Joint secy

FROM PAGE 16 According to the Public Servants Act 1974, a government official may go on voluntary retirement or the government can send him into retirement upon completion of 25 years in service.

On November 6, two secretaries tendered their resignations after their freedom fighter certificates were proved fake and subsequently revoked by the liberation war affairs ministry.

They are MM Neaz Uddin Miah, health secretary; and AKM Amir Hossain, Public Service Commission secretary. Sources in the secretariat said both were asked to resign.

KH Masud Siddiqui also resigned as the secretary of liberation war affairs ministry on October 31 over submitting forged freedom fighter certificate.

On October 13, the public administration ministry served show cause notices on the four asking why departmental action would not be taken against them for their alleged cheating. The officials in response claimed they were indeed war heroes.

Probing the alleged certificate forgery against the officials, the Anti-Corruption Commission found that they obtained the certificates unfairly, bypassing relevant laws. Probes also revealed that former state minister for liberation war affairs AB Tajul Islam had issued freedom fighter certificates illegally. The anti-graft body recom-

mended the government take action against the officials for their misconduct. The government so far has

revoked the war hero certificates of 182 government officials.

Green activists

FROM PAGE 5

Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury of Gonoshasthaya Kendra said the tests were not trustworthy. "Has the institute (BARI) con-

ducted tests on people who were involved in BT Brinjal farming?" he Farida Akhter, coordinator of

the alliance, said they have spoken with farmers who cultivated the crop last season and 16 out of the 20 farmers said they were unsuccessful in their endeavour.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive of the Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association, among others, also spoke.

Shajahan Khan

Advocate Manzill Murshid, who issued the notices on behalf of the HRPB, said in a statement yesterday.

But Amin and Momin Company Ltd, referring to a notice issued on October 19 by the shipping ministry, on Tuesday during hearing of a case, told the HC that the government is skeptic about the survey result and the ministry in its 25th taskforce meeting decided to get direction from the HC about fresh survey under CS or RS or BS (Bangladesh Survey), the statement added.

The advocate also said the ministry's move to get new survey had been taken with a malafide intention, and it will frustrate the HC verdict and will obstruct implemen-

tation of its directives, which is tantamount to contempt of court. The shipping ministry notice

read direction from the HS will be taken on which method -- CS, RS or BS -- will be followed in erecting pillars in the disputed places on the four rivers.

The minister and two officials have been requested in yesterday's notices to withdraw the decision within 24 hours, otherwise a contempt of court petition will be filed against them, Manzil added.

Shahjalal airport

FROM PAGE 2 virus that claimed around 5,000 lives, mostly in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea and Nigeria.

The total number of reported Ebola cases is more than 13,000.

Since mid-August, the government has put 25 air, sea and land ports on alert and assigned medical

teams to quarantine any suspected case immediately after detection. Despite these arrangements, six

Bangladeshis returning from Liberia passed through the Dhaka The screening process has been

airport unscreened in October. made more efficient following that

incident.

Cheers for BCL

country.

ment, Transparency International

Such statements would further aggra-

one over another on the basis of politi-

cal allegiance, as the constitution

guarantees equal opportunity for all,

examinees decried HT Imam's state-

ment, saying meritorious students

would be deprived if public jobs are

government job, said, "We are deeply

shocked at such comment. We study

public jobs are given on political con-

siderations," said the ex-Dhaka

University student, who is preparing

The BCL organised the discussion at

the TSC auditorium on the DU campus

to commemorate the Jail Killing Day.

BCL President HM Bodiuzzaman

Shohag and General Secretary

Wazed Joy at the Gono Bhaban at

Leaders of the pro-AL student

Siddiqui Nazmul Alam spoke there.

Tuhin Abdullah, an aspirant for a

"Our dreams will be shattered if

given on political considerations.

day and night to get a public job.

for the next BCS exam.

10:00am today.

A number of jobseekers and BCS

he told The Daily Star.

