



# The Daily Star

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## EC formation thru' search committee

PM tells press conference, says BNP wants to make next polls controversial



- Rohingya solution lies with Myanmar
- Refugees must be repatriated to their homeland
- E-commerce fraudsters to be punished

UNB, BSS, Dhaka  
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the new Election Commission will be constituted through a search committee to be formed by the president. She was addressing a press conference at the Gono Bhaban yesterday, arranged to inform the media about the outcome of Bangladesh's participation in the 76th United Nations General Assembly session. The tenure of the incumbent EC will end in February next year and the

next commission will hold the 12th parliamentary election, scheduled to be held in 2023. The PM said the BNP wants to make the next general election controversial knowing that there is no chance for them to win it. "They know they don't have any possibility of winning the election. So, their effort is to make it controversial, create confusion among people and harm people by any means." Questioning BNP's leadership, she



Dhaka University students doing on-spot registration for Covid-19 jobs at a temporary vaccination camp opened at the medical centre on the campus yesterday. DU students will receive the first dose of the Sinopharm vaccine till October 17 at the centre. The administration of the second dose will begin there on November 1. More on page 3.

## All univs likely to open this month

Says Dipu Moni; cabinet okays draft essential services act

STAFF CORRESPONDENT  
All universities in the country will hopefully reopen by the end of this month, Education Minister Dipu Moni informed the cabinet meeting yesterday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presided over the meeting virtually from the Gono Bhaban. "The meeting discussed the current situation of the educational institutions. The education minister gave a detailed explanation for the delay in reopening of universities. The universities are run by syndicates .... she [Dipu] hopes all universities will

## Enact specific law to pick CEC, ECs

Legal experts recommend, say no legal scope for forming a search committee bypassing constitution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

There is no legal scope to appoint a chief election commissioner and election commissioners with recommendations from a search committee bypassing the country's constitution, eminent citizens said yesterday. They said it was unfortunate that there is still no specific law in the country to appoint the CEC and election commissioners, although there is a constitutional provision for enacting the law. In the absence of the law, the president formed search committees in 2012 and 2017 to appoint the CEC and commissioners. Jurists, election experts, academics and rights activists at a webinar titled "Election Commission

"The government forms a search committee in such way that the committee picks people of its choice."  
EMINENT JURIST SHAHDEEN MALIK  
SEE PAGE 2 COL 3

## Invoking three sections of DSA debatable

HC observes in the full text of Jhomon Das's bail order

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

In the full text of Jhomon Das's bail order, the High Court observed that invoking the three sections of the Digital Security Act, for which he was in jail over six months, was debatable. "Considering the materials placed on record before this court, the issue with regard to invoking of sections 25(1) (Ka), 31(2), and 35 of Digital Security Act would be a debatable issue and to be considered during the trial. "The petitioner [Jhomon] is in custody since March 16, 2021. Albeit the matter is under investigation but that itself would not be sufficient ground to deny personal liberty to the petitioner. At this stage, no

## WORLD TEACHER'S DAY TODAY JOBS GONE, HOPES TOO

MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

- 40-50% of kindergarten teachers lost jobs, according to an association's estimate
- Nearly 20,000 kindergartens said to be still closed
- No official data on the number of closed-down schools

The reopening of educational institutions last month brought a ray of hope to Kaiser Ahmed's life that was turned upside down in the 18-month-long Covid-19 induced school closure. The teacher of a kindergarten school in Nabiganj of Sunamganj was rendered almost unemployed after his school stopped paying salaries because of the financial crunch it faced since the closure in March last year. The means of livelihood Kaiser took up in the meantime turned even dearer as he lost all his meagre savings he invested in opening a coffee shop in his locality for survival. But when he heard that his school was reopening, he was delighted -- not

## FB, WhatsApp, Instagram go offline globally



STAR REPORT

Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp went offline for users across the globe, the social media giant said yesterday, as it worked on restoring its services. Users in Bangladesh started having difficulties connecting to Facebook group's services, including its social media site, its instant messenger, WhatsApp messenger and Instagram, around 9:15pm last night. The services were still inaccessible as of filing of this report at 2:00am today. Apart from people being unable to

## Ten-man Bangladesh hold India

ANISUR RAHMAN from Male

The men in red and green jumped high to punch their fists in the air as 10-man Bangladesh courageously came from behind to hold seven-time champions India to a 1-1 draw in their second match of the SAFF Championship at the National Football Stadium in Male, Maldives. Yeasin Arafat cancelled out Sunil Chhetri's 26-minute strike in the 74th minute to give his side a creditable draw, helping Bangladesh to stay



Bangladesh defender Yeasin Arafat runs for joy after scoring the equalising goal in a 1-1 draw against India in their SAFF Championship fixture at the National Stadium in Male yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## PANDORA PAPERS FALLOUT India, Pakistan vow to take action

STAR REPORT

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has formed a high-level cell to probe the Pandora Papers exposé, which included key members of his inner circle, including cabinet ministers, their families and major financial backers. The cell will present the facts before the nation, said the News International, which investigated the filed linked to Pakistan, quoting Fawad Chaudhry, the country's information minister. This comes after Khan earlier in the day tweeted that he welcomed the exposé, the most comprehensive yet on the shadow financial world. The names of more than 700 Pakistanis have been discovered in the data and the majority of them are tax residents in the country. Among those whose holdings have been exposed are Khan's Finance Minister Shaukat Fayaz Ahmed Tarin and his family, and the son of Khan's former adviser for finance and revenue, Waqar Masood Khan.



SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

### Culture of Information Disclosure Will Prevent Corruption

Manusher Jono Foundation and its Partner Organisations Supported by: UKaid

The soul will remain as the brightest star for thousand years!

We will remember you in prayers.

We extend our heartfelt mourn on the second death anniversary of ace industrialist and founder Managing Director of Youth Group

**Mr. Feroz Alam**  
(April 30, 1956 - October 5, 2019)