



Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) stages a demonstration in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday protesting illegal occupation of Dhaka Zoo in the name of trade.

PHOTO: STAR

## Govt trying to create anarchy

Say Jamaat leaders

DU CORRESPONDENT

Central Working Committee of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday said the Awami League-led grand alliance government is conspiring to create anarchy in the country in the name of restoring the constitution of 1972 and reinstating secularism and socialism.

The committee at a meeting at the party's central office in the city also said the government wants to erase Islamic ideology from the country eliminating Islam-based politics, economy, education and culture, says a press release.

Protesting the government's move to restore the '72 constitution, they urged all Islamic parties, clerics and patriotic people to resist the government's anti-Islam sentiment.

## DEATH OF NURUL ISLAM

# Culprits won't be spared: Matia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will not spare anyone behind the death of eminent politician and labour leader Nurul Islam said Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury yesterday.

"Whoever is responsible for causing the fire [that caused death of Nurul Islam] would be hunted down," said Matia. She was speaking at a programme organised by Citizens' Committee on Nurul Islam's 68th birth anniversary at the Central Kochi Kanchar Mela Bhavan in the capital.

Nurul Islam, president of Gonotntri Party and Bangladesh Trade Union Kendra, and his son Tamohar died in a fire early December in 2008.

Addressing the programme as chief guest, Matia Chowdhury said Nurul Islam was a dedicated labour rights leader, an ideal politician and a lifelong crusader against injustice, says a press release.

It was not a normal fire, she said, adding that only someone extremely efficient in using chemical substances could initiate that fire. The investigation into the deaths is yet to be

completed.

Khondoker Ibrahim Khaled, former deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank, said the independent probe of the department of chemistry of Dhaka University prepared a report on chemical elements that caused the fire. But the chemical specialists' team is not willing to publish the report due to security reasons.

"The government should look into the insecurity," he said urging the CID to check the call list of Tamohar's cellphone to track down the number from where someone gave death threats to his father.

Khaled, who moderated the programme, proposed interrogating the caretaker of that apartment complex where Nurul Islam was staying.

Lawmaker Suranjit Sengupta said Islam's deathbed testimony is enough for the CID to issue a charge sheet for the case.

Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon, Khan Sarwar Murshid and lawmaker Hasanul Huq Inu were present.

Separate human chains were organised in 11 towns, including Dhaka city, demanding fair trial of Nurul Islam's death.

# Pak intellectuals support war crimes trial

BSS, Dhaka

Two high-profile Pakistani intellectuals yesterday welcomed Bangladesh's move to expose Bengali-speaking perpetrators of 1971 crimes against humanity, as a special tribunal earlier this week in its maiden order issued arrest warrants against four main suspects.

"I appreciate and support any move against anyone responsible for the killing of innocent civilians in 1971. Genocide is a crime against humanity and every sensitive human being must support a move to put the criminals on trial in a court of law," leading Pakistani journalist Hamid Mir told BSS.

In an interview over phone from Islamabad, Mir, who earned a professional reputation for his in-depth journalistic study of militancy in Pakistan and voice for human rights in his country, said "I will (also) support any move against any Pakistani army officer who is responsible for violating law in 1971 or 1977 or 1999 or 2010 anywhere".

"War criminals are our joint enemies. They killed Bangladeshis in Dhaka and other cities and gave a bad name to people of Karachi, Lahore, Quetta and Peshawar who were not aware of what was going on in former East Pakistan," he said.

Another leading Pakistani rights activist Begum Nasim Akhtar Malik, who had witnessed part of the March 25, 1971 genocide in Dhaka, told BSS over phone, "The 1971

war criminals must be exposed to trial".

"Otherwise, the next generation will learn nothing about the history and from the history," Malik said over phone from London, where she is currently staying with her sons.

She, however, suggested Bangladesh to carry out a massive campaign for building public opinion regarding the trial for the sake of justice so that the perpetrators of the crime do not get a chance to hatch "fresh plots" in the name of religion "as they did in 1971".

Their comments came as the International Crimes Tribunal on Monday issued first arrest warrants against Jamaat Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami, Secretary General Ali Ahsan Muhammad Mojaheed and senior assistant secretaries general Muhammad Kamaruzzaman and Abdul Quader Molla.

