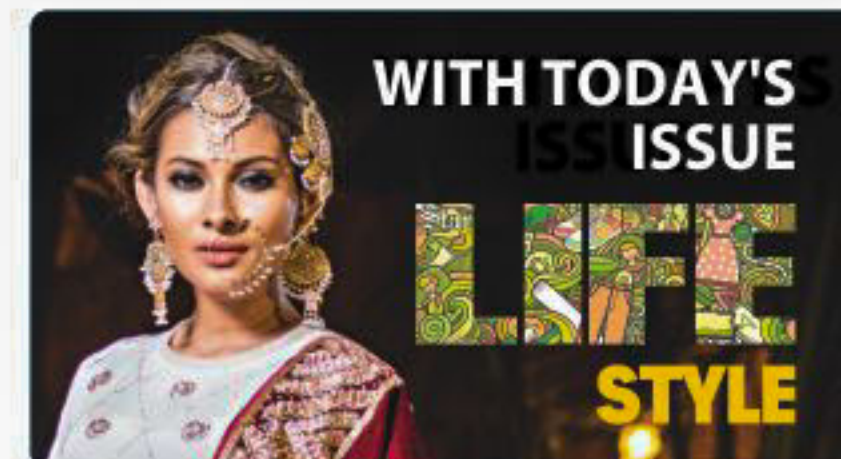


# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION



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## COMING BACK TO LIFE

The VIP road in front of the BNP central office in the capital's Nayapaltn area is crammed with leaders and activists as the party started selling nomination forms yesterday morning, a day after it decided to participate in the upcoming parliamentary election. The BNP office had been largely deserted until yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## Khaleda looks to contest from jail

Party leaders collect her nomination papers as BNP starts sale of forms; fate of her candidacy depends on ROs' decisions; court remains last resort

SHAKHAWAT LITON and MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, who has been in jail since February 8 for conviction in a graft case, wants to contest the upcoming parliamentary polls from three constituencies, and nomination forms were bought for her yesterday.

The party started its distribution of nomination papers on the day amid much fanfare and enthusiasm with aspiring candidates swarming the party's central office in Nayapaltn.

Four hours after collecting Khaleda's forms, five senior leaders met her inside the old Dhaka central

jail where she has been staying for the last nine months.

They enquired about her health and briefed her on the latest political situation and party's electoral activities, two of the leaders told The Daily Star.

"She will contest the polls from three parliamentary constituencies in Bogra and Feni," said Moudud Ahmed, a member of BNP's standing committee.

The nomination forms will be sent to her today through jail authorities to have her signature on those, said former speaker Jamir Uddin Sircar, another standing committee member of the party.

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## Polls now on December 30

EC defers voting day by a week; Oikyafront sticks to demand for month's deferral

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The national polls would be held on December 30, according to the revised schedule announced by the Election Commission yesterday.

The decision comes four days after the commission announced that the polls would be held on December 23.

The Jatiya Oikyafront and the BNP-led alliance announced on Sunday that they would participate in the election and demanded that polling be deferred by a month.

"In the light of their [Jatiya Oikyafront, BNP] decisions, we rescheduled the...election," said Chief Election

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## 52 seek AL ticket for Barguna-1!

Hasina to address aspirants from across the country tomorrow; no interview this time, say sources

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and RASHIDUL HASAN

As many as 52 people have bought Awami League's nomination forms to contest the 11th parliamentary polls from Barguna-1.

Among the aspirants are incumbent MP Dharendra Debnath Shambhu and Barguna district AL General Secretary Jahangir Kabir.

Party insiders said most of the nomination seekers were supporters of either Shambhu or Jahangir. The two leaders backed the local upazila and union-level AL leaders to buy nomination forms to show their strength during the interview before the party's interview board, to be chaired by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The AL has sold around 4,023 nomination forms in the last four days. Of them, 4,000 have already been submitted, said party Joint General Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif.

The deadline for collecting and submitting nomination papers ended at 10:00pm yesterday.

Meanwhile, the ruling party at a meeting at the

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## 'Forced repatriation' to pose security risk

Warns Int'l Crisis Group as Dhaka, Naypyidaw prepare to start Rohingya return on small scale

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crisis Group has warned of serious security risks of "forced repatriation" of the Rohingyas, just as Myanmar and Bangladesh prepare for the November 15 return of the refugees sheltered in Bangladesh.

In a statement, the Brussels-based global advocacy body said Rohingyas strongly opposed the repatriation move and would do whatever they can to resist it. "This [forced repatriation] will increase tension in the camps and could lead to confrontations between refugees and Bangladesh security forces and greatly complicate humanitarian operations.

"A botched repatriation attempt could potentially set back peace and development efforts by years," said the statement released yesterday.

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219 NOT OUT



Mushfiqur Rahim spreads his arms in delight on reaching his double century against Zimbabwe.

## Masterful Mushfiqur scales new peak

MAZHAR UDDIN

It was a day that witnessed an exhibition of true Test batsmanship from the ever-dependable Mushfiqur Rahim, who has set a high standard for Bangladesh when it comes to embodying the principles of extreme discipline and devotion to craft that has sadly been missing in many of his teammates.

From the dismal record of not reaching 200 in their last eight Test innings, which included their lowest ever Test total of 43 runs against the West Indies, Bangladesh have managed to emerge from the ashes.

Appropriately, playing the part of the phoenix was the most deserving Mushfiqur, who became the first

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Behold ! Hard Work, Dedication and Sincerity have been Rewarded !

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Mr. Dilip Kumar Agarwala, Director-FBCCI, Managing Director-Diamond World Ltd & General Secretary-Bangladesh Jewellers Samity, is nominated again as the HIGHEST TAX PAYER of jewellery sector in the year 2017-2018 by Bangladesh Government. We hope he will sustain his triumph of Glory and Victory. May he live long with sound mind and body to lead us and keep magnificent milestone in national economy!

Best Regards



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## RESIGNATION OF 4 TECHNOCRATS

## They still join cabinet meet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

All four technocrat ministers, who had resigned a week ago as per instructions from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, joined the cabinet meeting yesterday.

Religious Affairs Minister Matiur Rahman, Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Nurul Islam, Science and Technology Minister Yeafesh Osman and Telecommunications and IT Minister Mustafa Jabbar had submitted their resignation letters to the Cabinet Division on November 6.

However, no gazette notification was issued in this regard last week and they were instructed to carry out duties until their resignations were accepted.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Cabinet Secretary Md Shafiu Alam yesterday said the four ministers were present as no circular was issued regarding their resignations.

Citing a constitutional provision, he said a minister's resignation would not become effective without a gazette notification. "As no gazette notification has been issued yet, it will be considered that they are holding the cabinet posts."

Responding to a question, Shafiu said the polls-time government has started working after the announcement of the parliamentary election schedule.

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