

Tension mounts at RU amid BCL-Shibir face-off

VC holds closed-door meeting with deans, police officials

RU CORRESPONDENT

Amid escalating tension between Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Islami Chhatra Shibir on the campus, Rajshahi University (RU) acting Vice Chancellor Prof Mamnunul Keramat yesterday held a closed-door meeting with faculty deans, high officials of local administration and police at his office.

As the meeting discussed overall campus situation, especially security of teachers, students and officials on the campus, the law enforcement agency officials assured the university authorities of beefing up security measures and remaining alert to stave off any unwanted situation.

BCL activists yesterday

morning removed all 'illegal' banners of Islami Chhatra Shibir in front of boys' dormitories, central library, administrative building and other places on Rajshahi University campus.

Earlier, Shibir activists had removed banners in front of boys' halls and different entry points on the campus and hung banners and boards of their organisation there.

A group of BCL activists also staged a showdown on the campus yesterday and started hunting for Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders and activists on the campus.

Following the BCL move, apparently to avenge JCD men's attack and torture on BCL men at different halls and

on the campus on different occasions in the past, many JCD supporters left the campus.

Panic spread among the general students as the campus situation became tense.

Earlier on Monday night, BCL activists staged demonstration on the campus and chanted slogans against Shibir, campus sources said.

Following the demonstration by BCL, Shibir activists locked the main gates at a few residential halls and took position inside, allegedly joined by outsiders.

A tense situation has been prevailing on the campus for a couple of days due to the confrontation between BCL and Shibir activists.

When contacted, RU BCL President Ibrahim Hossain

Moon said, "BCL activists removed illegal banners set by Shibir from the campus."

RU acting Registrar Prof Muhammad Shafi, Proctor Enamul Haque, Science Faculty Dean Prof Abul Hashem and Social Science Faculty Dean Prof Sadekul Islam were also present at yesterday's meeting at the office of RU acting vice chancellor Prof Mamnunul Keramat.

"We discussed recent campus unrest situation and our security measure in the meeting," said Zahangir Hossain, Assistant Commissioner of Police.

RU acting VC Prof Mamnunul Keramat, however, said it was a routine discussion about campus matter.



PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOIKH

Migratory birds from Siberia, fluttering in a water body in Savar, offer an eye-soothing scene amid winter beauty in rural Bangladesh.

BL College clashes BCL, Shibir file cases against each other

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Bangladesh Chhatra League and Islami Chhatra Shibir filed two separate cases Monday night with Daulatpur police station accusing each other of attacks on the campus of Daulatpur Government BL College on that day.

According to police, BCL secretary at the college Dolon Kumar Mistry lodged an FIR naming ten Shibir men and twenty unidentified others, accusing them of vandalism on the campus to create a law and order situation.

The FIR-named accused include city unit president of Shibir Mian Mujahidul Islam, its Daulatpur College unit president Saidur Rahman and secretary Azizul Islam Farazi.

Kabir Hossain, a third year student of Bangla department lodged another FIR with the same police station naming 145 Chhatra League activists, accusing them of attacking and driving out Shibir men from Shaheed Dr Zohar Hall Sunday midnight and resorting to violence on the campus on Monday.

Daulatpur Govt BL College was closed since die following the clashes.

Hasina sworn in as PM

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women in the cabinet including Hasina.

Dignitaries including former chief advisers and advisers to the caretaker government, judges, diplomats, civil and military bureaucrats and newly elected lawmakers attended the swearing-in ceremony that began at 6:30pm.

The MPs-elect of BNP and its allies did not join the function. BNP, still reeling from a huge polls debacle, however sent a delegation to be there.

After taking oath as prime minister for the second time, Hasina said her government's main task is slashing prices of essentials and maintaining law and order.

"People have elected us with great expectations and we must live up to those," she added.

She said a few more new faces would join her council as people do not want to see the same old faces.

Fakhruddin Ahmed, whose around two-year term as chief adviser ended yesterday, said, "I wish the new government the best of luck."

Army Chief of Staff General Moeen U Ahmed said he expects everyone will cooperate with the government.

