

Corruption, conflict on rise in country

Says Dr Kamal

UNB, Chittagong

Eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday pointed to rising corruption, conflict and clashes and wondered whether the rule of law exists in the country.

"Poor people are punished for minor offences but influential people plundering public money go unpunished," he said. He was speaking at a discussion in memory of Khan Bahadur Bodi Ahmed Chowdhury, member of Bengal Legislative Assembly, at Chittagong Press Club.

In an obvious reference to the share market scam, Dr Kamal said a few plunderers looted the poor investors' money and funnelled out Tk 30,000 crore. He demanded names of those involved in the scam be made public and brought to the dock.

Dr Kamal, who as a law minister was directly involved in drafting the 1972 constitution, said there is no dearth of law for punishing the culprits and corrupts. What is lacking is the will of the government.

Expressing worries at the state of affairs, he said the corrupt elements are forging unity. They are now engaged in character assassination of the honest, men of principle and the renowned.

He questioned why the government is afraid to hold trial of those who piled black money depriving the poor. He viewed that no responsible government could shirk its function.

Referring to the move to amend the constitution, Dr Kamal said the government should not unnecessarily whip up controversy by changing the issues already settled through consensus.

Dr Kamal threatened to start a resistance movement from Chittagong against the conspiracy to cripple the country's economy.



President Zillur Rahman distributes gold medals to one of the seven non-Rotarians for their outstanding contribution to various social welfare arenas. The ceremony was organised by "Rotary International District 3280" at a city hotel yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Give state recognition to social workers: President

BSS, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday laid emphasis on giving state recognition to social workers working for the society's development while staying at remote areas, without being driven for own interest and publicity.

"Recognition creates encouragement and inspires to do good works," he said while speaking at a gold medal distribution ceremony of "Rotary International District 3280" at a city hotel this evening.

A total of seven non-Rotarian people received gold medals from the president for their outstanding contribution in various social welfare arenas.

He urged all non-government and voluntary organisations to contribute along with the government efforts for implementing vision-2021 to turn the country into a middle income one within next ten years.

"Collective efforts from all are needed to realise the vision," the president said.

The president hoped that Rotarians would further extend their development-oriented activities across the country in the

coming days for welfare of common people. "A happy and prosperous society is possible if rich people help the poor and healthy and well-off people come forward to extend their support to marginal and malnourished people," he said.

Noting the motto of Rotarians "service above self", the president expressed his thanks to all Rotarians for their humanitarian and welfare oriented endeavours elsewhere in the world including Bangladesh.

He lauded the role of Bangladesh Rotarians in eradicating polio, establishing cancer diagnostic centre in Dhaka and cyclone shelters in the coastal belt of the country.

Director of Rotary International KR Ravindran and Rotary International District 3280 Governor Dr Monzurul Hoque Chowdhury also spoke on the occasion.

The seven receiving the medals are Jahangir Alam in agriculture, Dr Masudur Haque Chowdhury in environment, Patricia Sylvester Kerr and Mahbub Jamal in education, Dr M Nurul Amin in health, M Quamruzzaman in journalism and M Rafiqullah Akhter Milon in sports.

NOTICE OF CAUTION

It has come to our knowledge that few dishonest land brokers and fraudsters are approaching various renowned individuals and institutions with fake sale proposal of our wholly owned land located at Plot No. NW(J) 5, Road No. 51, Gulshan Model Town (on Kemal Ataturk Avenue) measuring 1 bigha 6 katha and 14 chatak (commonly known as SAFFRON Restaurant). We neither intend to sell the said property nor have appointed any individual/institution in that regard.

In the given circumstances, any transaction undertaken with any such land broker/fraudsters shall be illegal, fraudulent and non-enforceable in the eye of law since Civil Appeal Nos. 212 and 213 of 2010 are pending before the Appellate Division of the Honorable Supreme Court of Bangladesh with the Tenant Sabbir Ahmed Chowdhury in connection with the eviction of the said tenant from the aforesaid land. Hence, we caution all concerned persons to refrain from undertaking any transactions with such individuals with regards to the said property.

- Iftekhar Ahmed Khan, Constituted Attorney of Intekhab Ahmed Khan House No. 507, Road No. 98, Gulshan-2, Dhaka 1212



Police search a vehicle at a check post set up at Paribagh in the city yesterday. Dhaka Metropolitan Police stepped up vigilance with the rise in mugging in the city recently.

