

ANGER SPREADING FAST



Graft free DNCC, streetlights by Shab-e-Barat in South Dhaka
 New mayors Annisul, Khokon declare from reception accorded by supporters
 STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Newly elected Dhaka north Mayor Annisul Huq expressed his commitment to make the city corporation free from corruption, while his counterpart in Dhaka south Sayeed Khokon pledged to make all street lights operational by Shab-e-Barat.

They were accorded a reception by Sahasra Nagorik Committee, a Pro-Awami League citizens' platform, at the Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh yesterday.

Annisul said people call Dhaka city corporation Dhaka "corruption" corporation and they have to bring an end to that.

He further said that not all employees of the city corporations are corrupt; about 30 to 35 percent might be corrupt.

He criticised the assault on a woman by police on Sunday, and said he promised to make the city for women, but photos of the incident in newspapers brought him shame.

Meanwhile, Sayeed Khokon said they want to distribute free garbage bags to the city residents in a bid to keep the city clean.

He said it is also the duty of the city dwellers to help them keep the city clean.

Poet Syed Shamsul Haq, convener of Sahasra Nagorik Committee, urged the mayors to take visible steps to solve city problems like reducing traffic congestion, which will make residents accept them more easily.

The recent aggressive behaviour of police sparked a storm of protests, particularly after Sunday's beating of Bangladesh Chhatra Union activists who were protesting police failures to arrest the Pahela Baishakh molesters of females. Clockwise from top left, people from a cross-section of the society condemn the assault from a sit-in at the capital's Shahbagh. The Arts Building of Dhaka University locked by student organisations as part of a strike, also observed at Jahangirnagar, Chittagong, and Jagannath universities, with a 6-point demand including removal of the nonchalant DU proctor. Noted playwright-director-actor Mamunur Rashid speaks at a Chhatra Union rally titled Palta Aghat (Retaliation) at Raju memorial. A human chain of Samajik Protirodh Committee before Jatiya Press Club. Another of Bangladesh Chhatra League backed by JSD at the same place. At Jahangirnagar, students of journalism and media studies stage a sit-in in front of the New Arts Building demanding termination of Sergeant Imran of DMP, who assaulted Asst Prof Rakib Ahmed on Saturday night.

PHOTO: STAR

BEATING OF PROTESTERS OF PAHELA BAISHAKH MOLESTATION OF FEMALES

Report action against brutal cops by June 14

High Court orders inspector general of police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered the inspector general of police to report to it by June 14 the action taken against those policemen who have assaulted demonstrators near Dhaka Metropolitan Police headquarters.

The HC came up with the order following a writ petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Eunus Ali Akond on Monday challenging legality of the

police action on the demonstrators, who were protesting the molestation of females at Dhaka University during Pahela Baishakh celebrations.

The HC also sought explanation why the police action would not be declared illegal.

A bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul and Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman issued the rule also asking the government to explain why it should not be directed to take legal action against the law enforcers responsible for the assault on protesters.

Some 30 to 40 rowdy youths assaulted and sexually harassed around 20 females for about an hour at the Suhrawardy Udyan gate near TSC on April 14.

Police could not arrest anyone in this regard despite having closed-circuit camera footage on the incident.

About a hundred activists of Bangladesh Chhatra Union came under the police attack near

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Create ministerial div for plain land Adivasis

Parliamentary caucus tells budget discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Parliamentary Caucus on Indigenous Peoples yesterday demanded creation of a division under the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) affairs ministry to look after the welfare of indigenous people of plain land.

Without a ministry looking after them, they are always forgotten in budget discussions and allocations, the caucus leaders told a views exchange meeting on the

national budget and Adivasi people at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

"A division for plain land adivasis can be opened at the CHT ministry. But we'll have to be careful that the step doesn't create unnecessary divisions among the Adivasi peoples," said Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon.

He added that the caucus would meet the finance minister to press home its demand

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HC judge declines to hear Falu's bail plea in arson case

He gets bail in another case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court judge yesterday expressed unwillingness to hear a bail petition of BNP leader Mosaddak Ali Falu in a vandalism and arson case.

Justice Bhabani Prasad Singha expressed the unwillingness without mentioning any reason, M Masud Rana, a counsel for Falu, told The Daily Star. He said they will move

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Arrest 11 Jessore Razakar suspects

Int'l Crimes Tribunal orders police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday issued arrest warrants for 11 alleged Razakars of Jessore on charges of committing crimes during the Liberation War in 1971.

All 11 hail from Keshabpur upazila, and they were allegedly involved in rape and killing in the district, Prosecutor Rezia Sultana Chaman told The Daily Star.

She said, "We prayed to the tribunal to issue arrest orders for the sake of a fair investigation."

In the petition, the prosecution said that while investigating the war crimes allegations against former BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Sakhawat Hossain in Jessore, the investigation officer found involvement of the 11 suspects in several crimes.

The 11 were "associates of Sakhawat Hossain" and also members of Razakar Bahini, an auxiliary force of the Pakistani army in 1971, said the investigator Abdur Razzaque Khan.

The suspects are Ibrahim Hossain, Billal Hossain,

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