

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina places a wreath on the graves of three of the four national leaders at the Banani graveyard in the capital yesterday marking the 39th anniversary of the Jail Killing Day. Of the four liberation movement heroes -- Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmad, Captain M Mansur Ali and AHM Quamruzzaman, the latter's grave is in Rajshahi.



PHOTO: BSS

REMARKS ON TARIQUE Case against Hanif dismissed

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday summarily dismissed a case filed against Awami League's Joint Secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif for making derogatory remarks about BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman.

Finding no grounds for taking cognizance of the charge, Metropolitan Magistrate Rashed Talukder dismissed the case.

Earlier in the day, Mir Shah Alam, BNP's Bogra district organising secretary, filed the case against the AL leader with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka.

In his complaint, the complainant alleged that Hanif on September 6 said Tarique had a link with Islamic State of Iraq (ISI), a militant organisation. The comment was published in

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Blackout might be act of sabotage: PM

Cabinet okays 23 holidays for 2015

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the government could not rule out the possibility that Saturday's 10-hour blackout was an act of sabotage following three crucial war crimes verdicts.

Speaking at the weekly cabinet meeting at the Secretariat, she asked ministers and law enforcement agencies to reinforce watch in every district to thwart any possible act of sabotage centering on the judgments.

The premier gave the observations and instructions after some ministers said war criminals and anti-liberation forces might be behind the blackout since verdicts were coming one after another.

Hasina said since a probe was going on the rare power failure, it would not be wise to draw a conclusion now, according to several cabinet members.

"But we are not ruling out any possibility. We have to keep every possibility in mind including a technical glitch and sabotage," she was quoted by a minister as saying.

The prime minister said though such kind of blackout was rare in the country, the power division officials and employees restored electricity supply within a very short time working throughout the day and thus deserved thanks.

Expressing happiness over the recent verdicts on war crimes, she said they were happy that the highest court upheld the death sentence on Jamaat-e-Islami leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman on the jail killing day [November 3] when

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Continued watch to block Ebola urgent

Advises WHO expert to governments in South-East Asia, cautions against complacency; lauds Bangladesh's steps

PORIMOL PALMA, back from Nepal

With the Ebola outbreak in West Africa still out of control, an expert of the World Health Organization (WHO) has advised governments in South-East Asia to keep vigilant round the clock to prevent the entry of the highly contagious virus into the region.

"Keep vigilant, maintain alert that is important. Don't be complacent," said Dr Rajesh Bhatia, director (communicable diseases) of the WHO regional office for South-East Asia.

He spoke to The Daily Star on the sidelines of a media workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The WHO regional office organised the programme on October 27-29 to create media awareness about Ebola and other emerging infectious diseases in the region, as the world has been on alert since the worst ever Ebola outbreak began early this



Dr Rajesh Bhatia

year. About Bangladesh's preparedness to prevent Ebola, Dr Rajesh said he was very impressed.

"I had a discussion with the WHO country director [in Bangladesh] who said he had the company of your health minister at the immigration of the airport in Dhaka and has seen that everything was in place," he said.

"When your minister monitors the things, it shows the importance... But, the preparations must sustain. There is no scope for complacency."

The disease killed nearly 5,000 people and infected more than 13,000, almost all of them in Africa. Seventeen cases were detected outside Africa and four of them died.

Dr Rajesh Bhatia said good infection control and surveillance systems were the key to preventing Ebola transmission from the West African countries--Guinea, Sierra Leone,

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Govt urged not to reduce marriageable age of girls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh (FNB) has urged the government not to reduce marriageable age of girls to 16 from 18.

The director of the organisation, M Tajul Islam, said setting 16 as the age at which girls can marry is similar to introducing child marriage in the country, according to a statement issued by FNB yesterday.

Besides, if the marriageable age is reduced to 16, this will negatively affect the progress the country made in education for girls, it added.

The organisation urged the government not to change the current marriageable age of girls.

Meet demands by Nov 7 or face movement again

Ctg Nursing College students want removal of principal, review of exam papers

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

The students of Chittagong Nursing College have threatened to resume movements if their demands are not met by November 7.

They issued a press release on Sunday in this regard.

Contacted, Syed Ahmed Tanshir Uddin, a third year student and president of CNC Students' Welfare Association, told The Daily Star that they met Chittagong Medical College Hospital director, who is also the chairman of the CNC Academic Council, on Saturday.

