# BNP out to buy time

Nazmul Huda, Harris

Chowdhury, Ali Asgar Lobi, Mirza

Abbas, Lutfuzzaman Babar,

Shahjahan Siraj, Ziaul Haque Zia,

Hafiz Ibrahim, Taimur Alam

Khandaker, Manjurul Ahsan

Munshi, Iqbal Hasan Mahmud

Tuku, Salahuddin Ahmed, Wadud

Bhuiyan, Shahreen Islam Tuhin,

Shahjahan Omar, Nurul Islam

Moni and Helal Uddin Talukder

Rahman, Moudud Ahmed, M

Shamsul Islam, MK Anwar,

Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain,

Sadeque Hossain Khoka, Ruhul

Ouddus Talukder Dulu,

Salauddin Ahmed, Nasir Uddin

Ahmed Pintu, MAH Selim, Fazlur

Rahman Patal, Salahuddin

Quader Chowdhury, Mohammad

Giasuddin, Mujibur Rahman

Sarwar, Tariqul Islam, Altaf

Hossain Chowdhury, Barkat

Ullah Bulu, Harunur Rashid,

Chowdhury, Kazi Salimul Haque,

AKM Mosharraf Hossain and

Mizanur Rahman Minu are under

are former standing committee

member Col (retd) Oli Ahmed,

Jahanara Begum, Alamgir Kabir,

Moni Swapan Dewan, Anwarul

Kabir Talukder, former Speaker

Sheikh Razzak Ali, Redwan

Ahmed, Ziaur Rahman Khan,

Syed Manjur Hossain, Ali Qadar,

Kabir Hossain, Abu Hena and MA

The Election Commission has

He said two lakh taxpayers

also requested the NBR for an

extension of time, Mazid said.

Tax return

asked for time extension.

FROM PAGE 1

vesterday.

November 6.

BNP leaders who left the party

Many of them are in jail.

Those under trial: Saifur

cies will give them some wiggle room by delaying announcement of schedule for the general elec-

To their utter dismay, the High Court turned down the petition on November 2. The Election Commission announced the schedule within hours.

The BNP-led four-party alliance is now demanding a string of demands, including complete lifting of the emergency rules and

announced hastily, which is not conducive to a fair election," BNP Secretary General Khandoker Delwar Hossain told reporters after a Wednesday meeting which inked in the demands.

A former lawmaker of the party however told The Daily Star that they need more time to "prepare for the polls including finding out suitable candidates as about 23/24 former ministers and lawmakers have already been Amir Khasru Mahmud convicted in cases filed under the

the last date for nomination submission will give the convicted leaders the chance to contest the polls.

Party leaders said Khaleda herself is trying to strike a bargain with the government to earn the release of her party leaders who are behind bars on corruption charges.

Commerce Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman met the BNP chief at her cantonment residence Tuesday midnight. It was the second exclusive meeting between the two. However neither the adviser nor the BNP would say what they discussed.

gave Khaleda a list of accused BNP leaders, asking her not to give them party tickets.

The BNP chief however is trying to convince the government to release some of the arrested leaders including Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Moudud Ahmed, Mirza Abbas, Nasir Uddin Ahmed Pintu and Wadud Bhuiyan, so that they get the chance to participate in the elections, party insiders said.

Convicted former ministers year.

### BSMMU high-ups take charge amid protests STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The newly appointed administrative officials of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) took up their duties at the hospital yesterday amid strong opposition from BNP backed doc-

tors, nurses and employees. BSMMU employees involved with the BNP affiliated Doctors Association of Bangladesh (Dab) continued their opposition to the new appointments, holding meetings and processions and chanting slogans demanding removal of the administrative team.