It is extra-constitutional to favour

FROM PAGE 1

give someone a job, she asks whether the person was involved in Chhatra League politics and also about his or her contribution to politics."

"Many of you [BCL activists] often Bangladesh Executive Director Dr request for a job ... is there anyone Iftekharuzzaman said, "We are who cares about you more than our already concerned about leader and I do? We are trying our best politicisation of the administration. to ensure jobs for you." The BCL men have little time to vate the situation.'

study as they work for the party and

help the government in its tasks. But

others don't have to work like them, he The adviser said they were thinking about how to promote businesses for ex-BCL activists now ineligible for

public jobs because of the age bar. HT Imam said the BCL is a disciplined student body, and he is proud

Terming the BCL men the country's future, the adviser asked them to concentrate on study. If necessary, he was ready to conduct classes to help them prepare for BCS exams.

Imam, also member of the Awami

League advisory council, pointed out

the advantage of having party men in the administration, and how the AL benefited from them. Days before the January 5 polls, many pro-AL officials were inducted into mobile courts that helped the

government resist the BNP-Jamaat's bid to thwart the election. "They [pro-AL officials] stood organisation will meet PM's son Sajeeb beside us. Nineteen of our police-

men were killed brutally by Jamaat-

The Bangladeshis were working at a

"At least 22 others [of the

The migrant workers are among the

project called United Hands for

Bangladeshis] will join the same pro-

ject in two or three days," Rezanur

180 Bangladeshis who had been lan-

guishing at a camp in Najaf city with-

out any job in the restive country for

camp claimed that some locals led by

Haider, manager of their employer

Abu Torab Housing Project, forcibly

took away 16 of them from their camp

had sent these workers to Iraq in May

with promises of jobs at the project run

However, Rezanur refuted the alle-

Some of the Bangladeshi workers,

who did not want to stay in the vio-

lence-ridden Middle East country

under any circumstance, were spread-

ing the rumours, the ambassador said

sent back home within the next 10

He said that they were kept at a

Career Overseas Consultants Ltd

On Tuesday, the workers at the

the last seven months.

around 9:00am local time.

by a Turkish employer.

gation of the abduction.

Investment Project Baghdad, he said.

FROM PAGE 16

added.

phone yesterday.

63 get back job embassy would try to get jobs for them or help them go back home.

> "We will try to work according to their wishes," he said.

> Meanwhile, many of the Bangladeshi workers yesterday called this correspondent from Iraq and alleged that they were being threatened by their employer and some agents of their recruiting company.

> "We don't want to stay here even for a single moment. Please save our lives, we want to go back home," said Matiur Rahman, one of the migrant workers.

> They also sought the prime minister's intervention in ensuring their "rescue".

Engineer Siddique, who is among

the 16 "abducted" Bangladeshis, yesterday told this correspondent over the phone that they were confined to an old building where none but only security guards live. "We have nothing but blankets to

sleep on. There is no arrangement for taking bath. The security guards always keep their eyes on us." he added.

"We get nothing but some bread and sugar as food."

Siddique further alleged that the agents of their recruiting company had confined them to the place, promising them that they would be repatriated building in Najaf city and would be soon.

Bangladeshi migrant workers also Asked about the fate of the rest of called The Daily Star yesterday to the 180 Bangladeshis, Rezanur said the express their concern over the matter.

New 'cantonment'

FROM PAGE 1

yesterday.

It is seeking 326 acres of land --250 acres in Janzira and another 76 acres in Mawa -- for the cantonment.

Bangladesh has eight divisionstrength cantonments and 20 smaller cantonments that the army term brigades, battalions or units. However, planning ministry documents term it cantonment.

The Padma cantonment would be one of the smaller cantonments that would accommodate the 99 Composite Brigade, formed in September last year. This brigade has an engineer construction bat-

talion and two infantry battalions. The engineer construction battalion would be employed for construction supervision and the security to the project elements.

