

'4 nat'l leaders did not compromise with killers of Bangabandhu'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad yesterday said the four national leaders could have saved their lives if they had compromised with Bangabandhu's killer Khandaker Moshataque Ahmed.

Four liberation war heroes -- Syed Nazrul Islam, acting president of 1971 Bangladesh government in exile, Tajuddin Ahmed, prime minister of the same government, M Mansoor Ali, finance minister, and AHM Quamruzzaman, minister for home affairs, relief and rehabilitation -- were killed brutally inside the Dhaka Central

jail on November 3, 1975 within less than three months after the assassination of Bangabandhu along with his family members.

After the assassination of the father of the nation, the four national leaders could have guessed they would be killed, but they did not compromise with the perpetrators of the assassination due to their principles and ideologies, he said.

The minister said this as the chief guest at a discussion on 'Syed Nazrul Islam: Backdrop of Liberation War and New Generation of Bangladesh'.

Greater Mymensingh Coordination Council (GMCC) organised the meeting

on the occasion of the 34th death anniversary of Syed Nazrul Islam at Shawkat Osman auditorium of Public Library in the evening.

State Minister for Health Mujibur Rahman Fakir hoped that the verdict of Bangabandhu murder case would be executed within next 30 days as the trial of the case is at the final stage.

Presided over by acting president of GMCC Rashed Mosharraf, the meeting was also addressed by Dr Sohrab Ali, Prof Abul Kashem Fazlul Haque, GMCC Secretary General Rashedul Hasan and advocates Ashraf Haque and Mokhesur Rahman.

Call to preserve archaeological, historical sites

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) yesterday formed a human chain at Shahbagh demanding steps to protect the Baro Katra from encroachment and to preserve it.

Leaders of Bapa said Baro Katra is a unique element of culture and education in the country.

There is law to protect the archaeological sites, but it is not followed properly, they added.

They also demanded to identify all the archaeological and historical sites in the country and to preserve those.



Power and Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister Dr Taufiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury visits a stall on the first day of the 2nd International CNG Exhibition at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 2)



Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon forms a human chain in front of the National Museum in the city yesterday demanding preservation of all archaeological and historical sites in the country.

BIT awards for O, A level students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh International Tutorial (BIT) gave away awards to its 23 students yesterday for their outstanding academic performances in O (ordinary) level and A (advanced) level examinations this year.

At the 'Annual High Achievers' Award Ceremony 2009' at Brac Centre in the city, the young scholars received crests in recognition of their hard work and success in the examinations.

Chief guest at the programme, Founder Chairman of Brac Fazle Hasan Abed showered the students with compliments, saying that his support will always be provided for improvement of the education sector.

Congratulating the awardees, Lubna Chowdhury, founder principal of BIT, instructed the students to follow the lessons learned from their teachers closely and asked them to be responsible as well as respectful citizens of the country.

She called on the awardees to work for the people of backward community in society and work honestly in their professional career.

Speaking as the special guest, Edexcel UK International Manager Dr David Davies thanked the students for maintaining the trends of a series of outstanding scores over the years.

The names of the awardees for O level include Magfurul Alam, Rieman Rudra, Md Tazrian Azam, Md Samin Yasar, Protim Mallick, Waliuzzaman, Saadman Seraj Ahmad, Fariha Haque Rashna, Ismam Sanjaan Hasan, Joyoti Shifain, Siam Haque, Shaheen Binte Jamil, Athoyee Nilima Nodi, Shohala Hakim, Tahsin Hassan and Shamim Imtiaz.

The students who received awards in A level are Reazuddin Ahmed, Afrid Alavee Sarker, Romeo Alex Penheiro, Abu Shoaib Khan, Aftreen Zaman Khan, EVG Rochani Anurica Wimalakantha, Maruf Haider, Md Sunny Alam and Shadman Shabaab Haque.

The school gives away the awards to its students every year with a view to appreciating and recognising the highest merit of its students both locally and globally.

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India to help build chariot

METRO DESK

To strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between the peoples of India and Bangladesh, the government of India has agreed to extend support for construction of a new Rath (chariot) for Sree Sree Jashomadhav Mandir at Dhamrai in Dhaka.

Indian High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty and President of Jashomadhav Mandir Management Committee Maj Gen (ret) Jibon Kanai Das signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard on Thursday, says a press release of the Indian High Commission in Dhaka.

The annual Rath Jatra at Dhamrai Temple is an important festival in Bangladesh. The new Rath is to be patterned on the original Rath that was destroyed during the Liberation War. It will have a height of about 39 feet and is to be made of steel and timber. The Rath will have nine domes on the top and will be covered with intricate artwork.

The project is a part of the continuing cooperation and ongoing support extended by the government of India through the High Commission to various agencies and Institutions in Bangladesh.

New policy no obstacle to madrasa education

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid on Thursday said Islamic as well as madrasa education will not face any obstacle if the new education policy is implemented.

"There will be no obstacle to Islam and madrasa education due to the policy, rather it will be helpful for madrasa education," he told reporters at his secretariat office.

The minister said some people are intentionally and with political motivation publicising that the Islamic as well as madrasa education will be destroyed if the policy is implemented which is inconsistent with the policy.

