

Indigenous people subject to regular repression

Speakers tell CPB meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Being deprived of constitutional recognition, the indigenous people are subject to regular repression in every sphere of life, said the speakers at a meeting yesterday.

They said all have to come forward to form a united movement

to establish the rights of ethnic minorities.

The representatives' meeting of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) was held at the party office in the city with indigenous leader Comrade Rafael Murmu in the chair.

Addressing the meeting, CPB President Monjurul Ahsan Khan

said, "In the name of development every government is trying to set up Eco-park in the forests by destroying trees and lands of the indigenous people."

As a result, the existence of indigenous people is always under threat, he added.

CPB General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim urged the people to turn the agitation of indigenous people into a political movement.

He demanded of the government to fulfil the demands of indigenous minority that were placed in different forums.

CPB leader Ruhin Hossain Prince, Prof Khages Kiron Talukdar, Advocate Mohsin Reza, and indigenous leaders Remeka Swarn, Ramanath Mahato, Khages Hajong, Amin Kuzur, Nirmal Chowdhury, Pinoy Kumar, Asil Jatin Barwar, Monthen Thalla Rakhain, and Harendra Nath Sing also spoke on the occasion.

REFORMS IN CG, EC Opposition forms body to formulate common agenda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opposition political parties at a meeting in the city yesterday formed a seven-member committee to formulate a common agenda for reforms in caretaker government and electoral systems by July 10.

The committee comprised of opposition leaders Abdul Jalil, Zahirul Islam, Rashed Khan Menon, Sharif Nurul Ambia, Dilip Barua, Nurul Islam, and Prof Shamsul Huda Harun, is tasked with synchronising the separate reform agendas drafted earlier by Awami League, 11-Party and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (Inu).

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), a key component of the left 11-Party alliance, did not attend yesterday's meeting. Held at the Gulshan residence of AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil, the meeting was chaired by AL Presidium Member Amir Hossain Amu.



PHOTO: STAR

Students walk along a corridor of Dhaka University during strike called by opposition Awami League's student front Bangladesh Chhatra League yesterday.

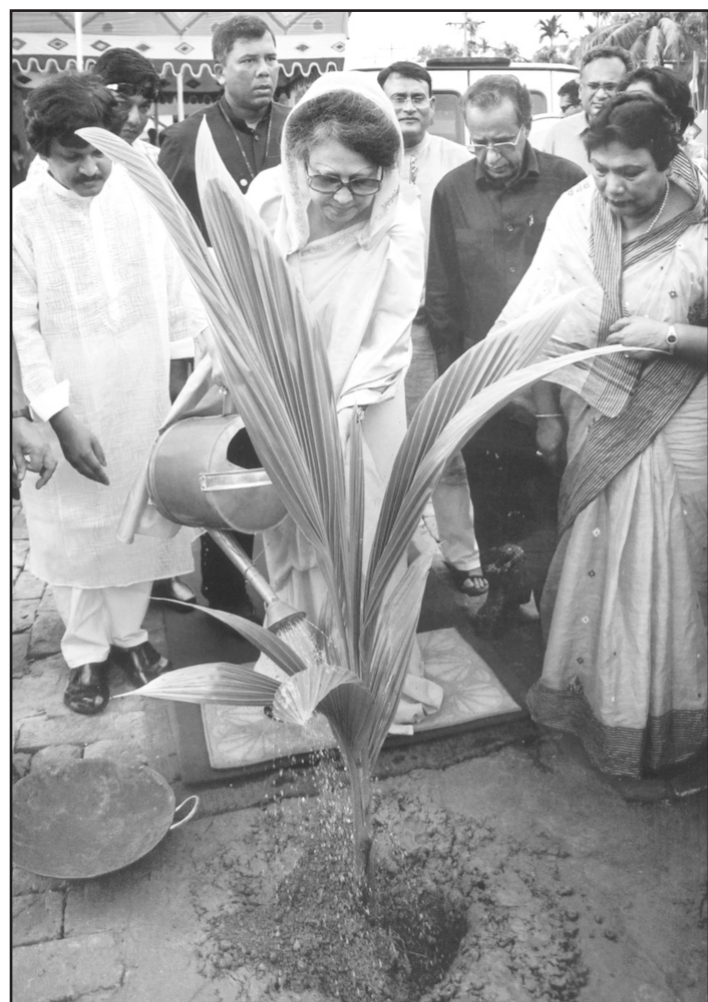


PHOTO: PID

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia plants a coconut sapling at Melandaha in Jamalpur after inaugurating the newly built digital telephone exchange yesterday.

Five killed, 21 injured in road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least five people were killed and 21 others injured in separate road accidents in Dhaka, Comilla and Rajshahi in two days.

UNB adds, Imam of a Bangladesh University for Engineering Technology (BUET) dormitory mosque was killed in a road accident at Bakshibazar in the city yesterday afternoon.

Family sources said Maulana M Abul Kalam Azad, 40, was run over by a Gabtali-bound bus in front of the Education Board at Bakshibazar at about 2:00pm while he was crossing the road.

He was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH), where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

The body has been sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

The bus sped away from the scene after the accident.

Maulana Azad was the imam of BUET's Shaheed Smriti Hall mosque.

BDNEWS from Comilla reports, one policeman was killed and another injured when a bus and a police pickup collided at Gouripur in Daudkandi upazila early yesterday.

Sources close to Daudkandi thana said a Rangpur-bound Hanif Paribahan bus crashed into the police pickup from behind throwing out policeman Abdul Wadud at

Amirabad of Gouripur. He died on his way to hospital. Another policeman Kobad was injured.

BSS from Rajshahi adds, three people were killed and more than 20 others injured in separate road accidents in the district on Friday, police and hospital sources here said yesterday.

Of them, one Ibrahim, 55, a resident of Koyerdara village was killed on the spot when a Dhaka bound coach from Chapainawabganj ran over him at Kadirganj under Boalia Police Station in the city.

Agitated mob in the area damaged two motor vehicles following the accident.

Another identified as Toyob Ali, 60, who was grievously injured when fell from the roof of a running bus at Arani under Bagha upazila succumbed to his injuries on Friday night at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

Meanwhile a passenger bus and truck collided at Tarapur area on Rajshahi-Natore highway under Puthiya upazila leaving some 21 passengers of the bus injured seriously.

Some of them were rushed to the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) where the attending doctors declared one Waliullah, 23, dead after a few hours of admission.

DHAKA T O D A Y

Award giving ceremony

The Natyasava, a cultural forum, organises an award giving ceremony to mark its 30th founding anniversary with Communications Minister Nazmul Huda as chief guest. Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 5:00pm.

Block C, Lalmatia. Time: 5:30pm.

Musical evening

Muldhara, a forum of writers, journalists and artists, organises a musical evening. Venue: Zakia Alam Auditorium, House-15, Road-7, Dhanmondi. Time: 6:30pm.

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of a book titled 'Rab- Santrash Nirmul Na Rastrer Santrash' (Rab-Elimination of terrorism or state terrorism) by Ain O Salish Kendra, will be held. Venue: VIP Lounge of the National Press Club. Time: 4:00pm.

DHAKA T O M O R R O W

Roundtable

Daily Manabzamin in collaboration with ASA organises a roundtable titled 'Future of energy resources of Bangladesh' with Advisor of Energy and Mineral Resources Division Mahmudur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 11:00am.

Memorial meeting

Mathbaria Kalyan Samity, Dhaka organises a meeting in memory of Haji Adam Ali Khan, an organiser of the liberation war. Venue: World Literature Centre Auditorium, Bangla Motor. Time: 5:00pm.

Meeting

A joint meeting of the executive committee and advisory council of Rajshahi University Old Students Association will be held. Venue: 5/5



Moderately heavy falls likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country till 6:pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over the country, Met Office said. It predicted nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.

Highest temperature 32.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Ishwardi and lowest 23.6 degree Celsius at Teknaf.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:50pm today and rises at 5:16am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

| City/Town | Temperature in Celsius | | Humidity in percentage | |
|-------------|------------------------|------|------------------------|---------|
| | Max | Min | Morning | Evening |
| Dhaka | 29.0 | 25.2 | 90 | 92 |
| Chittagong | 29.5 | 24.8 | 100 | 91 |
| Rajshahi | 32.3 | 24.9 | 93 | 94 |
| Khulna | 27.3 | 24.5 | 98 | 94 |
| Barisal | 30.0 | 25.0 | 100 | 100 |
| Sylhet | 30.9 | 25.5 | 85 | 86 |
| Cox's Bazar | 28.0 | 24.6 | 95 | 86 |



PHOTO: STAR

Workers Party of Bangladesh stages a demonstration at Muktangan in the city yesterday protesting the provision of whitening black money.

Workers' Party Demand Week from July 8

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Worker's Party will observe 'Demand Week' from July 8 to 14 demanding removal of alliance government to ensure free and fair election, and protesting price hike of essentials and conspiracy against gas resource.

The programme of the week includes rallies and processions at upazila, district and divisional levels across the country.

The programme was announced at a rally in front of the party central office in the capital yesterday.

Speakers at the rally urged the people to come forward to save the country from the misrule of BNP-Jamaat alliance government.

"Alliance government has passed the budget with the provision of whitening the black money ignoring the protest of the countrymen and closed down the industries including Adamjee Jute mills following the prescription of World Bank and Internal Monitoring Fund (IMF)," said Rashed Khan Menon, president of Worker's Party.

Party General Secretary Bimol Biswas and city committee President Kamrul Ahsan also spoke.

Most of the Dhokols (water reservoirs) are inoperative in Rajshahi city for long.

QUEEN HEMANTA KUMARI WATER WORKS Rajshahi city dwellers against demolition of historical structure

ANWAR ALI, Rajshahi

The Rajshahi City Corporation is going to knock down a 70-year-old 'Queen Hemanta Kumari Water Works' with historic importance to accommodate a new water treatment plant.

While the city dwellers are demanding steps to protect the historical structure, Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu laid the foundation stone of the new plant at the water works site at Hatim Khan in the city on Friday.

The authorities have already floated tender notice to put the building and the ancient water pumps and water supply equipment on auction. The last date for submitting tenders is July 7.

The conscious people want that the new water plant to be set up

somewhere else and called on the city dwellers to unite for a movement to protect the historical heritage.

"Why do the authorities want to demolish a structure with historical importance? Is it because of lack of space as the BNP leaders have grabbed most lands in the city?" said Zamat Khan, convenor of Rajshahi Rakkha Sangram Parishad (Action council for the protection of Rajshahi).

The 'Queen Hemanta Kumari Water Works' were set up in 1937 on a piece of land donated by Rajshahi Zila Board.

Queen Hemanta Kumari of Puthia donated Tk 2.50 lakh for the unique water supply network for the then Rajshahi municipality.

A number of roadside taps, locally known as dhokol, were installed at different points of munic-

ipality area as part of the network, which are still in operation. But most of them were damaged due to lack of proper care and maintenance.

According to historians, dhokols are rare these days. Only a few similar taps are found at Shilguri in India.

Laying the foundation stone of the new water plant, Mayor Minu said that the plant will treat water from the Padma and supply the safe water to 60 per cent of city dwellers.

RCC Chief Engineer Sarit Dutta Gupta said the new plant would be named after Queen Hemanta Kumari to preserve her memory and the equipment of old plant would be given to the Barind Research Museum.

Death anniversary

UNB, Dhaka

Today is the first death anniversary of Prof Kamaluddin Ahmad, founder of the study of Biochemistry and Nutrition Sciences in Bangladesh.

Prof Kamaluddin Ahmad Trust has organised a two-day special symposium on 'Prof Kamaluddin Ahmad : Creating and Translating Nutrition & Biochemical Sciences for the Benefit of Mankind.'

President Iajuddin Ahmed will attend as chief guest at the inaugural session while Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk will speak as a special guest at the inaugural session at Hotel Sheraton at 3:30pm today.

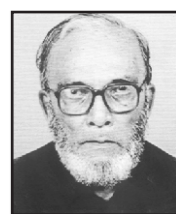
Professor Dr Irwin H. Rosenberg and Jean Mayer, Professor of Nutrition at the Friedman School of Nutrition at Tufts University, will make the keynote address.

Dr Naiyrum Chowdhury, Dr William B. Greenough and Dr Marshall Larry Reiner will take part in the discussion.

The Scientific and Policy sessions of the symposium will be held at ICDDR,B at 9:00am tomorrow. ICDDR,B and Prof Kamaluddin Ahmad Trust will sponsor the programme.

Dr M Osman Faruk will attend as chief guest while Dr David A Sack, Dr Iftekar Ahmad, Dr Tahmeed Ahmed, Dr Naiyrum Chowdhury, Dr William B. Greenough and Fazle Hasan Abed will speak on the occasion.

Engineer Abdul Mannan



Today is the first death anniversary of engineer Abdul Mannan, former executive engineer of PWD (E/M) Department, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at Park Palace at House-74, Road 12-A, Flat-D3, Dhanmondi in the city after Maghrib prayers.

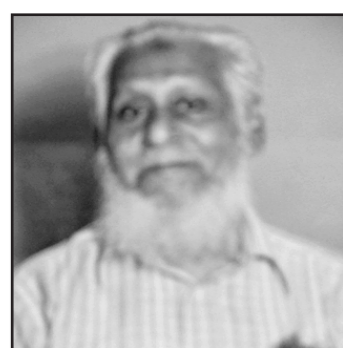
Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the milad and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Col (Retd) Nurul Islam



Tomorrow is the first death anniversary of Col (Retd) Nurul Islam, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at his residence at House No- 287, Lane No-4, DOHS Baridhara in the city.



Qulkhwani

UNB, Dhaka

Qulkhwani of Advocate Md Badiuzzaman, a senior lawyer and honorary Treasurer of Bangladesh National Society for Blinds (BNSB), will be held at his Uttara residence after Asr prayers today.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani to be held at House No-1, Road No-23, Uttara in the city.

Advocate Badiuzzaman passed away due to cardiac arrest and old-age complications at the National Heart Foundation Hospital here on Thursday at the age of 82.