"He (the director) assured us of meeting our demands by November 7 and urged us to have patience," said Tanshir.

Pinky Chowdhury, a third year student and general secretary of the association, said the principal was still discharging her duties although the authorities, in a meeting, with them told that she would hand over the charge to a senior teacher by Saturday.

The students have been demonstrating since October 20 afternoon over low pass rate in the exam results of different batches published on that day.

They demanded that the results be reviewed and republished. They also sought resignation of the principal and transfer of a senior teacher.

The principal failed the students as they were vocal against the "corruption and irregularities by her", they claimed.

Earlier, Chandana Halder, a third year student, having a bandage around her right wrist, alleged, "The results were far below our expectation. Some 12 students went to the principal to talk about the unexpected results. But the principal without giving any answer first bit me in my wrist and then two more students who came to my rescue."

The agitating students postponed their movement on October 23 after the authorities had assured that they would meet

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PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Construction waste heaped up on the footpath beside building number 78 on Gulshan Avenue in the capital, forcing pedestrians dangerously onto the street and right in the path of oncoming traffic. The photo was taken yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

Vehicular movement was plenty in Chittagong city yesterday, the third day of a 72-hour hartal called by Jamaat-e-Islami protesting the death sentence handed down by International Crimes Tribunal-1 on Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami for his crimes against humanity during the Liberation War in 1971. The photo was taken in Dewanhat area around 11:00am.

NEWS IN brief

Supradip new envoy to Mexico

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The government decided to appoint Supradip Chakma, currently Bangladesh ambassador to Vietnam, as the new ambassador of Bangladesh to Mexico, according to a foreign ministry announcement yesterday.



A foreign cadre of BCS 1985 batch, Supradip Chakma previously served in the Bangladesh embassy in Rabat, Bangladesh high commission in Colombo, Bangladesh embassy in Brussels and Bangladesh embassy in Ankara in various capacities.

Man's body found in rest house

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Police recovered the floating body of a man from a pond of a rest house in Purabari area of Gazipur City Corporation yesterday.

On Sunday, the victim Rafikul Islam Rafik, 26, of Gaibandha also the caretaker of the house, had gone missing after he went out from the house to take his meal around 8:30pm, said police.

The body bore several injury marks and it was sent to Gazipur Sadar Hospital for an autopsy.

Guard found injured dies in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A security guard of an under-construction building died after he had been found with injuries in the head in his workplace on Jakir Hossain Road at the capital's Mohammadpur last night.

Abdul Karim, 45, was taken to a Dhanmondi hospital where he succumbed to his injuries, said police.

His body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for an autopsy.

The reason behind the incident could not be ascertained immediately, said Saiful Islam, sub-inspector of Mohammadpur Police Station.

Jail Killing Day observed at RU

RU CORRESPONDENT

To mark the 39th Jail Killing Day, Rajshahi University (RU) authorities organised a mourning rally on their campus yesterday.

Speakers at the rally urged the government to bring the fugitive killers home and execute them immediately.

Earlier, they also placed a wreath on the grave of AHM Quamruzzaman at Kadirganj of the city.

RU Vice-Chancellor Muhammad Mizanuddin and Pro-Vice Chowdhury Sarwar Jaham among others were present there.

23 Korean volunteers arrive

CITY DESK

Under a volunteer programme of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) 23 new Korean volunteers have arrived in Dhaka on Sunday, says a press release.

The volunteers will work with the local communities to contribute to socio-economic development through sharing their knowledge, skills and experiences with the people of Bangladesh.

