

# Carry out duties for a terrorism, corruption-free Bangladesh

## Chief adviser urges probationary police officers

UNB, Sardah, Rajshahi

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday urged the probationary police officers to carry out their duties as future leaders of the law enforcement agency to fulfil people's aspiration of a prosperous Bangladesh free of terrorism and corruption.

He made the call addressing a function marking the completion of one-year training of assistant superintendents of police (ASP) of the 25th BCS (Police) cadre at the Bangladesh Police Academy parade ground.

The head of the caretaker government said the role of the government's administrative machinery is pivotal in materialising the long cherished aspiration of the common people for a terrorism- and corruption-free Bangladesh.

"Law and order situation in the country has been better in the recent time, compared to any other time in the past, following positive and neutral role of the police," he said.

"We are making efforts to increase the qualitative standard of services rendered by various public

service providing institutions including the police," he added.

Besides, laws, rules and regulations are also being made time befitting, he said expressing the hope that it is possible to bring about epoch-making changes in the country's socioeconomic field if positive attitude can be brought about among the police forces.

The chief adviser also expressed his happiness that model police stations have been set up in many areas in the country, including capital Dhaka, responding to his call at a high-level meeting of police officials six months ago.

A total of 192 probationary ASPs, including more than two scores of women, have successfully completed the training at the Police Academy.

Probationary ASP M Mohiuddin has been adjudged as best rider, Md Kamruzzaman as best academic and Md Abdullah Al Mamun as best probationer.

Fakhruddin said the government is taking multifarious steps in bringing reforms in the police forces that resulted in the increase of internal monitoring and observation to

prevent corruption in the police. Other reforms are being implemented while public service delivery centre, victim support centre and monthly open house day system have been introduced in the metropolitan and model police stations.

Following these steps, positive response is being received from the people, he added.

Congratulating the freshly graduated police officers for successfully completing the hard training, he said: "You have to remember that on one hand you are servant of the people and on the other their friend."

"Truth, justice, honesty and discipline will have to be your ideal. Ensuring security and welfare of people should be your main mission," he told the probationary ASPs.

The chief adviser appreciated the performances of members of the police forces in various countries of Asia, Europe and Africa in UN peacekeeping missions, which has brightened the country's image in international arena.

Earlier, the newly graduated probationary ASPs gave a guard of honour to the chief adviser who reviewed the parade. He also witnessed a spectacular march-past of the parade and took salute from the parade.

On his arrival at the venue, the chief adviser was received by Home Secretary Abdul Karim, Inspector General of Police Noor Mohammad and Commandant of Bangladesh Police Academy Mokhlesur Rahman.

## Woman held for filing false case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A woman was arrested in Narayanganj yesterday for filing a false case back in January.

Source said Aziza Begum, wife of Abul Qasem, filed a case with Rupsha Police Station on January 21 against Toiyeb Mallik, Salma Begum, Akhter Khan and Azizul Karim, all hailing from Kojadia village at Rupsha in Khulna, saying they had killed and later concealed the body of her son Abul Hossain.

Since then Abul Hossain had been absconding at the residence of his uncle at Kutuball in Fatullah where he was found in the early hours of yesterday.

## Call to fully ratify Cedaw

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday called on the government to fully ratify and implement the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (Cedaw) with a view to promoting women's rights in the country.

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) organised the discussion on Cedaw at Biam auditorium in the city.

Women have achieved their rights through hard struggle, Parishad general secretary Ayesha Khanam said, adding that there is no alternative but to struggle if they want to realise their demands.

Justice KM Sobhan, former Bangladesh Bhag governo Dr Muhammad Farashuddin and First Secretary of Norwegian Embassy Ingrid Turkerud Haug also spoke at the programme chaired by Parishad President Hena Das.

## NSU becomes champion in Citi Financial Quiz Competition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

North South University (NSU) emerged as champion in the Citi Financial Quiz Competition-2007 yesterday.

The NSU beat Jahangirnagar University to seize the championship at the grand finale held at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city.

A total of 12 public and private universities took part in the competition organised by Citibank NA, Bangladesh in collaboration with North South University. Citi Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Citigroup, funded the competition to promote financial education.

