

11 more upazilas

FROM PAGE 1
Reminded of his earlier remarks, the polls chief said those were premature. "Before making the comments, I should have taken into account the overall situation."

"The information that we had at that time came mainly from Saver and Gazipur, where voter turnout was low in the national polls as well."

"The peaceful conduct of election elsewhere, particularly in northern districts, did not come up in the media much. Perhaps, that prompted us to make those comments."

Election Commissioner Brig Gen (ret'd) M Sakhawat Hossain however said, "I'd still say the turnout was low. I made the observation after visiting some polling centres in Gazipur where the presence of voters was indeed very poor."

The EC yesterday disclosed that total turnout in the polls was 68.32 percent.

Huda said the work on gazettes with election results of 446 upazila parishads is almost complete.

Of the remaining 35 upazilas, six saw polls suspended before January 22 due to violence and irregularities. On similar grounds, voting at 21 polling stations in nine others was called off on the election day.

The fate of elections in two other upazilas—Ajmeriganj of Habiganj and Daudkandi of Comilla—will be decided by the courts.

The CEC said people did not come out like they did in the December 29 general election because the upazila elections followed shortly.

Queried about 11 allegations of code of conduct violations, he said since the elections are over, the EC can do nothing in that regard.

On 10 complaints of concealing information in the affidavits by those elected chairmen, he said the EC will pursue the issue, and ask the LGRD ministry to remove those who would be found guilty.

The EC also received an allegation that army personnel played biased role in one upazila. Huda said they have referred the matter to the army headquarters for actions.

Similarly, an allegation against the police was sent to the police headquarters.

RESULTS SUSPENDED
According to the EC's decisions, elections to Madarganj of Jamalpur district, Ishwarganj and Gafargaon of

Mymensingh, Atpara of Netrokona, Pakundia of Kishoreganj, Madaripur sadar of Madaripur, Jagannathpur of Sunamganj, Chandina of Comilla, Raypura of Laxmipur, Harinakunda of Jhenidah, and Chhagalnaiya of Feni will be under judicial probe.

The CEC said the probe would be confined to chairman election in some upazilas, while in others election to all three posts—chairman and two vice chairmen—will be investigated.

Earlier, the EC suspended election results in seven upazilas—Muradnagar of Comilla, Banchharampur of Brahmanbaria, Teknaf of Cox's Bazar, Araihaaz of Narayanganj, Kaliganj of Gazipur, Mehendiganj of Barisal and Raypura of Narsingdi.

VOTER TURNOUTS
The average countrywide voter attendance in the upazila elections was 68.32 percent while that in parliamentary elections was 86.34 percent.

Turnout in upazila polls under Rajshahi division was 77.67 percent against 90.42 in the parliamentary polls. It was 75.50 percent against 90.43 in Khulna, 67.95 percent against 84.17 in Barisal, 68.38 percent against 84.61 in Dhaka, 70.44 percent against 84.87 in Sylhet and 65.66 percent against 82.60 percent in Chittagong division.

The highest turnout on January 22 was recorded in Kalai upazila of Joypurhat. There, as high as 92.57 percent of voters showed up to cast their votes.

Turnout in Khedai upazila of Joypurhat was 92.14 percent, in Bholahat of Chapainawabganj 92.01 percent, Durgapur of Rajshahi 90.46 percent, Gomastapur of Chapainawabganj 89.80 percent, Mohonpur of Rajshahi 89.64 percent, Nachol of Chapainawabganj 89.27 percent, Autoary of Panchagarh 88.96 percent, Mujib Nagar of Meherpur 88.49 percent and Haripur of Thakurgaon 88.08 percent voters cast their vote.

Savar of Dhaka saw the lowest voter attendance at 39.28 percent. Chhagalnaiya of Feni saw a turnout of 40.89 percent, Rupganj of Narayanganj 41.15 percent, Narayanganj Sadar 42.42 percent, Gazipur Sadar 42.85 percent, and Charfashion of Bholahat 44.67 percent.

City traffic

FROM PAGE 1
over two hours. But today it was a different scenario as students of several educational institutions, various social organisations, trade bodies and also a number of general people put up barricades at a time at different places for hours."

The witnesses said over 1,000 traders and employees at Sundarban Square Market in Fulbaria in Gulistan put up barricades on the roads for over three hours since 10:00am in protest against burglary at five shops.

In another incident, several hundred Indian visa seekers blockaded Gulshan-1 road and staged demonstrations in front of the High Commission for over two hours from 12:30pm as they failed to submit visa papers.

