

Emajuddin's wife passes away

DU CORRESPONDENT

Selima Ahmed, wife of former Dhaka University vice-chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, died of old-age complications at a city hospital yesterday.

She was 78, says a press release. BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia expressed her sympathy to the bereaved family members and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul, said Sayrul Kabir Khan, a senior staff of BNP chairperson's media wing. DU Vice-chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique also expressed deep shock at her death.

She left behind two sons and two daughters.

BJP widens

FROM PAGE 1

BJP has a small presence and was not expected to win. The two most formidable women in Indian politics, Mamata Banerjee and J Jayalalithaa emerged clear winners in their states on Thursday.

Mamata Banerjee's TMC looked set to sweep West Bengal despite being closely associated with two big corruption scandals, the Narada and the Sarada scams. The TMC has won 177 seats of the 294 Assembly seats in West Bengal. Including those wins, the TMC is leading in 212 seats.

The Left's alliance with the Congress has won a mere 60 seats and is ahead in 13, which puts it ahead in a paltry 73 seats. The Left's loss was the BJP's gain. It has actually won 3 seats here and is ahead in 2 - in 2011 it didn't win a single seat. Its vote share has actually gone up to 10% from 4% in the 2011 Assembly polls.

"These results show that the people are accepting, appreciating and supporting our pro-development ideology," Modi told supporters at his party's headquarters in New Delhi. Assam is the first northeastern state to be controlled by the BJP, whose traditional power base is in Hindi-speaking north, central and west India.

Political analyst Ashok Malik told AFP that yesterday's results showed the BJP was now India's only truly national party.

"This expansion for the BJP comes at a time when the Congress is shrinking, even though they have different social constituencies," said Malik, a fellow with New Delhi-based Observer Research Foundation think-tank.

"And now, the BJP is the only pan-India national party, which the Congress once used to be."

The BJP needs to win state elections to gain more seats in the nation's upper house of parliament, which has been blocking reforms seen as crucial to fuelling the economic growth it has promised voters. Most members of the upper house, which has obstructed measures such as a planned standardised goods and services tax, are indirectly elected by state legislatures.

The BJP mounted a fierce campaign in tea-growing Assam, promising to support indigenous rights and crack down on illegal immigration from neighbouring Bangladesh.

Migrants have long been accused of illegally entering the state from Bangladesh and grabbing land, causing tensions with local people and sporadic outbreaks of communal violence.

India's seven northeastern states, joined to the rest of the country by a narrow sliver of land, are culturally distinct from the rest of the country and have a long history of separatist insurgencies.

"People were fed up and they wanted a change... that's why this time they've voted for BJP and its alliance partners," said Sarbananda Sonowal, BJP's Assam chief ministerial candidate.

Partial results showed Congress had just 26 of the total 126 seats in Assam and the BJP-led alliance had 86.

The party also made gains in Kerala in the south.

Modi's party swept to power in a general election two years ago promising business-friendly reforms to overhaul the economy, but lost out in two critical state polls in 2015.

With final results from the five states set to come in, regional parties looked set to win in Kerala and Tamil Nadu in the south.

Jubilant supporters of Tamil Nadu's popular Chief Minister Jayalalithaa gathered outside her house to celebrate, many of them painted in the colours of the state flag.

The former movie star known as "Amma" (Mother) has long enjoyed a huge following in prosperous Tamil Nadu where she has won three terms as chief minister since 1991.

The 68-year-old has earned loyalty with a series of populist schemes including giving away gold, goats and kitchen appliances at election time, but has also drawn accusations of corruption and an autocratic governing style.

Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi, who fronted the campaigning in several states, tweeted that his party would "work harder till we win the confidence & trust of people".

Injustice done to him

FROM PAGE 1

at the International Mother Language Institute in the capital.

The probe body headed by Prof Yusuf Ali, director of Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, submitted its report Wednesday night.

Shyamal was beaten up and made to do squats holding his ears on Friday over allegations that he demeaned religion.

The teacher denies the allegation. A video clip of the incident went viral on social media, triggering a firestorm of protests on Facebook and Twitter besides huge public outcry.

The probe report did not mention anything directly on Jatiya Party lawmaker Salim Osman, who in the video, was seen ordering the school teacher to do the squats, as it did not come under its jurisdiction.

