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Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus at a meeting with UK Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Indo-Pacific Catherine West at the State Guest House Jamuna in Dhaka yesterday.

Banker killed as rickshaw crushed in bustruck collision

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man was killed and another injured when a battery-run rickshaw was crushed following a headon collision between a bus and a truck in Dhaka's Paltan area early yesterday.

The deceased, identified as Jakir Hossain, was a manager (operations) Mercantile Bank's Kankirhat Branch in Noakhali's Senbagh, said Md Arifullah, a subinspector of Paltan Police Station.

The identity of the rickshaw driver was not confirmed immediately.

Quoting witnesses, the SI said that the accident occurred around 5:00am when a bus of Unique Paribahan and an onionladen truck collided headon, causing both vehicles to swerve aside. The rickshaw was crushed between the two vehicles during the collision, SI Arifullah said. Jakir, the passenger,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Decentralise power, adopt provincial govt system

Speakers tell constitution reform commission

KEY PROPOSALS

Federal system of govt

Direct presidential election

Power balance between

PM, president

Bicameral parliament

Withdraw Article 70

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of various professional organisations, young intellectuals, activists vesterday and cultural proposed introducing a federal system a parliamentary system where the of government and amending the premier holds executive power, and

constitution through consensus among political parties.

The proposed federal system of government would decentralise power by introducing provincial governments, unlike the current system unitary Bangladesh, where power is concentrated in the central government.

This change aims to ensure equitable regional development and greater of the caretaker government system autonomy for local governance, they

added. At a meeting with the constitution reform commission in the cabinet room of the national parliament building,

they also suggested a direct election for the president and a balance of power between the president and the prime minister.

Currently, Bangladesh

> the president, elected indirectly by parliament, serves as a largely ceremonial head of state. Speakers

proposed a provision in the constitution requiring political parties to nominate 25-30 percent women in national polls, scrapping the existing system of reserved seats for women. Other proposals included the restoration

and the introduction of referendums for making critical government decisions.

"We proposed establishing a separate secretariat for the judiciary as part SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

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