

Bangladesh progressing despite bad governance

Fazle Hasan Abed tells launch of Brac Institute of Governance and Development

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Brac Founder and Chairperson Sir Fazle Hasan Abed yesterday said the country was making progress despite a lack of good governance.

"Our job is to improve the governance of this country through our research and education," he told the launch of the Brac Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), merger of the Institute of Governance Studies and Brac Development Institute, in the capital's Brac.

Abed said development organisations were now lobbying with the United Nations to include vital issues like the rule of law, access to justice, freedom of enterprise, and right to land in the development agenda following the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

He said Brac, the world's

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A group of people holds a candlelight vigil titled "Send a prayer to Gaza" at Chairman Bari playground in the capital's Banani last night, expressing deep shock at the deaths of civilians in Gaza in Israel's ongoing military offensive since July 8.

PHOTO: COURTESY

ATTACKS ON GAZA

Protests continue in Bangladesh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Condemning Israel's ongoing attack on Gaza, right activists yesterday said the military offensive could be possible due to indifference and bias of the US and other western countries.

Several organisations including Save the Environment Movement yesterday formed a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital, terming Israel's atrocities "war crimes".

Speakers called upon people from every part of the world to raise voice to compel their leaders to take necessary steps to stop the attack.

Bangladesh Peace Council, and ADAB, a coordinating body of NGOs, in separate statements also protested the attacks. The assault has surpassed all previous records of barbarism, they added.

Meanwhile, a group of people took part in a candlelight vigil titled "Send a prayer to Gaza" at Chairman Bari playground in the capital's Banani last night. The vigil ended with a prayer song and a minute of silence in memory of the dead and the injured.

Jubo League infighting over jhut trade hurts 5

One group opens fire on another

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

At least five Jubo League activists of the Savar upazila unit were injured as members of one faction attacked their rivals over controlling a business of jhut (scraps of fabrics) yesterday.

Three of the injured, including Saifur Rahman Sujon, ex-joint convener of the unit Jubo League, were treated at Savar Upazila Health Complex.

Sujon's faction was attacked by the group of Kamal Hosen, ex-organising secretary of Savar upazila Jubo League, Sujon said in a complaint filed with Savar police.

Talking to The Daily Star, Sujon said he had been running the jhut business with the local Shirk Knitwear Ltd for a long time, but for the last few months Kamal had been

trying to take over the business.

In the complaint, he said Kamal and nine of his men, waiting by the roadside, waved at his microbus in Shamair village around 12:00 noon, but sensing danger, they tried to speed away. At that time, Kamal's men opened fire on the microbus and chased them on motorbikes, he said.

The complaint adds that after some time, they caught up with microbus and beat up Sujon and four of his men with iron rods. "They fired several shots from three to four guns, damaging my Noah microbus. At one point, they beat me and my people with rods," Sujon wrote in the complaint.

No one was hit by bullets.

Kamal was not available to comment.

Savar model police said they were investigating the complaint.

UN peace boss visits BPST, meets three defence chiefs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hervé Ladsous, United Nations' under-secretary-general for Peacekeeping Operations, yesterday visited Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation Training (BPST) at Rajendrapur Cantonment in Gazipur.

He also called on Army chief Gen Iqbal Karim Bhuiyan, Navy chief Vice-Admiral M Farid Habib and Air Force chief Air Marshal Mohammad Enamul Bari at their offices, said an ISPR press release.

Ladsous came with a four-member UN delegation Tuesday night for a two-day visit to discuss how Bangladeshi peacekeepers can play more effective roles.

Qaisar founded killing squad in 1971

Prosecution tells war crimes tribunal on second day of closing arguments

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Syed Mohammad Qaisar, a war crimes accused, was "very close" to the Pakistani army officers and formed a "killing squad" named the "Qaisar Bahini" in Habiganj that committed numerous crimes, including genocide, during the Liberation War in 1971, the prosecution said on the second day of their closing arguments yesterday.

Qaisar also played a pivotal role in forming the Peace Committee in Habiganj and Brahmanbaria and was a commander of the Razakar Bahini there in 1971, they told the International Crimes Tribunal-2, citing testimonies of the prosecution witnesses and documentary evidence.

Prosecutor Rana Dasgupta said 19 prosecution witnesses, out of the total 32, gave "clear descriptions" about the identity of Qaisar and his role during the war.

From the witnesses' testimonies, it became very much evident that Qaisar had his private force, Qaisar Bahini, with a special uniform, he

said. The prosecutor also cited an English book titled "Associates of Pakistani Army 71" to shed light on Qaisar's war-time role.

Compiled and edited by ASM Shamsul Arefin, the book reads, "He [Qaisar] organised a killer squad in Habiganj named Qaisar Bahini. He was very close to Pakistani army officers in Habiganj."

"One pistol was presented to him [Qaisar] by the local army commander on his good performance," it goes on. "At the end of the November or early December, he left Bangladesh for London. He came back to Bangladesh after 1978."

The prosecutor also cited several other books and newspaper reports to establish their arguments.

At one stage, the tribunal expressed dissatisfaction over the prosecution for some anomalies, like disorders in pagination or missing pages, in their documents. Rana then said the prosecution office was running short of papers, so they had to give some brief documents.

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Staff unrest at Biman continues

8hr work abstention announced for August 6

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The employees of Biman Bangladesh Airlines yesterday announced that an eight-hour work abstention would be observed at Balaka headquarters on August 6 to press home their 14-point demand.

