

Bangladeshi peacekeepers playing important role for global peace

Foreign adviser tells memorial meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshi peacekeepers have been playing an important role in establishing global peace and restoring stability in conflict-ridden regions, Foreign Adviser Iftekhar A Chowdhury said yesterday.

He was speaking at a meeting commemorating the fourth death anniversary of 15 Bangladeshi peacekeepers who were killed in an air crash in Benin in 2003.

"Our peacekeepers have taken up the peacekeeping mission as a challenge. We have turned the sacrifice into strength," he said.

Family members of the 15 peacekeepers were present at the meeting.

The foreign adviser said Bangladesh's peacekeeping record

has made the country the UN's first choice with regard to deployment of peacekeepers.

He said Bangladeshi peacekeepers have risen to a 'position of prestige' in the international community by becoming the second largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping mission.

Bangladesh currently has 9831 peacekeepers in 13 missions across the globe.

Seventy-nine Bangladeshi peacekeepers have died so far while serving in the UN mission. The country has provided more than 62,000 peacekeepers to UN missions.

Iftekhar said Bangladeshi peacekeepers from the army, navy, air force and the police have never retreated in the face of danger

when confronted with 'unknown enemies on foreign soil'.

"In recognition of our peacekeeping activities, Bangladesh has been made a member of the Organisational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission," he added.

Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain presided over the meeting organised by Rhythm Cultural Society.

Dr Kamal said the human rights are one of Bangladesh's founding principles and that means the country's soldiers would always fight for human rights and justice elsewhere in the world. A World Peace Memorial is currently being built by the government, which is expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

Underprivileged children should get all sorts of facilities

Says LGRD adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

LGRD Adviser Anwarul Iqbal yesterday said it is our moral responsibility to help children grow up as worthy citizens of the country.

He was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the five-day 'Education and pleasure trip camp' of Goalkhali Deaf and Dumb School in Khulna.

The adviser said that underprivileged children should be provided with all sorts of facilities so that they can be made aware of the country's history, culture and heritage.

He added that the caretaker government had taken different programmes for the welfare of women and children.

Organised by Khulna unit of Women and Children Development Committee, the inaugural function was presided over by its Chairman Sharif Ahmed.

Khulna City Corporation acting Mayor Moniruzzaman Moni, DIG of Khulna Range Asaduzzaman Mian, Khulna Metropolitan Police Commissioner Mainur Rahman Chowdhury, Deputy Commissioner of Khulna SM Firoze Alam and Khulna Police Super YM Belalur Rahman also spoke.

BTV ENGLISH DEBATE Mymensingh Girls' Cadet College becomes champion

Mymensingh Girls' Cadet College team became champion while Scholastica runner-up in the 7th National Television English Parliamentary Debate Competition, says a press release.

The final debate was held at BTV auditorium at Rampura recently.

The topic was 'Only change of values can reduce violence against women'.

The members of the champion team were Cadet Tasmia, Cadet Sunayia and Cadet Lubjana, while runner-up team included Wazid Ali Rahman, Nedib Rahman and Samiul Karim.

A total of 26 best schools of the country including International School Dhaka (ISD), Green Herald International School, Manarat International School, Sun Beams School, Maple Leaf International School, Aga Khan School, Bangladesh International Tutorial and Sunshine Grammar School of Chittagong took part in this debate competition which was telecast on BTV fortnightly.

Speaker of the competition was Prof Dr Arifa Rahman and adjudicators were Zohurul Alam NDC, Dr ASM Atiqur Rahman, Shabnam Silvia Khan, Tarannum Afrin and Sheikh Hafizur Rahman Karzon.

Chairman of the Debate for Democracy Hasan Ahmed Chowdhury Kiron was in-charge of the planning and direction of the competition.

Monday, police said.

One of the dead was identified as Hatem Ali of Jibannagar upazila. Identity of other victim could not be known.

The accident occurred when a truck hit a motorcycle on Jibannagar-Jinnanagar road near Tetulia-Bardanga, leaving Hatem Ali dead on the spot.

Police seized the truck, but the driver fled away.

A case was filed with Durgapur Police Station in this connection.

Our Correspondent from Sirajganj adds: A woman was killed and her husband was injured seriously in a road accident on Dhaka-Natore highway at Sodabadyesterday.

The dead was identified as Mahima Khatun, 32, wife of Sanowar Hossain of Rajapur village under Beluchi upazila of the district.

The injured was admitted to Sirajganj sadar hospital in a critical condition.

Police and witnesses said the accident occurred as the woman along with her husband was crossing the road at around 1:00pm when a Natore-bound bus from Dhaka hit them.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

A case was filed with Sadar Police Station in this connection.

BSS from Chaudanga reports: Two people were killed in separate road accidents in the district on

Road accidents kill 5, injure 26

STAR REPORT

At least five people were killed and 26 injured in separate road accidents in Netrakona, Sirajganj and Chaudanga yesterday and on Monday.

Our Correspondent from Netrakona reports: Two people were killed and 25 others injured in separate road accidents at Durgapur and Sadar upazila of the district yesterday.

Police said a passer-by was killed when a Netrakona-bound truck from Mohanganj knocked down him at Rajur Bazar.

He was identified as Ijat Ali, 65, of village Bahirchrapur under Netrakona Sadar upazila.

The accident occurred when he was crossing the road at about 12:30pm. He died on the spot.

A case was filed with Netrakona Police Station in this connection.

Police seized the truck, but the driver managed to flee.

Another person was killed and 25 others were injured in a road accident on Durgapur-Netrakona Road at Shuknkor at about 10:00am.

The dead was identified as Sujan Mia, 35, of village Gaokandia under Durgapur upazila.

Police said the accident occurred when the driver of a Netrakona-bound passenger bus lost his control over the steering and fell into a roadside ditch at Shuknkor.

A case was filed with Sadar Police Station in this connection.

BSS from Chaudanga reports:

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