

People terrified of Tarique

Ershad tells inconclusive party council in Rajshahi city; JP factions fight in front of him

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Jatiya Party chief HM Ershad yesterday said people were terrified of BNP senior vice chairman Tarique Rahman's ascent to power.

"People think Tarique would rule the country if the BNP is voted to power. They freeze at the thought of Tarique. They fear that he would unleash more bombings, bribery and corruption," he said.

Ershad, also special envoy to the prime minister, called BNP's future "dark" and urged BNP men to join the JP.

The former military dictator made the remarks at JP's two-yearly council of Rajshahi city unit, which ended in smoke amid factional fighting right in front of Ershad.

The scuffle lasted about 20 minutes before police intervened.

In his address, after the clash, at Bornali intersection

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REAPPOINTMENT FEUD Pro-AL PPs lock offices in Rajshahi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Some pro-Awami League public prosecutors yesterday kept three offices of public and general prosecutors in Rajshahi shut for five hours following internal disputes over fresh appointment of prosecutors.

Around 15 lawyers locked the offices of general and public prosecutors for Rajshahi metropolitan courts around 9:30am, said Sub-Inspector of Rajpara Police Station Shamimuddin Khan.

They opened the offices around 2:30pm at the

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UK VISAS New Delhi office to assess applications from Oct 1

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The British High Commission will close down its visa and immigration related decision making centre in Dhaka and UK visa applications submitted in Bangladesh will be assessed at its visa section in New Delhi from October 1.

"Passports will remain in Bangladesh and decisions will continue to be made by British Crown Servants," said a press release of the high commission in Dhaka yesterday.

It said the United Kingdom Visas and Immigration, as part of its global strategy, is reducing the number of locations around the world where

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A memorial installation made out of the wreckage of the microbus filmmaker Tarique Masud and media personality Mishuk Munier had been riding, just before a tragic collision took their lives in Manikganj three years ago. The artwork dedicated in the memory of all road accident victims of the country was inaugurated on the Dhaka University campus yesterday. Inset, the gear box of the vehicle, put nearby as part of the installation.

PHOTO: STAR

Memorial for Tareque, Mishuk unveiled at DU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The wrecked body of the microbus with registration no Dhaka Cha 13-0302 lay under the shades of trees on a traffic island on the Dhaka University campus, near Shamsunnahar hall.

Painted white, it freezes the moment when the country lost two of its gifted sons - Tarique Masud and Mishuk Munier, in the afternoon of August 13, 2011 in Manikganj in a tragic road crash.

The wreckage of the vehicle is part of the Road Accident Memorial Installation, inaugurated yesterday in memory of noted filmmaker Tarique Masud and media personality Mishuk Munier, and all other road accidents victims of the country.

Tarique's widow and chairperson of Tarique Masud Memorial Trust, Catherine Masud, told The Daily Star that after the accident, the survivors including her decided to preserve the wreckage hoping to use it somehow in

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BNP's FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY DISCUSSION Khaleda a no-show

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday did not attend the party's 36th founding anniversary discussion in the capital though she was supposed to do so.

It was the second time in less than two weeks she skipped a scheduled programme. On August 19, she did not show up at the 20-party alliance's rally at the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan.

Though Khaleda has not addressed the party anniversary discussions in the last several years, she would attend and listen to the leaders' speeches.

Yesterday, a chair was reserved for her and her name was splashed across the banner put at the stage of the programme in the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB).

The party top leadership could not say why she was absent.

Wishing anonymity, an executive committee leader of the party told The Daily Star, "We also asked the high-ups why madam did not turn up. They failed to give an answer. It ashamed us because we mentioned her name in the banner and kept a chair for her."

Khaleda, however, flanked by party leaders, placed a wreath and offered prayers at the grave of ex-president and

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DEMAND FOR REOPENING CU DORMS 'Shibir men' bomb rail stations

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Islami Chhatra Shibir activists of Chittagong University allegedly exploded at least eight crude bombs at two railway stations between the port city and the institution yesterday, demanding reopening of two dormitories, which are reportedly dominated by the student body.

None was reported hurt in the blasts at Sholoshohor and Chowdhury Hat stations, but there was panic among commuters and a disruption in the movement of the shuttle trains.

In the morning, some activists tried to intercept a CU-bound shuttle train at Sholoshohor, said Shahab Uddin, the stationmaster. The train started off one hour

late, at 8:45am, for this, he said.

When the train pulled away finally, three cocktails were blasted at the station, while five more went off at Chowdhury Hat station when it reached there, he said, adding that the demonstrators also set fire to the tracks.

Police, who were in the train, fired blank shots to disperse the demonstrators, said Arab Ali, assistant sub-inspector of the railway police.

Under the banner of general students, Shibir men have been demonstrating since Sunday, demanding reopening of Suhrawardy Hall and Shah Amanat Hall, which were declared temporarily closed

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Barisal city Jamaat leadership sued for sedition

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A sedition case was filed against 22 Jamaat-e-Islami men of Barisal city unit, including its top leadership, on Sunday, 17 days after police arrested them for allegedly planning destructive activities in the National Mourning Day programmes in the city.

The sued include Jamaat city Amir Moazzem Hossain Helal, Nayebe Amir Bazlur Rahman, and Secretary Jahiruddin Md Babar. The rest are activists.

The home ministry has ordered filing of the sedition case.

In the case lodged with Barisal Kotwal Police Station by Officer-in-Charge Shakhawat Hossain, they were charged with "hatching conspiracies against the state" and "planning acts of destruction". OC (investigation) Matiur Rahman is investigating the charges.

Police detained the 22 at Director's Bhavan in the city on August 14, and the court sent them to Barisal Central Jail the

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BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, flanked by party leaders, places a wreath at the grave of party founder and former president Ziaur Rahman in the capital yesterday, the 36th anniversary of the party's inception, in 1978.

PHOTO: STAR

FARUQI MURDER Another suspect being quizzed

Police still clueless

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detective police started quizzing another suspect in Sheikh Nurul Islam Faruqi murder case yesterday taking him on a two-day remand.

The suspect, Yousuf from Choudhagram in Comilla, held on Saturday night, was shown arrested in the murder case. The court has sent him on the remand.

Police have been grilling two others, Mahmuda Khatun and Shariful Islam, who were also shown arrested in the case.

Ashiqur Rahman, additional deputy commissioner of detective branch (West) of police, told The Daily Star that police have not yet been able to glean any information indicating

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NON-COMPLIANCE WITH COURT ORDER HC summons DMP boss, 2 other cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned Dhaka metropolitan police commissioner and two other police officers to it on September 10 for not complying with its order of deploying police force during construction works of the boundary wall of Azimpur graveyard.

The HC also asked the DMP commissioner, its deputy commissioner (south) and officer-in-charge of Lalbagh Police Station to explain about the non-compliance with the order.

In response to a contempt of court petition, the HC bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice Kazi Md Ejarul Haque Akondo also issued a rule upon the police officers to explain why contempt of court proceedings should not be initiated against them.

Earlier on August 1 last year, the HC following a writ petition directed the DMP commissioner to deploy police force during demolition of the new boundary wall to the Western side of Azimpur graveyard and reconstruction of its old boundary wall so that Dhaka City Corporation (South) can carry out the work without any obstruction.

Zakir Hossain from Azimpur filed the writ petition with the HC saying that the DCC (South) had damaged his father's grave at Azimpur graveyard while constructing the new boundary wall.

Zakir's lawyer M Asadullah told The Daily Star yesterday

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