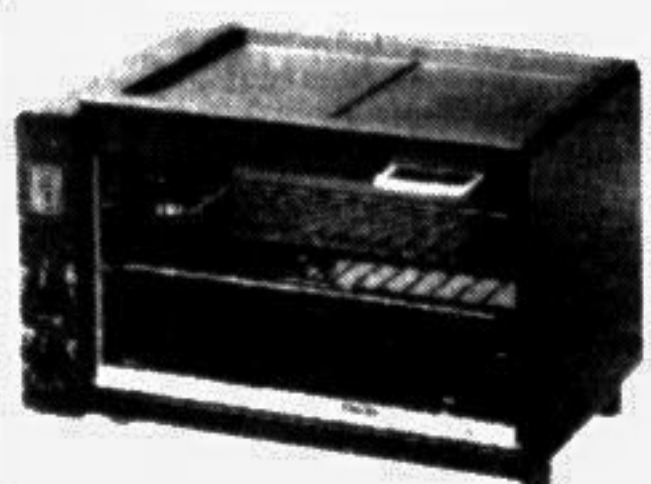


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Tougher programme after Eid: Khaleda

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Apr 13: BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday said that her party would announce a tougher movement programme after the Eid-ul-Azha to protest what she called the government's move to give corridor to India in the name of transit, import power from that country and form a sub-regional grouping in the name of South Asian Growth Quadrangle undermining the SAARC.

Addressing a big public meeting at the Circuit House Maidan, the Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad alleged that the Awami League government failed to carry out its responsibilities in all areas

Yasmin murder case: Hearing adjourned till May 25

From Our correspondent
RANGPUR, Apr 13: Trial of the Yasmin rape and murder case in the district and session judge's court was adjourned till May 25 after recording the deposition of one more prosecution witness, Shahjalal, a police constable today.

With this the total number of PWs submitting depositions rose to 37 out of 34. The prosecution counsel did not examine Shahjalal and submitted a prayer before the court saying that the PW might have been 'gained over' by the accused persons. The defence counsel cross-examined him with the permission of the court. Shahjalal, during the cross-examination by the defence counsel denied having said that he knew nothing about the Yasmin rape and murder incident.

PM leaves for Makkah today

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves Dhaka for Makkah today to perform the holy Hajj, reports UNB.

The Prime Minister will leave for the pilgrimage by a VVIP flight of Bangladesh Biman at 1.30 pm. She is expected to return home on April 20.

Foreign Minister and Awami League Presidium member Abdus Samad Azad will act as acting President of the party in absence of party chief and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Golden boys

From Page 1

"I am extremely happy and delighted at the news," said the President in a message of felicitation as the brawny boys beat Kenya in a nerve-wrecking finale of the tournament in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

He said the victory demonstrated indomitable energy, perseverance and determination of the players for winning the game and for bringing home the ICC Trophy.

"They have earned pride and honour for the nation."

The President mentioned the praiseworthy role of the manager, captain, coach, players and officials of the team in clinching the grand victory and expressed the hope that they would continue to brighten the image of the country abroad in future.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today congratulating Bangladesh team said "the whole country joins me today in congratulating our cricketing heroes on being the ICC-champions."

"My words are not adequate to express how happy I am at this historic moment. Our golden boys have heralded the dawn of a new cricketing history and posted the marvel-milestone in the annals of the game of cricket."

"I am very very happy. I have no language to express my happiness," said the Prime Minister who burst into tears as Bangladesh Betar announced the victory.

She prayed to the Almighty Allah and said, "I am confident that Bangladesh from now on will never look back. Its forward march has begun and it will not be stopped."

In a message faxed to skipper Akram Khan, Begum Khaleda Zia, now visiting Khulna, greeted the cricket heroes on behalf of the people, her party and her own behalf for winning the ICC Trophy.

Praying to the Almighty Allah, she said the nation will ever remember the golden sons of the soil for boosting the country's image abroad through the heroic victory.

JP presidium meet cancelled

By Staff Correspondent

A meeting of the Jatiya Party Presidium which was scheduled for today was cancelled last night, according to party sources.

The meeting was called last week against the backdrop of three top party leaders' demands for resignation of HM Ershad from the post of chairman of the party and of Secretary General Anwar Hossain Manju from his cabinet post in the Awami League government.

Party presidium members Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, Shah Moazzam Hossain and Kazi Zafar Ahmed had made the demands recently.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed has already been expelled from the party.

Meanwhile, sources in the party told this correspondent last night that hectic parleys were going on to "save the party from a possible split."

Pahela Baishakh

From Page 1

will broadcast special programmes while newspapers will publish special supplements.

Students of the Fine Art Institute will bring out a colourful rally in the morning.

Bangla Academy will hold a cultural programme at its premises in the morning. Leading artists of the country will participate.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has arranged a week-long painting exhibition on "Sundarbans in the eyes of an artist" at its gallery.

Chhayanaut will hold its traditional cultural programme at the crack of dawn at the Ramna Batamul. Nazrul Academy will also hold a musical soiree at Ramna Park at 6 am.

Leading singers of the country will participate in a cultural programme of Bangladesh National Museum in the morning.

Baul singers from different parts of the country will present a cultural programme organised by the Dhaka Reporters Unity at 7 am at its office premises at Segun Bagicha.

Socio-cultural organisations like Bangladesh Uddichi Shilpi Gosthi, Nabagittika Shilpi Gosthi, Bulbul Lalitkala Academy, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Benuka Lalitkala Kendra, Rabirag, Rotary Club of Dilkhusha and others will also hold separate programmes in different public places across the country throughout the day.

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