

Coordination between 3 state organs necessary Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, CG

Law Minister Anisul Haque yesterday said coordination was needed among the three pillars -- legislative, executive and judiciary -- for the sake of the country's development and the interest of the people.

The minister said this while addressing a programme of Chittagong District Bar Association at a convention centre at the GEC intersection in the port city.

Anisul made the comment after General Secretary Mahbub Uddin Khokon of Supreme Court Bar Association, who was the chief guest at the programme, said the government is talking about coordination among the three state organs. "I do not agree. The Supreme Court is the guardian of the constitution. If judiciary coordinates with others, it will lose its freedom."

The minister in response said the coordination among the three pillars would not mean the judiciary would have no freedom.

Anisul also said the government had started work on formulating a law on appointing judges of the Supreme Court and it would be complete within the tenure of this government.

Newly-weds

WOODEN PADDLES DO THE TALKING IF their spouses refuse to listen.

Bhargava told AFP he wanted to draw attention to the plight of rural women who face domestic abuse from their alcoholic husbands.

"Women say whenever their husbands get drunk they become violent. Their savings are taken away and spent on liquor," he said.

"There is no intent to provoke women or instigate them to violence but the bat is to prevent violence."

The minister has ordered nearly 10,000 bats for distribution to newly-wed women.

Many Indian states have launched a crackdown on liquor in recent years, either banning or restricting its sale in a bid to curb alcohol-fueled violence. Last year, the government of Tamil Nadu state vowed to introduce prohibition as part of its campaign to win re-election.

The pledge was popular with women voters, who blame alcohol for much of the state's domestic and sexual violence, and for depleting the income of poor families.

Experts have expressed caution, pointing to a possible rise in the production of illegal and often deadly moonshine.

The neighbouring southern state of Kerala introduced a ban on alcohol sales in most hotels from 2014.

Eastern Bihar state imposed a ban on the sale and consumption of alcohol last year while western Gujarat state has practised prohibition for decades.

Why is Iqbal

INDUSTRIES CORPORATION (BCIC) despite the publication of a gazette notification about his transfer on March 28.

The bench of Justice Naima Haider and Justice Razik-Al-Jalil came up with the rule following a writ petition filed by Zakir Hossain, a former official of the BCIC, challenging the legality of Iqbal discharging the duties of BCIC chairman.

Secretaries to the ministries of public administration and industries and the BCIC chairman have been made respondents of the rule, Belayet Hossain, lawyer for the petitioner, told The Daily Star.

The government appointed Additional Secretary Shah Aminul Haq as the new BCIC Chairman on March 28. He joined the ministry on March 30 but could join work as Iqbal did not hand over the charge of BCIC.

There could not be two chairmen in the same organisation, Belayet said, adding that Iqbal should quit the BCIC and handover charge to the new chairman following the government's transfer order and rules of his service.

Iqbal could not be reached for comments despite repeated attempts. Sources at his office told The Daily Star that he has been lobbying to retain his position as the BCIC chairman.

On March 19, the High Court, following a writ on BCIC's irregularities and corruption in different media, issued a rule asking the industries ministry and Anti-Corruption Commission as to why the allegations of corruption and irregularities in fertiliser management by BCIC should not be investigated.

Free fertiliser, seeds

FROM PAGE 1 of taking all necessary measures, the PM said no one would face the lack of food and shelter as the government would expand VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) activities to the haor areas apart from the OMS programme.

Hasina said the government had sufficient food stocks. "There is nothing to be worried about, and there will be no food crisis."

She also ordered the ministers concerned to take steps to increase navigability of the canals and rivers in the haor areas through dredging. "Rivers and haors must be saved."

The PM said steps would be taken so that money is disbursed timely to construct dams and embankments, and implement other projects in the haor areas.

About the price hike of rice and other commodities, Hasina warned against any ill-effort of increasing prices, saying that the government would not tolerate any one committing such misdeeds and causing sufferings to the public taking advantage of the flood situation.

