

Proshika observes 'Protest and Resistance Day'

Proshika, a centre for human development, observed the 'Protest and resistance Day' on Monday to mark the second anniversary of the arrest of its President Dr Qazi Faruque Ahmed and a number of workers in false cases, says a press release.

Dr Faruque and others were arrested on May 22, 2004 and they suffered imprisonment for over two months before they were released on High Court orders.

Speaking at a discussion on the day, Dr Faruque said despite hindrances and obstacles, Proshika would continue its endeavours to attain its objectives of eradicating poverty, removing gender inequality, ensuring good governance and establishing an exploitation-free democratic society.

He called on the Proshika workers to remain prepared to make any amount of sacrifices to attain the objectives of this voluntary development organisation.

Presided over by Proshika Senior Vice-President Mahbubul Karim, the discussion was also addressed by Eusuf Ali Mia, Nargis Jahan Banu, Abdur Rob, Harun-ar-Rashid, Moshaver Hossain, Afzal Hossain, Mohibul Alam, Hashibur Rahman Bijon, Shahed Hossain, Jahangir Hossain and Mohammad Solaiman.

Later, a cultural programme was also held at the Proshika Bhaban.

NEW VOTER LIST

SC verdict foils govt plot to win election

Says Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Welcoming the verdict of the Supreme Court (SC) on new voter list, three opposition parties Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh, Gono Forum and Bangladesh Tarikat Federation yesterday demanded the resignation of the chief election commissioner to ensure free and fair election.

Earlier, the three opposition parties formed a human chain in front of the High Court's main gate demanding revocation of new voter list when the Supreme Court directed the Election Commission (EC) to revise the voter list prepared in 2000 excluding the names of dead, insane and non-Bangladeshis.

During the human chain programme, Gono Forum

President Dr Kamal Hossain, Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh President Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and Bangladesh Tarikat Federation Chairman Alhaj Nazibul Bashar Majbhandari demanded resignation of the chief election commissioner and reforms of the EC.

They said BNP-Jamaat-led coalition government has no right to stay in power even for a moment as it has violated people's democratic right.

Dr Kamal Hossain, also president of Jatiya Oikya Mancha, said the alliance government appointed MA Aziz as chief election commissioner as part of a conspiracy to win the next general election, but the Supreme Court's verdict has foiled the conspiracy.

Terming the verdict as people's

verdict Dr Kamal said, "Today's Supreme Court verdict has proved that the new voter list was not made properly."

BDB President Badruddoza said the alliance government has failed to meet people's minimum demands in all sectors.

"The government has no right to stay in power as Khaleda-Nizami coalition has gobbled up crores of taka from public exchequers," he added.

The BDB chief said people are now united against the BNP-Jamaat terrorists and their godfathers and they have started chasing the cadres and their godfathers.

BDB Secretary General Major (retd) Abdul Mannan was present at the programme.

JUBO LEAGUE LEADER MURDER

Hearing on acceptability of case June 5

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday fixed June 5 for hearing on the acceptability of the case filed against state minister for home affairs and 52 others in connection with the death of Jubo League leader Masudur Rahman Iman Ali in Rab-claimed "crossfire."

Judge (In charge) Mohammad Shamsul Alam Khan of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court set the date after scrutinising the relevant documents of the case.

Earlier on March 28, the same court took up the case following a criminal revision filed by Nazrul Islam, elder brother of the victim, against the dismissal order of the lower court.

On March 22, Metropolitan Magistrate AJM Abdullah Baqui dismissed the case saying that the victim was murdered at Savar but the case was filed showing the place of occurrence (PO) as Kotwali in Dhaka.

Iman Ali, 40, was killed during a "shootout" between Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and his accomplices at Khagan under Savar Police Station sometime between 12:15pm of March 8 and 6:30am of March 9.

The accused in the case are State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babar, his cousins Mirza Hafizur Rahman and Mirza Nurul Islam, Home Secretary Sarfaraj Hossain, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Abdul Quayyum and 47 others.

In his complaint, Nazrul said Babar's cousin Mirza Hafizur Rahman forcefully took possession of 11 acres of land at Miton village of Savar on February 16, but thousands of local people led by Dhaka district unit Jubo League leader Iman Ali managed to recover the land from the grabbers.

On March 8, Rab personnel arrested Iman Ali at a Dhaka court when he appeared before it in a criminal case filed against him. The next day, the complainant came to know that his brother was killed in "crossfire" and his body was lying at Khagan in Savar.

Iman was killed as he protested the land grabbing by Babar's cousin, the complainant alleged adding that the plan of killing was executed under the direction of high-ups, including the state minister.

CPD roundtable today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) will organise a roundtable on 'The future challenges of development' at the Brac Centre Inn Auditorium at 9:00am today, says a press release.

The objective of the roundtable is to identify key issues with regard to more sustainable development for Bangladesh.

Experts from home and abroad will take part in the discussion.



PHOTO: STAR
Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain discusses a point with Opposition Leader and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at a discussion organised by Peshajibi Samannaya Parishad at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday while Barrister Rokanuddin Mahmud looks on.



A delegation of the Nagorik Committee called on Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman Justice Sultan Hossain Khan at the Commission office at Aargaon in the city yesterday.

Beheaded body of man found in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered a decapitated body of a man from a ditch adjacent to his house in the city's Badda area yesterday.

Neighbours found a body of a man and the victim's elder brother identified him.

The victim was identified as Mohammad Shaheed, 38, a resident of Shatarkul in Badda.

He used to run two rented shops in Gulshan Dhaka City Corporation

Market

Sources close to him suspect that he might have been killed due to dispute centring his newly constructed one story building at Shatarkul.

Locals and police are searching the neighbourhood for the head of the body.

The headless body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

CPD roundtable today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) will organise a roundtable on 'The future challenges of development' at the Brac Centre Inn Auditorium at 9:00am today, says a press release.

The objective of the roundtable is to identify key issues with regard to more sustainable development for Bangladesh.

Experts from home and abroad will take part in the discussion.