

Mosharraf
to face court
February 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday summoned Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, BNP standing committee member, before it on February 7, hours after a defamation case was filed against him.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Moniruzzaman issued the order after AB Siddiqui, president of Bangladesh Jonontri Parishad, filed the case.

In the case, Siddiqui said Mosharraf threatened Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with death and also defamed her while addressing a press conference at Jatiya Press Club on December 31.

As per Siddiqui's statement, Mosharraf said, "If the present government wants to stay in power by organising the national election under the supervision of a partisan government then they will be fated to accept the consequences of 1975."

Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Lalmonirhat

Mukul Mahbub, a journalist of Lalmonirhat, passed away at his residence on North Bengal Road in the town yesterday. He was 57.

Four years ago, he had suffered a brain stroke following a road accident.

He left behind his wife, three sons and a host of relatives.

Mukul worked for the Janakantha, Mukta Kantha, Karatoa, UNB, ATN Bangla and CSB.

Mukul was buried in his family graveyard at Votmari, Kaliganj upazila.

Nurul Islam

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Rangpur

Nurul Islam Kabbo Binod, a poet and journalist, died of old age complications at his residence in Shalban area of Rangpur city yesterday morning. He was 105.

He left behind his wife, four sons, three daughters and a host of relatives and well-wishers.

His first namaz-e-janaza was held at Babukha High School, the second one at Rangpur Public Library, and the third one at Koilashranjan School, Shalban.

He was buried in Mistrupara graveyard in the city.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Home Minister Sheikh Md. Asaduzzaman Khan Alamgir pin rank badges on a Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) personnel at a function in BGB's Pilkhana headquarters in the capital yesterday. The function was organised to formally inaugurate the newly-established four regional headquarters of BGB.

PHOTO:
BSS

Kidnapped boy rescued, 1 held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After four days into the kidnap of six-year-old Jihad, Detective Branch (DB) of police rescued him from Shariatpur district and arrested the alleged kidnapper on Saturday evening.

Jihad, son of Kawsar, was allegedly kidnapped by his father's tailoring shop employee Nirob Hossain alias Robin alias Rajib from Kamrangirchar in the capital on January 16.

A case was filed with Kamrangirchar police the next day.

Police said Rajib demanded ransom of Tk 5 lakh from Kawsar over cellphone.

Acting on a tip-off, a team from the DB, led by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Mukhlesur Rahman, raided Rajib's house at Rayerkandi village under Jajira Police Station in Shariatpur from where they rescued Jihad and arrested Rajib around 6:30pm on Saturday.

Rajib revealed that he joined the tailoring shop, introducing himself as Nirob Hossain alias Robin, hiding his real name, Rajib, said DC Masudur Rahman.

Rajib took Jihad to Kamrangirchar embankment alluring the kid of showing monkey game on January 16 noon and, later, took him to Shariatpur with the help of two other accomplices, he said quoting Rajib.

PM alerts forces to avert unwanted incidents

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked all forces to remain alert in order to avert incidents like the BDR mutiny that rocked the nation in February 2009.

"All forces have to be alert for averting such unwanted incidents in the future," she said while addressing a function organised at the BGB's Pilkhana headquarters in the capital.

From the function, the premier hoisted the national flag to formally inaugurate the newly-established four regional headquarters of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

Hasina said that there is a process to make demands. "But violating the process, some BDR personnel took another path without giving any time to the newly formed government. This was very much regretful.

"This incident tarnished the image of the force in the country and abroad," she said.

She mentioned that "BDR carnage" put the country into a "civil war" like position

and the steps taken by the government to cool down the situation were praised from different sectors.

Hasina said there could be no scope for such activities in a disciplined force, and for that reason the government took legal action against those who were engaged in the mutiny.

She also said that steps were taken through amending the Bangladesh Rifles Order-1972 to accelerate the trial of the BDR (now BGB) mutiny.

The government has also taken steps to strengthen and modernise the BGB force to protect the country's remote border areas.

As part of the measures, the government has already approved the new organisational structure of BGB and set up its four regions, 11 sectors and a region intelligence bureau, she told her audience.

Home Minister Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir, PM's advisers HT Imam and Tarique Ahmed Siddique, among others, were present at the function.

Take oath to wage tough movement

BNP policymakers urge activists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP top policymakers yesterday called upon the party's leaders and activists to take oath for waging a tough movement so that the government agrees to hold the next general polls under a caretaker government and refrains from its "evil design to hold a one-sided election."

The BNP leaders told a discussion marking the 77th birth anniversary of late president Ziaur Rahman, also founder of BNP.

"You [leaders and activists of BNP] will have to take oath so that the government's wish for holding a one-sided election is not fulfilled," Tariqul Islam, a BNP standing committee member, told the discussion held at the capital's Mohanogor Natyamancha.

Branding the Awami League government as "failed and corrupt", Tariqul said the government has destroyed the country's all democratic institutions including the judiciary.

Moudud Ahmed, a BNP standing committee member, said there is no rule of law in the country at present, as the government is interfering with the country's judicial system.

WB may fund Padma bridge if Abul out Says Zainul Abdin

UNB, Dhaka

Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abdin Farroque yesterday said the World Bank might finance the Padma bridge project if the government sacrifices former communications minister Syed Abul Hossain.

"They [government] must sacrifice a person and he is Abul. The World Bank may finance the Padma bridge project only after sacrificing him," he said.

Farroque was addressing a sit-in organised by Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Sangskritik Dal before the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

The remarks came after Suranjit Sengupta, the minister without portfolio, in MC College ground of Sylhet on Saturday said the Padma bridge could not be constructed without any sacrifice.

During yesterday's sit-in, Farroque said the home minister has lost his moral ground to stay in the office after the death of an eight-year-old boy in a gunfight between two factions of BCL at Bangladesh Agricultural University on Saturday.

"If you [home minister] are a true politician, you would have resigned," he said.

DEATHS OF 13 BANGLADESHIS IN FIRE Bahrain to take legal action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bahrain government will take legal action against the people responsible for fire in a building where 13 Bangladeshi workers were killed on January 11.

Chair of Bangladesh-Bahrain Parliamentary Friendship Group Mahmoud Youssef Almohmed, also member of council of representatives of Bahrain parliament assured Foreign Minister Dipu Moni of this yesterday.

He along with two other Bahrain lawmakers who came to Bangladesh on January 15 called on the foreign minister at the latter's office.

"The people responsible for the accident would be brought to the justice and the government of Bahrain is taking all measures for repatriation of the bodies of the workers including compensation to the family members of the victims," said Mahmoud Youssef.

Dipu Moni mentioned that about one lakh Bangladeshis are working in Bahrain and they are law abiding and hard working.

She requested the lawmakers to impress upon Bahrain government to recruit more skilled and semi-skilled manpower including doctors, engineers and nurses from Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, five lawmakers in Bahrain placed a proposal to the government for the adoption of annual inspections of all labour accommodations to ensure they meet scrupulous health and safety standards.

The MPs urged the government not to declare any labour accommodation fit without the licence delivered by the labour, health, municipality ministries and the civil defence, reported Gulfnews yesterday.

The bodies of 13 workers will leave Bahrain today and reach Dhaka tomorrow, said the Bangladesh foreign ministry.



Dhaka University Alumni Association forms a human chain at the base of Raju Bhaskorjo on Dhaka University campus yesterday demanding exemplary punishment for the abusers of women and children.

PHOTO: STAR

The Daily Star

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