

## BANGABANDHU MURDER CASE Security beefed up in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) has taken tight security measures in the port city ahead of the historic verdict on the Bangabandhu Murder Case tomorrow.

Meanwhile, CMP during several raids on Monday night arrested some 150 people from different areas, including some slum areas, in the city, sources said.

CMP Commissioner Md Moniruzzaman, however, said the raids were part of their regular duty conducted to nab the criminals having arrest warrants.

The law and order situation remained normal in the city with no report of untoward incident as of yesterday afternoon, he added.

CMP in association with detective branch (DB), special branch (SB) and armed police battalion (APBN) set up around

40 check posts on different spots and important intersections and checked suspected vehicles and passengers.

Moniruzzaman said strict security measures have been taken to thwart any untoward situation in the city ahead of the declaration of the verdict while all the vulnerable points and installations are under close monitoring.

He said they are also maintaining liaison with the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) personnel in this connection.

Assistant Commissioner of DB Md Jahangir said several DB teams have been kept on round-the-clock vigilance across the city.

Chief Executive Officer of Rab-7 Lt Col Sajjad Hossain said side by side their regular check posts, additional patrol teams were working at different city points and installations like Chittagong Court Building.



A broken manhole remains lidless for over a month on Nawab Habibullah Road behind Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University in the city, causing suffering to motorists as well as pedestrians.

PHOTO: SHAWKAT JAMIL

## EWU club support for slum children

METRO DESK

Environmental and Social Club of East West University (EWU) donated some education materials to Chetana Bikash Kendra School (CBK) yesterday on the occasion of the 14th founding day of EWU, says a press release.

CBK, founded by Community Development Library (CDL), provides primary-level education from nursery to class five for slum children.

EWU Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Muniruddin Ahmed handed over 750 education materials for CBK students to AKM Mofizur Rahman, executive director (in-charge) of CDL.

The pro-VC said, "We have to extend our hands of cooperation for the betterment of the deprived children in various ways. EWU is always committed to contributing educational materials for the slum children."

SSM Sadrul Huda, assistant professor and moderator of EWU ESC, Dilara Begum, Kamrul Hassan, Mahmud Zubayer and Oleda Sultana, programme officer of CDL, were present at the programme.

## 12 cops get promotion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has promoted five officers of Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) police cadre to the rank of deputy inspector general (DIG), says a press release of the home ministry.

Seven other officers have also been made additional superintendents of police (ASPs).

The newly promoted DIGs are Sheikh Hemayet Hossain Mia, Mohammad Mukhlesur Rahman, Benojir Ahmed, Moynur Rahman Chowdhury and Dr Aftab Uddin Ahmed.

The newly promoted additional superintendents of police are Ali Ahmed Khan, Hasibul Alam, Mohammad Abu Bakar Siddique, Sardar Rokunuzzaman, Mohammad Mizanur Rahman, Hamida Parvin, Subrata Kumar Halder, says a press release of Police Headquarters.

## Maintain professionalism Information minister urges journalists

BSS, Dhaka

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad yesterday called upon the journalists to maintain healthy professionalism by carrying out responsibility in an objective and transparent way.

The minister made the call while inaugurating the newly furnished 'roundtable lounge' of the Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) in the city.

Highlighting various measures of the present government directed towards preserving the freedom of newspapers and journalism, the information minister said this government has enacted the right to information act to ensure the functioning of a free media.

The government has also set up the information commission, he said, adding it had started functioning from July 1

to ensure the implementation of right to information law as has been outlined in the newly passed law.

These measures have gone a long way to remove obstacles on the way of getting uninterrupted flow of news by people, the minister said.

DRU President Shamim Ahmed was in the chair while its secretary Pathik Saha and former president Anwarul Haque also spoke on the occasion.

The information minister said the government is always committed to preserving and upholding the freedom of media and development of objective professionalism.

He laid emphasis on the role of the newsmen in this regard and said they can make significant contributions in eradicating poverty, build a prosperous

nation and implement measures focused on developing a digital Bangladesh.

The government is also committed to ensure that not a single newsmen in the country is facing impediment to discharge professional duty, he said in this connection.

