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# No room for rebels

*BNP seeks to step up anti-govt agitation through polls in 16 unions around Dhaka*

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

To ensure unity in the party's city unit ahead of the planned anti-government agitation, BNP has decided to back single candidate for the post of chairman in each of the 16 unions around the capital where elections to union parishads will be held next month.

The main opposition party will not allow more than one contestant for the post of chairman to use party identity. In case of such elections, usually a number of leaders defy party orders and contest the polls, weakening the chances of victory of the party-backed candidate.

All political parties consider control of the 16 unions vital as party leaders and activists usually collect people from these areas for successfully staging big political programmes like grand rallies and other political show-downs.

BNP leaders think if the party-backed candidates can win these elections, it will bolster the city BNP as these unions are in the capital's Uttara, Demra, Shyampur, Badda and Khilgaon thanas, although these are not part of city corporation.

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**10 buses vandalised**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mob vandalised at least 10 buses in the capital's Khilkhet area yesterday morning after failing to get transport to reach their destinations.

Vehicular movement remained suspended in the area for about half an hour

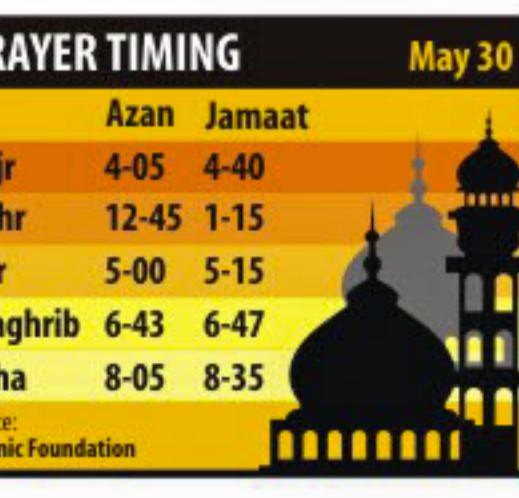
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**DEAD IN HANDCUFFS**  
HC asks for explanation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule upon the authorities concerned to explain within 10 days why they should not be given exemplary punishment for leaving a dead person in handcuffs for hours after his death at Dhaka

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Source: Islamic Foundation

# Power sector tops priority

*Tk 46,000cr ADP approved*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has approved a Tk 46,000-crore Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the next fiscal year with the highest 18 percent allocation for power and energy.

The sector will get Tk 8,286 crore.

The National Economic Council (NEC) meeting chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina approved the allocation yesterday.

Of the amount, power division will get Tk 7,172 crore, which is 44 percent more than that of the current FY. The sum is Tk 4,994 crore in the current financial year.

Planning Minister AK Khandker told journalists after the meeting that the government gave the highest

## 2011-12 BUDGET

priority to the sector considering economic growth, the sixth five-year plan and investment.

Fifty-five percent of the ADP will come from internal resources while the rest from foreign aid.

Transport, the second priority sector, will get Tk 7,749 crore which is 16.85 percent of the ADP.

The NEC also revised for the second time this year's ADP to Tk 35,830 crore from Tk 38,130 crore. The amount was originally Tk 38,500 crore.

The additional allocation of Tk 700 crore will come from internal resources and will be spent on 18 projects including a new one, said the minister.

A total of 223 projects will be completed this year, sources said, adding that the government aims to implement 305 projects in the next FY.

A planning ministry official said the prime minister in the meeting asked the ministries to complete the projects by giving more allocations so that the government can take up more projects in future.

When a secretary pointed out in the meeting that many project directors do not even know the project

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