Led by Dab' BSMMU unit President Dr Saiful Islam Selim, the protesters submitted a memorandum to the chief adviser's office at around 10:30 am yesterday demanding cancellation of the new appointment order issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

They also demanded that neutral and non-partisan people are recruited for the administration and that the 'disputed' health adviser Dr AMM Shawkat Ali is removed from

Dab claimed that Dr Shawkat Ali has been trying to appoint people 'loyal to him' to BSMMU's administration department with the help of his brother Prof Monjur Hossain of Dhaka Shishu Hospital. His bother, they said, is involved with the Awami League backed Swadhinata Chikitshak Parishad.

In order to so do, Dr Shawkat Ali has been involved in creating an adverse public opinion about BSMMU and secretly hiring people belonging to the parishad, they

Claiming that the newly appointed VC, Pro VCs and treasurer ment's image

BSMMU Teachers Association, however, hailed the newly appointed administration team and criticised the activities of the Dab group which they said was hampering the services of the hospital.

The teachers' assciation said that the newly appointed VC Prof Nazrul Islam, Pro VCs Chowdhury Ali Kawser and Mohammad Kamal and Treasurer Prof Ruhul Amin Mia all have reputations of being neutral and they don't have any affiliation with the Swadhinata Chikitshak Parishad.

The newly appointed administrative officials meanwhile entered their offices around 11:30 am and

adviser and secretary at 9:30 in the morning seeking financial and administrative support from the government to run the university smoothly.

everyone to make this university better and provide the best possible services to its patients," VC Prof Nazrul Islam said

### 21 hurts in AL-BNP clash in Natore

UNB, Natore

At least 21 people were injured in a On October 23, during hearing of an appeal filed by Falu, the HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice Farid Ahmed granted Falu three months'

Earlier on June 2, a special court sentenced Falu to five years' rigorous imprisonment in the same case. Falu has filed an appeal with the HC against the verdict.

bail in the relief scam case.

He was arrested at his Cantonment residence in the capital on charge of corruption on February 6 last year.

### Poll expenditure

FROM PAGE 16 constituencies, Dhaka-19 is the largest constituency with 602,386 voters while Jhalakathi-1 is the smallest with 137,092 voters. Each candidate from Jhalakathi-1 will be

The candidates in 81 constituencies will be able to spend Tk 15 lakh each as the number of voters there are over three lakh.

Contestants from Panchagarh-1, the first parliamentary constituency with 291,095 voters, will be allowed to spend maximum Tk 1455,475 each while the contestants from Bandarban, the 300th parliamentary constituency with 195,995 voters, will be able to spendTk979,975 each.

In previous parliamentary elections, candidates from major political parties had spent huge We are about to complete the amounts of money in a bid to influence voters.

The amended RPO will prevent the candidates from doing it again in the election slated for December 18, EC officials said.

It was discovered that Falu, who would curb the use of both black money and muscle power in the upcoming election.

# FROM PAGE 1

submitted their income tax returns The deadline for submitting individual income tax return was September 30, but it was extended to October 31 due to Ramadan and Durga Puja and then again to

worked till 2:30 pm.

Earlier they met with the health

He added that one of the first things he would do would be to boost the outdoor service of the

clash between the Awami League and BNP-Jamaat activists at Coinbazar under Baraigram upazila of the district yesterday. Police and witnesses said the

clash erupted in the morning when some local AL activists attacked the supporters of BNP and Jamaat following the election to the managing committee of Panchbaria High School.

The AL men also injured Jamaat worker Yazzar Ali, leaving him critically injured. He was rushed to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. Later, BNP-Jamaat activists

people from both sides were injured during chase and counterchase between the feuding groups. The injured were admitted to

On information, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. Additional police have been deployed there to avertany further incident.

### Delwar

FROM PAGE 1 She yesterday spoke out against any deferment of the December 18 election.

"As they (AL) have an understanding with the government, they're firmly saying that no matter whether other parties contest or not, elections have to be held on December 18," Delwar told reporters at his Nam flat in the city.

"But any election without the four-party alliance will not be acceptable," he said, adding that the AL's attitude shows as though they are on the way to forming the next government. Delwar trotted out that the four-

party alliance wants to contest the election but "we want such election where results would not be skewed". He said the alliance will go to the polls if their seven-point demand is

Earlier the BNP secretary general held a meeting with city unit BNP.

