Khulna lawmakers vow to work together

STAFF CORRESPONDENT. Khulna

programme yesterday Sufian, an elected lawmaker pledged to work together for ensuring peace and security in the district irrespective of solidarity with the initiative. their political affiliations.

ised the programme at the Club yesterday with a view to setting an example of non-shunning negative politics. violent politics in Khulna.

the occasion.

They are BNP leader Nazrul politics of dominance. Islam Manju of Khulna-2 and Gopal Mondol, Molla Jalaluddin, Narayan Chandra Chanda and Advocate Sohrab Ali Sana of Khulna-1, 4, 5 and 6 constituencies respectively.

Badruddoza,

Maj Mannan

to remain in

same posts

Says Mahi B Chy

DU CORRESPONDENT

will be held within this year.

who decided to step down as

its president and secretary

general in the wake of national

elections, would remain in the

same posts but would not

discharge any executive

responsibilities, Mahi B

Chowdhury said at a press

them before discharging our

He also said the party

would hold councils in differ-

ent districts before holding the

Mahi said the election was

held in a free and fair manner,

but the candidates had vio-

lated the election code of

Commission did not take any

government would imple-

ment its 'Charter for change'

for the welfare of the nation.

verdict in writ

against rules

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yester-

day started delivering the

verdict in the writ petition

challenging the legality of

admission rules disqualifying

the Aleem graduates from

admission in seven depart-

Hasmat Ali and Justice

Shamim Hasnain adjourned

the delivery of the judgement

later and fixed today for deliv-

including Ibrahim Khalkil,

who secured GPA-5 in

Madrasa Education Board

Examinations, jointly filed the

writ petition with the HC on

October 26 last year.

Five DU admission seekers

ery of the remaining verdict.

A HC bench of Justice Mir

ments of Dhaka University.

DU ADMISSION

HC starts

delivering

action against them, he added.

Even the Election

Mahi hoped that the new

conduct during campaign.

Replying to a question,

"We would consult with

conference yesterday.

duties," he added.

national council.

the Parliament from Khulna. State Minister for Labour

from Khulna-3, was not present, but she expressed her

The lawmakers vowed to Khulna Press Club organ- work together with dedication for the greater economic interest of the southwestern region

Five out of six lawmakers determination to help contain demands. from Khulna were present on unruly attitude at academic institutions discouraging

They also vowed to ruth-Awami League leaders Nani lessly contain terrorism and anarchy on the campuses so works for betterment of the that nothing like this can vitiate academic atmosphere.

The lawmakers also reiterated their pre-election Apart from Narayan, the pledges to exert their influ-

rest of them are new faces in ence in the Parliament to convince the government to reopen closed jute mills, Lawmakers in Khulna at a and Employment Munnujan Khulna Newsprint Mill, textile mills, supply of gas through pipelines, modernising Mongla port and installing a 210-megawatt power plant.

> They also vowed to work together to contain price spiral of essential commodities sorting out real problems and monitor distribution of Each of them expressed fertilisers if situation

"I do not feel like an opposition MP sitting with my elderly colleagues of ruling party since all of us are committed towards the same goal of doing good people," said BNP lawmaker Nazrul Islam Manju.

The meeting was presided over by President of Khulna Press Club AK Hiru.

JCD OBSERVES ZIA'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

BCL takes steps to ensure peace at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (ICD), student front of BNP, Prof Nurul Amin Bepari and observed the 73rd birth Mahi B Chowdhury will serve anniversary of late president as acting president and acting Ziaur Rahman in a peaceful secretary general of Bikalpa environment on the campus Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) until of Dhaka University (DU) the posts are filled up at the yesterday.

party's national council, which With the presence of top JCD leaders, several hundred Meantime, Dr AQM JCD men brought out a pro-Badruddoza Chowdhury and cession and held a rally on the the halls. Maj (retd) Abdul Mannan, campus at noon.

> wreath at the grave of Ziaur Rahman in the city.

peaceful coexistence and continuous monitoring in security to their men on the campus and in the halls. They have already submitted a memorandum to DU Vicechancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique to press home their

Shibir left the residential dormitories on the polling night of the ninth parliamentary election and yet to return fearing attacks from the cad-League (BCL).

several hundred leaders and canteen.

Speakers at a seminar on

Sunday in Stockholm, Sweden

demanded trial of the war

criminals in Bangladesh

under International Crimes

Sweden chapter of

Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul

Committee organised the

founding anniversary of the

Nirmul Committee central

member Sabbir Khan partici-

online. He focused on the

ernment can form one or

the purpose by issuing gazette residence.

ways of trying war criminals.

pated at the seminar through toll.

