minister.

Lord Malloch Brown made a courtesy call on the chief adviser at his office when election, politics,

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## Interpol finds Morshed Khan's Tk 14.15cr stashed in HK bank

Says money was laundered

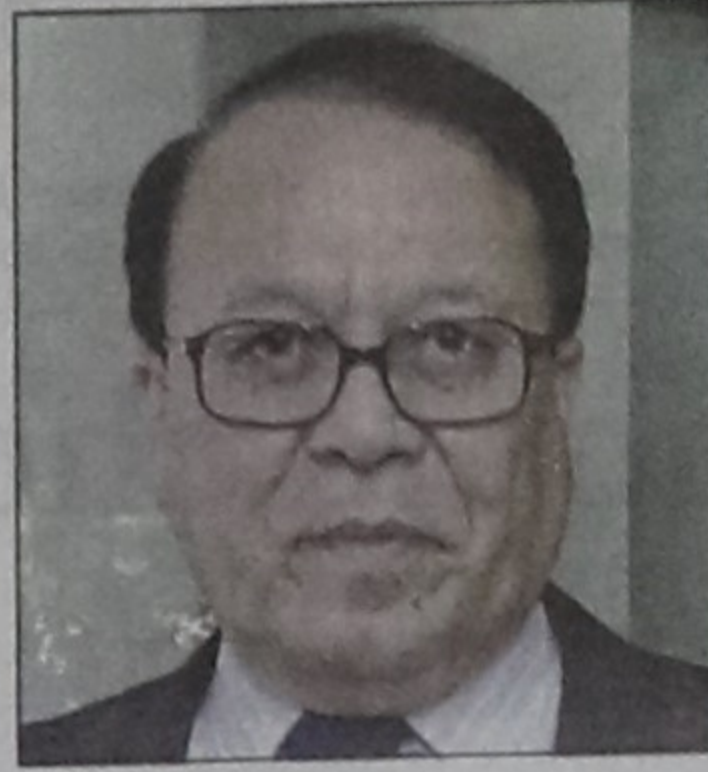
KAILASH SARKAR

The International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) has detected a deposit of over Tk 14.15 crore by absconding former foreign minister M Morshed Khan and his son Faisal Morshed Khan with a Hong Kong bank.

Both the Khans have been convicted in several cases relating to corruption, hiding wealth information, land grabbing and criminal activities after the caretaker government came to power in January 2007.

The Hong Kong police, through the Interpol's Dhaka office, have informed the matter to the government and wanted to know whether Bangladesh wants to confiscate the money.

Sources said the Hong Kong police have uncovered that the



money was laundered from the earnings of Citycell, a telco partly owned by Morshed Khan and his son.

Hasib Aziz, assistant inspector general of police (AIG) who is also in charge of Interpol in Dhaka, said the Hong Kong authorities

detected 16 million Hong Kong dollars in the account. But they did not mention the name of the bank in the letter sent to Dhaka Interpol eight days ago.

The AIG said, "We have already forwarded it to the Bangladesh Bank, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), the Attorney General and other higher authorities of the government."

The ACC can now verify whether Morshed Khan and his son Faisal mentioned the amount in their wealth statements submitted to the commission.

Inspector General of Police Nur Mohammad told The Daily Star yesterday, "We have received the information through a letter sent by the Hong Kong Interpol. Since we are not the authority to make a decision in this regard, we have forwarded the information to the

authorities concerned for action." The money laundering law allows the ACC to confiscate the laundered amount with permission from the court. The ACC also can take initiatives to bring back the money.

The Bangladesh Bank and the Attorney General were informed of the matter as they can help the ACC in this regard.

CITYCELL is the first mobile operator in Bangladesh that started its operation in 1989. Morshed and his son holds 35 percent stake in Citycell through three companies -- Pacific Motors, Pacific Traders and Pacific Industries Limited. Of the remaining, 45 percent is held by Singtel Asia Pacific Investments Pte Ltd, Singtel Consultancy Pte Ltd and Singapore Telecom Pte Ltd.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## Registration criteria not fulfilled as AL submits form

AL, allies sit today to discuss common stance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League (AL) yesterday submitted application for registration to the Election Commission (EC) with a provisional constitution keeping provision for its associate bodies and foreign chapters which contradicts registration criteria as per the revised Representation of the People Order (RPO).

