

Movement for fresh polls after Eid

Khaleda tells iftar party
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday said the BNP-led 20-party alliance would force the Sheikh Hasina government to hold a fresh national election under a non-party administration by waging a massive movement after Eid.

Speaking at an iftar programme at a city hotel, she said the people were ready to wage an anti-government movement because they already expressed their "no confidence" in the Hasina administration by rejecting the January 5 national polls. "People did not go to polling centres to cast their votes and thus rejected the present government," the former prime minister said, urging all to participate in the post-Eid movement.

Senior leaders of the BNP and its allies were present at the programme, organised by the National Democratic Party, a component in the 20-party alliance, in honour of politicians.

Zia's Power Grab BNP asks Ershad to apologise for comment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday called upon Jatiya Party chief HM Ershad to apologise for his statement that Ziaur Rahman grabbed power through bloodshed on November 7, 1975.

Refuting Ershad's allegations, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said Zia did not grab state power.

"Rather the soldiers and mass people put Ziaur Rahman in power through a revolution in November," he told a discussion at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

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PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Eid is just two weeks away, and all Muslim kids in the country are counting the days to wear new clothes, as customary in the community. This little boy at Karnaphuli Garden City market on Wednesday in the capital was no exception with the sight of a colourful T-shirt embossed with a globally popular cartoon character.

RMG workers clash with staff, cops for arrears again

30 demonstrators hurt in Savar; 150 block road in Mirpur-14 on similar demand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

At least 30 people were injured in a clash among the workers and management staff of a garment factory and Industrial Police at Aichanorda in Savar outside the capital yesterday when the workers were demonstrating at their workplace demanding their salaries of June.

Police and factory sources said the workers of Surma Garments Ltd started demonstration in the morning.

During the demonstration, some miscreants hired by the factory authorities beat three workers Mahfuz Rahman, Md Alaaddin and Lokman who were leading the movement, an allegation of the demon-

strators denied the factory Deputy General Manager Md Moshirur Iqram.

Afterwards, the workers ransacked the factory, triggering the clash that injured around 30 people including workers and staff, said witnesses.

Sahadat Hosen, Sadek Ali and Ahsan Habib were among the injured staff, said Moshirur.

On information, police rushed to the spot, charged the workers with batons and fired tear gas to disperse them, said Ashulia Industrial Police Director Mostafizur Rahman.

The workers also pelted police with

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CREATING COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM Rail, water ways should also be developed

Poba, WBB Trust tell discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should develop rail and water ways sectors instead of only focusing on road communications in a bid to ensure the overall development of the communications system, said environmentalists and right activists at a discussion yesterday.

Railway and waterway communications are easier and cheaper than road communications. So, the government should undertake comprehensive programmes for developing the two

RECOMMENDATIONS

Modernise railways, waterways

Increase investment

Make short, mid, and long term plans

Ensure proper maintenance of routes

Strictly monitor fitness of vehicles

Boot out unskilled drivers

sectors to facilitate public movement and goods transportation, they viewed.

The discussion titled "Lack of Comprehensive Communications System, Traffic Congestion and Risky Movement" was jointly organised by Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Poba) and WBB (Work for a Better Bangladesh) Trust at Poba office in the capital.

Presenting the keynote paper, Poba Executive General Secretary Abdus Sobhan said water and rail ways

