



Members of Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote hold a candlelight vigil at Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday in commemoration of the army officers killed during the BDR mutiny last year. PHOTO: STAR

## BDR mutiny was to destabilise country, oust govt: AL

Names, addresses and profiles of war criminals sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League (AL) yesterday sought names, addresses and profiles of war criminals and descriptions of their wrongdoings during the War of Liberation in 1971 from the people in each ward across the country, saying the trial of the war criminals would be started in March-April.

AL blamed the opposition party as well as the anti-liberation war forces responsible for plotting the BDR mutiny last year, saying that they wanted to destabilise the country to oust the elected government.

Top-ranking AL leaders and government ministers made these statements at a discussion in front of the party's central office at Bangabandhu Avenue.

AL organised the discussion to pay rich tributes to those, including 57 army officers, who were killed brutally during the BDR mutiny on February 25.

Deputy Leader of the Parliament Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury said, "The trial of war

criminals, who killed tens of thousands of people in the name of religion during the war, starts in March-April and the government is all set to hold the trial. So, list the names, addresses and profiles of war criminals in every ward and send those to the offices of the prime minister and AL."

Sajeda, also a presidium member of AL, directed the home minister to find out the culprits responsible for syndicating to hike up the price of rice in spite of huge stockpile.

She requested the general public to inform the government of the rice syndicates.

The deputy leader of the treasury bench urged the opposition leader Khaleda Zia not to destabilise the country.

AL General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam said it is now crystal clear that the BDR mutiny was plotted by those who don't believe in democracy and the rule of law and who wanted to unseat the government.

Syed Ashraf, also the LGRD and coopera-

tives minister, said within very short time, the trial of the BDR mutiny would be started in the penal court for criminal offence.

Exemplary punishment must be given to those responsible for the mutiny, he added.

AL presidium member Matia Chowdhury, also the agriculture minister, said the trial of the mutiny has been started to ensure justice.

The trials of other conspiracies, including 21 August grenade attack on an AL rally, would be started soon to bring the culprits to book, she added.

Home Minister Sahara Khatun wagged her finger at the opposition and anti-liberation war forces responsible for the BDR mutiny.

She called on the countrymen to get united in order to face the conspiracies, saying that tough action would be taken against the conspirators.

AL leaders Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, MA Aziz, Quamrul Islam and Jahangir Kabir Nanak also spoke.

## 'Climate change poses threat to health'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People will suffer from various diseases such as cholera, diarrhoea, bronchitis and some other vector-borne diseases due to impacts of global climate change, health and climate change experts said at a seminar yesterday.

Besides, livelihood and food security will also be hard hit by the climate change. The number of homeless and vulnerable people will increase due to floods, cyclones, drought, heavy rain and storm.

The experts said this at the seminar on 'Health impacts of climate change' organised by Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS) at its auditorium.

Prof Quazi Tarikul Islam

said people in both rural and urban areas will suffer from water-borne and food-borne diseases due to increasing temperature and heavy rains, resulting from the global climate change.

Prof Inun Nishat, a climate change expert, said that the government should start working right now to tackle the impacts of climate change on health, livelihood and food security.

He also underscored the need to establish a separate ministry or division on climate change to offset its impacts.

Prof Nazmun Nahar, president of BCPS, urged the medical professionals, especially the doctors, to come forward to tackle the health impacts of climate change at any cost.

## Free health camp in Keraniganj on Feb 27

METRO DESK

A free health camp on kidney disease screening and detecting hypertension and diabetes will be held at Ati Panchdona High School in Keraniganj from 7:00am to 2:00pm on February 27, says a press release.

It will be held on the occasion of World Kidney Day 2010. The slogan of the day is 'Protect kidney keeping diabetes under good control'.

The health camp will be jointly organised by kidney department, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, and Ati Panchdona High School managing committee.

## 3 win freshness competition

METRO DESK

Nuzhat Saom, Irene Amir and Sayma Sultana won the 'Meril Splash-Persona Inspiring Freshness' competition, says a press release.

The grand finale of the contest, jointly organised by Meril Splash and Persona, was held at Sheraton Hotel on Tuesday.

The Meril Splash-Persona Legendary Award for inspiring freshness was awarded to Feroza Begum, a prominent singer of Nazrul song.

Samson H Chowdhury, chairman of Square Group, handed over the award to Feroza Begum.

Anjan Chowdhury, managing director of Square Toiletries Limited, and Kaniz Almas Khan, managing director of Persona, also spoke at the event.

Renowned artist Qayyum Chowdhury, beauty expert Kaniz Almas Khan, singer Fahmida Nabi, psychologist Shaheen Islam and fashion designer Shahruk Shahid were the judges of the competition.



Nuzhat Saom, Irene Amir and Sayma Sultana won the 'Meril Splash-Persona Inspiring Freshness' competition. The grand finale of the contest, jointly organised by Meril Splash and Persona, was held at Sheraton Hotel on Tuesday. PHOTO: COURTESY

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