

German president seeks advice from Prof Yunus on cutting poverty

UNB, Dhaka

German President Horst Köhler has sought advice from micro-credit guru Prof Muhammad Yunus on what the industrialised countries should do on reduction of poverty, globalisation, trade, climate change and the environment.

All these issues are likely to come up for discussion at G8 Summit that began yesterday in Heiligendamm in northern Germany.

The Nobel laureate was a guest of President Horst Köhler on Tuesday at the Bellevue Castle in Berlin, according to information received from Prof Yunus's secretariat here.

Explaining the poverty reduction strategies in Bangladesh, Yunus requested the German

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German police battle anti-G8 protesters

AFP, Rostock, Germany

German police fired water cannon against demonstrators who tried to fight their way to a security fence around the Group of Eight summit yesterday as thousands tried to block roads.

Thousands of anti-globalisation and anti-war protesters – many dressed as clowns, wearing coloured wigs – gathered around the summit venue on the Baltic coast. Police estimated the number at 9,000.

Many tried to block roads leading from the port of Rostock to the

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No banner business this time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Banner artist Bachchu Mia at Nilkhet used to write around 20 banners on the eve of national budget but this year he has not got a single work order. And this applies to all banner artists in the city.

In the current political situation, the sound system businessmen are also facing want of work although they used to have good business at this time of year.

Usually, the pro- and anti-government political parties used to give work orders for banners for their programmes to welcome or protest the national budget to be proposed. But no political parties and their front organisations are holding any such programmes this year because of the ongoing ban on political activities, said banner artists at Nilkhet.

Md Abdus Salam, owner of Art House at Baku Shah Market in Nilkhet, said, "The business is

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Prayer Timing		
June 7		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-45	6-50
Esha	8-15	8-45
Source: Islamic Foundation		

CA for DCs' active role in curbing graft

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday asked the deputy commissioners (DCs) to work together to give institutional shape to all reforms and positive outcomes of the present caretaker government so that the previous unstable situation cannot make a comeback.

He also urged the top district officials to play their active role in curbing corruption by involving people at the field level.

The chief adviser was inaugurating the Deputy Commissioners' Conference-2007 at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in the morning.

The government is pledge-bound to carry out its efforts for uprooting or reducing corruption as far as possible. The drive to curb corruption is going on in various ways and the accused corrupts are being put on trial as per laws of the land," he told the field level civil administrators.

Referring to his government's prime tasks, the chief adviser said the caretaker government "cannot and will not deviate from its main objective to hold a free, fair and credible election."

He reminded the government officials that an opportunity has now come to do away with the trend of the recent past of equating party-government-administration. "You have to be accountable to the state, p e o p l e ,

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PHOTO: STAR

Sweepers go berserk on Topkhana road as no rescuer came to save one of their colleagues, who went missing while cleaning up the sewerage near Sena Kalyan Bhaban in Motijheel in the capital yesterday.

ATTACK ON UK ENVOY

HuJi boss Hannan, 5 others to be charged

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) is likely to submit charge sheet next week against six people, including Harkatul Jihad (HuJi) leader Mufti Abdul Hannan, in connection with the case filed for the grenade attack on British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Anwar Choudhury on May 21, 2004.

The investigation officer (IO) of the case Senior Assistant Superintendent (ASP) of CID, Dhaka Zone Munshi Atiqur Rahman told The Daily Star Saturday, "I hope the charge sheet would be finalised within days and submitted to the court next week. It awaits the approval of authorities concerned."

The six people to be named as

accused in the charge sheet are HuJi leaders Mufti Abdul Hannan and late Ahsan Ullah Kajal, and Sharif Shahedul Alam Bipul, Delwar Hossain Ripon, Mufti Hannan's brother Mufti Mofiz and Abu Jandal.

Among them, four are in jail while Abu Jandal is at large.

The Memo of Evidence (ME) was submitted to the superintendent of police (SP), Sylhet on Saturday, sources said.

The names of the accused are mentioned in the ME. The SP and the public prosecutor of Sylhet will go through the ME before finalising the charge sheet, the IO said.

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Only 50 respond to Biman offer for voluntary retirement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) offered to the Biman officials and employees has received a lukewarm response, with only 50 officials responding to it in the last two days.

The Biman staff members are in a dilemma over responding to the scheme, Biman sources said.

Many Biman officials and staff said that they would wait till the last date for availing the scheme to decide whether they would

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DU SCANDAL

4 teachers asked to skip exam process

First class of three students cancelled

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) Syndicate on Tuesday put an end to the master's degree result scandal of the political science department by asking four teachers including the examination committee chairman not to be involved in the department's examination process.

The authorities also withdrew the first class results of three examinees and awarded first class to two others after reviewing the tabulation sheets.

Sources said two members of the syndicate issued "note of dissent" against the decisions as they

think there should be proper investigations into the incident.

As many as 52 students of the political science department had secured first class in the Master of Social Science examinations 2002 (held in 2004). The results gave rise to widespread controversy.

In the re-tabulated results, 51 examinees have secured first class marks.

There were allegations against Examination Committee Chairman Prof Ataur Rahman that the question papers were not kept in his strong room before the examinations and that marks were

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