'78 killed in

crossfire in

9 months'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

day, says a press release.

during the time.

A total of 78 people were killed in crossfire, 80 BDR men died

after joining offices and 31 women fell victims of fatwa across the country in the last nine months, revealed a report of Ain O Salish Kendra yester-

The report was prepared

based on news on crossfire,

fatwa, torture, death in custody

and other incidents published

in different national dailies

killed in police custody and 64

domestic helps fell victims

It also said 37 people were

# JS body recommends abolition of post of administrator at UP

produced in the country are make innovative techniques

Farmers, educational is very high and unless stron-

cannot make colossal dam- chaired by DAE Director

she said.

\*STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary standing committee yesterday finalised its recommendation for deleting the provision of appointing government administrators at the union parishads terming the provision undemocratic and unconstitutional.

programme

Corruption eats up major

share of the country's national

income, said Agriculture

Minister Matia Chowdhury

yesterday terming the corrupt

people as rats in human soci-

rats damaging crops and

fruits, but why not of the rats

of human society who are

eating up the major portion of

our national income. So you

have to pay attention to this

rating a month-long National

Rats Elimination Campaign at

the auditorium of the

Department of Agriculture

Extension (DAE) in the capital.

lakh tonnes of rice. Besides,

eight to 12 percent wheat, five

to seven percent potato, six to

nine percent pineapple, four

to five percent vegetables,

Sahara pledges

police force

Opens 39th DMP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

station

efficient one.

power crisis.

the function.

its problems soon.

English Road in Old Dhaka.

DMP Commissioner AKM

With the new one, the

Sahara said the police

Shahidul Haque presided over

number of police stations

forces would be equipped

with modern arms and train-

ing would be provided to

She urged the police per-

The minister also claimed

Speaking as special guest

sonnel to be professional and

show honour to the human

rights and democratic norms.

that the law and order situa-

tion was under control during

the Eid-ul-Fitr and Durga Puja.

at the ceremony, Shamsul

Haque Tuku, state minister for

home ministry, said police

forces are not influenced

politically like the way it was

pendently to deliver the best

cover part of city corpora-

tion's ward 67, 68 and the

whole vicinity of ward 69, 70

Justice and Parliamentary

Affairs Kamrul Islam, law-

makers Mizanur Rahman

Khan Dipu, Mostafa Jalal

Mahiuddin, Inspector

General of Police Nur

Muhammad also spoke on the

State Minister for Law,

Police should work inde-

The new police station will

done in the past.

service, he said.

and 71.

occasion.

under DMP rose to 39.

combat cyber crimes.

This government is com-

According to DAE research,

rats annually destroy 12 to 15 eliminate rats.

The minister was inaugu-

aspect too," she said.

"You are talking only of the

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The parliamentary body on dates will not be able to sublocal government, rural devel- mit affidavits due to its comopment and cooperatives plex formalities and lack of ministry also recommended to drop the provision of submitting affidavit of the contestants containing their personal information and wealth statement saying that many

Graft eats up lion's share

The rats also spread 33

kinds of diseases including

typhoid, jaundice, skin dis-

ducts the campaign to elimi-

nate rats in September when it

campaign in 2008, a total of

institutions and agriculture

officials were also rewarded

for killing good number of rats

which make colossal damages

as chief guest, the agriculture

minister said it is important

that farmers and others help

to eliminate all rats, but we

have to try best to keep their

spread at a level so that they

eight to 10 percent coconuts ages. For this, you need to General Sayeed Ali.

to almost all sorts of crops and tion.

Addressing the programme

"Of course, it is not possible

64,58,773 rats were killed.

The DAE annually con-

During the month-long

Matia tells rats elimination campaign

destroyed by rats.

eases and plague.

is easy to kill rats.

of national income

lawyers at the union level.

and tax defaulters eligible for contesting the union parishad elections saying that many people are considered poor and less educated candi- defaulters without correct

instead of only using poison,

Rearing and training ani

mals like cats, dogs and squir-

rels, which have hostile rela-

tions with rats, could also help

eliminate rats, Matia said

adding, "Through rearing and

taking care of these pet ani-

mals at homes, children can

also achieve human qualities.

ger steps are taken, rats could

turn into a national problem,

said DAE Additional Director

Abdul Hannan in his presenta-

a food surplus country by

Mushtaq Ahmed, Bangladesh

Agriculture Research Council

Executive Chairman Wais

Kabir, and DAE Director (field

services) Fazlul Haque also

spoke at the programme

eliminating rats, he added.

