

Political schism obstacle to dev

Speakers tell BBC Sanglap

A CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

The two main political parties are tarnishing the country's image abroad and the political schism has been creating an obstacle to the country's economic development.

Mahfuzul Karim from Gazipur said this at a BBC Sanglap (dialogue) held at Cox's Bazar sea beach yesterday.

Littérateur Biswajit Sen said the government comes to power securing people's votes as well as mandate. But conflict between the government and the opposition makes parliament ineffective.

The opposition party boycotts the parliament on different excuses while the treasury bench members also remain absent from the House. As a result, democ-

cracy is not practised properly, he added.

The BBC Sanglap on the 'Image of Bangladesh' started at 4:45 in the afternoon with the participation of 200 people of different professions from across the country.

Mithila Farzana conducted the programme where young IT entrepreneur Intekhab Mahmud, Bangladesh Brand Forum Secretary Shariful Islam, dance exponent Munmun Ahmed and band singer Shafin Ahmed were the panellists.

An audience of the dialogue Abdullah Al Mamun said though there are deep cleavages among the political parties, the countrymen are united.

The government and the opposition should have unanimity about fulfilling the aspirations of the people, he added.

Intekhab said the ruling party alone should not be blamed for political divisions, adding that the people and the media have a role to play in this connection.

Actually, people want a unity. If a party does good work, another party should laud it, said Munmun.

Naimul Haq Chowdhury said tourism capital-famed Cox's Bazar should be built up in a planned way.

Md Abrar Hossain said the country's culture was threatened by the western culture. The intrusion of foreign culture is a threat to our national cultural identity.

"Our mother tongue Bangla needs to be spread across the world through different music and culture which will enhance the country's image," said Shafin.



Sector Commander Abu Osman Chowdhury and Maj (Retd) Ziauddin inaugurate the reunion of freedom fighters of the 9th Sector hoisting the national flag and the sector flag at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

120 bullets recovered in Gazipur

UNB, Gazipur

Police recovered 120 rounds of bullet in an abandoned condition at Sohagpur village under Kapashia upazila in Gazipur yesterday.

Belal Hossain of the village found the bullets of SMG wrapped in a polythene bag while cutting earth in the morning, police said.

On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the bullets.

Police suspected that the bullets might have been put under the earth during the War of Liberation in 1971.



Panellists at a BBC Sanglap (dialogue) at Cox's Bazar sea beach yesterday.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Concern over low allocation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An inter-governmental body yesterday expressed concern over the increasing population pressure on the developing countries, but lowering of budgetary allocation for reproductive health, especially in family planning.

"Developing countries are suffering again due to increasing population pressure. We therefore underline the need to reposition family planning as a priority in development," said Harry S Jooseery, executive director of Partners in Population and Development (PPD), at a press conference at a city hotel.

PPD, an inter-governmental alliance of 25 developing countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, held the press conference in observance of its 15th anniversary and South-South Day.

Addressing the media, Jooseery said the world has lost a sense of crisis and urgency with regard to reproductive health. The resource allocation for family planning in international population assistance has come down from 55 percent in 1995 to less than five percent now.

Stating that half million women die annually from preventable causes and none hears about, he said, "It is a crime in the 21st century that

one woman dies every minute of the day."

Bangladesh is the best in the subcontinent for lowering its total fertility rate from 6.3 in 1975 to 2.6 now, while contraceptive prevalence is 56 percent now from eight percent in the mid-seventies, he added.

"But it does not mean that we sit behind. We need to invest more in reproductive health, maternal and child health to enhance the quality of life, which remains a prerequisite for sustainable growth and development."

Stressing the need for more partnerships among the regions and countries, Jooseery said the countries in the global south and northern countries face multiple crises where hunger afflicts one billion people - an unprecedented number -- while unemployment is up and trade is down as a result of the economic crisis.

Referring to climate change, he said many developing countries will suffer from the consequences of climate change more intensely, which could encourage divergence in the global economy.

"Solutions to these and other

ills require stronger cooperation, starting with one's immediate neighbours," he said.

PPD officials Amadou Moreau, Farah Naz Hossain and Rahnuma Afroza also spoke.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Bank Asia in collaboration with Bangladesh Red Crescent Society organise blood donation programmes in Dhaka and Chittagong marking the 10th anniversary of the bank yesterday. AM Nurul Islam, vice chairman, Mashir Rahman, director, Erfanuddin Ahmed, president and managing director of Bank Asia, and Khondker Jakaria Khaled, director of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, are seen at a blood donation programme. About 300 officers and executives of the bank voluntarily donated blood.

Road crash kills 2

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Two people were killed in separate road accidents in Gazipur yesterday.

