



Criminals' dominance rising in politics

Observes SHUJAN; reveals 25 out of 465 new upazila chairmen face murder cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The dominance of criminals in politics shows a rising trend, representing threat to the country's democracy and rule of law, Shushashoner Jannoy Nagorik (SHUJAN) said yesterday while revealing the affidavit information of 465 newly elected upazila chairmen.

On one hand, the tendency among criminals to become politicians has sharply increased; on the other, the tendency among political leaders to go for criminality has also marked a rise, said SHUJAN officials, addressing a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity.

"Nowadays, political leaders are taking criminals and miscreants in the party for retaining their power. Taking this advantage, the criminals are coming in the frontline of political leadership," said Dr Tofail Ahmed, a local government expert and executive member of SHUJAN.

People, parliament, local government bodies and everything else are in the grip of "criminal leadership", which is alarming, he added. He said miscreants were amassing fortune through tender manipulation, drug trade and shady land business, and putting the money in politics.

Tofail stressed the need for proper scrutiny of the aspiring candidates' affidavits before elections.

SHUJAN Secretary Badiul Alam Majumdar said criminals and musclemen were winning in local government and national elections; people could not expect rule of law from them.

Replying to a query on the Anti-Corruption Commission chief's remarks on Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), Majumdar said, "It is not acceptable in any way. He works in a statutory body. He can't give threat to harass anyone."

ACC Commissioner Md Shahabuddin

Qulkhwani of Dr Rahmatullah today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Qulkhwani of Dr Mohammad Rahmatullah, a senior fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), will be held after Asr prayers today at Gulshan Azad Mosque in the capital.

Rahmatullah, a former director (transport and infrastructure development) at UN-ESCAP, Bangkok, who retired in June 2000 after 22 years of service with the United Nations, passed away at

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7



Former peacekeepers, UN and government officials, and students join the Peacekeepers' Run 2014, marching from in front of the Prime Minister's Office towards the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday on the occasion of International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers.

PHOTO: STAR

UN peacekeepers' day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh, observing the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers along with the rest of the world, remembered the roles played by the country's armed forces and police in the peacekeeping missions yesterday.

Bangladesh is one of the leading troop contributors to UN peacekeeping missions with contributions to 54 missions in 39 countries since 1998.

Among the 1,26,489 people who took part in the missions till date, 118 lost their lives and 162 received injuries while serving.

Currently, 8,841 peacekeepers from Bangladesh are serving in nine missions in nine countries. Among them, 218 are females mostly from police force.

In many countries, such as Sierra Leon and Cote d'Ivoire,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

CARBON EMISSION Dhaka should campaign for compensation

DU CORRESPONDENT

In spite of emitting insignificant amount of carbon, Bangladesh suffers the brunt of climate change most. Therefore, the government should campaign for getting compensation from those nations whose carbon emission rate is very high.

Speakers made the observations at the inaugural ceremony of "Environment Olympiad -- Debating Championship and Presentation Competition-2014" at the DU Senate building yesterday.

Some island states have been presenting their demands in a unified way to the rich nations, said Prof Twohida Rashid of Dhaka University, adding that developing countries

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

Stop use of English in media ads in one month

HC directs govt; asks for report on compliance by July 1

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked the information secretary to take measures to stop in next one month the publication of advertisements in electronic and print media in English language unless there is any unavoidable reason.

The court also ordered the home secretary to replace English with Bangla in the registration plates of police vehicles and signboards under the ministry during the period.

The two secretaries were asked to submit reports upon compliance by July 1.

In response to a petition that sought the court's directives to ensure the mandatory use of Bangla in all sectors as required by law, the HC asked the government on February 17 to ensure in one month the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Dreadful situation prevails now

Says Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A dreadful situation is prevailing in the country at present due to repeated incidents of abduction, killing and forced disappearance, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir said yesterday.

At a discussion meeting in the city's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, the BNP spokesperson also called upon people to wage a tougher movement against Sheikh Hasina government to get rid of the situation.

BNP organised the meeting marking late president and BNP founder Ziaur Rahman's 33rd death anniversary to be observed today.

Bikolpodhara President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Liberal Democratic Party President Oli Ahmed, among others, also spoke in the discussion.

Like the previous years, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was present in the meeting as an audience.

N'GANJ-5 BY-ELECTION Rafiur gets cop protection

Selim Osman, another seek Ivy's support

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

The government has given police protection to Rafiur Rabbi, an independent candidate for Narayanganj-5 by-polls and a convener of the Santrash Nirmul Taqi Mancha.

An assistant sub-inspector and four constables were deployed on Wednesday night to ensure security of Rabbi round the clock, said Manjur Kader, officer-in-charge of Narayanganj Sadar Model Police Station.

Talking to reporters, Rafiur said he did not seek any police protection.

When asked whether he feels threatened by anyone, he said, "Let's see."

Rabbi, father of Tanwir Muhammed Taqi who was killed by miscreants in March last year, on May 21 filed nomination papers to contest the election to be held on June 26.

Earlier at a press briefing on May 23, Shamim Osman, an Awami League lawmaker of Narayanganj-4, demanded that the government give police protection to Rabbi saying that he would be held responsible if Rabbi went missing.

The briefing was held after a conversation between Shamim and AL leader Nur Hossain, the key suspect of the

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SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

“আপনার বাসায় যেন আমাকে আসতে না হয়”

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