



## LIST THE HOMELESS we'll make homes



### PM asks party men; opens AL's 20th nat'l council; leaders to be elected today

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked her party men and public representatives to make a list of poor and homeless people to ensure their welfare and make Bangladesh a poverty-free country.

"We want to free Bangladesh from poverty. I request you all to make a list of poor and homeless people in your areas. We will build houses and give those to them for free. They are our citizens," she said at the inaugural session of the AL's 20th national council at Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital.

"Awami League is a people's organisation. It is our duty to ensure people's welfare. There would be no poverty if we can ensure the welfare of people. It is our commitment that

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Sheikh Hasina, chief of Awami League, addresses the party's 20th National Council at the historic Suhrawardy Udyan in the capital yesterday. Senior AL leaders are also seen on the stage.

PHOTO: PID

## Foreign delegates sing AL's praises

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Chinese delegate stressed the importance of economic development and closer ties while an Indian delegate put emphasis on democratic practices and values as they addressed Awami League's 20th national council in the capital yesterday.

Ministers, lawmakers and political leaders representing governments and parties of nine other countries across the world also made their vibrant presence felt at Suhrawardy Udyan on the first day of the two-day council.

Fifty-four political leaders from 11 countries -- India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Austria, Russia, China, UK, Australia, Italy and Canada -- attended the council.

Fourteen of them, who delivered brief speeches, praised the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the

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## Grassroots want Joy in leadership post

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The grassroots leaders want to see Awami League President Sheikh Hasina's son Sajeeb Wazed Joy in the party's leadership position.

They also believe Sheikh Hasina should continue to lead the party as there is no alternative to her.

Eight district leaders from eight divisions and two leaders from the United Kingdom and the United States addressed the second session of the AL national council's inaugural day yesterday.

Of them, Sylhet AL General Secretary Shafiqur Rahman Chowdhury said, "Sajeeb Wazed Joy is the main architect of Digital Bangladesh. So we want to see him hold important portfolio in the party."

The term "Digital Bangladesh" came to light first in the 2008 election manifesto of the AL. It is an idea that focuses on the use of information technology in administrative work and governance to ensure transparency at all levels of the society.

At the session, the discussion on bringing Joy to the party's leadership position was started by AL General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam.

After Joy took his seat on the dais, Ashraf, seated next to Sheikh Hasina, stood up and requested Joy to stand up, saying, "Everyone wants to see you."

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### TOP QUOTE

"We believe that democracies ultimately will have to deliver.... And therefore democracy for development is our common and shared vision."

VISITING BJP VICE PRESIDENT VINAY PRABHAKAR SAHASRABUDDHE, MP WHILE ADDRESSING AL COUNCIL



## Responsibilitea

Nature is our provider. We thrive if nature thrives. So it is our responsibility to maintain the balance of nature. Our tea estate is a self-sustaining ecosystem. Pests are controlled through natural means and bio-fertilizers come from organically raised cattle. Medicinal trees provide shade to the tea plants.

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## Stokes gives England the advantage

SAKEB SUBHAN from Chittagong

After two days of each team trying to gain the upper hand, a stellar all-round display from Ben Stokes put England at a potentially decisive advantage on the third day of the first Test against Bangladesh at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

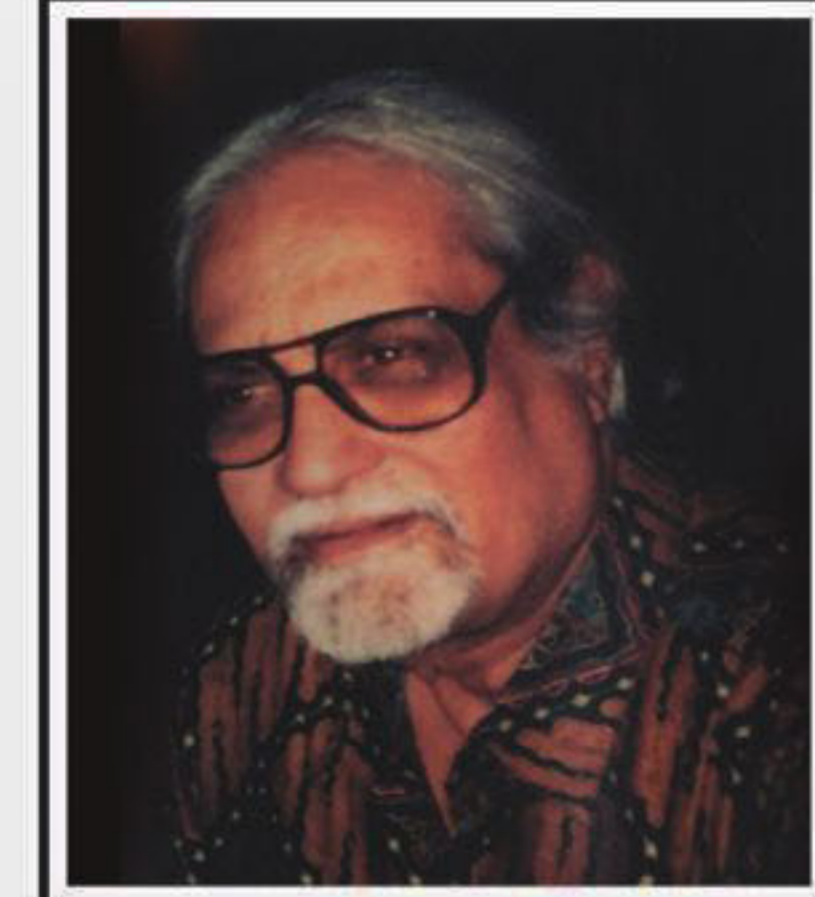
Stokes wrapped up the second innings by taking three of the five Bangladeshi wickets to fall in the morning for the addition of just 27

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وَدَاغَةَ الرَّفْعِ الرَّحِيمِ



Azimur Rahman 1935 - 2001

### Always There

When you remember me  
Please do not weep  
My body may not be there  
It has chosen to sleep  
I'm not that far away  
My soul lives on  
Looking down, watching over  
You and everyone  
And when you feel sad  
And life seems so blue  
Just remember  
That my spirit has its arms around you  
And on those special days,  
Times that you wish I could see,  
That cool breeze flowing past you...  
Well, that will be me  
So don't be sad  
Have no fear  
God has taken me under his wing  
But I'll always be near  
I still watch you  
Every minute, every day  
My love and soul are with you  
And that's where they will stay.

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Our death is not an end if we can live on in our children and the younger generation. For they are us, our bodies are only wilted leaves on the tree of life. ~Albert Einstein

## EARTHQUAKES ARE NOT PREVENTABLE, CASUALTIES ARE

We cannot prevent earthquakes. But building-code compliant constructions with right-graded rods can reduce up to 90% risk of casualties. For your safety, we are producing the longest lasting steel of Bangladesh.

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