Students of Graphic Arts College in Mohammadpur put up barricades on Satmasjid Road from 12:00noon and staged demonstrations for over one and a half hours in protest against an exam decision of the authorities.

The agitating students of North South University took to the streets putting barricades on the busy Gulshan-2 road for over two hours halting the traffic from 3:00pm. The students demonstrated as the authorities decided to charge Tk 16,500 for a three-credit course instead of Tk 12,000.

Elsewhere in Eskaton, both factions of Muktiyoddha Sangsad Kendriya Command Council showed off power to capture the office by organising separate programmes in and outside the office.

Each faction gathered several hundred freedom fighters to show their strength putting up barricades on the road for two hours from 4:00pm.

Joint Commissioner Jasim Uddin said, "An ideal city requires at least 25 percent road space. But we have only seven percent and at least 30 percent of roads is occupied by illegal parking."

He said most of the footpaths are not fit for use and remain occupied by hawkers.

Sources say over five lakh vehicles ply on the city roads. Of them, 115,180 are motor cars, 46,128 buses, 6,152 minibuses, 12,277 taxis, 8,092 microbuses, 25,193 trucks, 13,521 autorickshaws, 176,667 motorcycles and over 22,000 are other motorised vehicles.

Apart from these, there are 89,750 licensed and over two lakh unregistered rickshaws plying in the city.

Qaeda warns

FROM PAGE 16
the Bajaur tribal region, said, "The Mujahideen will sunder your armies into the ground, like they did to the Russians in Afghanistan."

"They will target your economic centres and raze them to the ground."

Yazid denounced the ban on militant groups in Pakistan following the Mumbai attacks and asked the people of Pakistan to rise up and overthrow the government and President Asif Ali Zardari, the BBC reported.

The al-Qaeda leader is said to have been involved in a number of terror attacks, including last year's Danish Embassy bombings, in Pakistan and had claimed the responsibility of assassinating former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

He was last heard in August 2008 when he confirmed the death of al-Qaeda chemical-weapons expert Midhat Mursi al-Sayid Umar.

Fair draws

FROM PAGE 16
The stall has been selling children's songs and rhymes as well as poetry recitations on different themes.

Many of these VCDs have been prepared on the background of 3-D animations and the continuous display of the same has ensured huge crowds around the stall.

A total of 74 new titles arrived at the fair on its tenth day yesterday. The new books include eight story collections, 10 novels, seven essays, 20 poetry collections, seven books on research, seven children's books, one on history, one on religion and six translations.

The titles include -- "Golper Bhoor" by S Aslam Liton, "Srampadaiyaka Theke Mukti" by Mahbul Alam Chowdhury, "Shopner Shokal" by Rafiq Al Riaz, "Phulbari Coal Project" by Jennifer Khelafat, "Roger Moody, I am in Myself" by Aman Ullah Asru, "The Wor(LD) in Question" by Azfar Hussain, "Kaler Kallol" by Ahmed Kamal and "Bangladesher Ganotantr Sangram 2003-2006" from Janasanghati Andolan.

Sajeda

FROM PAGE 1
Zillur, also a presidium member of AL, was chosen the deputy leader of the AL Parliamentary Party when the current government came to power. He will quit this position when he goes to the President's Secretariat tomorrow.

ALPP is most likely to pick Sajeda as the next deputy leader of the House.

Highly placed sources told The Daily Star that the prime minister has already given the green signal for Sajeda to be appointed to the post. Sajeda was the forest and environment minister during AL's last regime.

Meanwhile, a case filed against the former minister by the Anti-Corruption Commission on charges of illegal earnings and concealing wealth is still pending.

The ACC had told reporters at the time that in her wealth statement, Sajeda hid information about Tk 13.75 lakh, which she earned through illegal means.

BB pushes

FROM PAGE 16
stood at Tk 4076 crore.

And loan for flat purchase increased by 77 per cent to Tk 2,021 crore.

But loan for educational expenses rose by only .30 per cent and stood at Tk 296 crore.

Loan for professional services decreased by 60 per cent to Tk 285 crore and that for different 'Swanirvar' activities fell by 60 per cent and stood at Tk 285 crore.

Economic analysis of the loans showed that of the total Tk 1,91,079 crore loan until September last year, trade loan was 36 per cent, miscellaneous loan 11 per cent, working capital 17 per cent, industrial loan 21 per cent and agricultural loan seven per cent.

The central bank yesterday expressed dissatisfaction over disbursement of loan to unproductive sector, and advised the bank executives to increase loan to productive sectors, cutting that to unproductive sector.

The BB governor asked the bankers to come out of conventional banking.

Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB) President Mahmud Sattar said consumer loan is necessary. Such loans increase economic activities. He however agreed with the central bank that car loan, marriage loan etc should be brought down.

Polytechnic students

FROM PAGE 16
At around 11:30am, Rajshahi Mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton rushed to spot, asked police to withdraw from the campus and pacified the demonstrators.

The students alleged that police entered Shah Neyamatullah and Shaheed Monayeri hostels by breaking the doors and beat up students indiscriminately.

They said that earlier in the morning they had earlier met the principal over their demand but he expressed his inability to do anything in this regard. Then they started demonstrating. But police suddenly began clubbing them, which triggered clashes, they added.

Enraged students threw brickbats at police, leaving 30 cops injured, said witnesses. And police lobbed 22 tear shells to bring the situation under control.

The deputy commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP) however told reporters that, "Police attempts to prevent students from coming out of the campus and staging demonstrations of on streets sparked the clashes."

A report from a correspondent in Comilla said at least 65 students and 15 cops were injured in a clash between the Comilla Polytechnic Institute students and police.

Witnesses said the clash erupted at about 10:30am when the law enforcers attacked agitating students who went on the rampage.

The students also put up barricade on Dhaka-Chittagong highway disrupting vehicular movement for about three hours.

Police brought the situation under control.

The institute authorities later held a meeting with the students to resolve the crisis.

Our Rangpur correspondent reports: At least 50 students of Rangpur Polytechnic Institute were injured in a clashes with police on the campus.

Police lobbed 10 tear gas shells and charged batons on the demonstrators, who ransacked several rooms at the institute and damaged different instruments, witnesses said.

The students laid siege at Jahaj Company point, first traffic point and court point for around two hours noon, causing sufferings to commuters.

Witnesses said the clash ensued after police chased about 300 students as they were damaging furniture and instruments in classrooms and laboratories.

The students later returned with sticks and brickbats fought with police for about four hours.

Our correspondent in Patuakhali reports: Over 50 people including 10 cops were injured in clashes between police and students of Patuakhali Polytechnic Institute.

Students said they became agitated as police beat up one of their teachers.

They put up barricade on Patuakhali-Kuakata road and ransacked vehicles and roadsides.

Students of Dinajpur Polytechnic Institute damaged a number of rooms at the institute, hostels and residence of the principal, and vehicles, reports our Dinajpur correspondent.

They will submit a five-point memorandum to the principal today as part of their agitation to press home their demand.

Moreover, demonstrating students of Gopalganj Polytechnic Institute yesterday vandalised a number of rooms at the institute and barricaded Dhaka-Khulna highway at Chandradigholia for an hour. Reports our correspondent in Gopalganj.

They kept their teachers and staff confined at the institute for some time.

The students also called a strike at the institute for an indefinite period from today.

Violence also erupted at Cox's Bazar Polytechnic Institute. The students barricaded Cox's Bazar-Teknaf highway for four hours, causing immense sufferings to commuters.

In Barisal, students of the Polytechnic Institute tried to bring out a procession on the campus.

Manowar Hossain Dipjal, Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu, Ashik Ahmed, Shahabuddin Laltu, Azizul Bari, Rezabuddin Chowdhury, Salahuddin Ahmed, Alhaj Salahuddin Ahmed, Barkatullah Bulu and Abul Khair Bhuiyan among others were on the list.

In the last parliament, Huda himself raised allegation of anomalies in allocating lands to set up CNG stations. At the meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on communications ministry, Huda demanded formation of a subcommittee to investigate the matter.

The then state minister of communications, Salahuddin Ahmed, handled the allocation of lands to set up CNG stations. Following the communications minister's demand, the then parliamentary standing committee formed a subcommittee to investigate the allegation, but the subcommittee failed to come up with its probe report.

No one will face problem as irregular examinee in the referred examinations, the BTEB added.

Govt to unfreeze
evaded numbers of years and a 10 percent fine on only two years' tax are deducted from the accounts.

The sources said taxes and fines for many of the accounts were already assessed, while for the remaining ones the assessment will be done this week.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.

After the appeals are filed, the accounts will be reopened on payment of the due taxes and fines.

The accounts of those who will be found to have no taxable income, will be reopened without payment of any tax or fine.

The sources said many of the account holders already appealed.

The frozen account of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was reopened before the December 29, 2008 national election, on the basis of an appeal. There was no case against her in relation to the account.

The account of Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia has not been reopened yet, as she has yet to appeal. She also has no case against her in relation to the account.

After the assessment, the account holders must appeal to NBR for reopening of the accounts after getting notices.</