"We hope our expectations for the nation to be developed by 2020 will be fulfilled," he added.

BNP Vice-president MK Anwar said his party is ready to help the grand alliance government. But they will have to keep their pledge to "bring down the price of rice to Tk 10/kg".

"If this government fails to

make good on its electoral promises, we'll wage a movement against it with people on our side," he told reporters in his reaction.

The just sworn-in prime minister will now request the president to convene the ninth parliament that will elect new president within 30 days of its first sitting.

On recommendations of the cabinet, the president will appoint chief whip and whips of parliament before the inaugural sitting.

Sheikh Hasina will enter the prime minister's office at 10:10am today.

She is scheduled to lay wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on Dhanmondi Road-32 at 8:10am and at the National Mausoleum at 9:10am.

SIZE OF CABINET
The number of ministers suggests that the AL chief was cautious not to be slated over the size of her council of ministers like her arch-rival Khaleda Zia.

On winning the two thirds majority in the 2001 parliamentary election, BNP-Jamaat alliance formed a 60-member council, largest in the country's history, and drew a lot of flak for that.

In the December 29 national election, the grand alliance won a whopping 262 seats. Hasina's party alone bagged 230, the number is much higher than that of BNP in 2001.

Khaleda Zia had a 33-member council of ministers in her first government in 1991.

In 1996, Hasina had only 19 ministers to assist her in running the government. The number however increased later.

WHAT MINISTERS PLEDGED
The prime minister, ministers, state ministers and deputy ministers took oath under the third schedule of the constitution.

In their oath, they swore that they will discharge their duties faithfully and preserve, protect and defend the country's constitution.

They pledged to "do right to all manner of people according to the law, without fear of favour, affection or ill-will".

They also affirmed that they will not directly or indirectly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be brought under their consideration except as may be required for the due discharge of duty.

SCENES AT DARBAR HALL
Bangabhaban teemed with life again after seven years as over a thousand dignitaries from home and abroad joined the oath-taking ceremony.

The guests arrived at the official residence of the country's president to warm welcome from the Bangabhaban staff. They nodded greetings as many of them met after a long time.

Nobel Laureate Prof Mohammad Yunus, Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda, former presidents HM Ershad and AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, heads of diplomatic missions, leaders of different political parties, city corporation mayors and eminent citizens attended the function.

Jubo League leader held for extortion

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Panchkhali

Police arrested Jubo League leader on Monday night from his residence at Dhulashar union in Kalapara upazila on charge of demanding toll from a construction firm.

The arrestee, Kabir Hossain, 30, president of Dhulashar union unit of Jubo League, on January 1 demanded Tk 25,000 as toll from Abdur Rahman Suman, the contractor of a bridge on a local canal, police said.

Suman filed a case against Kabir with Kalapara Police Station in this regard. Kabir was sent to the local Judicial Magistrate's Court yesterday and the court sent him to jail.

Satkhira freedom fighters demand trial of war criminals

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Freedom fighters and pro-liberation forces brought out a colourful procession and held a rally in the town yesterday congratulating the people for rejecting anti-liberation forces and war criminals in the December 29 parliamentary election and demanding their trial.

They said people of the district took a right decision by voting out the three Jamaat-Islami leaders in Satkhira-2, Satkhira-3 and Satkhira-4 constituencies who contested the poll as BNP-led four-party alliance candidates. The three lost to Awami League-led

grand alliance candidates.

The procession organised by Satkhira district unit of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad was brought out from its office premises at Muktiyoddha Complex in the town. The processionists paraded the main thoroughfares of the town chanting various slogans.

After the procession, a brief rally was held on Muktiyoddha Complex premises with its district unit convenor Enamul Haque in the chair. Speakers said the entire nation wants trial of war criminals who were involved in killing, loot, rape, arson, by, raising paramilitary forces forming Rajakars, Al-

Badar and Al-Shams.

They said in the election the people gave a clear verdict in favour of trial of war criminals and implementation of the spirit of the Liberation War.

They said the historic verdict has created the scope for restoration of spirit of 1972 constitution, which banned religion-based politics in Bangladesh.

