

# HOMAGE TO FATHER OF THE NATION



1) President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina place wreaths at the portrait of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Bangabandhu Bhaban in the city yesterday; 2) The prime minister along with her cabinet colleagues and party leaders places wreaths at Banani graveyard; 3) Mahila Awami League organises milad mahfil at Bangabandhu Bhaban; 4) The portrait of Bangabandhu amidst flowers; 5) Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote; 6) The National Press Club hoists the national flag at half-mast and flies black flag, which were not done by the club last year; 7) Ministry of Information; 8) Sheikh Hasina and her sister Sheikh Rehana shower with petals the graves of their family members at Banani graveyard; 9) Heap of flowers in front of the portrait of Bangabandhu after paying tributes; 10) Students and 11) Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ).

Photo: Star, PMO, PID



## MISSIONS OBSERVE MOURNING DAY

### Expats urged to uphold image of Bangladesh

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh missions abroad observed the National Mourning Day marking the 35th anniversary of martyrdom of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with due solemnity.

According to messages received here, the National Mourning Day was observed by Bangladesh embassies in Nepal, Thailand, Pakistan and the UAE.

In Nepal, Ambassador Neem Chandra Bhowmik officially hoisted the national flag at half-mast at the chancery in the morning and read out the message of President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Member of the Advisory Council of Bangladesh Awami League Advocate Syed Rezaur Rahman, chairman of Jatiya Mahila Sangstha Prof Momtaz Begum, Nepali dignitaries, foreign diplomats, media people, and expatriate Bangladeshi nationals were present.

A discussion was held and screening of a documentary on the life and works of Bangabandhu was screened in the afternoon. Special prayers and milad mahfil seeking eternal peace of Bangabandhu and other martyrs of the August 15 carnage and peace and prosperity of the country were also offered on the occasion.

In Bangkok, the programme of the National Mourning Day began in the morning with hoisting of the national flag at half-mast. One-minute's silence was also observed paying homage to the memory of Bangabandhu.

Special prayers were offered seeking divine blessing for the departed souls of Bangabandhu and his family members, who were brutally killed in the fateful night of August 15, 1975.

A documentary titled

## BANGABANDHU MURDER

### FM seeks foreign support for extraditing killers

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Dr Dipu Moni yesterday said her office sent formal letters to certain foreign countries seeking their cooperation for extradition of remaining Bangabandhu killers as they were located or believed to be hiding there.

"We have sent formal letters to the countries where the fugitives are now found to be living or are suspected to be hiding in," said Moni at a children's function marking Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's 35th anniversary of martyrdom.

The day is being observed months after the execution of five of the 11 convicted putsch leaders. They were earlier protected under a notorious indemnity law enacted by the post 1975 regime which had also rewarded the killers with diplomatic assignments abroad.

During the past 34 years the country observed the day amid demands for exposure of the August 15, 1975 killers to justice. The National Mourning Day is being observed this year as five of the 12 convicted killers were hanged in due legal process in January this year.

They were ex-lieutenant colonels Syed Faruque Rahman, Shahrir Rashid Khan, AKM Mohiuddin (lancer), Mohiuddin Ahmed (artillery) and ex-major Bazul Huda.

But six other convicts were hiding abroad while the government leaders said diplomatic and police initiatives were underway to bring them back as most of them were traced down through Interpol and diplomatic channels.

"Steps have been taken to bring back the remaining convicts of Bangabandhu killing," Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina herself said in a mourning day statement yesterday.

She earlier promised to bring back the rest six convicted killers saying "We will keep the rest of the convicted killers on the run. Where will they hide?"

"The world is big and also too small, they have nowhere to hide," she said in her first public address after the execution of five of the convicted putsch leaders in January.

Awami League General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam, however, told newsmen at the Banani graveyard yesterday that the absconding killers could be extradited through court clearance.

A senior police official at Police Headquarters last week said ex-lieutenant colonels Khandaker Abdur Rashid was hiding in Libya but often travels to Pakistan and SHBM Chowdhury was in Canada but sometimes travels to Britain.

"Of the others (ex-lieutenant colonels) Shariful Haque Dalim is staying in Kenya, Rashed Chowdhury is in the United States and ex-captain Abdul Majeed and army Risaldar Moslehuddin were staying in India," the official said preferring anonymity.

One of the 12 convicts, ex-lieutenant colonel Aziz pasha died a normal death in Zimbabwe several years ago, according to the foreign ministry.

Bangladesh earlier sought New Delhi's assistance to bring back the convicted ex-army officers believed to be hiding in India and other countries.

"We have sought Indian assistance to track down and arrest the remaining killers... We asked India to return them if they are really staying there," Home Minister Sahara Khatun said.

Thailand had returned Huda in 1998 after Dhaka and Bangkok signed an extradition treaty while the United States returned Mohiuddin Ahmed (lancer) during the past military-backed caretaker government in 2007. He had failed to obtain a federal court order there to stay back.

Officials earlier said Noor Chowdhury, the man who directly had shot Bangabandhu dead and Rashed Chowdhury were trying to take legal cover in Canada and the United States to evade the justice.

The process of exposure of the coup leaders to justice began as Awami League returned to power under Hasina's leadership in 1996 general elections. The indemnity law was scrapped but it needed a long 14 years to accomplish the justice process starting from an ordinary trial court to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.



Dulal Chandra Biswas, director general of Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB), gives away certificate to a participant of a two-week long training course organised by Bangladesh Institute of Journalism and Electronic Media (BIJEM) at its conference room in the city on Wednesday. On his right is Mirza Tarekul Qader, executive director of BIJEM.

## 2 crushed to death under train's wheels

UNB, Comilla

Two unidentified young men were crushed to death under the wheels of a train on Dhaka-Chittagong route near Shoshidol rail station in Brahmanpara upazila on Friday night.

Local people said the young men died on the spot when they fell from the rooftop of the speedy train near the station.

## 'Use effective PR strategy'

METRO DESK

Dulal Chandra Biswas, director general of Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB), stressed the need for using effective public relations strategy and planning to improve organisational image and solve management crisis.

He said this at a concluding and certificate giving ceremony of a two-week long training course on 'Modern Technique of Public Relations and Communication' organised by Bangladesh Institute of Journalism and Electronic Media (BIJEM) at its conference room in the city on Wednesday, said a press release.

Speaking as the chief guest, the PIB director general urged the public relations officers to know more about the media and information and communication technology to improve professional skills.

Dulal Chandra Biswas distributed certificates among the participants while BIJEM Executive Director Mirza Tarekul Qader in the chair.

Abul Kashem Shikder, joint director (public relations) of Open University and Azam Khan, head of marketing, development and public relations of First Security Islami Bank Limited, were present as special guests.

A total of 20 public relations officers of Navy, Air Force, Police, Bangladesh Bank, BCSIR, BIBM, Muslim Aid Bangladesh, Rajuk, NBR, BADC, Tariff Commission, Dafood Int'l University, Manarat University and Presidency University took part in the course.

## Bangabandhu's contributions unparalleled

Says Yeafesh

BSS, Dhaka

(Buet) auditorium. Buet Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr A M M Sufiullah, and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr M Habibur Rahman attended the function as the special guests.

Mentioning Bangabandhu's contribution to the history of the Bangalee nation is unparalleled.

Bangabandhu led the Bangalee nation to independence through indomitable courage, unparalleled patriotism, unbelievable farsightedness and dynamic leadership, ignoring the fears of death threats, he added.

Yeafesh Osman was addressing a dissuasion to observe the National Mourning Day at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology

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