# Movement threat won't work

Hasina tells BNP while addressing Khagrachhari AL leaders

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked the main opposition BNP not to threaten the government with any movement, saying that it will not work.

"Do not threaten us, it will not work. People know we are working hard for them," she said at a meeting with Awami League leaders from Khagrachhari district at her Gono Bhaban resi-

Deputy Leader of the House Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, AL General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam, Sheikh Selim, Abul Hasnat Abdullah, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, AL Joint Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif, MK Alamgir and Satish Chandra Roy were present.

Hasina, the AL president, said the present government focused all of its energy in developing the country. "So do not threaten us."

She said the opposition is trying to create anarchy in the country through various notorious activities.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addresses the leaders of Khagrachhari district unit Awami League at her official residence Gono Bhaban yesterday.

In an oblique reference to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, Hasina questioned how a prime minister could have the morality to illefunds meant for an orphanage.

She also said Khaleda Zia

taught her two sons all of these activities. "Can you imagine how much ashamed we were when an FBI agent arrived in Bangladesh gally earn money and misuse to give testimony regarding money laundered by her son?" About BNP's caretaker govern-

Hasina said, "All elections held under the Awami League government were free, fair and acceptable to all. The country's people never saw such peaceful polls in the past."

ment system restoration demand, Citing the recent Comilla City Corporation election, Hasina said many opposition-backed candidates won in elections held under the current government. "You (Khaleda) stepped down

from the electoral race when you

saw that the Election Commission was going to use the electronic voting machine. But in the end your candidate came out successful in the election," she said.

How can she (Khaleda) congratulate the winner with a bouquet after claiming that the election was not neutral or fair? The opposition leader can hardly stick to her words, added Hasina.

Assuring the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord's complete implementation, she said, "When the accord was being signed, BNP opposed it. They even called a hartal on February 10 when 2,000 Shanti Bahini people were surrendering their arms. They (BNP) were always against peace in the hill tracts."

She also described the developments ensured by the government in sectors associated with food, power, education, social safety net, health and child and maternal mortality.

## NDF debate begins Feb 24

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two-day long sixth NDF national debate festival-2012 will begin at Residential Model School and College auditorium in the city on February 24.

National Debate Federation Bangladesh (NDF BD) is organising the festival, said a press release.

Around 2,000 students of different Bengali and English medium schools, colleges, medical colleges, universities and madrasas across the country are expected to participate in the festival.

The programmes of the festival include inaugural programme, colourful procession, workshop on debate, exhibition of debate in different models, meet the personality and cultural programme. The participants will have

to register to take part in the festival. The contact numbers for

registration are01611541566, 01914393125, 01819816367, and 01754343333.

Anybody will be able to know the details of the festival at the website www.ndfbd.com.

## Send Ghulam Azam to jail 'Drop expressway-like projects, boost rly'

Suggests NHRC chief STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

Chairman Prof Mizanur Rahman yesterday said the authorities concerned should put war crimes suspect Ghulam Azam behind bars rather than feeding him fruits in the hospital.

He dismissed the allegation made by the family members of the former Jamaat ameer of depriving him of proper medical care.

Ghulam Azam's family members have a great opportunity as they can raise questions about the trial process, although no one gets the same scope abroad, he mentioned.

The NHRC chief was talking to reporters after joining a human chain programme at the base of Aparajeyo Bangla at Dhaka University.

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) organised the programme demanding prompt trial of war criminals by setting up more tribunals.

Duta President Prof Anwar Hossain urged

the law enforcers to arrest the people who have been "hatching plots" to foil the trial.

"Many teachers, students and staff of the university were brutally killed by the Pakistani army with the collaboration of war criminals. So trying them is a vital issue for the Dhaka University family," he mentioned.

"Some army officials don't want the trial of war criminals. The government should identify and bring them to book," suggested Prof Anwar.

Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed, Prof Amzad Ali and Prof Gitiara Nasreen spoke at the programme. The International Crimes Tribunal on

January 11 sent Ghulam Azam to jail on charges of committing crimes against humanity during the Liberation War in 1971.

The same day he was shifted from Dhaka Central Jail to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital for treatment.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts at a discussion yesterday suggested improving rail communication between Dhaka and the neighbouring districts instead of implementing some mega projects like elevated expressway that involve a huge amount of money.

These projects will serve only a small number of people and increase pressure on the already overburdened city, they said.