However, the committee said injustice was done to the teacher.

Talking to reporters yesterday, Shyamal said the MP also slapped him twice.

On questions about the role of the lawmaker, Nahid said, "We received the probe report last night [Wednesday] and we'll review the report thoroughly."

The investigation body interviewed locals, teachers, education officials, upazila nirbahi officer, officer-in-charge of Bandar Police Station and members of the management committee.

It found a longstanding dispute between the headmaster and the school committee. Financial issue is the main reason behind the feud, it said, suggesting the matter be looked into.

The probe report said the headmaster physically punished a student during class hours on May 8. He later apologised to the student's family.

The family next day lodged a written complaint to the school committee against the teacher. In the complaint, the family did not mention anything about hurting anyone's religious sentiment, said a top official of the ministry, citing the report.

On May 13, a meeting was convened to discuss the utilisation of a development fund of Tk 50 lakh. But instead of discussing this, the issue of "hurting the religious sentiment" was brought up, the report mentioned.

Before the meeting, an announcement was made through loudspeakers of a nearby mosque that Shyamal had made anti-religious comments, and several thousand people gathered on the school premises, said the probe report.

The probe body termed the managing committee incompetent as it did not play its due role.

"THE MP SLAPPED ME TWICE" "The MP slapped me twice and asked me to do squats holding ears," Shyamal told reporters at a local hospital where he is under treatment.

Narrating the incident, he said he went to the school to attend the meeting, but he found a different situation there.

Some locals beat him up around 10:30am and Salim Osman came to the place in the afternoon.

"I was so weak at that time. The lawmaker entered the room where I was confined to and he slapped me in my face without saying anything."

The MP then took him out of the room and asked him to do squats ten times holding ears. "I was compelled to do so to save my life."

Asked why such an incident happened, Shyamal said some locals were conspiring against him so that he leaves the school.

He added the MP assured him of better treatment abroad if he gives a written statement supporting Salim.

Regarding the MP's claim that Shyamal did the squats on his own, the schoolteacher said that's a blatant lie.

"He [Salim] told this just to save himself," he said, adding, "A lawmaker who can beat up a teacher should be suspended."

Shyamal thanked the education minister for reinstating him.

PROTEST CONTINUES Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers Association (FBUTA) held human chains at different universities, demanding exemplary punishment of Salim Osman and his men.

At Dhaka University, the teachers demanded Salim's removal as lawmaker.

"We are standing here with immense sadness, anger and shame. An MP enacts law and shows ways to the nation, but there is no need of such a lawmaker who assaults a teacher," said DU Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education) Prof Nasrin Ahmed, at the programme in front of Aparajeyo Bangla.

AJM Shafiul Alam Bhuiyan, chairperson of television and film studies department of DU demanded cancellation of Salim Osman's parliament membership.

Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed, president of the FBUTA, called for expelling of Selim Osman also from the Jatiya Party.

Left student bodies Bangladesh Chhatra Federation and a faction of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front brought out processions and held rallies on the DU campus over the same demand.

Prof Muhammed Zafar Iqbal at a human chain held at SUST in Sylhet said, "Because of this incident, we will be viewed as a barbaric nation which doesn't know how to respect teachers. Salim Osman should not be spared for taking the law into his own hands and humiliating a teacher in public."

Similar protest programmes were also staged at Bangladesh Agricultural University in Mymensingh, Rajshahi University, Chittagong University, Jagannath University, Khulna University, Barisal University, Begum Rokeya University in Rangpur, Sylhet Agriculture University, Sylhet Teachers' Training College and Sylhet City College.

Bangladesh Shikshak Karmachari Oikkya Parishad held a human chain in front of Natore Press Club, demanding punishment to the MP. Teachers of different schools and colleges joined the programme.

Social media users continued campaigning on Facebook and Twitter under hashtags such as #sorrysir, #IamSORRY, #weRSORRYsir and #shyamalkantibhakta.

"The way everyone protested the humiliation of the teacher and stood by him, it proves that the culture of righteousness has not died yet in the country," Nurul Islam Nahid said at the press briefing.

Termining the protests unique, he said, "It proved that we are in favour of justice and also dignity of teachers who are the main elements of building the nation."

JP SILENT Jatiya Party so far remains silent over the much-criticised role of the party lawmaker Salim Osman.