They demanded removal of partisan persons loyal to Jamaat from the administration and all institutions.

The freedom fighters also demanded trial of people who tortured and attacked freedom fighters and their families during BNP-Jamaat government.

A mission accomplished

FROM PAGE 1

Both of them sat beside in a same row. After taking oath, Hasina was seen talking to Fakhruddin who completed his national assignment for holding the ninth parliamentary election.

Fakhruddin said it's a pleasure for everybody that the state power has been handed over to an elected government after a peaceful and credible election.

"Like everybody, it's also a day of great pleasure for me personally," he said.

Earlier in the day, a state of tranquillity tinged with an emotional atmosphere pervaded the premises of CA's office as Fakhruddin Ahmed made his exit, according to UNB.

Noticing the CA Office staff members, including some journalists, standing around prior to his departure, Fakhruddin got down from his car and shook hand with them with a smiling face and wished them all well.

The chief adviser, accompanied by his wife Neena Ahmed, drove out of the office premises in a motorcade at 2:30pm after the emotional farewell.

Fakhruddin, former central bank governor and eminent economist, took oath as head of the caretaker government on January 12, 2007 under the state of emergency amid a crucial political disorder over stalled parliamentary elections slated for January 22, 2007. He attended first-day office on January 13, 2007.

Yesterday, the CA arrived at office at around 9:30am. Last day's official activities included courtesy call by Chief Election Commissioner ATM Shamsul Huda accompanied by the two other election commissioners and the secretary of the Election Commission and another courtesy call by Army Chief Gen Moeen U Ahmed.

A delegation of the Association of Ex-Students of

SM Hall of Dhaka University, led by former adviser and IGP SM Shahjahan, also made a courtesy call on the chief adviser. Fakhruddin was a student of the hall.

CA's wife Neena Ahmed, who came to CA's office yesterday, went around the office. The CA also went on a walk-about on the office premises when cameramen took snaps apparently to keep the memories ever alive.

After the December 29 parliamentary elections, the CA had basically no major programmes except for call by some foreign election observer teams on him and a farewell meeting of the council of advisers.

On Monday, the CA made a farewell call on President Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban.

Talking to reporters at Bangabhaban, Fakhruddin said he is ready to extend cooperation to the new government, if required.

Sri Lanka takes Test

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The Tigers put on a toothless batting display in their second innings to be bowled out inside two sessions for 158 runs in chase of an improbable 624 to rewrite the record as their previous worst 329-run defeat was against England, also in Chittagong, in 2003. They had a previous record of 288-run defeat against the Sri Lankan in Colombo in 2002.

There was nothing left in the match for Bangladesh rather than offering some fight after Sri Lanka put up an unachievable target when they batted the entire first session before declaring their second innings on 447 for seven thanks to Dilshan's 143 that saw fourteen boundaries and a six during his 175-ball essay.

The main focus was on whether Bangladesh batsmen could survive the two sessions to take the match into the fifth day but it evaporated when they lost five wickets for 62 runs before tea by showing another pathetic top-order batting.

The fear was with champion off-spinner Muttiah Muralidaran and new sensation Ajantha Mendis but believe it or not the former went wicketless while the mystery spinner did the initial damage with three wickets and then the late-order surrendered to Dilshan.

On a spinning track Shakib Al Hasan and Mushfiqur Rahim showed some resistance with counterattacks against the spinners but their 92-run sixth wicket stand hardly made any difference to the match.

It was just a matter of time for the Sri Lankans to wrap up the innings when Shakib was stumped to become the first victim of Dilshan after

making 46 off 49 deliveries that featured seven boundaries while Mushfiqur was the last man to fall victim of a run out for 43 runs that came from 93 balls.

Bangladesh's chance to fight was all but over when Mohammad Ashraful misjudged a googly from Mendis to manage an edge to wicketkeeper Prasanna Jayawardene for seven runs after the other top-order showed senseless batting.

Earlier in the morning there was however curiosity on when Sri Lankan skipper Mahela Jayawardene would declare the innings and he took too much time to make sure that his batsmen got enough batting opportunity.

