

## Nizami rules out armed Islamic revolution

UNB, Dhaka

Jamaat-e-Islami chief Matiur Rahman Nizami yesterday dismissed the notion of armed revolution in the name of Islam in Bangladesh, saying that only Islamic ideology can guarantee national independence and sovereignty.

Addressing a discussion marking the Independence Day at the National Press Club, he said after independence the party that got responsibility to form the government imposed one-party rule and Baksal on the nation.

Nizami, whose role in the country's liberation war is questioned, said all should maintain vigilance against anti-state conspiracies and take fresh vow to protect national independence and sovereignty.

"Bangladesh all along cherished independent thinking and spirit as well as set up a glowing example of communal harmony. There is no proof of religious riot or conflict," he told the meeting organised by Jamaat's city committee.

Nizami, also the Minister of Industries, said those who are trying to brand Bangladesh as a dysfunctional state are virtually "cutting the branch of a tree which they are sitting on".

On the reported Islamic radicalism, he said, "It is not tenable that some people can stage an armed revolution in the name of Islam. Those who want to identify Bangladesh as a fundamentalist state indeed gave birth to these organisations to annihilate Islam and Muslim ummah."

Presided over by City Jamaat Vice-president ATM Masum, the meeting was also addressed by central leaders Mohammad Qamaruzzaman, Abdul Qader Mollah, ATM Azharul Islam and Barrister Abdur Razzak.



Awami League took out a colourful procession in the city yesterday with a slogan "Resist Razakar, save Bangladesh" marking the Independence Day. PHOTO: STAR

## AL wants to create anarchy: Bhuiyan

BDNEWS, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said that the Awami League wanted to create anarchy across the country in the name of reforms in caretaker government system.

He said that it would not be possible for Awami League to go to power without people's support. So they should try to drum up support in favour of their party as the next election will be held after a year and half.

He also said, if the people want AL, they would be able to go to power. Otherwise they would remain as opposition party and would not get anything by hatching conspiracy.

Bhuiyan said this while he was presiding over a discussion on Friday on 'Independence and National Day' organised by the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) at the Mahanagar Natyamancha.

Environment and Forest Minister Tariqul Islam, Water Resources Minister Major (Retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed, BNP Joint Secretary General

Goyeswar Chandra Roy, Dhaka city BNP General Secretary Abdus Salam also spoke at the meeting.

Bhuiyan said AL will not be able to oust the government by calling hartals, as the people of the country do not support hartals, he added. Besides, the opposition would not be benefited from this.

He urged the opposition to come back to the parliament and discuss the issues there.

## BNP procession today

BDNEWS, Dhaka

As a part of its 10-day programmes on occasion of Independence and National Day, ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will bring out a procession from Paltan Maidan in the city at 4.00pm today.

BNP Secretary General and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will lead the procession.

## President hosts reception

UNB, Dhaka

On the occasion of the Independence and National Day, President Iajuddin Ahmed and Prof. Dr Anwara Begum hosted a reception at Bangabhaban yesterday afternoon.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, Speaker Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar, former Chief Justice and caretaker government chief Latifur Rahman, ministers, diplomats, judges of the Supreme Court, chiefs of three

services representatives of international bodies, Members of Parliament and leaders of different political parties attended the function.

Freedom fighters and the members of their families, leaders of business community, editors, senior journalists, doctors, artists, and high civil and military officials also attended the reception.

President Iajuddin and Prof Anwara exchanged pleasantries with the guests and wished them a better future.