As per the RPO, political parties willing to get registered shall have specific provisions in their constitutions prohibiting formation of any associated bodies consisting of teachers and students, employees and labourers of financial institutions and other professionals. It says the same on having a party's

foreign chapters.

However, Election Commissioner Muhammed Sohul Hussain told The Daily Star that if any political party fails to fulfill the new registration criteria, they would ask the party to make necessary corrections for getting registered.

Meanwhile, key leaders of the AL-led 14 party combine will sit today to take a common stance over lifting the state of emergency ahead of the national election and permanent release of AL President Sheikh Hasina.

Terming the AL's submission of application for registration positive, Sohul Hussain hoped that other political parties including

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

## Restore civil, political rights for EU poll observation

EC envoy asks govt UNB, Dhaka

European Commission Ambassador Stefan Frowein yesterday asked the caretaker government to make convincing restoration of civil and political rights to enable the EC to send its Election Observation Mission (EOM) to observe the parliamentary polls on December 18.

Asked by diplomatic correspondents about their position if the elections could not be held on December 18 and army took over, the envoy said, "We don't support coup d'etat or military rule."

"We'll not be happy at all. We'll have to rethink our relations with this country. We don't deal with this type of government. This is clear."

Frowein made it clear that they are certainly not pushing or wishing this type of situation. He said the caretaker government is doing

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

## DEFAMATION CASE The Daily Star lawyers refute allegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The lawyers for The Daily Star in Mahmudur Rahman's defamation case against the English daily yesterday said three news stories run Monday by Bangla dailies Amar Desh, Dinkal and Nayadiganta about their court submissions were false and fabricated.

The reports in the three newspapers were headlined "The Daily Star lawyer blames General Mainul and Barrister Mainul" in Amar Desh, "The Daily Star lawyer blames two advisers" in Dinkal and "Hearing of Mahmudur Rahman's defamation case against The Daily Star over" in Nayadiganta.

The reports claimed that the defence lawyers told the court during charge hearing in the case that the sources of The Daily Star report which had angered Mahmudur Rahman were Home Affairs Adviser Maj Gen (retd) MA Mainul and former law adviser barrister Mainul Hosein.

In a rejoinder the lawyers categorically denied the authenticity of the claims.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



PHOTO: STAR

Buses are parked illegally close to the rail tracks at Sayedabad in the capital, posing risk of accident.

## Top bureaucrats asked to limit overseas trips

Govt finds their too much travelling cripples administration, tarnishes country's image

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

The caretaker government has moved to curb overseas visits of the advisers and top bureaucrats that have been hampering government activities and also tarnishing the country's image.

It has asked the advisers and special assistants to the chief adviser (CA) not to travel abroad along with the secretaries and acting secretaries, says an official document.

The move follows growing tendency of advisers and senior

bureaucrats to pay overseas visits, causing resentment within the administration.

The Chief Adviser's (CA's) Office recently issued a letter setting some criteria for overseas trips. The Daily Star has obtained a copy of the letter issued to the advisers, special assistants to the CA, cabinet secretary, secretaries and acting additional secretaries of different ministries on October 7.

The CA's office said secretaries and acting secretaries of different ministries and divisions have been approaching for approval of their

foreign trips on getting personal invitations. "They are getting invitations by name to make overseas visits in economy class that does not go with the image of our state."

The letter regretted that secretaries and acting secretaries were sending proposals to attend not so important overseas workshops and seminars as education trips "Presumably, this is not justified."

As per the criteria, from now on junior or mid-ranking officials will be given priority to make

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## IGP show-caused Asked to explain his frustration over police ordinance

KAILASH SARKAR



received a letter from the home ministry on Tuesday.

The show cause notice was issued on the basis of reports run by different electronic and print media on his comments.

The notice asked the IGP to explain and mention those sections of the Police Act, 1861 which are contrary to impartial investigations.