Bangladesh could be made

Agriculture Secretary CQK

Rats' reproductive capacity

information.

The committee made the recommendations while finalising the scrutiny of a bill It also recommended loan titled 'Local Government (Union Parishad) Bill-2009' which is likely to be placed in the House in the current session for its passage.

"The committee unanimously recommended to drop the present provision as different governments in the past deprived the elected members by appointing administrator," Advocate Md Rahmat Ali, chairman of the standing committee, told reporters after the meeting at the parlia ment building complex.

"We have also recommended that there will be a panel of chairman comprising three elected members including a woman and the second person will act as chairman if the parishad members bring no confidence charge against him," he said.

Different successive governments in the past misused the provision of appointing government administrator to fulfill their interests, Monowar Hossain Chowdhury, a member of the standing committee, told The

Daily Star. Regarding affidavit he said, 'There are about 50 thousand posts in union parishads and the total number of contestant may be about 2.5 lakh if five people submit nomination papers against each post. This number is so high that the

contestants may not find so

many lawyers to do the task of

submitting affidavit." The committee also recommended that a prospective candidate of the union parishad election should get an opportunity for rescheduling his/her loans prior to the day of submitting nomination

The present provision | ing". shows that a candidate will be disqualified if he/she is considered as loan defaulter prior to one year of the date of submitting the nomination

#### BANGABANDHU MURDER No impediment to appeal hearing Oct 5 Says chief counsel

paper.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Counsel o Bangabandhu murder case Anisul Haq yesterday said there is no impediment to appeal hearing of the case on October 5 despite filing of a petition regarding the delayed submission of concise state-

"The Chief Justice will form a bench before October 5 for the hearing," he told reporters after meeting Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shafique Ahmed at his Secretariat office in the after-

Defence lawyers earlier filed a petition to the chief justice as the concise statement of the case was not filed within 30 days as directed by the High Court. They appealed for the hearing on this matter before the hearing of Bangabandhu murder case begins.

"This will not be a problem holding the hearing of the case," Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told the

He said delay in bringing documents from one of the fugitives accused in Bangabandhu murder case from the United States delayed the submission of the concise statement to the

court. The chief counsel along with Attorney General Mahbubey Alam and some other lawyers met Shafique and State Minister for law Qamrul Islam to discuss the latest situation before the

hearing resumes next week. The Supreme Court yesterday fixed October 5 for hearing

on the appeals in importance of Sylhet region. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman assassination case. On August 15 of 1975, tioned. Father of the Nation Sheikh



President Zillur Rahman poses for photograph with the delegates of Royal College of Defence Studies of the UK at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 5)

## Ialil should be excused as he is sick: Suranjit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Veteran Awami League (AL) leader Suranjit Sengupta yesterday said the much-talkedabout Abdul Jalil issue should not be continued further as the latter has sought apology for his statements.

"As he [Jalil] has said that he is sick and has admitted his faults, he should be excused," said Suranjit, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on law, justice and parliamentary affairs, while addressing a press briefing at the media centre of Sangsad Bhaban.

On Tuesday in London, Jalil said he still suffers from the trauma caused by torture by the military intelligence agency Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI) during detention and blamed the mental state for the testy remarks he made while giving interview with London-based BanglaTV.

In an interview with the TV recently, the former AL general secretary said the party's landslide victory in the December 29 parliamentary election came through an "understand-

His remark triggered criticism in and outside the ruling

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary committee

yesterday asked the fisheries

and livestock ministry to take

stern action against those who

are responsible for the sorry

state of Dhaka Zoo for which a

number of animals died in the

fisheries and livestock ministry

also formed a seven-member

committee to modernise the zoo

Zoology department of Dhaka

University, the committee has

and makes it more attractive.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,

Chief Justice (CJ) MM Ruhul

Amin yesterday said necessary

measures are already under-

way to resolve the problems

arisen after the separation of

"We are trying to sort out the

The parliamentary body on

Headed by a professor of

SEPARATION OF JUDICIARY

recent days.

