



Ruling Awami League General Secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam inaugurates sale of nomination forms for the 10th parliamentary election at the party office on the capital's Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday. He bought the Gopalganj-3 form for Prime Minister and AL President Sheikh Hasina and then for the Kishoreganj-1 for himself. PHOTO: STAR

NEXT GENERAL ELECTION

# AL starts nomination form sale

Hasina's bought first by Ashraf, clash erupts over Dhaka-4 papers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Amidst the opposition's 84-hour hartal demanding a non-party poll-time government, the ruling Awami League (AL) yesterday enthusiastically started selling nomination forms for the 10th parliamentary election under, what it said, an interim government headed by the prime minister.

However, a clash, in presence of a huge number of law enforcers, took place before the AL central office in the capital's Bangabandhu Avenue between supporters of Md Awlad Hossain and Shafiqur Rahman Saijul over collecting forms for Dhaka-4 constituency.

Yesterday, BNP Joint Secretary

General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi alleged that the AL started selling the forms to implement a blueprint of a "one-party election".

Defying the hartal, hundreds of AL leaders and workers carrying placards of candidacy aspirants thronged the office where the sale began at 10:30am.

AL General Secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam first bought the Gopalganj-3 form for Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina and then the Kishoreganj-1 one for himself.

Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, MK Alamgir, Dipu Moni, Abul Kalam Azad, Abdul Latif Biswas, Abul Hasan Mahmud Ali, Abdul Mannan Khan, Ahad Ali Sarker, Asaduzzaman Noor and Fazle Nur Taposh also bought the forms.

The first day saw the sale of 678 forms, each costing Tk 25,000, worth nearly Tk 1.7 crore. The forms will be available between 9:00am and 5:00pm.

Inaugurating the sale, Syed Ashrafur told journalists that the sale and submission of the forms to the office will continue till November 16 but the time limit will be extended if necessary.

He urged all political parties to prepare for the election, saying a new government will be in the office by mid-January.

"The people of the country want change of the government through vote. It will not be good for the country's democracy if voters are barred from casting their votes," he said.

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CRISIS AT JU

# VC wants to sit with chancellor

Claims clarification required on whether president wants Senate election or nomination of three for VC post

JU CORRESPONDENT

The JU VC will soon meet the chancellor to get a clear idea on whether he had directed holding an election to the Senate or a senate meeting to nominate three persons for the VC post.

Kamrul Ahsan, member secretary of Shadharon Shikkhak Forum, informed this to The Daily Star yesterday after he and other agitating teachers met VC Prof Anwar Hossain demanding immediate initiation of the nomination process.

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KHAIRUL MURDER

# Control over Sayedabad bus terminal reason

Claims Detective Branch

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Control over Sayedabad Bus Terminal is the main reason behind the murder of Khairul Alam Mollah, general secretary of Sayedabad Bus Terminal Owners Association, said detectives yesterday.

An official of the Detective Branch of police, wishing anonymity, told The Daily Star that primary investigation of the case revealed that five people, including Tayeb Ali, former leader of Sayedabad Bus Terminal Transport Workers Union, are involved in the murder of Mollah, also organising secretary of ruling AL's Demra unit.

However, police have not been able to detain Tayeb Ali even four days after Khairul's murder.

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