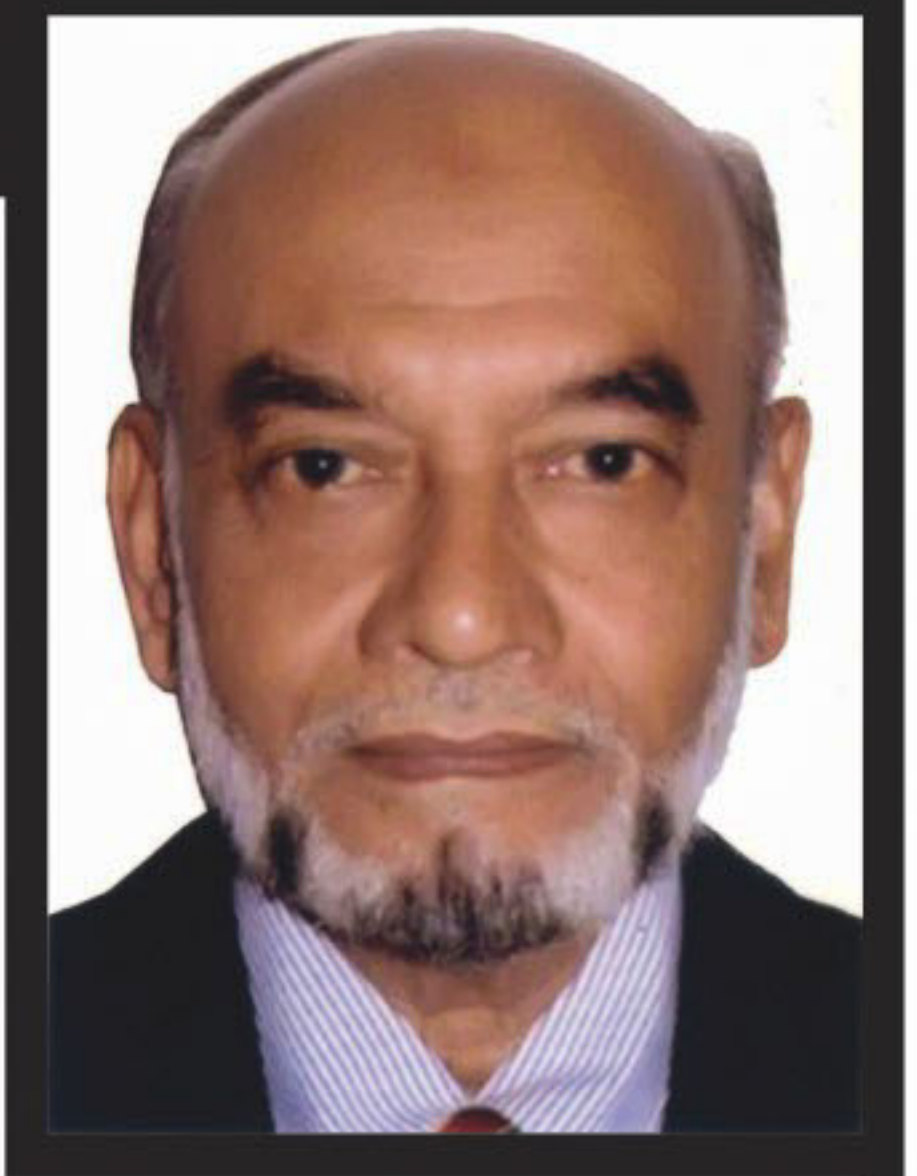
They will receive two-month local adaptation training on Bangladeshi language, culture and customs before their placement in respective working sites.

আমরা শোকাহত

আমরা গভীর দুঃখের সাথে জানাচ্ছি যে, রিলায়েন্স ফাইন্যান্স লিমিটেড এবং রিলায়েন্স ব্রোকারেজ সার্ভিসেস লিঃ এর সম্মানিত পরিচালক জনাব এম. মোসলেহ উদ্দিন এফসিএ (৮০) গত নভেম্বর ০২, ২০১৪ রবিবার বাংলাদেশ সময় রাত ১১:০০ টায় USAতে ইন্তেকাল করেছেন (ইনাল্লিহা ওয়া ইনাল্লাইহি রাজিউন)।

মৃত্যুকালে তিনি স্ত্রী, তিন পুত্র, নাতি-নাতনি, অসংখ্য শুভাকাঙ্ক্ষি ও আত্মীয়-স্বজন রেখে গেছেন।

রিলায়েন্স ফাইন্যান্স লিমিটেড এবং রিলায়েন্স ব্রোকারেজ সার্ভিসেস লিঃ এর পরিচালনা পর্ষদ এবং সকল কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীদের পক্ষ থেকে তাঁর মৃত্যুতে শোকাহত পরিবারের প্রতি গভীর শোক প্রকাশ করা হচ্ছে। মহান আল্লাহ তাঁদের এই শোক কাটিয়ে উঠার শক্তি দান করুন।



রিলায়েন্স ফাইন্যান্স লিমিটেড
রিলায়েন্স ব্রোকারেজ সার্ভিসেস লিঃ