

Moudud foresees Egypt-like uprising in Bangladesh

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Standing Committee Member Barrister Moudud Ahmed has observed that a situation of mass upsurge is prevailing all over the country and an Egypt-like popular uprising may also take place at any time in Bangladesh.

He made the remark at a roundtable on 'Election Commitment: Present Perspective of Bangladesh' at the National Press Club yesterday.

Moudud said the country is experiencing autocracy in the name of democracy. "Public anger was reflected through the Arial Beel agitation that did not happen only on the issue of constructing airport."

Referring to the uprising in Egypt that pulled down President Hosni Mubarak, he said democracy becomes non-existent when it turns into autocracy.

The BNP is moving forward under a plan to take the current movement to a certain point to force the government to step down, he said.

"BNP wants to see an effective parliament," he said, adding that if the government wants it can create the atmosphere within 24 hours clearing the way for BNP's return to parliament.

About Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus, Maudud said the government's inquiry into Grameen Bank fund is the manifestation of its vengeance.

He criticised the prime minister for unveiling the cover of her book by Nobel Laureate of another country sidetracking the Nobel Laureate of her own country.

'Stop cutting tea garden trees'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should take effective measures to stop felling of trees in Aslompunji and Kaileenpunji of Nahar Tea Garden in Srimangol, Moulvibazar.

Some environmentalists and civil-society members yesterday put the demand forming a human chain in front of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University.

Bangladesh Poribesh Andolan (Bapa) and Green Voice jointly organised the event on "stop tree felling, destroying forest, and eviction of Adivasis by Nahar Tea Garden". Bapa general secretary Abdul Matin said Nahar Tea Garden authority cut down around 3,000 small and large trees in last one week and threatened to evict the Khasias there.

Theatre personality Mamunur Rashid, Bangladesh Adivasi Forum general secretary Sanjeeb Drong, and Nagorik Uddyog executive director Jakir Hossain also attended the human chain.



Dhaka Friends Association brings out a colourful procession in the city yesterday to encourage all to vote for the Sundarbans as one of the Seven Natural Wonders.

PHOTO: STAR

BDR MUTINY CASE Four give depositions against 41

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Forty-six suspected accused of a BDR mutiny case yesterday cross-examined five witnesses at a special court while four witnesses gave depositions against 41 accused jawans.

The Special Court-10 headed by Col Khandakar Obaidul Ahsan started proceedings at 9:30am against 337 accused under Rifles Sports Board (RSB) and all Directorates of Pikhana Headquarters at Darbar Hall of Border Guard Bangladesh.

A total of 73 people including 57 army officers were killed during the mutiny at the then BDR headquarters from February 25 to 26 last year.

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