Shakib however brought an early breakthrough when Sri Lanka resumed the day on 296 for 4 by removing Thilan Samaraweera, who added only six runs to his overnight score of 71, but Thilan made maximum.

Resuming the day on 81, Dilshan completed his seventh hundred and rarely missed an opportunity to make 150 runs in both innings after former Australian skipper Alan Border as the right-hander being bowled by left-arm spinner Enamul Haque for 143 runs.

Chamara Kapugedara was the other notable scorer with an unbeaten 59 off 92 deliveries that contained one four and three big sixes.

The teams will now be involved in a triangular one-day series which also involves Zimbabwe. The tri-series will start with the match between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe on January 10 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all concern that our client Mr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman, son of Late Athar Sarkar of House#13, Road#7, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh is considering to purchase the land measuring 4.75 Kathas, particulars of which are described below, from its owner (1) Md. Shahjad Hossain son of Late Shahabullah Sarkar, (2) Selima Akhter Jahan, wife of Md. Shahjad Hossain both residents of Apartment #A-4, House#12, Road#126, Gulshan Model Town, Circle-1, Gulshan, Dhaka, (3) Tanima Hossain, (4) Seema Hossain both daughters of Md. Touhid Hossain and resident of 296 Elephant Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka, (5) Din Mohammad Khan, (6) Mohammad Shahin Khan, (7) Rumia Begum, (8) Akhter Zahan, (9) Helena Begum and (10) Hena Begum, all sons and daughters of Late Abdul Mazid resident of 57/E, East Raza Bazar, Tejgaon, Dhaka AND M/S Akankha Developers Ltd. having its registered office at 152/3/B, Firoz Tower (5th Floor), Panthapath, P.S.-Dhanmondi, District- Dhaka. In such situation all concerned are requested to contact with the undersigned if anybody have any sort of claim, objection or ownership over the schedule property within 7(seven) days from the date of publication of this Notice. In default, it shall be deemed that the schedule property is un-encumbered and un-disputed and any kind of claim or objection will be treated as rejected and unacceptable after elapsing the said period.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land measuring more or less 0.0168 acres of land appertaining to C.S. Plot no.80, S.A. Plot no.159 R.S. Plot no.1520 & 1525 recorded in C.S. Khatian no.31 corresponding to S.A. Khatian no.157/14 of Mouja- Raja Bazar, Police Station- Tejgaon, District- Dhaka. AND

All that piece and parcel of the land measuring more or less 2070 Sqft. and 0.00825 acres of land appertaining to C.S. Plot no.80, S.A. Plot no.159, R.S. Plot no.1525 recorded in C.S. Khatian no.31, corresponding to S.A. Khatian no.157/14 of Mouja- Raja Bazar, Police Station- Tejgaon, District- Dhaka. AND

All that piece and parcel of the land measuring more or less 200 Sqft. of land corresponding to C.S. Plot no.80, S.A. Plot no.159, R.S. Plot no.1520 & 1525 recorded in C.S. Khatian no.31, corresponding to S.A. Khatian no.157 of Mouja- Raja Bazar, Police Station- Tejgaon, District- Dhaka. In total about 4.75 Kathas of land. Bounded by to the North- Mr. Osman Goni, to the South- Panthapath Road, to the East- Mr. Samad & Mr. Kibria, to the West- Mr. Alam.

Rafiqur Rahman Patwary, Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
Address: House of Law, House#13, Road #7, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205.
Mobile# 01711732561, 01727549406, 01713039970.

ACC sues Gayeshwar

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alliance government and around Tk 67 lakh from the M D of M/s Reza Constructions Ltd.

The ACC official also mentioned that the former state minister concealed information about his wealth worth Tk 25.95 lakh in the wealth statement submitted to the ACC on August 20 last year.

According to the case statement, Gayeshwar received Tk 1.94 crore in cash and cheques from M/s Abdul Monem Ltd as extortion. He was paid the amount in

phases after M/s Abdul Monem Ltd got the tender for filling earth in Purbachal New Town Project of Rajuk.

