

Hanif, Maya dispute

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said they stood aloof only because of the conflict between the two leaders.
Hanif at a recent meeting with AL chief Sheikh Hasina told her 'he would not do politics with Maya', party sources said.
Maya also met Hasina and accused Hanif of forming city's thana committees in an autocratic manner, ignoring other leaders' opinions, they added.
The feud has reached its peak in recent days over formation of committees for 22 thana units.
Both Hanif and Maya are trying to include people loyal to them to these committees in a bid to strengthen their own positions. The supporters of both the feuding leaders even clashed over the committee formation in front of the party's central office on Bangabandhu Avenue on May 3.
At the beginning of yesterday's rally, AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil announced Maya would conduct it as a member of AL Central Working Committee.
"It's an Awami League rally," Jalil said when a programme banner showed it was organised by the Dhaka city unit.
Moreover, AL senior presidium member Amir Hossain Amu chaired the rally, although usually the president and in his absence the vice-president of the city unit takes over.
Of the frontline city unit leaders, only AKM Rahmatullah, Hazi Mohammad Selim and Quamrul Islam joined yesterday's rally. No leaders and workers from Sutrapur and Kotwali thana showed up, while presence of the leaders and activ-

Tata wants licence

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technical feasibility report on coal mining in the country to assess their detail plan of mining, the official said.
The government can grant an exploring licence to any foreign company for one year for conducting a feasibility study.
The Tata representatives also spoke with the power division about their proposed 1000-megawatt power plant.
"During the talks, they wanted to ensure local consumption or export clearance of their leftover power in their power projects," a meeting insider with the Power division said.
The Tata representatives chalked out a detail schedule for the negotiation, during an early morning meeting with the high-powered secretary level negotiation committee headed by Finance Secretary Jakir Ahmed Khan.
During the meeting, the government and the Tata Group also reached a common understanding of modalities of the negotiation for the proposed \$2.5 billion investment plan of the giant industrial group.
"We have finalised a detail schedule and modalities of discussion (how which and when will be discussed) for the lengthy and complex negotiation of the proposed investment," Tata Sons Executive Director Alan Rosling told reporters after the meeting.
Replying to a question, Rosling said the Bangladeshi team has shown enough passion in the first formal negotiation, proving that they are not inexperienced.
The government committee led by finance secretary Jakir Ahmed Khan, industry secretary Nurul Amin, home affairs secretary Safar Raj Hossain, additional secretary ministry of law Kazi Habibul Awal, land secretary Abdul Alim Khan, gas and mineral resources division secretary AKM Zafar Ullah, director general (Middle East and Asia) foreign ministry Ruhul Amin also

Premier Bank IPO

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accounts of the bank have also become too old to judge by investors for subscription. It is an another cause for denying the application.
The bank had earlier cancelled 17,000 fake bank accounts and 32,000 beneficiary owners' (BO) accounts due to manipulation in the IPO process.
"The latest developments of the bank such as the removals of the chief executive officer and managing director and the process of removing directors should have been included in the prospectus," Alam added.
He said more punitive actions are on cards against the bank directors for their ill motivation to capture a bulk portion of shares by limiting general investors' scope to submit IPO applications.
The SEC has also issued a show-cause notice to three depositary participants -- Premier Bank, Equity Partners Ltd. and Anwar Securities Ltd. -- and asked them to explain in 10 days their position in the IPO scam.
The Bangladesh Bank on April 28 removed the Premier Band MD, Kazi Abdul Mazid. It also ordered that he cannot join a bank or financial institution as the chief executive for one year for his involvement in tampering with IPO.
Mazid appealed to the board of the central bank for a review of the order under the article 48 of the Listing Rules but the BB board upheld the order.
The SEC in February 12 suspended the IPO subscription of the Premier Bank as it detected some 'serious irregularities' in the processes.
Moreover, in mid-February the BB and SEC conducted separate probes after detecting gross irregularities in opening of bank accounts and beneficiary owners' accounts with the Premier Bank's different branches.
The accounts were opened before the bank's planned subscription of primary shares worth Tk 55

