



Hasina will start election campaign from Sylhet Jan 30

Says Muhith

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina will visit Sylhet on January 30 to formally start campaigning for the next national election, said AL leader AMA Muhith yesterday.

Hasina, also the prime minister, will offer prayers at the shrines of Hazrat Shahjalal (RA) and Hazrat Shahporan (RA), address an AL rally and lay foundation stones of a number of development projects, Muhith also said.

Besides, 15 AL teams comprising its senior leaders will start a countrywide

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Muhith, a man respected by all

Eminent citizens tell programme marking his 85th birthday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The activities and thoughts of Finance Minister AMA Muhith for the country made him respected and acceptable to all, eminent citizens said yesterday.

Throughout his career, he made contributions to the country's politics, economy and administrative system. He also raised voice for reform in politics and administration, like decentralisation of power and non-politicisation in bureaucracy, they said.

Even in the old age, he is performing his duties perfectly as a minister, they added.

The remarks came at a ceremony organised on the occasion of the 85th birth anniversary of AMA Muhith at Bishwo Shahitto Kendro (BSK) in the capital.

A new book of the minister titled "Shangkato Shujog" [Crisis and Opportunities] was also launched at the programme. The publisher, Somoy Prokashon, organised the event.

The book is a collection of 44 articles written from 1994 to 2008, which shed light on different political and economic phenomena of different governments.

In his speech, Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman recalled Muhith's contributions to the country and said through this book, "he voiced his opposition against politicisation of the administration, due to which many honest bureaucrats cannot work freely."

BSK founder Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed said the minister is still young at the age of 85.

"Living for a long time is a skill and Muhith did it... We wish him a long life."

Prof Sayeed also said the country is divided into two

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From left, Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, Finance Minister AMA Muhith, Bishwo Shahitto Kendro founder Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed, historian Muntasir Mamun, and writer Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam hold copies of the book "Shangkato Shujog" during a programme at BSK in the capital yesterday. The book, authored by Muhith, was launched marking his 85th birth anniversary.

PHOTO: STAR

Three cops in custody for killing

High-ups say they went on an unauthorised operation

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN, Ctg

Three law enforcers, including a sub-inspector, were taken into police custody yesterday in connection with the killing of a man in a police firing. The incident took place at Telipara village in Bhatiyari area under Sitakunda upazila on Wednesday night.

Sub-inspector Nazmul Huda, Constable Abul Kashem and Special Ansar Ismail are kept in Chittagong police lines lock-up as they went to Telipara in plainclothes violating the departmental rules, according to police sources.

On Wednesday night, SI Nazmul and the two others, all in plainclothes,

went to the village around 8:45pm to arrest "drug peddlers". When they captured two "drug abusers", locals started shouting, terming the police personnel as robbers.

SI Nazmul, to disperse the mob, opened fire on them. The incident left Saiful Islam, 24, Imran Ali Jo, 19 and Kabir Ahmed alias Bhola driver, 55, bullet-hit. Saiful succumbed to his injuries at Chittagong Medical College Hospital the same night.

"The three were taken into police custody following the incident. I have told the victim's family to lodge a complaint against them. Stern action will be taken..." said Noor-e-Alam Mina, Chittagong superintendent of police

(SP).

"The police department will not take the responsibility of the incident as they [the three] were not deployed there [Telipara village] and went on their own," he said. A regular case would also be filed in this connection.

Terming the drive in plainclothes unauthorised, Iftekhar Hasan, officer-in-charge of Sitakunda Police Station, submitted a report to SP Noor-e-Alam in the morning.

This correspondent obtained a copy of the report that said the team of police comprising SI Nazmul Huda and two others were deployed in Siraj Bhuiyan area to PHP part of the

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Five apron winners with three judges during the Dhaka South audition round of the "Rupchanda-The Daily Star Super Chef 2018" at Gulshan Shooting Complex in the capital yesterday. Around 190 enthusiasts participated in the competition. Of them, 44 were selected for the cook-off. From left, Umme Tashlima Lupa, Kumkum Hazera, Umme Kulsum (judge), chef Dipu (judge), Nasrin Hossain (judge), Shamsun Nahar, Moinul Haq and Farida Parvin Maya. With yesterday's event, the regional round of the competition ends.

PHOTO: STAR

Alternative there for rape test

Speakers tell BLAST, BMP discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rape victims do not need to undergo the two-finger test because there are other medical options to prove the crime, speakers told a discussion yesterday.

Terming the two-finger test unscientific, they also said this is disgraceful for the victims.

Under this procedure, doctors could insert two fingers into the victim's vagina to assess injuries and determine whether her hymen is broken.

The speakers said the absence of the hymen can be caused by other factors, and suggested alternatives like checking outer parts of the body and examining clothes.

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) and Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) jointly organised the discussion titled on "medico-legal test of raped women and children" at the office of BMP in the capital.

In her speech, BMP president Ayesha Khanom said the two-finger test should not be acceptable in any civilised society. "It is the violation of fundamental human rights."

She said the existing laws should be implemented in such a way that the rape victims do not feel harassed.

Barrister Sara Hossain, honorary executive director of BLAST, said this test degrades the self-respect of women.

