

PM for finding most qualified future leaders of army

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed senior officials of the army to select future leaders for promotion evaluating their professional excellence, experience, obedience, leadership quality, discipline, and above all, their belief in the spirit of the Liberation War.

She was addressing the Army Headquarters Selection Board-2014 of the Bangladesh Army held at Dhaka Cantonment.

Sheikh Hasina mentioned that the efficiency and image of any army depends on training, discipline and professional excellence of the personnel, and said that in promoting the officers to higher posts, priority must be given to their professional standard and educational qualification.

The prime minister, who is also in-charge of the defence ministry, asked generals of the Armed Forces to always remain vigilant and be ready to face any threat and protect the constitution of the country.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

ESCAPE OF NUR HOSSAIN N'ganj lawyers demand arrest of Shamim Osman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As the remand of Moshir Rahman and Kamal, the two arrested for allegedly helping Nur Hossain escape, ended yesterday, Narayanganj district Lawyers' Association yesterday demanded the arrest of Awami League lawmaker Shamim Osman on the same ground.

Staging a protest on the court premise, the lawyer's association referred to a leaked phone conversation between Osman and the prime accused of the seven murders Nur Hossain, where the former assured the alleged criminal that he would have a safe passage to India.

"Moshir Rahman and Kamal [two aides of Nur] were arrested on the basis of allegations, whereas we have proof in the form of the telephone conversation, in the case of Shamim Osman. Then why is he not being arrested? Is a lawmaker above law?" asked Shakhawat Hossain Khan, president of Narayanganj Lawyers' Association.

Talking to our Narayanganj correspondent, Moshir had previously admitted, "Nur Hossain took refuge in my house on May 1 after the bodies surfaced in the Shitalakkhya river. After two days of his stay, I told my accomplice Kamal to take him to Raghunathpur border [in Jessore] by motorbike."

Meanwhile, as rumours spread that Shamim Osman was going to be arrested, his party followers rushed to the lawmaker's house in Chasara at 1:30am yesterday, and took position in front of it to prevent his detention, reported our Narayanganj correspondent.

Separately, the eight-day remand of former Rab official

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Rubbish has clogged the newly constructed drainage canal in the capital's Hazaribagh. Though it has started to rain, most of such outlets in Dhaka city remain choked with garbage or dried sludge, making stormwater drainage immensely difficult and consequently causing waterlogging. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Education for all goals cannot be met by 2015 Says Unesco report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite progress made over the last decade in achieving six goals, set by Bangladesh and 163 other countries, for ensuring education for all, none of the goals will be met globally by 2015, according to a Unesco report.

In 2011, 57 million children and 69 million adolescents were still out of school, said the report, adding that insufficient financing for education is one of the main obstacles to achieving the Education for All (EFA) goals.

Unesco in collaboration with Bangladesh National Commission for Unesco and Save the Children launched the Bangla version of the report titled "Education For All Global Monitoring Report-2013/14" at BANBEIS Bhaban in the capital yesterday.

EFA is a global movement led by Unesco, aiming to meet the learning needs of all children, youth and adults.

The countries had set the targets in 2000, aiming to meet them by 2015.

Mentioning Bangladesh's statistics, the report said young people from poorer households are less likely to be able to

read. One in three people from the poorest households are literate compared to the almost 9 out of 10 of the richest.

"Unequal distribution of teachers is one reason some children leave school before learning the basics," the report said.

Speaking as the chief guest, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid said although the Unesco declaration states the allocation for education should be at least six percent of the GDP, Bangladesh is far behind it.

Although the net enrolment rate at primary level is 99.47 percent, retaining the children in schools is a major challenge, the minister said.

"The main challenge is to ensure quality education and for that we need quality teachers," he said.

The Unesco report called on the governments to redouble efforts to provide learning to all who face disadvantages -- whether from poverty, gender, where they live or other factors.

Education Secretary Muhammed Sadique and Primary and Mass Education Secretary Quazi Akter Hossain also spoke.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT Article-7 must be amended

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Article-7 in the Right to Information Act, (RTI), 2009, which prevents designated information officials from providing required information to the recipients, must be changed, said discussants at a roundtable in Chittagong city yesterday.

Management and Resource Development Initiative (MRDI) and Manusher Jonno Foundation jointly organised the programme on "RTI Act, 2009 and Its Article-7".

According to the article-7, any information that may, if disclosed, cause a threat to the security and sovereignty of the country and its foreign policy cannot be sought.

But the discussants observed that some information officials were abusing and misinterpreting the article-7 for not providing information.

Prof Abdullah Al Faruk, dean of the law faculty at Chittagong University, said the citizens have the right to know, so all information must be accessible for them. At the same time, information that can go against the country's interest should be concealed. Therefore, the article must be amended to ensure the citizens' right as well as to restrict the officials from misusing the article.

Information Commissioner Abu Taher discussed as the chief guest while Chittagong Division Commissioner Mohammad Abdullah, Chittagong Deputy Commissioner Mejbah Uddin and MRDI Executive Director Hasibur Rahman Mukur also spoke.

UPAZILA PARISHADS

Poll schedule for women's reserved seats likely today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission has decided to hold elections to the women's reserved seats in more than 150 upazila parishads under 21 districts.

The EC is likely to finalise schedule for the elections at a meeting today, EC officials told The Daily Star yesterday. Polls to rest of the women's reserved seats will be held in phases later, said the officials.

Elections for the posts of chairman and vice-chairmen completed in 472 upazilas from February to May this year. Until holding elections to the women's reserved seats, formation of upazila parishads will remain unfinished as they are its members.