After intense competition in the three segments of the final round, both teams tied on points. In the extra round, the NSU answered two questions, out of three, correctly to become the champion.

The champion team was awarded a grand prize of \$3000 while the runner-up team bagged \$1500. Each team comprised three members.

Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam gave away the prize money to the winners as the chief guest. Hafiz GA Siddiqi, vice-chancellor of NSU, and Mamun Rashid, managing director & CEO of Citibank NA, Bangladesh, were also present at the gala event.

Congratulating the participants of the competition, the finance adviser said today's young people will be the leaders of the country in future. They will help achieve the desired economic growth by contributing to the financial sector, he added.

He also called on the students not to let their personal views compromise their professional duties.

Mamun Rashid said the objective of the competition is to promote financial education among the young people.

Financial management education has a vital role to play in developing the country's economy, he added.

Channel i and Radio Foorti were the media partners of the competition, the first of its kind in the country.



PHOTO: STAR

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda speaks at a press conference at the EC Secretariat in the city yesterday. On his right is Muhammed Sohul Hussain and on his left is Brig Gen (Retd) Shakhawat Hossain.

# Ensure right to information to combat corruption

## Speakers tell seminar

A two-day seminar on 'Anti-corruption policies and practices in public administration' ended at Savar on Saturday with a call for ensuring right to information to combat corruption in public administration.

Organised jointly by Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) and UNDP, the seminar was attended by civil servants, university teachers and officials of UNDP and other NGOs, says a press release.

"Among the information holders, both in the government and non-government sectors, there is a tendency towards the culture of secrecy," said Shaheen Anam, executive director of Manusher Jonno Foundation, while presenting a keynote paper on 'Right to Information'.

"Right to information enshrines all other rights because familial, social, political and economic sphere of life are all shaped by the information that should be available to everyone," she added.

"A total of 175 countries have already enacted laws recognising people's right to information and it is time for us to adopt same law," said Shaheen Anam.

Prof Salahuddin M Aminuzzaman said up to three percent of Bangladesh economy, which

amounts to a staggering one billion US dollars, is lost to corruption every year.

The participants also stressed the need for introducing e-governance to control corruption in the administration and reduce sufferings of the common people.

E-governance ensures transparency, accountability and optimal use of public resources, they added.

Abdul Jabbar, chairman of Garadad union parishad of Sirajganj narrated his own experience of participatory budgeting in his own constituency, which helped reduce corruption as all information related to budget was revealed to the people.

"Transparency and accountability worked like magic in governance and consequent development of the area," he added.

Dr Badul Alam Majumdar, secretary of Shujon (Shushashoner Janney Nagorik), said only a small fraction of a thana-level budget is diverted to a union parishad.

Md Moklesur Rahman, secretary of the Anti-corruption Commission, said his office is too poorly manned to tackle the widespread corruption prevailing in the country.

He said anti-corruption awareness campaign should also be spread to NGO, corporate and media sectors to combat corruption.

"The quality of training at BPATC should be upgraded to a level of achieving ISO," Rahman added.

The seminar was held in six working sessions in which participants discussed management of public finance, right to information, e-governance, rules and regulations governing the conduct of civil servants and professionalism in public service delivery.

Deputy Country Director of UNDP Larry Maramis, BPATC Rector Abu Md Maniruzzaman Khan, and Secretary to Ministry of Agriculture M Abdul Aziz, also addressed the seminar.

At the concluding session, prizes were distributed among the winners of an essay competition titled 'Increasing integrity and reducing corruption in Bangladesh'.

Participants of the 39th Foundation Training Course took part in the competition.

The Anti-corruption Advocacy Campaign Project of UNDP co-organised the seminar funded by the Government of Denmark to raise awareness among the civil servants regarding anti-corruption policies and practices in public administration.



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad organised a discussion on UN Cedaw Day at Biam auditorium in the city yesterday. From left are Dr Muhammad Farashuddin, Justice KM Sobhan, Hena Das and Ingrid Turkerud Haug.

