METROPOLITAN/NEWS

RUPPUR NUKE POWER PLANT

JS adopts resolution to implement project

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The parliament yesterday adopted a resolution for implementation of Ruppur Nuclear Power Plant Project to resolve country's power crisis.

Taking part in the discussion on the motion, Awami League lawmakers said there is no alternative to going for nuclear power to meet the country's growing demand.

They said the conventional power plants are based on gas, diesel and furnace oil which are very expensive. Besides, there is not enough reserve of gas in the country, they added.

Piloted by Mohammad Shahrier Alam, 11 lawmakers took part in the one-and-a-halfhour long discussion.

"It will take at least seven to eight years to complete the entire process. Although it involves huge amount of money, it can generate massive amount of power," said Commerce Minister Faruk Khan.

He added a country should have the image that it will use nuclear power peacefully and there will be no threat of capturing the plant by militants.

In his winding up speech to the seventh session, HM Ershad, chief of Jatiya Party, said the nation became hopeful about the nuclear plant following signing of a memorandum of understanding with Russia.

"It was our dream which will be imple- erated in the country.

MPs to exclude

relatives

single candidate for each post.

tary, told The Daily Star after the meeting.

cated leaders, but his party wants to come out of it.

egy to give support the candidate of their choice.

will sit to select suitable candidates, party sources said.

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

MUNICIPALITY POLLS NOMINATION

AL to ask ministers,

The Awami League yesterday decided to urge all its ministers and

lawmakers not to pick their relatives for contesting the upcoming

It also decided that the AL-led grand alliance will support a

The high command of the ruling party took the decisions at a

"We'll urge the ministers, state ministers, lawmakers and

meeting with its organising secretaries at party General

Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam's Jatiya Sangshad Bhaban office

other leaders not to nominate their close relatives in the munici-

pality polls," Mahbubul Alam Hanif, party joint general secre-

lawmakers and local leaders in local elections depriving dedi-

He said there is a trend to nominate relatives of the ministers,

Presidents and general secretaries of the party's district,

All the seven organising secretaries, deputy office secretary Mrinal

Talking to The Daily Star, Hanif, also a special assistant to

Kanti Das, partyleaders Hanif and Ashrafwere present at the meeting.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, they have finalised the strat-

upazila and municipality unit committee, pro-AL upazila chair-men and vice-chairmen of all upazilas and all party lawmakers

municipality elections scheduled for January next year.

mented now. Thus the dream of Bangabandhu for setting up a nuclear power plant will be materialised," Ershad said.

Taking part in the discussion, AL lawmaker Shubid Ali Bhuiyan said there is no reason for being worried about nuclear waste management as Russia has already agreed to take back all waste.

Enamul Haque, another ruling party law-maker, said 33 countries have 475 nuclear plants and are producing 3.55 lakh megawatt of electricity.

"Many problems will be resolved once we are able to address power crisis by setting up nuclear power plant," AL MP Imajuddin Pramanik observed. In 1964 Bangladesh planned to install nuclear

power station. About 259.9 acres of land was acquired for the project in Ruppur, while a draft was also signed with Canada at that time. International Atomic Energy Association

(IAEA) in 2007 allowed Bangladesh and seven other developing nations to install nuclear power plants. Russia, France, South Korea, China and Pakistan offered help to develop the infrastructure.

Sheraton hotel.

the path of suicide.

superstition.

Paying rich tribute to the memory of

Begum Rokeya, the PM said this leg-

endary lady had shown the path of

light to the women when the society

was under the dark of illiteracy and

Hasina said establishing rights of

women is a prerequisite for removing

repression and disparity on women, and

only education can remove this dispari-

freedom of women to achieve their rights.

recruited women officers in different

She also laid emphasis on economic

In this context, the PM said "We have

Under the current plan, two nuclear units with a capacity of 1,000 megawatt will be installed at Ruppur in Pabna against the backdrop of dwindling reserve of natural gas, which now accounts for 90 percent of electricity gen-

BNP RULE

HC asks govt to reinstate 24 cops soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to reinstate 24 sub-inspectors (SIs) of police immediately who were sent to forced retirement during the last BNP-led four-party alliance government.

An HC bench of Justice Md Abdul Awal and Justice FRM Nazmul Ahsan gave the verdict declaring the then government's order illegal.

As per the court's directive, the government has to reinstate the SIs with appropriate salaries and other facilities from their date of retirement.

A writ petition was filed by the petitioners with the HC on August 22 this year challenging the legality of the then government's decision against them.

The sub-inspectors, who were appointed between 1972 and 1975, were sent to forced retirement in 2003.



