

## Nat'l Immunisation Day tomorrow

METRO DESK

The first round of 17th National Immunisation Day (NID) will be observed across the country tomorrow, says a press release. A total of 22 million under-five children will be immunised in an effort to sustain the country's polio-free status by providing two drops of polio vaccine for them.

The second round of immunisation will be held on January 3, 2009.

Health and family planning field workers along with 600,000 volunteers will admin-

ister oral polio vaccines (OPVs) to 22 million children aged 0-59 months and vitamin A capsule to nearly 21 million children aged 1-5 years at 140,000 sites across the country.

The government of Bangladesh with support from Unicef, WHO, Rotary International and Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, Atlanta) mounted a model response to immunise the under-five children when the first case of polio was detected in March 2006 after an absence of five years.



PHOTO: STAR

Members of the European Union (EU) Election Observation Mission headed by Alexander Graf Lambsdorff call on Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence in the city yesterday.

## A party given scope to hatch conspiracy

Says Hasina

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the election date has been deferred to December 29 in a bid to give an opportunity to a certain political party and its allies to hatch conspiracy.

"With the deferment of election, other parties have got the opportunity to hatch conspiracy as they now know who we have selected as our candidates for the election," she said while addressing a delegation of Sammillito Sangskritik Jote at her party office at Dhanmondi.

Although the deferment of election has caused trouble for AL, it has decided to participate in the election for the sake of democracy, Hasina said.

She also said her party would try to make the country self-sufficient in food production and bring down the prices of essentials if voted to power.

Earlier, members of the European Union (EU) Election Observation Mission yesterday called on Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence and discussed issues relating to the national election.

During the meeting, AL

sought necessary assistance from the EU in ensuring free and fair parliamentary election, AL advisory council member HT Imam told reporters after the meeting. The party also requested the mission headed by

Alexander Graf Lambsdorff to thoroughly monitor the elections. Former Ambassador

Mohammad Jamir and Hasina's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad were also present at the meeting.



## Aziz takes over as cabinet secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Md Abdul Aziz, secretary to the agriculture ministry, has been appointed secretary to the Cabinet Division, the establishment ministry said in a statement yesterday. Aziz, who succeeded Ali Imam Majumder, took over at about 4:00pm yesterday. The tenure of Ali Imam Majumder as cabinet secretary expires today.

Aziz has also served as secretary to the ministries of water resources and education, and a member of the Planning Commission.

Aziz got his promotion as a secretary in 2005. He worked as an acting secretary at the water resources ministry six months before the promotion.

## Moon sighting committee meets today

UNB, Dhaka

The National Moon Sighting Committee will meet at the Islamic Foundation this evening to set the date for Eid-ul-Azha after reviewing moon sighting news of Zilhajj month.

Religious Affairs Adviser and president of the committee AF Hassan Arif will chair the meeting.

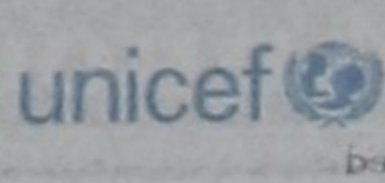
Anyone sighting the moon of Zilhajj 1429 Hijri in the sky of the country has been asked to inform about it over telephone numbers: 9559493, 9559643, 9556407, 9558337, 9555951 and 9559497.



## Days of sunshine and laughter... for everyone

And that's only possible when all children in Bangladesh can be brought within the immunization program. Take your child to the nearest immunization center on National Immunization Day, to get his or her polio shots and dosage of vitamin 'A' capsules. We all want our children to spend their days in sunshine and laughter as they grow up in a polio-free Bangladesh.

National Immunization Day, 29th November 2008



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