# Polls on Dec 18

confrontation, violence and clash. Hasina, who went to the US for Terming poverty the main enemy of the people of Bangladesh, treatment a day after being freed Hasina said people would have to be on parole on June 11, returned to saved from poverty through united the country yesterday amidst a rapturous reception accorded by struggle. thousands of party workers. She had After landing at the ZIA by an been detained for nearly 11 months Emirates flight, Hasina first

members who were killed on

August 15, 1975 in a military coup.

She placed floral wreaths at the

portrait of her father

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman and offered prayer before

barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud

and presidium member Ziauddin

Bablu and Hasina's special aide

Abdus Sobhan Golap accompa-

Tens of thousands of workers of

the AL and its associate organisa-

tions stood at different points on

both sides of the road from the

airport to Sudha Sadan to wel-

come Hasina. People also gath-

ered at points including the air-

port roundabout, Khilkhet,

Banani, Kakoli, Mohakhali and

Bijoy Sarani and between Manik

Miah Avenue and Dhanmondi

banners, festoons and posters

welcoming Hasina's return. Bands

were seen at places beating

turned the gatherings into the

electoral campaign of the party as

they chanted slogans for the AL

electoral symbol boat and seeking

motorbikes and other vehicles

escorted Hasina from the airport

to her Dhanmondi residence in a

bulletproof jeep with windows

airport, members of the Special

Security Force took charge of her

security. A large number of Rapid

Action Battalion and police per-

sonnel were also deployed to

Dr Hasan Mahmud told reporters

yesterday that the AL Central

Working Committee meets today

at 4:00pm at Hasina's political

office in Dhanmondi with her in

Hasina's special personal aide

Earlier, after her arrival at the

closed for security reasons.

maintain law and order.

Several hundred party men on

They were holding colourful

The enthusiasm of AL workers

road-32.

nied her from London to Dhaka.

Acting Jatiya Party Chairman

heading to Sudha Sadan.

HASINA'S RECEPTION

since July 16 last year. exchanged greetings with the mem-Most part of the road from ZIA to bers of the party's Central Working Hasina's Sudha Sadan residence in Committee. She reached Sudha Sadan at about 12:15pm and talked Dhanmondi seemingly turned into a human sea as tens of thousands of to some senior party leaders there. party men gathered on both sides of In the afternoon, Hasina went to Dhanmondi road-32 to pay the road to welcome their party tributes to her father and family

At the briefing Hasina emphatically said she is ready to do anything necessary for the welfare of the country, its politics and the people. She said the people have long been waiting to exercise their democratic and constitutional right to voting on December 18 and establish an elected government.

The country is passing through crises and the people are spending hard days without food and jobs, she said, adding that the people have to be saved and it is proven true that such crises cannot be solved without an elected government.

"Unity, cooperation and conciliation are a must to save the nation from crises and bad time and for this all will have to forget personal interests and get united to find out solutions to the crises," Hasina said. About her counsel barrister

Rafique-ul Huq's proposed dialogue between her and Khaleda, Hasina said she would do all possible things for the welfare of the country and its people.

Asked if the AL has any plan to bring qualitative changes in the country's politics, the former premier said her party had already placed 31-point reforms proposal for bringing such changes.

About formation of the electoral grand alliance and its principles and goal, the AL chief said, "The grand alliance will be formed on the basis of principles of establishing people's constitutional rights, strengthening the country's democracy and economic base and freeing Bangladesh from poverty."

Asked about her earlier statement that they would ratify all activities of the caretaker government, she said, "Government activities is a continuous process. The issue will be settled in parliament as ordinances have to be transformed into laws. Parliament members and the standing committee will decide on that." Hasina said, "I think it would be a

big challenge for any elected government to control and reduce the prices of essentials including rice, pulses, salt and oil and bring the prices within people's reach.

