

DCs told

FROM PAGE 1
will work as returning officers during the election, to present a credible election to the people.

He directed the DCs to sincerely scrutinise nomination papers of prospective candidates in accordance with the new electoral law that bars loan and bill defaulters from contesting in polls.

He alerted them saying, "This time around the process of scrutinising nomination papers is very important due to the new electoral law."

Huda suggested the DCs to collect information about loan defaulters from district bank managers as the Bangladesh Bank already asked the district banks to prepare lists of loan defaulters who are also prospective candidates.

The EC earlier sent to the central bank a list of the winners and their nearest contenders in the last three parliamentary polls, asking the bank to mark who among them are loan defaulters, as many of them are expected to apply for candidacy in the upcoming parliamentary poll too.

"You collect the list from the bank managers concerned," the CEC told the DCs.

The banks are currently preparing the list of loan defaulters across the country.

Huda said the commission will also send to the DCs lists of persons convicted under the emergency powers rules (EPR), so they can disqualify the convicted from contesting in the election.

He said all information about electoral candidates will be disseminated among voters, so they may choose honest and competent ones as their representatives.

"We want to see the candidates as role models. So it's necessary to inform voters everything about the

15 hurt

FROM PAGE 1
Since the illegal structures were not removed by the stipulated time, the municipality officials launched a drive in the morning to demolish the illegal structures.

At one stage, land grabbers led by Motkar Haji, Akhtar and Sohel attacked the municipality officials leaving 15 people including photo-journalist of Daily Inquilab Habibur Rahman Shyamol injured.

They also damaged six municipal vehicles.

On information of Municipality Mayor Dr Selina Hayat Ivy along with policemen rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. The illegal structures were demolished with the help of police.

Selina said although they had asked the shop owners several times to remove the illegal structures, they paid no heed to it.

She said she would file a case against the people involved in the attack.

Govt role

FROM PAGE 1
students could not have dared to violate the state of emergency. Also, extremists like Nurani and Amin could not make statements branding sculptures as idols. They even dared to threat to put Shikha Chirantan (flame eternal) out."

"Unless the government resists these forces, it would be thought that the present government is indeed patronising religion-based politics and fanaticism," he added.

Prominent economist Professor Abul Barakat asked, "How can Jamaat-e-Islami leaders make such statements if they are not certain about their situation and destination?"

He said that they annual profit Jamaat-e-Islami makes from businesses like real estate, diagnostic centres, school and colleges and media nowadays stands at over Tk 1700 crore.

With this money, they maintain activists all across the country Prof Barakat said. He added that at present, there are 16 secretaries from Jamaat-e-Islami in the administration while eight deans of Dhaka University are from the same political party.

Kamal Lohani, a journalist and acting president of Ekatorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee (Forum for secular Bangladesh and Trial of War Criminals of 1971), said,

"What message do we get when an abounding leader sits in talk with the chief adviser in a highly secured place, and the police say they can't find him?" said

"Over the last two weeks such type of incidents have continued to take place," Muntasir Mamun said.

Prof Anwar Hossain, general secretary of Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) said, "If we do not participate in the upcoming election united in a movement against these fanatics then there would be no positive outcome from the poll. If we participate in the poll to just reach a consensus with the men in power, then it wouldn't bring us any good results."

"This may be our last chance against these forces," he said.

Adviser of the organisation Justice Golam Rabbani presided over the meeting while eminent actress Shomi Kaiser, and dean of fine arts institute of Dhaka University Rafiqun Nabi also spoke on the occasion.

They also complain that the very important public notice was published only in two newspapers allowing only 48 hours for filing objections. The notice was issued on October 23 but published on October 26.

They say the party has taken a new name and has accepted the constitution of Bangladesh by changing a few words, but not a single member of Jamaat has yet expressed formal loyalty to the party.

"Many of our leaders and workers are in jails on detention although government finds no charges against them. So, they should be allowed to take part in the election," he said.

Jamaat-Shibir spent crores of taka to prove their innocence in the October 28 killings but failed, he added, demanding trial of the killers.

The AL leaders said if their party under the leadership of Sheikh Hasina comes to power through the next election, it would bring the killers to book.

Adviser Zillur

FROM PAGE 1
said they are working to hold a summit in the last week of November or early December to formulate education policies.

"We hope academics, government officials concerned and experts will participate in the event and contribute to drawing up short-term, middle-term and long-term policies."

As there is no central water outlet in the area, Water Development Board has to pump out water after rain each time. But it cannot be a permanent solution to waterlogging, he continued. "WASA should immediately set up a sewerage system to put an end to the sufferings."

There are around 20 lakh tax identification number (TIN) holders across the country. Of them, only two lakh TIN holders have submitted their returns worth Tk 500 crore as of October 28.

On Monday Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Muallem, speaking in London after talks with British Foreign Secretary David Miliband, said: "Killing civilians in international law means a terrorist aggression."