Putting emphasis on diversification of food production, the PM said the people of the haor areas should not depend only on one crop; rather they would have to focus on production of variety of items, including dal (pulses), spices, fish and other sea-

sonal crops.

About educational institutions, she said directives had already been given to the education ministry to construct residential schools in haor and remote areas of the country so that students would not have to suffer for continuing their academic activities.

Hasina had an aerial view of the flood-hit areas from a helicopter before her landing, and visited some affected areas by a speedboat.

The PM held a meeting with senior officials of Sunamganj.

She then distributed relief materials among the flood-hit people and gave the authorities concerned necessary directives to make sure that every affected person would get the relief materials.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury, Food Minister Qamrul Islam, Water Resources Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud, State Minister for Finance MA Mannan and State Minister for Water Resources Nazrul Islam were with Hasina.

According to a primary official estimate, over 8 lakh people in the haor belt have been affected as 6.5 lakh tonnes of Boro crops have gone under water due to flashfloods, with Sunamganj being the worst-hit one. The other affected districts are Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Netrakona, Kishoreganj and Brahmanbaria.

Court issues Shahidul

FROM PAGE 16 the warrant to Kashimpur High Security Jail today. Shahidul is on death row at the prison.

The SC released full text of its judgment on Shahidul's review petition on April 25, observing that it was "a cold-blooded murder" and "a crime against society".

Deputy Attorney General Khondker Diliruzzaman told this paper on that day that after receiving the verdict, the jail authorities would inform Shahidul about it and ask him whether he would seek presidential mercy.

If Shahidul seeks presidential mercy and gets rejected, the jail authorities will execute him after 14 days and before 21 days from the date of receiving the verdict, he added.

On March 5, a three-member bench of the Appellate Division of the SC headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha dismissed the petition for reviewing its earlier judgment that

upheld the death penalty of Shahidul.

The two other members of the bench were Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and Justice Hasan Foez Siddique.

Shazneen Tasnim Rahman, a class-IX student of Scholastica, was raped and murdered at her Gulshan home on August 23, 1998. She was the daughter of Transcom Group Chairman Latifur Rahman.

On August 2 last year, the Appellate Division of the SC upheld the death penalty of Shahidul, a domestic help at Shazneen's home.

But it acquitted four others -- Syed Sajjad Mainuddin Hasan, a contractor for renovation of Shazneen's house, his assistant Badal, and housemaids Estema Khatun Minu and Parvin.

On September 15 last year, Shahidul filed the petition with the SC seeking review of its verdict that upheld his death penalty.

Trump blasts media, critics

FROM PAGE 16 should and must persist and I believe we will."

Some of Trump's animosity stemmed from US media evaluating his 100-day record as meager and mixed.

They have noted embarrassing setbacks for the Republican on health care and a travel ban, and reversals on China and Nato -- while also recognizing campaign pledges he has met, like appointing a conservative Supreme Court judge and pulling the country out of the Trans Pacific Partnership trade agreement.

In his speech Trump presented his record so far -- including the signing of many executive orders -- as "very exciting and very productive," despite what he described as the "mess" left by Obama's administration. "We are keeping one promise after another," he asserted, adding that he was preparing for "the great, great battles to come and that we will win in every case."

Trump also highlighted his tough approach to immigration.

Stepped-up law enforcement was removing "drug dealers, gang members and killers" from the country, he said, while reinforced vetting was keeping America "safe from terrorism."

"We are going to keep radical Islamic terrorists the hell out of our country," he said to applause and cheers of "USA! USA!"

He did not acknowledge the difficulty he has had in finding the money to start work on the wall he vowed would be built on the Mexican border.

Instead he insisted that "we need the wall to stop the drugs and the

human trafficking" and "we'll have the wall -- don't worry about it."

On foreign policy, he admitted he had backed down on a vow to label China a currency manipulator, but said "flexibility" was needed because Chinese President Xi Jinping was a "good man" who was trying to help Trump rein in North Korea.

At his rally Trump also said the US economy had surged since he took office, reinvigorating America's construction, manufacturing and energy sectors, as well as its declining coal and steel industries -- a key message for the crowd in Pennsylvania, a rust-belt state.

