

NEW OPPOSITION ALLIANCE AL not worried at all: Hasina

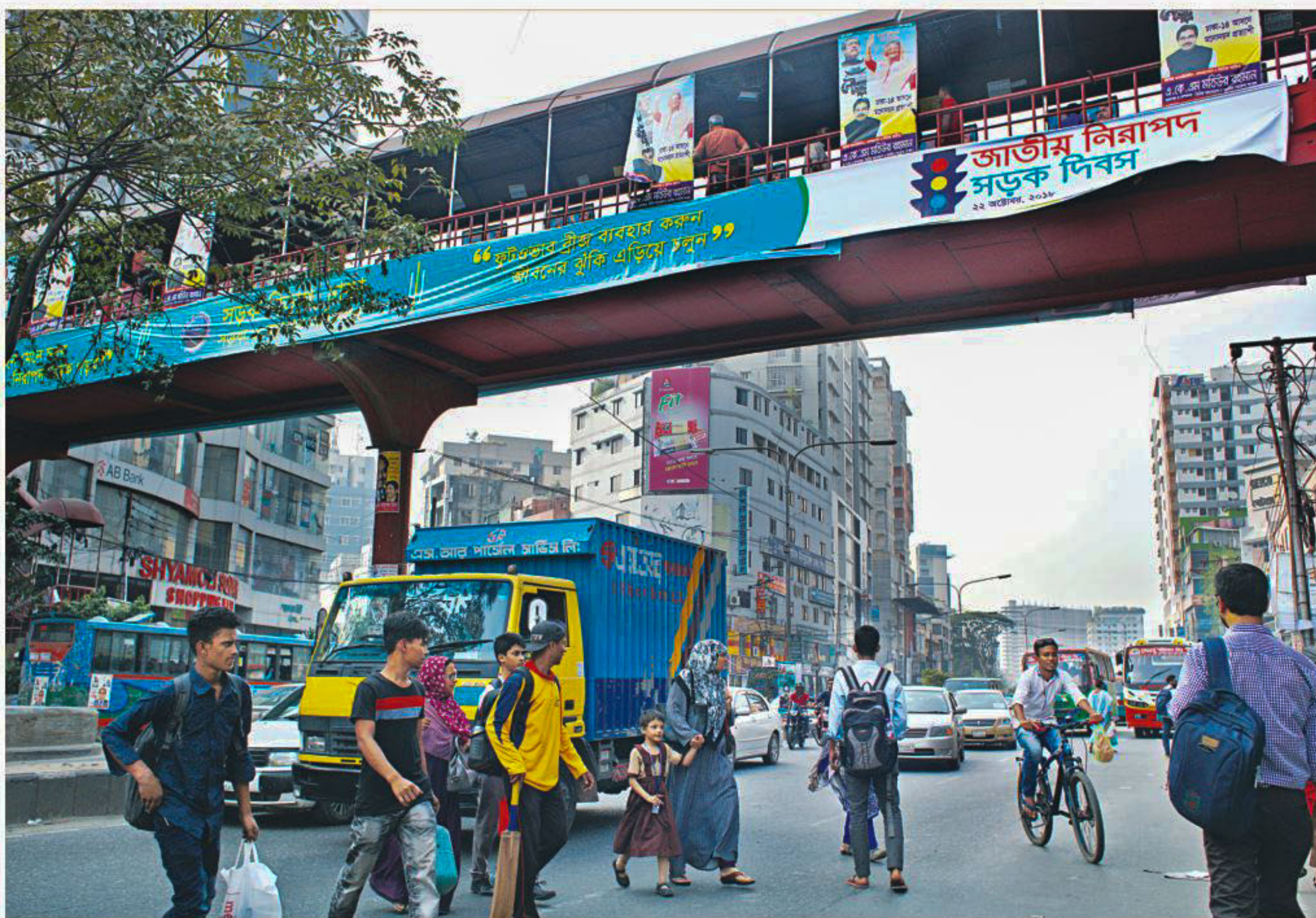


No confusion, doubt about holding of election
Polls-time govt may not be smaller this time
I welcome political parties' getting united
File cases against Mainul, action will be taken

UNB, BSS, Dhaka

Welcoming the formation of Jatiya Oikyafront, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Awami League was not worried about it at all. "We want them [new political alliance leaders] to do a good job. But Awami League is not worried about it at all. This is good to see that they got united," she said at a press conference at the Gono Bhavan. The programme was organised to brief journalists about the outcome of her recent official visit to Saudi Arabia. "I welcome that political parties have got united. It is needed. What's the problem if all can get united and achieve a political success?" she said. Responding to a question about any possible uncertainty over the

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Pedestrians jaywalk on a busy street though a footbridge is just a few yards away in the capital's Shyamoli area. They appear to be oblivious of the banner, hung on the bridge on the occasion of National Road Safety Day yesterday, urging people to use the bridge.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

DEFAMATION CASE Police arrest Mainul from city's Uttara

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Barrister Mainul Hosein was arrested last night from JSD (Rab) chief ASM



Abdur Rab's Uttara residence in a defamation case filed with a Rangpur court.

