

Politicisation of police must be resisted

Says US envoy Mozena



STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Politicisation of police must be resisted for the sake of democracy, said US Ambassador to Bangladesh Dan W Mozena in Rajshahi yesterday.

"It is very important in democracy that police not be politicised. In every country, there is always some pressure to politicise police. And I

encourage the police, I encourage the government of Bangladesh or America or other countries to resist that pressure," he said.

The ambassador was talking to reporters at Police Academy, Shardah in Rajshahi after distributing certificates to 32 police officials who graduated from a community-based policing course.

The course, "Ethical Leadership", was organised by the US Agency for International Development, Bangladesh Police, The Asia Foundation, the US Department of Justice's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program and Portland Police Bureau.

He said an effective and well trained police force helps ensure the rule of law which is the central element of every successful democracy in the world.

"Today's graduates are helping to build a police force appropriate for the new Bangladesh, the golden Bangladesh, the middle-income Bangladesh that I fervently believe is possible over the next decade or two," he added.

The ambassador said community policing can change the face of security in Bangladesh and it would make Bangladesh more secure than ever.

He said police in Bangladesh are trying to be better at their jobs and the Bangladesh government is working with other countries to prevent terrorism.

In April, 32 graduates will be selected based on their knowledge of and commitment to community policing principals and field operations to continue the course after the programme is finished.

Inspector General of Police Hassan Mahmood Khandakar attended the programme as the chief guest with the academy Principal Naim Ahmed in the chair.

Mozena visited Boalia Police Station in the city and Charchat Police Station at the district.

Deputy Inspector General of Police Siddiqui Rahman; The Asia Foundation Project Director Shanna O'Reilly and its Country Representative Hasan Mazumdar; and Bret Barnum from Portland Police Bureau were also present.



PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

The Chittagong city experiences briefly a sudden downpour yesterday morning. The photo was taken at Batali Road.

Bangladesh to increase regional connectivity

Says prime minister

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Bangladesh is committed to maintaining good relations with neighbouring countries by increasing regional connectivity and cooperation.

Hasina said this when visiting Swedish State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Frank Belfrage met her at the Prime Minister's Office.

She said her government is fully committed to the promotion and protection of human rights for all citizens. To this end, the National Human Rights Commission has been made functional, she said.

Termining poverty as the main barrier to development, Hasina called for united efforts of all to free the world from the curse of poverty. She also said her government is pledge-

bound to further strengthening the democratic institutions to ensure good governance and the rule of law in the country.

In this context, she mentioned that new election commissioners have been appointed by the president after consultation with all political parties.

The Election Commission has been empowered to work as an independent commission, while the EC is using electronic voting machine (EVM) successfully, the premier said.

Belfrage highly appreciated the pragmatic leadership of Sheikh Hasina in curbing terrorism, strengthening democracy, and ensuring food security by expanding social safety net.

He also lauded the country's economic progress and endeavors to strengthen regional cooperation and connectivity by improving relations with neighbours.

Two robbers lynched in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two suspected robbers were beaten to death by a mob in Banskhalhi upazila of the port city early yesterday.

Police could not identify the deceased.

Sources said a gang of at least 25 robbers swooped on the house of one Ansarul Hoque at Kotpara village of Katharia union under the upazila around 1:00am.

Ansarul, an expatriate in Greece, recently came home on a vacation. Keeping the inmates of the house hostage at gunpoint, the robbers looted valuables worth Tk 16 lakh, said Officer-in-Charge (OC) Shahjahan Khan of Banskhalhi Police Station.

Hearing screaming of the dwellers, the villagers rushed in and caught two of them chasing the fleeing robbers.

The agitating mob beat the duo leaving them dead on the spot, said the OC.

Ansarul filed a robbery case, while police filed another for murder.

The bodies were sent to Chittagong Medical College for autopsies. None could be arrested in this connection, Shahjahan added.

Hearing on charges against Kamaruzzaman deferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal yesterday deferred till March 18 the hearing on charge framing against Jamaat leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman in connection with crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War of 1971.

The tribunal led by its Chairman Justice Md Nizamul Huq passed the order following an adjournment prayer moved by the defence counsels of Kamaruzzaman.

After the court began its proceedings yesterday, counsel Tajul Islam said they were not prepared for placing arguments as they could not go through all of the relevant documents and CDs [compact discs] given by the prosecution.

On February 7, the defence collected 5,248-page documents and 29 CDs containing 30-40 hours of video and news footage, he said, adding that it took them a week to make copies of those documents.

