

Efforts on to bring back Bangabandhu's killers

Says home boss

UNB, Jhenaidah

The government is continuing its efforts to bring back Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's fugitive killers from abroad, said Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday.

The minister made the remarks while talking to reporters after inaugurating a police circle office at Kotchandpur in the district. "The fugitive killers will be brought back after resolving all legal complications regarding the prisoner exchange with different countries. Our home ministry and foreign ministry are jointly working on the matter", he added.

Lawmakers Abdul Hai, also Awami League district unit president, Tahjib Alam Siddique, Nabi Newaz, Anwarul Azim Anar, and DIG (deputy inspector general) of Khulna range Didar Ahmed were also present.



Awami League President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina speaking at a programme organised by Awami League to mark the 47th Victory Day and Martyred Intellectuals' Day at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) in the capital yesterday. The premier said countrymen will never give their mandate to anti-liberation forces.

PHOTO: BSS

INTENSE RAINS IN 2014-50 Dhaka likely to lose

Tk 11,000cr

Says World Bank's environmental economist

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka's potential cumulative loss from extreme rainfalls between 2014 and 2050 would be Tk 11,000 crore, said Dr Susmita Dasgupta, lead environmental economist, World Bank, quoting its recent study.

In a changing climate scenario, however, the over all estimated loss would be Tk 13,900 crore. She made the comments while giving a public lecture on "Vulnerability of coastal Bangladesh and urban flooding of greater Dhaka in a changing climate: Building local resilience to disaster risk".

Brac University's Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research organised the event on its Banani campus yesterday.

Dr Susmita said loss of agricultural productivity and fresh water fish species due to climate change is adversely affecting the livelihood of coastal families.

Also, the human-wildlife conflict in the Sundarbans would increase as a result of climate change.

Regarding mitigating waterlogging crisis in the capital, she said additional structural measures such as pumps, sluice gates and storm water pipes would be necessary.

Sued BCL

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Besides Tipu, Arman Hossain, Rashedul Alam Jishan, Abu Torab Porash, Mansur Alam and Abdul Malek and Mizanur Rahman were present among the 10 named accused at the news conference.

Tipu said all 10 are on bail granted by the High Court.

The case is currently being investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

Appoint CJ, SC judges from lawyers

Says legal notice served on govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A legal notice was served yesterday asking the government to take necessary steps for appointing the chief justice (CJ) and more judges to the Appellate and High Court divisions of the Supreme Court from lawyers in 72 hours.

Eunus Ali Akond, an SC lawyer, sent the notice to the respondents saying that he will file a writ petition with the HC seeking necessary directives if they fail to appoint the CJ and judges from neutral, independent, honest, sincere and competent lawyers within the deadline.

The president appoints more than 80 percent judges of the HC division from the lawyers practicing at the apex court, Eunus said in his notice.

But, 100 percent Appellate Division judges are appointed from the HC judges, which is discriminatory and violation of principles of natural justice. Even in the constitution, there is no provision of promotion of HC judges, he said in the notice.

In India, Pakistan and the USA, SC judges are appointed from the lawyers, he also mentioned.

The law secretary, cabinet secretary, president's secretary, prime minister's office secretary, registrar general of SC and chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council have been made respondents.

WAR CRIMES CASE AGAINST 17 COX'S BAZAR MEN

Decision on charge framing Jan 22

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday fixed January 22 next year to decide whether it will frame charges against 17 Cox's Bazar men in a case filed for allegedly committing crimes during the 1971 Liberation War.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Md Shahinur Islam fixed the date after the prosecution and the defence counsels completed their submissions on charges.

Prosecutor Rana Dasgupta prayed for framing charges against the accused while defence counsels Abdus Sobhan Tarafder and Abdus Sattar Palwan sought discharge of their clients.

The accused are Salamat Ullah Khan, Moulavi Zakaria Sikdar, Md Rashid Mia, Oli Ahmad, Jalal Uddin alias Jalal Ahmed, Moulavi Nurul Islam, Md Saiful alias Sabul, Momtaz Ahmed, Habibur Rahman alias Habib Munshi, Moulavi Amjad Ali, Badsha Mia, Osman Gani, Abdus Shukur, Md Zakaria, Moulavi Jalal, Abdul Aziz and Ramiz Hassan.