ists of other units was also thin.
Hanif and his supporters did not take part in pro-hartal demonstrations this month in the wake of the feud. The AL enforced two hartals on May 18 and May 21 to protest the killing of its city unit leader Khorshed Alam Bachchu.
Virtually failing to resolve the crisis, Hasina on Monday asked her eight presidium members to coordinate activities of Dhaka city unit separately in eight parliamentary constituencies.
The AL sources said the presidium members will look after all organisational activities in their respective constituencies in Dhaka.
They are Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Amir Hossain Amu, Abdur Razzak, Tofail Ahmed, Suranjit Sengupta, Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Motia Chowdhury and Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim.
An AL senior leader, however, told The Daily Star last night the party think tank is now considering dissolving the existing city unit committee.
Several senior AL leaders believe the city unit has become almost dysfunctional due to the ongoing feud between Hanif and Maya.
Dhaka city unit AL has failed to launch any vigorous movement in the capital mainly due to the conflict, they observe.
On June 18, 2003, Hanif and Maya were re-elected the president and general secretary in a triennial council of the AL city unit. After eight months of the council, they took initiatives to form ward and thana units in February last year.

2yr boy charged with adultery, theft acquitted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A Bogra court yesterday discharged a two-year-old child of adultery and theft in a case filed against him along with seven others in the northern district.
Saiful Islam appeared before a first class magistrate's court seeking bail.
Surprised at the accusation against the child, the court acquitted him and served a show-cause notice on the complainant for involving him in the case.
Magistrate Naveed Shafullah also issued a show-cause notice on local Union Parishad Chairman Yunus Ali, who was probing the incident.
Jahangir Alam of Shahjahanpur filed the case on February 9.
He said his father-in-law Babar Ali of Dhora in Gabtoli upazila and his son Saiful Islam, neighbours Shafiqul Islam, Moti Gangarani, Abdul Quddus and his three sons -- Shahin, Saidul Islam and Saiful -- visited to his house on January 13.
They took away three-tola gold ornaments, clothes worth Tk 3,000 and Tk 13,000 from the house. They also allured his wife Mabia Khatun to go with them, the complainant said.
They had convinced his wife and married her off to Shahin without a divorce, which is adultery, he alleged.
The court had thanked the UP chairman, also a BNP leader, with the probe, who allegedly submitted a report without proper investigation.

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UP chairman gunned down

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Criminals shot dead a union parishad (UP) chairman and critically injured two others at Fatikchhari in the district on Tuesday night.
The victim Abu Zafor Chowdhury alias Alamgir, Ranganamita UP chairman and a leader of Fatikchhari thana BNP, was talking to relatives and visitors at his rented house on the third floor of a five-storey building opposite to the Fatikchhari upazila court building, six gunmen stormed there and shot him point-blank, police and witnesses said.
Fayezullah, Alamgir's relative and Jamal Hossain, a visitor, were bullet-hit in the incident.
The victim's relatives and police suspect that the gangsters of Osman Bahini, operating in Fatikchhari upazila under the banner of Jubadai, are involved in the killing.
Alamgir helped police with information about Osman and his cohorts, sources said.
In the face of frequent death threats by Osman and his associates, Alamgir left his village home and have stayed in the well-protected rented house in the upazila headquarters with his wife and three children since mid-February this year, said Alamgir's father Zahurul Haq Chowdhury.
Zahurul Haq, also the president of Ranganamita union BNP, filed a case accusing ten criminals including the victim's neighbour Jasim, a BNP worker and an once associate of Osman.
Police arrested Jasim, who gave inconsistent statements about the incident.
Jasim was sitting at the victim's room during the murder.
Critically injured Fayezullah and Jamal Hossain were sent to local upazila health complex and later shifted to Chittagong Medical College and Hospital.

Legal impunity

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detained, there were suspicions about extra-judicial killings and concern about violence against women.
It said corruption and repression of religious minorities remained major problems.
The report said human rights defenders continued to receive death threats and to be at risk of attacks. Perpetrators were believed to be linked to Islamist groups or armed criminal gangs.
On violence against minorities, the Amnesty said impunity for violence against minorities, including members of the Hindu and Ahmadiyya communities, was endemic. It said no independent inquiry was conducted into the attacks on tribal people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in 2003, which involved killing, rape, sexual assault and the burning of homes.
According to the report, violence against women, including acid attacks and cases of women killed in dowry disputes, was widely reported.
Quoting Acid Survivors Foundation, it said at least 153 women were attacked between January and October, and in cases that went before the courts, only one in nine ended in successful prosecution.
It mentioned the mass arrest of opposition activists in April last year during an anti-government protest by Awami League. Thousands more were detained in October. Bangladesh human rights organisations challenged the lawfulness of the arrests before the High Court.
The report mentioned the court verdict on October 20 in the trial of 11 men accused of killing four national leaders in Dhaka Central Jail on November 3, 1975.