On the North American Free Trade Agreement, which he has vowed to renegotiate, he said "if we can't make a fair deal for our companies and our workers we will terminate NAFTA."

Other trade deals allowing nations such as China, Russia and India to contribute to "the theft and plunder of American wealth" were being torn up, Trump said.

He said he would be making a decision on the "one-sided Paris climate accord" in the next two weeks. He described the pact, meant to curb global warming, as an impediment to US economic growth.

He spoke of his plans to reform US taxes and swore that health care legislation brought in by Obama that gives greater medical access to Americans was "dying" and would be repealed -- despite a signal failure by Republicans in Congress to do so in March.

Trump also read a poem called "The Snake," -- from the lyrics of a 1968 song recorded by American soul singer Al Wilson -- that

Cops submit

FROM PAGE 16 opened fire on him inside his home in the upazila on December 31 last year.

Of the remaining three, one Anwarul Islam alias Rana is accused of giving training on firearms use.

Kader's personal secretary Shamsuzzoha Sarker and Chandon's brother-in-law Subodh Kumar Roy allegedly provided information facilitating the attack, said the charge sheet.

The arrestees made confessions over the roles they played, it added.

The chief judicial magistrate's court had closed for the day when the murder case's investigation officer, Ashrafuzzaman handed over the charge sheet to Court Inspector Jamaluddin Mandol so that the latter could forward it.

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Ashrafuzzaman, the officer-in-charge (investigation) of Sundarganj Police Station, told The Daily Star that he also handed over relevant evidence such as a motorcycle used in the murder, two pistols, two magazines, some ammunition, a travel trunk and cellphones.

Liton's younger sister Fahmida Bulbul Kakoli filed the murder case the day after the murder. She sought capital punishment, saying it would deter such crimes.

Meat traders

FROM PAGE 2 the mayors of Dhaka North and South City Corporations and end our troubles in four-five days," Rabiul Alam, secretary general of Dhaka Metropolitan Meat Traders' Association, told The Daily Star after meeting the minister at the ministry.

Meat traders in the capital went on a six-day strike from February 13 with the same demands.

Before meeting the minister, the association leaders at a press conference yesterday morning claimed that sales of red meat had fallen due to exorbitant price of beef and mutton.

Almost half the meat shops have already shut down due to lack of customers, Rabiul said.

He also said that the state department of DNCC was charging slaughtering fees without providing a modern slaughter house.

Quader rightly

FROM PAGE 16 On April 17, for example, he told a programme in Meherpur that "farm chickens" have infiltrated into the AL and they have cornered the "local chickens".

"Local chickens are needed; not farm chickens. Farm chickens are not good for health," he warned.

Before that, the minister told a programme in Sylhet that "crows" have infiltrated into AL, drawing heavy criticism.

Omor Faruk Chowdhury, chairman of Jubo League, the youth front of AL, said on April 27 that those who were branding AL men as "crows" and "farm chickens" are in fact the patrons of "crows" and "farm chickens".

Under fire, Obaidul said he made the comment only to cheer the party men up and requested journalists not to write about it anymore.

Asked to comment on Obaidul's latest comment, Khorshed Alam Sujan, vice-president of the party's port city unit, said though Obaidul did not name anyone, it was true that some people were making money using the party's name. This is hurting the party's

image. Ibrahim Hossain Babul, another vice-president of Chittagong AL, said Obaidul was right in making the comment and the people concerned received the message.

"There are people who are making wealth using the party. The party and its leaders have to take responsibility for their wrongdoings. The general secretary wanted to alert us about these people," said Iftekhhar Saimul Chowdhury, city unit law secretary of the party.

Prof Sikander Khan, vice-chancellor of East Delta University in Chittagong, said a harsh truth came out through the comment.

"We got a confirmation of the common perception of the people," he said, adding that the AL general secretary must have made the comment with proofs.

Mohiuddin Chowdhury, president of the city unit AL, declined to comment on the matter.

