Idris Ahmad's anniversary of death today

CITY DESK

Today is the 47th death anniversary of Maulavi Idris Ahmad Miah, a scholar, politician, journalist, author of over 10 books as well as founder of eight educational institutions in Chapainawabganj.

Idris Ahmad was born in Dadanchawk village in Shibganj upazila of the district on September 23, 1894.

He established eight educational institutions, including Adina Fazlul Haque College and Dadanchawk Fazlul Haque Primary Training Institute, in the village between 1910 and 1944.

He was elected member of the Bengal legislative assembly (MLA) in 1937 and member of the provincial assembly (MPA) in 1954.

He worked for Dainik Azad, Dainik Nabajug, monthly Mohammadi and weekly Dhaka Prakash. He was also a member of the board of directors of Dhaka Prakash.

On the occasion, Idris Ahmad Memorial Institute has published an 80-page commemorative booklet and will hold a discussion on the struggle of Idris Ahmad in establishing educational institutions on October 18, said a press release.

Journalists rally in front of Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) yesterday demanding arrest of those who killed journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi on February 11 last year. Story on Page 5.

PHOTO: STAR

Countrywide rallies

In Dhaka, the rally will be held in front of Jatiya Press Club at 4:00pm.

Prof Anu Mohammad, member secretary of the committee, urged all to raise concern for the Sundarbans at Eid-ul Azha congregations and Puja mandaps across the country.

Asked about the committee's opinion on opposition leader Khaleda Zia's support for the cause, Anu said major parties extend their support to the committee when they are the opposition.

"However, they forget about it when they go to power," he said.

On September 24, the committee organised a long march from Dhaka to Bagerhat demanding cancellation of the Rampal power plant.

Sheikh Mohammad Shahidullah, convener of the committee; Ruhin Hossain Prince, Communist Party leader; Moshrefa Mishu, president of Garments Sramik Oikya Forum, and other leaders of leftist parties were present.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation held a protest rally at Dhaka University with the same demand.

Hearing on appeal

Puja, the largest festival of Hindus, and Eid-ul Azha, the second largest religious festival of Muslims.

Both the Appellate and High Court divisions will reopen on November 3.

After concluding the 11th day's proceedings, a five-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain yesterday fixed November 12 for resuming the hearing.

Earlier in the day, Sayedee's counsel SM Shahjahan read out statements of Bashudeb Mistri, the tenth prosecution witness, before the Appellate Division.

Sayedee was found guilty on eight charges out of 20 against him and given death penalty on two charges.

BNP harbouring

compliant with 14 core recommendations, a complete reversal of the situation we started at."

She said during the last four and a half years, "we have been able to build a fairly sound legal and regulatory mechanism almost from the scratch." The extensive assessments and amendments, Bangladesh has made to the Anti-Terrorism Act 2009, bear proof of the diligence in making country's counter-terrorism as invincible, she said.

The foreign minister said the evil forces had often managed to spread their tentacles in political and economic spheres. "These had to be matched with a robust legal and institutional mechanism to combat terrorism, financing of terrorism and other related crimes such as money-laundering."

Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque, Bangladesh Bank Governor Dr Atiur Rahman, US Ambassador Dan Mozena, Japanese Ambassador Shiro Sadoshima, and Australian High Commissioner Greg Wilcock, among others, attended the workshop.

SC wants

war criminal.

To submit a concise statement, Ghulam's chief counsel Barrister Abdur Razzaq yesterday prayed to the apex court to give them two more weeks after reopening of the court on November 23 following its 24-day vacation. But the SC did not give the time.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam represented the state.

Barisal mayor

The mayor said, among others, sustainability, development of proper drainage and sewerage system, and recovery and excavation of canals and water bodies to end water logging in Barisal would be given preference.

Minorities

obstructed by the border force of India," said Prof Ajoy Roy of DU.

Referring to Monday's bomb blast at a madrasa run by a Hefajat-e Islam leader in Chittagong city, Mesbah Kamal said, "Such an explosion at the time when Hindu people are preparing to celebrate Durga Puja sounds ominous."

