

Dhaka for quick implementation of agreements with India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Dhaka wants speedy implementation of decisions taken on a range of issues, including narrowing the gap in bilateral trade, during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to India in January, visiting Industries Minister Dilip Barua told reporters in Kolkata yesterday.

"We want speedy implementation of decisions initiated during summit talks in New Delhi in January this year to improve Indo-Bangla bilateral ties and rationalise trade imbalance," he said.

"The scope is there for further improvement

of ties between the two countries besides rationalising trade imbalance," he added.

Dilip Barua, who called on West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee at the state secretariat, discussed with him how markets along Indo-Bangla border could be improved as part of strengthening trade relations between the two neighbours.

The visiting minister also welcomed investment by Indian corporate sector to set up industries in Bangladesh.

He thanked the people of India for their tremendous support for the 1971 Liberation War.

JS team to attend IPU assembly

UNB, Dhaka

A 17-member parliamentary delegation left for Bangkok yesterday to attend the 122nd assembly of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) today.

The delegation, led by deputy speaker Shaukat Ali, will present the activities of Jatiya Sangsad at the assembly.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Students of International Turkish Hope School at an art competition organised to mark the Independence Day on the school premises in the city yesterday.

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ASSET DEVELOPMENTS

Jamaat praises Bangabandhu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the Jamaat-e-Islami, which opposed the Liberation War, yesterday highly praised Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, saying that the architect of the country's independence had played a great role in establishing multiparty parliamentary democracy.

The top level leaders, some of them were allegedly involved in war crimes, however, did not make any clear-cut comments on the government's move to try war criminals.

At a discussion marking the Independence Day at Al-Falah auditorium, Joint Secretary General ATM Azharul Islam said the government should bring back the listed 195 war criminals in the Pakistani army if it wants to try the war criminals.

Speaking as the chief guest, Jamaat Ameer Matiur Rahman Nizami said Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the architect of independence, had waged movements in the 1960s. The main focus of his political movement was multiparty democracy and he became the supreme leader of the country during his stay in a Pakistani jail. He took some exemplary decisions after his return to the independent country.

On his return, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman said Bangladesh is the second largest Muslim country, giving a message to the Muslim countries that Bangladesh wants to uphold its Muslim identity, Nizami said.

Despite opposition from India and Russia, he joined the OIC conference in 1974, Nizami added.

LEGAL NOTICE SERVED

Govt asked to ensure enforcement of laws on polybags

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Environment Lawyers Association (Bela) served a legal notice to the government asking it to properly monitor implementation of existing laws on production and use of polythene products including bags.

The notice was served on Thursday to the secretaries to the Ministry of Environment and Forest, and the Ministry of Industries, and to the director general of the Department of Environment. Copies of the notice were also forwarded to the home ministry, and the inspector general of police.

The notice stated that widespread production of polythene bags and other polythene products, and uncontrolled use of those is putting the environment and ecology of the country under threat, as the roads, drains, rivers, and canals are littered with those.

Carelessly discarded polythene bags block the sewers obstructing flow of liquid wastes, the notice stated. It also used the polluted state of the Buriganga river as an example of how harmful unmonitored production and use of polythene products can be.

The notice further stated that according to the Korean Institute of Health and Research, polythene industry workers are more prone to develop cancer, and food items wrapped in polythene also get harmful contamination.

Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Sharif Noor Mohammad, son of a freedom fighter, has been suffering from Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS), a disorder in which the body's immune system attacks part of the peripheral nervous system.

He is now paralysed and has been undergoing treatment at Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University since March 6.

A huge amount of money is needed for his treatment, says a press release.

The 29-year-old Sharif has appealed to the well-off section of society to provide financial aid for his treatment.

Contributions can be sent to the following address: Chameli Akhter Mili, Savings A/C No. 1896394890100, Standard Chartered Bank. Interested persons can contact his family over cellphone: 01917039040 or 01726326020.



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