(Tribunals) Act 1973.

METRO DESK

activists of JCD have been beaten by BCL cadres on DU campus and at the dormitories.

Meanwhile, DU unit leaders of BCL, student front of ruling Awami League, have taken some initiatives to ensure a congenial atmosphere on the campus and at the residential halls.

BCL leaders have formed four teams for monitoring the activities of their activists at

General Secretary of BCL Earlier, JCD leaders placed DU unit Sajjad Saqib Badsha told The Daily Star that the main responsibility of these JCD is now demanding a teams would be to conduct halls and on the campus to avoid any untoward incidents.

"We want to ensure a congenial atmosphere on the campus at any cost. We have already warned our activists of not being involved in antiorganisational activitie of JOD and Islami Chhatra saying that stern action would be taken against the responsi-

ble persons," said Badsha. Top leaders of both JCD and BCL with their fellows gathered at Madhu's Canteen res of Bangladesh Chhatra at noon and conducted their organisational activities in a JCD leaders at a press con- peaceful environment seating ference last week alleged that around separate tables in the

committee Chitra Paul said

people through vote gave their

verdict in favour of trial of the

Businessman

Sahadat Group yesterday shot

the city's Kafrul area as he

refused to pay Tk 10 lakh in

Majumder, 50, owner of

The victim, Abdul Majid

The gang attacked him at

shot in city

under Int'l Crimes Act

notification.

war criminals.

Stockholm seminar urges govt

seminar marking the 17th STAFF CORRESPONDENT

committee, says a press Members of notorious

Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal and injured a businessman in

Sabbir said the 1973 Act Majumder Enterprise at

gave the responsibility of Senpara-Parbata in Mirpur,

trying the war criminals on was admitted to Dhaka

Bangladesh government. As Medical College Hospital with

more than one tribunals for about 8:00pm in front of his

per the law Bangladesh gov- abullet wound in his thigh.

paign, he added. Try war criminals

Saying that most of the polling cantres in Keranigang are vulnerable, Nazim urged the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to hold-a free and fair election.

He also called for immediate withdrawal of cases filed against General secretary of the his supporters.

> ment agencies to ensure security ofhim and his supporters. Replying to a question,

in a number of cases.

CRIMINAL CASE Ilias Ali, 42 other Sylhet BNP men

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

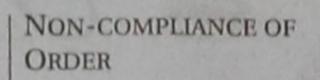
The High Court (HC) yesterday granted anticipatory bail for six police.

Responding to a bail petition HC bench of Justice Md Abdul Delwar Hossain also issued a

this case. The petitioners appeared yesterday before the HC bench

doned ballot papers.

He said six of the accused are Court in this case.



METROPOLITAN/NEWS

SC warns judge of special court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday warned a judge of the special court dealing with high profile corruption cases for not complying with its (SC) order that cleared the way for the release of Atiqullah Khan Masud, editor of the daily Janakantha.

Upon a petition filed by Atiqullah Khan, a threemember full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Justice Fazlul Karim asked Judge Tanzeena Ismail to be careful in future with regard to higher court orders.

Petitioner's counsel Barrister Shamim Haider Patwari yesterday told The Daily Star that the apex court recently cleared the way for the release of Atiqullah Khan Masud, who was jailed for 48 years in a number of cases, but the special court judge did not comply with the SC order.

A petition was filed with the Supreme Court on behalf of Atiqullah Khan seeking the court order to show cause as to why the contempt proceedings should not be drawn against the judge for not complying with its order.

Atiqullah Khan Masud was arrested by the joint forces on March 7 in 2007 during the tenure of the caretaker government.

KERANIGANJ UZ POLLS Candidate brings allegations of obstacles to campaign STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An independent candidate in Keraniganj upazila election for the post of chairman yesterday alleged that his rival has been preventing him from carrying out election campaign.

At a press conference at the National Press Club, Md Nazim Uddin said the supporters of his rival Shaheen, a local Awami League leader, tore up his posters, prevented him from using loudspeakers during the cam paign and threatened his sup porters during the mass con-

Nazim said he was elected Union Parishad chairman twice. He has resigned as the UP chairman before contesting the upazila election, but Shaheen has been trying to create various obstacles to his election cam-

He also alleged that Shaheen is an accused in a number of cases and has violated the electoral code of conduct.