# 11 killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least 11 people were killed and 10 others injured in separate road accidents in Munshiganj, Barisal, Satkhira, Pabna, Chandpur and Kishoreganj yesterday and on Saturday night.

A correspondent from Munshiganj reports: Two people were killed and three others injured in a road accident at Gazaria upazila in Munshiganj yesterday.

The dead were identified as Mohammad Babu, 25, an expatriate living in Bahrain and microbus driver Shawkat Ali, 27.

Witnesses said the accident occurred on Meghna-Gomoti bridge on the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway in Gazaria upazila when a Dhaka-bound bus hit a microbus, leaving Babu and Ali dead on the spot.

Mamun, Sohel and Shahid were sent to Dhaka in a critical condition for treatment.

Sergeant Zillur Rahman, in-charge of the Bhoberchar highway outpost, said the accident took place while Babu and his relatives were returning home in Comilla by a microbus from the airport.

Babu was returning home after four years' stay in Bahrain and his relatives went to the airport to receive him, said Zillur.

The bus driver, however, managed to escape.

Our correspondent from Barisal adds: Two people were killed and four others injured in separate road accidents in Barisal yesterday and on Saturday night.

Barisal SBMCH morgue sources said the accident occurred when a microbus collided head-on with a truck on Barisal-Dhaka highway near Barthi Tarapith School at about 11:40am yesterday.

The killer truck managed to fled away and Local people rushed to the spot and recovered Shikha Khanam, 26, Putul, 20, Rashida, 8, Opu, 8, all passengers and microbus driver Anis, 26, in critical condition.

The injured were sent to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital (SBMCH) where doctors Shikha died.

Meanwhile, an unidentified man aged about 70 crushed under the wheels of night coach on Patuakhali-Barisal highway at Bakorkati under Bakerganj police station at about 8:00pm on Saturday night.

Our correspondent from Satkhira adds: Two people were killed in separate road accidents in the district yesterday.

The dead were identified as Abul Kashem, 55, son of Shukchand Gazi of village Sanka in Sadar upazila and Sudeb Kumar Biswas, 40, son of Keshab Chandra Biswas of village Budhata in Assassuni upazila.

Quoting local people, police said the accident occurred when Abul Kashem fell down from an engine van on Kathanda-Barukhali road at Golamalipur in Sadar upazila when he was returning home from Barukhali Bazar, leaving him injured seriously. He succumbed to his injuries on the way to Satkhira

Hospital.

Another accident occurred when a Satkhira-bound bus from Kaliganj knocked Sudeb Kumar Biswas on Satkhira-Kaliganj road near Alipur in Sadar upazila yesterday, leaving him dead on the spot while he was crossing the road.

Our correspondent from Pabna says: Two people were killed in separate road accidents in Chatmohar and Ataikula in the district on Saturday night.

The dead were identified as Roksana, 8, daughter of Iear Uddin of village Katia Badamtola in Chatmohar upazila and Sohrab Ali, 70, of Pirpur village in Ataikula.

Sources said a Dhaka-bound night coach hit Roksana at about 10:00pm on Saturday on the highway in front of her house, leaving her dead on the spot.

Meanwhile, a speedy bus knocked down Sohrab Ali at Pampur crossing at about 9:00pm when he was crossing the road, leaving him dead on the spot, sources added.

Our correspondent from Chandpur adds: Two children were killed in separate road accidents in Faridganj and Shahrastra upazilas yesterday.

The children were identified as Sharmin Begum, 5, daughter of Dewan Jasimuddin Krishnapur village under Faridganj upazila and Md Masum, 7, son of Md Anwarullah, of Tanta village under Shahrastra upazila, police said.

Police and witnesses said the accident occurred when a Faridganj-bound maxi from Chandpur ran over Sharmin while she, along with her grandmother, was collecting dry

leaves for fuel, leaving her dead on the spot.

A Dhaka-bound bus 'Padma Express' from Chandpur ran over Masum on the Chandpur-Comilla highway at Shilpur under Shahrastra upazila, leaving him dead on the spot. Masum was going to his maternal uncle's home along with his mother. A mob put up a barricade on the road protesting the accident. Later, police brought the situation under control.