SORRY STATE OF DHAKA ZOO

party, but drew kudos from the Obaidul Quader, however, said opposition BNP. In her first reaction to Jalil's

remarks on the election, Prime Minister and AL President Sheikh Hasina has termed it "irrelevant", and said he should have resigned as a lawmaker before raising any question about the polls in which he also was elected.

Referring to Jalil's statements that he is sorry for his remarks about the party and the election, Suranjit said according to the law, if anyone seeks pardon after committing crime, law too excuses the person.

As Jalil has become repented for his remarks, the matter should be ended here, opined Suranjit who has also been made AL's advisory council member along with Jalil, among others. Suranjit said as an aged

person Jalil could not understand what he told, adding that Jalil's statements on the election have shaken the nation as the election was held in a freest and fairest manner.

The AL leader hoped that the party president would forgive Jalil considering his contribution to and sacrifices for the party for decades.

AL presidium member president.

also been assigned to improve

disappointed for the ineffi-

ciency and irresponsibility of

the zoo officials for which

several animals died. We have

asked the concerned ministry

to take tough action against

those responsible persons,"

ABM Ashrafuddin Nizan,

chairman of the committee,

told The Daily Star after the

cussed in detail about appoint-

ment of skilled officials to

Measures underway to resolve

The meeting further dis-

JS body for stern action

the national zoo.

meeting.

problems: Chief justice

Abdul Jalil could be excused only if he seeks pardon in black and white.

But before that he must be show-caused as he has made both the party and government embarrassed and created a way for the opposition to criticise the government, party and election, the AL policymaker told The Daily Star.

"If he [Jalil] clarifies his position and says sorry in black and white, the party would decide his fate," said Quader, adding that it is no more acceptable that a party lawmaker who is also the chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on commerce ministry and the member of AL advisory council would make one after another statements embarrassing the party, its chief and the govern-

Quader, who was Jalil's deputy during the 2002 and 2009 AL central committee, observed that the former general secretary violated grossly the party constitution by questioning the credibility of the freest and fairest election and speaking against the party

administration, audit of

income and expenditure of the

attractive, eviction of illegal

establishments inside it, reno-

vation and repair of sheds of

animals and birds," Nizan, also

ways to attain the goal of turn-

ing the Dhaka Zoo into a digital

Standing committee mem-

bers Fisheries and Livestock

Minister M Abdul Latif Biswas,

M Mokbul Hossain and Manjur

Quader Qoraishi were also

a BNP lawmaker, added.

zoo," he further said.

"The committee is much zoo, taking steps for making it

#### different types of violence. Three journalists were killed, cases filed against 47 journalists, and 16 received

death threats and 90 journalists fell victims of harassment in different ways, the report Sohel Taj

### didn't meet Hasina in US

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League (AL) lawmaker Tanjim Ahmad Sohel Taj did not meet Prime Minister and AL President Sheikh Hasina while she was in the United States from September 22 to Sources in the US said

Sohel Taj, who resigned from the post of state minister for home affairs on May 31 about six months after assuming office, did not meet the prime minister out of 'aggravation'. Although the US chapter

AL organised a reception to the premier and an indoor rally which was attended by several hundred party leaders a couple of days ago, Sohel Taj did not join any of the programmes there, sources added.

Talking to The Daily Star, one of the leaders of the US unit AL said the AL lawmaker, who has been staying in the US with his family since June 10, has also been keeping distance in attending political programmes there and solely giving time to his family.

He could not be contacted for his comments after repeated attempts.

Being frustrated, Sohel Taj, son of first prime minister of the country Tajuddin Ahmed tendered his resignation as he was under pressure from influential party leaders as they pursued him to serving against staffs responsible their own interests and lobbied for posts, promotions and undue privileges of police officials, according to sources.

From the date of his resignation, the government has been saying that the state minister is on leave.

In an interview with The Daily Star on July 20 from his Maryland residence in the US, Sohel Taj said he stood down "We have also discussed as the state minister so that his dignity and principles could survive intact.

Asked about the reasons behind his resignation, he said, "I can't tell you why. All I can say is things did not work out the way I wanted. Now I don't want to embarrass anyone. I would rather wish everyone best of luck."

