



## Fakhruddin takes over as BB Governor

Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday took over as the eighth governor of Bangladesh Bank.

According to a notification of the Banking Division Ahmed has been given a three-year contract with effect from November 24, 2001, says a press release.

Ahmed obtained his Ph.D in Economics from the Princeton University, USA in 1975.

He was an officer of the erst-while Civil Service of Pakistan in 1963 batch. He was Joint Secretary, ERD, Ministry of Finance from 1975 to 1978. Prior to his present assignment, he was Country Director as Regional Manager, South Asia Region of World Bank from 1997 to 2001.

During his tenure in the World Bank he served as Country Principal Officer, Principal Country Programme Officer, Chief Economist, Agriculture and Rural Development Operations, Operations Advisor and Country Director. Most of his work experience has been in economic management and poverty reduction issues in South Asia and East Africa region.

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## Life long state security for Hasina, Rehana AL for tougher programmes if govt scraps the Act

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami will go for tougher programmes if the government scraps the 'Father of the Nation's Family Members Security Act, 2001.'

AL General Secretary Zillur Rahman said this while talking to The Daily Star last night after a joint meeting of the party's Presidium, Central Working Committee, Advisory Council and lawmakers in the city yesterday.

AL President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina chaired the meeting, held at AL's election office at Dhanmondi.

At the meeting, Sheikh Hasina urged party leaders to revamp the party and build up movement against "un- abated repression on Awami League leaders and work- ers and people by the ruling alliance", sources said.

On Wednesday, AL leaders held an emergency meeting and called an eight-hour hartal in the city on Sunday, protesting the government's move to scrap the Act under which Sheikh Hasina and her younger sister

Sheikh Rehana are enjoying life long state security. Sheikh Hasina, who had earlier promised not to call hartal in the country nay more, was not present at Wednesday's meeting.

At yesterday's meeting, senior party leaders explained under what circumstances they decided to call the hartal.

In response, Hasina said there is no use of saving her life when lives of people of the country are no more safe under the rule of the alliance government, meeting sources said.

Besides senior party leaders, some 40 out of 58 AL MPs also took part in the deliberations.

The meeting however did not take any decision whether the party will join the parliament session.

The leaders agreed that there was no reason for party lawmakers to join the parliament session while the ruling alliance continued "oppression on party leaders and workers across the country".

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## Muktijoddha Sangsad office: Showcause on Redwan

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The First Joint District Judge's Court, Dhaka, yesterday issued a showcause notice on Redwan Ahmed, State Minister for Freedom Fighters Affairs, to explain within three days of receipt of the notice why a temporary injunction should not be imposed restraining him from using the office of Bangladesh Muktijoddha central command council.

Judge Mohammad Altaf Hossain issued the notice following a civil suit filed by principal Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, Chairman of the

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## SPA, PSA to be scrapped in next JS session

New law mulled to settle pending case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to scrap the two 'black laws'—Special Powers Act (SPA) '1974 and Public Safety Act (PSA) '2000 -- in the second session of the Jatiya Sangsad (JS).

Sources said the BNP government has already started the process to scrap the two laws as per its election pledge. The Prime Minister's Office has given necessary instructions to the ministries concerned for taking appropriate measures in this regard.

Besides, the government has also instructed cancellation of all

'politically motivated' cases filed during the last five years of Awami League rule within the next two months. The cases are now under scrutiny.

BNP insiders said the second session of the JS would be very important as a number of vital issues including scrapping of the black laws and finalisation of women's reserved seats in the parliament will be tabled.

Talking to The Daily Star, a senior BNP leader said the government would implement all of its election pledges in phases as quickly as possible.

The BNP government's 100-day programmes also promise cancellation of the two black laws.

Sources said repeal of the SPA and PSA is complex as thousands of cases filed under the laws are still pending. Some 8000 cases were filed under the PSA. So, the government is considering introduction of another law to settle these cases.

They said the home ministry following instruction from the Prime Minister's Office prepared a draft bill and sent it to the law ministry. But the ministry informed the home office that thousands of cases filed under the two laws are now

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## JS tidbits

NAZMUL ASHRAF

Jamaat-e-Islami's elderly MP Maolana Abdus Sobhan took insult at his name being put at the bottom of a 10-member parliamentary committee recast by the House yesterday.

"I am the oldest member of this House and was elected to parliament time and again since 1962. But my name has been placed at the

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## Nov 13 gunfight on campus DU expels 4 JCD, 2 BCL activists

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University has temporarily expelled six students and declared them persona non grata on the campus for their involvement in gunfights at Jagannath and Zahurul Haq halls of the university on November 13.

A DU press release said that the decision was taken at a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee yesterday following submission of a probe report. Vice Chancellor Prof. Anwarullah Chowdhury presided over the meeting.

The university formed a probe body headed by the newly appointed proctor Dr Nazrul Islam after photographs of the armed men brandishing firearms on the campus

on November 13 were published in national dailies on November 14.