After arresting Mainul, whose recent comment on a female journalist triggered outrage, officials took him to the Detective Branch office on Mintoo Road in the capital.

"There was an arrest warrant against him in a defamation case filed in Rangpur. He was arrested from ASM Abdur Rab's home in Uttara as per the warrant," Mahbub Alam, joint commissioner of DB, told The Daily Star.

DB officials said he will be produced before a Dhaka court today.

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They were 'picked up' a day before

Allege families of three of the four whose bullet-hit bodies were found in N'ganj

STAR REPORT

Three of the four youths found shot dead in Narayanganj on Sunday morning were picked up by detectives from the district's Gausia the previous day, family members claimed after identifying them at a local hospital yesterday.

The dead are Jahurul Islam, 24, Faruk Hossain, 35, and Sabuj Sarder, 24, from Dharmagram village in Pabna Sadar upazila.

Some people identifying themselves as detectives picked up the three along with Jahurul's cousin Liton

Hossain from Faruk's house in Gausia of Bhulta, alleged Faruk's step father Jamal Pramanik.

Liton, who also is from Dharmagram, is still traceless, Jamal told The Daily Star.

Their families, however, have no idea about their links with the other dead, Lutfor Molla, 42, said to be a microbus driver from the capital's Rampura Power House area.

Lutfor's wife Reshma Akter, who identified his body at Narayanganj General Hospital on Sunday, said her husband had been missing since 1:00am

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Razeda Begum breaks down in tears in Pabna's Dharmagram village yesterday afternoon after hearing that one of the four men, whose bullet-hit bodies were found in Narayanganj on Sunday, was her son Faruk Hossain, 35.

PHOTO: AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU

'BNP-may-win' hope spurs race for nomination

SHAKHAWAT LITON and MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The hope that the party may win the election if it is held in a free and fair manner has spurred a large number of BNP leaders to emerge as MP aspirants.

A senior leader close to BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman said the party had, on an average, about five aspirants in many of the constituencies across the country.

The picture is different in only a few constituencies where BNP bigwigs are likely to run, the leader said wishing anonymity.

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AL wary over too many contenders

4 to 5 leaders seeking ticket in most constituencies; party fears internal feud may cause troubles

SHAKHAWAT LITON and MOHAMMAD AL-MASUM MOLLA

The Awami League high command is worried as almost all the 300 constituencies have four to five party leaders each vigorously campaigning for nominations in the parliamentary polls, according to AL insiders.

In addition to the incumbent MPs, they are using posters, placards, and billboards in their areas to highlight themselves and the successes of the government to get

noticed by the party high-ups.

However, there are no multiple candidates in a handful of constituencies from where AL high-ups usually run, said the insiders.

"The aspirants believe that this election would be like the one of January 5, 2014 and that if one could manage the party's blessings, one is sure to become a lawmaker," a senior AL leader told The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

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Jatiya Oikyafront aims for a huge turnout in Sylhet

STAR REPORT

Jatiya Oikyafront leaders are preparing to organise a huge gathering at its rally in Sylhet tomorrow to drum up public support in favour of their seven-point demand.

The newly-floated alliance of the BNP and several other parties, including Dr Kamal Hossain-led Jatiya Oikya Prokriya, is working to bring people from four districts of the Sylhet division -- Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Sunamganj and Habiganj -- to the programme.

Four parties of the BNP-led 20-party alliance -- Liberal Democratic Party, Bangladesh Kalyan Party, Bangladesh

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وَدَّاعِلَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ



Azimur Rahman
1935 - 2001

Until We Meet Again

by Unknown

Each morning when we awake
we know that you are gone.
And no one knows the heartache
As we try to carry on.

Our hearts still ache with sadness
and many tears still flow.
What it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

Our thoughts are always with you,
your place no one can fill.
In life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still.

There will always be a heartache,
and often a silent tear,
But always a precious memory
Of the days when you were here.

If tears could make a staircase,
And heartaches make a lane,
We'd walk the path to heaven
And bring you home again.

We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you will remain,
To walk with us throughout our lives
Until we meet again.

Our family chain is broken now,
And nothing will be the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.

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I've no desire to seek any public office: Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain has said he does not have any desire to run for election or hold any public office.



"I am happy to clarify, for those who have been making virulent, baseless and persistent personal attacks on me, that I have no desire to be a candidate in any election or seek any public office," he said at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. "I will continue to work for building a democratic, secular and pluralistic society," he said.

He also said the Special

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