

# Large number of people still out of proper sanitation

Discussion told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday stressed more programmes on sanitation as a large number of the country's people are still deprived of proper sanitation and hygiene facilities.

They said inter-ministerial programmes were required provide the public with proper sanitation, a prerequisite for good health and environmental development.

The discussion marking National Sanitation Month and World Hand Washing Day 2013 was organised by the LGRD ministry in the capital's Osmani Memorial Hall.

During his PowerPoint presentation, Prof Mujibur Rahman of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) said about 29 million people in the country were living in remote areas without proper sanitation.

They are living in 1,144 coastal, hilly, char, haor, baor, beel and barind areas in the

country, he said.

Referring to a survey report of the Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) 2013, conducted by WHO and Unicef, he said only 55 percent of country's population have access to improved sanitation at present while 27 percent use shared latrines.

"The core aspect of sanitation is ensuring hygiene of a latrine. However, in case of a shared latrine, used by more than one family, it is difficult to assess the cleanliness of it," he said.

The report also shows that 14 percent of the population have poor sanitation while four percent defecate in open areas.

Speaking as special guest, advocate Md Rahmat Ali MP said the country needs more sanitation programmes.

"As a lawmaker from a rural area, I can say that we have not advanced as much as we needed to," he said.

State Minister for LGRD Jahangir Kabir Nanak and Cultural Affairs Minister Abul Kalam Azad, also spoke at the programme.

RAILWAY STAFF MURDER

## Daughter suspects colleagues

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Tania Akhter, younger daughter of ticket booking clerk at Kamalapur Railway Station Israfil Hossain, yesterday said his colleagues in the same section might have killed her father.

Talking to The Daily Star, she also suspected that his close acquaintances were involved in it.

Unidentified criminals murdered Israfil at the cash room of the railway station in the capital Saturday and looted over Tk 17 lakh earned from ticket sales.

Tania demanded immediate arrest of the killers and the highest punishment for them as law enforcers could not arrest anyone till yesterday.

The cash room is a protected area with two collapsible gates and outsiders have no access to the room, several railway officials said.

"No one is on the run. Even the three staff, who left the victim in the cash room at 12:15am on that day, also joined the work.

All are being interrogated by three committees formed to probe into the incident," said Yar Ahmed, head of the section.

Railway police said they were looking into the suspension and working on several points, including his previous enmity, feud over ticket black marketing ahead of Eid, and footages from the nearby close circuit cameras.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina receives a crest at the National Grand Rally of Professionals in the capital's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

## Maududi's son vows MPs need not

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Shahriar hopes that Farooq's library would have books and documents on Jamaat-e-Islami's decision regarding their activities in 1971 and perception of other religions and viewpoints that helped create the ideological ground for the genocide.

However, Barrister Tureen Afroz, one of the ICT prosecution lawyers, said, "It is difficult to say, without looking at the documents, how much of it can be used as evidence."

A strong critic of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami's religion-based politics, Farooq pointed out in yesterday's meeting the need to be more vocal about banning Jamaat as a political party, for its terrorist activities and for using religion for political purposes.

In an interview with The Daily Star on Saturday, Farooq said Jamaat should not do politics in Bangladesh and it was no different from its Pakistani

counterpart.

Jamaat-e-Islami first introduced in South Asia fundamentalist ideas such as Islamic state and Jihad.

After the partition that separated Pakistan from India in 1947, Jamaat-e-Islami split into two factions -- Pakistan and Hind. Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan got banned twice, in 1959 and 1964, for its communal role.

During the Liberation War, Syed Abul A'la Maududi was the central leader of Jamaat-e-Islami in both West and East Pakistan while Ghulam Azam led the party in the East.

In independent Bangladesh, Jamaat-e-Islami was banned but the ban was lifted in 1979 by the then president Ziaur Rahman and Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami came into being.

The formal investigation into Jamaat's alleged war crimes began on August 18 after several verdicts of ICT put the spotlight on its role in 1971.

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Meanwhile, The Forum of Election Management Bodies of South Asia has selected its official logo drawn by Bangladeshi Artists.

A delegation of Bangladesh led by Chief Election Commissioner

(CEC) Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad participated in the "4th meeting of the Forum of Election Management Bodies of South Asia", a three-day programme which began on October 2, said a statement of the Election Commission.

## Khaleda wants to stop

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She also referred to another of Khaleda's statement that snakes could be trusted but not the AL.

Terming Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Chhatra Shibir and Hefajat-e-Islam snakes, she said Khaleda lives with these snakes and believed in them.

Hasina said propaganda was still being spread against the AL in the name of religion.

Some women with the Holy Quran in their hands

were spreading falsehood against the government among the rural women and Khaleda was behind it, she said.

Hasina urged people to remain alert against these women and said Allah would try those who have been resorting to falsehood in the name of Islam.

AL leaders Nooh ul Alam Lenin, Mahbubul Alam Hanif, Dipu Moni and Satish Chandra Roy, among others, were present.

## Hearing on writ petition

FROM PAGE 3

observed that the next two parliamentary elections might be held under the system.

The country's politics has witnessed a volatile situation following the abolition of the caretaker government system, he stated in the petition.

The petitioner also prayed to the HC to issue a

rule asking the government, the Election Commission, Awami League chief and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia to explain why they should not be directed to hold the next two parliamentary elections under the caretaker government system.

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## Hearing on charge

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Khaleda, her elder son Tarique Rahman and four others on charge of embezzling over Tk 2.10 crore by forming the "fake" trust.

The four other accused are former BNP lawmaker Kazi Salimul Haque, businessman Sharfuddin Ahmed, former principal secretary Dr Kamal Uddin Siddiqui and Momenur Rahman, nephew of BNP founder Ziaur Rahman.

Advocate Sanaullah Mia represents Tarique, who is on bail in the case and now staying abroad for treatment.

Salimul was present and Sharfuddin was absent at the court while two others

are on the run.

**ZIA CHARITABLE TRUST GRAFT CASE**

The ACC on August 8 in 2011 filed the case with Tejgaon Police Station against Khaleda and three others for abusing power in setting up the charity named after late president Ziaur Rahman.

The three accused are Harris Chowdhury, Khaleda's former political secretary; Ziaul Islam Munna, assistant private secretary (APS) of Harris; and Monirul Islam Khan, APS of former DCC mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka.

Of them, Harris is absconding while the rest two appeared before the court.

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**Mailing Address:**  
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