



Former adviser to the caretaker government Dr Akbar Ali Khan launches a CD of a video documentary titled 'Sromojibi Shishuder Shathe Amra' at a programme at the LGED conference room in the city yesterday. Save the Children Sweden-Denmark and Together with Working Children jointly organised the event.

CG urged to form constitution reform commission

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Samajik Rajnaitik Andolon, a platform for socio-political movement, yesterday urged the caretaker government to form 'constitution reform commission' to bring massive amendments to the constitution in the light of people's desire.

"We believe that the existing constitution is not helpful to meet the desire of people," said Abdul Baten Chowdhury, central coordinator of Samajik Rajnaitik Andolon, at an Iftar Party at a city hotel.

In a written statement, Baten said continuing the colonial laws is one kind of dependency on the past and therefore massive amendments to the constitution are needed to meet the demands of the present.

He urged the caretaker government to start dialogue with different political parties in this regard. Baten also urged the Election Commission to invite prominent social organisations to talk about electoral reforms.

Humayun Kabir Huru and Abdul Malek Ratan were present on the occasion.

'Teachings of Gandhi still relevant today'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The teachings of Mahatma Gandhi are still relevant to this era of globalisation when conflicts of various forms have become commonplace, speakers at a discussion said yesterday.

This great man does not belong to only India or Indian sub-continent; he belongs to the entire humanity, they said.

The Liberation War Museum organised the discussion at its auditorium in the city to mark the first International Day of Non-violence, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

Citing examples of Iraq, Afghanistan and other strife-torn countries, Syed Abul Maksud, a researcher on Gandhi's life and works, said that as violence is increasing day by day, people across the world started realising the importance of Gandhi's message of non-violence.

They are now learning from Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence, he added.

Addressing the programme, Indian High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty said Gandhi's teachings are still relevant to the

conflict-ridden world.

"Mahatma Gandhi taught us pluralism and secularism. He was the epitome of truth," he added.

Dr Sarwar Ali, a trustee of the Liberation War Museum, also spoke at the programme.

Polybag materials seized at Gazipur

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Gazipur police yesterday seized a truck with raw materials for polythene bags from Rajendrapur area on Monday night.

Being tipped-off, police intercepted the truck loaded with 2024 kilograms of polybag raw materials (polypropylene).

As the driver and helper could not show any legal documents for the materials, police seized the truck and took it to Hotapara Police Station.

Sub-Inspector Mobarak Hossain said the raw materials were discharged from Jayson Agrovet Flour Factory at Bhabanipur area.

As these materials are used in producing banned polythene bags, police seized the truck with the materials.

Mizanur Rahman Bhuiyan, in-charge of the factory, said the seized materials were not banned items.

Brac awarded Stop TB Partnership Kochon Prize

In recognition of its outstanding achievements in Tuberculosis control in Bangladesh, Brac has been awarded the 2007 Stop TB Partnership Kochon Prize, says a press release.

Brac, the largest NGO in the world, is one of the two recipients of the 2007 Stop TB Partnership Kochon Prize that consists of a medal, certificate and a cash amount.

Brac has been implementing TB control Programme with the Bangladesh government since 1994 and has successfully covered 86.2 million people in 42 districts under the programme through diagnosis, treatment and social mobilisation.

The Award Ceremony for the 2007 Stop TB Partnership Kochon Prize will take place during the IUATLD Conference in Cape Town on November 8-12.

The Stop TB Partnership was established in 2000 to eliminate tuberculosis as a 'public health problem and ultimately to realise a world free of TB.

It comprises a network of more than 500 international organisations, countries, donors from the public and private sectors, and nongovernmental and governmental organisations that have expressed an interest in working together to achieve this goal.

The Kochon Foundation, a non-profit scholarships making foundation, registered in the Republic of Korea, has sponsored the Stop TB Partnership - Kochon Prize.

