



Amid an ongoing heat wave across the country, these mynas (shalik) find respite under the shades of trees in Ramna Park in the capital. The photo was taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

BNP's demo today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP will stage demonstrations across the country today as the party was denied permission to hold a rally in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday.

BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed announced the protest programme at a briefing at the party's Nayapaltn central office yesterday.

On Monday, BNP sought permission from Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) and Public Works Department for holding the rally.

The BNP leader said holding rallies is a democratic way to protest any irregularities and misdeeds.

"When the government did not allow us to protest, it became clear that the police raid in Gulshan office was a part of the government's evil design."

The party was scheduled to hold the rally yesterday protesting Saturday's police raid on BNP Chairperson Khaleida Zia's Gulshan office, but failed to get permission from DMP.

JP-LED ALLIANCE

11 components skip maiden meeting

RASHIDUL HASAN

Eleven components of the Jatiya Party-led 58-party alliance did not attend yesterday's maiden meeting of the newly formed coalition at JP Chief Ershad's Banani office.

Several leaders of the 11 parties said they would soon officially announce that they are no longer with the "United National Alliance (UNA)", country's biggest-ever electoral alliance, counting mainly on name-only Islamist parties.

Formed on May 7, the coalition has only two parties registered with the Election Commission - Jatiya Party and Bangladesh Islami Front.

The new coalition includes 34 Islamist parties under the banner of "National Islamic Grand Alliance (NIGA)" with Abu Naser Wahed Faruk as its chief. UNA also took 22 parties of Bangladesh National Alliance (BNA).

Eleven political parties which did not participate in yesterday's meeting are partners in BNA.

BNA was earlier led by former BNP leader Nazmul Huda. But he was removed from BNA on April 5 and Sekandar Ali Moni became its chief.

Due to internal conflict centering establishing supremacy in the alliance, BNA on May 17 removed Moni from the chairman post and made Gono Jagoron Party's Chairman Selim Haider and Amjanata Party's Chief Banjir Ahmed as BNA's new Chairman and Secretary respectively. Gono Adhikar Party Chief Hossain Mollah was made BNA's spokesperson.

After a split in BNA, its new leaders on Sunday called on JP Chief HM Ershad's Political and Press Secretary Sunil Suvho Roy at the JP chief's Banani office to inform him about BNA's latest development.

New leaders of BNA asked Sunil to treat them as valid leaders of BNA instead of Moni, sources said.

"But Sunil informed us that Moni [Sekandar Ali Moni] SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR MINISTRIES, DEPTS ACC suggests scrutinising rationality of demand

Hands over annual report 2016 to president

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has recommended forming an "Additional Budget Allocation Advisory Council" under the finance ministry to scrutinise the rationality of the demand of extra allocation, often made by different ministries and departments at the beginning of fiscal year.

This will ensure "value for money" in government's expenditure, reads ACC's Annual Report-2016.

A four member team led by ACC Chairman Iqbal Mahmood yesterday handed over the report to President Abdul Hamid.

As per the report, ACC received nearly 13,000 graft allegations in 2016. Of these, the Commission conducted enquiry into

1,007 allegations and sent 588 allegations to departments or ministries concerned of the government for action.

ACC filed 359 graft cases in 2016, and arrested 13 persons for taking bribe and took legal action against them. A total of 388 graft suspects were arrested in 2016 in different graft cases.

President Abdul Hamid stressed the need for creating a strong social movement against corruption at grassroots level aiming to make general public aware of the adverse impacts of graft, and fight the social menace effectively, reports UNB.

"There is no alternative to creating awareness at all levels to fight graft...once a social movement is launched against

Tk 314cr budget for JS expenditures okayed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Jatiya Sangsad Secretariat Commission yesterday approved an estimated Tk 314.91 crore budget for parliament to spend for its development and non-development expenditures for the next fiscal year (2017-18).

The approval was given at the 28th meeting of parliament secretariat commission at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban with Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury in the chair.

Of the total budget, Tk 298.49 crore will be spent for the development sector while Tk 16.42 crore will be used for the non-development sector. The meeting also approved the projected budgets for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 fiscal years. It also approved the revised budget of the outgoing fiscal year. Members of the Commission Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Finance Minister AMA Muhith were also present at the meeting.

Ctg BNP leader Mohiuddin 'released' hours after being 'picked up'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

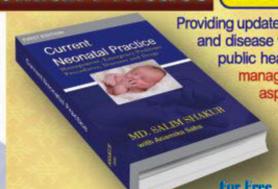
A BNP leader of Chittagong was "released" yesterday hours after he was "picked up" by a group of people identifying themselves as DB men in the capital's Arambagh Tuesday night.

Jafrul Islam Chowdhury, president of BNP Chittagong south district unit, last night confirmed 'The Daily Star' that Sheikh Mohammad Mohiuddin, senior vice president of the unit, was released in the same area from where he was picked up the night before.

The BNP leader was on the way to Chittagong, he added.

Earlier, yesterday, Jafrul along with other leaders at a press conference at Chittagong Press Club alleged that Mohiuddin was "picked up" by some men introducing themselves as DB men" from Relax Bus Counter in the capital's Arambagh around 11:00pm on Tuesday.

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Stroke Patient saved by right decision at the right time

A 48 years old lady was brought by her attendants to the Emergency department of the Apollo Hospitals Dhaka. Emergency team found weakness of the right half of her body & inability to lift her right extremity, not able to speak properly with facial deviation. On duty Emergency Physician, suspected brain stroke and advised for MRI of the brain immediately.

MRI was done & it revealed an acute stroke due to blood clot blocking a blood vessel supplying within the brain. Stroke Neurology team was activated immediately. Since the stroke event was within 4.5 hours, a clot buster popularly known as rtPA (recombinant tissue plasminogen activator), was given slowly IV over 1 hour in the emergency department. After completing her injection in Emergency over 1 hour she was sent to critical care unit under neurology for observation.

It was a miracle waiting for the physicians & the patient on the next morning!!

She was found completely normal on the next day. There was no significant weakness or speech problem. She was shifted to step down unit 24 hrs after the injection. After 24 hours in a cabin for observation she was discharged on the 3rd day as a normal person with no deficit.

One major problem with thrombolysis is that it has to be instituted within the first to four and half hours and, unfortunately many people do not recognize the initial warning signs of a stroke. Delaying treatment makes it in many cases difficult or impossible to treat. It is important for a suspected stroke to rush in a emergency department within 1 to 3 hours, for complete recovery.

Apollo Hospitals Dhaka, showing commitment towards their vision to bring international standard healthcare to Bangladesh, will continue their journey as a unique Stroke center in this country to bring more and more successful results in treating acute stroke patient.

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