



Nanak

Nanak made AL joint general secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In an organisational reshuffle, the ruling Awami League yesterday promoted Jahangir Kabir Nanak from organising secretary to the post of joint general secretary.

The post has been vacant for almost three years since AL's last council on July 24, 2009, which made Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina the party president and LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashraf Islam the general secretary.

In addition, Bir Bahadur, who was a member of AL central committee, has been promoted to the post of organising secretary. He used to hold this position before the 2009 council.

Bahadur has also been given the charge of the party affairs of Chittagong division, while the incumbent Chittagong divisional organising secretary Ahmed Hossain has been entrusted with Dhaka division, which was previously looked after by Nanak.

AL Joint General Secretary Mahbulul Alam Hanif said it was a normal reshuffle. "The post [joint general secretary] was vacant for long. That's why it has been filled."



PHOTO: PALASH KHAN
A boy cleans a signboard bracing him against an electric pole at the second floor of a six-storey building, inset, at Syed Nazrul Islam Sarani in the capital's Bangshal yesterday. Fastened by a rope, the boy climbed down the building hanging from the rooftop. The hazardous work put him at high risk of fall or contacting live electric wires.

Govt sincere of teachers' status

Says Nahid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government is sincere about increasing the financial and social status of teachers and solving their professional problems, said Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday.

"Despite many limitations, we are trying to meet the logical demands of the teachers," he also said while addressing the annual general meeting of Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) General Education Association at Dhaka College auditorium in the capital.

Around 4,224 college teachers were promoted to professors, around 9,500 teachers were awarded selection grade, and 3,433 teachers were regularised, said Nahid, adding that these tasks were stuck for years.

He urged the teachers to sincerely carry on their duties to help build a better nation.

"We need to develop an educated and efficient manpower immediately and teachers are the main actors behind this," Nahid said.

The association President Prof Fahima Khatun, Education Secretary Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury and Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education Director General Prof Noman-ur-Rashid also addressed the meeting.

3 train roof riders die after being hit by girders

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Three people travelling on the rooftop of a train died while three others were injured after they were hit by the overhead girders of Koidanga Rail Bridge at Pabna on Thursday night.

One of the deceased was identified as Md Kawsar Hossain, 25, of village Choukepara in Chapainawabganj district.

Many people illegally climbed to the rooftop of Silk City Express to travel to Rajshahi, and six of them were struck by the bridge girders at about 9:00pm, according to Sirajganj GRP and Vangura police.

"When the train reached Boral Bridge Station, we recovered two dead bodies and four injured people from the rooftop. The injured were rushed to Vangura Upazila Health Complex, where one of them succumbed to his injuries at about 10:00pm," Nazmul Haque, officer-in-charge (OC) of Vangura Police Station, told The Daily Star.

Three injured people—Nayan, 18, Sunny, 22, Sohel, 25—were undergoing treatment at the health complex.

"Koidanga Rail Bridge at Vangura upazila is built so low that anyone travelling on the rooftop of a train risks being hit by its girders," said Laisur Rahman, OC of the Government Railway Police (GRP).

The railway authority has formed a four-member committee, headed by Sujit Kumar, divisional traffic officer of Railway's Pakshey Division, to investigate the incident.

Although, taking a trip on the rooftop of a train is prohibited, many people travel to their destinations violating the rule, said Sujit.

The probe committee would submit its report within three days, he added.

10 Jamaat men held in Tongi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested 10 leaders and activists of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami on charges of planning to carry out subversive activities from Tongi in Gazipur yesterday.

The Jamaat men were arrested from the party's Tongi office around 12:00pm.

The arrestees are Jamaat-e-Islami Tongi unit assistant secretary Md Erfanul Haque, rokons Nurul Amin, Md Mahiuddin, Abul Kalam Azad, Md Maqbul Hossain and Amir Hossain and activists Md Ahmed Abdullah, Md Ashrafur Alam, Md Rabiul Hasan and Md Mamun.

"We arrested them following information that they were planning to carry out subversive activities," said Azizur Rahman, sub inspector (SI) at Tangi Police Station.

Opposition leader wants to take Bangladesh backward

Alleges prime minister

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has alleged that opposition leader wants to take Bangladesh backward as she (Khaleda Zia) promised to make the country a middle-income one by 2030, against the Awami League-led grand alliance government's timeframe of 2021.

"In our previous term, we gained success in various fields including in power, literacy and food production. But, later we [nation] moved backwards in all the fields when the BNP assumed power," she claimed yesterday while inaugurating the three-month-long tree plantation programme of Bangladesh Krishak League at a function at her official Gono Bhaban residence.

Hasina iterated that imbued with

the spirit of Liberation War, her government was working tirelessly to make the country a middle-income one by 2021 when Bangladesh will be observing its golden jubilee of independence.

"Everyone will have to work with determination to make Bangladesh prosperous by 2021," she said, and expressed her strong resolve to bring Bangladesh out of hunger and poverty as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury, Food and Disaster Management Minister M Abdur Razzaque, and Environment and Forests Minister Hasan Mahmud also addressed the function, chaired by Krishak League President Mirza Jalil.

Krishak League, the farmers' wing of AL, has been conducting the tree plan-

tation campaign every year since 1985, Hasina said.

She directed the Krishak League leaders and activists and others to motivate all, especially the authorities at schools, colleges and hospitals, to plant saplings to protect the environment and biodiversity.

She also asked them for social afforestation by planting coconut, palm and tamarisk (Jhao) trees on the lands reclaimed through river dredging to protect the country from various natural disasters like cyclone and tidal surge.

Claiming that the BNP-Jamaat alliance government had cut trees indiscriminately, Hasina said: "Trees could not be protected from their [BNP] monstrous hunger... it is in their character to commit murder and engage in extremism and terrorism."

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The Daily Star
Star Campus
LINKING YOUNG MINDS TOGETHER

COMING OUT TOMORROW
LINKING YOUNG MINDS

This week's Star Campus, a weekly publication of The Daily Star, has an array of brain tingling articles for its readers. The spotlight this week is a delight for book lovers as it highlights the wonders that Nilkhet has to play in a student's life. There will also be an exclusive interview with the current nation builders of Bangladesh, mountaineers Nishat Majumder, M A Mohit and Wasfia Nazreen. The Campus Edibles this week will show food lovers the highs and lows of Kabab and Soup in Rabindra Sharbar. This week's Star Chat will be with Anchor Masuma Rahman Nabila as she shares stories about her childhood, life at school and university and her inspirations and aspirations. Do not forget to grab a copy of Star Campus as it hits the country tomorrow and, as always, have a good read!

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