The seemingly frustrated police chief had commented: "Police investigations have never been conducted strongly, it's not being

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

## No registration before deal with govt Says BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP secretary general Khandaker Delwar Hossain yesterday said BNP would not take any decision about registration with the Election Commission (EC) and its participation in the upcoming polls until they reach a consensus with the government in the next round of talks.

Delwar said this while talking to reporters at his Nam flat in the city. "BNP's being registered with the EC and taking part in the elections depend on the success of the further dialogue with the government," he

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

## Mojahid episode surprises many

New HC bench formed as he denied bail hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court (HC) bench yesterday refused to accept the bail petition filed by Jamaat-e-Islami Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojahid in the Barapukuria coal mine corruption case.

Justices Mohammad Anwarul Haque and Farah Mahmud said their bench was already overstretched with other cases.



The bail petition was later moved to the bench of justices AKM Fazlur Rahman and ATM Fazle Kabir after the Jamaat leader's counsels appealed to the chief justice to constitute a new bench to hear their case.

The new bench asked Mojahid's lawyers to place the petition for hearing on October 19.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

## HASINA'S 2 CASES SC rejects govt appeals against HC stay orders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday rejected the government appeals against the High Court (HC) orders extending its stay orders on proceedings of the Niko and barge-mounted power plant cases against Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina.

Following a prayer moved by Attorney General (AG) Salauddin Ahmed, a four-member full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice MM Ruhul Amin passed the order.

The Attorney General told the court that they would not proceed with the appeals since the rules regarding these cases remained pending with the HC and hearing of the rules would be held at the HC on October 19.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

