

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE Situation graver than stated in US report Claims BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The BNP yesterday alleged the "gravity of human rights violation by the government" is more horrifying than it was stated in a recent US report on human rights abuses.

The party termed "disgraceful" for the country the findings of the US report.

"... It [the report] said there were no democracy, press freedom and freedom of expression in Bangladesh. This is very much disgraceful for us as an independent nation," BNP Spokesman Asaduzzaman Ripon told a press briefing at the party's Nayapaltna central office yesterday.

On June 25, US Secretary of State John Kerry presented the 2014 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices at the US Department of State in Washington DC.

Bangladesh is a secular, pluralistic parliamentary democracy with a vibrant civil society, the report said in its Bangladesh chapter.

The constitution provides for freedom of speech and press, but the government sometimes failed to respect these rights. There were some limitations on freedom of speech, it claimed.

Ripon, also the BNP's international affairs secretary, said as an opposition, the BNP was not cheerful following such a report as the party "believed in positive politics."

In the report, the US said the most significant human rights problems in Bangladesh were extrajudicial killings and forced disappearances, some restrictions on online speech and the press, and poor working conditions and labour rights.

Ripon claimed the report mentioned that the international community did not accept the January-5 elections as it was questionable. "The US also doesn't think that the current government represents the people of the country," he added.

'INSTIGATING SUICIDE' Govt Bangla College's BCL president sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent to jail the president of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), Government Bangla College unit after he was arrested for culpability in instigating the suicide of a female BCL leader.

The accused is Zahid Mahmud, Sub-Inspector Krishna Roy of Kafrul Police Station told The Daily Star.

The victim, Brishti, was a student of the same institution and a leader of Kafrul thana unit BCL, he added.

Zahid was arrested in Kafrul Police Station around 12:15am when he went there allegedly to intercept the filing of a case against him for instigating the suicide.

Jewel Rana, the victim's uncle, claimed Zahid and Brishti had developed a physical relationship after he promised to marry her. However, he refused to marry her when she became pregnant. He also tried to have the baby aborted.

Brishti then filed a GD with the police station on May 2, but later withdrew it after Zahid pressured her.

Jewel claimed that Zahid had been issuing death threats to Brishti's family as they put pressure on him to marry her.

After his continuous refusals and threats, Brishti attempted suicide by hanging herself on June 13, and succumbed to her injuries days later, Jewel Rana told The Daily Star.

Brishti's family filed a case with Kafrul Police Station against Zahid and Mujibur Rahman Anik, general secretary of BCL, Government Bangla College unit who also threatened the family.



PHOTO: AFP

The IS from a twitter account has identified this man as the Tunisian seaside shooter by the nom de guerre of Abu Yahya al-Qayrawani. More on page 8.

IS claims Tunisia

FROM PAGE 16

Tunisian Prime Minister Habib Essid said 38 people had been killed, revising down an earlier toll of 39 given by the health ministry. An official there told AFP the original figure had included the dead gunman.

Most of those killed were from Britain -- implying this could be the biggest loss of British life in a militant attack since the July 2005 bombings in London when 52 died -- while Germans, Belgians, French were also among the dead, the premier said.

Britain's Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond said earlier five Britons had been killed and he expected the toll to rise, while his Irish counterpart confirmed an Irish woman was among the dead.

Dozens more were wounded when a man pulled a gun from inside a beach umbrella and opened fire on crowds of tourists at the five-star Riu Imperial Marhaba Hotel in the popular Mediterranean resort of Port el Kantaoui.

The attack, the second against tourists in Tunisia this year, comes on the same day that 27 people were killed at a Shia mosque in Kuwait and a suspected Islamist attacked a factory in France.

IS claimed both the bombing and the attack in Tunisia, which came at the start of the holy Muslim month of Ramadan and just days before the first anniversary of the group declaring its territory in Iraq and Syria a "caliphate."

IS said the gunman, who they identified as Abu Yahya al-Qayrawani, was a "soldier of the caliphate" who had targeted enemies of the jihadist group and "dens (of...) fornication, vice and apostasy."

Most of those killed were "subjects of states that make up the crusader alliance fighting the state of the caliphate", the group said in a statement released on Twitter, referring to the group of countries that have been bombarding its positions in the Middle East.

But an initial investigation by the Tunisian Government identified the attacker as Seiffeddine Rezgui, a 23-year-old student who was not previously known to Tunisia's security services.

