

Metropolitan

**Nat'l jalmahal policy soon**

A high level meeting on finalisation of draft National Jalmahal Policy was held Thursday in the conference room of the Ministry of Land with the State Minister for Land Alhaj Rashed Mosharrar in the chair, reports BSS.

LGRD Secretary Hasnat Abdul Hye, Land Secretary Syed Margub Mursheed, divisional commissioner of Dhaka, representatives of the Fisheries Ministry, additional deputy commissioners (Revenue) of Dhaka, Khulna and Sylhet divisions and chairman of the National Fishermen Association (NFA) attended the meeting.

The meeting decided to formulate a fishermen welfare-oriented Jalmahal policy very soon in which the right and interest of the real fishermen will be protected.

The meeting decided to protect rare fish species through creation of fish sanctuaries in different areas of the country for boosting fish production.

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Lt Gen (ret'd) M Nooruddin Khan, Shipping Minister A S M Abdur Rab, State Minister for Religious Affairs Moulana Nurul Islam, Afsaruddin Ahmed NP, Akhtaruzzaman MP and Dr Khondoker Mosharrar Hossain MP took part in the discussion.

Water Resources Minister said that the identified enemies of the independence were again trying to use the religion for gaining their narrow political benefits as they had used it during the War of Liberation.

Energy Minister called upon the devotees to unite with the spirit of universal brotherhood preached by the Prophet Mohammad (SM).

Shipping Minister said on this holy birth day of Prophet Mohammad (SM) everybody should take a fresh vow to serve the humanity as well as the creation.

Syed Moinuddin Ahmed praised the government for instituting a resolution adopted unanimously in parliament condemning heinous act of defaming the Prophet (SM) by Jews in Hebron.

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**Discussion on Eid-e-Miladunnabi 'Enemies of independence trying to use religion for political gains'**

Speakers at a discussion held on the occasion of Eid-e-Miladunnabi in the city Friday underlined the need for resisting those who are trading in religion and trying to defame the Prophet Mohammad (SM) by wrong interpretation of the Holy Quran, reports BSS.

The discussion organised by Anjuman-e-Rahmania Moinia Maizbhandaria, was presided over by the president of Ahle Sunnat-al-Jamaat president Syed Moinuddin Ahmed al Maizbhandari.

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzak, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Lt Gen (ret'd) M Nooruddin Khan, Shipping Minister A S M Abdur Rab, State Minister for Religious Affairs Moulana Nurul Islam, Afsaruddin Ahmed NP, Akhtaruzzaman MP and Dr Khondoker Mosharrar Hossain MP took part in the discussion.

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Syed Moinuddin Ahmed praised the government for instituting a resolution adopted unanimously in parliament condemning heinous act of defaming the Prophet (SM) by Jews in Hebron.

UNB adds: BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan has called upon all to unitedly work for building up a society based on justice and equality by following the philosophy of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM).

He was addressing a discussion meeting organised by the Jatiyatbadi Ulema Dal on the occasion of Holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi at BNP central office Friday. The teachings of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM) are the guidelines for our everyday life, he said.

"Prophet (SM) was not only a preacher of religion, he was also a successful statesman," Bhuiyan said adding that there would be no conflicts in the world if all follow the Prophet's ideals.

Presided over by Ulema Dal convenor Najibul Bashior Maizbhandari, the meeting was addressed, among others, by Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Prof MA Mannan, NI Khan, Advocate Mujibur Rahman, Nazimuddin Al Azad, Moulana Sakhat Hossain, Shahiduddin Chowdhury Anny, Moulana Abdul Awal Shikder, Moulana Nazrul Islam, Moulana Shah Mohammad Nesarul Haq and Fazul Haq.

**Disruption of Miladunnabi function condemned**

Various organisations have strongly condemned the unruly act of the fundamentalist elements disrupting the Eid-e-Miladunnabi function and insulting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed and State Minister for Religious Affairs Moulana Nurul Islam at the Baitul Mukarram Mosque on Thursday, reports BSS.

In a joint statement Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA), Ekkattur Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Jatiya Samannay Committee (EGDNJSC), Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad (BMS), Muktiyoddha Sanghati Parishad (MSP), Bangabandhu Parishad, Joy Bangla Sangskritik Jote (JSJ), said the fundamentalists including Jamaat-Shibir created the situation in a planned manner to destroy the sanctity of Holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi.

They said the President was insulted as part of the conspiracy by this reactionary group who have been trying to destabilise the political situation of the country during the last few days, calling hartal on the issue of the heinous attempt to blaspheme Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SM) by a Jewish woman.