The BNP leader also received Tk 67 lakh from M/s Reza Constructions Ltd as extortion.

The ACC official alleged that Gayeshwar owned properties worth Tk 1, 27,1,373. But in his wealth statement submitted to the ACC, the BNP leader mentioned his wealth worth Tk 1,01,76,268.

The case was filed in the afternoon, said Ramna thana police.

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Saber Hossain Chowdhury and Asaduzzaman Noor are among those who could not earn a berth.

Of the new cabinet members, AMA Muhith and Matia Chowdhury had served as ministers, Syed Ashrafur Islam and Syed Abul Hossain as state ministers and Dipankar Talukder as a deputy minister in past governments. The rest are all new to the jobs.

The AL chief gave the helm of foreign ministry to Dr Dipu Moni and that of home affairs to Sahara Khatun.

She picked barrister Shafique Ahmed, Samyabadi Dal President Dilip Barua and architect Yafes Osman on technocrat quota.

Apart from Barua, two more ministers are from the minority community. They are Romesh Chandra Sen and Dipankar Talukder.

Hasina did not take anyone from Barisal division for her cabinet.

PORTFOLIOS
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina: Armed Forces Division, Cabinet Division, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources (a) Power Division, (b) Energy & Mineral Resources Division, Ministry of Establishment, Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Religious Affairs, and Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

AMA Muhith: Ministry of Finance, (a) Finance Division, (b) Economic Relations Division & (c) Internal Resources Division.

Matia Chowdhury: Ministry of Agriculture.

Abdul Latif Siddiqui: Ministry of Jute and Textiles.

Barrister Shafiq Ahmed: Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (a) Parliament Secretariat.

Air Vice Marshal (ret'd) AK Khandaker: Ministry of

Planning (a) Planning Division, (b) Implementation Monitoring & Evaluation Division.

Raziuddin Ahmed Raju: Ministry of Post and Telecommunications.

Advocate Sahara Khatun: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Syed Ashrafur Islam: Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives. (a) Local Government Division (b) Rural Development and Cooperatives Division.

Engineer Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain: Ministry of Labour and Employment, & Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment.

Rezaul Karim Hira: Ministry of Land.

Abul Kalam Azad: Ministry of Information, Ministry of Cultural Affairs.

Enamul Haq Mostafa Shahid: Ministry of Social Welfare.

Dilip Barua: Ministry of Industries.

Romesh Chandra Sen: Ministry of Water Resources.

GM Quader: Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism.

Col (ret'd) Faruk Khan: Ministry of Commerce.

Syed Abul Hossain: Ministry of Communications (a) Roads & Railway Division and (b) Bridge Division.

Dr Abdur Razzak: Ministry of Food and Disaster Management.

Dr Afsarul Amin: Ministry of Shipping.

Prof AFM Ruhul Haque: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Dr Dipu Moni: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Nurul Islam Nahid: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Primary & Mass Education.

Abdul Latif Biswas: Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock.

State ministers
Adv Mostafizur Rahman Fizar:

Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Capt (ret'd) ABM Tajul Islam: Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.

Tanzim Ahmed Sohel Taj: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Architect Yafes Osman: Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology.

Dr Hasan Mahmud: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Begum Munnunjan Sufian: Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Dipankar Talukdar: Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs.

Ahad Ali Sarkar: Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Farewell mood
FROM PAGE 1

the venue with the car flags sheathed, marking the end of their official duties.

The advisers and special assistants who were in charge of different ministries seemed relaxed after the completion of their tenure and smooth transition to a democratic government.

A mood of different sorts had been prevailing at the Secretariat over the last few days as the advisers began to round up their duties. Several gatherings were held to bid farewell to the members of the interim government.

Official work at the Secretariat came to standstill yesterday with the departure of the advisers and the formation of the Awami League (AL)-led government.

Meanwhile, the whole Secretariat now wears a new look with the ministries and offices of the new ministers cleaned and decorated over the last couple of days.

"We are ready to receive the ministers after a gap of two years," a senior bureaucrat said yesterday.

Some of the advisers and special assistants are expected to return to their previous jobs while others are scheduled to go for retirement.