Our correspondent from Kishoreganj adds: One woman was killed and three others were injured critically in a road accident on Kishoreganj-Dhaka highway at Pachailgota under Kotiadi upazila yesterday.

Police and locals said the accident occurred when a Korgaon-bound bus from Dhaka collided head-on with a truck coming from opposite direction, leaving an unidentified woman dead on the spot and three others injured.

The dead could not be unidentified immediately and the injured were truck driver Tamiuddin, 30, son of Abu Sayeed and truck helper Nabi Hossain, son of Abdul Kadir. They hailed from Char Chartola village of Ashuganj upazila in Narsingdi. Injured Din Islam, 9, is the son of Joyaluddin of Bagbait village of Kotiadi upazila in Kishoreganj. The injured were admitted to Kishoreganj Sadar Hospital, hospital sources said.

Police said driver of the bus has managed to escape.

## WEATHER TODAY

### No change in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said, predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.

Highest temperature 35.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 23.8 degree Celsius at Majidde Court.

**The sun sets in the capital at 6:15pm today and rises at 5:41am 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	33.3	28.0	74	69
Chittagong	31.2	26.4	69	82
Rajshahi	35.2	27.2	83	73
Khulna	33.5	27.0	80	84
Barisal	31.5	26.6	81	-
Sylhet	30.4	25.5	98	85
Cox's Bazar	32.8	25.5	73	81



PHOTO: STAR

Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam, 3rd from left, gives away the prize money to the champion team at the concluding session of Citi Financial Quiz Competition-2007 at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday. On his left are Hafiz GA Siddiqi and Mamun Rashid.

# Call for intensive dialogue on Indo-Bangla water cooperation

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a dialogue yesterday called for initiating continued intensive inter-active multi-stakeholder dialogues to improve water-related cooperation in the Indo-Bangladesh region to help sustainable development and millennium development goals.

They also underscored the need for putting in place mechanisms and ways to improve cooperation over transboundary water management between the countries of South Asia by highlighting the linkage between water resources management and poverty alleviation and thereby demonstrating potential for region-wide sustainable economic development.

Organised by IUCN Bangladesh in collaboration with World Water Forum of Journalists (WWFJ) and supported by the Royal Netherlands Embassy and Delft Hydraulics, the inter-active dialogue was participated by IUCN Country Director Dr Ainun Nishat, Dutch embassy's Neils Venen, former president of National Press Club and Editor of the daily News Today Reazuddin Ahmed, BSS Chief Editor Zaglul A Chowdhury, Editor of the daily Naya Diganta Alamgir Mohiuddin, Joint Editor of the daily Prothom Alo Abdul Qayyum Mukul, National Press Club President Shaikat Mahmood, Daily Star's Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, Managing

Editor of the daily Samakal Abu Sayeed Khan, City Editor of the daily News Today Badiul Alam, daily Ittefaq's Shaheen Reza Nur and News Editor of the daily Amar Desh Chandan Sarker.

The dialogue was moderated by WWFJ Secretary General Quamrul Islam Chowdhury.

Prof Nishat in his keynote presentation gave a run-down of the state of transboundary water and its management in the region and called for put in place mechanisms to share resources, information and data with a positive attitude of cooperation.

Dr Nishat also favoured formation of a non-political platform of Bangladesh, Indian and Nepali scientists, engineers, socio-economists and journalists for unbiased discussion and information exchange about challenges, impacts and possible mitigation measures of upstream-downstream issues.

The Dutch embassy representative Neils shared the owes and experiences of his own country as a downstream one for decades prior to peaceful resolution of transboundary rivers with powerful countries like Germany and France for the overall development of all the co-riparian countries. He hoped that Bangladesh, India and Nepal and other countries of the region could possibly come to stage now to explore possible peaceful and pragmatic solutions of transboundary

waters. Indo-Bangladesh region should seize the windows of opportunities of cooperations, Neils told the dialogue suggesting that countries could mutually benefit from sharing lead-time flood information, data and knowledge.