The Bridges Division has already handed over 15.75 acres in Mawa and 11.77 acres in Janzira to the army. The Bridges Division would give the army another 88 acres soon and the remaining land would have be acquired.

The Padma cantonment would be built by June 2018. It would have barracks for more than 3,300 soldiers, homes for 560 families of soldiers, homes for 81 families of officers, an officers' mess and a mosque.

In recent years, the government had given the army 1,800 acres of forest land to set up a cantonment in Ramu. Earlier this year, it also decided to build another cantoninfantry battalion would provide ment in the southern region.

Country turns into ineffective Shibir men," he said, referring to the pre-election violence across the state: Ershad In his reaction to Imam's state-

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The country's democracy is confined to the parliament, said Jatiya Party Chairman Hussain Muhammad Ershad yesterday. "We did not want such a democracy

We wanted the democracy of the people," said Ershad, a former military dictator.

He said this while speaking as the chief guest at a Jatiya Party rally on Laldighi Maidan in Chittagong. "Politics of vengeance and politics

of terrorism have been established in the country and Bangladesh has turned into an ineffective state," he said, adding that only Jatiya Party could stop the politics of vengeance. He said despite being a freedom

fighter, BNP founder Ziaur Rahman had "destroyed the spirit of the Liberation War" and his wife BNP chief Khaleda Zia had given the national flag to the razakars. "Give me a chance again. I am giv-

ing you my word. Good governance will be established. Rule of law will be established," he said.

JS goes FROM PAGE 16

Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury will chair the meeting at 3:00pm.

On October 28, President Abdul Hamid summoned the fourth session of the incumbent parliament to meet today.

The 10th parliament went into its maiden session on January 29 while the second one (budget session) started on June 3 and the third on September 1.

The third session of the current parliament was prorogued on September 18 after 14 sittings that passed five bills, including the much-talked-about Constitution (16th Amendment) Bill, 2014. It paved the path for establishing its power to remove Supreme Court judges.

According to the constitution, the president must convene a session within 60 days of the last sitting of the last session and the first sitting of the next session.

First spacecraft

FROM PAGE 16 ship, Rosetta, after a trek lasting a decade and covering 6.5 billion kilometres.

At the ESA's operations centre in Darmstadt, Germany, a crowd of scientists, guests and VIPs -- including the two Ukrainian astronomers who first spotted the comet in 1969 -- cheered at the announcement of the landing, the centrepiece of one of the riskiest projects in space exploration. "This is a big step for human

civilisation," said the agency's director general, Jean-Jacques Dordain. Scientists hope the lander,

equipped with 10 instruments, will

unlock the secrets of comets -- primordial clusters of ice and dust that may have helped sow life on Earth. Getting from Earth to a comet that is travelling towards the Sun at 18 km per second was a landmark in

space engineering and celestial mathematics. The 1.3-billion-euro (\$1.6-

billion) Rosetta mission was approved in 1993. Rosetta, carrying Philae, was

hoisted into space in 2004, and took

more than a decade to reach its target, which it did in August this year, having used the gravitational pull of Earth and Mars as slingshots to build up speed. Philae was designed to settle down at a gentle 3.5 km per hour, attempt to hit-and-run on the correct

firing two harpoons into the hope that the comet surface -- a complete unknown -- would give it grip. Ice screws at the end of its three

legs were then to drive into the lowgravity comet to stop the probe bouncing back into space. In a final health check before separation, a problem was detected

with the small thruster on top of Philae that was designed to counteract the recoil. And after landing, questions

arose whether the craft was secured. "There are some indications that

they (the harpoons) might not have been fired, which could mean that we are sitting in soft material and we are not anchored," said Ulamec. "We have to analyse what is the

actual situation.'

Rosetta stands as a landmark mission in space, both for its complexity and length.