He also urged the law enforce-

Nazim said he is also an accused

get bail

Decision on 298 frozen accounts months to 43 BNP leaders and workers of Sylhet, including FROM PAGE 1 former BNP lawmaker Ilias Ali, The finance ministry is assignment officer Dr Firoj Mayor ABM Mohiuddin in a criminal case filed by the already working on the matter, Mahmud Iqbal, nephew but it is not a matter for this Shahrin Islam Tuhin and his Abul Hasnat Abdullah and his ministry alone to deal with, wife Ayesha Islam, controver-

jointly filed by the accused, an Wahhab Miah and Justice Md rule upon the government to show cause within four weeks as to why the petitioners should not be granted regular bail in

seeking bail in the case. Petitioners' counsel national coordination com-

Barrister Mahbubuddin Khokon yesterday told The Daily Star that Bishwanath police in Sylhet on January 14 filed the case against 50 local BNP leaders and workers, including Ilias Ali, on charges of creating obstacle to the police in discharging their duties on December 31 last year when the police went near Dohal Primary School, a polling station for December 29 parliamentary election, to recover some aban-

now in jail, one has left for London before the December 29 election and 43 others have been granted bail from the High Barrister Moudud Ahmed

appeared for the petitioners.



PHOTO: PID

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presides over a cabinet meeting at the Secretariat in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

Govt moves to stamp out terrorism | Criminal Cap

FROM PAGE 1 incomplete and traditional.

Returning to the ministry after the meeting, State meeting with Home Secretary

sured the home secretary for submitting an incomplete report to the cabinet. The state minister instructed the home secretary to re-submit the report incor-

Abdul Karim, where he cen-

porating all aspects of terrorist activities during the BNP-Jamaat regime between 2001 and 2006. At the cabinet meeting, Hasina, who is now under public pressure to fulfil her

party's election pledges, stressed on forming an antiterrorism taskforce and sought regional and international cooperation to that end. "It's not possible to curb terrorism alone. United efforts are needed to tackle the prob-

lem," the prime minister was quoted as saying by her Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad while briefing reporters following the cabinet meeting.

Presiding over the meeting that started at 11:00am and ended at 1:35pm, the prime minister also directed the home ministry and other ministries and departments concerned to be vigilant, so no social unrest may flare up. She that many BNP and Jamaat

attack on an AL rally on attackers, and their patrons. Bangabandhu Avenue in the

of the chairman aspirants are

businessmen while over 50

percent of the contestants

were either accused of crimi-

nal offences earlier or are now

analyse information of candi-

dates from all upazilas term-

ing it a huge task. It said it tried

to provide a concept about

those vying for chairman,

vice-chairman and women

vice-chairman across the

country and their educational

qualifications, their profes-

sions and backgrounds. Sixty

of the upazilas are district

contesting in polls to 480

professionals like doctors, as

ministries are involved in this

matter. We also sought the

backed caretaker government

through the now-defunct

mittee on corruption and

serious crime probed into the

bank accounts of these high-

committee had found irregu-

larities, including tax dodging,

in these 298 bank accounts.

Later, the National Board of

Revenue (NBR) ordered freez-

were either thrown behind

bars or they went into hiding

amid a countrywide crack-

bank accounts include former

prime minister Khaleda Zia's

son Arafat Rahman Koko, her

The corruption suspects

The holders of the frozen Hossain.

ing of these accounts.

down.

In that investigation, the

profile persons.

finance minister added.

headquarters.

for January 22.

thriving.

Muhith said.

Sujan said it could not

facing criminal charges.

FROM PAGE 1

capital on August 21, 2004.

Islamist terrorists in the country came into focus of the Minister for Home Affairs media when synchronised Tanjim Ahmed Sohel Taj had a bomb blasts took place in 63 districts on August 17 the next Bomb attacks also killed

former finance minister Shah AMS Kibria, and severely wounded former British high commissioner Anwar Chowdhury, while a string of suicide attacks in several districts killed judges, lawyers and cops. Now-banned Islamist

terrorist organisation Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) was held responsible for all the attacks other than the August 21 grenade attack in which Sheikh Hasina narrowly escaped with ear injuries, but 23 others were killed.

The erstwhile BNP-Jamaat government launched a crackdown on JMB and captured its lynchpins, some of whom were later tried and hanged.

But allegations are there that the Islamist terrorists were hanged hurriedly without allowing them to speak to the media, leaving many questions unresolved including who were the patrons and the sources of their funding. There are also allegations

called upon all to beware of leaders were behind the rise of Islamist terrorism in the coun-A number of grenade and try. The allegations go even as bomb attacks took place far as claiming that the BNPduring the BNP-Jamaat Jamaat government manipuregime, the most devastating lated the investigation to save parliament are complete. She of which was the grenade, some of the masterminds,

"We want to know why the said Azad.