The Daily Star tried to reach Obaidul over the phone for comments, but he did not pick up the call.

Rule of law not fully

FROM PAGE 16 India, judges including the chief justice deliver lectures at educational institutions. Their addresses never surface in newspapers, but that of the chief justice here does. "It has only one reason. We could not reach that level."

Justice Sinha urged the countrymen not to make any adverse comment about the Supreme Court judgments.

"It is painful to see someone react to our judgment when it goes against him/her. We cannot claim ourselves civilised until we learn to accept the judgment even if it goes against us."

He said the Supreme Court gives directives at different times to uphold the constitution and the directives have to be accepted by all.

The chief justice noted that the constitution has empowered the SC to make judicial review of any law.

The SC has scrapped 5th, 7th, 8th, and 13th amendments as they were contradictory to the basic structures of the charter, he said at the programme, held at the JnU auditorium in Dhaka.

He further said the SC will not hesitate to scrap any law or provision if it is against the constitution.

"Two-thirds of parliament members can amend the constitution. If two-thirds of parliament members, even if all of them, scrap the constitution, and if the Supreme Court finds that the action has damaged the basic structures of the constitution, rule of law and independence of judiciary and people's fundamental rights, it can declare their decision illegal," he added.

The chief justice thanked Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as she had stressed the need for understanding among the state's three organs -- legislature, judiciary and executive.

The prime minister on April 28 at a function said, "None of the three state organs can walk alone as all of them need to move ahead maintaining an understanding."

On April 26, Law Minister Anisul Huq told reporters that in no country do the chief justices speak so much in public or express so much anger unless it involves judicial activities.

"I want to say that definitely he [the CJ] speaks up when it is necessary and I don't deny it. But if he has any grievance, he may inform us about it without discussing it in public and we may try to solve them," he added.

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 ১৭ বৈশাখ, ১৪২৪ বঙ্গাব্দ

গবেষণা প্রস্তাবনা আহ্বান

২০১৭-২০১৮ অর্থ বছরে আর্থিক মঞ্জুরি/অনুদান প্রদানের লক্ষ্যে সামাজিকবিজ্ঞান গবেষণা পরিষদ, পরিকল্পনা বিভাগ কর্তৃক গবেষণা মঞ্জুরি প্রদানের ক্ষেত্রে 'সপ্তম পঞ্চবার্ষিক পরিকল্পনা ২০১৫/১৬-২০১৯/২০' অনুসরণে 'সামাজিকবিজ্ঞান গবেষণা নীতিমালা ও কর্মকৌশল-২০১৭' অনুযায়ী নিম্নোক্ত ১৮টি বিষয়বস্তুর (Theme) উপর গবেষণা প্রস্তাবনা আহ্বান করা হচ্ছেঃ

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ক্রমিক নম্বর	গবেষণা ক্ষেত্র
১.	সামষ্টিক অর্থনৈতিক প্রেক্ষিত: কৌশলগত নির্দেশনা ও নীতি কাঠামো
১.১	আর্থসামাজিক প্রেক্ষাপট
১.২	জেতার ক্ষমতায়ন, সামাজিক অন্তর্ভুক্তি ও সামাজিক সুরক্ষা
১.৩	দরিদ্রমুখী ও অন্তর্ভুক্তিমূলক প্রবৃদ্ধির প্রবর্ধন-কৌশল
১.৪	সরকারি বিনিয়োগ কর্মসূচি ও এর অর্থায়ন
১.৫	পরিবীক্ষণ ও মূল্যায়ন (এমআইআই)
১.৬	সামাজিক অন্যান্য ক্ষেত্র
২.	খাত উন্নয়ন কৌশল
২.১	খাত ১ ও ২: সাধারণ জনসেবা এবং জনশৃঙ্খলা ও নিরাপত্তা
২.২	খাত ৩: শিল্প ও অর্থনৈতিক সেবা
২.৩	খাত ৪: কৃষি
২.৪	খাত ৫: বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি
২.৫	খাত ৬: পরিবহন ও যোগাযোগ
২.৬	খাত ৭: স্থানীয় সরকার ও পল্লী উন্নয়ন
২.৭	খাত ৮: পরিবেশ ও জলবায়ু পরিবর্তন
২.৮	খাত ৯: গৃহায়ন ও কমিউনিটি সুবিধাবলি
২.৯	খাত ১০: স্বাস্থ্য
২.১০	খাত ১১: শিক্ষা ও প্রযুক্তি
২.১১	খাত ১২: বিদ্যমান, সংস্কৃতি ও ধর্ম
২.১২	খাত ১৩: সামাজিক সুরক্ষা