"If voted to power, insha Allah we will be able to do that and save the people," she said.

passing days in fear for the last seven years--five years of the BNP-Jamaat coalition government and two years of the caretaker government.

"We do not want apprehension, fear, crises and sufferings to prevail anymore," she said, adding that the AL does not believe in the politics of

### Khaleda, Hasina

FROM PAGE 16 wealth through illegal means," said ACC Director General (admin) Col Hanif Iqbal at a routine press briefing yesterday. The ACC took this decision after

a year-long enquiry.

The commission yesterday also decided to forward to the government for disposal the allegation against ACC chief Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury of laundering Tk 20.41 crore from Trust Bank. Former executive chairman of

the Board of Investment Mahmudur Rahman had earlier made the allegation.

Moreover, the ACC sent a list of 53 graft-accused to the Truth and Accountability Commission (Tac) yesterday as the accused had applied to it (ACC) offering to make voluntary disclosures about their wealth to Tac. Former BNP state minister Maj (retd) Kamrul Islam is on the list. Meanwhile, Khaleda submitted

her wealth statement to the ACC on August 6 last year, showing properties worth Tk 3.54 crore while Hasina submitter her statement mentioning that she owns wealth worth around Tk3 crore. ACC Deputy Director SM Sabbir

Hasan submitted his enquiry report on Hasina's wealth in August this year. And ACC Deputy Director Golam Shahriar Chowdhury submitted his probe report on Khaleda's wealth last street rallies at different places, year, ACC sources said.

The enquiry into Hasina's wealth started in September last year and was postponed several times due to High Court (HC) stay orders. The HC orders followed Hasina's petition challenging legality of the ACC notice asking her to submit wealth statement.

the authorities of the sub-jail on the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises where she had been detained. The commission also issued the notice to Khaleda the same day. The ACC decided to forward the allegation against its chief in accordance with the ACC act, 2004. The

The act does not say what should be done in case the ACC chief is an accused, commission sources noted.

the charge sheet before the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, Sylhet

Mufti Abdul Hannan, his brother Muhibullah alias Mofizul Islam Ovi, Mainuddin alias Abu Zandal, Humayun Kabir Himu.

Fahim was not charged since his plementary charge sheet.

On December 2, 2005, criminals hurled a grenade at the mayor around 10:00pm as he was inaugu rating a Badminton tournament in Sylhet's Tilagarh area. The grenade fell five feet short of the mayor and failed to explode.

FROM PAGE 1

He also criticised the commission for unnecessarily lengthen ing the dialogue process with political parties over changes in the Representation of the People

the failure of political parties Badiul said Bangladesh's democracy is an "ineffective electiononly system", which has turned into "lootocracy".

in their constitutions.

He believes it is not easy to many arrests.

as such. What we have is partisan intelligentsia who reap benefit from political parties and speak for them," Badiul said, noting that the number of people with independent mind has declined to an alarming level. Pintu down

### the chair. Before that US Ambassador James F Moriarty will meet the AL chief at Sudha Sadan at 3:30pm.

Hasina said people have been AL nomination

Three forms were collected for her on the first day. According to the revised Representation of the People Order

FROM PAGE 16

highest three seats. Selling of forms, which started on Wednesday, will be closed today.

Of the yesterday's 949 forms, 426 were sold for different constituencies of Dhaka division, 150 for Chittagong, 167 for Rajshahi, 63 for Barisal, 53 for Sylhet, and 90 for Khulna division.

the first day for six divisions. Chowdhury, Abdur Razzak, Tofail Ahmed, Suranjit Sengupta, AL leaders Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir and Obaidul Quader are among the significant leaders who collected forms on the second day of selling

### BNP to observe

associate organisations have taken president and founder of BNP Ziaur Rahman at 6:30am.