Of the total 1,083 candi- violating the electoral rules.

78pc UZ contestants' tax records dubious

report out at Dhaka Reporters

dates, around 48 percent have

graduate or post-graduate

degrees, which is encourag-

ing, 49.30 percent of them are

businessmen, 7.94 percent

service men and only 12.28

percent lawyers, Sujan

contestants, 57.66 percent are

businessman and 16.21 per-

cent are lawyers. Around 60

percent of them have gradua-

tion or post-graduation

degrees and only nine percent

have education bellow the SSC

level and 3.38 percent have

level education. Eighty-seven

now accused in criminal cases

number of incidents of elec-

sial businessman Gias Uddin

of the four-party alliance

government Moudud Ahmed,

Following the 1/11 change- wife Farjana Khan, Mirza minister Mofazzal Hossain

over in 2007, the military- Abbas, Salahuddin Qader Chowdhury Maya, Shadab

Hossain, Amanullah Aman,

and Sajahan Omor, Ziaul Haq

Zia, former Khulna City

brother Maj (retd) Shamim Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Rahman and former MD of

Iskandar, her former political Anwar Hossain Monju and his Sonali Bank Tahmirur

advisers Harris Chowdhury wife Tasmima Hossain, Rahman.

Alam Majumdar read the is huge. The Election thedemocratic system.

observed.

Some 8,130 people are primary or below primary

upazila parishads scheduled of them or 19.59 percent are

Sujan President Prof and 161 candidates or 36.26

Muzaffer Ahmed said the percent were earlier accused

evident earlier, is decreasing that with campaign for upazila

as capitalism in the country is polls going on in full swing, the

Sujan Secretary Badiul toral code of conduct violation

"Finance, law and home Al Mamun, former ministers

involvement of Prime Nazmul Huda, Shahjahan

Minister Sheikh Hasina," the Siraj and his wife Rabeya Siraj,

dominance of lawyers or other in such cases.

Unity auditorium yesterday.

then government was in the The rising capacity of dark about the coordinated bomb attacks across the country on August 17, 2005, who were the masterminds, and whether there was any national and international link," Sohel Taj told The Daily Star after the cabinet meeting.

At the meeting, Hasina also told her cabinet colleagues to concentrate more on action than talk.

"She told us to work more and talk less," a cabinet minister told The Daily Star adding that Hasina once again laid emphasis on maintaining law and order, curbing of commodity prices, and ensuring smooth supply of fertilizer to

The prime minister's press secretary said the ordinances promulgated during the caretaker government regime also came up in the meeting's discussion. "The prime minister already talked to senior lawyers and decided to resolve those within a month of the first parliament session," he

The meeting of ministers also approved the speech of President lajuddin Ahmed to be delivered at the inaugural session of the ninth parliament on January 25, following a long discussion and after cutting it short with some corrections.

The prime minister told the meeting that all preparations for the first session of the also finalised the parliamen tary standing committees

Commission itself accused

newly-elected lawmakers of

government elections are held

in non-partisan manner but

allegations have been raised

against political parties of

giving nomination to party

that influence of money is

active and in some cases

incidents of violence are

taking place. Many are appre-

hending illegal activities like

capturing of poling centres

and snatching of ballot boxes

Alam Majumder said even

though the election is sup-

posed to be non-partisan, in

many places rival candidates

are being compelled to step

aside, many of whom might be

reducing voters' choice for

electing honest and compe-

tent candidates," he said. "It is

not good for our democracy or

Chowdhury, ex-chief whip

wife, former MPs Joynal

Hazari, AHM Mostafa Kamal

(Lotus Kamal), Haji Maqbul

Hossain, his wife Fatema

Tahera and son Masudur

Rahman, Dr HBM Iqbal and

his wife Dolly Iqbal, Dipu

Rashidi Suja and his wife

and his wife Rupa Chowdhury

, Swechchasebak League

secretary Ismail Jabiullah,

Sujan Secretary Badiul

on election day.

