

Fire in university dormitory Russia assures all help for injured students

UNB, Dhaka

The Russian government has assured Bangladesh of taking all necessary measures for the treatment of Bangladeshi students injured in a fire at a student dormitory in Moscow.

Moscow will also bear all expenses of their study.

The fire broke out in a dormitory of the Moscow's Peoples' Friendship University on November 24.

The assurance was conveyed by the Russian Ambassador in Dhaka Oleg S Malginov during a meeting with Prime Minister's Political Secretary Harris Chowdhury yesterday.

The Russian envoy also assured that necessary cooperation would be provided to the injured students' close relatives who want to visit their wards in Russia.

The meeting was held following the prime minister's query about the condition of the injured Bangladeshi students. The Russian Ambassador also handed over a letter of sympathy from President Vladimir Putin for Prime Minister Khaleda Zia.

Ambassador Malginov said the Russian government has already ensured necessary treatment for the injured students -- seven of them were still at intensive care unit at hospitals in Moscow.

Meanwhile, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin expressed his sympathy to the leadership of Bangladesh and the relatives of the Bangladeshi students injured in the fire.

The Bangladesh Embassy in Moscow, Moscow-based Russia-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Russian Centre for international Scientific and Cultural Cooperation are in close touch with relevant authorities and doctors, as well as patients, said a press release of Russian Embassy yesterday.

President, PM greet UAE president

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia have felicitated President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Abu Dhabi Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan on the occasion of National Day of that country.

In his message, the president said, "I firmly believe that the relations between the two brotherly countries which is characterised by close bonds of cooperation will be further consolidated and diversified in the days ahead."

The prime minister in her message said, "It's my firm belief that the brotherly relations that so happily exist between the two countries will grow in depth and dimension to our mutual benefit in the coming years."



PHOTO: STAR

Different cultural organisations, including the Bangabandhu Shishu Kishore Parishad, jointly took out a victory procession in the city yesterday to mark the Victory Day.

11-Party vows to launch tough movement

'Misrule' of govt protested

UNB, Dhaka

The left-leaning 11-Party alliance brought out black flag procession and held a rally yesterday protesting the failure of the government to contain crimes, killing, corruption and price spiral.

Criticising the government for its 'misrule', the speakers at the rally in front of Mukhtangon vowed to launch vigorous movement and to enforce countrywide hartal on December 13.

Alliance coordinator Rashed Khan Menon said the existence of the country was at stake due to changes brought about by BNP-Jamaat government during the last two years.

"We want not only change of this government, we are in favour of changing the present system of government," he said without elaborating.

Menon, also president of the Workers' Party, was critical of Jamaat and branded it as an anti-liberation force. The elements who had opposed the liberation war are now sharing power with the BNP, he said.

He called upon the people to forge unity to launch a movement against the alliance government. He also demanded removal of anti-liberation elements from the cabinet and their trial.

Referring to the Sunday's recovery of sophisticated weapons in the city, Menon asked the government to inform the nation who are the masterminds. He also demanded that the inquiry report of Bogra arms haul be made public.

Earlier, the party took out a procession in the city. Manzurul Ahsan Khan and Muzahidul Islam Selim of CPB and Khalequzzaman Bhuyian of BSD took part in the rally.

Prayer meeting for peace held

The annual prayer meeting for universal peace, organised by the Haqqani Anjuman Bangladesh, was held at the National Press Club yesterday, says a press release.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharruf Hossain attended the meeting as chief guest.

Presided over by Advisor to commerce ministry Barkatullah Bulu, the meeting was also attended by State Minister for Finance Shah Mohammad Abul Hussain, State Minister for Water Resources Goutam Chakraborty, ex-DG of Islamic Foundation Syed Ashraf Ali, President of World Poet Organisation Syed Azizul Haque, and Father James.



PHOTO: STAR

Participants at a roundtable on 'CHT situation -- aren't we heading towards a catastrophe?' held at the CIRDAP auditorium in the city yesterday. The Bangladesh Adivasi Forum and the Research and Development Collectives organised the event.

Bail prayer of RU teacher rejected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

The Rajshahi Women and Children Repression Prevention Court yesterday rejected the bail prayer of a Rajshahi University (RU) teacher who has been accused in a rape case.

The court rejected the bail prayer of Kamal Pasha who was accused of raping a student of the university.

The same court also did not grant bail to Kamal on November 19 following a miss case filed with the court after a magistrate's court rejected his bail prayer.

On November 16, police arrested Kamal, a lecturer of anthropology department, on charge of seducing his student on false promise of marriage.

Earlier, the victim dragged Kamal down from his bridal car and took him to Boalia police station to lodge a complaint.

Police said they were living in adjacent buildings at Talaimari area in the city and seeing each other for last seven months.

Rajshahi unit of Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association is providing legal support to the victim.