The victims are Abdur Rahim, 30, imam of a local mosque, and an unidentified woman.

Witnesses said, Rahim, a bystander, was seriously

injured when a wheel of a truck burst on Dhaka-Mymensingh at South Salna at 9:00am. He died on his way to hospital.

In another accident, an unidentified woman aged about 40 died on the spot when a speeding truck ran over her at Telipara on the same highway yesterday evening.

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-BANGLADESH

WHERE LEADERS ARE CREATED

www.aiub.edu

AIUB

Graduate Programs

Masters in Public Health	MPH
Master of Science in Computer Science	MSCS
Master of Engineering in Telecommunications	MEngg
Masters of Business Administration	
Finance	MBA
Marketing	
Operations Management	
Human Resource Management	
Management Information System	
Business Economics	
Agribusiness MBA	AMBA
Executive MBA	EMBA

Continuing Education Center (CEC)

Microsoft IT Academy, MSDNAA, CCNA and CISCO Regional Academy for IT Essential, Authorized Sun Education Centre, Prometric Authorized Center.

For more information on the CEC programs
Phone: 9887934-5, 8814462, 8816173 Ext. 406

ADMISSION

Admission Exam
December 27, 2009

Spring Semester
Academic year 2009-10

ADMISSION INFORMATION OFFICE
83/B, Road 4, Kemal Ataturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka
Phone: 8815387, 9897387, 8811749; Ext. 100, 200
GRADUATE PROGRAM OFFICE (12 pm to 8 pm)
58/B, Road 21, Banani, Dhaka
Phone: 8820865, 9890804, 9894641; Ext. 555
E-mail: info@aiub.edu, Web: www.aiub.edu

Ultima

exclusive apartments

@

Mirpur

1020 sft to 1486 sft*

building technology ideas ltd.

in pursuit of excellence...

Contact : 8824457, 8812578, 9889392, 8815073
01713-247680, 01819-232240, 01819-232241
01713-247678, 01713-247679
Fax : 880-2-8812672, email : info@btibd.org

25

www.btibd.org

Commitment > Quality > Service

SALEABLE PROJECTS (IN DHAKA CITY)

Gulshan Park Shore 2434-2668 sft	North Gulshan The Palican 3730 sft	North Gulshan Fatemaziz 3560-3770 sft	Banidhara DOHS Cassiopeia 1165 & 1527 sft	Niketan Spring Field 1401-1707 sft	Niketan Moon Island Up coming	Banani Six Season Park 1524 sft	Banani ANZ Huq Eleven Square Shops & Commercial Up coming	Uttara Spring Flower 1238 & 1243 sft
Uttara Rosewood Areebah 1915 sft	Uttara Lumeire 1728 sft	Nazimuddin Rd. Cristal Plaza Shops & Commercial	Nazimuddin Rd. Park Valley 1259 sft	Middle Badda Penzance 1180-1630 sft	Wari Crimston de Vale 1221-1466 sft	Mirpur Peonenza 1091-1286 sft	West Malibagh Azzaro 1247-1269	Moghbarar ANZ Huse Heights 1494 & 1569 sft

SALEABLE PROJECTS (IN CHITTAGONG CITY)

Khulshi Hills R/A Royal Edge 2057-2125 sft	Nasirabad H/S Forest Rain 1370-1619 sft	Nasirabad H/S Winter Sun 1506-1943 sft	Panchlaish R/A Ibrahim Winstone 1496-2145 sft	Panchlaish R/A Moonlight Candelia 2484-2672 sft	South Khulshi Kingswood 1324-1634 sft	South Khulshi Allistar 1340-1550 sft	South Khulshi Rose Heaven 1700-1708 sft	South Khulshi Blue Shore 1628-1687 sft
---	--	---	--	--	--	---	--	---

Nasirabad H/S Joy Bells
2502-2843 sft

ANZ PROPERTIES

Joy of Living...

Halishahar H/E Block : K Green Bay
1403-1433 sft

CORPORATE OFFICE: House: 342, Road: 114, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212
Phone: 9892373, 8832601, 8822613, 8851607, Cell: 01817143983
01817 046632, 01817 143982, 01817 036474
01817036475, 01817 036476, 01817036478, Fax: 88 02 9885669
E-mail: anz_dhaka@yahoo.com, www.anzproperties.com

CHITTAGONG OFFICE: 1182, Noor Ahmed Road, Love Lane, Chittagong
Phone: 613004, 613005, 2851414, 0443 4490606
Cell: 01817 210412, 01817 210413, 01817 210414, 01817 210415
01813 260584, Fax: 88 031 616220, E-mail: anzproperties_ctg@yahoo.com