

Hasina nudges US

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Hasina, also president of the ruling Awami League, was replying to a question about a recent media report on possible "cold relations" between Dhaka and Washington following AL General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam's critical remarks about a US diplomat.

"A problem may arise between two countries but I don't think that the diplomatic relations will come to an end or get worsen. Diplomatic relations will be maintained diplomatically. If any problem arises, that will be accordingly dealt with."

"...Many say that Bangladesh will be finished if America did not stand beside us. But this is not a fact. During our Liberation War, the US government did not give us any support," the PM said.

Referring to her government's foreign policy, Hasina said she did not believe in any East-West policy. "For the economic development of the country, we will deepen our relations with whoever we need and as much as we need. I think about improving the lives of the people first. This I consider my diplomatic success."

She also stressed the need for maintaining friendly relations with all nations.

The PM called the press conference to brief the media about the outcomes of her recent Malaysia visit and the Saarc Summit in Nepal.

Asked about the various problems between Bangladesh and Pakistan, the premier said the government would resolve the issues through dialogues. It is not wise to break diplomatic rela-

tions with any country.

Touching on her visit to Malaysia, she said around 12,000 workers would go to the country under an agreement between the two governments.

Hasina said due to the failure of the 2001-2007 BNP-Jamaat government, about 2.7 lakh workers had become illegal in Malaysia. As a result, the Malaysian government had stopped hiring people from Bangladesh.

After the AL-led government came to power in 2009, it started to work on the matter. So far, the AL government has been able to send 7,000 workers to that country, the PM said.

She called on the people not to enter Malaysia illegally through sea.

Replying to a query on the latest TIB report that said corruption was increasing in Bangladesh, Hasina said her government would verify the report.

However, she added the source of income of those who speak about corruption and how they spend the money would also be investigated. "Accountability is applicable to all."

This year, Bangladesh ranked the 14th most corrupt country, according to the TIB report. Last year, Bangladesh's position was 16th on the graft index.

The PM said military dictators, including late president Ziaur Rahman, brought about corruption in the country.

She also advised that the TIB disclose the names of the sector where corruption was taking place.

Mentioning that "petty corruptions" are commonplace everywhere in the world, Hasina called on the TIB:

"We are in the government. If we have indulged in any corruption, tell us."

PM DEFENDS BIMAN CHAIRMAN

Hasina defended Biman Chairman Air Marshal (retd) Jamal Uddin Ahmed, who recently came under fire following the arrests of five people, including three top Biman officials and his alleged godson, in a gold smuggling case.

The premier said the media ran fabricated reports about the Biman boss.

Referring to news reports about Mahbubur Rahman Palash, the alleged godson of Jamal Uddin, she said, "Those reports were rubbish. Where is the truth of the allegations? No truth was found."

Biman insiders recently alleged that Palash, despite holding no post in Biman, used to identify himself as the godson of Jamal Uddin. Also, using the Biman chairman's influence he used to play roles in leasing of Biman and transfer and posting of officials and staff of the national carrier.

But the Biman chairman told The Daily Star that he knew Palash as he was from his home district Comilla, and visited him several times for jobs.

The PM added, "Often, the print media report in such a way that those who are not actually responsible seem guilty."

Those who had link with gold smuggling have been arrested. "Neither the Biman chairman nor anybody else from Biman went to have them released. They have been arrested and all necessary steps are being taken against them -- then why such reports?" she said.

Shamsher Mobin Chowdhury, Sabih Uddin Ahmed, and Maj Gen (retd) Fazle Elahi Akbar, defence adviser to the BNP chief, were at the Gulshan office at the time.

Fakhru, acting secretary general of BNP, denies reports of any such meeting.

Back in 2006, some 15 serving public officials who were known to be close to the BNP attended a secret meeting at an office of former energy adviser Mahmudul Rahman on the night of November 24, triggering a huge uproar.

then VC of the university.

Mujibur then joined the Indian Civil Service (ICS) following recommendations from Sir Ashutosh to the ICS selection board.

