

## Reforms should be brought to every sector: Badruddoza

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday said reforms should be brought not only to political parties but also to other fields such as Election Commission, judiciary and parliament.

He suggested that parliament should have 100 more seats and they would be distributed among the political parties in proportion to the numbers of parliamentary seats they win in the elections.

He also suggested giving more power to the speaker of parliament.

The LDP will announce reform proposals by the end of this month, Badruddoza said while exchanging views on political reforms at the party office at Maghbazar in the city. About 150 leaders and workers of the party from Rajshahi attended the meeting.

Badruddoza said, "We are against dynastic politics. But if anybody from any political families have qualities to join politics, they can do so, which should not be

considered dynastic politics."

He also said that leaders and workers of the political parties should decide on the tenure of party chairman and general secretary.

But if a party member becomes the prime minister, president or a minister, he/she will have to quit his/her post in the party, he added.

Speaking at the meeting, Rajshahi LDP leaders and workers suggested that the party's national committee, executive committee, and district and thana committees should be elected through secret ballots of party representatives in a council, which should be held every two years.

**Situation tense over control of party central office**

Meanwhile, tension ran high at the central office of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) at Maghbazar in the city yesterday as supporters of Badruddoza-led LDP and Col Oli-led LDP broke the locks of the door of the office in a bid to take control of it.

On receiving information, the police stepped in to bring the situation under control. They also picked up Bulbul and Titu, two supporters of Col (retd) Oli. However, they were freed later, LDP sources said.

They said workers of Badruddoza-led LDP first broke the lock and replaced it with new one in the afternoon. Later, supporters of Col Oli-led LDP broke the new lock and replaced it with another.

Both the LDP factions claim the Maghbazar office as their office.

"Some supporters of Maj (retd) MA Mannan broke the lock and replaced it with a new one taking control of the office," Sahadat Hossein Selim, a leader of Col Oli-led LDP told The Daily Star last night.

"Later, our workers entered the office by breaking the lock," he said.

On Wednesday, GM Faruque Khan, on behalf of LDP Secretary General Maj (retd) MA Mannan, filed a general diary (GD) with Ramma Police Station so that no one can enter the party central office during the emergency, LDP (Badruddoza) sources said.

In another raid, Daulatpur police arrested nine people, including two cadres, of notorious "Lalchand Baini" at Sangarampur village.

The arrested gang members are Abdur Razzaq, 35, and Abdus Salam, 29. Both are close associates of former BNP lawmaker Reza Ahmed Bachchu Mollah, police said.

In Meherpur, a team of Rapid Action Battalion recovered a rifle and ten bullets from Lakhimpur village early yesterday.

On receiving information, a team of Rab-6 went to the village and recovered the rifle and bullets from a bush owned by one Atiar Mondol of the village. No one was arrested.

## Top criminal killed in 'shootout'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A top cadre of notorious "Matin Bahini" was killed in an encounter between police and his cohorts at Char Milpara in the town early yesterday.

He was identified as Lutfor Rahman alias Bodu 35, son of Ihsam Ali of Char Milpara.

Acting on a tip-off, police cordoned off Char Milpara area at around 3:30am where members of the gang were holding a secret meeting.

Sensing the presence of the cops, Bodu's accomplices opened fire, forcing the law enforcers to retaliate.

Bodu received bullets during the "shootout" while his cohorts managed to flee. Police said they took Bodu to Kushtia General Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

"The training has boosted my confidence, which helped me expand my business gradually. Now I have a production house, 'Ghoroa Kutir Shilpa', " she said, adding that "I started my business with only Tk 2,000, but now I earn Tk 10,000 monthly."

"Although my husband has been sick for several months now, I can maintain my family with my

## Empowering women thru' entrepreneurship

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Razia Amin of Satkhira is now a successful woman entrepreneur, thanks to the right decision she took 13 years ago.

