



A delegation of the Christian community, led by Arch Bishop Patrick D Rozarion, calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office in the city yesterday. PHOTO: PMO

Govt firm to ensure equal rights

PM tells Christian community

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday reaffirmed that the present government is committed to ensuring the equal rights of the people of all faiths.

"The people of all religions are now enjoying freedom in performing their religious rituals as the government has ensured a peaceful environment," she said.

The premier said this when a delegation of the Christian community, led by Arch Bishop Patrick D Rozarion, called on her at her office.

They greeted the prime minister on the occasion of the Christmas and said the people are enjoying the highest level of communal harmony under her able leadership.

They informed the premier that the schools they have set up are running well and they are now planning to set up a university in the country.

Hasina also greeted the Christian community on the occasion of X-mas.

Recalling the dark chapter of atrocities carried out on the religious minorities during the BNP-Jamaat regime, she said BNP-Jamaat cadres not only attacked the AL supporters but also made attacks on the minority people.

MANPOWER EXPORT PM for stern action against frauds

UNB, Dhaka

Warning of stern action against any fraudulence regarding manpower export, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government will not only cancel recruiting licence of offenders, but will also take other punitive measures against those responsible for the frauds.

She made the remark while addressing a discussion organised by Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Ministry at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre marking the International Migrants Day.

She mentioned that in last April the government established "Prabashi Kalyan Bank" which will give soft loan to the people.

"From next month, the government will set up booths of this bank at Dhaka,

Chittagong and Sylhet airports, and will open its branches in all divisional headquarters," she added.

Hasina informed that the government has established an Endowment Fund with Tk 140 crore as seed money, and is spending money from its profit for skill development.

"We have also decided to build skilled manpower suiting the demand of manpower abroad. The labour wings of our missions have been asked to determine the demands of the respective countries," she said.

"When the countries considered economic giants are facing numerous problems owing to global recession, Bangladesh's economy is doing well due to the contribution of our expatriate citizens," she said. "They remitted US\$ 11.65 billion home in last fiscal year."

Regarding the allegations by a section of people, she said that without having enough data, some people make sweeping comments that Bangladesh's manpower export had hit a snag.

She handed over cheques to the family members of 16 Libya returned workers, who have died after returning from Libya.

Earlier, Hasina formally opened the 20-storey building specially made for the convenience of the migrant workers by signing a replica, which will be kept in the main building at Eskaton in the city.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on expatriate welfare and overseas employment ministry Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud and secretary of the ministry Dr Jafar Ahmed Khan also spoke at the event.

Tanveer elected Dhaka Club president

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted sports personality Tanveer Muzhar Islam Tanna has been elected president of Dhaka Club for 2011-2012 session, says a press release.

He bagged 603 votes while his nearest rival Sadat Hossain Salim got 364. The election was held on December 17.

The executive committee members are Noab Talukder, Syed Sheikhul Arefeen, Tulu Kalimullah, Ahmed Askari, Nurul Islam Khan, Muhammad Ishtiaque Hussain Hidi, Nawzia Islam, Gazi Helal Uddin Ahmed, ASM Ali Khabir Chand and M Rafiqul Haque Rabi.

SUST STUDENTS' KILLING Fresh probe body formed: Four held

SUST CORRESPONDENT

A new four-member committee headed by Prof Md Zakir Hossain of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust), was formed yesterday to probe the killing of Dipankar Ghosh Anik and Khairul Kabir, students of the university.

Police arrested four suspects in connection with the killing yesterday.

Primary, JSC, JDC results Dec 26, 28

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of two public examinations--Primary Terminal Examination, and Junior School Certificate (JSC) and Junior Dakhil Certificate (JDC), 2011--are likely to be published on December 26 and 28 respectively.

Officials of primary education directorate and education boards said they have made preparations to publish the results of the two largest public exams by this month to enable students to attend classes of the next academic year on time.

Wishing anonymity, an official at the primary and mass education ministry, said the ministry wanted to publish the result on December 28 but later mulls to publish on December 26 due to the JSC & JDC results.

However, the results might be published a day later in case Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is not available to formally receive a copy of the results, said the official.

The primary terminal examinations 2011 for class V students of general and madrasa education began on November 23 and ended on November 30. Nearly 26 lakh got registered for the exams.

The JSC and JDC exams started on November 1 with more than 18 lakh class eight students of schools and madrasas registering to take exams. The examinations ended on November 21.

Meanwhile, a preparatory meeting about the result of JSC and JDC examinations of 10 education boards was held at the education ministry conference room, said meeting sources.

Both the results of primary terminal, and JSC and JDC will be published in grading system.

The results might be published a day later in case prime minister is not available to formally receive it



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia receives crest from former lawmaker Shahjahan Omar at a reception accorded to freedom fighters yesterday marking the Victory Day at the Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh in the city. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR

BSF killing condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), a rights organisation, yesterday expressed deep concern over the killing of four Bangladeshis by Indian Border Security Forces (BSF) in the last couple of days.

BSF killed four Bangladeshis in the border areas of Dinajpur, Kurigram and Meherpur districts in between Friday and Saturday, said At a ASK press release.

It said BSF killed a total of 31 Bangladeshis since last October this year which is an alarming figure.

Despite repeated assurance by the Indian authorities, the killing in the borders is not being stopped, it said.

ASK urged the government to take effective diplomatic initiatives to stop the killing.

In another statement, Revolutionary Workers Party of Bangladesh (RWPB) also protested the killing of four Bangladeshis by BSF.

BSF men from Gobindapur camp killed two Bangladeshi cattle traders when they went to Daudpur frontier area in Birampur upazila of Dinajpur to bring cattle from Indian side around 4:00am on Saturday.

The Indian border guards also killed another in Kurigram when he went to Camperchhara area, the "no-man's land" adjacent to Gorakmondal border around 6:30am to respond to the natural call.

They picked up another from Meherpur Sadar upazila and killed him when he went Shevratala frontier area of Gangni upazila around 7:30pm on Friday.

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