PHOTO: STAR

ASAD MURDER BCL demands compensation

CU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Chittagong University (CU) unit yesterday observed first death anniversary of Md Asaduzzaman.

To mark the day BCL activists brought out a mourning procession on the campus.

They also submitted a memorandum to Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Mohammad Alauddin containing four-point demand including financial compensation to Asad's family immediately.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil was held seeking salvation of the departed soul of Asad.

Asad was the second year student of Accounting and Information Systems department of the university and a BCL activist who was stabbed by miscreants in university railway station area on April 15 last year. He succumbed to his injuries the next day at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

He lauded the role of Bangladesh Rotarians in eradicating polio, establishing cancer diagnostic centre in Dhaka and cyclone shelters in the coastal belt of the country.

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ENVIRONMENT AWARENESS Ctg factory launches campaign

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

With a view to creating awareness about environment among its officials and workers, a factory launched a year long campaign in the port city yesterday.

Karnaphuli Sportswear and West Wing, a factory of Youngone Group at Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) in the city started the programme with a slogan "Let us go green".

The campaign is the first of its kind in country's garment sector to increase awareness to protect environment, the officials said.

On the occasion the factory arranged a seminar at its conference room.

"Officials, employees, 45,000 workers of Youngone Group and their families will be able to know about preservation of environment through this programme", factory General Manager Commander Rabbi said.

"We will motivate our officials and employees to preserve water, environment and biodiversity through this year long campaign", he told the seminar.

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THREAT TO PARALYSE COUNTRY Arrest of Amini demanded

BSS, Dhaka

Leaders of different political parties yesterday demanded immediate arrest of Islamic Oikya Jote (IOJ) leader Maulana Fazlul Haque Amini for his "audacious" remarks threatening to paralyse the country using 20,000 madrasas across the country.

"I wonder why Amini is not arrested yet for using religion for his vested interests and madrasas," Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon said.

He said 20,000 madrasas are not Amini's personal property or institutions under him and rather belong to the state and the people.

Menon said he believed the students of these religious seminaries themselves will prevent the abuse of the religion by rejecting Amini's call considering the present grand alliance government's initiatives to promote madrasa education.

"Amini is misguiding the young madrasa students in the name of holy Islam which eventually may affect the entire madrasa education system," he said.

Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim said, "He (Amini) leads a party which is constitutionally illegal" as the Article 38 of the constitution did not permit the use of religion in politics.

"It appears to be a big question to the people why Amini's office is yet not kept

under lock and key and the man is not arrested for activities which are contrary to the constitution," Selim said.

Selim said the madrasa students also joined the 1971 Liberation War defying attempts to mislead them in the name of Islam and the attempts by such elements to misguide the youths of the religious schools would be frustrated this time also.

"Mere 'audacity' is not the appropriate word to describe (Amini's) comments... we demand his immediate arrest," Selim said.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal President Hasanul Haque Inu said elements like Amini should be kept in jail for their communal and undemocratic remarks and activities and the man should be stripped off his title of "maulana" for abusing religion.

"The madrassas belong to people, not to religion trader like Amini," Inu said.

The left-leaning leaders' comments came a day after Amini-led IOJ faction warned of announcing tougher programmes to paralyse the country if the Women Development Policy is not scrapped at a rally at Jatiya Press Club auditorium.

"We can create an impasse in the country by a one-hour notice as there are 20,000 madrasas in Bangladesh which will respond to our call immediately," he claimed.

UP chairman stabbed in Chittagong

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Union Parishad (UP) chairman was stabbed at Hathazari Sadar in Chittagong on Friday night.

The injured is identified as Ali Azam, 50, chairman of Hathazari Sadar union. He was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Police said centering a trifling matter one Faiz and Mahiuddin locked into a clash and Mahiuddin beat Faiz as he threw banana-skin over the boundary of his house.

Faiz took his father and uncle to resolve the conflict but Mahiuddin misbehaved with them, police said.

After that Faiz along with his father and uncle went to Ali Azam and complained against Mahiuddin, police added.

Hearing their complaint Azam called Mahiuddin but he also misbehaved with him and at one stage Mahiuddin stabbed Azam.

Later, locals rushed him to CMCH while Mahiuddin managed to escape from the spot.



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia inquires about the health of Habibur Rashid Habib, convener of Dhaka city (south) unit of Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal, student wing of BNP, at Labaid Hospital in the city yesterday. Unknown assailants shot Habib in Shantinagar area on April 16.

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