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BNP moves to resolve internal feud before polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP has taken an initiative to resolve internal disputes as part of its preparation for the upcoming parliamentary election slated for December 18.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia assigned senior party leaders to do necessary groundwork in districts and upazilas for the polls.

She also formed seven teams comprising senior BNP leaders for six divisions. The teams would seek opinion from grassroots-level leaders.

Some of the teams have already visited their respective areas.

District and grassroots-level leaders have been asked to submit organisational reports outlining the weaknesses of the committees and also suggestions for strengthening those.

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HC extends order not to harass Hasina by 2 weeks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday extended for two weeks its earlier orders that had directed the government not to harass or arrest Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina at home or abroad in Niko and barge-mounted power plant cases.

An HC bench comprising Justice Sheikh Rezwan Ali and Justice Md Rais Uddin also extended for the same period its earlier orders staying the proceedings of the two cases against Sheikh Hasina.

On July 7, the HC stayed for two months the proceedings of Niko and barge-mounted power plant corruption cases filed by the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC).

The court also issued separate rules, asking the ACC and the government to explain why the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

BD-NZ first Test from today

MOHAMMAD ISAM in Chittagong

Bangladesh have put the onus on batting for their first Test of the Brac Bank Series against New Zealand which starts at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium here today.

Bangladesh Television will telecast the match live from 9.30am.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Prayer Timing		
October 17		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-50	5-25
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-38	5-41
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

RPO CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION EC to ask AL to right its constitution

JP already told to correct 2 interim provisions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission (EC) will ask Awami League (AL) to correct its provisional constitution that ignored the registration laws by retaining the provisions for associated organisations of students and workers, and chapters abroad.

It already directed Ershad-led Jatiya Party (JP) yesterday to set right two of its interim charter provisions—one on selection of parliamentary contestants and the other on woman representation in party committees, EC Secretariat sources said.

A committee commissioned by the EC to scrutinise the registration applications came up with the decisions.

It is also working to discuss the issues with AL in a couple of days.

On receipt of applications from AL and JP Wednesday, the five-member committee led by an EC Secretariat's joint secretary examined the documents tagged with the application forms.

They found that provisional constitutions of both the parties do not fully meet the registration criteria laid down in the revised Representation of the People Order (RPO), the sources added.

According to the RPO, a party seeking registration with the EC must incorporate in its provisional constitution specific provisions doing away with the associated organisations made up of students and workers, and overseas chapters.

But AL kept Sramik League and Chhatra League, as its labour and student wings, along with the other auxiliary bodies.

Its interim constitution still has the provision for chapters abroad.

Besides, the party, one of the largest in the country, did not furnish the EC with its bank statements.

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Former minister Altaf Hossain Choudhury is being taken to a Dhaka court by an ambulance for hearing in the Barapukuria corruption case.

APPELLATE DIVISION SJC chooses HC judges on seniority

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Judicial Commission yesterday recommended four senior-most judges of the High Court division of the Supreme Court for appointment as judges of the Appellate Division by the president.

The High Court judges are Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman, Justice Md Abdul Quddus, Justice Md Abdul

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Nizami's lawyer threatens others at courtroom

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami's counsel threatened other lawyers during yesterday's hearing in the Barapukuria coalmine corruption case at the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka.

"If Nizami does not get bail today many lawyers would not be able to go home," said the lawyer Moshui Alam after the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC)

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Removal of sculptures sparks protests

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Various political and socio-cultural organisations yesterday condemned the removal of the five sculptures of bauls (folk singers) in front of the Zia International Airport (ZIA).

They urged the people to launch movement against the fundamentalists who are posing threats to Bengali culture and heritage.

Meanwhile, Bimanbandar Golchatter Murti Protirodoh

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Rental power scheme in Ctg draws 6 bids

SHARIER KHAN

Six local and foreign power companies yesterday submitted attractive bids in the tender for a 50-megawatt three-year rental power scheme in Chittagong that the government wants to bring online before June next year.

Participated by three local and three foreign companies, the bid drew some attractive price offers ranging between US 3.5 cents to 5.5 cents per kilowatt-hour, sources say. Because of flexibility of plant

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Obama seen victor in final debate

McCain lags behind 14 points in NYT-CBS poll

AFP, Hempstead

Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama head into the final 19-day stretch of their presidential campaigns Thursday after a feisty final debate that snap polls say further cemented Obama's lead in the race.

McCain aggressively and even angrily attacked Obama's policy ideas and goals during Wednesday night's debate in a bid to turn around his flagging campaign.