They called upon the people to resist these heinous attempts of the fundamentalists.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Foundation authorities also expressed strong condemnation and protest against such nefarious activities.

In a press release, the foundation said the President came to the venue in time to inaugurate the Eid-e-Miladunnabi function. But some unruly elements under the cover of religion tried to create indiscipline in this august function. The function was disrupted as a result of this unexpected and unpleasant situation, it said.

Pro-Awami League Chhatra League has strongly protested the "attack and disruption" of the Eid-e-Miladunnabi programme.

In a statement, BCL president Enamul Haq Shamim and general secretary Ishaq Ali Khan Panna said the fundamentalist elements with ulterior motive dishonoured the all-respected President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed.

The Secretary General of Workers' Party Rashed Khan Menon strongly condemned the

heinous act of the fundamentalist forces.

In a press statement, Menon said the fundamentalists through this act had demonstrated their arrogance clearly indicating disregard to the holy religion and the Prophet of Islam, Muhammad (SM).

"It is also a reflection of their design to create a political and communal issue in the country," Menon said, adding that the Khatib of the Baitul Mukarram Mosque might have instigated these elements to create anarchy in the Miladunnabi function.

Menon also expressed his dismay saying that the authorities had failed to ensure security of the President.

He demanded stern action against those responsible for such an unfortunate act.

Bangladesh Mujibnagar Karmachari Kalyan Sangsad blasted those who created chaos at the holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi programme.

Disrupting a holy religious function like the holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi is very painful as it is defamatory to Prophet Muhammad (SM), chairman of the Sangsad A Latif Khan and secretary general S M Zahangir Alam said in a statement.

They observed that the communal and anti-liberation forces disrupted the function with an ulterior motive to humiliate the President and the 12 crore people of the country.

Chairman of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Samiti Sanjiv Sangrahan Sangsad M Ubedur Rahman Choudhury in a statement urged the government to take stern action against these elements who had long been giving false interpretation of religion and working against the state under various religious banners.

He also urged the government to cancel the citizenship of these elements who had opposed the country's Liberation War in 1971.

President of Bangladesh Islamic Biopoli Parishad Moulana Sheikh Obaidullah Bin Sayeed Jalalabadi in a statement said that language fails to express condemnation of such an act showing insult to a holy place like Baitul Mukarram Mosque and the President of the country.

**Bhuiyan demands withdrawal of cases against BNP men**

BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday demanded immediate release and withdrawal of 'false' cases filed against his partymen, reports UNB.

In a statement, he said police arrested Rampal thana Jatiyatbadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists Ziaur, Azizul, Shariful, Mizan, Milon and Mostafa on July 3 during hartal under the Special Power Act and filed 'false' cases against many others.

He said the JCD leaders and activists could not appear at examinations due to 'terrorism' unleashed by the ruling party at Rampal, disrupting their academic career.

"Through the administration is totally aware of the situation, it is showing reluctance regarding the problems of JCD leaders and workers," Bhuiyan said.

The BNP leader also alleged that his party leaders were not even being allowed to do business. "Despite this stifling situation, the administration is not taking any step to restore peace at Rampal thana."

He demanded unconditional release of student leaders, withdrawal of 'false' cases and end to 'terrorism and repression.'

**Lottery draw for shop allocation at Banani Complex today**

The draw of a lottery for distributing shops at the Dhaka City Corporation's (DCC) newly built Banani Housing and Shopping Complex will be held at 10 am today at Nagar Bhaban in the city, DCC sources said yesterday, reports BSS.

Those who have applied for allocation of shops at the complex have been requested to be present in due time.

**Weather Heavy rainfall forecast**

Heavy rain fall is likely at one or two places over Chittagong and Barisal divisions and the regions of Khulna in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office also forecast moderately heavy to heavy fall at places over Barisal, Khulna and Chittagong divisions during the period.

Moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at most places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at many places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions.

In its outlook for the subsequent two days weathermen predicted increase in rainfall activity.

No appreciable change in day temperature is likely across the country.

The sun sets today at 6:47 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:23 am.

**Call to observe Janmastami at nat'l level**

Sudhir Chandra Das and Subrata Chowdhury, president and general secretary respectively of the Bangladesh Puja Ujjapan Parishad (BPUP) yesterday urged the government to observe Janmastami, the birth anniversary of Sri Krishna, nationally, reports BSS.

In a joint statement, they also urged the government to declare four-day holiday on the occasion of Durga Puja.

The BPUP leaders also called upon the government to repeal the Non-Resident Vested Property Act.

**space**

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