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CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

3 NOs on MPs

JS body proposes to free lawmakers from party shackles partially

SHAKHAWAT LITON

The parliamentary special committee yesterday decided to propose changes to the constitution for allowing lawmakers to express opinions in parliament different to their party stance.

It, however, says legislators will not be allowed to differ or cast votes against their party in the case of no-confidence motion against the government, state budget, and matters related to security of Bangladesh.

Members of the special committee on constitutional amendment said if the committee's proposal is accepted, massive changes to article-70 will be made to enable MPs play their due role in parliament.

The article bars lawmakers from going against any decision of their party in parliament and if they do, they lose parliament membership.

In another major development, the special body decided to propose restoration of the House's authority to remove judges of the Supreme Court and other constitutional officers on grounds of misconduct and incompetence.

But it did speak for keeping the existing provision of Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) for removing constitutional officers such as the SC judges, chief election commissioner, election commissioners, chairman and members of the Public

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Pop Guru still in danger

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The condition of pop legend and freedom fighter Azam Khan, who is on life support in city's Square Hospital,

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

BNP bubbles burst in US

Leaders furious as tour advisers fail to fix high profile meetings

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

BNP leaders are faulting the advisers to party Chairperson Khaleda Zia on her entourage for their failure to organise any meeting between Khaleda and high profile US policymaker Hillary Clinton.

Party sources said that to cover up the failure, one of the advisers called up a senior BNP leader over the phone

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BNP readies budget proposal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition BNP is preparing a budget proposal which the party chairperson will reveal prior to the submission of the national budget in parliament on June 9.

The party also assigned a think-tank to analyse the national budget, said party insiders. Members of the think-tank may give some suggestions about the proposed budget later.

The opposition's budget proposal will also feature the government's failure in implementing last year's budget, party

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7

Food subsidy to shoot up by 61pc

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The food budget will be increased by 15 percent to Tk 8,400 crore from current Tk 7,287 crore

in the next fiscal year with a distribution plan to control food prices through market intervention.

Besides, food subsidy will see a rise by 61 percent in the next fiscal year compared to the current one to give the poor some relief from high prices, said a food ministry official wishing anonymity.

The ministry says the amount of food subsidy may be about Tk 1,753 crore, which is Tk 1,088 crore in the current fiscal year.

The official said rice and wheat prices soared on both local and international market in the current fiscal year pushing up the prices on the retail market. The

2011-12 BUDGET



government distributed food on a large scale under safety net programmes to contain the soaring prices of the staple.

Such programmes will continue in the next fiscal year.

The ministry said the government had planned to procure 28 lakh tonnes of rice and wheat from local and international market in the current fiscal year. But the amount is likely to go up to 33 lakh tonnes, of which 23.53 lakh tonnes will be imported.

The government has opted for import rather than purchasing food grains from local market to keep market prices stable, said the official.

The government dropped the plan to procure food grains from local market

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MORE IMPORTANT THAN GREENS???

The branches of a century-old Rain Tree at Tiger Pass in Chittagong have been chopped off to make room for a billboard. The photos were taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS



ONLINE POLL
Do you think next general elections should be held under the existing caretaker government system?

Yes (85.1%)
No (13.9%)
No Comments (1.0%)

TOTAL VOTES: 384

TODAY'S POLL
Do you think BNP's claim of Khaleda Zia's foreign trip as successful even though she failed to meet UK Prime Minister David Cameron and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is justified?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT
www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING May 29

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-43	6-47
Esha	8-05	8-35

Source: Islamic Foundation

CONDOLENCE



Mr. Syed Abu Saad Sadrul Alam, son of late Moulana Abdul Hai of Kalipur, Banskhal, Chittagong, passed away at Apollo Hospital on Friday, 27th May 2011 at 6:15 pm (Innalillahi Razeun). Mr. Alam, a former director of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC), has left behind his wife, one son and three daughters. All his relatives and friends are requested to attend his Namaz Janaza at Gulshan Azad Mosque after Zohar prayer on Monday, 30th May, 2011.

Doa Mahfil will be held on Tuesday, 31st May, 2011 at his Gulshan residence after Asar prayer. All are requested to attend the Janaza and Doa to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Police chief killed in Afghan blast

BBC ONLINE

The police commander for northern Afghanistan was killed in a suicide bomb attack on Takhar province governor's office yesterday.

Gen Mohammad Daud Daud is one of at least seven people killed in the suicide bomb attack, police say.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

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নতুন ঢাকায় স্বাগতম...

সেরাটা কে না চায়?

খোলামেলা পরিবেশে বসবাসের জন্য চাই সবুজে ঘেরা সুন্দর একটি নিরাপদ আবাসন।
তাই, সেই সুন্দর আবাসনেই আপনাকে দিচ্ছি ভাবনাহীন বিনিয়োগের সুবর্ণ সুযোগ।

কেন পূর্বাচল ম্যাক্স গ্রীণ সিটিতে পুট ক্রয় করবেন?

- * বাংলাদেশে এই প্রথম পূর্বাচল ম্যাক্স গ্রীণ সিটি প্রকল্পে ২৫ থেকে ১০০ ফুট পর্যন্ত প্রশস্ত রাস্তা।
- * দক্ষিণ ও পূর্ব এশিয়ার সর্বাধুনিক শহর রাজউক পূর্বাচল নিউটাউন এর সন্নিবর্তেই পূর্বাচল ম্যাক্স গ্রীণ সিটি।
- * ৩০০ ফুট প্রশস্ত এশিয়ান হাইওয়ে (ঢাকা-সিলেট মহাসড়ক) এর পাশেই প্রকল্পের অবস্থান।
- * হযরত শাহজালাল (রহঃ) আন্তর্জাতিক বিমানবন্দর থেকে মাত্র ১৫ মিনিট এবং নির্মাণাধীন কুড়িল ফ্লাইওভার হতে ১০ মিনিটের দূরত্ব।
- * সবুজ, মনোরম আর খোলামেলা প্রাকৃতিক পরিবেশে পর্যাপ্ত নাগরিক সুযোগ-সুবিধা সমৃদ্ধ।
- * নিষ্কটক, নির্ভেজাল ও সর্বপরি পরিবেশ বান্ধব প্রকল্প।

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