Two-year-old Saiful, charged with theft and adultery, on her mother's cradle at the court.

Ambitious ADP okayed

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generation and poverty reduction," and quipped, "We want to make poverty a history."
Actually, the net development expenditure next year will be higher than the ADP, as the NEC yesterday also approved another development allocation of Tk 790 crore under the revenue budget of FY 2005-06.
"In reality, the size of the total development budget will be Tk 25,290 crore," Saifur said, adding, "compared to the size of our population, this ADP is not that big. We would have made a bigger ADP if we had the resources."
A total of 1,440 development projects including 516 new and unapproved ones would be implemented next fiscal year, with 1,372 under the ADP and 68 under the revenue budget. The number is much higher than that of the previous years.
Sources said such a high number of projects have received the green signal due to lawmakers' intense demand for projects for their constituencies. The parliamentarians in pre-budget discussions with the finance and planning minister sought at least Tk 1 crore allocation for each of their constituencies.
At the NEC meeting, the communications ministry raised objection about the Tk 2,990-crore ADP allocation for the transport sector. Meeting sources said, "Communications Minister Nazmul Huda termed the amount inadequate for meeting the demands of road construction and repairs at the district level."
In response, Saifur told Huda that the allotment might be increased through revision next year.
"The communications ministry has received a 12 percent slice of the ADP, but its minister wants more. If our people paid their taxes properly, we could have given more," Saifur told the press after the meet.
When asked whether the government would be able to implement such a big ADP, considering that every year the ADP has to be revised due to implementation failure and that the government fails to implement in full even the revised budget, Saifur said, "It will be no problem for us to supply the money."
But whether the ministries will be able to implement the projects properly depends on their capabilities and initiatives," he observed, and said, "If they take initiatives right from the beginning of the fiscal year, I believe it is possible." Typically the ministries take their initiatives several months after the ADP approval and this issue was discussed at the NEC meeting, he added.
Prime Minister Khaleda Zia asked the ministries to strengthen their implementation by launching projects before the rainy season begins, meeting sources said.
Replying to a question whether the increased ADP would mean a bigger tax burden on people, Saifur said, "We will not add many new taxes. But we want to increase tax collection within the existing structure by strengthening collection and sealing ways of tax evasion."

SECTOR-WISE ALLOCATION
Seventeen ministries have been given Tk 21,405 crore of the total ADP, with the remaining fund designated as block allocation and for city corporations, municipalities, upazila, union parishads, gram sarkars, hill tracts development etc.
The two divisions of the energy ministry -- power and gas -- got the highest allocation of Tk 4,120 crore or 16.81 percent of the ADP, with the power accounting for Tk 3,120 crore or 12.73 percent.
The education and religion sectors together got the second highest allocation of Tk 3,297 crore or 13.46 percent of the ADP.
Rural development received Tk 2,996 crore or 12.23 percent, transport sector Tk 2,989 crore or 12.20 percent, health sector Tk 2,269 crore or 9.26 percent, infrastructure planning and water supplies Tk 1,295 crore or 5.29 percent, water resources Tk 1,112 crore or 4.54 percent and telecommunications Tk 735 crore or 3 percent of the ADP. The remaining sectors got allocations ranging from 0.29 percent to 2 percent.
The local component of the ADP is Tk 17,000 crore and foreign component or project aid accounts for Tk 7,500 crore.

AGRICULTURE IN SPECIAL FOCUS
Although the government does not plan any diesel subsidy for farmers, it has given a special focus on agriculture.
Before even the ADP was approved yesterday, the finance ministry had given the agriculture ministry a three-year allocation, of which Tk 700 crore was earmarked as development fund for the up-coming fiscal year.
However, in the ADP, the government added nearly Tk 1,000 crore for the agriculture sector, taking the total agriculture development allocation to Tk 1,625 crore in the next fiscal year.
Of the sum, Tk 1,125 crore will be project funding. The remaining sum is block allocation marked as 'special agriculture assistance'. This will be mainly used for agriculture research and development of agriculture distribution system.
On diesel subsidy, Saifur told the press, "We are already subsidising the diesel price by Tk 17 per litre, even after increasing it. We cannot give further subsidy here."
FINANCIAL SOURCES OF ADP
Fifty-two percent of the new ADP will be powered by internal resources and the remaining 48 percent by foreign aid and loans.
Local resources will account for Tk 11,610 crore of the total ADP.
Of the foreign component, project aid will be Tk 7,500 crore. Japanese debt cancellation will provide Tk 1,040 crore and foreign aid in local currency Tk 3,147 crore including the Tk 1,595 crore programme support from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

REVISED ADP APPROVED
The NEC yesterday also approved the Tk 20,500 crore revised budget for the current fiscal year, lowering it by 7 percent from the original budget of Tk 22,000 crore.
Of the revised amount, local resources represent Tk 9,970 crore, and foreign aid and loans including project aid Tk 10,530 crore.
Foreign aid represents 51 percent of the revised ADP of FY05 and local resources 49 percent. In contrast the original ADP sought 47 percent foreign aid.