Reazuddin asked for broadening the areas of cooperation and changing the mind-set of all the parties involved and said the media in the region could play a significant role in raising awareness about water problems as well as solutions with some path breaking joint media visits to the affected areas across the basin for filing joint reports in both print and electronic media in India, Bangladesh and Nepal.

Zaglul Chowdhury underscored the need for creation of a congenial atmosphere of win-win situation in raising the very sensitive water problems in the region. He also emphasized the need for raising the informed media coverage in this regard.

Abdul Qayyum described water as a regional problem and called for its regional solution by involving India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Alamgir Mohiuddin suggested basin-wide flow augmentation and development for the uplift of the riparian countries like Nile Commission or Mekong Commission.

EXTORTION

## Ex-BNP lawmaker Dr Akbar, his wife sued

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

A case has been lodged against former BNP lawmaker Dr M Akbar Ali, his wife Momena Ali and eleven other BNP activists for extortion.

Asaduzzaman Dulal of Jhikira village under Ullapara upazila of the district filed the case with a court in Sirajganj yesterday.

After hearing the witnesses, Magistrate Farida Yasmin ordered the officer-in-charge of Ullapara Police Station to investigate the case.

According to complainant's sources Dr Ali called Asaduzzaman to the office of Ullapara Science College on January 22, 2005 and demanded Tk 10 lakh in toll from him during the BNP-led four-party alliance government.

Dr Ali also threatened Asaduzzaman saying that he would be evicted from his dwelling house established on 44 decimal of land if he did not meet the demand.

Following his refusal to pay the toll, some cadres of Dr Ali and his wife attacked the house of Asaduzzaman on February 14, 2005.

The cadres also beat him and his family members, damaged home-steads and looted valuables including cash and gold ornaments.

In his complaint, Asaduzzaman also mentioned that as the BNP was in power, he could not file the case earlier.

## Bangabandhu Sainik League president, his 2 sons arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police yesterday arrested SM Kamrul Alam Mintu, president of the city unit of Bangabandhu Sainik League, from his residence at Boyra College Road.

Police also arrested his two sons SM Samiul Alam Rusho and SM Sadikul Alam Lazki from the income tax office on the same road.

According to police, Mintu was wanted as a suspect in five murder cases filed with Sonadanga Police Station.

On the other hand, police arrested his two sons for beating up a grocer named Mohammad Ali.

He came under attack for refusing to sell cigarettes on credit, police added.

The severely injured grocer was admitted to Khulna Medical College and Hospital.

A case accusing Rusho and Lazki was filed with Sonadanga Police Station under the Speedy Trial Act.

On the other hand, Mintu was shown arrested in the murders of Hatem Sheikh and his sons Jahangir, Humayun, Shajahan and Babar during a period from 1990 to 1997.

## Death anniversary



Today is the second death anniversary of Abidur Reza Khan, former lawmaker and an organiser of the liberation war, says a press release.

On this occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Graveyard in the city in the morning.

A milad and doa mahfil will also be held at his Elephant Road residence in the city after Asr prayers.

Similar programmes will also be held at his village residence at Vedorganj in Shariatpur district.

His friends, relatives and admirers are requested to join the programmes for salvation of the departed soul.

Abdul Karim Mondol

RU CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 50th death anniversary of Abdul Karim Mondol, a mathematic expert.

He was the first examination controller of Rajshahi University and founder principal of Rajshahi City College.

On the occasion, a memorial meeting will be held at Rajshahi Chamber of Commerce and Industry auditorium.

## DHAKA TODAY

### Election Olympiad

Shushashoner Jonney Nagorik (Shujan) organises National Election Olympiad. Venue: Diploma Engineers' Institution auditorium. Time: 9:00am.

### Consultation

Aparajeyo-Bangladesh organises a consultation on child victims of commercial sexual exploitation in South Asia. Venue: WVA auditorium. Time: 9:30am.

### Seminar

Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Institute of Training Innovative Management and Technology (INTIMATE) will jointly organise a seminar on 'Economic growth and business transformation in South East Asia' Bangladesh's potentials to match'. Venue: DCCI auditorium. Time: 11:30am.