The four, however, are already in jail to face several other charges including sedition and murder cases while the tribunal order came on a special prosecution panel petition seeking orders so that the four arrested Jamaat bigwigs could be kept in confinement "in the interest of smooth investigation" of charges of 1971 crimes against them.

While throwing his weight also for the trial of Pakistani war criminals as asked about the trial of particularly 195 Pakistani officers who were listed as "war criminals" soon after Bangladesh's independence, Mir said "Pakistan army com-

mitted atrocities not only against Bangladesh (erstwhile) united Pakistan, they (also) killed a lot of innocent people in Baluchistan from 1958 to 1969 during the Martial Law regime of Gen Ayub Khan."

"Another dictator Gen Yahya Khan was responsible for the genocide of Bangladeshis in 1971," he said.

Asked for his comments about Bangladesh's protracted demand for an official Pakistani apology for the atrocities committed by its soldiers against unarmed, innocent Bangladeshis in 1971, the leading Pakistani journalist said Islamabad should apologise to strengthen the ties.

"Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and former dictator Musharraf expressed soft regrets in the past but never issued an official apology. I have demanded and supported official apology many times because I love Pakistan and I love Bangladeshis," he said.

"I think this apology will strengthen relations between the two countries," Mir added.

"Today or tomorrow, Pakistan will have to seek the apology", Nasim Akhtar said, adding that the progressive leaders of other country and the ordinary Pakistanis are now thinking that Islamabad must seek apology.

"A true Muslim is he, who can seek forgiveness, understanding his own wrongs," she said.



Gonotntri Party forms a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday demanding investigation into the death of Nurul Islam, former party president, who was burnt to death along with his son in a mysterious fire incident.

PHOTO: STAR

# SC verdict an impetus to establish secular democratic Bangladesh

State minister tells roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court verdict on the fifth amendment to the constitution has provided the government an impetus for establishing a secular democratic Bangladesh, said State Minister for Liberation War Affairs AB Tajul Islam yesterday.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a roundtable on "Communalism, militancy and war crimes trial" organised by the online newspaper DhakaNews24.com at the National Press Club.

"Now it is our duty to implement the HC verdict for a secular democratic coun-

try. I urge people of all walks of life to extend their cooperation to this task," Tajul said.

The minister reiterated the government's determination to try the war criminals within its tenure.

"We know better that the anti-liberation forces will certainly conspire to foil the war crimes trial. But we are ready to face the challenges. Their trial will certainly be held on the soil of Bangladesh," he said.

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim said the grassroots have to be involved with the trial of war criminals for creating public awareness in

favour of it.

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique urged the young generation to come forward with their maximum cooperation to accelerate the trial of war criminals.

Gono Forum presidium member Pankaj Bhattacharjee laid emphasis on constitutional recognition of the indigenous people to establish a non-communal democratic Bangladesh.

Veteran politician Ajoy Roy presided over the function, while DhakaNews24.com Chief Reporter Rafiqul Islam Pathik presented the keynote paper.

# RATAN SEN MURDER CPB demands fresh investigation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) yesterday demanded re-investigation into the killing and trial of the killers of its former central secretary and Khulna district unit president Ratan Sen.

CPB leaders formed a human chain and held a rally in front of the National Press Club to mark the 18th anniversary of the leader's death.

They said anti-communist forces killed Ratan in broad daylight in 1992, when the

movement against the killers and collaborators of 1971 was gaining pace.

Police identified the killers but they were later freed from charge during the then BNP government, leaders said.

They said Awami League government gave assurance of reinvestigation into the case but no step has yet been taken.

CPB General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim, party leaders Ruhin Hossain Prince, Laxmi Chakravarty, Abdul Kader were among others present at the human chain.

# Prof Rawshan Ara passes away

DU CORRESPONDENT



Wife of former SPARSO chairman AN Chowdhury and former Eden Girls College principal Prof Rawshan Ara Rashid passed away due to a cardiac arrest yesterday at the age of 66, says a press release.