LIBERATION WAR

Rajshahi freed today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi was freed from Pakistani occupation forces on this day in 1971, two days after Victory Day.

Maj Gias Uddin Ahmed Chowdhury, the then commander of sub-sector-4 under sector-7 during the Liberation War, formally declared Rajshahi free, hoisting the independence flag at Madrasa field and Rajshahi University (RU).

Ahmed Shafiuddin, who was a reporter of the then weekly Sonar Desh, said upon hearing that Pakistani forces had surrendered on December 16 in Dhaka, the freedom fighters fighting at different corners of Rajshahi and Indian borders marched to town.

"Once the occupation forces left, the entire town's people hoisted our flags and brought out victory processions. I also made one from red and green dresses and hoisted it in Ranibazar area," said Shafiuddin, also a retired RU officer.

He said he collected skulls and bones of the martyrs and a rocket launcher from Zoha Hall area where Pakistani army tortured and killed many freedom-loving people. He donated those to RU Martyrs' Memorial Archive in 1978.

A rally, commemorating the day, will be held at Shaheb Bazar Zero Point in the afternoon.

2 killed in road crashes

STAR REPORT

Two persons, including a woman, were killed in separate road accidents in two districts yesterday.

In Faridpur, a battery-run three-wheeler hit Roziya Begum, 70, in front of Nagarkanda Upazila Health Complex in Nagarkanda upazila in Faridpur yesterday.

The victim was the wife of late freedom fighter Sumsul Huda of Atkahinia village of Nagarkanda upazila.

She died at the health complex, reports our correspondent.

In Chapainawabganj, a pedestrian was killed in Roshiknagar area of Shibganj upazila of the district yesterday.

The deceased has been identified as Montaj Ali, 75, of Kamlakantapur village under the upazila.

Police said the truck fled the spot after running over the elderly man.

Dr Mahfuzur Rahman

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United Nations: Half a Century of Debate", "Khoda Hafez Vs Allah Hafez and Other Critical Essays", and "The Amnesia's".

For his autobiographical book, "From Naogaon to New York: An Unedited Memoir", Dr Rahman received the Bangla Academy Literary Award in 2013.

He obtained his master's degree in economics from Dhaka and Manchester universities and PhD from Netherlands School of Economics,

under Jan Tinbergen, a Nobel laureate in economics.

Dr Rahman worked in the Bangladesh Planning Commission before joining the United Nations in New York in 1976. He retired from the organisation as director of economic policy analysis.

He was an activist in the Language Movement in 1952 and dedicated to a lifelong pursuit to promote social, political and economic development of Bangladesh.

He left behind his wife, two children, and three granddaughters.

Impossible is nothing

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the country," he said.

Ajay Sen, programme manager of ICRC, said, "People with disabilities in Bangladesh often face societal barriers, and in many cases, they are considered dependent and seen as incapable."

"... we are trying to ensure their social inclusion through this sport (cricket)," he added.

He hoped that the initiative like this tournament would help the physically challenged cricketers to showcase their skills and help them reintegrate into the mainstream society gradually.

A total of six teams of physically challenged youths are contesting the tournament. Final match will be held on Thursday (December 21).



BNP and its associated bodies yesterday brought out a procession from the party's central office in the capital's Nayapaltan to celebrate the 47th Victory Day.

PHOTO: STAR



Players with guests at the opening match of a four-day T-20 cricket tournament organised by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) at Jagannath Hall playground on Dhaka University campus yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Abused while

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women and girls, Farida Yesmin, of the Disabled Rehabilitation and Research Association, said the organisation had found that almost all of them were abused in one form or another by their relatives, neighbours or teachers.

Shaheen Anam, of MJE, promised to extend her support to disabled victims in their legal fight. She also offered support if any organisation launches a study on the progress of their human rights violation cases in the last five years.

Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori; Kazi Rozi, MP; Mohua Pal, of Access Bangladesh, and Atiar Rahman, additional secretary to the social welfare ministry, also spoke at the event.

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