The gunman dressed in shorts and a T-shirt to disguise himself as a tourist before firing at holidaymakers with a Kalashnikov he had concealed a beach

umbrella.

An eyewitness to the massacre told a local radio station the gunman was laughing and "joking around, like a normal guy" as he chose who to shoot.

"Some people, he was saying to them, 'You go away'. He was choosing tourists, British, French," the witness said. The gunman was shot dead by police.

Tunisian Prime Minister Habib Essid said Rezgui came from Gafour, a poor town in the Siliana region, and had been a student at the University of Kairouan. He had never left the country and was not known to security services.

Essid offered a cash reward in a news conference yesterday for information leading to the arrests of members of terrorist sleeper cells, reports Independent.co.uk.

Harrowing accounts of the shooting surfaced over night, including video footage showing terrified people fleeing a beach strewn with bodies as gun shots are fired. One British survivor tweeted the moment the gunman stormed the resort and shared pictures from inside his blockaded hotel room.

The attack, along with the killings in France and Kuwait, sparked a chorus of international condemnation with the White House vowing to "fight the scourge of terrorism" and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon saying those responsible for the "appalling" attacks "must be swiftly brought to justice".

By early morning yesterday, hundreds of tourists were arriving at Enfidha airport in a mad scramble to leave the country, according to an AFP journalist on the scene.

Essid announced new anti-terrorism measures, including the deployment of reserve troops to reinforce security at "sensitive sites... and places that could be targets of terrorist attacks".

The "exceptional plan to better secure tourist and archaeological sites" will include "deploying armed tourist security officers all along the coast and inside hotels from 1 July," he added.

Tunisian President Beji Caid Essebsi told AFP that his country cannot stand up to the jihadist threat alone, and urged a unified global strategy.

Tunisia, birthplace of the Arab Spring, has seen a surge in radical Islam since veteran president Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was ousted in the 2011 revolution.

Senate members

FROM PAGE 4 can't be a good intention behind this." This indicates that the university is not being run democratically, he said.

As per the university act, senate members will be elected in a regular interval, and before every meeting, held once a year, expired memberships should be replaced with new ones. However, the act also states that if the new members cannot be elected, the old senate can hold the meeting.

On Wednesday, a group of teachers including Prof Atiq handed a memorandum over to VC Prof Farzana Islam, requesting her to reconstitute the senate before its meeting.

The VC was not available for comments.

Liquid cocaine

FROM PAGE 16

Sources said all the 107 barrels were found in a container which was sealed off by Chittagong Detective Branch (DB) of police on June 6.

They added the container was opened on June 8 in the presence of top officials from different law enforcement agencies.

Initially an expert team from Narcotics Control Department (NCD) conducted a primary test on samples collected from all the barrels but could not detect the presence of any drug in them, Our Chittagong correspondent reports.

DB officials on June 6 held one Soheli, an employee of a local firm, in connection with the import of the barrels.

App to help

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After that experience, which, she says, "blew my mind," Ms Ahmad began an initiative at the university which allowed the dining hall to donate any excess food to local homeless shelters.

The initiative became so successful that it expanded to roughly 140 other colleges and universities across America in just three years.

Now CEO of a not-for-profit service called Feeding Forward, Ms Ahmad told New York's Daily News how excess food-wastage "is literally the world's dumbest problem."

She added: "Hunger is bad, it's terrible everywhere. But in America, the most prosperous, industrialised country in the world, this shouldn't exist."

Putting the problem into perspective, she said: "Imagine a football stadium filled to its brim. That's how much food goes wasted every single day in America."

So, how does the Feeding Forward app work?

It allows companies and event planners to donate their surplus food to those in need within their area -- with the click of a button.

They tell Feeding Forward drivers where they are located and the drivers collect the leftovers, taking them to where they are needed most.

So far, Feeding Forward only serves those in the San Francisco area, but the company has managed to feed some 575,000 homeless people in the city.

America's food-waste problem -- and indeed the world's -- is not down to a lack of food, Ms Ahmad said. "It's an inequitable distribution of food."

Since the story was featured on the CNET news website, Ms Ahmad said she has heard from thousands of people who are eager to see the company expand further out.

"I didn't expect it to blow up," she told Daily News. "People as far as Nairobi, Bangalore and Hong Kong have written to us [sic] asking us to expand Feeding Forward to their cities and countries."