Philae's work programme includes drilling into the surface of comet "67P" and analysing the sample for telltale isotopes in water and

It has enough battery power to provide about 60 hours of work, but can continue until March with a

It accounts for about a fifth of the mission's total expected data haul from the marathon mission.

Rosetta will continue to escort the comet, scanning it with 11 instruments, as it loops around the Sun

According to a leading theory, comets pounded the fledgling Earth 4.6 billion years ago, providing it with carbon molecules and precious water -- part of the tool kit for life.

Bus on wrong

doctors at Dhaka Medical College Hospital declared him dead on arrival. The driver of the bus made an

Many pedestrians who witnessed the incident chased the bus and caught

He was handed over to police.

the driver, Abul Kalam Azad.

of Ramna Police Station. Abdus Sattar, 65, the rickshawpuller, was also injured.

The practice of taking the wrong

side of the street is common in the country which leads to frequent roads accidents.

the spot and saw drivers of many buses and private cars taking the wrong side, violating the law.

Prof Zillur's burial today

FROM PAGE 1

adviser to a caretaker government, he was 86.

Today his body will be taken from Shamorita Hospital to the Jahangirnagar University and will be kept there for an hour from 8:00am and later at the Central Shaheed Minar for three hours from 11:00am for enabling people to pay their last tribute to him, Prof Siddiqui's granddaughter Abanti Shama Afroz told The Daily Star.

He will be laid to rest today at the The family members of some of the | Banani graveyard after a namaz-ejanaza at the Gulshan Central mosque following the Asr prayers, she said.

> She added that there would be another namaz-e-janaza today after the Zohr prayers at the Dhaka University central mosque.

The much-revered educationist and author who was honoured with Bangla Academy Award and Swadhinata Padak, left behind his wife, three sons, a daughter and a host of admirers and well-wishers to mourn his death.

The Vice Chancellor o Jahangirnagar University for two terms fell sick at his Banani residence around 10:00pm on Tuesday, said his son Dr Shakeel Akhtar.

"He took his dinner but suddenly began feeling unwell. As we're rushing him to a hospital, we found he was not responding," he told reporters. President Abdul Hamid, Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia expressed deep shock at his demise.

Dhaka University Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman said the nation lost a great teacher, a prominent writer and a

"He [Zillur] will be remembered for

his poems, especially for his translation

socially conscious citizen.

graphical narrative and also for his literary criticism," he told The Daily Star. The nation will remember him for his books on Bengali identity and the genesis

of Bangladesh, and for upholding the

of Shakespeare's sonnets, for his autobio-

ideals that brought about the creation of the country, Anisuzzaman said. "His role against autocracy, communalism and fundamentalism will be remembered forever," he added.

Choudhury said, "Prof Siddiqui was Prof Zillur translated into Bengali an illustrious representative of the country's liberal democratic tradition, from which he never stepped back." "His write-ups, poems and speeches

always reflect the ideals of a secular democratic society," he said. "Voice of people like Zillur Rahman was much needed at a time when Bangladesh is heading towards extremism and religious fundamentalism."

Prof Zillur had influenced a huge number of students with his ingenious lectures, he said, adding that the academic wrote a number of wonderful poems.

Born at Durgapur in Jhenidah on February 23, 1928, Siddiqui matriculated from Jessore Zilla School in 1945. Later, he studied at Presidency College in Kolkata. He completed his BA in 1950 and MA in 1951 in English Literature from the University of Dhaka.

Later, Siddiqui pursued higher studies in English Literature at Worcester College of Oxford University from 1952-54.

After teaching at Dhaka College, he joined Rajshahi University to teach English. Later on, Siddiqui joined Jahangirnagar University where he between 1976 and 1984.

After retiring from JU, he took over as VC of Gono Bishwabidyalay in 2000

Prof Siddiqui served as an adviser to the first caretaker government in 1991 and headed the ministry of education.

