

# Khaleda sued over 'meeting with ISI in London'

COURE CORRESPONDENT

A pro-Awami League organisation founder yesterday filed a sedition case against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia alleging that she met Pakistan's intelligence agency "in secret" during her London visit.

Advocate Md Masnur Malek, founder of Bangabandhu Foundation, filed the case with court of Dhaka Metropolitan magistrate Abdullah Al Masud.

After the hearing, the magistrate recorded statement of the complainant and fixed November 8 for passing order on the issue.

In his complaint, Masnur alleged that Khaleda, during her stay in London for three months, met Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI in secret in the late hours of July 18 and 19.

On July 20, some online news portals reported that Khaleda had met ISI in London, he mentioned.

Khaleda's meeting was meant to create "instability in Bangladesh and instigate a state of war between Bangladesh and India", he said.

Based on the media reports, Masnur claimed that the Bangabandhu Foundation investigated the matter through its London branch which confirmed it.

Khaleda Zia left Bangladesh on July 15 for her treatment. She returned home on October 18.



Two students busy with their last-minute revision before heading into the exam hall at Motijheel Government Girls' High School in the capital. Junior School Certificate (JSC) and Junior Dakkhil Certificate (JDC) examinations began yesterday across the country with the participation of 24,68,820 eighth graders from 28,628 general schools and madrasas. On the first day, 60,993 candidates were absent while 15 were expelled for resorting to unfair means.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

# Govt-NGOs can replicate Brac model for dev

Suggests its official finding 'impressive results' in hard-to-reach areas

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

While providing micro-loans to the poor can help them raise income, it may not necessarily ensure their better health, education and hygiene that improve quality of life. That is particularly true when it comes to hard-to-reach areas like haur, hills or remote areas, says Dr Md Masnur, who Brac had undertaken a development approach, in which it designed 10 types of services, including microfinance, health, education, water and sanitation, agriculture and legal aid to the poor of haur areas. And, it found impressive impacts.

"The people under our programme were most resilient during flash floods in the haur early this year. They had financial capacity and livelihood safety," said Dr Md Masnur, executive director of Brac.

He said under the Integrated Development Programme (IDP), vaccination saved the cattle from common diseases after floods. Boat schools operated by IDP provided continued school-

ing for the children in the haur region.

Overall, the coping mechanism of the IDP beneficiaries is quite strong. Brac's research fellow Dr Nepli Chandna Dey said its operations in two upazilas – Banabichang in Habiganj and Derai in Sunamganj – in 2015, IDP was introduced in two other upazilas – Itna in Kishoreganj and Khalijan in Netrakona. In total, over 9 lakh people will be benefited from IDP.

It is estimated that 40 percent people, by nine percent, will be self-employed for females and male aged 16-65 years increased by six and 10 percent respectively," said Jimmat Ara, a research fellow of Brac while presenting a study on the impact of IDP at Brac Centre Inn.

The rate of using sanitary latrines and seeking healthcare from doctors increased by 77 and 50 percent respectively during this time, she said.

IDP Director Anna Minj said usually NGOs implemented projects in a region on either health or education or agriculture but not in an integrated way.

"We now say the government or other NGOs too can replicate this model in

hard-to-reach areas," she said, adding that there were some 60 hard-to-reach upazilas.

IDP will continue till 2020.

In another presentation, Brac's senior research fellow Dr Nepli Chandna Dey said usually 52 percent of people in haur regions of Moulvibazar, Sunamganj, Sylhet, Habiganj, Netrakona and Kishoreganj ratio were engaged in agriculture, but the ratio came down to 13 due to flash floods.

Some 33 percent of households in the region had two meals a day instead of three, while 53 percent had lower food intake due to a lack of food availability, he said.

Dr Dey suggested dredging the rivers flowing through the haur region, building and maintaining embankments regularly, and introducing short variety crops that can be harvested before flash floods.

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## HC restricts demolition of lab building

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday imposed a restriction on demolition of the historic structures including century-old laboratory building in the capital's Khamarbari area.

The court also issued a rule asking the authorities concerned of the government to explain why demolition of the building should not be declared illegal.

In the rule, the court asked the authorities to show that the building should not be directed to prepare a list of heritage structures. Deputy Attorney General Moniruzzaman told The Daily Star.

The bench of Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury and Justice Md Jahidul Kabir came up with the order and rule following a writ petition filed by Taimur Islam, executive officer of Urban Study Group.

# Teachers bribing to stay in Dhaka for coaching business

Finds ACC probe report on govt schools

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A staggering number of teachers, 522 to be exact, of government schools in the capital have been bribing education directorate officers to stay in the city, an investigation report prepared by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) revealed.

These teachers of 24 government schools have been evading their transfer orders for 10 to 33 years by making underhand financial deals with the officers at Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, the ACC found.

The capital's lucrative coaching business is behind the illegal transactions, observed the state body to prevent and detect corruption.

As per the education policy, a government school teacher has to be transferred to another school every three years.

Concerned citizens of the country have long been blaming the teachers' involvement in coaching businesses for the downward trend in the quality of education in schools. They alleged that instead of giving lessons at schools, the teachers are engaged in running their schools at commercial coaching centres for hefty incomes.