"I didn't expect it to blow up."

The app is currently undergoing a revamp, but will be available again from August.

EU rejects Greek bid

FROM PAGE 16 The Greek government threw out the bailout proposal from its international creditors.

The latest developments put the country's future in the euro on the line.

After weeks of talks, Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said he could not accept the terms being offered by Europe and the IMF. He said he would recommend that Greeks vote against them in a referendum on July 5.

That brought an abrupt end to a series of discussions aimed at finding a way for the creditors to release the remaining 7.2 billion euros of Greece's huge bailout, in return for budget savings and economic reforms.

Now European leaders seem to be turning to a Plan B -- focusing on how to mitigate the damage of a Greek default.

"The euro area authorities stand ready to do whatever is necessary to ensure financial stability of the euro area," the finance ministers said yesterday.

The prospect of a default may force the European Central Bank to curtail the emergency funding that has been keeping Greek banks afloat while account holders withdrew tens of billions of euros.

The ECB was reported to be planning to an emergency call Sunday to discuss funding for Greek banks. The outcome of that meeting could determine whether Greece will have to limit cash withdrawals starting tomorrow.

Twitter users in Athens were

already reporting signs of lengthening queues outside ATMs in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Left-wing leader Tsipras was elected earlier this year on a promise to end austerity. But Europe and the IMF have largely stuck to their guns, arguing that Greece needs to generate surpluses so it can service its enormous debts.

European governments are caught between trying to find a way to help Greece recover from five years of crisis, and concerns among their own voters about throwing good money after bad.

Tsipras said the demand by the bailout lenders for more labor market reform, cuts to pensions and public sector wages, and increases in taxes on food, restaurants and tourism amounted to an attempt to humiliate "the entire Greek people."

"These proposals mainly highlight the insistence of the IMF on harsh and punitive austerity," Tsipras said on Greek TV.

The Greek government has been negotiating with its creditors over the terms of the bailout agreement for four months.

While Tsipras disapproves of the new bailout plan, he said he would respect the way the public votes on July 5.

But by then it may be too late. The existing bailout agreement expires on Tuesday, and it's almost impossible to imagine Europe agreeing to extend given the Greek government's resolute opposition to its proposals.

11 lakh students

FROM PAGE 16 be declared soon.

Tired of browsing the website frequently for three days, admission seekers said they were fed up.

"I don't know what is actually going on. I've been facing troubles since the beginning of the admission process and it's still uncertain whether I would be able to get enrolled in my desired college," said Rokhsana Amin, who prefers Viqarunnisa Noon School and College to other colleges.

The parents and guardians became more concerned and enraged.

"Why did the government go for this system if it didn't know how to manage the process? It just left the fate of millions of students uncertain," said Halimur Bashar, father of an admission seeker.

Prof Abu Bakar Siddique said a team of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) was working to resolve the technical glitch with the website.

The website was allegedly hacked several times when the authorities wanted to upload the list. The board officials, however, claimed that there was no incident of hacking.

Sources said the software that the Buet team used was not appropriate for

maintaining a huge amount of data.

They also said the number of applicants was large and the variety of students' choices of colleges had made the situation even more complicated.

The admission process allows a student to choose from five colleges, of which one will be given to him or her on the basis of merit.

Speaking anonymously, a Dhaka education board official said there should have been a trial run of the software before starting of the admission process.

Admitting the technical glitch, Education Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan yesterday told reporters that they were working round the clock and expressed hope that the list would be published soon.

Earlier, a statement of Dhaka board had said the students on the first merit list would be able to get admitted to colleges on June 27-30 without paying a late fee.

A second merit list would be published on July 2 based on the seats available in colleges.

Due to the unexpected delay, the government is now considering extending the dates.

As per the academic calendar, classes in colleges are to start on July 1.

2 more die

FROM PAGE 16

Cox's Bazar has been hit by incessant rain for the last five days. The rainfall may continue for the next two days, said Met office sources.

On Friday, at least 10 people were killed in flash floods and landslides, triggered by torrential rains in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban.

The Cox's Bazar Met office recorded 67.4 millimetres of rain in 60 hours till Friday 6:00pm, highest in the district in four decades, said meteorologist AKM Najmul Haque.

The district administration has allocated 150 tonnes of rice and a cash amount of Tk 11 lakh for the affected people.

Acting Deputy Commissioner Anupam Saha of Cox's Bazar said families of each of the dead would be given Tk 20,000.

