

World leaders consider polls a success: CEC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) KM Nurul Huda yesterday said the December 30 national election was recognised as successful by world leaders.

"No country or international organisation made any negative comment over the polls. It is our victory," CEC claimed in a post polls views-exchange meeting with the commission's top officials at the EC secretariat in Dhaka.

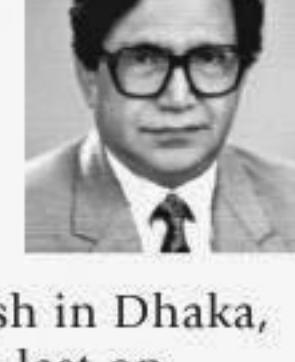
The CEC also praised EC officials including Secretary Helal Uddin Ahmed for his role in holding the 11th parliamentary election.

"The message that Bangladesh held a free and fair election has reached every nook and corner of the world and no one has rejected the polls," CEC claimed.

During the meeting, CEC also called upon the officials of the commission to prepare for the upcoming upazila election.

Dr Mashiar passes away

CITY DESK



Dr Mashiar Rahman Khan, former vice chancellor of Victoria University of Bangladesh in Dhaka, breathed his last on December 24 at Square Hospital in Dhaka. He was 81.

His relatives, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend his kulkhwani, to be held tomorrow (Saturday) after Asr prayers at Eastern Point Auditorium at Shantinagar.

Born in Porrah in Manikganj, Dr MR Khan retired as the director general of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS).

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Everyday you were a blessing in our lives. **Eight years** have passed without you by our side. Every moment is cherished in our thoughts you are loved, you are missed. May Allah continue to bring peace to your departed soul.



The damaged front of the truck after it collided head-on with a bus in Kalihati upazila of Tangail yesterday. The accident killed one woman, and injured 10 other people.

PHOTO:
COLLECTED

HC rejects petition

FROM PAGE 3

was the Jatiya Party candidate for the constituency, told The Daily Star that he would move the petition before another HC bench on Sunday.

In the petition filed on January 1, Advocate Eunus sought an HC directive upon the Election Commission (EC) to cancel the result of Dhaka-8, citing irregularities.

According to the petition, Eunus also prayed to the HC to order EC not to include Rashed Khan Menon as the elected candidate in the gazette notification.

Menon, the grand alliance candidate of Dhaka-8, won the December 30 general election from the constituency.

Citing the petition, Advocate Eunus said agents of all parties except Awami League were not allowed in the polling centres during the election. The voter turnout was very low, but the result said the opposite, he said.

He also said Rashed Khan Menon is the president of Bangladesh Workers Party and his party's election symbol is "sickle". But he ran the race with Awami League's election symbol "boat", breaching the Representation of People Order (RPO).

AL fronts' infighting

FROM PAGE 3

roaming the streets in processions, chanting slogans.

Contacted, Ramna Police Station Officer-in-Charge Zane Alam Munshi told this correspondent last evening that clashes took place in the area on Wednesday night, but he was not aware of any further details.

No one was arrested and no case was filed in this connection till filing of this report around 7:00pm yesterday evening.

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The toll collector

FROM PAGE 3

land spending Tk 41.36 lakh and another three-storey building on another 2.5-decimal land for Tk 22.66 lakh.

The ACC in its investigation found that Kamal's father did not have the ability to make the "deed of gift" and the money spent on the property was earned by Kamal through "illegal means".

In addition, to dodge the anti-graft body, Kamal in his wealth statement mentioned that he took a loan of Tk 28 lakh from Delta Brac Housing Finance Corporation for constructing a building.

But ACC found that the construction of the building was completed before 2003. He took the loan in two phases in 2011 and 2013 and paid it off in 2015.

To bring his illegal wealth in a legal framework, he took those loans," reads the FIR.

Kamal took another loan of Tk 45 lakh from the company in 2015 but did not mention it in the wealth statement submitted before the ACC.

Kamal's total wealth stands at Tk 1.34 crore but his salary, bank interest and previous savings between 1986 and April 2016 would be Tk 17.26 lakh.

After deduction, his wealth would be Tk 1.17 crore, which he earned beyond the known source of income.

Meanwhile, ACC filed another case against one Monirul Islam Khan, assistant personal secretary of BNP leader and former mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, for amassing wealth worth Tk 1.52 crore beyond the known source of income and for giving false declaration of having a debt of Tk 36.21 lakh.

The case was filed with Ramna Police Station.

Both Kamal and Monirul could not be contacted over the phone for comments, despite repeated attempts.

One sentenced

FROM PAGE 3

Mission International College on Iqbal Road in Mohammadpur, was killed at their flat on March 30, 2015.