The BNP chief will also address a rally in the port city of Chittagong in the afternoon to mark the day, her first address to any public rally since

Party sources said decision regarding participation of BNP-led four-party alliance in the December 18 election and the party's policy and strategy relating to the polls may come from the rally to be held at Laldighi Maidan.

including in Feni and Chandina, on her way to Chittagong by road, party sources said. The other BNP programmes include hoisting of party flag atop party head office and a discussion in

secretary general also delivered On November 28, 2007, the present caretaker government scrapped November 7 as public holiday that comes into effect from this year. November 7 had been observed

Awami League government in 1996 halted the practice. In 2001, the BNP-led four-party government re-introduced November 7 as public holiday. The rally to be held in the after-

as public holiday since 1976 but the

'Civil Military Uprising Day'.

# 6 Huji members

dropping the names of seven oth-The charge-sheeted accused are

Sharif Shahedul Alam Bipul Delwar Hossain Ripon and All of them except Himu are in

Another accused Fakhrul Islam

whereabouts could not be ascertained, the investigation officer mentioned in the charge sheet. He said on receiving information about his whereabouts Fahim would be charged through a sup-

### Emergency

Hunger Project-Bangladesh alleged that the Election Commission has shown negligence in scrutinising candidates information and enforcing electoral rules in the local election.

Linking the 1/11 changeover to

"I have not seen any instance of soul-searching or real repentance [by politicians] for mistakes," he said, expressing scepticism that political parties would practise the changes they recently brought

convict all the plunderers because people dealing with corruption cases do not have the expertise required to unearth sufficient evidence. The task also became unmanageable because of so

"We do not have a civil society

submitted papers explaining the reason for his absence.

The former lawmaker from Lalbagh-Kamrangirchar was produced before the court on November 4. His counsels said his condition is so bad that he could barely speak. He has problems in

his eyes and ears. They argued the case proceed ings should be adjourned on medical grounds, but could not produce any certificate issued by a medical

Apparently not satisfied with the papers submitted, the judge said he would order an investigation into the matter.

Against this backdrop, BSMMU doctors are planning to send him back to regular bed. The BNP leader's CCU file

It however does not contain any report of ECG (electrocardiogram) that could be done immediately

before or after transfer to CCU. It even lacks any cardiologist's Graph of his last ECG (October 19) shows his heart was working

A cardiac specialist who has gone through Pintu's medical atrial fibrillation (abnormal heart rhythm) or unstable angina (bumpy and fast heartbeat). "Names of the medicines he

needs are written on a plain sheet of paper instead of the prescribed form," said a doctor at the BSMMU. 'To Whom It May Concern' is written on top of the papers where Dr DMM Farukh Osmani suggests

accompany Pintu. The Daily Star in return for anonymity said, "Only a specialist doctor can issue such papers, not a mere medical officer [Farukh]. The documents are meant to help Pintu

at court." He also pointed out that for a patient of unstable heartbeat the doctor concerned should mention the quantity of oxygen.

Contacted, Dr Osmani yesterday said, "Pintu bhai was indeed severely sick. He is doing better now, and he may be sent back to normal bed today."

sent to Dhaka Central Jail on February 12 last year after he surrendered to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court in connection with an attempted murder

# Bhutan king

the world's youngest reigning mon-

In an ancient Buddhist ritual in the white-walled palace overlooking the picturesque Thimphu valley, Wangchuck was handed Bhutan's Raven Crown by his father who stepped aside two years ago to make

way for a new face. "It's a wonderful day, there is no cloud in the sky. The gods are here. It will be remembered as an event which unifies the Bhutanese people," Prime Minister Jigmi Thinley told reporters.

The country now goes into three days and nights of festivities, and has even shut down its mobile telephone network for the occasion.

The deeply revered former king, who is 52, abdicated two years ago as part of his plan to reform and modernise the staunchly traditional and insular nation of just over 600,000 people by ending absolute royal rule. Bhutan, wedged between India

and China and never colonised, has witnessed sweeping changes this year -- having held its first democratic elections for a new parliament and prime minister in March. Since the former king's abdica-

dynasty has been waiting for astrologers to give the go-ahead for the coronation. The palace was packed with

tion, the century-old Wangchuck

hundreds of local and foreign dignitaries, including Indian

# 17 killed

FROM PAGE 16 the towns of Mamoon and Nawagai and militant strongholds in Damadola and Sewai, said local police official Fazle Rabbi.