Rain throughout Wednesday night due to the depression over the country caused waterlogging in many areas of the city yesterday. The photo was taken from in front of

Build up social resistance Liberation

Ayesha Jafar receives "Begum Rokeya Award-2010" from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at a function at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the city yesterday.

top positions of government jobs and taken steps so that women candidate can contest in local government polls

directly." Later, the prime minister awarded the prestigious "Begum Rokeya Award-2010" to Prof Meher Kabir and Ayesha Jafar for

their contributions in women empower-

ment and development. Prof Kabir Chowdhury received the award from the PM in absence of his wife Prof Meher Kabir.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury, Prof Kabir Chowdhury also spoke on the occasion.

cultural programmes that day.

5:00pm.

Obituary

RU CORRESPONDENT

Prof Meer Wahedul Islam, a teacher of mathematics department of Rajshahi University, passed away at United Hospital in the city Wednesday night at the age of

war museum

Former secretary general of

Students of Bangla Bazar

On December 11, a speech

on fund collection for the new

building of the liberation war

museum and presentation of

the design of the proposed

building will be held at

Girls School will perform at

Students of Meherunnesa

66, says a press release. Prof Wahedul left behind his three daughters, one son

and wife. The first namaz-e-janaza of Prof Wahedul was held at the central mosque of the university after Zohr prayers and the second one at Tikapara mosque in Rajshahi city after

Asr prayers. He was buried at Tikapara

R Masrur Khan

mosque gravevard.

METRO DESK



Bengal Fine Ceramics Ltd and member of Dhaka Club, passed away on December 7 after prolonged illness, says a

R Masrur

Khan, a

director of

press release. Prayers for his departed soul will be held at his own

residence at 3/5, Block - E, Lalmatia in the city after Asr prayers today. He left behind his wife,

three brothers and four sisters.

He was buried in Banani

graveyard on Wednesday after namaz-e-janaza at Azad Masjid, Gulshan.

Relatives, friends and wellwishers are requested to

attend the programme.

Moktar Ahmed

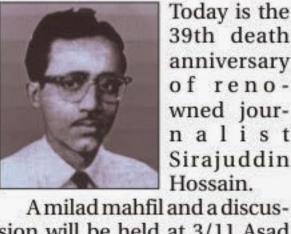
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Advocate Moktar Ahmed Chowdhury, a former president of Satkania Ainjibi Samity and father of Mainuddin Hasan Chowdhury, a former president of Bangladesh Chhatra League and neurosurgeon Lt Col Rokonuddin Chowdhury, passed away at the city's Combined Military Hospital early yesterday at about 3:30am at the age of 76, says a press release. He left behind his wife,

seven sons and four daughters. He will be buried at his

family graveyard at Satkania in Chittagong today after two namaz-e-janaza firstly at Satkania Adalot Maidan after Juma prayers and at Satkania Mirzakhil High School after Asr prayers.

Sirajuddin's anniversary of death today STAFF CORRESPONDENT



39th death anniversary of renowned journalist Sirajuddin Hossain.

Today is the

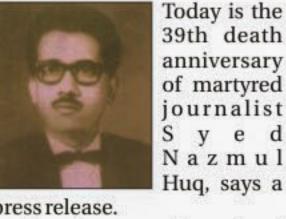
sion will be held at 3/11 Asad Avenue in Mohammadpur after Maghrib prayers today, said a press release. A qurankhwani and a milad

mahfil will also be held at his village home at Sorusuna in Shalikha of Magura district.

Pakistani military and their local collaborators took Sirajuddin to an unknown place from his Chamelibagh residence on December 10, 1971 and he could not be traced out later. He was the executive editor and news editor of the daily Ittefag.

Syed Nazmul Huq

METRO DESK



anniversary of martyred journalist S y e d Nazmul Huq, says a On the occasion, Syed

press release.

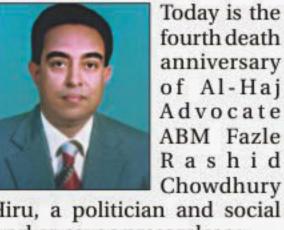
Nazmul Huq Smrity Sangsad

will hold a qurankwani and milad mahfil. Huq was killed by the collaborators at Rayerbazar

ABM Fazle Rashid

METRO DESK

Baidyabhumi in 1971.



Gohira, Raozan.

anniversary of Al-Haj Advocate ABM Fazle Rashid Chowdhury

Today is the

Hiru, a politician and social

worker, says a press release. On the occasion, Qurankhwani, milad mahfil will be held at his residence at Dhaka, Chittagong, Cox's

Bazar and ancestral village

sion of International Anti-corruption Day yesterday. (Related story on Page 3) EU team lauds HR

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

defenders

The European Union (EU) Delegation and Swedish Embassy praised activities of human rights defenders in Bangladesh, who are seeking to end discrimination.

"Non-discrimination and its complement, equality, are cross-cutting principles in international human rights law," said the EU Delegation's Charge d' Affaires Milko van Gool on the eve of Human Rights Day today.