But instant polls by television

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



Political posters and banners are still seen in many areas in the city even though the Election Commission had asked leaders to remove them on their own by October 15. The picture was taken at Kamrangirchar yesterday.

Parties should help govt lift emergency

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

British minister for Asia, Africa and the UN, Mark Malloch Brown, yesterday said elections without the emergency rule will enjoy greater legitimacy and credibility at home and abroad.

He called on the government and political parties to work out how to lift the emergency powers.

"One has to recognise that the government has real issues and the political parties will have to help

Counsel remains hopeful about Hasina-Khaleda meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Barrister Rafique-ul Huq, counsel for Awami League President Sheikh Hasina and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, yesterday said he was still optimistic about a meeting between the two leaders in the interest of the country.

"If you seek public opinion, you'll see that 99 percent of the people would vote for a meeting between the two leaders," he said.

The veteran lawyer was talking to reporters after securing a stay

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

DANO Dairy Products in Bangladesh are Safe

Aria Foods Ingredients, Bangladesh has noticed that some recent reports in newspapers alleged melamine in some dairy products, which has caused concern amongst the consumers.

DANO dairy products have no connection to Chinese milk or any other dairy ingredients from China.

DANO dairy products in Bangladesh are produced by Aria Foods in Denmark and therefore equally safe in Bangladesh as in Denmark. Denmark has no import of milk or dairy products from China.

Danish milk and DANO dairy products in Denmark, as well as in Bangladesh, have no risk to be contaminated with melamine. Aria Foods and the Danish Dairy Association have initiated testing for melamine in milk and various dairy products, including DANO dairy products. The testing for melamine has been performed by different accredited labs in Germany, belonging to the international Eurofins Group of laboratories.

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গুঁড়োদুধে মেলামাইনের উপস্থিতি সম্পর্কিত তথ্য

চীন থেকে আসা গুঁড়োদুধ ও শিট দুগ্ধখাদ্যসহ এদেশে যে সব দুধ বাজারে পাওয়া যায় সে সব দুধে মেলামাইন আছে কি না তা পরীক্ষা করে দেখার জন্য বিএসটিআই প্রাথমিকভাবে ৮টি ব্র্যান্ডের গুঁড়োদুধ ৩টি ল্যাবরেটরীতে প্রেরণ করে। ল্যাবরেটরীগুলো হচ্ছে: ১) বিএসটিআই ল্যাবরেটরী, ২) ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের রসায়ন বিভাগের ল্যাবরেটরী ও ৩) প্রাজমা প্রাস ল্যাবরেটরী। দুধের ব্র্যান্ডসমূহ এবং উৎপাদক দেশগুলো হলো সুইট বেবি-২ (চীন), ইয়াশলী-১ (চীন), ইয়াশলী-২ (চীন), নিভো ফর্টিফাইড ইনস্ট্যান্ট (নিউজিল্যান্ড), এ্যানলিন (নিউজিল্যান্ড), ভিপ্রোমা (অস্ট্রেলিয়া), রেডকাট (অস্ট্রেলিয়া) ও ডানো (ডেনমার্ক)।

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বিএসটিআই'র ল্যাবে-১টিতে (ইয়াশলী-১)
প্রাজমা প্রাস'র ল্যাবে-১টিতে (ইয়াশলী-১)

যেহেতু তিনটি ল্যাবের মধ্যে ২টি ল্যাবের পরীক্ষায় ১ (এক) টি ব্র্যান্ডের দুধে মেলামাইন পাওয়া গেছে এবং ৭ (সাত) টি ব্র্যান্ডের দুধে পাওয়া যায়নি এবং অপর একটি ল্যাবের পরীক্ষায় ৮ (আট) টি ব্র্যান্ডের দুধেই মেলামাইন পাওয়া গেছে, তাই সার্বিক বিষয় পর্যালোচনা করে বাণিজ্য মন্ত্রণালয় কর্তৃক পরবর্তী সিদ্ধান্ত খুব দ্রুত গ্রহণ করা হবে।

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Big powers gear up for 'regulated capitalism'

AFP, Paris

Europe is enlisting the United States and other powers in a drive to create a new system to ensure order in global finance, a task which analysts say is daunting but unavoidable.

Britain, France and Germany agree on the need for a far-reaching

rethink of the financial world but the specifics of what President Nicolas Sarkozy calls a new "regulated capitalism" have yet to be nailed down.

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, whose bank rescue plan was emulated by the rest of Europe, is seeking a "new international

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