

# Dissolve parliament before polls

## Recommend Kalyan Party, Islami Front Bangladesh during talks with EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Kalyan Party and Islami Front Bangladesh demanded the dissolution of the parliament before the upcoming 11th parliamentary polls.

The parliament should be dissolved before the election for the sake of holding a fair and free election, said both the parties.

In the morning, a 10-member delegation led by Kalyan Party Chairman Syed Mohammad Ibrahim held talks with the Election Commission (EC), presided over by Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda.

Emerging from the meeting, Ibrahim told journalists that they had passed an eight-point recommendation before the election for the sake of holding a fair and free election, said both the parties.

The other recommendations included finalising the demarcation of parliamentary constituencies through consultation with all political parties, enhancing EC's capacity, and ensuring voting rights of expatriates and security for the minority.

In a separate meeting later in the afternoon, Islami Front Bangladesh suggested that the commission should



Students of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET) at the booth of Rise High Bangladesh on the campus yesterday. The campus activation programme of the second season of the export idea event kicked off on Wednesday. PHOTO: STAR

# PM spreading lies to hide failures

## Fakhrul tells press confce about govt's move to probe Zia family assets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday alleged that the government is talking about investigating assets of Ziaur Rahman's family members with a motive to hide its failure to cope with the Rohingya crisis and bring down the price of oil.

"The prime minister's speech given in the parliament last night in this regard is totally baseless and politically motivated," BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir told journalists at a press conference at the party's Nayapalata central office in the capital.

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said her government is investigating BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's assets abroad.

Fakhrul said, "The prime minister is spreading lies against our party chief and Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman."

The government is trying to create a new issue for diverting people's attention from its failures to resolve the Rohingya crisis, he added. "I can challenge, the prime minister will not be able to present any facts or documents in

# Give your best

FROM PAGE 3

"Police." In many cases, I take necessary steps on my own. I have a plan to develop the police force so that it can move forward keeping pace with the world."

Meanwhile, Hasina, at another programme in the district, sought votes for her party symbol "boat" in the next general election.

"I seek your blessings and votes... If you make our candidates victorious, the pace of development will continue. But, if those unleashed terrorism and militancy in the country come to power again, Bangladesh will again turn into a den of terrorists and militants," she said.

The Awami League chief was addressing a public rally organised by the local unit of AL on the Hariar Sugar Mills ground in Paba upazila.

Upazila AL President Yeasin Ali presided over the rally.

# ACC arrests

FROM PAGE 3

As the first instalment of a Tk 25,000 debt he made with licence seeker Yasir Arafat, according to Yasir.

ACC's Assistant Director Rezau Karim filed a case with Narsingdi Sadar Police Station in this regard.

At the beginning of 2017, ACC's Chairman Iqbal Mahmood said they would entrust government officials for taking bribe.

The ACC this year arrested 19 government employees while taking bribe.

# 70pc of children suffer from lung diseases

FROM PAGE 3

FROM COPD and three million die from it each year, making it the third leading cause of death worldwide.

He said 10 million people develop tuberculosis and 1.4 million die from it each year, making it the most common lethal infectious disease. Moreover, 334 million people suffer from asthma while pneumonia kills millions of people each year.

Syed Mubshubul Alam, technical adviser of international anti-tobacco organisation The Union, said 43 percent of the country's population are smokers while more are prone to smoking than women. About one crore women are victims of passive smoking.

Absence of law enforcement as well as deficient prevention and control policies are to be blamed for the alarming rate of tobacco use in the country, he said.

Prof Rashidul Hassan, president of BLE, said to fight against lung-related diseases, importance has to be given on three areas—education, physical exercise and eradication of risk factors.

He stressed the need for preventive measures such as taking two vaccine shots to half the chance of lung diseases to half.

Prof Mohammed Shahedur Rahman Khan, director of National Institute of Diseases of the Chest and Hospital, said doctors, while treating and counselling patients, need to create awareness about how to tackle the causes of lung diseases.

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The Daily Star Associate Editor Brig Gen (ret'd) Shahedul Anam Khan said alongside BLE, the media can play a vital role in raising awareness on what people can do to breathe fresh air.

Celebrated cricketer Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, who suffers from breathing problems, said a heightened awareness about lung-related diseases will help people fight the diseases.

Mediated by BLF Joint Secretary Dr Abdus Shakur Khan, the roundtable was also addressed, among others, by Prof Bashir Ahmed, president of Bangladesh Asthma Association; Mohammad Ebadul Karim, managing director of Beacon Pharmaceuticals Ltd; writer-journalist Moinul Anam Saber, and actor Sharmila Ahmed.

# SC stays

FROM PAGE 3

Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star that the apex court will pass an order on October 31 regarding the writ petition filed on that day (October 3) whether the mark of second time medical admission seekers will be deducted or not.

The HC on Tuesday stayed a government decision to deduct marks from second time admission seekers in response to a writ petition that termed the penalty discriminatory.

The MBBS admission test is scheduled for October 6. For dental colleges, the admission test is scheduled for November 10.

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Interested parties may submit their profile highlighting the above mentioned requirements (not more than 3 pages) with an indication of experts' pool that the firms/consultants can access both nationally and internationally. Please submit your EOI by 28 September 2017 5 pm (Dhaka time) to mashrafur.rahman@care.org. Please write 'EOI - Workers Empowerment'. For detail information please visit the Care webpage.

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