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আবেদনের শর্তাবলি:

- উপরে বর্ণিত গবেষণা ক্ষেত্রসমূহ ও সংশ্লিষ্ট উপক্ষেত্র বিস্তারিতভাবে বিনামূল্যে করা হয়েছে। এ সংক্রান্ত তথ্যাদি পরিকল্পনা বিভাগের ওয়েবসাইট (www.plandiv.gov.bd)-এর নোটিশ বোর্ডে দেখা যাবে। গবেষক/গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠান যে কোন একটি উপক্ষেত্র (ক্রমিক নম্বরসহ) নির্বাচন করে বাংলা অথবা ইংরেজি ভাষায় গবেষণা প্রস্তাব দাখিল করতে পারবেন।
- 'সামাজিকবিজ্ঞান গবেষণা নীতিমালা ও কর্মকৌশল-২০১৭' এ বর্ণিত শর্ত, যোগ্যতা এবং অন্যান্য বিষয়াদি অনুসরণ করে গবেষণা প্রস্তাব দাখিলে আশ্রয়ী গবেষক/গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে আবেদন করতে হবে। সামাজিকবিজ্ঞান গবেষণা নীতি ও কৌশল-২০১৭ এর বিস্তারিত বিবরণ (www.plandiv.gov.bd/ssrc_research_guideline) ওয়েবসাইটের নোটিশ বোর্ডে পাওয়া যাবে।
- গবেষণা প্রস্তাবনার কভার পৃষ্ঠায় গবেষক/গবেষণা প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম, গবেষণার শিরোনাম এবং গবেষক/গবেষকদের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ জীবন বৃত্তান্ত আবেদনের সাথে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।
- জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্রের কপি সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।
- 'সামাজিকবিজ্ঞান গবেষণা নীতিমালা ও কর্মকৌশল-২০১৭' এ বর্ণিত সংযোজনী ১ ও ২ অনুযায়ী প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রসহ আবেদন করতে হবে। পিএইচডি এবং এমফিলের ক্ষেত্রে গবেষণা প্রস্তাবনা সংশ্লিষ্ট বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নির্ধারিত ছক অনুযায়ী আবেদন করতে হবে।
- গবেষণা প্রস্তাবনা দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ: ২১ মে, ২০১৭খ্রিঃ।

ড. উত্তম কুমার দাশ
 সহকারী পরিচালক (উপসচিব)
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Cities brace for climate challenges

AFP, Vienna Faced with exploding populations and steadily rising temperatures worldwide, cities must make haste in reinforcing defences against climate change-induced flooding and heat waves, experts warned this week.

City temperatures are forecast to shoot up in the coming years, exposing inhabitants to killer heat spikes, while rising sea levels and river flooding

threaten homes, drinking water, and transport and electricity infrastructure.

Cities are vulnerable to a unique risk called the "urban heat island" (UHI) effect -- their concrete surfaces retain more of the sun's heat than undeveloped areas, scientists explained at a meeting of the European Geosciences Union (EGU) in Vienna.

By midcentury, if planet-

warming fossil fuel emissions continue unabated, city temperatures in Belgium could exceed today's heat-alert levels by as much as 10 degrees Celsius (18 degrees Fahrenheit) for 25 days each summer, according to one research paper.

Another study showed that heat waves will become a frequent challenge for European cities -- more numerous in the south of the continent, more intense in the north.