

Bangladesh always values friendship with Pakistan

FM tells PML delegation

UNB, Dhaka

The five-member delegation of Pakistan Muslim League, led by its Secretary General Salim Saifullah Khan, met with Foreign Minister M Morshed Khan at his office yesterday. They discussed bilateral and regional matters.

Stressing the need for peace and stability in South Asia, the foreign minister said, "We must work together for betterment of the lives of the common people of the region."

He told the PML leaders that with the signing of Safta, scope has been created for exploiting enormous potential existing in this region.

Morshed Khan said Bangladesh always values friendship with Pakistan. This kind of visit very much encourages increase in people-to-people contact.

He gave a brief account of the policies and programmes of the government for socio-economic development of the country.

Bangladesh's achievements in some fields, such as micro-credits, empowerment of women, female education and oral saline, are remarkable, he added.

PML Secretary General Salim Saifullah Khan expressed gratitude to Bangladesh for very warmly receiving them. He also expressed satisfaction on the "excellent" bilateral relations existing between the two countries.

"Political parties are very important institutions," he said adding that such visits create opportunities to help political parties to exchange ideas and experiences in addition to government-level interactions.

Other members of the were Senator Mir Muhammad Nasir Mengal, Asad Junejo, Vice President of the Women Front Begum Yakut Jamil and former ambassador Tayyab Siddiqui.

BNP leaders MM Rezaul Karim and Nazrul Islam Khan were present at the meeting.

Teachers, employees call off strike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Shikhhok Karmachari Oikya Parishad has postponed its ongoing work abstention programme from tomorrow to help conduct the SSC examination beginning March 4.

Leaders of the Oikya Parishad, a body of teachers and employees of non-government educational institutions, took the decision unanimously at a meeting on February 27 with Principal MAAwal Siddiqui in the chair.

The Parishad leaders expected that the government would hold a dialogue with the agitating teachers and employees to resolve the crisis in the wake of the imminent public examination, but it did not take any initiative in this regard.

So they took the decision with the hope that the people including the guardians and students will be more sympathetic to their demands due to their noble gesture, says a press release.

The Parishad has been observing work abstention since January 25 to press home their 17-point demand including 10 per cent wage enhancement.

Around 40 representatives including central, regional and district leaders attended the meeting.

DU alumni reunion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Reunion of the students of 1969 batch of Dhaka University will be held at the PKSF auditorium at Agargaon on March 19.

Former students have been requested to contact any of the following persons for registration: Dr Saleh Uddin Ahmed (9140246), Khaleque Bhuiyan (8611186), Kazi Abdul Mannan (9892838), Rafia Akhter Dolly (8812255), Sultana Rebu (9669124) and M A Rais Khan (7169168).