



MPs may come under fire

Furious grassroots leaders to tell PM today how lawmakers polluting AL by bringing Jamaat-BNP men in party fold

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

When the Awami League sits for a special extended meeting of the party at the Gono Bhaban today, party ministers and lawmakers may expect some rebuke from the grassroots leaders.

Local leaders are preparing themselves to raise their voice against the ministers and MPs as the latter are getting "increasingly isolated" from voters for maintaining their own circle, "ignoring" the tested leaders and activists of the party.

They are also planning to point out the organisational weakness and the division created by the people infiltrating the party from BNP and Jamaat to save themselves from cases and police harassment.

At the meeting scheduled to start at 10:30am, grassroots leaders would get a chance to speak about the organisation in front of party chief Sheikh Hasina after a long time.

Among other things, the two-day long meeting aims at reducing internal disputes across the country. Hasina, also the prime minister, might also formally instruct the party men to prepare for the 2019 general election.

Presidents, general secretaries, information secretaries, office secretaries and their deputies, publicity and publication secretaries and their deputies of 77 organisational district units were invited to the meeting. All AL lawmakers have also been invited.

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Bangladesh pacer Mustafizur Rahman hit top gear against Ireland in their tri-series match in Malahide yesterday, picking up four wickets for 23 runs in a brilliant display. The batsmen did the rest as the Tigers' cantered home with eight wickets to spare.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



Tigers brush Ireland aside

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh got their first victory of the tri-series against hosts Ireland at the Malahide Cricket Club in Dublin as they raced to an eight-wicket win in 27.1 overs yesterday.

After their first game against the same opponents was washed out and the second resulted in a four-wicket loss against New Zealand, the Tigers came out all guns blazing and dominated their opponents. The bowlers, led by Mustafizur Rahman's four-for, squeezed the life out of their opponents, while the batsmen, championed by Soumya Sarkar's explosive 68-ball 87, raced to the target with ease.

Bangladesh's chase got off to a brilliant start, as Soumya and Tamim Iqbal put the Irish bowlers to the

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Hasina may meet Trump in S Arabia

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and US President Donald Trump are expected to meet for the first time in Saudi Arabia tomorrow, diplomatic sources say.

Hasina is expected to reach Saudi Arabia today for the Arab-Islamic-American Summit, which will see leaders from across the world.

Diplomatic sources in Dhaka and Riyadh say Hasina and Trump would meet during the summit to be held at King Abdul Aziz

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About 60pc baby born without expert help

WHO report in this category ranks Bangladesh lowest in South Asia

MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

Nearly 60 percent of birth deliveries in Bangladesh are conducted without skilled health personnel, according to a report by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel in the country is lower than other South Asian nations.

The report titled "World Health Statistics 2017" was published on Wednesday.

The World Health Statistics, one of WHO's annual flagship publications, compiles data from the organisation's 194 member states on 21 health-related Sustainable

Development Goals (SDG) targets, with 35 indicators, as well as data on life expectancy.

Other health indicators in the report include mortality and disease rates, availability of health services and treatments, level of financial investment in health, and risk factors and behaviours that affect health.

Prof Rashid-E-Mahbub, chairman of the National Committee on Health Rights Movement yesterday told The Daily Star, "Health issues are closely interlinked with social development. This is reality and there is no scope of denying or contesting the report. But the fact is the government is

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Land minister's son, 10 others held in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Police have arrested Shirhan Sherif Tomal, a son of the land minister, and 10 other ruling Awami League men over attacking and vandalising the house of a Chhatra League leader in Ishwardi.

Police and locals said a group of Jubo League and AL men, led by Shirhan and Razib Sarkar, president and general secretary of Ishwardi Jubo League, vandalised the house of upazila BCL President Jubaeer Biswas in Aminpara Thursday afternoon



Shirhan Sherif

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New axis of terror

IPAC report details how Southeast Asian militant groups cash in on persecuted Rohingyas through Bangladeshi radicals

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Islamic State-inspired terror groups may catch the Asian region off-guard by using Rohingyas, the persecuted minorities of Myanmar.

A recent report of Indonesia-based Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict (IPAC) has raised the alarm as it found a new Rohingya insurgency along the Bangladesh-Myanmar border to be the latest surprise element in regional terrorism.

It says the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), previously called Harekat al-Yakin or the Faith Movement, has turned to other South Asian radical groups for help with training.

The new brand of Bangladeshi militants, whose recent notoriety includes last year's Gulshan cafe massacre earned kudos from IS, are seen by the IPAC as vital links between the ARSA and Southeast Asian terrorist groups.

"The existence of an armed group on the border mounting attacks on Myanmar security forces could inspire pro-ISIS groups in Bangladesh, Indonesia and Malaysia to do more systematic recruiting among their

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Mitu and Shakhawat with their baby girl, rescued 26 hours after abduction, at the Rab Media Centre in the capital's Karwan Bazar yesterday. In the background, the photo of the alleged kidnapper.

PHOTO: STAR

Rab acts fast

Rescues baby girl hours after abduction by mechanic

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Confining the mother of a three-month-old baby girl to their Jinjira house in the capital's Keraniganj on Wednesday night, a man, who was known to the family, kidnapped the infant and demanded a ransom of Tk 2 lakh from the family.

Rapid Action Battalion members, however, trapped the alleged kidnapper, Md Sumon, 31, of the same area, promising him the ransom money and rescued victim Kinara Rahman Shin around 11:30pm Thursday, over 26 hours after the abduction.

Shin's father Shakhawat told The Daily Star that after her rescue, she caught fever and also vomited after her mother fed her.

Officials of Rab-10 said the suspect and the girl's father knew each other for seven-eight months.

Sumon, a mechanic by profession from Shibchar upazila of Madaripur, used to visit the house to repair items like TV and refrigerators.

Around 7:00pm on Wednesday, Suman went to Shakhawat's house and asked his wife Ritu Islam Mitu whether there was anything to do. Mitu told him that there was

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নরম কোমল পরশে বেবি থাকবে ফিট

স্যাডলন নিজে এলা ওয়েটনেস ইন্ডিকটর মুক্ত সম্পূর্ণ লিক প্রুফ স্যাডলন টুইঙ্কলে বেবি ডায়্যাপার। এবার ছেলে খেলে বেড়ে উঠবে আপনার আদরের লিটল স্টার।

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16th Bangladesh Business Awards

The Daily Star brings out today a four-page special supplement on the Bangladesh Business Awards 2016.