

The almost barren stretch of street, in front of BNP national headquarters in the capital, blocked off by cops yesterday, was one of the two expected venues for exercising the democratic right to protest for the party-led 20-party alliance, marking what they called, "the day when democracy was annihilated last year" through the holding of the January 5 voterless national polls, but it succumbed to this due to the government's denial of a permission.



PHOTO: STAR

## No German envoy in Dhaka for 7 months

Diplomatic amity not at its best  
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

There has been no German ambassador in Bangladesh for the last seven months because of Dhaka's reluctance to accept the proposed appointment of a new envoy who reportedly made some remarks displeasing the Sheikh Hasina-administration.

Diplomatic sources said the German government appointed career diplomat Dr Gabriela Guellil as its next ambassador to Bangladesh in July 2014 but Dhaka did not respond to the agreement, the official naming of a new envoy.

Admitting the incident, a high official at the foreign ministry yesterday said, "... remaining silent on any agreement means rejection."

The official declined to say anything about the reason behind the rejection but hinted that before her name was proposed, Dr Guellil, then German ambassador in Cyprus, made some "comments going against Dhaka" and so it declined to accept her appointment.

What she said was not shared by the foreign ministry officials.

As per the Vienna Convention of Diplomatic Relations 1961, the receiving country can reject any proposed name without showing any reason, said the officials.

Ferdinand Von Weyhe, chargé d'affaires at the German

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## 3 more arson, bomb blast cases filed against Fakhrul

80 other 20-party alliance leaders also accused  
COURT CORRESPONDENT

Three cases were filed against BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and many other leaders of the BNP-led 20-party alliance in connection with torching vehicles and blasting crude bombs in the capital's Motijheel and Paltan areas on Sunday.

In the cases, Fakhrul and BNP leader Mirza Abbas were shown "instigators".

Earlier on December 30, another case was filed against Fakhrul and 42 other leaders of the alliance for torching a government bus at Paltan intersection on the day before.

Of the cases filed on Sunday, two were filed

with Paltan Police Station against Fakhrul and 28 other leaders of the alliance, and the remaining one with Motijheel Police Station against Fakhrul and 80 others.

Assistant Sub-Inspector Mominul Haque of Sergeant Ahad Police Box filed one of the cases against Fakhrul and 28 others for torching a vehicle in front of Hawkers' Market on Bangabandhu Avenue.

Sub-Inspector Zulhas Miah of Paltan Police Station filed another case against the same people for torching a vehicle in front of Azad Products Ltd.

The remaining case was filed against Fakhrul and 80 other leaders for torching a

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## JP leaders to quit Hasina's cabinet

Says Raushan; adds her party wants to play effective role as opposition  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leader of the Opposition Raushan Ershad yesterday said her party would decide on quitting the Awami League-led alliance cabinet soon to play the role of an effective opposition party.

The Jatiya Party president member said the party discussed the issue and would take the final decision after talks with Chairman HM Ershad.

Raushan was addressing a press conference at the Media Centre at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, marking the first anniversary of the 10th national election.

She came up with the remarks just a month after Ershad in December said discussion was going on about resignation of the JP

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## Hasan shot my father in back

Testifies 7th prosecution witness in war crimes case, tribunal fixes Jan 12 to pass order on contempt of court petition against Jamaat, leaders including that of Shibir, Azharul's counsel  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Hasan Ali

A prosecution witness yesterday narrated how war crimes accused fugitive Hasan Ali, accompanied by 30-35 Razakars, shot his fleeing father in the back and looted valuables from his house in Kishoreganj's Konabhawal village on August 23, 1971.

Meanwhile, International Crimes Tribunal-1 fixed January 12 to state whether it would initiate contempt of

court proceedings against Jamaat-Islami, three Jamaat and two Shibir leaders and a lawyer representing war crimes convict ATM Azharul Islam over a haral and comments centring the verdict.

Testifying before International Crimes Tribunal-1, Emdad Hossain Bhuiyan, the seventh witness, said his brother Shahjahan Bhuiyan served in the police force before taking part in the Liberation War and his father

Tofazzal Hossain Bhuiyan in the Ansar as a commander before training local freedom fighters.

Arriving around 2:00am, Hasan started dragging Tofazzal out of bed after the latter, even in the face of death threats, denied knowing Shahjahan's whereabouts. When Emdad begged for his father's life, Hasan slapped him hard, said the witness.

When the Pakistani occupation

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The wailing driver of a bus set on fire allegedly by BNP-led alliance activists in front of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in the capital on Sunday, on the eve of the political combine's countrywide demonstration yesterday.  
PHOTO: STAR

## Don't leave streets till Hasina's fall

Tarique asks BNP leaders, activists  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Senior Vice-Chairman Tarique Rahman has urged his party leaders and activists to continue their "all-pervading" movement and remain on the streets until the overthrow of the government.

"The demonstration has spread out. It must continue more vigorously. The aim of our movement is to see off Sheikh Hasina's administration," he told a party discussion in East London on Sunday, marking the "annihilation of democracy day" on January 5.

"Cut communications of all districts, upazilas, and unions with each other, and with Dhaka city," Tarique, also the elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, directed his

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### চেম্বার পরিবর্তন

বাংলাদেশ ও উপমহাদেশের প্রথম কলোরেকটাল সার্জন  
অধ্যাপক ডাঃ এ.কে. এম ফজলুল হক

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