An urban planning expert, Khandakar Niyaz Rahman, said it is possible to facilitate travel of around two crore people by introducing commuter trains on the routes of Dhaka-Mymensingh, Dhaka-Tangail, Dhaka-Comilla, and Dhaka-Laxam.

Instead, the government has been moving to construct costly elevated expressway, which will serve only two percent people of the city, he said. The discussion, "Railway Ministry: People's

Expectation and Duties, was organised jointly by the urban and regional planning department of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet), Bangladesh Institute of Planners, Save the Environment Movement, and WBB Trust. Suggesting giving top priority to the railway in

the communication sector, Abu Naser Khan, chairman of Save the Environment Movement, said it is necessary to prepare a railway-based integrated communication system where railway will be the backbone. He said the international organisations like

the World Bank, the IMF, and the ADB have destroyed the sector in a planned way to start private car-based communication system.

Supporting introduction of commuter trains, Railways Minister Suranjit Sengupta said people have to convince all political parties to give more attention to the sector instead of the mega projects. Railway is a government property and it will have to be protected by any cost, he said, adding that the conspiracy to destroy the railway sector is still underway. Suranjit said his ministry would launch commu-

ter train service within the tenure of the government. He, however, but did not elaborate on the routes. Abu Taher, director general of Bangladesh Railway, blamed shortage of staff to maintain the

timetable of the trains and said a total of 160 railway stations out of 440 throughout the country have been closed. Praising the move of Suranjit to develop the sector, Communist Party of Bangladesh President

Manzurul Ahsan Khan said he [Suranjit] is still on the right track. The government should give full importance to the railway sector, which is environment friendly, cheaper, and comfortable, he said. President of BIP Dr Golam Rahman, Syed

Mahbubul Alam of WBB Trust, and consultant of strategic transport planning Mustafizur Rahman also addressed the discussion.



Dhaka University Teachers Association (Duta) forms a human chain before Aparajeyo Bangla on the campus yesterday demanding speedy trial of the war criminals of 1971. PHOTO: STAR

### SC nod to collecting Salma's wealth info

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday paved the way for Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to collect wealth statement of Jatiya Party lawmaker Salma Islam.

The chamber judge stayed a High Court order that earlier stayed an ACC notice asking Salma, also editor of the daily Jugantor, to submit her wealth statement to the commission.

Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain passed the order after hearing a petition filed by the ACC seeking stay on the HC order that stayed ACC notice on November 29 last year for four months.

The chamber judge yesterday fixed March 15 for hearing the leave to appeal petition submitted by the commission against the HC order before the Appellate Division on January 18.

## Quader urges politicians not to make empty promises

**Obaidul Quader** 

assured that Padma

bridge's construction

will begin

within a year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Underscoring the need to change their mentality, Communications Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday urged politicians to refrain from making empty promises.

"The ears of our countrymen are ringing with promises made over and over again. We

(politicians) make the promises as election approaches...but forget those after being elected.

"We have to change this attitude. We must only promise for what we can achieve, not what we cannot," said the presidium member of the ruling Awami League.

Quader was addressing a seminar, "Com-Reporters Unity in the capital. Ministers should work for the country

munication System of Khulna Division-our duties", organised by Journalist Association of Khulna Division-Dhaka at Dhaka

irrespectively of the locality he or she comes from. "I am a minister of Bangladesh. If I work only for a specific locality, it would be unfortunate," said Quader.

He assured that Padma bridge's construction will begin within a year and the primary process of the second Padma bridge's construction within AL's present tenure.

"But I am not ready to say that Padma bridge's construction will be completed within this tenure," he added.

The ministry wants to focus on repairing bridges, roads and highways which are currently in bad shape,

said Quader. Ashish Kumar Dey, joint convener of the organisation, placed a 23-point recommendation including immediate repairs of the roads and highways and expansion of rail communication. The organisation convener Madhusudan Mondal was in the chair.



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Engineer - Construction (BCON-1): Degree in Mech/Civil/Elec/Instru Engineering with more than 4 years of experience in the field of construction of Oil & Gas Cross Country Pipelines. Knowledge of respective discipline of engineering and construction activities is must. Should have exposure for Coordinating with client / consultant for approval of reports for each activity completed.

Head - HRM (BHRM-1): Masters Degree in Human Resources / Social Works with more than 8 years of experience in the field of Development of HR systems/procedures and policies. HR Generalist with experience in Recruitment, Performance Management System, Training and Development, HR establishment. Knowledge of Labour Laws, IR, Legal and statutory compliances is must.

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