"At least 17 deaths have been confirmed so far," he told AFP, adding the death toll could rise. It was not clear how many of the dead were militants. Security officials in the area con-

firmed the bombing saying the aircraft targeted militant hideouts. Pakistani fighters bombarded several areas in Bajaur Wednesday killing 15 militants, local administra-

tion official Mohammad Jamil told

AFPThursday. Pakistan's tribal belt became a safe haven for hundreds of al-Qaeda and Taliban extremists who fled Afghanistan after the US-led toppling of the hardline Taliban regime in late 2001 and have since set up training camps here.

Many militants had gathered in

Bajaur in recent months after being

driven out of other Pakistani tribal

regions, especially North and South

Waziristan, hundreds of kilometres

President Pratibha Patil, ruling party leader Sonia Gandhi and Bollywood stars. It was also surrounded by lines of jubilant locals

The new king has pledged to maintain his father's unique philosophy of improving "Gross National Happiness," and not

Phuntsho, a 27-year-old civil ser-

"He is reaching out to the people. He is a very smart and decent man," he said of the new king, described by many Bhutanese as

1996 that culminated in the aboli-

"The best time to change a political system is when the country enjoys stability and peace. Why wait for a revolution?" Bhutan's former king said when he began the democratic reform process in

defeats in both one-day and Test series.

It's however a totally new team New Zealand at home.

for the Tigers and the top four must do their job if they want to push home side, who have lost their due to his elbow injury.

nets yesterday during practice at the ground and hopefully play the Bangladesh announced a 12-Nazmul Hossain, Mahbubul Alam

# Obama appointments

to the south.

FROM PAGE 16 include Timothy Geithner, Lawrence Summers and Paul

Volcker, among others. Geithner helped deal with Wall Street's financial meltdown earlier this year, overseeing the acquisition of Bear Stearns by JPMorgan Chase and the bailouts of AIG and Lehman Brothers. He was appointed president of the New York Federal Reserve in November 2003.

Bank from 1991 through 1993. Prior to his career in government, he taught economics at Harvard. Volcker is a former chairman of the Federal Reserve, serving under Presidents Carter and Reagan. He also worked in the private sector as

an investment banker and headed

the investigation into the United

Nations' oil-for-food program for The White House is holding an economic summit on November 15. Obama could delay naming his economic team in order to avoid

Obama's national security team

is another priority as the country

fights wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

interfering with the G-20 summit.

It could also be an area where he goes outside his party for an appointee. Republican Sen Chuck Hagel and current Defence Secretary

Robert Gates are among the names floating around for that team. Hagel, who was elected to the Senate in 1996 and is a Vietnam veteran, has been a fierce critic of the Bush administration's handling of the Iraq war.

Several Democrats said Sen

John Kerry of Massachusetts, who won a new six-year term on Tuesday, was angling for secretary of state. They spoke on condition of anonymity, saying they were not authorised to discuss any private conversations.

Kerry's spokeswoman, Brigid

O'Rourke, disputed the reports. "It's not true. It's ridiculous," she said. Announcement of the transition team came in a written statement from the Obama camp. The group is headed by John Podesta, who served as chief of staff

under former President Clinton:

Pete Rouse, who has been Obama's

chief of staff in the Senate; and Valerie Jarrett, a friend of the president-elect and campaign adviser. Several Democrats described a sprawling operation well under way. Officials had kept deliberations under wraps to avoid the appearance of overconfidence in

the weeks leading to Tuesday's

election. The "Obama-Biden Transition Project" will be overseen by former White House chief of staff John D Podesta; Obama friend and senior campaign adviser Valerie Jarrett; and Pete Rouse, Obama's former Senate chief of staff and top campaign aide, officials said on Thursday. It will occupy offices in Washington and in a federal building in Chicago.