Asked when he would come back, Sohel Taj said he would come back to the country when he would wish.

### Obituary

METRO DESK

Kazi Jalal Uddin Ahmed, former engineer of Civil Aviation Authorities of Bangladesh now expatriate to the USA, passed away due to cancer at Columbus, Ohio, USA on September 21 at the age of 58, says a press release.

He left behind his parents, wife, son, daughter and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

His body will arrive today and be buried at his family graveyard in Madaripur tomorrow.

M Shamsul Alam

METRO DESK

M Shamsul Alam, a chartered accountant, passed away due to respiratory failure yesterday at the age of 75, says a press

He left behind his wife, son, and daughter to mourn his He was buried at Banani

graveyard.

His qulkhwani will be held after Asr prayers tomorrow at his residence (Rose Corner, 22/1 Sree School Street, Sonargaon Road, Hatirpool) in

the city.

3 bodies recovered

problems first to find out their possible solutions," he added. The CJ said this at a reception organised by Sylhet District Bar Association at the Bar Library Hall with its President Dewan Golam Rabbani

Chowdhury in the chair. The CJ said bar and bench should work together to ensure justice of the people. Besides, cordial as well as effective relation between them is a must for quicker disposal of

As the problems arisen out of shortage of judges were brought to the notice of Ruhul, he assured all of taking priority measures considering the

The process of appointing new judges is on, he men-The CJ was informed that a

total of 35,000 cases, including 16,000 cases in session courts, had been pending in different courts in Sylhet while a good Md Shaokat Hossain, District and Sessions Judge of Sylhet

Md Momin Ullah, District Bar Association General Secretary

number of posts of judges and Abdal Ahmed Chowdhury and Complaint and Vigilance judicial magistrates had been Committee chief o lying vacant here. Bangladesh Bar Council Supreme Court Registrar

infuse dynamism in the zoo present at the meeting.

Misbah Uddin Siraj also spoke. Earlier, the CJ observed the functions of different courts in Sylhet.

## pills beside her.

autopsy.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT Police recovered three bodies

of woman from different places in the city yesterday. The deceased are Snigdha,

40, of New Eskaton Road, Afifa Sultana, 30, of Madhya Faizabad and Shirin Akhter, 20, of Mohammadpur. Ramna police recovered

decomposed body of Snigdha from her apartment at New Eskaton road breaking the door. Quoting security guard of the apartment police said

Snigdha entered into her flat five days ago and since then she did not go out. For the last two days other members of the building got

bad smells from the house and they informed police yesterday when the smell turned worse.

Police recovered the body from her room and found some

committed suicide as her husband had beaten her following a quarrel on Tuesday. Police have taken her husband Anisur Rahman to the

filed in this connection.

Mohammadpur.

The body was sent to Dhaka

Medical College Morgue for

Dakkhin Khan police recov-

ered the body of Afifa, a primary

school teacher, from

Bangladesh Medical College

and Hospital. Police said she

could have committed suicide.

An unnatural death case was

police yesterday recovered the

body of Shirin Akhter from a

clinic at Humayun road in

Police said Shirin could have

Meanwhile Mohammadpur

police station for interrogation. Her body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Morgue for autopsy.

Evening Min Morning 26.8 Dhaka 34.2 73 71 33.4 24.7 81 Chittagong 34.4 24.5 71 Rajshahi 73 26.8 63 34.0 Khulna Mujibur Rahman was killed 77 26.3 71 33.2 Barisal along with most of his family 70 25.6 69 Sylhet 35.4 members by a band of dis-67 25.2 80 33.0 Cox's Bazar gruntled army men.

**Humidity** in



Former adviser to a caretaker government Maj Gen (retd) MA Matin emerges from the temporary office of Anti-Corruption Commission at the boardroom of Chittagong Port yesterday. (Story on Page 1)



## Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

City/Town

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy falls at places in next 12 hours until 6:00pm

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:46pm today and rises at 6:51am tomorrow. Country's highest temperature 35.6 degrees Celsius was

Temperature in

recorded yesterday at Maijdee Court and lowest 23.9 degrees Celsius at Srimongal. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Celsius percentage