Muallem said four US helicopters had crossed the border with two landing at the village of Al-

Constituency

FROM PAGE 1
the constitution and the relevant laws.

He made the arguments during the hearing of the writ petitions regarding the EC's re-demarcation of parliamentary constituencies before the HC bench of justices Mir Hasmat Ali and Shamim Hasnain.

The HC bench adjourned the hearing until today.

Advocate ITH Khan, counsel for a writ petitioner Abdul Mannan, told the court that the EC has violated the rules of the constitution and laws by finalising the voter list before delimitation of the parliamentary constituencies.

He said the gazette notification issued by the EC on November 16, 2006, on the earlier delimitation of the constituencies is still valid since the EC had postponed the parliamentary elections scheduled for January 22, 2007, for which the notification was issued.

He said the postponed election is going to be held on December 18 and the EC should consider the earlier gazette notification on the delimitation.

The CEC also talked about political parties' usual culture of not accepting poll results that shows their defeats. "We must change our culture of blame games," he said.

Barrister Abdur Razzak, counsel for another writ petitioner, started submission before the HC bench yesterday.

Earlier on August 7, the HC had stayed the gazette notifications for three months following the writ petitions and issued a rule on the petitioners and the EC to show cause in two weeks as to why the 10 gazette should not be declared unconstitutional and illegal.

The HC began final hearings on the writ petitions from October 22.

4-party asks govt

FROM PAGE 1
Khandaker Delwar Hossain told the meeting over mobile phone.

Delwar could not attend the meeting due to illness.

Welcoming Commerce Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman's comment that there is no legal bar for BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina to contesting the election, Delwar said, "We want the actions of the government to be as good as its words."

"We'll boycott the polls if the government tries to hold any arranged or staged election," he added.

The meeting demanded tracking down the people responsible for violence in Dhaka on October 28.

Other leaders of the alliance also addressed the meeting.

Menon

FROM PAGE 1
lacking" in running the administration.

During this government's tenure 40 lakh people have become unemployed and homeless while another 14 lakh gone below the poverty line because of price hike of essentials, he said.

Menon demanded that the upazila elections be held at least one month after the parliamentary polls because voters would be confused if both the elections are held simultaneously.

No representatives from the PNA, Jamaat and Jatiya Party however were seen at the function.

CG lenient

FROM PAGE 1
and 14-party alliance leaders and activists in Paltan area of the capital and elsewhere in the country on October 28 in 2006 by BNP-Jamaat coalition cadres'.

Downtown Dhaka virtually turned into a battlefield on that day with thousands of AL workers clashing with Jamaat supporters in Paltan area for seven hours, and with police in Bangabandhu Avenue and Golapnagar Mazar area that left at least four killed.

Suranjit Sengupta, another AL president member, alleged that charge sheets in the cases filed for the killings have not been completed due to reluctance of the present government and its home adviser. The adviser favours a particular party, he said without naming it.

Others who addressed the rally included AL acting President Zillur Rahman, presidium members Sajeda Chowdhury, Abdur Razzak and Matia Chowdhury, Joint Secretary Abdul Mannan and Juba League General Secretary Mirza Azam. It was held at Juba League central office.

The AL leaders reiterated their demands for withdrawal of the state of emergency, unconditional release of party President Sheikh Hasina and deferral of upazila election.

Tofail said a conspiracy is on to foil the next election. He hoped that the issue of demarcation of parliamentary constituencies would be settled before the announcement of election schedule.

The objections came after EC published a public notice on Sunday inviting objections to Jamaat's possible registration accompanied with supporting documents.

War Crimes Facts Finding Committee (WCCFFC), Sector Commanders Forum, Ekatorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, Sammilito Sangskritik Jote and Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote are the organisations raising objections.

Forty-six professionals in a joint statement also raised a number of complaints against Jamaat and urged EC not to register the party.

The objectors say Jamaat is still "an illegal and unconstitutional party," which was involved in human rights violations including genocide during the Liberation War and has yet to confess its crimes.

They say the party has taken a new name and has accepted the constitution of Bangladesh by changing a few words, but not a single member of Jamaat has yet expressed formal loyalty to the party.

Adviser Zillur

FROM PAGE 1
said they are working to hold a summit in the last week of November or early December to formulate education policies.

"We hope academics, government officials concerned and experts will participate in the event and contribute to drawing up short-term, middle-term and long-term policies."

As there is no central water outlet in the area, Water Development Board has to pump out water after rain each time. But it cannot be a permanent solution to waterlogging, he continued. "WASA should immediately set up a sewerage system to put an end to the sufferings."

There are around 20 lakh tax identification number (TIN) holders across the country. Of them, only two lakh TIN holders have submitted their returns worth Tk 500 crore as of October 28.