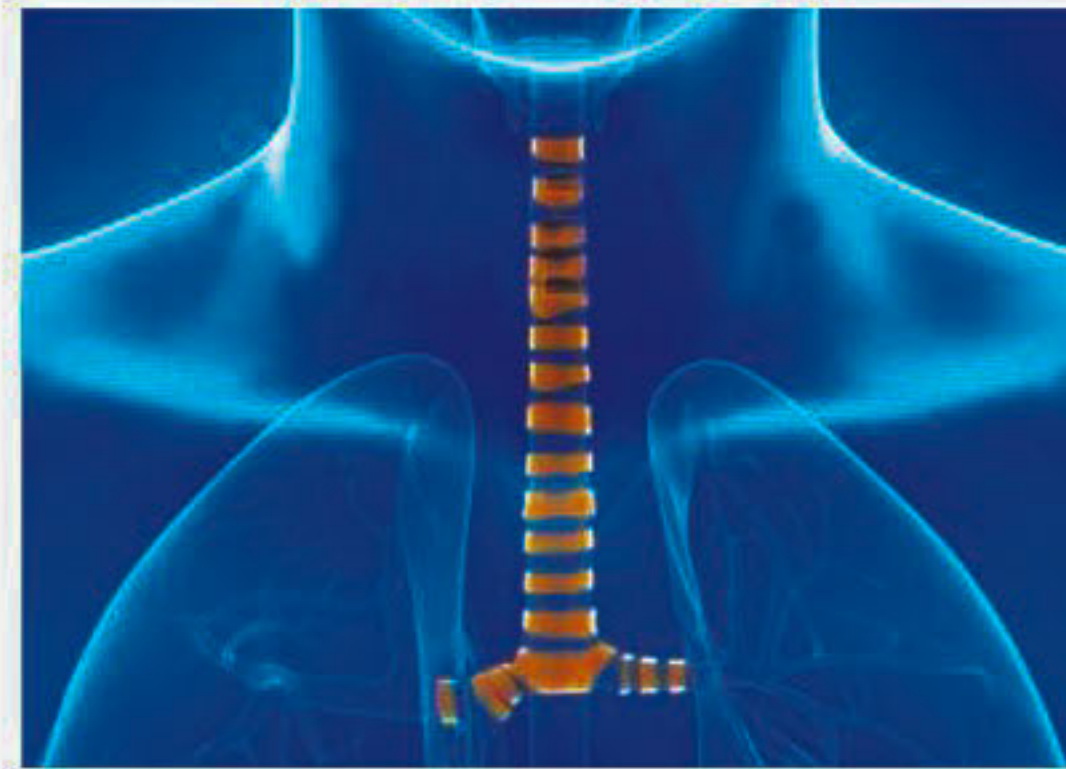
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To Know is to Prevent

No need to go abroad for complex ENT surgeries!!

The day started just like another usual Friday for Mohammed Mir Gulzar. As it was the weekend, he did not have to rush to his electronics shop and worry about selling appliances to customers. Gulzar lives in Qatar, far away from his family who lives in Bangladesh. Over breakfast with his nephew and brother who lived in Qatar with him, Gulzar suddenly started to feel numb in his face, along with dizziness and a loss of balance. "Take me to hospital," those were the last words he said before ending up in the intensive-care ward, hooked up to a life-support machine in a hospital in a land far away from home.

Gulzar was unconscious for two months in the ICU of a hospital in Qatar, struggling between life and death. After he regained his senses, he found that he was unable to breathe on his own. As he found it difficult to breathe, he had to undergo surgeries twice on his trachea (windpipe) to create a hole, a surgical procedure called tracheostomy. But unfortunately the operations led to tracheal stenosis, a complex condition where the rings of his windpipe got hard and congested. As a result of blockage in the windpipe, Gulzar could not talk and could not even breathe without support; he was unable to utter a single word for one long year. Finally, he decided that enough was enough, and resolved to return to Bangladesh. As soon as he reached the airport, Gulzar's wife decided to take him to an International Standard Tertiary Care hospital without any further delay.



"When he was brought to the hospital, we discovered the blockage above the tracheostomy tube," says Gulzar's ENT Consultant. Even though he was breathing through the tube artificially, he was not able to speak as his trachea had abnormally constricted due to the prior surgeries. The ENT Surgeon here first did laser dilation of Gulzar's stenosis, but that had granular deposit at the site because of which Gulzar wasn't being able to talk and breathe properly. "So I decided to go for another surgery where I reset his second to fifth tracheal rings and made anastomosis between the first and sixth tracheal rings," the ENT Consultant says.

* Real name and photo used with patient's permission

** This information is for public awareness only; it is NOT a medical advice

For further queries or feedback call Dr. Nafiz Ahmed at 01713240314 (everyday 9am to 5pm) or write back to us at 2know2prevent@apollodhaka.com

Conducting this surgery in Gulzar's airway was not an easy feat. A number of risks are associated with surgeries of such delicate nature, and they require careful coordination between the surgeon,



anesthesiologist, and the operating team. It was a five hour long operation. Gulzar was kept under intense observation for two days, so that any immediate measures can be taken if something went wrong with him.

The rest of the story is no less than a miracle for Gulzar and his family. The odds of his talking again and breathing on his own were very slim, that's what the doctors in Qatar told him. But now here he is, able to breathe without any extra help from a pipe and taking the first steps to regaining his speech. Gulzar will undergo speech therapy after a month or so when his trachea is fully strengthened.

Contrary to general belief that our local hospitals are inept at dealing with complicated ailments, our countrymen suffering abroad are deciding to come back to our country to avail complicated surgery in International Standard hospital here. So why go abroad spending all these money when you can have similar or better treatment here?



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