The transition co-chairs will work with an advisory board

dressed in their national costumes.

common economic indicators, to ensure well-being in the "Land of the Thunder Dragon." "I am happy, my friends are happy and in general as a nation we are happy," enthused Sonam

possessing a common touch. The royals in Bhutan are deeply revered and clearly want to escape the fate of their counterparts in nearby Nepal -- which saw the outbreak of a Maoist insurgency in

tion of the monarchy there this year.

as not a single player survived from that squad and the most encouraging factor for Ashraful's men was that they recently pushed big teams and achieved a win against But batting is the real concern

dashing opener Herschelle Gibbs as the right-handed opener broke a team curfew before the Twenty20 match. There is one more bad news for the Proteas as their captain Graeme Smith will miss the game There was a good news for Ashraful as his deputy and leading pace bowler Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, who had back sore, bowled in the

match if he passed the fitness test in the morning member team leaving out pacer and left-handed batsman Mehrab Hossain. Bangladesh were still undecided whether they would go

Joe Biden allies and confidants. On the list: former Environmental Protection Agency

Summers was appointed treasury secretary in July 1999 and served as the chief economist of the World

> Peña: Obama national security adviser Susan Rice and Sonal Shah of Google.org Mark Gitenstein and Ted Kaufman, old friends to Vice President-elect Joseph R Biden Jr, will serve as co-chairs of his transi-

tion team.

news Web site. Obama is expected to continue operating out of Chicago for most of the transition, the Post said citing an Obama source familiar with the transition process. The goal is to move "quickly, but not

and other senior hires will be comprehensive, as opposed to ad hoc, which may mean that Obama will not name, say, a treasury secretary right away but will continues to rely in the short term on his current economic advisory team.

The approach to appointments

Cabinet announcements may start to trickle out next week. The process of verting and assembling a cabinet began well before Tuesday's election, with staff members hinting at the poten-

picks for top jobs. Aides will move quickly to begin monitoring the government's various departments and agencies, obtain the necessary security clearances, and keep a close eye on any last-minute attempts by current administration officials to leave a mark on policy after President Georged Bush's term

## ends, the Post said.

Comilla Combined Military Hospital and Comilla Medical College Hospital (CMCH). Five of them died soon after admission to Condition of eight of the injured was stated to be critical. Identity of

town and Chandina upazila headquarters rushed to the spot and Traffic on the busy highway

remained suspended for about one and a half hours following the accident.

### FROM PAGE 16 The injured were admitted to

of 9:00pm yesterday.

the victims could not be known as

# CMCH.

extinguished the blaze.

### and lawmakers: M Morshed Khan, barrister Aminul Haque, Party leaders said they hoped that Amanullah Aman, Mosaddek Ali the writ petition against delimita-Falu, Rashiduzzaman Millat, tion of parliamentary constituen-Naser Rahman, Mir Nasir,

tion.

fresh election schedule. "The election schedule was

emergency power rules." Lifting the emergency before

Sources said the government

Aman on November 9. Sources say the SC registrar issued a letter asking BSMMU ENT department Chairman Prof M Alauddin, orthopaedic surgery department Chairman Prof Serajuddin Ahammed, colorectal surgery department Chairman Prof AKM Fazlul Haque, neurology department chairman Prof AKM Anisul Haque, Prof Pran Gopal Datta of otolaryngology and neck surgery, Prof AKM Anwar Ullah of neurology department, associate professor of medicine Dr ABM Abdullah, associate professor of spinal surgery Dr M Idris Ali, asso-

professor of cardiology Dr Chowdhury Meshkat Ahmed and Registrar Md Abdul Gafur to appear before the court on November 9. ACC counsel Advocate Anisul Huq yesterday told the HC that

questions have been raised on the

medical reports submitted on

He prayed to the court to direct

behalf of some accused.