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Mystery shrouds

FROM PAGE 16
three-wheeler that day near Banshatti in Khilgaon, adding they then sprinkled petrol on him and set him and his vehicle on fire.
But the plaintiff said he saw a dozen of pickets surrounding the vehicle, while another poured petrol and then set fire to it.
Since then, the hapless cab driver fighting for his life at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) has been a focal point of politics. First, Awami League Organising Secretary Saber Hossain Chowdhury visited him at DMCH. Then State Minister for Home Lutfuzzaman Babar, Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Mayor Sadek Hossain Khokha and Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas, also the local lawmaker, came to see him.
Meanwhile, many locals have questioned the motives behind the filing of the case by a man who is neither a resident of the area nor an affected person. The police and locals said Mamun, previously a leader of Jubo League DCC ward 24 unit, together with another Jubo League leader, Mushtaq, recently joined Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal offering a bouquet to the local lawmaker.

In the case, Mamun, who claims to be a water supplier, accused eight local members of Jubo League and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the youth and students wings of AL. They are Jewel, Awlad, Russell, Shawkat, Kamal, Sayeed, Shahadat Hossain Sajju and Anisur Rahman. Of them, the police have arrested Sajju and Anisur.

"I saw some 12 people including the eight Jubo League and BCL leaders surrounding the CNG at around 10:30am. Within a minute, another youth came running to the baby-taxi, poured petrol on it and then set it on fire," Mamun, who claims to have been passing through the area in a rickshaw when the incident took place, told The Daily Star yesterday.
But, after the arson on Saturday, Ameer told the press that a youth wearing a pair of trousers and a shirt stopped his autorickshaw and asked whether he would take him to Gabtoli. Soon another youth rushed in and started to spray something from a bottle on his body and the cab. Moments later, fire caught him and his vehicle.

He also said he managed to jump out of the vehicle, put off his trousers and shirt and run to the nearby garage of the owner of the three-wheeler.
Mamun, on the other hand, said he saw some locals take Ameer to hospital in a rickshaw.
A number of locals expressed the suspicion that Mamun filed the case according to a plot devised by local BNP leaders.

Mamun said Anu Mian, the autorickshaw owner, is known to him, and as Anu is an innocent man, he filed the case on his behalf.
Investigation officer of the case Sub-Inspector Sarder Younus Ali quoting Mamun said Anu is a cousin of Mamun.

But, talking to The Daily Star yesterday, Anu said he does not know any one named Mamun "I have never met Mamun or heard the name."
In the first information report, Mamun mentioned his address as 446/B, Khilgaon Chowdhuripara. However, The Daily Star did not find any holding of that number in that area.
When asked, Mamun said his real address is 446/B, Khilgaon Taltoia.

The police and locals said, during the BNP-led coalition rule, hardly any picket has been seen in Khilgaon area. On the other hand, a few incidents of setting fire to vehicles took place when BNP had called hartals as the main opposition party during the previous AL regime.

AMEER'S FUNERAL
Zakir Hossain, elder brother of the victim, received Ameer's body at around 3 in the afternoon at the DMCH morgue.
After a Namaj-e-Janaza at Maya Kanan in Sabujbagh, where Ameer lived with his wife and two daughters, the body was taken to bury at his village home at Dhopakhal under Jibonnagar upazila in Chuadanga.

The police barred former local lawmaker Saber Hossain Chowdhury to participate in the Namaj-e-Janaza at around 5:00pm and forced him to leave the place.
"The officer-in-charge of Sabujbagh told me that police high-ups instructed him not to allow me to take part in the Janaza," Saber, also political secretary to AL President Sheikh Hasina, told The Daily Star. He said a group of Chhatra Dal leaders shouted slogans against him.
"I phoned the Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner, who said no instruction was given to bar me from attending the Janaza. The commissioner promised to look into the matter, but he didn't take any step," he alleged.