Shakespeare's Sonnets and John Milton's Areopagitica. He edited the

For his contribution to literature, he was honoured with Alaol Shahitya Purashkar in 1977, Bangla Academy Award in 1979, Alokto Shahitya

and a guardian, and the vacuum created

Different socio-cultural and political organisations also expressed their shock at his death.

Dr Kamal Hossain, president of Gonoforum, Ajoy Roy, convenor of Samprodaikota-Jongibad Birodhi Mancha, a platform against communalism and militancy, rights body Ain O Salish Kendra and Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary of Bangladesh Indigenous People Forum, among others, expressed their condolences to the bereaved family.

Syed Mainul Hossain

FROM PAGE 5 walked beside the coffin in silence as

they paid their respect to the 63-yearold Ekushey Padak recipient. Architect Syed Mainul Hossain

breathed his last at National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) on Monday afternoon. He left behind two daughters and a host of relatives, friends War at his young age of 26. and well-wishers to mourn his death. At the Shaheed Minar, Mainul's

elder daughter Syeda Tahrima Hossain, who returned home from the US yesterday, sought blessing from the country's people for peace and salva-After paying tribute, architect

the brightest star in the history of Bangladesh and he was an invaluable asset to the architectural institutions."

remain alive among the people through his creation - the National Memorial. It also symbolises the rise of Eminent artist Mustafa Manwar said Bangladesh from beneath the ground.

tion of the departed soul.

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique said Mainul will

Mubasshar Hussain said, "Mainul was 1978.

the memorial is not only a sculpture, but an example of complete art as it speaks of everyone who seeks freedom, and the country's martyred. Golam Kuddus of Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, which hosted the

programme, said the memorial shows how Mainul felt about the Liberation From the Shaheed Minar, the body was taken to Dhaka University Central

Mosque where another janaza was held after Zohr prayers. The body was then taken to Mirpur for burial. Mainul's design for the National Memorial in Savar was selected from among 57 submissions in the national

competition for the project's design in Composed of seven isosceles triangular planes varying in size, the memorial's main monument, 150-feet tall, symbolises the valour and sacrifice of those who died fighting for liberation.

Green Life Medical College 32 Bir Uttam K M Shafiullah Sarak (Green Road)

Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205 Phone: 9612345-50 Ext-: 1308, 1326

Admission Notice for MBBS (6th Batch) & BDS Course

According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare guideline, interested candidates with a score of 40 or more in their respective medical admission examination are requested to fill up the admission form for Green Life Medical College for the academic session 2014-2015. Underprivileged and meritorious students will be provided the admission form by the DG Health free of cost.

- 16/11/2014 to 25/11/2014 from the college (8am to 3pm) ★ The merit list will be announced on 27 November at 12.00 pm.
- * Admission procedures from the merit list will begin from 29 November and will continue onwards from 8 am to 3 pm everyday. 9332

* Admission form can be collected at the cost of Tk 1000/- and submitted from

Prof. Ava Hossain Principal

Turning slowly around "67P" since August, the spacecraft has made some astonishing observations.

complex carbon molecules.

solar recharge.

and makes its closest approach next

FROM PAGE 1

Swapan Roy and Kamal Mia, two wit-Majid was critically injured and

side of the street through a space along the road-divider but got stuck in the traffic near Jatiya Shishu Park, they added.

The bus was also seized, said Khairul Alam, assistant sub-inspector

Hardly an hour after yesterday's accident, this correspondent visited

and retired voluntarily in 2003.

The educationist authored around 40 books in Bengali and English. Shobder Shimana, Amar Desh Amar Bhasha, Literature of Bangladesh and Other Essays, Hridoye Jonopod, among Prof Emeritus Serajul Islam others, were his most famous books.

> acclaimed Bangla Academy English-Bengali Dictionary. He also edited the literary quarterly Purbamegh from Rajshahi.

> Purashkar in 1998 and Swadhinata Padak in 2010. Expressing his condolences, Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus said the nation lost an eminent educationist

at his death would not be filled easily.

served as vice-chancellor for two terms