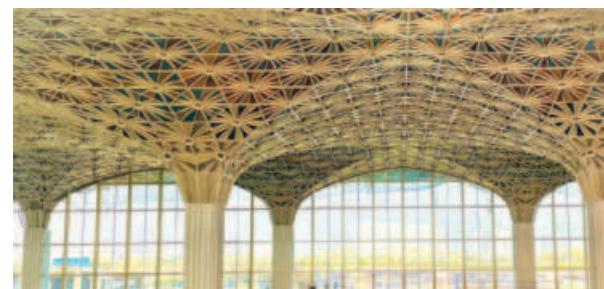




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DHAKA-10 SEAT NCP-led alliance plan stalls over nomination row

SHAMIMA RITA

A dispute over nominating a candidate for the Dhaka-10 seat caused the planning of a four party alliance led by the National Citizen Party to collapse at the last moment on Thursday, party insiders say.

Opposition from two influential student advisers, who argued against building any "third force" and instead pushed for joining the BNP, further derailed the effort.

For days, the NCP had been negotiating with Amar Bangladesh (AB) Party, United Peoples (UP) Bangladesh, and Rastro Songskar Andolon to form a new electoral bloc.

Just as the partners were preparing to announce it at a press conference in Shahbagh, the initiative unravelled.

Sources say both LGED Adviser Asif Mahmud, a key power centre within the NCP, and AB Party Joint General Secretary Nasreen Sultana Mily intend to contest the national polls from Dhaka-10.

Mily has already begun nomination groundwork. Though Asif has not

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Jamaat planning major overhaul of nomination list Party to field student leaders, minority reps, new faces

RASHIDUL HASAN

The Jamaat-e-Islami is bringing major changes to its nomination list by incorporating top student union leaders from Dhaka University and other institutions, civil society members, journalists, cultural figures and representatives of minority and ethnic groups.

The party would also leave a number of seats in support of strong candidates from its seven like-minded parties, Jamaat Assistant Secretary General Ahsanul Mahboob Zubair told The Daily Star.

The mostly Islamist electoral alliance plans to reveal the list after the election schedule is announced in early December, according to him.

"You will see major changes and attraction in the final list of our nomination as we want to make it inclusive," added Zubair, who also heads the party's media wing.

He said several frontline student leaders of the July uprising who won the central vice-president and general secretary posts in recently held student union polls at Dhaka University, Rajshahi University, Jahangirnagar University and Chattogram University, would be nominated for contesting the upcoming national election to woo young voters.

"We have also asked the student leaders that their respective duties in the central student unions of their universities are not hampered if they win the national election," Zubair said.

Leaders of Jamaat's student wing Islami Chhatra Shibir swept all these elections, securing almost all VP and GS posts.

Jamaat Secretary General Mia Golam Porwar told The Daily Star that considering the new political context and the young generation's expectations, the party has



Workers unload textbooks from a truck at Kawnia Manik Mia High School in Barishal yesterday. The books arrived from Dhaka for free distribution to schools ahead of the new academic year.

PHOTO: TITU DAS

Man shot dead hours after B'baria turf clash

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
B'baria

A man was shot dead late Thursday night in Brahmanbaria town, hours after three people were injured in an earlier shooting triggered by a turf clash in the same area, police and family members said.

The deceased was identified as Saddam Hossain, 32.

Witnesses and family sources said tensions escalated around 7:00pm Thursday, when alleged followers of "Lion Shakil" fired rubber bullets at supporters of district Swechchhasebik Dal convener Delwar Hossain Dilip near Kandipara Madrasa Road, injuring three people.

Later that night, Saddam was allegedly called out of his home by men known to him. Shortly afterwards, locals found him lying on Kandipara Road with gunshot wounds. He was rushed to Brahmanbaria General Hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

Family members claimed that followers

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