Sayyada said his brother, now in the UK, planned to get his colleagues and friends involved in charitable activities to improve facilities at other DU departments.

"I think this initiative will inspire other people, particularly the alumni of Dhaka University. Many organisations may also be encouraged to contribute to the university," she added.

Everybody said the acting chief of the foundation, does not necessarily need to build an eight-storey building. Even supporting an individual could be of big help to a hard-up student.

"We don't like to take individual initiatives thinking that the problem is so grave and therefore, the move would not bring much benefit," she observed.

The troubles, of course, are intimidating, but if we all can do a little at personal level, 25 percent of the problems would be solved, said Sayyada.

following the horrors of the First World War writing to his friend Carl Herman Unthan: "I must admit that it always pains me when the few little blossoms that grew in my flowerbed must suffer by being used to decorate the banner of nationalism."

"For I am a pacifist and, in these times of hate, am steadily intent on encouraging reconciliation."

Having documented the first 44 years of his life, the team behind the project plans to add more volumes to the archive as they are compiled and printed. The 14th volume, with more than 1,000 documents, is set to be released in January and will be digitised at a later date.

The website is a collaboration involving the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Princeton University Press and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. It includes both the German originals and the English translations.

Diana Kormos-Buchwald, director of the Einstein Papers Project at Caltech is quoted by the Los Angeles Daily News as saying: "This is an ongoing project. We have reached his 44th birthday."

"People from China to South America and India and many other places where they don't have access to these volumes will be able to access these materials."

And the scientist, who died at the age of 76, sets out his pacifist stance

Death toll from Chechnya clashes rises to 24

APP, Moscow

A total of 14 security officers were killed in clashes earlier this week with Islamist militants in Chechnya's Grozny, the Russian interior ministry said yesterday, bringing the toll from the violence to 24.

"Fourteen policemen died during the counter-terrorism operation in Grozny." Russian agencies quoted a ministry spokesman as saying of the violence on Thursday.

Previously Russia's National Anti-Terrorist Committee said that 10 police and 10 Islamist rebels were killed as heavily armed gunmen stormed buildings including a school and exchanged fire with security officers.

Twenty-eight policemen were injured, with 12 airlifted for emergency treatment in Moscow. The interior ministry gave no new details on the injured policemen yesterday.

The Thursday attack came on the day President Vladimir Putin gave his state of the nation address, and was seen by analysts as a demonstrative show of force by the insurgency which the Kremlin has spent years attempting to eradicate.

Authorities declared the counter-terrorism operation yesterday after closing off the city centre on Thursday and deploying armed personnel carriers. A local market, a high-rise building housing media and a school were heavily damaged by fire and shooting.

Robber killed

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of "Sabuj Bahini", said Captain Abul Bashar of Barisal Rapid Action Battalion-8.

Sabuj stood accused in several cases including one for murder. He was a listed criminal, police said.

Captain Bashar claimed the gunfight started around 7:00pm near Kawkhali College when a team of Barisal Rab-8 challenged the members of Sabuj Bahini preparing for robbery.

DAD Ruhul Amin of the crime-busting force was injured in the shootout.

The Rab personnel found Sabuj's body lying near the college field. They also recovered a rifle, a revolver, a sharp weapon and five handmade bombs from the spot.

Living for

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three ECG machines," Mushfiqur explained.

"We will take action against the doctor following submission of the investigation team's report," he added.

The woman, who was undergoing treatment on the seventh floor of the hospital's new building, had no attendants and was not provided with proper treatment other than an intravenous saline drip and some injections, patients in her ward alleged.

After she moved her limbs, generating quite a buss in and around the hospital, she was hurriedly shifted to a bed at Ward No-802.

"She did not receive any lab test because of her not having an attendant who usually arranges a test. We suggested some tests on her on that night," doctors at the ward told The Daily Star.

DMCH sources said the woman, who was suffering from Malnutrition, was found lying on the footpath when a drive was being carried out on Tuesday to evict illegal, roadside shops adjacent to the emergency unit of the hospital.

The body was sent to the DMCH morgue for an autopsy.

