



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia speaks at a function marking the 31st founding anniversary of the President's Guard Regiment at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

RU celebrates 53rd founding anniversary today

RU CORRESPONDENT

The 53rd founding anniversary of Rajshahi University (RU) will be celebrated today.

The university authorities have drawn up a daylong colourful programme on the occasion.

The programme will begin with the hoisting of national and university flags.

RU Vice Chancellor Altaf Hossain will inaugurate the programme.

The programme includes a rally, placing wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar and the mass grave, tree plantation and friendly cricket and handball matches.

A procession of teachers, students, staff and employees will parade through the campus.

Different cultural organisations and theatre groups will also stage cultural functions and street drama on the Shaheed Minar and folklore department premises.

31ST FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF PGR

Security of VVIPs becomes more challenging: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday urged the members of the President's Guard Regiment (PGR) to carry out their duties with sincerity keeping firm confidence in and maintaining loyalty to the leadership.

"In the changed perspective of the world, the subject of security to the VVIP is now very challenging. Immense patience, sincerity, high standard of professional efficiency and discipline are essential to successfully carry out the responsibility," she said at a Darabr of the PGR at its Dhaka Cantonment headquarters.

Addressing the Darbar on the occasion of the 31st founding anniversary of the PGR, Khaleda, also in charge of the defence ministry, expressed satisfaction over the performance of the PGR. "I witnessed

the reflection of those qualities in your work."

She also expressed satisfaction that the PGR has been giving emphasis on time-befitting training and practice to maintain the high standard of efficiency.

Terming the President's Guard Regiment as a traditional institution at the state level, the prime minister said her government has always been giving special importance on modernisation, timely expansion and increasing skills through advanced training to the Regiment and also protecting interest and ensuring welfare of its members.

Listing her government's steps for the welfare and development of the PGR, Khaleda said such efforts would continue for further development of the Regiment and welfare of its

members.

She recalled with deep gratitude those valiant members of the Regiment who embraced martyrdom in trying to save the life of late President Ziaur Rahman on May 30, 1981.

The PGR was set up three decades ago with efficient members of the Army to ensure security to the VVIPs, the prime minister told the Drabar.

She said the PGR was reorganised following the introduction of parliamentary system of government in the country in 1991.

Earlier, Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. Moeen U Ahmed, Brigade Commander of 46 Infantry Brig. Gen. SM Mahfuzul Haque and PGR Commandant Brig. Gen. Abu Sohel received the prime minister on her arrival at the PGR Headquarters.

Four killed in road accident

UNB, Savar

At least four people died and 30 others were injured when a bus rammed a taxicab and skidded off the Dhaka-Aricha highway at Dautia bus stop in Dhamrai upazila yesterday.

The identity of the dead could not be known.

Police and locals said the accident took place at 5:00pm when a Dhaka-bound bus rammed a taxicab and then fell into a roadside ditch, killing two taxicab passengers on the spot and injuring 30 bus passengers.

Two of the injured bus passengers died on the way to a local hospital, while the remaining 28 are undergoing treatment at Gonoswasthya Hospital in Savar, Damrai Health Complex and Dhaka Medical College Hospital.



PHOTO: STAR

A delegation of US journalists led by Scots Richard Baker calls on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence in the city yesterday.