"The king of Saudi Arabia has allocated the Muslim Brotherhood of Egypt and Jamaat-e-Islami 50 billion pounds to strengthen their global network with a focus on South Asia," said Shahriar Kabir.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs Promod Mankin, lawmaker Rubi Rahman, columnist Syed Abul Moksud, Law Commission member Prof Shah Alam, and lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha, among others, also spoke.

Arrest killers by Nov 11

Sagar Sarowar, a news editor at private TV channel Maasranga, and his wife Meherun Runi, a senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were murdered at their West Rajabazar residence in the capital on February 11 last year.

"Journalists and common people will not be safe if the killers are not arrested," Ruhul Amin Gazi, president of a faction of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, told the rally organised by the DRU.

Shaban Mahmud, general secretary of a faction of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ), said the home minister would have to apologise to Sagor-Runi's only son Mahir Sarowar Megh if he failed to ensure the arrest.

Omor Faruque, president of another faction of the DUJ, demanded the resignation of the home minister for his failure

in arresting the assailants.

Referring to Khaleda Zia's remark in a recent Khulna rally that she has information about the killers, senior journalist Saiful Islam said Khaleda should provide the information to the intelligence agencies or to the journalist.

Requesting the Prime Minister to ensure the arrest, Rezaul Karim, brother-in-law of Sagor, said people at home and abroad wanted to know the motive of the killing.

CASE AGAINST TARIQUE, MAMUN

Court finishes recording statement of IO

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday concluded recording statement of investigation officer in a money laundering case against BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman and his close friend Giasuddin Al Mamun amid altercations between the prosecution and defence.

Judge Md Motahar Hossain of the Special Judge Court-3 fixed tomorrow for cross examination of investigation officer Mohammad Ibrahim, who is also a deputy director of the Anti-Corruption Commission.

Earlier on the day, defence counsels submitted three separate petitions before the court, seeking adjournment of recording the statement.

However, the judge rejected all the petitions and recorded it.

Tarique is absconding while Mamun is now in jail custody.

The ACC had filed the case against them on October 26, 2009, in connection with siphoning out Tk 20.41 crore to Singapore between 2003 and 2007.

DU teachers

organised under the banner of Dhaka University Teachers on the campus. Over 100 students also joined the event.

Prof MM Akash said if the BNP and Jaamat-e-Islami come to power, execution of verdicts will not be possible.

DU teachers Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed, Prof Ziaur Rahman, Prof Abdul Aziz, Shafiul Alam Bhuyian, Prof Hasibur Rashid, among others, were spoke.

65pc voters

reporters at his office yesterday that they would take decision whether army would be deployed or not.

The decision whether the much-talked political party Bangladesh Nationalist Front would get registration or not would be taken within one week, he added.

Re-elect AL

AL leaders Matia Chowdhury, Shahara Khatun, BM Mojammel Haque, Shafiqul Islam Apu, Shafiqul Azam Khan Chancal, Abdul Mannan, Rezaul Karim Titon, Kanak Kanti Das, and Saidul Karim Mintu also spoke.

Obituary

METRO DESK

Mosarrof Hosain, owner of Graphosman, the first atlas publisher of the country, died in his Segunbagicha residence in the country on Monday. He was 64.

He left behind his wife and two daughters.

He had been suffering from Parkinson's disease for many years.

He was buried after his namaz-e-janaza at Azimpur martyrs graveyard the same day.

1,100kg of hilsha seized

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Border Guard Bangladesh seized hilsha weighing around 1,100kg from a pickup van and arrested its driver at Shiberbazar border in Burichang of Comilla yesterday.

BGB raided the area when a gang of smugglers fled the scene, said Lt Col Mamun Al Mohamood, commander of battalion-10.

The gang was trying to smuggle the hilsha into India, he added.

Youth murdered

Roman died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital around 1:30am, said the victim's brother. Alamin and his mother Morzina Begum went into hiding after the murder, police said.