Prof Rawshan left behind two sons, a daughter and her husband to mourn her death.

She had started her 35-year teaching profession at Badrunessa College in the capital and later became principal of Jamalpur Jaheda Shafi College and Eden College.

Prof Rawshan was also involved with the National Curriculum and Textbook Board.

She was buried at Mirpur Intellectual Graveyard in the city following namaz-e-janaza after Asr prayers.

Her funeral will be held at Taqwa Mosque, road 12/A, Dhanmondi in the city tomorrow after Maghrib prayers.

Relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to attend the programme.

## Abdul Malek

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mohammad Abdul Malek, father of Padatik Natya Sangsad Publicity and Publication Secretary Mohammad Sariful Islam, passed away at his Mirpur residence in the city yesterday at the age of 60, says a press release.

Padatik Natya Sangsad expressed profound shock at the death of Abdul Malek and prayed for salvation of his departed soul.

# Fire kills mother, daughter

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A woman and her daughter were killed with another daughter seriously injured in a fire incident at Char Anandipur village in sadar Upazila on Thursday night.

The victims were identified as Lipi Akhtar, 30, wife of Muzibur Rahman and their daughter Hiramoni, 6. Trishna, the other daughter, is fighting for life at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Police said the mosquito net, under which Lipi was sleeping with her daughters, caught fire from a lamp at around 11:00pm.

Locals rushed to the spot on hearing the cries of the victims and sent them to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where Hiramoni succumbed to her injuries. Lipi succumbed to her injuries as she and Trishna were being shifted to DMCH, police said.

# 52,000 posts lying vacant in health sector

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Health and Family Welfare Captain (Retd) Dr Mojibur Rahman (Fakir) Dr Jalal Uddin spoke at the special guests with SMTP President M Shahjahan Siddique in the chair.

Dr Mojibur said detection of disease is prerequisite for sound treatment where most important role.

He hoped that the technologists will supplement the government efforts in implementing the 'Charter for Change' declared by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Dr Bodiuazzaman said the government is planning to upgrade the position of medical technologists to second class from third class like diploma engineers and diploma nurses.

Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad (SWACHIP) Prof Dr Iqbal Arslan and principal of Institute of Health Technology (IHT) Dr Jalal Uddin spoke at the special guests with SMTP President M Shahjahan Siddique in the chair.

Dr Bodiuazzaman said the government is planning to upgrade the position of medical technologists to second class from third class like diploma engineers and diploma nurses.

He said people from all walks of life fought unitedly for liberation of the country in 1971 responding to the call of Bangabandhu and the war

crimes trial began too as a result of the people's unity.

Shahjahan put forward a set of demands to help further develop the healthcare sector including announcement of salary scale for medical technologists, creation of new posts, introduction of registration system for their recognition and higher training for them.

## Death anniversary

METRO DESK



The 11th death anniversary of Dr M Yousof Ali, a fisheries biologist, policy maker, administrator and advocate for protecting the open water fishery resources, will be observed today, says a press release.

# Babu elected member of World Alliance of YMCAs

METRO DESK



Babu Markus Gomes has been elected as executive committee member of the World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) for the term 2010-2014, said a press release.

The election of the association was held in Hong Kong during July 19-24 this year.

More than 1,160 delegates of 124 countries participated in the meetings.

The World Alliance of YMCAs is a federation of YMCAs with a membership of over 45 million. YMCA seeks to share the Christian ideal of building a peaceful human community with justice for all irrespective of race, class, religion or gender. Formed in 1844, the YMCA is one of the largest and oldest youth movements in the world, added the release.



# Fall in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Sylhet and Rangpur divisions and at many places over Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Heavy to heavy falls are also likely at places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and moderately heavy to heavy falls at places elsewhere over the country.

Day temperature may fall slightly over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:43pm today and rises at 5:28am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 33.8 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Bogra and lowest 24.4 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.0	26.4	80	71
Chittagong	31.3	25.1	81	93
Rajshahi	33.2	25.8	88	79
Khulna	29.6	25.6	97	85
Barisal	29.0	25.3	100	83
Sylhet	32.2	25.5	96	85
Cox's Bazar	30.5	25.5	83	87