Assistant sub-inspector Haider Ali of DMCH police camp said no one came to claim the body till 7:00pm yesterday.

Truck kills

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She died on the spot, Rosul said.

Enraged, locals barricaded the road for around an hour, disrupting the traffic.

The body was handed over to the victim's family after an autopsy, said Hedayet Hossain, sub-inspector of Satkhira Sadar Police Station.

An unnatural death case has been filed.

Fresh protests erupt

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of activists massed in New York's Foley Square, near the city police headquarters shouting "Shut it down" and carrying placards saying "Black Lives Matter" and "Racism Kills."

"We cannot tolerate police impunity. The government has to do something. They have a video showing what happened," said a 40-year-old demonstrator who gave his name only as Jonathan.

Police sealed off the Holland Tunnel, the key road link into New Jersey as US media reported that thousands streamed up the west side of Manhattan, clogging streets in downtown Manhattan and shutting traffic on the Manhattan Bridge heading to Brooklyn.

Another group marched across the Brooklyn Bridge, with a black banner that said "this stops today" and 10 black coffins inscribed with names of people killed by police in different city boroughs.

Hundreds then continued the march through Brooklyn, followed by police but an AFP reporter saw no incidents of unrest.

National controversy over Garner's death and a series of other incidents were fanned further Thursday by a damning US federal investigation which concluded that police in Cleveland routinely employ "excessive force."

Violated in the raid but that air force patrols had been stepped up in the border region.

Forces loyal to the government have carried out a series of air strikes in western Libya in recent days, drawing condemnation from the UN mission to the North African country, which said it was undermining its efforts to broker an end to the unrest.

"One Libya Shield member was killed and between three and five were wounded," spokesman Hafedh Muammar told AFP.

Libya Shield forms part of the Islamist-backed militia alliance which seized the capital and much of the west in August, forcing the internationally backed government to take refuge in the remote east.

Tunisian defence ministry spokesman Belhassen Oueslati told AFP that the country's air space had not been

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- Sealed tenders are invited from bona-fide suppliers for supplying computer consumables (original/genuine toner i.e. toners of same brands as that of existing printers of the Bank).
- The participating company must have at least 3 (three) years' proven experience in supplying HP toners for HP laser printers and 2 (two) years' proven experience in supplying OKI/Xerox/Samsung toners for OKI/Xerox/Samsung laser printers in any schedule Bank in Bangladesh / Bangladesh Bank or must have previous record of successfully supplying toner for laser printer to BASIC Bank Limited. The participating company must submit relevant document(s) as proof of its experience as mentioned here.
- The participating company must be an authorized dealer/distributor of the brands of toners offered in the tender. For HP toners the participating company must be an HP IPG Consumer Partner.
- 2.5% of the quoted price has to be submitted with the tender through PO/DD in the name of BASIC Bank Limited, Head Office, Dhaka as earnest money. Earnest money can be forfeited for reasons mentioned in the tender schedule.
- The tender schedule may be obtained from ICT Division (Peoples Insurance Bhaban-5th Floor, 36 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka) of BASIC Bank Limited between 10:00 A.M. and 02:00 P.M. of all working days at a price of Tk 1,000/- only in cash (non refundable). No schedule will be sold after 02:00 P.M. of December 17, 2014.
- Sealed tenders have to be dropped in the tender box kept at the ICT Division (Peoples Insurance Bhaban-5th Floor, 36 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka) of BASIC Bank Limited on or before December 18, 2014 by 04:00 P.M., and the tenders will be opened at 04:05 P.M. on the same day in presence of participating companies, if any.
- Tender details and other terms and conditions can be found in the tender schedule.

Deputy General Manager

ICT Division

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- Sealed tenders have to be dropped in the tender box kept at the ICT Division (Peoples Insurance Bhaban-5th floor, 36 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka) of BASIC Bank Limited on or before December 18, 2014 by 4:00 P.M., and the tenders will be opened at 4:05 P.M. on the same day in presence of bidders, if any.
- Other terms and conditions can be found in the tender schedule.

Deputy General Manager

ICT Division