

Avail advantage of investment incentives in Bangladesh

CA urges Bahrain minister

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh and Bahrain showed interest in forging the highest level of cooperation in all the potential areas in the two countries.

The unanimous views came when visiting Bahrain State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Nezar Sadiq Al-Bahraini called on Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his office yesterday, discussing the matters of mutual interest of the two countries.

It was the first-ever ministerial-level visit from Bahrain to Bangladesh, which is being considered "beginning of a new era" in relationship between the two countries, according to an official.

During the meeting, chief adviser

stressed the need for strengthening cooperation in trade, commerce and investment in various sectors, particularly gas, petrochemicals, ICT, telecommunications and pharmaceuticals, to the mutual benefit of the two peoples.

"Bahrain can invest in Bangladesh availing of the advantage of attractive incentives offered by the government for foreign investors and the prevailing investment-friendly climate," he told the visiting minister from the oil-rich Gulf country.

He said Bahrain can import world-class pharmaceutical products from Bangladesh at competitive price.

Dr Nezar evinced interest in

exploring potential fields of cooperation in Bangladesh.

He said Bahrain is interested to recruit more skilled and semiskilled manpower from Bangladesh, apprising the CA that a new labour policy has been adopted in his country which would ensure insurance coverage to both the domestic and foreign workers with similar facilities.

Presently about 92,000 Bangladeshis are working in Bahrain, and the trend of recruiting manpower from Bangladesh is upward as 15,870 were taken in 2006 while 10,524 in 2005.

The Bahrain Minister lauded the caretaker government's reform recipe, particularly economic and

institutional reforms, under Fakhruddin's leadership.

Dr Nezar said he was pleased to visit Bangladesh and was impressed with the hospitality of the people of Bangladesh.

The CA appreciated Bahrain's impressive economic growth.

He said Bangladesh attaches importance to its fraternal relations with Bahrain and expressed satisfaction over the existing ties and cooperation between the two countries.

The CA invited the prime minister of Bahrain to visit Bangladesh. He conveyed greetings to the King and the Premier of Bahrain through the minister.

Amendment to city corp act approved

Ward commissioners to get monthly remuneration

UNB, Dhaka

The ward commissioners of six city corporations are being put on payroll as the caretaker government approved a proposal for their monthly remuneration.

A provision has been incorporated in the draft ordinance determining who to carry out the responsibility of mayor in case any commissioner was not given the mayoral responsibility by the mayor in his/her absence.

Meanwhile, four of the six mayors have been arrested and detained during the ongoing armed drive against serious crime and corruption.

For introducing monthly remuneration of the ward commissioners and provision of acting mayor, the existing city corporation ordinance and laws would be amended.

An unscheduled meeting of the council of advisers yesterday with Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed in the chair approved in principle a draft ordinance amending the existing City Corporation Ordinance and acts.

The city corporation commissioners will get monthly allowance like the monthly remuneration drawn by members and commissioners of union parishads and pourashavas.

The meeting was informed that of union parishad and pourashava chairmen, members and commissioners get monthly remuneration, but the ward commissioners of the six city corporations "don't get any remuneration for lack of such provi-

sion in the relevant ordinance and laws".

The meeting also approved in principle the draft of The Pourashava (Amendment) Ordinance 2007 to incorporate provision for suspension of commissioners of pourashavas, an official handout said.

Besides, the council of advisers was apprised of the ongoing activities and future plan of action under the Local Governance Special Project aimed at "strengthening, empowering and decentralizing local government institutions".

Mystery shrouds death of Ctgy lawyer

CU CORRESPONDENT

Mystery shrouds the death of a lawyer in Chittagong yesterday.

The victim was identified as Advocate Din Mohammad, 45, son of one Mokbul Ahmed of Lal Khan Bazaar area.

Police found Din Mohammad unconscious under the Dewanhat Overbridge in the port city at around 12.30am and sent him to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where the on-duty doctors declared him dead.

A mark of injury was found in his head, said the Double-mooring police.

Criticising the BNP, he said if Khaleda Zia and other top leaders of the party had listened to him, they would not have faced such grave danger today.

"The joint forces should investigate how the political leaders who virtually had nothing became the owners of houses in posh areas in the city," he said.

Journalist Gias Kamal Chowdhury and former director general of Bangla Academy Dr Ashraf Siddiqui also spoke at the meeting presided over by Bhashani Supporters Group President Moshtaq Ahmad Bhashani.

Witnesses said Babu was working on the roof of the building and suddenly fell down to the ground at around 1:00pm.

He was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared him dead.

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