Prof Selim new chairman of JU government and politics dept

Prof Dr Shamsul Alam Selim has been appointed new chairman of Department of Government and Politics at Jahangirnagar University (JU), says a press release.

Prof Selim is the 16th chairman of the department.

He obtained Ph. D degree on military rule and political development from Jahangirnagar University.

He also worked as member of the university Senate, Syndicate, hall provost and general secretary of JU Teachers' Association.

Myanmar nationals protest killing

UNB, Dhaka

Dozens of Myanmar nationals residing in Bangladesh staged a demonstration in front of the Myanmar Embassy in the city yesterday, protesting the "brutal killing" and arrest of monks, nuns and democracy-loving people in Myanmar.

Carrying placards and banners, the protestors shouted slogans against the military junta amidst tight security.

Scores of police were posted at the Embassy to maintain order during the hour-long protest that started at about 11:00am.

The demonstration was organised under the banner of Democratic Forces from Rakhaing State, Burma, representing United Front of Sangha, Rakhaing Women's Union, Independent Force of Arakan, All Arakan Students' and Youths' Congress, Rakhaing Environment and Human Rights Watch, Arakan Community Council and Shwe Gas Movement, Opposition

Force of Burma, Narinjara News Agency, Shwe Pray Rakhaing News Agency, Gisspa News Agency and individuals.

The demonstrators urged Myanmar soldiers not to point their arms at the innocent people and stand beside the peaceful protesters, upholding the responsibility to protect people and the nation.

Their demands include resignation of all Myanmar ambassadors to Bangladesh, Japan, the USA, China, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Singapore, Korea and other countries, sending troops back to barracks, releasing political prisoners, formation of an interim government, compensation by the Myanmar military junta for the killing of monks and general people.

Rakhaing Women Council President Mrs Raza Linn said now there is no rule of law in Myanmar under the military junta. "We want restoration of democracy and human rights," she said, strongly condemning the killing of monks and general people during the peaceful march in her country.

Air chief returns home

Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal SM Ziaur Rahman returned home after an eight-day official visit to the United States of America on Monday night, says an ISPR press release.

He was accompanied by his wife Begum Shameema Perveen and a staff officer.

During his visit, the air chief attended Global Air Chiefs' Conference 2007, which was held from September 22 to September 28.

Air chiefs of 128 countries took part in the conference. Spouses of the air chiefs also took part in several programmes.

Call to end foreign diplomats' intervention in politics

Relocation of IMF office from Bangladesh Bank bldg demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of left-leaning parties and some eminent citizens yesterday demanded relocation of the office of International Monetary Fund (IMF) from the Bangladesh Bank building.

They also called for an end to foreign diplomats' intervention in the country's politics and election.

The leaders described the setting up of IMF office at Bangladesh Bank building as a conspiracy and a threat to national security.

"They said this at a meeting held in the city, with Jatiya Mukti

Council President Badruddin Umar in the chair.

The leaders called on the officials of Western countries and members of visiting teams from those countries to refrain from intervening in the country's politics.

Expressing resentment at the 'intervention' of World Bank, Asian Development Bank and IMF in the country's internal affairs, the leaders said these institutions assist the multinational companies to exploit the country's resources and raise their profits by entangling us in a web of loans

and conditions.

CPB President Monjurul Ahsan Khan and secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim, Bimal Biswas and Haider Akbar Khan Rono of Workers Party, Khalequzzaman of BSD, Tipu Biswas of Jatiya Gono Front, Abdus Salam of Gonotantrik Majdoor Party, Abu Hamed Shahabuddin of Samyabadi Dal, Moshrefa Mishu of Biplobi Front, Abul Hasan Rubel of Gono Sanghati Andolon and Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah of Oil-Gas-Electricity-Port-Mineral Resources Protection Movement attended the meeting.



Myanmar nationals residing in Dhaka stage a demonstration in front of the Myanmar embassy in the city yesterday.



Indian High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty speaks at a discussion at the Liberation War Museum in the city yesterday, marking the first International Day of Non-violence.

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