The ACC investigation on teachers at secondary level government schools in the capital was conducted by a five-member team, led by its director Mir Md Zainul Abedin Shebly.

"Many teachers don't pay attention while giving lessons at schools. They stay busy tutoring privately," the ACC report reads.

Many of the teachers who have been evading their transfer orders are from the capital's renowned schools. These include Government Laboratory High School, Motijheel Government Boys' High School, Dharmodhikri Government Boys High School, Shahid Bangla Government High School, Comilla Government Girls High School and Khilagan Government High School.

These teachers stop their transfer orders through "lobbying pressure and bribery," says the report. "Many teachers made a large amount of money through coaching business and they remain in Dhaka for years by bribing the administrative officers."

The ACC found out that "by staying in the same school for years these teachers have created an environment where students are forced to obtain private tuition from them."

Many schools have too many teachers for a particular subject such as English or mathematics. The schools that have teacher shortage for the same subject cannot get these extra teachers because they stop their transfer through bribery, the ACC explained.



The Daily Star Editor and Publisher Mahfuz Anam speaking at the "Feedback Session of The Daily Star Reading Project" at Daffodil International University (DIU) in the capital yesterday. Under the project, students of DIU have been reading the newspaper as part of their English learning course. Chairman of the board of trustees of DIU Md Sabur Khan was present among others.

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Development of Residential and Commercial Infrastructure at Jhilmil Residential Project Area Annex Building (1st Floor) Rajuk Bhaban Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

## Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakka (RAJUK)

Memo No: 25.39.0000.157.14.001.17/29

October 31, 2017

### CORRIGENDUM NOTICE-2: REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

"Consultancy Services for Common Utility Duct/Tunnel of Development of Residential and Commercial Infrastructure at Jhilmil Residential Project Area" Dhaka, Bangladesh

Package No: RAJUK/Jhilmil/EOL-1/2017-18

Corrigendum to the EOI Notice of Package No. RAJUK/Jhilmil/EOL-1/2017-18 of the Captioned Consultancy Service is hereby modified as follows:

Points of Discussion	Original Notice	Corrigendum Notice -2
National Competitive Bidding (NCB) / International Competitive Bidding (ICB)	Not Specified	International Competitive Bidding (ICB)
Joint Venture and Association	Reference: Clause 7 of primary EOI Notice Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications, but should mention whether the association is in the form of a "joint venture" or "sub-consultancy". In the case of "Joint Venture", the members of such "association" should have equal and well defined inputs to the assignment and it is preferable to limit the total number of firms including their associates to maximum of 3 (three).	Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications, but should mention whether the association is in the form of a "joint venture" or "sub-consultancy". In the case of "Joint Venture", the members of such "association" should have equal and well defined inputs to the assignment and it is preferable to limit the total number of firms including their associates to maximum of 4 (four).
QCBS Method	Reference: Clause 8 of primary EOI Notice The consultant will be selected under QCBS method in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers.	The consultant will be selected under QCBS method in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers.
Deadline of Submission of EOI	Reference: Clause 10 of primary EOI Notice September 28, 2017	December 21, 2017

This is to mention that all other information and terms given in the primary EOI notice will remain unchanged.

  
Abdul Latif Helaly  
Project Director

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# HC stays trial of Fakhru's 5 cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed trial proceedings of BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir in five cases filed for vandalism and arson in 2015.

The stay orders will continue until disposal of the rules, says the HC.

The bench of Justice Md Miftah Uddin Chowdhury and Justice Ziaul Haq said the trial will be adjourned until the date of hearing of the cases filed after hearing the five petitions of Fakhru.

The bench said the trial authorities then shifted him to the condemned cell for four days as punishment.

Later, the president planted a wood apple sapling in front of the Division Cell, and signed the entry book and visitor's book of the jail.

Hamid will attend function of Para Commando Battalion of Bangladesh Army at Rajshahi Cantonment today. He will then visit the T-dam on the Padma River banks.

The president will return to the capital today.

# President visits Rajshahi jail

UNB, Rajshahi

President Abdul Hamid yesterday visited Rajshahi Central jail where he was detained in 1977 as a political prisoner.

The president visited Rajshahi by a helicopter on a two-day official tour and visited the Rajshahi Central jail later.

He first visited "Division Ward" (now Mohanada) of the jail where he had spent seven months in 1977. Later, the president visited cell No 20 and its condemned cell.

Hamid recalled the memories of his other political inmates in the jail, including former general secretary of Awami League Abdul Jalil and former party leader Amjad Hossain.

He said the jail authorities then shifted him to the condemned cell for four days as punishment.

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## Raise voice

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executive director of BCAS, citing a recent study.

As a result, there have been frequent flash floods in South Asia and the big hurricane in the Caribbean region this year, he added.

"If mitigation measures could not be implemented properly, other initiatives would not work," he said, also urged the global community to come together as everybody had a responsibility to care the world.

Golam Rabban, a fellow of BCAS, said financing was the most important part of mitigation initiatives. Developed countries are supposed to lead climate financing, but they do not always do what they promised to give to vulnerable countries, he said.

Golam Motasim Billah, country director of Islamic Relief Bangladesh, also spoke.