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RMG workers
vandalise
fire station
60 hurt in clash

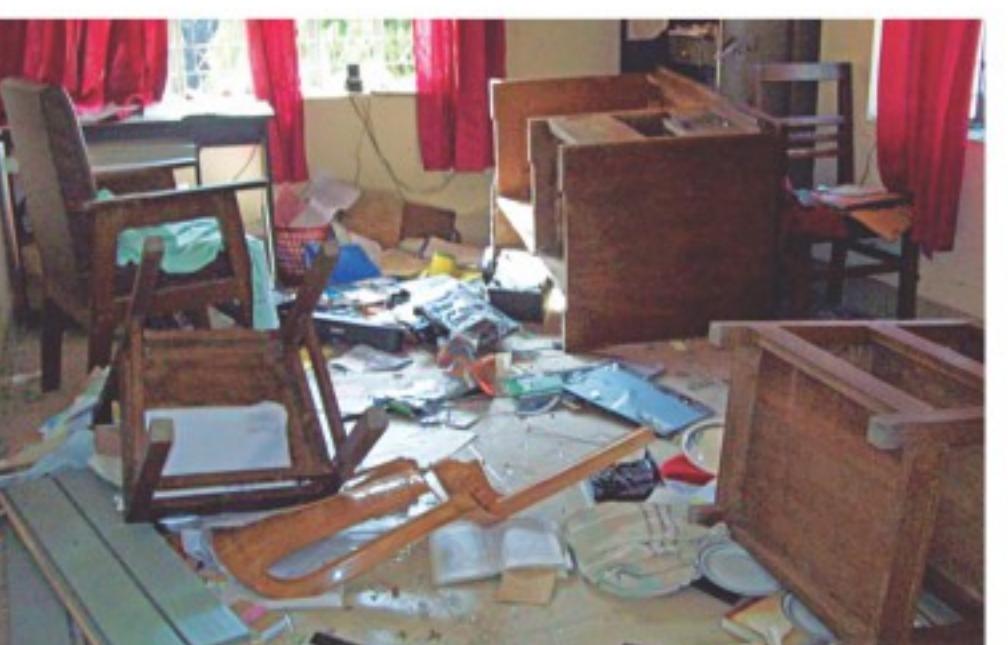
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

At least 60 people, including firefighters and policemen, were hurt as unruly garment workers attacked a fire service station and clashed with law enforcers in Savar yesterday morning.

The workers of Al-Muslim Group attacked and beat up staff of Savar Fire Service Station near Ulail bus stand following a rumour that their two other female colleagues were forcibly taken to the station over a trifling argument with the station staff.

They also looted valuables from the station and vandalised at least 12

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Smashed vehicles and office of Savar fire service. Garment workers attacked the station following rumours that firemen had forcibly taken two female workers there during an altercation yesterday morning.



PRAYER TIMING November 25
Fajr 5-10 5-45
Zohr 12-45 1-15
Asr 3-45 4-00
Maghrib 5-19 5-22
Esha 7-00 7-30
Source: Islamic Foundation

MANZOOR MURDER Case delayed at final stage

Prosecution demands
maximum punishment
to Ershad, 2 others

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The trial proceedings in the Maj Gen Manzoor murder case will be delayed further, as a Dhaka court has asked the prosecution to place arguments again.

Judge Hosne Ara Akther of the First Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court fixed January 22 next year for further hearing though the state lawyers concluded their arguments yesterday.

At yesterday's case hearing, the prosecution demanded exemplary punishment to the accused, including Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad.

"I was able to prove beyond doubt the charges brought against Ershad and two other accused, and sought maximum punishment for them," Public Prosecutor Md Asaduzzaman Khan Rochi told The Daily Star.

At the hearing, Rochi made several points based on the statements of 28 prosecution witnesses, including the complainant of the case.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

PHOTO: STAR

Govt forms pay commission

Move taken just before polls sparks
debate; Farashuddin made chairman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday constituted the eighth pay and service commission to formulate a new pay structure for public servants, a move many observers believe may influence the upcoming general elections.