Azad asked the journalists community to run constructive criticism of the government where it is failing and highlight the success where it is doing well. They would also highlight stories on irregularity, corruption, repression, deprivation and such other socio-economic issues to help the government in building a prosperous nation, he said.

The minister said he would lend all help to DRU in expediting the process of land allocation for construction of a permanent office building of the organisation.

## Law minister to meet CJ of Canada

DU CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed will meet the chief justice of Canada, parliament member, chairman of parliamentary standing committee on law and humanity, says a press release.

The minister left the city for the North American country on Monday night to visit the bilingual translation and case management activities at different courts there.

He will also meet the high officials at different offices, including the office of attorney general, and visit legal aid programme, case management and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) at different courts, including the Ontario Provincial Court.

The minister is expected to return to the country on November 27.

## Hand over plots of Purbachal Allottees call on govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a press conference yesterday called on the government to take necessary steps to hand over plots of Purbachal New Town Project to the allottees within the shortest possible time.

Rajuk has allotted plots among 17,000 people living at home and abroad. But the authorities are yet to hand over the plots to the allottees.

They demand steps for the handover of the plots immediately.

The allottees under the banner 'Purbachal Natun

Sahar Kalyan Samity' organised the press conference to place their demand at Dhaka Reporters' Unity in the city.

Reading out a written statement, Mohammad Golam Kibria, chairman of the association, urged the government to form a separate authority, apart from Rajuk, to provide the utility services, including water, gas, electricity and sewerage system, in the project area.

Md Liakat Ali, joint secretary general, demanded construction of a 300 metre wide road from Khilkhet to the projectsite.

## Moon Sighting Committee meets today

BSS, Dhaka

A meeting of the National Moon Sighting Committee will be held in the conference room of the Islamic Foundation in the city today.

State Minister for Religious Affairs and President of the committee Advocate Mohammad Shahjahan Mian will chair the meeting at 6.45pm, says a press release.

The committee will fix the date of the holy Eid-ul-Azha and review the reports of sighting of the moon of Zilhajj month of Hijri 1430.

It has requested all to inform the committee on the following phone and fax numbers if the moon of Zilhajj is sighted anywhere in the country.

The phone numbers are: 9559643, 9555947, 9558337 and 9556407 and the fax number is 02-9563397.

## RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

# 'Success depends on change of mindset of bureaucrats'

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a view exchange meeting yesterday said the success of the much-awaited Right to Information Act largely depends on the change of mindset of the bureaucrats.

They, however, said a good sign of 'cultural shift' has been noticed since the independence among the bureaucrats, who are unlike those of the colonial era.

They were speaking on the Right to Information Act-2009 organised by Information Commission, Bangladesh at its office with Chief Information Commissioner MA Azizur Rahman in the chair.

In the colonial age, the bureaucrats were taught how facts and information could be suppressed, they said adding that in an independent country like Bangladesh the

situation should be opposite and the public servants should be trained to disseminate information quickly and efficiently.

Information Commissioners MA Taher and Prof Dr Sadeka Halim, Amader Shomoy Editor Naimul Islam Khan, Bhorer Kagoj Editor Shyamol Dutta, New Nation Editor Mostafa Kamal Mazumdar, columnist Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury, Baby Moudud, Azizul Islam Bhuiyan and Syed Fatahul Alim of The Daily Star, spoke at the programme.

The speakers stressed the need for removing some of the provisions of the RTI Act which are considered to be detrimental to ensure people's inherent right to information as guaranteed in the constitution.

Azizur said integrated flow of information is equally needed like that of integrated flow of food security of the people.

He said the lapses and lacunas of this act would be removed, as it's a very new law in the country.

He said as the biggest stakeholder of the RTI Act, the media has a special role to play in enlightening the common people about their right to information.

About the activities of the Commission, Azizur said, "We have adopted ground-bound approach instead of desk-based approaches in furnishing our tasks to ensure rapid implementation of the RTI Act."

"Despite various constraints and hindrances we are moving ahead with high speed with full cooperation from the government," he added.

"We are hopeful to make the Commission a dynamic body as we have received assurances from the highest seat of the state and the government," he said.



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PHOTO: STAR

Youth Engagement and Support Group forms a human chain at Satmasjid Road in the city yesterday to raise awareness about traffic rules.