ciate professor of anaesthesia Dr

Md Jonayed Shafiq, associate

the authorities concerned to investigate the medical board and report of Aman and produce the report to the court. The HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain and Justice Farid Ahmed asked the ACC

lawyer to find out the report sub-

mitted by Aman and submit the

finding to the court on November

already inform the HC directive to

his client (ACC) who will scrutinise

the medical board and its report on

Aman's health

Anisul told The Daily Star he has

He also said the authorities have already removed some high officials of BSMMU hospital including the vice-chancellor as punishment for giving false medical report in favour of Falu. ACC Director General (Admin) Col Hanif Iqbal yesterday told The

Daily Star the commission would

continue its legal battle. "A case

cannot go unabated. It's our duty

to defend the position of the state,"

he said. Another ACC counsel Advocate MA Aziz Khan dealing with cases gainst Falu said the accused secured bail and stay orders in five graft cases by showing false and fabricated medical certificates. "We'll file separate appeals with

the Supreme Court to cancel the

High Court orders in favour of him.

appeals," he said. He said the Appellate Division on November 3 stayed the HC order granting bail to Falu in a relief scam case on ground that he obtained bail by submitting a "fake" medical

was admitted to BSMMU for treatment, left the hospital on March 23

Falu's fake certificates this year. But according to his medical report, an 11-member medical board was formed which

prepared a report on his health on

September 7 when he was not in the

of an appeal filed by ACC against

the HC bail to Falu, MA Aziz prayed

On October 29, during hearing

The government extended the

deadline twice up to Nov 30 last

to the Appellate Division for scrutiny of the medical report based on which the HC granted the bail. The Appellate Division the same day directed the superintendent of BSMMU to explain the medical

Registrar of BSMMU

Muhammad Abdul Gafur on

November 2 submitted a letter to

the SC saying BSMMU formed a

report to the court.

medical board of five physicians on February 5 and finalised a report on Falu's health the same day. He also said BSMMU authorities were not aware of any medical board of 11 physicians being formed for Falu.

allowed to spend maximum Tk 685,460 for election campaigning.

They hoped that the new rules

of BSMMU belong to one particular political party, the protesters said while the caretaker government was trying to hold a free and fair election in the country, these new appointments were tarnishing the govern-

"We want cooperation from

swooped on the AL men. At least 21 Baraigram health complex and other local clinics.

> The ACC sent the notice to Hasina on July 17 last year through

> > act provides that the commission has to forward to the government issues regarding which there is no specification of action in it.

(RPO), a candidate can contest for

A total of 979 forms were sold on AL presidium members Sajeda

elaborate programmes this time under a changed political scenario. BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia will formally inaugurate the day's programme on behalf of her party by placing wreaths at the grave of late

Khaleda Zia will address several

the afternoon at city's Engineers Institute. The BNP chairperson and party separate messages on the occasion.

noon also has a great significance for manyreasons, said the party sources. JSD will organise a discussion meeting at city's Col Taher Auditorium at 4:00pm to mark the

shows he was taken there at 5:00pm on October 27. His blood pressure (110 / 70) and pulse (78) were normal the following day.

papers said his heartbeat is regular and this is unusual for a patient of

that the patient be taken to court with an oxygen mask on. He also recommends a medical officer to The cardiologist who spoke to

"From all this, we can say that his condition is not that serious."

The former student leader was

stacked with Clinton veterans and Obama and vice-president elect

with three pacers.

Commerce Secretary William Daley, University of California-Berkeley law school dean Christopher Edley; Obama law school friends and advisers Michael Froman and Julius Genachowski; former Gore domestic policy adviser Donald Gips; Governor Janet Napolitano; former transportation secretary Federico

administrator Carol Browner;

Obama friend and former

The Obama team is also launching www.change.gov, a transition

A game plan for moving forward will become clear by Friday, Obama sources tied by the Post said, and

tial for several "outside the box"

# 10 burnt alive

On information, two firefighting units from the district