The Daily Star on Wednesday night asked the party's co-chairman GM Quader whether any action would be taken against the controversial lawmaker. He said, "We will give our reaction in this regard once the government probe committee submits its report."

On the same question asked last night after submission of the probe report, Quader did not make any comment on the lawmaker.

"Out the party chairman is sick. Besides, we don't have any hurry. There is no question of doing anything today. This is not our top priority. Whatever we do, it will be after properly thinking over it."

School VP held for 'sexual assault' on headteacher

DU CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday detained the vice-president of a government primary school committee for allegedly assaulting the headmistress of the school at Dhamrai of Dhaka.

A case was filed yesterday with Dhamrai Police Station following a general diary by the headmistress.

She accused Abdul Malek of sexually assaulting her, Officer-in-Charge Dipok Chandra of Dhamrai Police Station told The Daily Star.

On April 15, Malek allegedly assaulted her following a misunderstanding over moving her office to another room in the school, Dipok added.

Police sources said the headmistress in the case accused Akhtar Hossain, Kaniz Nasima, and Malek and three other unnamed people of assaulting her, issuing threats against her life and obstructing government work.

Bounty

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the Detective Branch (DB) of police of the DMP is investigating the killings of bloggers, and a publisher with utmost importance.

On February 19, two "active members" of the ABT were detained, the website read.

On the basis of the confessional statements of the two detainees, the detectives "got detailed information on the six ABT members" whose photographs were released yesterday, according to the website.

The DMP also sought cooperation from all to help law enforcers arrest them.

Several bloggers, a publisher, an LGBT rights activist and his friend were hacked to death by suspected militants in Bangladesh in the last few years.

Cyclonic

FROM PAGE 1

towards the north-northeast.

The storm was centred about 1,365km southwest of Chittagong port; 1,335km southwest of Cox's Bazar port; 1,185km southwest of Mongla Port; and 1,215km southwest of Payra port, said a Met Office bulletin.

It is likely to intensify further and move in a north-northeast direction, the bulletin added.

All fishing boats and trawlers over the north Bay of Bengal and deep sea have been advised to remain close to the shore so that they could take shelter within a short notice.

Meanwhile, the government has taken preparations for the cyclone.

"We've issued directives asking deputy commissioners of 18 coastal districts to prepare for evacuating people to cyclone shelters and keep relief materials ready," Disaster Management and Relief Secretary Mohammad Shah Kamal told BSS yesterday.

He said the district administrations in coastlines were also asked to mobilise nearly 60,000 volunteers trained under the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) and chart out detailed plans to face the impending disaster by holding emergency coordination meetings.

"The weekend holidays of civil servants of the 18 districts have been cancelled as well," Kamal said, adding that the ministry also convened an inter-ministerial coordination meeting yesterday.

"The entire Bangladesh coastlines could be affected if the course of the cyclone remains unchanged, but we expect to give you a clearer picture about its eventual destination by May 21 midday," a weather official told BSS.

Officials from several coastal districts said preparations were underway to keep the damage to a minimum, and volunteers and officials were sent out with megaphones to issue alerts.

Technical fault or bomb?

FROM PAGE 20

The jet had been flying from Paris to Cairo overnight when it disappeared off radar screens, without sending a distress signal.

French President Francois Hollande confirmed that the plane had "crashed" and Paris said its accident department had opened an investigation.

Cairo's state prosecutor also ordered a probe into the incident, a statement said, signalling suspicion that foul play could have caused the crash.

Egypt's Aviation Minister Sherif Fathy said he could not rule out either terrorism or a technical problem.

"I don't deny the hypothesis of a terrorist attack or something technical. It is too early," he told a news conference, adding that no wreckage had been found.

"The possibility of having a different action onboard, of having a terror attack, it is higher than the possibility of having a technical" failure, he added.

Egypt and Greece both said they had dispatched aircraft and naval vessels on a search mission and they were expected to be joined by French teams.

Fifteen French citizens were among the 26 foreign passengers on the EgyptAir flight, who also included a Briton and a Canadian.

Both France and Egypt have come under attack by jihadists of the Islamic State group in the past year and Hollande promised a comprehensive investigation into the cause of the crash as suspicions swiftly focused on a bomb.