Mohammad Farashuddin, former Bangladesh Bank governor, will head the 17-member commission. The others in the commission are three full-time members, 12 part-timers and one member secretary.

The finance ministry yesterday issued an order in this regard. The order will come into effect from December 17.

The pay commission is to submit a report on the salary hike of 13 lakh government employees in six months. However, the time limit can be extended if necessary, says the order.

While setting the new salaries, the commission will take into

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Jamaat role in
politics needs
close scrutiny
Canadian lawmakers
observe in report

UNB, Dhaka

The role and participation of Jamaat-e-Islami in national politics require close scrutiny by authorities as the organisation has created deep concerns about protecting the rights of women, minorities and others, according to a pre-election observation report.

The BNP, in particular, must also reflect on the possible role that Jamaat may be playing in its party and work to distance itself from this extremist organisation, said the report prepared by two Canadian lawmakers.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

'NO' VOTE IN JS POLLS

HC issues rule for change in RPO

Govt, EC given 2 weeks to reply

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court has asked the government and the Election Commission to explain in two weeks why they shouldn't be directed to amend the Representation of the People Order to restore a provision of "no" vote in parliamentary elections.

The HC ruling came yesterday following a writ petition by two Supreme Court lawyers, who sought the court's directive to reintroduce the option of negative voting.

The provision was introduced before the 2008 parliamentary polls, allowing voters to exercise negative voting and reject all candidates in their constituencies.

The last caretaker government introduced the provision by amending the RPO through an ordinance in line with the proposals of the then EC.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

20 senior Navy officials promoted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday elevated four Commodores to the rank of Rear Admiral and 16 Captains to the post of Commodore in a large scale promotion in Bangladesh Navy.

The promoted Commodores are: Md Akthar Habib, Md Anwarul Islam, Abu Shaker Md Abdul Baten and Riazuddin Ahmed.

The ranks of Akthar Habib, now Area Commander of Chittagong, and Anwarul Islam, now a faculty in National Defence College, have been upgraded to Real Admiral from Commodore.

Abu Shaker, who is now Dean of

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



An abundant supply of cauliflower, among other winter vegetables, has filled the wholesale markets in Bogra. In the northern district town, cauliflower sells at Tk 1,100 to 1,200 per maund. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Vancouver bans knobs

To make houses more
elderly-friendly

MAIL ONLINE

Doorknobs have been
banned in Vancouver,
Canada and many
residents are up in arms
over the new nanny-
state rule.

Starting next March,
the city will be requir-
ing the installation of

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

WARTIME KILLING Widow testifies against Yusuf

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A martyr's widow yesterday testified that four of her family including her husband had never returned after Razakars detained them to produce them before Jamaat-e-Islami leader AKM Yusuf at Morrelganj in Bagerhat during the Liberation War.

Their bodies had never been found, said Mukul Rani Das, wife of martyr Shanti Ranjan Das of Morrelganj Bazar, as she broke down in tears at the International Crimes Tribunal-2.

Pijush Kanti Gharai, who was also detained with Mukul's

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think international
pressure will have any impact on
the rigid stance of the two major
political parties?

Yes (48%)

No (52%)

TOTAL VOTES: 295

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Speaker Shirin
Sharmi Chaudhury that the two
major political parties should sit
for a dialogue, without any
precondition, to resolve the
ongoing political crisis?

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| Dhaka-Delhi-Dhaka | 196.00 | 15,170/- | 9,312/- | 24,482/- | 30% by 31 Dec13. |
| Dhaka-Bangkok | 94.00 | 7,276/- | 8,531/- | 15,807/- | 25% by 31 Dec13. |
| Dhaka-Bangkok-Dhaka | 86.00 | 6,656/- | 15,273/- | 21,929/- | 25% by 31 Dec13. |
| Dhaka-London | 364.00 | 28,174/- | 12,627/- | 40,801/- | 25% by 31 Dec13. |
| Dhaka-London-Dhaka | 668.00 | 51,703/- | 31,025/- | 82,728/- | 25% by 31 Dec13. |

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