"Regarding international work on human rights, we're very happy that in 2010 Bangladesh's Ambassador to the EU Ismat Jahan was elected as member of the UN's Committee on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women with a record number of votes," said Sweden's Ambassador Lindahl Kenny.

Earlier this week, the EU Delegation and Swedish Embassy marked Human Rights Day with a seminar for human rights defenders in Khulna, says a press release.

"It's important that we get around the country to meet human rights defenders in other regions as well as in Dhaka," noted Andrew Barnard, head of the EU Delegation's political, trade and information section. UN decided the theme for this year's Human Rights Day as

"Human rights defenders who act to end discrimination", with the motto "Speak up, stop discrimination". Meanwhile, the UN Information Centre in Dhaka and

Daffodil International University yesterday organised a seminar in the capital marking the day.

Addressing the function as the chief guest, Law Commission Chairman Prof M Shah Alam said poverty is the main constraints in protecting human rights. The young people can play a vital role for improving human rights situation, he added.

DHAKA

sium. Venue: Brac Centre Inn, Time:

Meeting

Award giving ceremony

Manusher Jonno will organise an award giving ceremony and human rights music festival. Venue: Mall Chattar, Dhaka University, Time: 3:00pm.

Transparency International Bangladesh forms a human chain in front of the Institute of Fine Arts at Dhaka University on the occa-

Human chain Online Knowledge Centre will form a

human chain. Venue: In front of the National Press Club, Time: 10:30am. Discussion

Acid Survivors Foundation will arrange

a discussion. Venue: Brac Centre Inn. Mohakhali, Time: 9:30am. **Human chain**

National Front of Teachers and Employees will hold a meeting. Venue: 112, Green Road, Time: 11:00am.

Marketing conference An international conference on

Samajtantrik Mahila Forum will

arrange a meeting. Venue: Moni

Sing-Farhad Trust building, Purana

Marketing will be held. Venue:

Bangladesh Human Rights

Sonargaon hotel, Time: 4:00pm. Rally

Paltan, Time: 3:30pm.

Commission will organise a rally. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar, Time: 10:30am. Convention

Bangladesh Society for Total Quality

Management will organise a convention. Venue: LGED auditorium, Time: 9:00am.

Human chain

Jatiya Adivashi Parishad will form a human chain. Venue: In front of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, Time: 10:00am.

5 BCL men hurt in clash at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

Five activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Jagannath Hall unit were injured in a factional clash at Dhaka University last night. The injured are BCL leader Utpal Saha, his younger brother

Uday Saha, Subeer of history department, and Arup and Mithun Biswas of Management Information System. They were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Two groups led by Pronab Dash Bablu and Utpal Saha clashed over capturing a room to give accommodation to loyal

activists of respective factions. The injured, Arup and Mithun, belong to Bablu and Utpal group. Students of the dormitory said tension has been prevailing over

Room No 213 of South Building since Wednesday. Ajoy Kumar Das, the hall provost, said he did not know anything about the incident. DRIVE AT ST MARTIN'S ISLAND

Hotel, trawler, three people fined

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Department of Environment (DoE) yesterday fined Tk 14.44 lakh to a hotel, a trawler and three individuals for disturbing the

The team also fined Tk 7.44 lakh to three individuals--Colonel (retd) Moinul, Mohammad Jhantu and Solaiman--for erecting boundaries adjacent to the beach area and for illegal extraction of coral stones from the shore.

in science

Bangladesh must build on scientific success stories like uncovering the jute genome by ensuring that science and technology are at the heart of all government agencies. Every ministry should be instructed to strengthen their sci-

"Vision 21," he said. The minister told the workshop on National Science and

Scientists at the workshop demanded more jobs for scienceeducated people and basic science courses in universities.

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Chairman Dr Farid Uddin Ahmed chaired the workshop while Secretary of the ministry Md Abdur Rob Hawlader was present as special guest. Bangladesh Academy of Science General Secretary Naiyyum Choudhury presented the keynote paper.

ecological balance on the Saint Martin's Island A team of DoE fined Hotel Prince Heaven Tk 6 lakh for setting up unauthorised establishments in nearly 60 per cent area of the island, said a press release. The owner of hotel was also directed to remove all illegal structures from there within December 31. A trawler MV Arafat was fined Tk 1 lakh for polluting water by disposing burnt oil on the beach.

Yeafesh for success

STAFF CORRESPONDENT State Minister for Science and ICT Yeafesh Osman yesterday said

ence, engineering and technology base to pave the way for

Technology Policy 2010. The science and ICT ministry organised the workshop at Atomic Energy Centre in the city.

Deshpremik Jonogoner Mancha will form a human chain. Venue: In front of the National Press Club, Time: Meeting

Symposium

United Nations Association of Bangladesh will arrange a sympo-