Many people have been marooned

by flash floods in all upazilas of the district. About one lakh people took shelter at cyclone centres, he added.

Cox's Bazar Sadar upazila, Ramu, Pekua and Chakaria were badly affected by downpours.

Big chunks of earth from nearby hills blocked the Cox's Bazar-Teknaf marine drive road and a part of it was submerged at Kolatali point, disrupting traffic.

Around 80 percent area of Ramu and Pekua upazilas went under water. Five out of 10 unions in Cox's Bazar Sadar upazila have been inundated.

Traffic on the Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway declined sharply in the last three days.

There is hardly any tourist now in the country's most popular tourist destination. Hotel staff in the town have been passing time idly.

DU, JU announce

FROM PAGE 4

For research, Tk 4.5 crore has been allocated which accounts for only 1.06 percent and the education sector has got Tk 50.51 crore, or 11.93 percent of the total budget.

The low allocation will narrow the opportunities of extensive research, said teachers.

The University Grants Commission will provide Tk 371.15 crore while Tk 39 crore will be collected from the university's internal resources. The authorities will face a deficit of Tk 15.35 crore this year as they failed to get the desired amount from the government and due to insufficient internal income.

About 75.33 percent of the budget will be spent for salaries and pensions of teachers, officials and employees. The rest of the budget will be spent for renovation and maintenance of the university infrastructure.

DU Treasurer Prof Kamal said the authorities can consider increasing tuition and other charges to increase the internal income.

Our JU correspondent adds, with only 0.48 percent of money for research, the JU senate sanctioned a Tk 119 crore budget in its 34th annual budget session.

Tk 56.6 lakh was announced for conducting research, which is only Tk 10,000 more than the previous fiscal's.

Treasurer Prof Abul Khaer announced the budget with a deficit of Tk 6.27 crore. He said Tk 106 crore will come from the University Grants Commission and the rest from JU's own fund.

Of the total allocation, Tk 8.67 crore will be spent for examinations, Tk 87.16 lakh for education and the remaining money for salaries of the teachers and staff and other purposes, said the senate sources.

Iraq forces made 'unauthorised' withdrawal from Ramadi: PM

AFP, Baghdad

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said yesterday that Iraqi forces made an "unauthorised" withdrawal from Ramadi last month, leading to the Islamic State group's takeover of the Anbar provincial capital.

"The withdrawal of the forces from Ramadi was unauthorised -- the orders were the opposite. The forces had to resist, and if they had resisted, we would not have lost Ramadi," Abadi said in televised remarks.

Ramadi fell to the jihadist group in mid-May after government forces had held out against militants there for more than a year.

It was Baghdad's worst setback in months after its forces had retaken significant territory in two provinces north of the capital.

Abadi's remarks came a week after a senior officer in the US-led coalition against ISIS said the withdrawal was militarily unnecessary.

"Ramadi was lost because the Iraqi commander in Ramadi elected to withdraw. In other words, if he had elected to stay, he would still be there today," said Brigadier Christopher Ghika of the British army.

Ghika said it was "the Anbar Ops commander" who gave the order to withdraw, referring to the head of the military command responsible for Anbar province.

বিজেএমসি'র দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি
নিম্নবর্ণিত মিলের তালিকাভুক্তি/ক্রয়/বিক্রয়/মেরামত/পরিবহন কাজের ঠিকাদার নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে আর্থস্বী দরদাতাগণের নিকট হতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র/পুন:দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।
মিলের নাম কাজের বিবরণ সিটিউপ মূল্য (প্রতিসেট) (অফেরতযোগ্য) আবেদনমূল্য (ফেরত যোগ্য) দরপত্র জমার তারিখ

মাদারগঞ্জ পৌরসভা কার্যালয়
মাদারগঞ্জ, জামালপুর
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দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০২/২০১৪-২০১৫
মাদারগঞ্জ পৌরসভাধীন ২০১৪-২০১৫ইং অর্থ বৎসরের উন্নয়ন সহায়ক তহবিলের আওতায় মোট ২৬টি প্রকল্পের কাজ বাস্তবায়নের জন্য অত্র পৌরসভার ২০১৪-২০১৫ অর্থ বছরের নবায়নকৃত/তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদারগণ এর নিকট হইতে (The Public Procurement Regulation-2009 অনুসারে) সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।