When her family had been suffering severe financial hardship 13 years ago, she enrolled on a training course of Jatiya Mahila Sangstha (JMS) in order to become self-reliant and support the family.

After completing the course on business management in 1994, Razia started her own business. She collected items of handicrafts from women in the neighbouring areas and sold them to the JMS in the capital.

"Women can become successful entrepreneurs, she said, adding that they would have to prove it through hard work, honesty and courage.

The project that was launched in 2003 has already imparted training to some 1125 disadvantaged women and will train 1300 more women on business management, catering, fashion designing, beautification and interior designing.

The aim of this project is to ensure women empowerment in the long run, said Project Director Reza-e-Azam Khan.

JMS Executive Director Prof Firoza Begum presided over the workshop.

JMB Shura member's wife on 7-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted seven-day remand for Shahida Begum, wife of arrested Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) Majlis-e-Shura member Anwar Hossain Ali Faruq.

The court of Metropolitan Magistrate Abdur Rouf Khan granted the remand when Sub-inspector Abdul Gani of (SI) of Shah Ali Bagh Police Station sought seven days' remand for questioning.

The court also ordered police to produce bullet-hit Anwar Hossain being treated at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) before it after his recovery from injuries.

In the forwarding report Ghani said illegal firearms were recovered from her possession. So, Shahida needs to be quizzed for seven days for arresting her accomplices and recovering the destructive materials she possesses.

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) seized two pistols, nine bullets, seven computers, a large number of compact disks (CDs) and books on jihad during the operation on July 10.

Faruq was shot during the raid by Rab and arrested along with his wife Shahida Begum in their house in the city's Mirpur area. Later, Shahida was handed over to Shah Ali Bagh police.

The arrests were made following leads from four other JMB operatives - Shura (highest policy making body) member Asadul Islam alias Arif, Mymensingh regional commander Shauqi Islam alias Rakib and members Sagar Hossain alias Sayeed and Saiful Islam. They were arrested in Mymensingh.

A top Rab official said the four were sent back to Mymensingh on Wednesday night after primary interrogation at the Rab headquarters. They will be produced before a local court and taken into remand for intensive interrogations, the official said.

## Obituary

RU CORRESPONDENT

Abdul Gaffar, a teacher of Rajshahi University School and College, passed away due to prolonged illness at his Kazla residence near RU campus yesterday at the age of 56.

He left behind his wife, one son and three daughters.

RU Vice-Chancellor Prof Attaf Hossain, Pro VC Prof Mumunul Keramat, RU School and College Principal Prof Nazrul Islam condoled the death.

## Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Maj Gen (Retd) Muzammel Hussain will be held at New DOHS Mohakhali Jame Masjid after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

He passed away at the CMH in Dhaka due to cardiac arrest on July 10 at the age of 71.

He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

## ATM Zahirul Haque

Qulkhwani of ATM Zahirul Haque Chowdhury, former regional director of Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC), will be held at his residence at 64 Siddheshwari Circular Road after Magrib prayers today, says a press release.

He passed away at Holly Family Red Crescent Hospital on July 9 at the age of 72.

Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the qulkhwani and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

## Mafzalur Rahman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Qulkhwani of Mafzalur Rahman will be held at his residence at House No-12, Road No-2, Mirpur-10 after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

Relatives and friends have been requested to attend the qulkhwani.

Mafzalur Rahman, a retired official of Krishi Bank, passed away due to cardiac arrest at Lab Aid Specialised Hospital in the city on Wednesday at the age of 61.

## Mahbub Husain

Qulkhwani of Mahbub Husain, son of late Ali Husain, will be held at House 54, Road 6A, Dhamondi in the city after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

Relatives and friends are requested to attend the qulkhwani and pray for his departed soul.

Mahbub passed away due to colon cancer at Kaplan Hospice in Massachusetts, US on July 9.

