



BNP STANDING COMMITTEE MEETS Saifur acting chief, Hafiz secretary gen

Expulsion of Bhuiyan, Ashraf not approved

RAKIB HASNET SUMAN

In a dramatic turn of events, the BNP standing committee in a marathon meeting last night appointed former finance minister M Saifur Rahman as the party's acting chairperson, replaced Khandaker Delwar Hossain with Major (retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed as acting secretary general.

The meeting of the highest decision making body of BNP also disapproved the expulsion of former secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan.

Whether detained chairperson of the party, Khaleda Zia, approved the decisions could not be known, with Khaleda appointed secretary



M Saifur Rahman



Major (retd) Hafizuddin Ahmed

general Delwar being absent at the meeting due to unknown reasons.

But, briefing reporters in his house after the five-hour long meeting there, Saifur said the BNP

How BNP-led alliance moved to twist probe

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The Rab's claim that Huji boss Mufti Hannan and his men were behind the August 21 grenade attack suggests how the BNP-led alliance government had attempted to alter the course of investigation to serve partisan purpose.

A number of police officials, who had remained tight-lipped about the investigation till the caretaker government took over in January, recently said the then government influenced the investigators to concoct a story involving a ward level Awami League (AL) leader named Mokhlesur Rahman.

Pandering to the government's

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Justify judiciary separation

CJ asks judges

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Justice M Ruhul Amin yesterday urged the judges to justify separation of the judiciary from the executive control through candid dispensation of justice.

"Otherwise, we all have to face serious question of accountability from the people," he told an orientation programme for the magistrates.

The programme was organised for the additional chief judicial magistrates, additional chief metropolitan magistrates, and judicial and metropolitan magistrates who are to man the lower judiciary in an independent domain.

The chief justice said the judges must devote their hard labour with

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Law doesn't allow Jamaat politics

SHAKHAWAT LITON

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All successive governments since the August 1975 changeover used the SPA to suppress opponents but turned a blind eye to the ban on political activities in the name of or based on religion.

Legal experts say the government does not need to enact new

laws to ban use of religion for political purposes. It can enforce the SPA provision in this regard, if it wants.

Activities of Jamaat-e-Islami and such other Islamic parties were banned under the constitution of 1972 but they resumed their activities on a large scale following repeal of the constitutional restriction in 1976 during military rule.

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