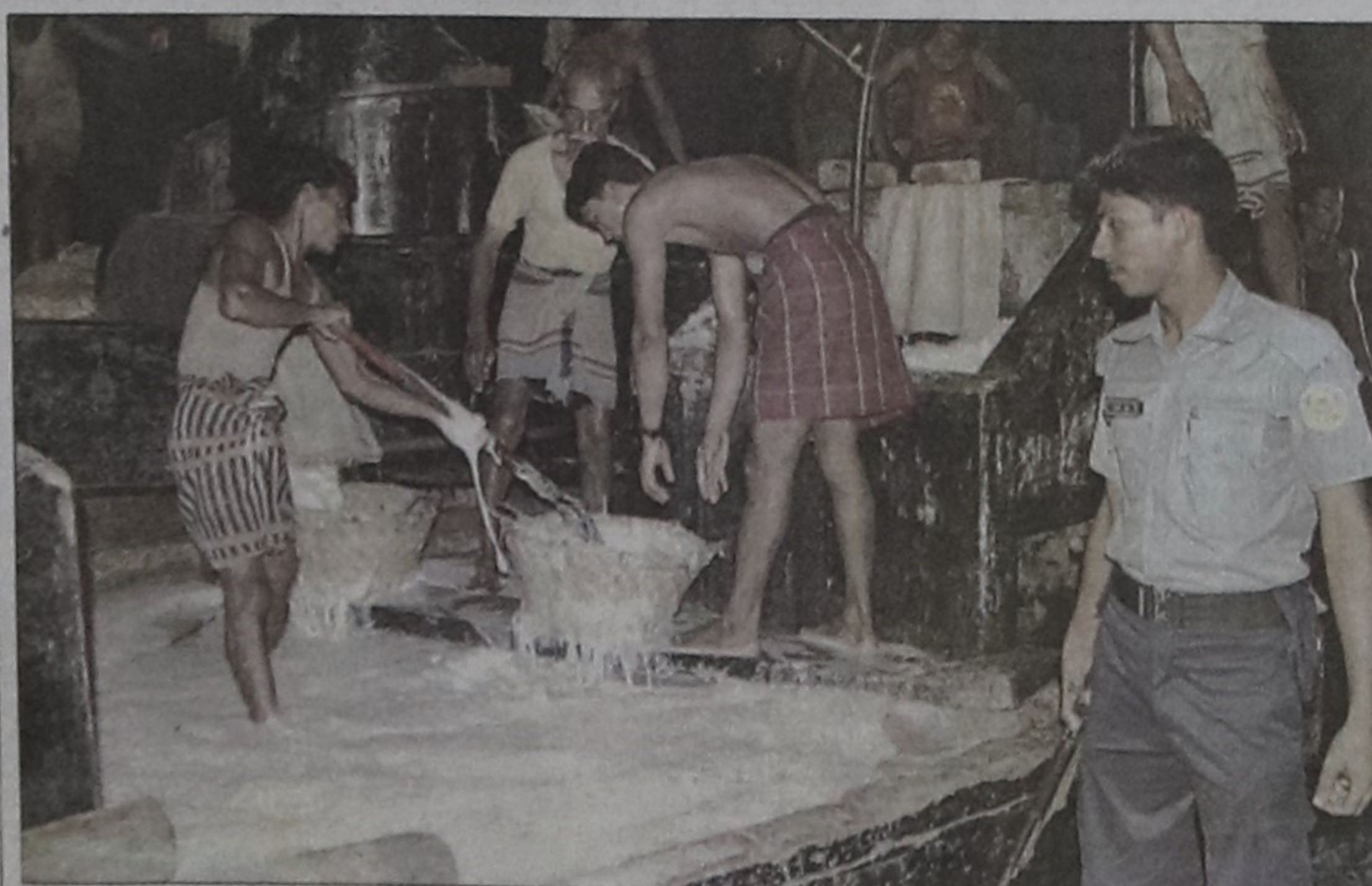


PHOTO: STAR

Workers busy in a factory producing low-quality salt at Chaktai Rajakhali in Chittagong yesterday as a team of district administration led by a magistrate raids the factory.

## TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT Education instts in city asked to start classes at 7:30am

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a bid to ease traffic congestion and ensure smooth traffic management in the capital, the government has asked all educational institutions to start their classes at 7:30am.

All educational institutions of the city have been asked to comply with the directive regardless of their single or double shifts, said an official handout yesterday.

To strictly enforce the directive, the education ministry yesterday formed 12 vigilance teams with 36 officials led by 12 deputy secretaries.

The teams will make separate visits to the educational institutions and submit their reports to the ministry by October 20.

The government has sought cooperation of all concerned in this regard.

## Talking polls, beyond Emergency to impede free polls: Matia Chy

HASAN JAHD TUSHER

Awami League (AL) Presidium Member Matia Chowdhury has said categorically the state of emergency would definitely impede holding the parliamentary election in a free, fair and credible manner as there could be attempts to manipulate the polls results.

Demanding complete withdrawal of the state of emergency before the national polls scheduled for December 18, the AL policymaker said question has



now arisen as to whether people could exercise freely their franchise to elect candidates of their choice, and whether polls results would properly reflect the votes cast, with emergency rules in force.

In an exclusive interview with The Daily Star, she said allegation of any political party about manipulating poll results will have national and international credence. She warned that any manipulated polls results would

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Find details of the interview on page 11

## BARAPUKURIA CASE Khaleda may appear in court today

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Former premier and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is likely to appear before a Dhaka court today in connection with the Barapukuria coalmine graft case.

Advocate Sanaullah Miah who defends Khaleda told The Daily Star that Khaleda would appear before the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka at 10:00am.

Meanwhile, a High Court (HC) bench comprising Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice Farid Ahmed yesterday fixed today for hearing the quashment petition filed by Khaleda Zia in the same graft case.

Earlier, on Tuesday another HC

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

## NESTLÉ DAIRY PRODUCTS IN BANGLADESH ARE SAFE

A report of alleged melamine in some dairy products in Bangladesh has caused concern amongst some consumers.

While Nestlé Bangladesh does not import any dairy products or ingredients from China, we have still tested our dairy products for melamine at ISO certified laboratories in various places including Singapore. No melamine adulteration has been detected in our products.

Nestlé Bangladesh Ltd. reassures its consumers that the safety and quality of products is non-negotiable for Nestlé. All Nestlé products are safe for consumption.



Good Food, Good Life