NO DISTRESS CALL IS has been waging a deadly insurgency against Egyptian security forces and last October claimed the bombing of the Russian airliner flying home holidaymakers from the Egyptian resort of Sharm El-Sheikh.

France earlier called a crisis meeting of top ministers as Prime Minister Manuel Valls said "no theory can be ruled out" to explain the plane's disappearance.

EgyptAir said contact was lost with the flight about 280 kilometres north of the Egyptian coast.

A Greek aviation source said the flight had disappeared from Greek radar at around 0029 GMT.

"It crashed around 130 nautical miles off the island of Karpathos," the source told AFP, referring to an island northeast of Crete.

Greek civil aviation chief Constantinos Litzterakos said the pilot had mentioned no problem in the last communication before the plane disappeared, and it had not deviated from its course.

"The flight controllers contacted the

Khaleda

FROM PAGE 20

The Daily Star.

On April 17, Khaleda appeared before the court but sought time to submit her self defence statements. She was absent from the court on two executive dates.

On April 7, the High Court cleared the way for a lower court to continue the trial proceedings against Khaleda in the case after rejecting her petition seeking cancellation of the proceedings.

On March 9, Khaleda challenged the legality of appointment of Harunur Rashid, investigating officer of the case, saying that the Anti-Corruption Commission had not published any gazette notice regarding this.

The ACC on August 8, 2011 filed the graft case accusing Khaleda and three others of abuse of power in setting up the charity.

The other accused are Harris Chowdhury, Khaleda's former political secretary, Ziaul Islam Munna, assistant private secretary (APS) of Harris, and Monirul Islam Khan, APS of former mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka.

Of them, Harris is on the run.

Poor catches disappoint

FROM PAGE 20

According to experts, different natural factors like temperature of water, strong current, adequate rainfall and thunder shower create a congenial atmosphere for mother fishes to release eggs.

Although there was a heavy downpour in Chittagong on Wednesday, the indigenous fish released a small amount of eggs yesterday, which experts termed "sample spawns".

Halda expert Manzoorul Kibria said the mother fish release eggs between Baishakh and Ashar (April and June) every year and fishermen collect those immediately.

This year the indigenous fishes released sample spawns on April 8 and on April 21, as the atmosphere was not favourable in those phases, he said.

But the atmosphere was congenial yesterday, yet the mother fishes did not release eggs in a large scale, he added.

"It is a matter of worry as to why the mother fishes just released sample spawn despite having all the favourable natural factors," he said.

Kibria, also an associate professor of zoology department at Chittagong University, said usually the mother

fishes release sample eggs before releasing eggs in full. They do so to monitor whether the released eggs can survive.

Man-made hazards like cross-rubber dam on the river at Bhujpur and industrial waste were destroying the spawning ground and decreasing the production of eggs, he said.

"I have heard that Chittagong port has been advised to hoist a local warning signal today [yesterday] ... It's believed that mother fishes do not release eggs at the time of natural disasters," the Halda expert said.

Mohammad Ali, another Halda researcher, echoed Kibria. He too held environmental hazards and indiscriminate catching of mother fishes responsible for the decrease in the production of eggs.

Contacted, Sheikh Harunur Rashid, assistant met officer of Chittagong Met Office, said Chittagong Port was advised to hoist signal-4.

Manzoorul Kibria said, "The fishermen should not be frustrated as there is still time in this season for the mother fishes to release spawn in a large scale."

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District: Rangamati
www.lged.gov.bd

No.-LGED/XEN/RANGA/2016/01/523

Date: 18-05-2016

e-Tender Notice No. 25/2015-16

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of construction under detail package information is available in tender notice under e-GP System Portal.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 07-06-2016 till 3:00pm.

Detailed Description of Works, Package No., Tender ID & Dropping Schedule are as follows:

Sl No.	Name of work	Package No.	Tender ID	Closing date and time	Opening date and time
1.	Maintenance of work of Raikhali Barakolapara-Bangalhalia R&H Ctg. Border via Dongnala Road Cg: 00-1000m (Road ID 484362003) (Kaptai)	WD/RIDPCHT-2/RANG/Kaptai/UNR/W20	57603	08-Jun-2016 12:00 noon	08-Jun-2016 12:30pm

Further information and guidelines and available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Executive Engineer
LGED, Rangamati
Ph: 0351-63148

xen.rangamati@lged.gov.bd

GD-1125