Formation of upazila parishad could not be finished during the earlier tenure started from early 2009 due to not holding elections to the women's reserved seats as per the law.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

TIPAIMUKH DAM Survey on Surma, Kushiya starts today

SYLHET CORRESPONDENT

A seven-member team of Bangladeshi officials will start a bathymetric survey today on a 12km stretch of the Surma, which is flowing along the Indo-Bangla border, and a 2km portion of the Kushiya, which is flowing in India's Assam state before entering Bangladesh again.

The surveyors from the state-run Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) will investigate the hydrological impacts of India's proposed 1,500MW Tipaimukh hydropower dam project, Mir Sajjad Hossain, member of the Joint River Commission (JRC), told The Daily Star yesterday.

India's Barak river enters into Bangladesh from Assam state through Amolshid border in Zakiganj upazila of Sylhet and bifurcates into the Surma and the Kushiya.

The weeklong survey, led by engineer Mahbub Alam, will cover the Indian side. Earlier, parts of the rivers which flow only through Bangladesh were surveyed.

RECEPTION CLOSING SCHOOLS

HC issues rule against state minister Narayan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule against State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Narayan Chandra Chanda for taking reception from the students keeping 209 schools of Dumuria in Khulna closed on May 3.

In the rule, the court asked Narayan and the government to explain in four weeks why the reception with closing the schools and receiving a replica of a boat of silver weighing 6.5 bhoi from teachers should not be declared illegal.

The court also asked Narayan and the government to explain why his holding the office of state minister should not be declared illegal.

The HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice ABM Altaf Hossain came up with the rule following a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Eunus Ali Akond on May 29 challenging the legality of Narayan's action.

The writ petition said the closure of schools for the reception to the minister and presenting him the replica are the violation of the government notifications issued on last December 9 and January 27 this year.

Narayan, secretaries to the cabinet division, the education ministry, the LGRD and cooperatives ministry, director general of the directorate of education and the divisional commissioner of Khulna have been made respondents to the rule.



Visitors at a photo exhibition, "150 Years of Humanitarian Action", at the capital's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel yesterday, inaugurated by Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) organised it marking 150 years of the organisation's existence since 1863.

PHOTO: STAR

Adivasis, rights activists protest

FROM PAGE 3

Human Rights, Kulaura Press Club, and Bandan Santan Youth Sangathal.

In a statement, Bapa said, "We think, the attack was part of an enduring scheme to evict the Khasis, which has been perpetrated by the Nahar Tea Estate authorities for the last several years. We demand exemplary punishment for the attackers.... At the same time, we strongly urge the government to secure the lives of Khasis and permanently solve their land problem."

On Friday, about two hundred people led by Pijush Kanti Bhattacharya, manager of Nahar Tea Garden, which is allegedly trying to grab 200 acres of land populated by Khasis, attacked the residents of Nahar Punjee-1, a Khasi village, in an attempt to evict them, leaving 20 injured.

It is a "planned attack", said Khalek Parvez Box, general secretary of Kulaura Press Club, while addressing the human chain.

More than six hundred people of Nahar Punjee 1 and 2 have almost been stranded since Friday's attack as the tea garden people blocked the roads to the two Khasi villages. Though some five to seven policemen were patrolling the tea estate area to prevent further attacks, it could not sufficiently create a sense of security among the adivasis.

On Saturday, a team of Bapa, including Father Joseph Gomes and Tofazzal Sohail, went to visit Nahar Punjee-1 but they were stopped by the tea garden people.

Monika Khonglah, chairman of

Adivasi Nari Federation and member of KUBORAZ, an association of Khasi people, demanded that the government punish the culprits and solve the land problems of the Khasis.

According to Khasi people, the community is living on government khas land and paying tax to the union parishad. They started living there way before Nahar Tea Estate was set up, in 1964, whose owner took lease of the tea garden land from the government. But the garden owner is unlawfully claiming the ownership of also that khas land where Khasis are residing.

Expressing grievances, Elfee Khonglah, general secretary of Khasi Students' Union, Kulaura unit, said, "Aren't we Bangladeshi citizens? We also have the right to live our lives."

Better Everyday

Portable Air Conditioner 17,000 BTU with built in Dehumidifier

Use as Portable or Fixed AC

- ✓ Inverter Control
- ✓ Built in Dehumidifier
- ✓ No Water Pipe

Only Tk. **6,209/-** Per Month

HURRY! LIMITED STOCKS

Hotline: 01711695244 (Basundhara)
01713330049 (Gulshan)

ITALIAN DESIGN AND PASSION

PAC WE17INV

Gulshan 2 Showroom: Kernal Ataturk Avenue, Gulshan 2, (Next to Gulshan Club) Tel: 02-8832883, 8832884, MK Electronics: Tel: 9894255, Gulshan 1 Showroom: Grand Electronics Tel: 9896216, 9861480 | Panthapath Showroom: Basundhara Shopping Mall, Block D, Level 6, Tel: 01711695244. | Uttara Showroom: Mk Electronics, Tel: 8954255 | Kalabagan Showroom: Mk Electronics, Tel: 9136205.

TEACHING JOBS ABROAD HORIZON INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS MYANMAR

Horizon International schools Myanmar is looking for dedicated teachers to work in Yangon, Myanmar.

Available positions are:

- Economics Teacher, (Cambridge IGCSE, A-Level)
- Biology Teacher, (Cambridge IGCSE, A-Level)

Please send your covering letter, an up-to-date CV, copies of university degrees and qualifications, a recent professional photograph and three references (including your most recent two employers) to: recruitment@horizonmyanmar.com

We offer professional working environment and an attractive remuneration. Positions are immediate. Only eligible/short listed candidates will be called for interview.

Address : 235 Shu Khinn Thar Myo Pat Rd, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel : +95154392 +951450396
e-mail : recruitment@horizonmyanmar.com www.hism.co