Upon hearing the prayer, the tribunal chairman passed the order noting that this was the first application from Kamaruzzaman and fixed March 18 for holding the hearing on charge framing against the Jamaat assistant secretary general.

Kamaruzzaman was produced before the court yesterday. He is facing nine charges of crimes against humanity. He is among six Jamaat leaders, including its former chief Ghulam Azam, and two BNP leaders, facing such charges at the tribunal.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Liverpool Hope University (UK) and International Education Counseling Center (IECC), Bangladesh announce scholarships for Bangladeshi students at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity on Tuesday. (From left) Sajia Alam of IECC, International Recruitment Manager of the university Nancy Cooke, Managing Director of the IECC, Bangladesh MSA Suman and its Technical Director Md Touhidul Alam are seen attending the event.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT SURGERY DBBL gives Tk 9.36cr to DAB

METRO DESK

Dutch-Bangla Bank has provided Tk 9.36 crore to Diabetic Association of Bangladesh (DAB) to modernize Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute by setting up a Cath Lab, operation theatres with equipment and beds for organ transplant surgery.

Prof AK Azad Khan, president of DAB, Barrister Rafiqul-Huq, vice president of DAB, and M Shahabuddin Ahmed, chairman, DBBL Foundation unveiled a plaque of the financial support for "Organ Transplant Center" of the cardiac hospital at a ceremony at the hospital on Tuesday, said a DBBL press release.

Sayem Ahmed, chairman, EC of the Board, DBBL, Mohammad Saif Uddin, secretary general of DAB, Prof Mahmuder Rahman, chairman of the board of management of the cardiac hospital, Prof Dr MA Rashid, CEO & senior consultant of the hospital and KS Tabrez, managing director of the bank also spoke on the occasion.

Police suspect rivalry with criminals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police and relatives of the local BNP leader, shot dead in the city's Bhashantek of Kafrul on Tuesday, suspect that the murder was due to a rivalry with criminals of two slums in the area.

Eskandar Laskar, a relative of the victim, Maulana Mohammad Abdur Raqib Sheikh, filed a murder case with Kafrul police against 13 suspects from the slums in Bhashantek and Mirpur 13.

Eskandar said Raqib held arbitrations in the area for being an imam of local Baitullah Mosque in 4 slum for the and was against mis-Moreover, became president of Ward 95 unit BNP three months ago. There might be a feud over the post. All these might have led to the murder, said Eskandar, adding that police is wrongly terming Raqib a criminal.

Intiaz Hossain, deputy police commissioner of Mirpur division, said Raqib was a man of top listed criminal Ibrahim. Officer-in-Charge of Kafrul Police Station Abdul Latif said they have information that Raqib was murdered over establishing supremacy at Bhashantek-4 slum.

Pro-AL teachers sweep Ruta poll

RU CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League-backed "Yellow Panel" bagged all the posts of the 15-member executive committee of Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (Ruta) in an election yesterday.

The new office bearers are Dr Muazzem Hossain Khan (president), Dr Munshi Munzurul Haque (general secretary), Dr Ruhul Amin (treasurer), Dr PM Shafikul Islam (vice president) and Dr Zahanur Rahman (joint secretary).

The members are Dr Nishit Kumar Pal, Dr Meer Imam Ibne Wahed Rasel, Dr Zahagir Alam Saud Liton, Dr M Wahidul Islam Zinnah, Dr Siddhartha Sankar Talukdar, Dr Syed Mahiuddin Abdus Salam, Dr Shahin Zohara, Shanjib Kumar Saha, Dr Muhammad Abul Hossain Chowdhury and Dr AHM Mustafizur Rahman.

The BNP-Jamaat backed "White Panel's" candidates for the president and general secretary posts, Prof Shamsul Alam Sarker and Prof Saidur Rahman Pannu, were beaten by 24 and 70 votes respectively.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Schedule for receiving Initial Public Offering (IPO) Share Application forms :

	For Resident Bangladeshi	For Non-Resident Bangladeshi (By hand)
Date & Time	March 04, 2012 to March 08, 2012 (10:00 AM to 4:00 PM)	March 04, 2012 to March 08, 2012 (10:00 AM to 4:00 PM)
Venue	Bankers to the Issue as mentioned in the Prospectus	Dhaka Zilla Krira Sangstha Jheelpar, Motijheel, Dhaka-1000 (Instead of Company's Head Office)

- * For Non-Resident Bangladeshis subscription closes on March 17, 2012 (By Post Office/Courier service only).
- * Subscription sent by Post/Courier will be received in the Company's Head Office only.
- * Prospectus , NRB Forms & RB Forms are available at www.saihamcotton.com

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