On Monday Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Muallem, speaking in London after talks with British Foreign Secretary David Miliband, said: "Killing civilians in international law means a terrorist aggression."

Muallem said four US helicopters had crossed the border with two landing at the village of Al-

8 'toxic' milk brands

FROM PAGE 1
The HC ruling came in response to a petition filed by the Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh after the chemistry department of Dhaka University found toxic melamine in these brands.

Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (Bsti) and private laboratory Plasma Plus found melamine only in Yashili 1 which caused confusion.

The government then decided on October 19 to re-test the brands at the laboratories of Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and at a laboratory in Bangkok through the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Asked why Chapaniawabganj administration burnt milk powder, he said they must have interpreted the court order differently. "If we are informed that products have been burnt, we will ask them not to do so," he said.

CONTEMPT OF COURT PETITION

The HC yesterday adjourned the hearing on a contempt of court petition, filed against the home, health and commerce secretaries and inspector general of police (IGP), until Thursday.

The petition was filed against them on charge of not complying with the HC order directing them to ban display and sale of melamine contaminated milk.

The HC bench of Justice ABM Khairul Haque and Justice Md Abdul Hye adjourned the hearing until Thursday as the deputy attorney general (DAG) Md. Mozammel Haque yesterday informed the court that the government has already taken steps in this regard.

The home ministry accepted the petition and ordered the CID to reinvestigate the case.

Hannan, an accused in a number of cases, was earlier placed on remand for over 160 days for interrogation.

The Prothom Alo published a report on May 13 this year giving details about Azizur's abduction.

Following the report, Jui submitted a petition to the home ministry on May 18 for reviving the case.

The home ministry accepted the petition and the CID to reinvestigate the case.

Hannan, an accused in a number of cases, was earlier placed on remand for over 160 days for interrogation.

The Arizona senator, 72, tried to reignite fears of "socialism" by citing a 2001 radio interview given by Obama where he appeared to lament the failure of the 1960s civil rights movement to bring about greater financial equality.

"That is what change means for Barack the Redistributor. It means taking your money and giving it to someone else," he told a crowd of around 2,000 at a sports hall in Dayton, Ohio.

In Cleveland earlier, McCain said: "Today he claims he'll tax the rich, but we've seen in the past that he's been willing to hit people squarely in the middle class."

For McCain, Pennsylvania and its swollen ranks of disaffected, white, working-class voters is must-win territory on November 4, along with historically Republican bastions such as North Carolina and Virginia.

The Arizona senator, 72, tried to reignite fears of "socialism" by citing a 2001 radio interview given by Obama where he appeared to lament the failure of the 1960s civil rights movement to bring about greater financial equality.

"That is what change means for Barack the Redistributor. It means taking your money and giving it to someone else," he told a crowd of around 2,000 at a sports hall in Dayton, Ohio.

In Cleveland earlier, McCain said: "Today he claims he'll tax the rich, but we've seen in the past that he's been willing to hit people squarely in the middle class."

For McCain, Pennsylvania and its swollen ranks of disaffected, white, working-class voters is must-win territory on November 4, along with historically Republican bastions such as North Carolina and Virginia.

The Arizona senator, 72, tried to reignite fears of "socialism" by citing a 2001 radio interview given by Obama where he appeared to lament the failure of the 1960s civil rights movement to bring about greater financial equality.

"That is what change means for Barack the Redistributor. It means taking your money and giving it to someone else," he told a crowd of around 2,000 at a sports hall in Dayton, Ohio.

In Cleveland earlier, McCain said: "Today he claims he'll tax the rich, but we've seen in the past that he's been willing to hit people squarely in the middle class."

For McCain, Pennsylvania and its swollen ranks of disaffected, white, working-class voters is must-win territory on November 4, along with historically Republican bastions such as North Carolina and Virginia.

The Arizona senator, 72, tried to reignite fears of "socialism" by citing a 2001 radio interview given by Obama where he appeared to lament the failure of the 1960s civil rights movement to bring about greater financial equality.

"That is what change means for Barack the Redistributor. It means taking your money and giving it to someone else," he told a crowd of around 2,000 at a sports hall in Dayton, Ohio.

In Cleveland earlier, McCain said: "Today he claims he'll tax the rich, but we've seen in the past that he's been willing to hit people squarely in the middle class."

For McCain, Pennsylvania and its swollen ranks of disaffected, white, working-class voters is must-win territory on November 4, along with historically Republican bastions such as North Carolina and Virginia.

The Arizona senator, 72, tried to reignite fears of "socialism" by citing a 2001 radio interview given by Obama where he appeared to lament the failure of the 1960s civil rights movement to bring about greater financial equality.

"That is what change means for Barack the Redistributor. It means taking your money and giving it to someone else," he told a crowd of around 2,000 at a sports hall in Dayton, Ohio.

In Cleveland earlier, McCain said: "Today he claims he'll tax the rich