The people who are publicising these things do not want a success of the government, he said, adding: "No education policy was implemented since the independence and there is a chance to

implement a policy as we have four years in hand. They don't want a big success of the government."

He called on them to read the policy properly and correct them if they find any mistake in it.

"Madrasa education will be more modern and developed," he said, adding that the policy suggested incorporating modern education in madrasa level so that its students can get modern and timely education.

Nahid also said many people are giving their suggestions, opinions and even criticism. "We are welcoming all those opinions, suggestions and criticism in order to make a good education policy."

He said they will sit with Alem and Olamas on tomorrow to discuss the policy.

The minister said they will finalise the policy by

December and will start the implementation from January next gradually.

He also told the reporters that the inquiry committee, formed to investigate the fire that broke out at the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) warehouse on October 18, is likely to submit their final report within a few days.

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State Bank of India Dhaka

Introduction of 'E-token' system for submitting visa applications to travel to India by Bangladesh nationals at Indian Visa Application Center (IVAC), Gulshan and Motijheel w.e.f November 15, 2009

As part of our efforts to streamline the process of submission of visa applications by citizens of Bangladesh, State Bank of India, Dhaka announces introduction of digital 'E-token' system for Bangladeshi Passport holders applying for visa at Indian Visa Application Centres (IVAC) at Gulshan, Dhaka and Motijheel, Dhaka with effect from **November 15, 2009**.

2. Procedure for visa application will be as given below:

- Bangladeshi Passport holders wishing to apply for visa to travel to India must visit website www.ivacbd.com and log on to 'E-Token system'. The service will be available w.e.f from **0800 hrs on November 11, 2009**.
- Applicant must fill up all mandatory fields as indicated therein.
- Applicant will be required to choose a date for submission of visa application from available dates shown in the field, and the place of submission i.e. IVAC, Gulshan or IVAC, Motijheel. Only one registration will be allowed for available dates.
- Applicant will need to take a printout of 'E-token' in A4 size paper.
- Applicant should go to IVAC Gulshan or IVAC Motijheel, as indicated in E-token, on the date for which the token has been issued along with (i) the print out of 'E-token' (ii) duly filled in visa application, and (iii) all necessary documents. Visa applications are accepted at IVAC Gulshan from 0800 hrs to 1200 hrs, and at IVAC Motijheel from 0800 hrs to 1100 hrs.
- 'E-Token' will not be valid beyond the date for which it has been issued.
- One member of a family is permitted to submit visa applications on behalf of other family members, subject to a maximum of five visa applications per day and subject to production of proof of relationship. For this purpose, family constitutes spouse, children and parents.
- Emergency medical cases will require valid 'E-token' but may seek priority at medical emergency counter at IVAC, Gulshan (Contact: Manager(Admn), IVAC, Gulshan, Dhaka (Tel.no. 02-8833632/9893006)
- Visa applications of Hon'ble Members of Parliament and Judiciary, Chairman/ CEO/ Managing Director of established companies and members of their families; and persons above 70 years of age can be submitted through authorised representative carrying valid 'E-token'.
- In the event of the date for which e-tokens have been issued becomes a non-working day for any reasons, such e-tokens will be admitted on the next working day.
- It may be noted that all Bangladesh Passport holders wishing to submit their Indian visa application forms at IVAC, Gulshan and IVAC, Motijheel will be required to carry valid 'E-token' from November 15, 2009.

3. State Bank of India would appreciate co-operation of all concerned for successful implementation of E-token system at IVAC. Any queries regarding e-token may be addressed to Manager (Administration), Indian Visa Application Centre, House No 12, Road No 137, Gulshan-1, Dhaka (Tel.no. 02-8833632/9893006/Fax. no. 02-9863229. E-mail: info@ivacbd.com)

Indian High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty and President of Jashomadhav Temple Management Committee Maj Gen (ret) Jibon Kanai Das exchange documents after signing a Memorandum of Understanding on the construction of a Rath for the temple on Thursday.

BAT healthcare services for farmers

METRO DESK

British American Tobacco Bangladesh launched its 'Primary healthcare services' for farmers in Lalmonirhat yesterday.

State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Md Mottahar Hossain formally inaugurated the programme and lauded BAT Bangladesh's role for offering health care facilities to its registered farmers across the country.

Deputy Commissioner Aalauddin Fakir, BAT Bangladesh Managing Director Alan Davy and BAT Bangladesh Corporate and Regulatory Affairs Head Zakir Ibne Hai also spoke in the inaugural function held at Sapti Bari Chowpuri, Aditmari in the district, says a press release.

BAT Bangladesh Managing Director Alan Davy said his company has taken initiatives

to help its registered farmers and their families by providing them with primary health care services to complement development efforts made by the government.

BAT Bangladesh will provide primary health care services for 1,000 farmer families in Lalmonirhat district.

The healthcare support, which includes free prescription and consultation for maternal health, child health and family planning apart from free vaccination and medicines at subsidised rates, has been commissioned by Smiling Sun clinics.

BAT Bangladesh's other CSR activities include flagship afforestation initiative, community services, IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Club, safe drinking water project and support for disaster relief operations.

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