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Your Right to Know

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APPOINTMENT OF CEC, ECs

## No law in 49 long years

Successive govts ignored constitutional provision for such law to feed their interest

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The country is yet to have a specific law for appointing chief election commissioner and election commissioners though there is a constitutional provision for enacting a law for their appointment.

In the absence of such a law, no specific criteria are there regarding the qualifications for appointment of CEC and election commissioners or what will lead to their disqualification, said officials of the Election Commission and the law ministry.

At present, the government has no plan to enact a law with the current EC completing its four years today, they mentioned.

The EC's tenure is five years and the current commissioners assumed office on February 15, 2017. The first EC was

constituted in July 1972.

None of the successive governments in the last 49 years enacted a law despite having a constitutional provision in this regard. And many of these governments constituted the EC by appointing persons of their choice, triggering widespread controversies.

As there is no specific law, the president formed a search committee in 2012 and another in 2017 for appointing CEC and commissioners.

Seeking anonymity, a top official of the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division at the law ministry yesterday said no initiative has yet been taken to make such a law.

Noted jurist Shahdeen Malik said one

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Five-year-old Musa sprays some water on a bucket of roses on the pavement next to the capital's Manik Mia Avenue yesterday. With the city dwellers celebrating Pahela Falgun and Valentine's Day, Musa was cashing in on the fervour by selling his roses for Tk 20 each.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON



The third installment of our special supplement highlights the youth who are spiritedly working towards their goals, in variegated fields of work. They are setting an example for the rest on how to bring about change, even amidst a global pandemic.

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## Many countries offered vaccines to Bangladesh

Says PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said many countries have expressed their interest in providing novel coronavirus vaccines to Bangladesh, and the country will receive all those for ensuring vaccination up to rural level.

"We have procured three crore vaccine doses. The Indian government has sent 20 lakh doses as gift. Other countries are willing to provide the shots. We will take

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## PRIORITY JABS FOR HEALTHCARE STAFF Faking professions to avail benefit

MOUJID AHMED SUJAN

Taking advantage of loopholes in online registration process, some people are faking their identities and registering themselves for the Covid-19 vaccine as healthcare professionals.

The government has recently allowed healthcare workers of public and private hospitals and health ministry staffers to directly register online.

According to health officials, the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) had to relax the conditions of going through the mandatory database system for primary inputs for the eligibility to register online due the unavailability of a complete list of professionals under the category.

The DGHS's decision means that if anyone aged 18 and above under this category wishes to register online, they can just use their National Identity Card number.

The Daily Star received a number of allegations against people not belonging to this category registering for vaccination by faking their

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## Truck carrying drugs runs over, kills Rab man

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A member of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) was killed in Mymensingh early yesterday as a truck run over him while he was chasing the vehicle.

According to the law enforcers, the truck was carrying cannabis.

The dead - Idris Molla, 28, a constable

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MUNICIPALITY POLLS

## Irregularities rule the day

1 killed, 26 hurt in violence

STAR REPORT

Municipal polls in many places were marked by widespread allegations of voter fraud, ballot-box stuffing, flouting of laws and violence that left one man dead and at least 26 injured.

Several BNP-nominees and independents running for mayor boycotted the polls blaming blatant violation of rules by the ruling party activists.

Journalists covering the polls were assaulted in two places and police arrested at least three men on charges of voter fraud and battery.

PHOTO ON PAGE 12

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## CONDOLLENCE

Partex Group deeply mourns the sad demise of Zainul Haque Sikder, Chairman Sikder Group.

May Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and grant courage to the bereaved family to bear this loss.



## Weak Tigers whitewashed by Windies

MAZHAR UDDIN

The failings of Bangladesh's approach to Test cricket came under the scanner once again as the batsmen displayed a lack of the requisite temperament in a humiliating 17-run defeat to West Indies in the second Test, which sealed a 2-0 series whitewash for the visitors.

Chasing 231 runs on the fourth day at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday, Bangladesh were all out for 213.

Mehedi Hasan Miraz kept hopes up late into the day, but just when it looked like he may pull a rabbit out of the hat, Rahkeem Cornwall pouched a brilliant low catch at slip off the bowling of Jomel Warrican to seal the win

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