When Saber asked one of his companions to take down the names of the policemen on the spot, threatening to file case against them for obstructing him from joining in the funeral, all policemen promptly hid their nametags, said the AL organising secretary.
Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas and State Minister for Home Lutfuzzaman Babar visited Ameer's house yesterday afternoon and expressed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family. Abbas assured them to provide all possible assistance personally as well as on behalf of the government.

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US congressman

FROM PAGE 16
The Congress has allocated about \$100 million in assistance for Bangladesh to be disbursed through the USAID this year. The Millennium Challenge Account assistance programme created by President Bush offers additional funds to high performing developing nations apart from usual USAID assistance.
Congressman Joseph Crowley, presiding over the briefing session organised by the Congressional Human Rights caucus, said the purpose of the briefing is to find out what the United States can do to help Bangladesh along the path to a freer and more democratic society.
He urged the US administration to help Bangladesh sustain its democratic and economic strides through increased development assistance, a press release of the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Crowley presented a long list of achievements of Bangladesh in economic and social sectors and noted, "Given the fact that Bangladesh has demonstrated such a strong ability to effectively apply development funds" it should be included in the Millennium Challenge Account assistance programme.
There was a panel of administration officials to brief the Congress on recent developments in Bangladesh that included John Gastright, deputy assistant secretary of state for South Asia and Gene George, USAID mission director for Bangladesh.

The second panel constituted by independent experts included Owen Lippert, NDI Resident Director in Bangladesh, MS Christine Fair, South Asia Expert at the US Institute of Peace, T Kumar from the US chapter of the Amnesty International.
Deputy Assistant Secretary Gastright, who recently visited Bangladesh, termed the country "a long time friend of the US". He said Bangladesh is "a democracy that has been most notable over the years for its moderate approach".
He noted that Bangladesh's progress since independence and

its sustained GDP growth over 5 per cent in recent years. He appreciated the recent growth of the private sector in Bangladesh.
Gastright, however, stated that Bangladesh has some problems relating to the governance issue and the US policy would be to point out those problems "sympathetically" as a friend.
To make the way for the Bogra lad purely as a batsman, the team management dropped Rain Saleh despite his fifties in two Tests against Zimbabwe at home in January.
While a gangling Shahadat won the battle for a third seamer in the side against an experienced Tapash Baisya.
Right-arm paceman Anwar Hossain Monir is also back in the attack that will be spearheaded by Nailal quick Mashrafe-bin Mortuza.
The think-tank picked Mohammad Rafique as the lone spinner with Aftab Ahmed playing the role of fifth bowler in a predominantly medium-pace attack like England.
But the game looks likely to get off to a low key start since the whole of England would have spent a sleepless night watching Liverpool play Italian giants AC Milan in the European Champions League final.
The weather is expected to be sunny today and promises more clear skies for the next three days which means Michael Vaughan's fiery pace attack led by Matthew Hoggard and Steve Harmison with Andrew Flintoff and Simon Jones coming next would bearing to go.

England have decided to field off-spinner Gareth Batty as experienced left-arm tweaker Ashley Giles was unavailable due to injury.

SQUAD
BANGLADESH: Habibul Bashar, Khaled Mashud, Faive Omar, Nafees Iqbal, Aftab Ahmed, Mohammad Ashraful, Mushfiqur Rahim, Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza, Mohammad Rafique, Anwar Hossain Monir and Shahadat Hossain.

School books in political

FROM PAGE 14
A book titled "Zia: Senanayok theke rastronayok" (Zia: from army chief to his statesman) jointly written by BNP lawmaker Syed Shahidul Haque Jamal and Mohammad Zahidul Islam has been selected under humanities category.
The book 'Muktijuddhe Ziaur Rahmaner Bhumiika' (The role of Ziaur Rahman in the Liberation War) by ex-lawmaker Ali Osman, another titled 'Muktijoddha Ziaur Rahman and Bangladesh' written by Iqbal Hossain Sanu have been bought under Libertarian War category.
Some other books are 'Zia's Rajnaitik Darshan and Adarsha' (Zia's political ideology and principles) by Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, 'Mahjan Zia' (The great Zia) by Mahmud Shafiq, 'Swadhinatar Ghoshok Zia' (Zia, the proclaimer of independence) by Biplob Faruk, 'Ziaur Rahman-er Kishore Jibon' (Early life of Ziaur Rahman) by Safiun Nasir and 'Muktijuddhe Zia (Zia in Liberation War) by Fuad Naser.

A number of books on Zia and Khaleda Zia have also been selected under the humanities and national heritage categories.
These books include 'Santrash Damane Khaleda Zia' (Khaleda Zia's role in curbing terrorism) by Mohammad Zahidul Islam Zin, 'Ek merur dui nakhatra: Ziaur Rahman

and Khaleda Zia" by Ram Kanta Singh, 'Ekjon Zia O Tar Kichhu Bhashon' (Ziaur Rahman and his speeches) by Nahid Nazrul, 'Smrititey Zia' (Zia in memory) by Iqbal Hossain Sanu, 'Chhotoder Bandhu Khaleda Zia' (Khaleda Zia, friend of children) by Jubaida Gulshan Ara, 'Chhotoder prio ntri Khaleda Zia', (Khaleda Zia, favourite leader of children) by Joyanal Abedin Faruk, 'Pri ntri Khaleda Zia' (Favourite leader Khaleda Zia) by MM Mottalib Akhand.

"Many of these books were selected through underhand dealings between the publishers and a section of officials in the education ministry," a publisher alleged.
"The ministry has selected many books written and published by unknown writers and publishers," said an official of the ministry.

The publishers also said the so-called publishers have bribed the dishonest ministry officials to ensure their payment.
Another publisher alleged that there are many publishers in the book list who have no physical existence.
"The tender assessment committee only sought attested copy of trade licence from the publishers but it is not difficult to manage a trade licence in exchange of bribe," he said.

SC lawyers stage

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court premises at 2:15pm and marched silently before holding the 15-minute human chain outside the Supreme Court gate.
The banner of SCBA read -- "Our protest: Rallies, gatherings, human chains are all protests against injustice. These are our constitutional rights."

Before the demonstration, the SCBA leaders at a press conference at the Bar building explained their position in the light of the High Court ban.
SCBA President Mahbubey Alam said, "In the light of the High Court order, people may think that the Supreme Court lawyers are rowdy and lawbreakers. This perception should change and that is why we are holding this press conference."

The SCBA also clarified that the press conference falls outside the purview of the suo moto order and there was no obstacle for the press to publish the news on the conference.
The SCBA leaders referred to the case of Additional High Court Judge Faisal Mahmud Faizee, who is accused of tampering with the LB results, and the contempt case against the journalists of two newspapers.

Mahbubey Alam said the court has issued the suo moto order despite the fact that an appeal was pending in the Appellate Division against the High Court verdict punishing the journalists for publishing news on Faizee. The Appellate Division has stayed the High Court verdict on the matter, he pointed out.
"The suo moto order of May 23 will mostly benefit judge Faizee," he said reading out a written statement. "The order has aggrieved the lawyers across the country."

"We shall take necessary legal steps challenging the legality of this order soon after the summer vacation of the court ends," the SCBA president noted.
"We shall take all necessary legal steps to remove all hurdles in our protest against unacceptable persons in the judiciary," he added.
"It is the constitutional right of the Bar to express its opinion, hold meetings or processions. Curbing this right is violation of the constitu-

tion," Alam said.
"The lawyers will continue their movement that aimed at upholding the constitution, protecting the highest court, the judiciary and judges-- keeping them independent and free from corruption and ensuring the rule of law," he pointed out.
"Our agitation is not against the judiciary -- but to uphold its image," Alam said.

Regarding the suo moto order that termed the lawyers' movement "browbeating, bullying methodology" Alam said, "The court knows on which ground it had issued the order."
"We have been demonstrating peacefully outside the court. We went to Faizee's court and humbly told him that his certificate issue is still a controversy and for the sake of the judiciary's image, many believe he should refrain from sitting in court," he added.

Dr Kamal Hossain, who was present at the press conference, told journalists, "Lawyers have remained united on the issue of upholding the judiciary."
The press conference was attended, among others, by former SCBA presidents Ozaer Faruk, Abdul Baset Majumder, Rokanuddin Mahmud and Shafiq Ahmed, senior lawyers including Amir-ul Islam, Yusuf Hossain Humayun, Sahara Khatun, ZI Khan Panna and SCBA Secretary Enayetur Rahim.

THE SILENT MARCH
After the press conference, the lawyers marched out of the Bar building silently to form a human chain. Asked if the demonstration was contempt of the suo moto order, Alam said, "The court has said that we cannot do these within its premises. We are outside of it."

He said the lawyers did not bring out a procession from the Bar building. "We just walked out of the court premises. Our demonstration took place on the road."

Explaining why the lawyers covered their mouths with black clothes, Alam said, "This is a symbolic protest that we cannot speak. Lawyers have always been vocal in the past on any issue -- but not now."