Moshiqur Rahman, president of collective bargaining agent (CBA) of Biman, said they would enforce the programme from 9:00am to 5:00pm if their demands are not met by the deadline. There will be no official activities, he said, adding that only operational work would remain as usual.

"We'll announce even tougher programme after August 6," Moshiqur told The Daily Star.

The CBA president made the announcement after the end of a three-hour sit-in programme in front of Biman's head office at Balaka Bhaban in the capital.

Around 200 staff staged the sit-in in front of Balaka on Airport Road from 9:00am to realise the demands that include regularisation of staff working on a temporary basis for five years. The employees led by Moshiqur did not allow the other staff to enter the office.

The workers have been demanding a new organogram for Biman, recruitment of more workers in the ground handling department, allowances for meals and uniforms, 100 percent free medical facilities for employees, among others.



Tanneries dumping rawhide scraps into a waterbody in the capital's Hazaribagh, and the rotting hides filling the air with malodour, which not only troubles the residents in the area, but also contributes to air pollution. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

ASSAULT ON PROTHOM ALO JOURNO BMDC freezes Shafiul's registration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



The Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council (BMDC) has suspended the registration of Dr Shafiul Azam, who assaulted a Prothom Alo journalist two months ago, for gross misconduct and deceiving people.

"Dr Shafiul Azam's registration [BM&DC Registration No A-21933] has been suspended as per Section 29 of the BMDC Act 2010 and Section 6 of the BMDC Code of Medical Ethics," said a press release issued by BMDC yesterday.

The physician beat up the Bangla daily's Special Correspondent Shishir Morol at ZA Sikder Women's Medical College Hospital in the capital on May 13, as he was investigating allegations that Dr Shafiul, an assistant professor at Chittagong Medical College, had been working fulltime at the Skider medical college without taking leave from CMC.

Morever, at a private chamber in Chittagong, Shafiul used his designation on a nameplate as assistant professor of CMC and professor of the Sikder medical college.

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3 JU students expelled for hazing

JU CORRESPONDENT

Jahangirnagar University (JU) syndicate Wednesday night expelled three students of the university for hazing a female student.

Confirming the news, JU Registrar Abu Bakr Siddique said the syndicate, presided over by Vice-chancellor Prof Farzana Islam, had taken the decision as per recommendations of the university disciplinary committee.

Expelled students are Sami Rezwana, Rafiya and Sabrina Akhtar Nitu, second-year students of marketing department (42nd batch), and residents of Sheikh Hasina Hall.

The decision came just a day after the university authorities made the students vacate the university dorms on July 22 for Eid vacation.

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**সঞ্চয় সমৃদ্ধি
সঞ্চয় প্রবৃদ্ধি
সঞ্চয় করুন
দেশ গড়ুন**

পরিবার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী)
পরিবার সঞ্চয়পত্র (৫-বছর মেয়াদী), মুনাফার হার ১৩.৪৫%
এক লক্ষ টাকা বিনিয়োগে প্রতি মাসে নীট মুনাফা ১,০৭০ টাকা।

- ❖ ১৮ (আঠার) ও তদুর্ধ্ব বয়সের যে কোন বাংলাদেশী মহিলা
- ❖ যে কোন বাংলাদেশী শারীরিক প্রতিবন্ধী (পুরুষ ও মহিলা) এবং
- ❖ ৬৫ (পঁয়ষট্টি) ও তদুর্ধ্ব বয়সের বয়োজ্যেষ্ঠ যে কোন বাংলাদেশী নাগরিক (পুরুষ ও মহিলা) নির্ধারিত ফরমে এই সঞ্চয়পত্র ক্রয়ের আবেদন করতে পারবে।

মূল্যমানঃ ১০,০০০ টাকা; ২০,০০০ টাকা; ৫০,০০০ টাকা; ১,০০,০০০ টাকা; ২,০০,০০০ টাকা; ৫,০০,০০০ টাকা এবং ১০,০০,০০০ টাকা।

৫-বছর মেয়াদী বাংলাদেশ সঞ্চয়পত্র
৫-বছর মেয়াদী বাংলাদেশ সঞ্চয়পত্র, মুনাফার হার ১৩.১৯%
এক লক্ষ টাকা বিনিয়োগে মেয়াদান্তে (৫-বছর) নীট মুনাফা ৬২,৯০০ টাকা।
মূল্যমানঃ ৫,০০০ টাকা; ১০,০০০ টাকা; ২০,০০০ টাকা; ৫০,০০০ টাকা; ১,০০,০০০ টাকা; ২,০০,০০০ টাকা; ৫,০০,০০০ টাকা এবং ১০,০০,০০০ টাকা।

৩-মাস অন্তর মুনাফাভিত্তিক সঞ্চয়পত্র (৩-বছর মেয়াদী)
৩-মাস অন্তর মুনাফাভিত্তিক সঞ্চয়পত্র (৩-বছর মেয়াদী), মুনাফার হার ১২.৫৯%
এক লক্ষ টাকা বিনিয়োগে প্রতি তিন মাসে নীট মুনাফা ৩,০০০ টাকা।
মূল্যমানঃ ১,০০,০০০ টাকা; ২,০০,০০০ টাকা; ৫,০০,০০০ টাকা এবং ১০,০০,০০০ টাকা।

অধিক সংখ্যায় জনগণকে সঞ্চয়ে সম্পৃক্ত করা ও গ্রাহক সেবার মান বৃদ্ধিই আমাদের অঙ্গীকার।

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জাতীয় সঞ্চয় ক্রয়ের ফরম পেতে এবং বিস্তারিত জানতে জাতীয় সঞ্চয় অধিদপ্তরের ওয়েব সাইট
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