Sitangshu, their 14-year-old daughter Srabani Biswas Sruuti and eight-year-old daughter Arti Biswas Aditya were also injured in the attack.

According to the case statement, on the night of March 30, the killer entered the flat of Sitangshu to belatedly greet him on his birthday. He then hit Sitangshu's head with a hammer after drugging him with contaminated juice.

As Krishna wanted to save her husband, the killer hacked her with a kitchen knife and later set her on fire. She died the following day.

Victim's brother Sudhangshu filed a murder case against Palash with Mohammadpur Police Station.

On October 8, 2015, Palash was sent to jail after his surrender before a Dhaka court seeking bail. Palash later gave a confessional statement before a magistrate.

Detectives pressed charges against Palash on May 30, 2016 while charges were framed against him on April 20, 2017.

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Govt signs PPP contract

FROM PAGE 5

"This landmark transaction will pave the way for a pipeline of national expressways across Bangladesh," he added.

Head of ADB's Office of Public-Private Partnership (OPPP) Yoji Morishita said, "ADB aims to accelerate road development in Bangladesh while minimising the financing and operational burden and bringing in a diverse set of internationally renowned infrastructure developers, operators, and financial institutions."

The Government of Bangladesh establishes the objectives of the infrastructure as well as some credit supports to tackle the traffic challenge, while the private sector takes responsibility for meeting the objectives. The Dhaka Bypass is the first step in our strategy to bring Bangladesh roads to the global market based on the PPP model," he added.

ADB's OPPP also provided legal support for this transaction and helped develop a concession contract template for road PPPs through the Asia Pacific Project Preparation Facility (AP3F), a multi-donor trust fund managed by ADB.

The Government of Bangladesh will

offer viability gap funding of Tk 3.1 billion and a minimum revenue guarantee to the consortium to optimise the cost of financing. The contract also provides the government with a share of revenues generated by the consortium over a certain threshold.

ADB has been working with the Government of Bangladesh for over five years to transform the country's roads by making them a bankable asset class attractive to international investors, as has happened in other sectors such as the independent power producer sector.

ADB's OPPP is also the transaction advisor to PPPA on the 13.5km Rampura-Amulia-Demra Expressway in Dhaka, and in December 2018 was appointed transaction advisor for the approximately 210km Dhaka-Chittagong Expressway, the busiest road artery for passenger and freight in the country.

ADB has long supported PPPs and in 2014 established the OPPP to provide independent transactional advice and develop broader PPP knowledge and expertise in the region.

ADB has also pioneered the AP3F, a \$73 million trust fund supported by the governments of Japan, Canada and Australia, to provide project preparation, project definition, and capacity-building support to governments for PPP projects.

Two ASIs arrested

FROM PAGE 5

ASI Mamun and ASI Ishak had been involved with the snatching two gold bars from Asim, the OC said, adding that Ashik was the driver of the private car.

The OC said two cases were filed in this

connection: Asim was accused in gold smuggling, while the three others were accused in a kidnapping case, he added.

The four arrestees were sent to court yesterday.

IWM is established by the Govt. under the Trust Act to work as a Centre of Excellence in the field of water modelling, computational hydraulics and allied sciences.

IWM USERS' CONFERENCE 2019

Call for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Event Management

Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) is inviting innovative Expression of Interest (EOI) for Users' Conference tentatively on 6 February, 2019 from the reputed organizations with excellent professional track records in Event Management jobs. The selected organization will be responsible for entire planning, designing and printing/supplying all conference materials and media coverage. Detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) can be collected through below email. Event Management organizations having experience in arranging conference of more than 1000 participants are requested to submit their EOI on or before 15 January, 2019. A Pre-bid meeting will be held on 13 January, 2019 at 12:30 PM at IWM Conference Room. List of major event management jobs of last five years, Company Profile, TIN Certificate, Registration Certificate and Audit Report of last three years need to be submitted with the EOI.

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FEED THE FUTURE

Livestock and Nutrition

Request for Application (RFA)

The USAID Feed the Future Livestock Production for Improved Nutrition project in Bangladesh is implemented by ACDI/VOCA. The five-year project aims to impact rural household nutrition, incomes, and livestock markets for male and female livestock farmers. The project's geographic focus is USAID's Feed the Future Zone of Influence (ZOI), which covers 20 districts of Barishal, Dhaka, and Khulna divisions as well as the Resilience Focus Areas of Cox's Bazar and Bandarban districts of the Chittagong Division.

The project works to increase livestock productivity among producers through increased access to better livestock management practices and healthcare services; improved access of rural households to high-quality food to enhance nutrition and health status, especially among women and children; and improved nutrition-related behaviors of rural households. The project also focuses on linking the value chain actors to ensure appropriate incentives in the market. The Livestock