



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina talks to British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury at an Iftar party at the Spectra Convention Centre at Gulshan in the city yesterday. The AL hosted the Iftar party for foreign diplomats.

AL to separate judiciary, if voted to power: Jalil

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League would separate the judiciary from the executive to establish the rule of law in the country, if voted to power, said AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil yesterday.

"We are committed to the separation of the judiciary to ensure justice and security of the people," he said at a seminar in the city.

The BNP-Jamaat alliance government has undermined the rule of law through politicisation of the judiciary, he said.

The AL organised the seminar titled 'Questionable judiciary system:

'Threatened rule of law' at the National Press Club.

Vice-chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud presented a keynote paper while AL presidium member Suranjit Sengupta presided over the seminar.

In his keynote paper, Barrister Rokanuddin criticised the government for dilly-dallying in separating the judiciary.

The alliance government has appointed judges on political considerations to use the judiciary for political purposes, he said.

He also condemned the extra-judicial killings in the name of 'crossfire'

and 'Operation clean-heart'. There is no rule of law in the country now, he added.

Referring to 16 High Court judges, Barrister Rokanuddin said the alliance government did not confirm their appointments, as they were appointed during the previous AL rule.

Barrister Amir-Ul Islam said the government has put the judiciary into question by politicising it.

Referring to the recent nationwide blasts, he said the militants, harboured by the coalition government, have been trying to destroy the judiciary system. He also urged all to resist the government's move to make the judiciary

ineffective.

AL presidium member Tofail Ahmed said the BNP-Jamaat government has been using the Speedy Trial Act for their political interest. "Thousands of opposition leaders and workers have been harassed under the act," he pointed out.

Justice KM Sobhan said the rule of law has been crippled since the martial law in 1975. "Those who kicked the door of the chief justice are now ministers," he said.

Suranjit Sengupta urged the Supreme Court to play a bold role against the government's move to politicise the judiciary.

Former law minister Advocate Abdul Matin Khasru said how the countrymen would get justice if a justice feels embarrassed to hear a case.

Pointing an accusing finger at the ruling alliance, President of the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) Hasanul Haq Inu said those who broke the laws should not be allowed to sit in the Jatiya Sangsad.

He urged the AL leaders to make a commitment to cancel Special Powers Act and indemnity ordinance, amend the Section 167 regarding the remand and ban Jamaa-Shibir politics if they are voted to power again.

Supreme Court Bar Association President Advocate Mahbubey Alam and Advocate Abdul Baset Majumder also spoke.

Cochlear implant surgery workshop in city Dec 4-19

Hearing International Bangladesh Chapter and Society for Assistance to Hearing Impaired Children (Sahic) are going to organise jointly a two-weeklong workshop on 'Cochlear implant surgery' at the Sahic Hospital at Mohakhali in the city from December 4 to 19 this year, says a press release.

During the workshop, Cochlear implant surgeries will also be conducted by eminent ENT surgeons from UK Dr Zonathon Asburn and Dr Peter Princely.

Patients suffering from profound hearing loss after acquiring speech and not getting benefit even after using hearing aid can contact Sahic Hospital in this regard.

'Save country from misrule of tyrant govt'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bikpal Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday said only a national government comprising honest and patriotic leaders can save the country and countrymen from the clinch of what he termed 'tyrant' BNP-Jamaat-led alliance government.

"O Allah, please save our country and countrymen from the misrule of the 'tyrant' alliance government and give us ability to oust it from the power and make the country free from all kinds of torture, repression and discrimination," said Badruddoza while addressing an Iftar party.

Dhaka Metropolitan unit of BDB

Hasina goes to Tungipara today

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina leaves for Tungipara today on a three-day visit.

She will lay wreaths at the grave of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and offer fateha in the afternoon.

Party sources told the news agency that Hasina, also president of the Awami League (AL), would address several wayside meetings on her way to Tungipara.

She will also exchange views with the local leaders and other professionals during her stay at Tungipara.

Hasina returns to Dhaka on Monday.

Left party team leaves for China today

UNB, Dhaka

A team of left-leaning political parties led by JSD president Hasanul Huq Inu will leave for China today on a nine-day visit.

The members of the delegation are Samyabadi Dal leaders Dilip Barua and his spouse and Lutfor Rahman, Workers Party leaders Bimal Biswas and Nur Ahmed Bakul, and JSD leaders Nazmul Huq Prodhan and Afroza Huq Rina.

They will meet the leaders of the Communist Party of China and the Foreign Minister, says a press release.

Navy wins Quirat, Azan competition

UNB, Dhaka

Hosts Bangladesh Navy team with 2,131 points emerged champions and the Bangladesh Army team with 2,071 points finished runners-up in the Inter-Service Quirat and Azan competition that concluded at the Sailor's Colony Mosque at Dhaka Cantonment after Juma prayers yesterday.

MA Rahman L/REN, MZ Abedin Sepoy and MG Uddin REN-1, all belonging to the host team, clinched the top three prizes in the Quirat competition.

Sergeant Monirul Islam of the Army team, M Walil Islam Topass-1 of the Navy team and Sergeant Selim Zaved of the Air Force team were awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in the Azan competition.

Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Admiral M Hasan Ali Khan distributed prizes among the winners as the chief guest, says an ISPR press release.

Principal Staff Officers of the three services, officers and a large number of service personnel were present.



Residents of Khilgaon area stage a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding uninterrupted supply of electricity, gas and water.

organised the party at Skymoon Restaurant of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in the city.

Referring to Noakhali incidents on Thursday where police shot down five people and injured over 50 others, the BDB chief said thousands of such incidents took place during the tenure of the alliance government.

He demanded proper investiga-

tion of the incident and punitive action against the police personnel responsible for it.

Badruddoza also demanded a judicial inquiry into Wednesday's attack on workers of Sinha Textile Group in Narayanganj and proper treatment for the injured persons.

Other BDB leaders said it is the alliance government and not the people who is totally responsible for

putting the country on the top of the 'corruption' list for the fifth time in a row.

BDB leaders Dr Nurul Amin Bepari, Firoj M Hasan, Joynal Abedin Zaidi, Nasir Uddin Sarkar, Hafizur Rahman Jintu, Advocate Sabera Begum, ATM Kamal, MA Halim PSC, Rakibur Rahman Biplob and Jahid Hasnat Bulbul also spoke on the occasion.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN A woman wades through knee-deep water at Pagla in Narayanganj inside the Dhaka-Narayanganj-Demra embankment yesterday. The residents of the area face waterlogging for several months every year and the incessant rain that began on Thursday has worsened the situation.



Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud speaks at a seminar on judiciary organised by the Awami League at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. Sitting from left are Barrister Amir-Ul Islam, Abdul Jalil and Suranjit Sengupta.

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