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AL relies on grassroots

Selection of MP candidates begins

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Grassroots leaders of the ruling Awami League yesterday began the process of selecting party candidates for the upcoming parliamentary elections.

In a unique selection procedure, they would propose three names from their constituency and evaluate the prospective candidates asking them 10 questions on their image, education, popularity, financial strength and connection with the grassroots and the people. The questions carry 100 marks in total.

Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina laid out the idea at a meeting with the grassroots leaders of seven districts at Gono Bhaban.

How popular is the candidate? What is the status of his or her finances? How is his or her relationship with the party grassroots and the people? How long has he or she been with the party? These were a few of the questions a candidate aspirant would be asked.

"It seems it is an exam hall and we are sitting for exams," a leader told The Daily Star after the meeting.

This system, if used, would apparently come as a blow to many incumbent lawmakers, who had become isolated from the grassroots in the last four and a half years.

Awami League grassroots leaders had long been demanding that the party chief takes measures to bridge the gap between the lawmakers and the leaders of units to avert a debacle in the next general elections.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6



The appalling state of a road at Singa of Harinakundu municipality in Jhenidah. The muddy stretch of about 750 metres forces many villagers to take a detour of 14km to get to Harinakundu.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

33 UPAZILAS EC asked not to hold polls now

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The LGRD ministry has asked the Election Commission not to hold the due elections to 33 upazilas across the country ahead of the national election.

As the general election is approaching nearer, it will not be right to hold these elections before the national polls, said EC sources quoting a recent letter signed by a deputy secretary at the ministry.

The parliamentary election is supposed to be held between October 27 this

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

PRAYER TIMING		September 5
	Asan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-35	5-10
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-30	4-45
Maghrib	6-20	6-25
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

KILLING IN 1971 Martyr's wife testifies against Mobarak

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A war crimes victim yesterday testified that her husband and in-laws had been killed with the help of war crimes accused Mobarak Hossain at Tanmandayl of Akhaura during the Liberation War.

"They along with 31 people were shot dead on the west bank of

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

EVICITION DRIVE ON BURIGANGA 47 illegal structures knocked down

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The authorities in a joint drive yesterday demolished around 47 illegal structures to free the second channel of the Buriganga from encroachment.

The Dhaka district administration, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) and Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) conducted the drive, which began at 10:00am.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

The drive along the north side of the riverbank stretching from Lohar Bridge at Killarmore to Swarighat in Old Dhaka continued till the evening.

Among the demolished establishments, two were concrete structures and included an under-construction warehouse.

Local residents claimed that the warehouse belonged to Haji Mohammad Selim, a former lawmaker of the ruling party.

Robbers kill security guard Loot 3 jewellery shops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A security guard was killed and two market staff were injured when a gang of robbers exploded crude bombs and looted three jewellery shops at a mall in Sylhet's Zindabazar area last night.

The deceased, Badshah Miah, 50, worked at Nehar Market, where the robbery took place.

The two injured, Ranjit and Selim, were admitted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

Alim was peace committee leader

Prosecution says as closing arguments begin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution in the opening of the closing arguments yesterday tried to prove that war crimes accused Abdul Alim was a top leader of Joypurhat Peace Committee during the Liberation War.

Citing some documentary evidence, prosecutor Rana Dasgupta told International Crimes Tribunal-2 that Alim had formed and led the Peace Committee in Joypurhat. The accused along with his organisation had taken part in the atrocities committed there, he added.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 6

Obama urges world support for Syria strike

US lawmakers draft Syria intervention plan; Putin softens tone

AFP, Damascus

US President Barack Obama yesterday urged world support for punitive strikes against Syria for its alleged use of chemical weapons, while Damascus vowed retaliation and resistance even if a third world war erupts.

Obama, fresh from efforts in Washington to secure bipartisan support for military intervention, said in

Stockholm that the world had set "a red line" for Syria and it could not now remain silent in the face of the regime's alleged use of chemical weapons.

"I didn't set a red line. The world set a red line," Obama said, referring to international rules banning the use of chemical weapons, even in case of war.

"My credibility is not on the line," Obama said in remarks after arriving in Sweden for a two-day visit.

"The international community's credibility is on the line and America and Congress's credibility is on the line because we give lip service to the notion that these international norms are important," he said.

In Washington, top administration leaders were to keep up an offensive to win congressional support for military strikes against Syria.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Bracelet uses heartbeat as password

MAIL ONLINE

A Canadian firm wants to replace all our computer passwords, screen locks on phones and tablets, car and house keys and even wallets with a single authentication

SEE PAGE 2 COL 8

চেহলাম

আজ বৃহস্পতিবার বিশিষ্ট শিল্পপতি ও রাজনীতিবিদ বরগুনা-২ (বেতাগাঁ, বামনা, পাথরঘাটা) আসনের মাননীয় সংসদ সদস্য; মধুমতি টাইলস, মধুমতি সিরামিকস, মধুমতি কেরিয়াস ও মধুমতি কোন্স্ট্রাকশন লিমিটেড এর ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক মরহুম আলহাজ্ব গোলাম সবুর (টুটু)-এর চেহলাম। এ উপলক্ষে পরিবারের পক্ষ থেকে আত্মীয়-স্বজন, সহকর্মী ও শুভাকাঙ্ক্ষীদের প্রতি মরহুমের বিদেহী আত্মার শান্তির জন্য দোয়া কামনা করা হয়েছে।

ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the next general election would be held within the last 90 days of the parliament's tenure?

Yes (35%)

No (65%)

TOTAL VOTES: 217

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it would be possible for the Election Commission to create a level playing field for all parties in the next general election?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

লাবায়িক আল্লাহুমা লাবায়িক

কাবার পথে সবার আগে

এ বছর ৪৫,০০০ হজ্জ-যাত্রীকে পবিত্র ভূমিতে হজ্জ-পালনে আনা-নেওয়ার সকল প্ৰস্তুতি সম্পন্ন করেছে বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স। আগামী ০৭ সেপ্টেম্বর রোজ শনিবার দুপুর ১:৪০ মিঃ-এ বিমানের প্রথম হজ্জ-ফ্লাইটটি জেন্দার পথে ঢাকা ছেড়ে যাবে। হজ্জ-পূর্ব সর্বশেষ ফ্লাইটটি পরিচালিত হবে ০৯ অক্টোবর, ২০১৩।

১৯ শে অক্টোবর থেকে ১৮ই নভেম্বর পর্যন্ত ফিরতি হজ্জ-ফ্লাইট পরিচালনা করা হবে। চট্টগ্রাম এবং সিলেট থেকেও প্রয়োজনীয় সংখ্যক হজ্জ-ফ্লাইট পরিচালিত হবে।

আল্লাহর মেহমানদের হজ্জ-পালন নিবিড় করতে বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স ৫৮২ আসনের সুপার জাহাজ-জেট লাঞ্চারি করেছে। একই সাথে বিমান বহরের নতুন বিলাসবহুল বোয়িং-৭৭৭ এবং ডিসি-১০ দিয়েও হজ্জ-ফ্লাইট চালানো হবে। এই প্রথমবারের মত হজ্জ-যাত্রীদের জন্য ই-টিকিট এবং বিজনেস ক্লাস চালু করা হয়েছে।

হজ্জ-পালনে আল্লাহর মেহমানদের উত্তম সেবা নিশ্চিত করতে আমরা দৃঢ় প্রতিজ্ঞ!

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