## Edn exhibition begins in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The seventh Education and Immigration Exposition (EDIM Expo)-2007 began at Bashundhara City in the capital yesterday.

A total of 73 local and foreign universities, education institutions and related service providers are taking part in the five-day exhibition, organised by Conference and Exhibition Management Service (CEMS).

Prof SMA Faiz, vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, inaugurated the exhibition, which provides opportunities for students to collect information about courses, programmes and other facilities offered by different private universities and other educational institutions and admission process.

CEMS Managing Director Mehrun N Islam and Director Shahid Sarwar were present at the inaugural ceremony.

The exhibition will remain open from 10:00am to 8:00pm daily.

The Daily Star and Radio Foorti are the media partners and the Prothom Alo is the web partner of the exhibition.

Journo assaulted for protesting teasing of daughter

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Miscreants assaulted a journalist at Bahirgola in Sirajganj town yesterday morning when he protested teasing of his daughter.

Police said a gang of miscreants led by Rubel and Masud assaulted Nazrul Islam, district correspondent of Dainik Bhorobor Dak, at about 9:00am, when he protested teasing of his daughter on their way to her school.

Nazrul is now undergoing treatment at a private clinic in the town in a critical condition.

Local journalists condemned the incident and demanded exemplary punishment of the culprits.

## Nachole UNO transferred

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Nachole Upazila Nirbahi Officer Manjur Morshed yesterday was transferred to Assasunia upazila in Sylhet district, district administration sources said.

The UNO was transferred after 8 days of Nachole incident.

Deputy Commissioner Md Shahadat Hossain confirmed the decision of his transfer.

## TITAS GAS CASE Show cause on IO for discharging 2 accused

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued a notice upon an investigation officer (IO) asking him to explain why a legal action would not be taken against him for discharging two accused in a case filed for causing loss of Tk 26 lakh to the Titas Gas Limited.

Judge Mohammad Azizul Haq of Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka passed the order, as Sub-Inspector Shafqul Islam, who is also the IO of the case, submitted a final report (FRT) appealing the court for discharging the two accused from the charges.

The court also directed him to submit a supplementary probe report by July 31 and reply to the show cause notice issued upon him for his negligence in investigating the case.

According to the prosecution, Shahidul Haq Dakua, manager of Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Limited, alleged that Nazrul Islam, proprietor of Rahee Steel Products at Tejgaon in the city, and his relative Babu took an appeal for using a one burner at their company. But they had used four burners without permission from the Titas Gas authorities that caused a loss of Tk 26,20,266 to the Titas

Gas Company. Following the incident, a cheating case was filed against Nazrul and Babu at Tejgaon Police Station on June 25 last year.

The IO submitted the final report to the court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka on December 30 last year and prayed to the court for discharging them.

In his FRT, the IO said he tried to arrest them but failed to do so. Moreover, the charges brought against them were found to be false, fabricated and concocted. Moreover, the IO did not take approval from the Public Prosecutor (PP) for submitting the FRT.

The court also directed him to submit some documents from the accused during the investigation and he submitted those to the trial court.

After scrutinising the case dockets and other relevant documents, the trial court asked the IO to appear before the court on Wednesday to explain why he discharged them, even though specific allegations were found against them.

But the IO did not give satisfactory reply to the court questions about it. So, the court issued show cause upon him and directed to investigate the matter again. The court also rejected the FRT.

Moderately heavy rainfalls are likely at places over the country.

It also said that day temperature may rise slightly over the country.

Highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Ishwardi and lowest 25.2 degree Celsius at Srimongal.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:49pm today and rises at 5:19am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in celsius	Humidity in percentage		
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.6	27.7	68	70
Chittagong	31.7	26.6	77	77
Rajshahi	35.6	27.2	78	70
Khulna	35.0	27.5	84	67
Barisal	33.5	26.5	79	73
Sylhet	33.1	27.0	89	63
Cox's Bazar	32.5	25.7	76	75

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