

Metropolitan

'Govt should ensure people's participation in uplift'

The Fourth Grand National Council-93 of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Friday strongly pleaded that the party government should take necessary steps to ensure people's participation in all development activities for achieving desired economic growth and progress with the coming 21st century, reports BSS.

In a number of resolutions adopted at the concluding session of the two and a half-day council, the BNP hoped that the government would also involve the people in the promotion of scientific research and technological expertise, building skilled and educated manpower and in the introduction of a people-oriented administration.

The council coinciding the 15th founding anniversary of the BNP of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman, was opened and presided over by party chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia and was attended by thousands of councillors delegates and leaders from across the country.

During the deliberations, the councillors dwelt on various aspects of the socio-political and economic issues prevailing in the country and hoped that the BNP leadership would be able to overcome these challenges paving the victory to the consolidation of a more competitive political atmosphere.

The BNP council referred to the initiation of massive short and long term programmes for poverty alleviation and achieving national self-reliance and suggested "Now was the time for peace and political stability and above all the all-out cooperation of the people including opposition parties."

The Council charged that the opposition parties instead of cooperation were disturbing peace required for development and resorting to creation of anarchy and unrest through giving frequent calls for hartal and sieges.

The council unanimously adopted a set of political, economic and organisational resolutions towards the materialisation of the 19-point programme of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman for economic uplift and self-reliance and institutionalising the democratic process.

Increasing production in

agriculture, industrial and services sectors, removal of illiteracy, expansion of educational facilities, promotion of vocational and technological training, development of human resources, solution of unemployment problem and keeping prices of essential commodities within the buying capacity of the people reforming the administration and strengthening the rule of law and local body institutions are the other imperatives of the 19-point programme.

About the sending back of Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh, the council hoped that the government would soon find a permanent solution to it. The council appreciated the government's diplomatic efforts for creating situation congenial for the return of the Rohingya refugees to Myanmar through involving the United Nations.

In its 27-point political resolution, the BNP council expressed deep concern at the undue bid to push in the Indian citizens forcefully into Bangladesh on completely baseless accusations and demanded that such attempts should be stopped by India immediately.

About the Farakka issue and its adverse reaction on the economy of Bangladesh, the BNP council pleaded for immediate solution to the vexed issues of Farakka and 54 other common rivers through discussion and negotiations.

The council observed that the existence of Bangladesh was dependent of these international rivers including the Ganges strongly demanded of the government to take the issues of Ganges water to the United Nations and other international forums, if necessary.

The BNP national council noted that establishment of Bangladesh's right on the Tin Bigha corridor was another diplomatic achievement of the BNP government and thanked Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for controlling such attempts with an iron hand and urged the government to take sterner measure in future against any attempt to foil the unique communal harmony in the country.

The BNP national council noted that establishment of Bangladesh's right on the Tin Bigha corridor was another diplomatic achievement of the BNP government and thanked Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for her leadership in this respect.

The council congratulated Prime Minister Begum Zia on her election to the post of the chairperson of the seven South Asian SAARC countries and hoped that the SAARC would be able to accomplish its goals under her dynamic leadership.

The political resolution adopted by the national council of the BNP also touched on the protection of independence of Bosnia, stopping atrocities and genocides on the Bosnian Muslims by the Serb and the Croatian forces and establishment of an independent state for the Palestinians and stopping aggression by Israel.

The council observed that Bangladesh had been playing an active role in maintaining global peace.



Visiting Pakistan People's Party leader Zia Ispahani called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina at her Sangsad Bhaban office in the city yesterday.

BDR headquarters declared 'no-smoking zone' from Sept 7

The BDR headquarters at Peekhana here was declared a 'no-smoking zone' with effect from September 7, reports BSS.

This was stated by BDR Director General Major General M Anwar Hossain while addressing the officers, JCOs and members of different ranks at the central Durbar at Peekhana here yesterday.

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What's on today....

Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka

The weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka will be held today (Sunday) at 5:30 pm at the Conference room of International University of Business, Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT), House-135, Road-9A (old-19), Dhanmondi Residential Area.

Ret PP Dr M Altumullah Miyan will be the speaker on Rotary Information.

SERI and BAFED

The inaugural session of the South Asian Sub-Regional meeting of Educational Researchers will be held today (Sunday) at 9:30 am at the National Academy for Educational Management, Dhanmondi.

The meeting has been sponsored jointly by the Southern Educational Research Initiative (SERI) and the Bangladesh Forum for Educational Development (BAFED).

Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor of the Dhaka University, will attend the meeting as chief guest.

Ritwik Film Society

On the second day of the five-day film session titled 'Shakespeare in Film' jointly organised by Ritwik Film Society, British Council and Department of English, DU a documentary on William Shakespeare and film show 'Hamlet' by Mel Gibson will be held today (Sunday) at the British Council at 5 pm.

Jatiya Janata Party

The Jatiya Janata Party, on the occasion of its 17th founding anniversary, has arranged a discussion meeting on 'shun the foes of independence — save the people of the country' at the Jatiya Granthi Kendra auditorium at 4 pm today (Sunday).

Begum Jahanara Imam and Abdur Razzak, MP will attend the meeting as chief guest and special guest respectively.

Leo Club of Dhaka Lalmatia

Leo Club of Dhaka Lalmatia will hold study tour today (Sunday) at Ahsan Manzil at 3 pm. Members of the club are requested to be present by 2:00 pm at Karabi flower shop, Shahbag, beside the BIRDEM. Leo Md Faruque Hossain, president of the club will lead the team.

Zahir Rajhan Film Society

On the third and last day of 'Utpal Dutta Commemorative Film Session' Zahir Rajhan Film Society will screen two films made by Satyajit Ray at the Indian High Commission Auditorium 'Hirak Rajar Deshey' ('In the Kingdom of King Hirak') today (Sunday) at 4 pm and 'Agantok' ('The Stranger') at 6:30 pm.

Dhaka Little Theatre

The month-long theatre workshop on the Dhaka Little Theatre ends today (Sunday) at 6 pm at the German Cultural Centre auditorium.

To mark the occasion a certificate awarding ceremony will be held. Poet Shamsur Rahman will distribute the certificates among the participants.

Renowned Art Director Ataur Rahman, Little Theatre president Moshedul Islam and Director of the Goethe Institute H Lechner will address the function. Chief adviser of Little Theatre Sirajul Islam Chowdhury will preside.

The function will be followed by staging of Tagore's 'Bidal Ovishap' and Khatvij Brimbona.'

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