BNP leaders for gaining back public trust

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior BNP leaders yesterday stressed the need to bring back people's trust in the party that it is fighting to restore democracy in the country, and not to cling to power.

BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed, at a discussion, said if the people trust BNP again, only then will they join the anti-government movement.

The discussion was organised by the party marking the release of its senior vice chairperson Tarique Rahman from jail on bail, at the Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh.

Another BNP standing committee member Hannan Shah urged the party men to wage a tough movement that would force the government to remove all barriers to Tarique's return to the country.

Goyeswar Chandra Roy, also a standing committee member, said the ruling-Awami League has no desire to hold a fair poll in the country.



School going kids wade through knee-deep rainwater mixed with raw sewage in Kutubpur Shaheed Nagar Residential Area in Fatullah of Narayanganj yesterday as the entire area has been waterlogged for around two months due to an unplanned drainage system. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

US-Bangladesh security dialogue Sept 11

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Government and military officials of the US and Bangladesh will hold a dialogue on September 11 in Washington to enhance collaboration in security assistance and for countering terrorism and extremism, UN peacekeeping operations, and humanitarian assistance and disaster response. This will be the fourth such

dialogue. Additional Foreign Secretary Mizanur Rahman will lead the Bangladesh delegation, and the US delegation will be headed by Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (PM) Puneet

Talwar. US Chargé D'affaires David Meale yesterday said Ambassador Marcia Bernicat is in the US now to attend the dialogue.

Pro-AL lawyers now officially win Bar Council JAOP the remaining.

FROM PAGE 3

demanded a re-election saying that the election was null and void as the attorney general did not recount the ballot papers as per the Bar Council rules.

According to official results, pro-AL lawyers' panel Sammilito Ainjibi Samannoy Parishad (SASP) bagged 11 out of total 14 executive member posts, while pro-BNP lawyers' panel Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Oikya Panel (JAOP) won the three remaining posts.

The winning pro-AL lawyers are: M Amir-Ul Islam, Abdul Baset Majumder, Abdul Matin Khasru, SM Rezaul Karim, ZI Khan Panna, Nazubullah Hiru, HR Zahid Anwar, Ibrahim Hossain Chowdhury Babul, Parvez Alom Khan, Md Yahia and Md Rezaul Karim Mantu.

From the pro-BNP lawyers' panel, BNP leader and current vice chairman of Bar Council Khandker Mahbub Hossain, and AM Mahbub Uddin Khokon and Qaimul Hoque won.

According to unofficial results on August 27, SASP had won 10 seats, while

ordered to submit report in this regard

within shortest possible time. Shahbag

police sent the three, all freshmen and resi-

victim, a third year student, and her depart-

ment mate, who is a resident student, to show

cause for staying on the TSC premises so late at

The authorities also issued notice asking the

dents of Amar Ekushe Hall, to court.

AJ Mohammad Ali, who had won as per unofficial results but lost according to the official results, at a press conference at Supreme Court Bar Association yesterday afternoon said as the ballot papers have already been unsealed, there is no scope for recounting them. So, there is no other option but to hold a re-election, he added. He also said they are thinking of legal action for holding a re-election.

Meanwhile, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told reporters at his office that the demand of JAOP candidates was ridiculous as the election results were declared in a fair and transparent manner after compiling tabulations sent by the presiding officers from across the country.

Seven to 10 days are needed for recounting the ballots, he said, adding that a recount will happen if the Supreme Court orders it. The results of at least 20 elections of the Bar Council so far had been declared on the basis of tabulations received from presiding officers, and it had become a convention, he added.

3 DU BCL men suspended for assaulting FROM PAGE 3

night, said DU Proctor Prof M Amzad Ali.

According to the proctor, the female student was chatting with her two male friends around 1:30am when the trio demanded identity cards from them, sparking an altercation and they sexually harassed the woman.

However, the three accused denied the allegation of harassment.

Students now join hands FROM PAGE 3

the teachers started a day after BCL activists allegedly swooped on teachers during the latter's scheduled demonstration on Sunday to stop the VC from entering his office.

Several teachers, including Prof Yasmeen Haque, wife of Prof Zafar Iqbal, were assaulted at the time.

Meanwhile, a forum of administrative heads of the university observed a work stoppage from 9:00am to 11:00am protesting the attack, ANM Jainal Abedin, convener of the forum, said. They demanded proper investigation into the Sunday's incident and punishment for the responsible persons.

ZIA TRUST, ORPHANAGE GRAFT CASES Khaleda skips hearing again for illness

COURT CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday again skipped the trial proceedings of Zia charitable and Zia orphanage trust corruption cases due to her illness.

She did not attend the hearing on August 10 and 27 showing the same reason.

Yesterday, counsel for Khaleda concluded crossexamination of two prosecution witnesses in the Zia charitable trust graft case. Special Judge Court-3 of Dhaka Judge Abu Ahmed Jomadar recorded statements of three more prosecution witnesses in the same case but Kahleda's lawyer did not cross-examine them. The court was then adjourned till September 10 for cross-examining the three witnesses.

According to the case statement, Khaleda and three others abused power to collect Tk 6.19 crore for Zia Charitable Trust during BNP's rule between 1991 and 1996. Another complaint says the BNP chief, her son Tarique Rahman, and four others embezzled Tk 2.1 crore by forming Zia Orphanage Trust that exists only on paper. The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the cases.

Qulkhwani

CITY DESK

The qulkhwani of Begum Setara Rabbani, wife of a former MP of Sherpur-Dhunat constituency of Bogra, will be held today after Jumma prayers at her Dhankundi residence in Sherpur of Bogra.

Mother of Golam Mohammad Siraj, a former MP and chairman of SR Group, she died on Monday in Dhaka and was buried beside her husband's grave.



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