The Sujan report stated honest and competent. "It is

and Mosaddek Ali Falu, Chittagong City Corporation

son Rajib Siraj Opu and son's Chowdhury, son of former

Chowdhury, Mir Mohammad Akbar, son of former minister

Nasir, AKM Musharraf Sajeda Chowdhury, Mostafa

Iqbal Hasan Mahmud Tuku Khodeja Suja, Sheikh Helal

Corporation mayor Shaikh President AFM Bahauddin

Tayebur Rahman, former MPs Nasim and secretary Pankaj

Naser Rahman, Habibul Islam Debnath, owner of Orion

Habib, Wadud Bhuiyan, Group Obaidul Karim and

Dewan Muhammad four members of his family,

Salauddin, , Ali Azgar Lobi, Giridharilal Modi of Uttara

Rashiduzzaman Millat, Kazi Group, Salman F Rahman of

Salimul Haq, former Dhaka Beximco Group, former addi-

City Corporation commis- tional IGP Shahidullah Khan,

sioner Monwar Hossain Proshika Chairman Kazi

Dipjal, Doctors Association of Farook Ahmed, ex-adviser to

Bangladesh leader Dr Jahid the caretaker government

Hossain and his wife Rifat justice Fazlul Haq, former

ministers Mohammad Nasim, Sarwar and his wife, former

Eng Mosharraf Hossain, member of the PSC Mahfuzur

The others include former former NBR member ATM

Traditionally the local

Sohel arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) members arrested a notorious criminal, Cap Sohel alias killer Sohel, from bordering Benapole area yesterday evening.

Sohel, also a former JCD leader, is an accused in double police murder case.

CID sources said Sohel was arrested from Shikarpur village in Narkel Baria under Benapole police station. He is an accused in at least 12 cases.

A notorious gang, including Sohel, gunned down two policemen and injured as many people during a gunfight to evade arrest during a robbery at a currency exchange office at Motifheel in

The gangsters looted Tk 1.17 lakh from the shop, before police shot and arrested gang leader Idul.

Md Abdullah Aref, additional special superintendent of CID, told The Daily Star, "We arrested him in the afternoon following a tip-off that he was coming to Dhaka to commit crimes.

Pry asst teacher recruitment test result published

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Directorate of Primary Education yesterday published the result of written examinations of 'Assistant Teachers Recruitment-2008', says a press release.

The examination was held on October 31 last year. The successful candidates now have to face viva-voce. The schedule of viva-voce will be displayed at notice boards of District Primary Education

Candidates can also log on to www.dpe.gov.bdforschedules.

members and in some cases in exchange for money. Besides, Obituary Among the 444 chairman allegations have been raised

METRO DESK



Chowdhury, a former joint secretary to the government, passed away

due to heart disease in Houston, USA on Saturday, says a press release. He left behind his two

daughters, two sons and grandchildren and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

He was buried at Houston Muslim Cemetery on Sunday.

Jinnatun Nisa

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

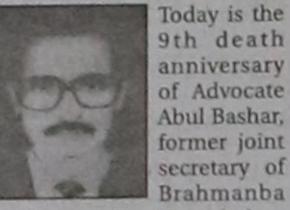


Jinnatun Nisa, former registrar of Bangladesh Nursing Council, passed away at her village

house under Sadar upazila in Faridpur on January 17, says a press release.

She left behind her husband, two sons and a host of admirers to mourn her death. Her qulkhwani will be held today at her village home.

Death anniversary STAFF CORRESPONDENT



9th death anniversary of Advocate Abul Bashar, former joint secretary of Brahmanba ria District Bar Association,

says a press release. On the occasion, a milad

mahfil will be held at his Kawtali residence in Brahmanbaria. Relative and admirers are

requested to attend programme and pray for peace of salvation of the departed soul.



Art exhibition The inaugural ceremony of a

group art exhibition of five young artists will be held. Venue: Shilpangan Gallery. Time: 5:30pm.

The launching ceremony of the

book 'Grass Roots Politics' by Morshed Alam will be held. Venue: Sheraton Hotel. Time: 4:00pm.

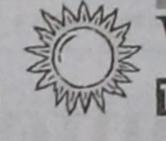
Book launching

Cartoon exhibition Unman, a monthly satire magazine, organises a cartoon exhibition in protest of Israeli genocide in Gaza. Venue: National Press Club

Publication ceremony

ground. Time: 10:00am.

The publication ceremony of the book 'Rokeyar Uttarsuri' by Prof Majeda Saber will be held. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 3:00pm. RDRS will publish the book.



Dry weather likely UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry with partly cloudy sky over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may occur over the country from late night till midnight, Met Office said predicting nearly unchanged night temperature over the country. Highest temperature 29.9 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 10.7 degrees Celsius at

Srimangol. The sun sets in the capital at 5:37pm today and rises at 6:43am tomorrow. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Celsius		percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.0	15.3	72	55
Chittagong	27.0	13.8	82	81
Rajshahi	26.4	12.4	100	76
Chulna	28.3	14.5	97	76
Barisal	28.0	14.0	95	76
Sylhet	28.5	14.6	81	58
Cox's Bazar	29.9	15.5	77	72