"A rape victim becomes traumatised after the two-finger test and they don't want to go through it," said Farida Yeasmin, deputy commissioner of the women protection wing of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

Prof M Muzaherul Huq, a forensic scientist and medico-legal consultant, said, "Countries like India and Sri Lanka do not have the two-finger test medical procedure."

He also said that in Bangladesh, medical support for rape victims is not satisfactory.

Eng Mosharraf relieved of 2007 graft charges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday relieved Housing and Public Works Minister Engineer Mosharraf Hossain of corruption charges brought against him by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in 2007.

The court of Chittagong Divisional Special Judge Mir Ruhul Amin delivered the verdict, said Kazi Sanwar Ahmed Lavlu, public prosecutor for the ACC.

In the first information record (FIR), it was stated that illegal transaction was made in the bank accounts of Mosharraf and his wife and therefore charge was brought against him under section 161, the PP said.

However, Mosharraf's lawyer pleaded his client's release from the case arguing that Mosharraf has no connection with the charge since his wife was neither made an accused nor a witness in the charge sheet placed before the court

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Bangladesh wants quick start of repatriation

Hasina tells Swiss envoy

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Bangladesh wants quick start of the repatriation of Rohingyas sheltering in Cox's Bazar.

She said this when newly appointed Swiss ambassador to Bangladesh Rene Holenstein met the PM at her office in the capital. PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim briefed reporters after the meeting, saying the upcoming visit of the Swiss president to Bangladesh, Rohingyas, and bilateral cooperation were discussed. The envoy said it is a very challenging task for managing the huge number of Rohingyas. Switzerland will continue to support Bangladesh on this issue.

10.38 lakh Rohingyas registered so far

JS body told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Registration of 10.38 lakh Rohingyas has been completed so far and they will not be able to carry Bangladeshi passports or National Identity Cards anymore.

The immigration and passport department yesterday at a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban informed this to the parliamentary standing committee on home affairs.

In the meeting, the parliamentary watchdog asked the home ministry officials to complete fencing around all the 35 Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar immediately to ensure security for the locals and Rohingyas.

Besides, the fencing will also prevent them from spreading out, getting involved in criminal activities or even altercations with locals.

"We have also asked the ministry officials to prepare a digital mapping of all the Rohingya camps," Jatiya Party MP Fakhrul Imam, a member of the committee, present at the meeting, told The Daily Star.

Asked, he said the passport department informed them that after completion of the registration of 10.38 lakh Rohingyas, the information was incorporated in the government's database. "Therefore they won't be able to get Bangladeshi passports or NID cards as it had happened in the past," he also said.

There are allegations that many Rohingyas managed to get Bangladeshi passport by unfair means, and went to

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Rakhine not ready yet

Says Unicef about refugees' return

UNB, Dhaka

Unicef has commended the repatriation deal between Bangladesh and Myanmar but underscored that the situation in Rakhine State is not conducive yet to start repatriation.

"That is the right thing to do [repatriation deal] and Bangladesh should be commended for that. But violence is still continuing," Unicef Deputy Executive Director Justin Forsyth told reporters in a hotel in Dhaka last evening.

He laid emphasis on redoubling efforts before monsoon with comprehensive work to save lives in camps in Bangladesh as well as addressing security concerns in the Rakhine State. "We need to redouble

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BRAC UNIVERSITY
Inspiring Excellence

BRAC University Appointment of Vice-Chancellor

BRAC University was established in 2001 by BRAC, the world's largest NGO, with a vision to nurture world-class professionals, development practitioners and researchers who would be ready to tackle local and international development needs of the twenty-first century. BRAC University is now the #1 private university in Bangladesh according to QS Asian University Rankings and is a dynamic and forward thinking educational establishment committed to producing future leaders in the areas of development practice, academia, entrepreneurship and innovation.

With 8,000 students and 400 faculty, BRAC University provides liberal arts undergraduate and postgraduate programmes offered by its four schools, seven departments and three institutes. The language of instruction is English. The University endeavours to prepare graduates with the attributes needed to achieve professional excellence, with a commitment to make valuable contribution to economy and society. The highly qualified and dedicated faculty play a critically important role in harnessing the talent of their students, the young men and women who are at the centre of the University's aspirational journey.

The next Vice-Chancellor will lead BRAC University into the next phase of growth with many exciting projects currently underway, including a new campus being

constructed, comprising a 14-storey building of 1.7 million square feet on 6 acres of land, curriculum revision and upgrading, exploration of new research frontiers, IT integration and new applications, internationalization of the student and faculty community, and taking the first nano-satellite built in Bangladesh to greater heights.

S/he will demonstrate transformational leadership experience in pursuing the vision and mission of the University, in guiding academic and research affairs and in advancing institutional excellence in the global competitive landscape. An innovative, visionary and dynamic individual capable of inspiring minds of the highest calibre, the future incumbent will bring a personal record of achievements both as an academic and in leading an academic enterprise, and will have a real commitment to working towards national development and social progress in developing country context.

For further information and initial enquiries, please contact Petra Awad at the executive search firm Perrett Laver at petra.awad@perrettlaver.com. To apply please upload your curriculum vitae and supporting covering letter at <https://candidates.perrettlaver.com/vacancies/> quoting 3396 before 12 noon GMT on Wednesday 21 February 2018.



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