The expelled students are Mainuddin Babu of the Social Welfare and Research Institute, Shahbuddin Munna of the Library and Information Science Department, Mithu, Farhad, Faysal and Sumon.

Of the expelled, Mainuddin Babu and Mithu are activists of Awami League's student front Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) while the four others belong to ruling BNP backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), sources said.

The university authorities at the meeting also asked the law enforcing agencies to take legal action against outsiders involved in terror

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## Jubo League leader, AL activist murdered in Netrokona, Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Jubo League leader and an Awami League activist were murdered in Netrokona and Mirersarai on Wednesday night.

The victims were identified as Swapan Joarder, president of Jubo League Netrokona district unit and Ashrafuddin Choudhury alias Morshed, an activist of Mithanala union unit of AL under Mirersarai upazila of Chittagong district.

Our Netrokona Correspondent reports: Swapan was shot dead by unidentified assailants at Taribazar in the district town at midnight Wednesday.

Witnesses said, the incident occurred when Swapan was talking to two persons in front of the AL

district unit office. The assailants reached there riding a motorbike and shot the Jubo League leader.

He was taken to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at about 1 am.

The body was sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Our Staff Correspondent from Ctg writes: Awami League activist Ashrafuddin Chowdhury alias Morshed was chopped to death allegedly by BNP-Jamaat activists at a sawmill owned by him at Mithanala at about 8:30pm Wednesday night.

Police and witnesses said about 20 to 25 armed activists stormed into the saw mill firing blank shots.

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An alleged mugger who was beaten up by a mob in the city yesterday being rescued by police and local people.

## BTTB cuts int'l phone call rates from Dec 1

UNB, Dhaka

To facilitate its subscribers, Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) has reduced its international call rates with effect from December 1.

As per the new rates, per minute call charge for USA, Canada and other western countries will be Tk 40 against its previous rate of Tk 60.

The rate has been re-fixed at Tk 30 (previous Tk 50) for Africa, Asia and the Pacific region, Middle East, Europe and Ocean countries while Tk 20 (previous Tk 30) for Myanmar and SAARC countries, according to a BTTB press release.

During the off-peak hours, the call charge will be 25 per cent less than the given ones. The peak hours are considered from 8 am to 8 pm while the off-peak hours from 8 pm to 8 am the following day and government holidays.

## Bush's letter to Khaleda There are other areas to improve economic ties

BSS, Dhaka

US President George W Bush has agreed that there is scope for expanding bilateral trade and commerce between the United States and Bangladesh.

In a letter to Prime Minister Khaleda Zia on Tuesday, President Bush said, "I will give your views a careful consideration."

"I also believe there are other areas in which our economic relationship can improve," he said in response to a letter of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia.

President Bush said, "Your country's progress in building democratic institutions serves as an important role model for countries seeking a broad based government."

In this context, he said "Let me take the opportunity to congratulate you again on your election victory

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## Businessman murdered, alleged mugger beaten to death in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A businessman was murdered and an alleged mugger was beaten to death in the city yesterday.

A gang of miscreants slaughtered Anwar Hossain, 40, a pharmacy owner, while he was returning home in the early hours of yesterday.

Anwar closed his pharmacy at Lalkuthir Sishmahal in Mirpur area about 12:30 am and started for his residence at nearby Harirampur. On the way, some local youngsters led by one Tapan called him to a tea stall

and offered tea.

As he did not return home, family members became anxious and tried to know what happened to him. Next morning, they came to know from local people that a body was lying on the roadside near Lalkuthir Lake. It bore stab injuries and the head was almost severed. They rushed to the spot and identified the body as that of Anwar.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for autopsy.

Some sources said that Anwar had rivalry with some people over his pharmacy and his killing might be a sequel to that. Other sources he was killed possibly by extortionists following refusal to pay them.

However, one source close to the family said the victim, who had two

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## One shot dead as BNP factions clash at N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A violent clash between two rival groups of the ruling BNP left one person killed and five others injured in Fatullah industrial area yesterday afternoon.

The incident occurred at 2.00pm when an armed group led by Lavlu of Mission Para attacked a BNP activist, Abdul Karim, 35, son of Abdul Aziz at Kotalerbagh, leaving him fatally injured, sources said. Karim died on the way to the local hospital.

Witnesses said the gang dragged Karim down from the rickshaw he was travelling in and shot him in front of a large number of people. They left the scene by blasting crackers.

Lavlu was also injured in the forehead when the Karim group opened fire in retaliation and was taken to a local hospital in a critical condition. The injured four others belong to both groups.

Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

Yesterday's clash was the second one in the last two weeks. The first clash also between the factions of the BNP left one school-boy killed in DIT area in the town.

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Nov 30		5-11 pm
Dec 1	6-25 am	

Prayer Timings		
Nov 30		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-59	5-05
Juma	12-15	1-20
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-14	5-20
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation