

Free nation of BNP-Jamaat misrule

Hasina urges religious leaders

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina has urged the religious leaders to play a key role in the ongoing movement to free the country from what she said was misrule of the BNP-Jamaat coalition government.

The Awami League chief made the call when a delegation of alemenas met her at Sudha Sadan yesterday afternoon.

Hasina said the BNP-Jamaat coalition has been siding with the killers. She added that the Jamaat leaders said they don't practice politics for Islam. They only practice

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Hygiene drive to spread out across the country

Babar pledges to go to any length to end food adulteration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ongoing mobile-court clamp-down on selling of adulterated, substandard and unhygienic food will soon be expanded to cover the entire country with stepped up logistic facilities.

The government also will 'go to any length' within the law to bring the food adulterators and standard violators to book, said State Minister

for Home Affairs Lutfozzaman Babar yesterday.

The people responsible for ensuring quality and hygiene of food will also be punished for any collusion with the adulterators or negligence in duty, he told the press coming out of a meeting on activities of the mobile courts.

"Through the mobile courts' operations, we've newly learned many diverse ways of food adultera-

tion," he noted and said, "I'll take any step to stop the crime. Because, we must safeguard our people from such ills."

Fresh from an official visit to the USA, Babar said the number of mobile courts working in the capital soon will be trebled to 12. Every police station in the capital needs a court, he observed, but the government lacks magistrates, support

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3 of a family murdered in B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Unidentified assailants killed three of a family in Medda area of the district town early yesterday.

The victims were identified as Mohammad Akhter Hossain, 37, a first class contractor of LGED, his wife Sabrina Akhter, 26, and their three-year-old daughter Arna.

Police quoted family sources as saying the assailants entered Akhter's residence, M A Bhaban, cutting the grill of a window at around 1:00am and hacked the three to death.

According to family sources, Akhter along with his wife and daughter went to bed at night on August 10. As they did not wake up the following morning, his brothers and neighbours went to the residence and found Akhter and his daughter Arna lying in a pool of blood in a bed and Akhter's wife Sabrina on the floor of their bedroom.

On information, police rushed to the spot, recovered the bodies and sent them to Bramanbaria Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

According to hospital and family sources, Sabrina Akhter was at the advance stage of pregnancy.

Police could not unearth any clues to the triple murder nor arrest anybody as of the filing of this report at 5:30pm yesterday.

Move on to arrange walkover for Zafar

Voters lose enthusiasm in Faridpur by-polls

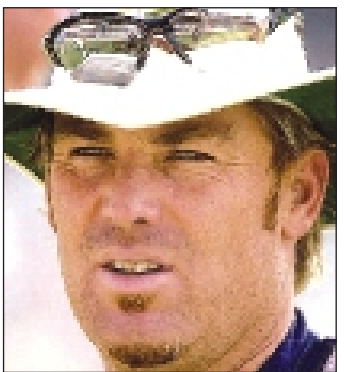
RAFIQ HASAN, from Faridpur

An initiative is underway to have the ruling alliance candidate elected uncontested in Faridpur-1 parliamentary by-election while the electorate already seems to have lost enthusiasm after Kazi Sirajul Islam withdrew his candidature in a

high political drama Wednesday. According to sources, local BNP leaders are trying to persuade the other four candidates to withdraw from the race slated for August 30.

Locals feel it would turn out to be an election without competition at the expense of the exchequer.

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Warne breaks 600-wicket barrier

AFP, Manchester

Shane Warne became the first bowler to take 600 Test wickets when he had Marcus Trescothick caught behind on the first day of the third Test against England at Old Trafford here Thursday.

The 35-year-old Australia leg-spin great reached the landmark in his 126th Test when, in his fifth over, he had Trescothick, trying to sweep, taken by Adam Gilchrist, the ball rolling up the wicket-keeper's leg before he held on to leave England 163 for two.

Warne made his name at Old Trafford 12 years ago when, with his

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TORTURE ON JOURNO Protests go on at Baufal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A six-member team of journalists from Patuakhali Press Club visited Baufal yesterday amid the show-down of the BNP cadres that forced most of local journalists go into hiding.

The visit followed lawmaker Shahidul Alam Talukdar's beating up Baufal newsman Monjur Morshed on Tuesday.

The journalists led by Abu Jafar Khan, secretary of Patuakhali Press Club, with some newsmen who had been hiding, visited the home of tortured journalist Manjur Morshed.

Abu Jafar opened the locked Baufal Press Club and held a protest meeting. Principal Aminul Islam,

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PHOTO: STAR

Journalists of Barisal bring out a procession in the divisional city yesterday in protest against attack and torture on journalists in Baufal and other places.

Govt won't extend contract of envoys in London, Rome

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided not to extend the politically appointed contractual services of Bangladesh envoys in London and Rome and to bring them home on completion of their tenures in October.

Official sources said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday in a letter to Bangladesh High Commissioner in the UK AH Mofazzal Karim asked to hand over his charge and come back home on completion of his two years' contract on October 20.

Karim, a former secretary who later joined the BNP, was appointed high commissioner in London in October 2003.

Meantime, the government announced Bangladesh

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Mild tremor in Chittagong

UNB, Ctg

A mild tremor jolted Chittagong city and its adjoining areas at 11:30am yesterday.

The distance of the epicenter was 62-km from the Chittagong Seismic Observatory and it lasted for eight seconds, said a bulletin of the Meteorological Department.

The magnitude of the earthquake was 2.9 on the Richter Scale.

Prayer Timing		
August 12		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fair	4-25	5-00
Juma	12-30	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-41	6-44
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation