

# BNP going through a 'crisis': Fakhru

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said the party is going through a “crisis”, and is working to regroup itself.

He was speaking at Pachuria of Ghior upazila of Manikganj around 2:30pm, at the grave of late BNP secretary general Khandaker Delwar Hossain, marking his 8th death anniversary.

Fakhru said the party is going through a “crisis” as its leader Khaleda Zia is serving time in jail “despite being innocent”, adding that the party is now working on rebuilding itself, to reclaim democracy, give back people's rights and oust the “autocratic” and “fascist” government.

BNP joint secretaries Moazzem Hossain Alal and Barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokon, and Delwar's sons Khondaker Akbar Hossain Bablu and Khandaker Akter Hossain Dablu were present there.

Mirza Fakhru said Khandaker Delwar Hossain was politician with strong morale and personality. He was also a Language Movement activist and a freedom fighter.

Born in Manikganj in 1933, Khandaker Delwar started his political career through the Language Movement of 1952. Delwar started active politics at the national level in 1957 by joining National Awami Party (NAP). He played an important role in the mass uprising in 1969 and also contested the 1970 election with the ticket of NAP.

Delwar joined BNP in 1978, and became a member of the national standing committee of the party in 1985. A man of illustrious political career, he was elected five times a lawmaker from Manikganj's Ghior-Doulatpur constituency.

He died on March 16, 2011 at the age of 78, at a hospital in Singapore.



Two men sit on a pile of scrap metal on a truck, passing through the Banglamotor intersection in the capital. The travel is risky for the duo onboard and also for pedestrians -- as rusty iron rods are sticking out of the truck bed. The photo was taken yesterday.

# KU business discipline holds 7th alumni convention

A CORRESPONDENT, KU

The 7th alumni convention of Business Administration Discipline of Khulna University (KU) was held yesterday.

To mark the occasion, a daylong event including colorful procession, discussion and cultural programme was arranged by the Alumni Association of Business Administration Discipline on the campus.

Several hundred alumni attended the event, where KU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Mohammad Fayek Uz Zaman was present as chief guest.

Prof Dr Feroz Ahmed, dean of Management and Business Administration school and Prof Md Mizanur Rahman, head of Business Administration Discipline were present as special guests.

The programme was chaired by Shariful Alam Lenin, chairman of the association.

# Passenger held with gold bars at Ctg airport

UNB, Dhaka

A team of Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate (CIID) recovered eight gold bars from a passenger arriving from Oman's capital Muscat at Shah Amanat International Airport in the port city yesterday.

CIID sources said a Customs Intelligence team under the SAIA Circle started surveillance after a Regent Airways flight from Muscat landed yesterday morning.

Acting on a tip-off, the CIID team challenged Md Mohiuddin when he was about to leave the airport's green channel at 9:48am. Primarily, he denied carrying any gold items.

However, in the face of interrogation, he revealed that he was carrying eight gold bars inside his rectum, said CIID Director General Dr Shahidul Islam.

Later, the bars weighing around 934 grams were recovered from his body, he added.

Legal action was taken against him under baggage rules, Shahidul said.

# Refusing to be a victim

Harasser arrested from video recorded by girl

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattogram Metropolitan Police (CMP) have arrested a youth in the city for harassing a girl on the streets last week, after the girl caught the incident on video with her phone and shared it with law enforcers.

Tanvir Ahmed Siddique, 23, one of the accused in the case was held from Mia Khan Nagar at Bahaddarhat area in the city last night, said Mohammad Mohsin, officer-in-charge (OC) of Kotwali Police Station.

Another accused Md Sohel, 28, is absconding, said the OC.

At a press conference at the police station, Farhana Nourin, 23, insisted that journalists publish her identity, so that others do not fear to protest such incidents.

Nourin, a student of Government City College, was

returning home from Kadamtali area of the port city at around 2:30pm on March 6, when she came across the two.

“Riding a motorcycle, two men pulled my scarf from behind and touched me. They later came before the rickshaw I was on, and began to tease me. As I shouted, they hurled abusive words and made suggestive gestures,” she said.

As she took out her phone started filming them, the youths left the scene, she said, adding that later that night she shared the video with OC Mohsin via Facebook. The OC shared the video from his personal account and page, asking help from citizens to identify the culprits.

“In most of such incidents, victims hide their identity in the fear of further abuse or loss of social dignity. The criminals, not us, should be afraid. We

must be vocal about our own dignity,” said Farhana.

OC Mohsin told The Daily Star that someone identified one of the men in the video on Friday, and police arrested him under Section 54 the same night. Yesterday morning, the girl identified her stalker and filed a case, in which he was then shown arrested and sent to court. The motorbike used in the incident was also seized, he added.

“The arrestee confessed to committing the crime and confirmed the identity of his accomplice. We will arrest him very soon,” said the OC, adding that the courage of Farhana made their job easier.

Md Kamruzzaman, inspector (investigation) of Kotwali Police Station, said the other person, Sohel, is also an accused of two narcotics cases filed with Bakalia Police Station.

# Bangladesh ready for business: Shahriar

UNB, Dhaka

State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam yesterday said Bangladesh will engage with the world in a bigger way for doing everything on diplomatic fronts to take the country to the next stage of development with more trade and cutting dependency on aid.

“Bangladesh is ready for business. Bangladesh is attracting investment,” he said mentioning the country's engagement with Saudi Arabia, Japan, China, India and other countries on trade and investment fronts with much focus on economic diplomacy.

Diplomatic Correspondents Association, Bangladesh (DCAB) arranged the seminar on Bangladesh's diplomacy and engaging the world, at the auditorium of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS), marking the association's 21st anniversary.

Shahriar said Bangladesh, over the last few years, witnessed visits of trade delegations tagged with each high-level bilateral visit to Bangladesh, which shows the country is ready for expanding business.

BISS Chairman Munshi Faiz Ahmad and

former Foreign Secretary Md Touhid Hossain spoke at the seminar attended also by Foreign Secretary M Shahidul Haque, with DCAB President Raheed Ejaz in the chair.

Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) Senior Research Fellow Towfiqul Islam Khan presented a paper on “Bangladesh's Priorities in Economic Diplomacy” at the seminar conducted by DCAB General Secretary Narul Islam Hasib.

The state minister laid emphasis on capacity-building, saying Bangladesh will focus on all fronts of diplomatic engagements and every aspect of global affairs as it is moving towards becoming a developed country by 2041.

“The foreign ministry will further expedite its efforts,” Shahriar said, adding that challenges will be there but those can be overcome if the intention remains good with much focus on people's wellbeing.

He said Bangladesh opened 17 missions abroad over the last 10 years while it has plans to open 10 more in the next five years.

About the Rohingya issue, the state minister said Bangladesh needs to move on

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The leopard cat recuperates at Wildlife Conservation Centre in Sylhet yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

# Leopard cat rescued in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A leopard cat was rescued from a palm garden in Sylhet yesterday morning.

A man rushed the animal to the city's Wildlife Conservation Centre after it had fallen from a palm tree in Khadimnagar of Sadar upazila, said sources at the centre.

The leopard cat is undergoing treatment, said Monzur Kader Chowdhury, a veterinarian of the conservation centre.

“The cat is too weak to move. I found no external injury on its body. It might have suffered from food crisis for a long time. It was given IV fluid,” he said.

RS Munirul Islam, divisional forest officer in Sylhet, said, “The cat will be under treatment at the conservation centre. Once the veterinarian declares it fit, we will release it back into the wild.”

A leopard cat is about the size of a domestic cat. But it is slenderer with longer legs and well-defined webs between its toes. Its small head is marked with dark stripes and a short and narrow white muzzle.

Due to habitat loss, leopard cats (Prionailurus Bengalensis) was declared “near threatened” species in Bangladesh on February 26 in 2015, said Veterinarian Monzur Kader, citing a list of International Union for Conservation of Nature.

# Int'l cultural fest begins in Rajshahi today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A 10-day international cultural festival will begin in Rajshahi today, to mark the 99th birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Cultural activists from Bangladesh, India and Nepal are participating in the festival, which will include poetry recitation, songs, plays and discussions.

Poet Sheikh Hafizur Rahman will inaugurate the festival at Rajshahi in the morning.

Bhaban in the morning, while Prof Atiur Rahman, former governor of Bangladesh Bank will attend as chief guest.

In the afternoon, artistes from Bangladesh and India's West Bengal will take part in a cultural programme.

The festival will continue until March 26.

# DU authorities deny

FROM PAGE 3 long weekend.

However, in their statement DU authorities expressed concern about the incident that took place in Kuwait-Maitree Hall and said it is true that a bag filled with “marked” ballot papers was recovered from a room adjacent to polling booths. After being informed, the vice-chancellor (VC) ordered to postpone the voting process and asked the chief returning officer to go there.

The VC also appointed a new provost to the hall and formed a five-member probe body to investigate the incident. Chief returning officer managed to get new ballot papers printed for the concerned hall and resumed voting, said the statement.

It added that if there is any question of obscurity or laxity here, they will take exemplary measures against the perpetrators after getting the probe report.

Citing the issue of Ruqayyah Hall, authorities said, “It was said very confusingly that ballot papers were recovered from Ruqayyah hall. The papers were not kept in the ballot box; rather in the trunks sent by the chief returning officer. The ballot papers were not marked; they were intact and unused.”

As per rule, ballot papers are supplied to voters from fixed tables via responsible teachers. This is the best way to ensure the security of ballot papers.

Besides, confusion was created centring the number of ballot boxes. There were six ballot boxes [in which the ballot papers would be put] and three ballot trunks which were intact. Thus, the claim of there being nine ballot boxes, six of which were found and three were hidden – is futile and imaginary, said the statement.

Commenting on the university's statement, Ruqayyah Hall resident and protester Dipty said authorities had preserved ballot papers, aiming to rig votes. She claimed that is the reason they were not shown those ballots and were attacked by Chhatra League on election day.

# Five workers injured in furnace explosion

CU CORRESPONDENT

A furnace explosion at a steel factory in Shitalpur area under Sitakunda upazila in Chattogram left five workers injured early yesterday.

Four workers of Shitalpur Steel Mill were sent to the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital with severe burn injuries sustained from melted iron, said Polash Kumar Das, inspector of Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment.

“They are now in critical condition,” he added.

Those admitted to DMCH were identified as Mohammad Miah, 35, from Noakhali; Md Riad Hossain, 30, from Laxmipur; Md Amzar Hossain, 40, from Lalmonirhat; and Md Mainuddin, 37, from Cumilla, said Das.

He said the iron melting furnace exploded around 4am yesterday. “The furnace of the re-rolling mill exploded with a big bang and melted iron went everywhere, causing severe injuries.”

The workers did not have any heat-tolerant or protective gear, added the Inspector.

Another injured, Zakir Hossain received treatment at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH), said Alauddin Talukdar, assistant sub-inspector of CMCH police outpost.

The owner or other officials of the factory could not be reached for comments.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার	
পরিকল্পনা কমিশন	
সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ	
“উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ” প্রকল্প	
শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা	
উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি	
সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগের আওতায় বাস্তবায়নাবীন “উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ” প্রকল্পের আওতায় ১টি সেডান কার ভাড়া সংগ্রহের নিমিত্তে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে	
১. মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ, পরিকল্পনা কমিশন, পরিকল্পনা মন্ত্রণালয়।
২. এজেন্সী	সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ।
৩. সংগ্রাহক সত্তা	প্রকল্প পরিচালক, “উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ” প্রকল্প, সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ।
৪. যে কাজের জন্য দরপত্র	ভাড়া ১টি সেডান কার (মডেল ২০১৪ সাল বা তৎপরবর্তী সময়ের, আসন সংখ্যা-৫, এসি, ১৫০০ সিসি থেকে তদূর্ধ্ব)।
৫. দরপত্রের সূত্র নং ও তারিখ	২০.০১.০০০০.০২৮.২৬.০০৫.১৮; তারিখঃ ১৩/০৩/২০১৯ইং
৬. সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
৭. বাজেট ও তহবিল সূত্র	উন্নয়ন বাজেট, বাংলাদেশ সরকার।
৮. দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ	১৬/০৩/২০১৯ইং
৯. টেন্ডার ডকুমেন্ট বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	৩১/০৩/২০১৯ইং বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১০. দরপত্র দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৮/০৪/২০১৯ইং দুপুর ১.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
১১. দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান	প্রকল্প পরিচালক-এর দপ্তর, “উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ” প্রকল্প (ব্লক-১৪, কক্ষ-২৩)।
১২. দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের তারিখ ও সময়	১৮/০৪/২০১৯ইং দুপুর ২.০০ ঘটিকা।
১৩. দরপত্র উন্মুক্তকরণের স্থান	প্রকল্প সহকারী প্রকল্প পরিচালক-এর দপ্তর, “উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ” প্রকল্প (ব্লক-১৪, কক্ষ-২৬)।
১৪. দরপত্রের মেয়াদকাল	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ হতে ৬০ দিন।
১৫. দরপত্র বিক্রয়কারী দপ্তর	প্রকল্প পরিচালক-এর দপ্তর, “উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ” প্রকল্প (ব্লক-১৪, কক্ষ-২৩) ফোন নংঃ ৯১১৬৩৩৮
১৬. দরপত্রের মূল্য	৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা।
১৭. দরপত্র কর্মকর্তার নাম, পদবী, ঠিকানা ও ফোন নম্বর	মোঃ ফরহাদ সিদ্দিক, প্রকল্প পরিচালক, সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ (ব্লক-১৪, কক্ষ-২৩), পরিকল্পনা কমিশন, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা। ফোন নং- ৯১১৬৩৩৮
১৮. কাজের সময়কাল	কার্যদেয় অনুযায়ী।
১৯. টেন্ডার সিকিউরিটি	৩০,০০০/- (ত্রিশ হাজার) টাকা। উক্ত টাকা বাংলাদেশের যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক হতে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে ‘প্রকল্প পরিচালক, উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ প্রকল্প’ এর অনুকূলে দাখিল করতে হবে।
২০. দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	সরকারি/আধা-সরকারি/স্বায়তশাসিত/অন্তর্জাতিক সংস্থায় গাড়ি ভাড়া প্রদানের ন্যূনতম ০৩ (তিন) বছরের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট কাজের জন্য প্রণীত দরপত্র দলিলে বর্ণিত শর্তানুযায়ী।
২১. এ দরপত্র The Public Procurement Act, 2006 & The Public Procurement Rules, 2008 (সংশোধিত) বিধিমালা অনুযায়ী পরিচালিত হবে এবং কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে সংগ্রাহক সত্তা এ নোটিশ বাতিল বা পরিবর্তন বা যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ/প্রত্যাখ্যান/বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।	
মোঃ ফরহাদ সিদ্দিক প্রকল্প পরিচালক “উন্নত দেশের মর্যাদা অর্জনের লক্ষ্যে পরিকল্পনা পরিকাঠামোর সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধিকরণ” প্রকল্প সাধারণ অর্থনীতি বিভাগ ব্লক-১৪, পরিকল্পনা কমিশন শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭	
জিডি-৪৮৭	