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Your Right to Know

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Anti-graft drive to continue: PM

Addressing the nation on first anniversary of her govt, she also says no destructive activities to be tolerated

BSS, Dhaka

Pledging to keep up the ongoing anti-graft campaign, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the Anti-Corruption Commission to intensify its drives to bring all those involved in acquiring illegal wealth to justice.

"The ongoing drive against the corrupt elements will continue... I would like to warn everybody again that the corrupt, whoever they may be and however powerful they are, will not be spared," she said.

The PM was addressing the nation,



marking the first anniversary of her government.

She said the anti-graft campaign was required so that none could snatch the people's rights. She asked the corrupt to rectify themselves immediately for their own good.

"I work for the people and I won't hesitate to take any step to protect their interests."

State-run BTV and other TV channels and Bangladesh Betar broadcast her address simultaneously.

The premier said that her government

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Iran promises US 'nightmare'

Readies 13 scenarios to avenge top general's killing; stampede at his funeral kills 50, injures 213

AGENCIES

Iran is considering 13 scenarios to avenge the killing of a top military commander in Iraq by a US strike, a senior Tehran official said yesterday, as stampede at the funeral of the slain general killed at least 50 people.

Ali Shamkhani, secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, said 13 "revenge scenarios" were being considered, Fars news agency reported. Even the weakest option would prove "a historic nightmare for the Americans," he said.

In Washington, the US defense secretary denied reports the US military was preparing to withdraw from Iraq, where Tehran has vied with Washington for influence over nearly two decades of war and unrest.

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কেউ আমাদের দাবাতে পারবেনা

Star MOTTO ON MUJIB BORSHO



PHOTO: COLLECTED

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the London press conference after his release from a Pakistani prison (January 8, 1972).

The words were magical, the news was electrifying and the effect euphoric -- Bangabandhu has been released and he, along with Dr Kamal Hossain, were on their way to London after a torturous nine months in Pakistani prison with the threat of execution hanging over his every breath. The wave of joy was universal and the happiness complete knowing that our leader was safe and would soon be amongst us -- the people he loved so dearly and risked his life to free.

For those who did not live through those moments it will be difficult, perhaps impossible, to understand the almost hypnotising impact of this man who had so captivated our hearts and minds that our independence felt incomplete without him. Thus his return was central to our dream of a Sonar Bangla.

The Daily Star, through its own observance of "Mujib Borsho", the centenary of his birth, will attempt to tell the story as to why Mujib is so important for us to build a democratic, secular, freedom ensuring prosperous Bangladesh.

Bangabandhu speaks to the world

WASIM BIN HABIB

"Sir, we had been praying for you."

With tears in his eyes, an on duty British police officer outside the VIP lounge of London's Heathrow airport addressed Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as he along with Dr Kamal Hossain and his family were escorted from the special Pakistan International Airlines aircraft to the lounge.

Earlier, Pakistan's new President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto bade farewell to

the newly freed founding father of Bangladesh at Chaklala airport in Rawalpindi.

Bhutto took over power from

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Star INITIATIVE ON MUJIB BORSHO

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Protesters burn an effigy of the rapist of a Dhaka University student during a demonstration near the Raju Sculpture on the campus yesterday. They demanded exemplary punishment for the culprit for committing the crime in the city's Kurmitola area on Sunday night.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

DU STUDENT RAPE

Protests rage on

Victim describes the rapist; suspect identified, under watch, say media reports; law enforcers working to arrest him

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Aged between 25 and 30; height around five and a half feet; tan complexion; short hair; and clad in an old pair of jeans and a dirty black jacket.

This is how the second-year Dhaka University student, who was raped near the capital's Kurmitola General Hospital on Sunday night, described the rapist in her statement to a law enforcement agency.

Based on the statement, the law enforcers made a sketch of the culprit and were trying to identify and arrest him. They were also analysing the footage of the CCTVs installed in the

area near the crime scene, said police and Rab sources.

In the latest development, several media outlets early today reported that a suspect was identified and kept under watch by a law enforcement agency. No other details were provided immediately.

Yesterday, students continued demonstrations for the second straight day, demanding the rapist be arrested immediately. They demonstrated at DU and many other educational institutions in others districts.

The Detective Branch of police is investigating the case. Several other police units were assisting

with the investigation, said Sudip Chakraborty, deputy commissioner (Gulshan Division) of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

Talking to The Daily Star, Lt Col Sarwar Bin Quashem, director of Rab's legal and media wing, said arresting the rapist was their top priority. "Several of our teams are working," he said.

National Human Rights Commission Chairperson Nasima Begum yesterday visited the victim, 21, at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital's One-stop Crisis Centre, where she was undergoing treatment.

Talking to reporters later, the

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PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

An elderly man sorting onion after buying the cooking ingredient from a truck of Trading Corporation of Bangladesh in the capital's Khamarbari area yesterday. Like many others, he had to wait in a long queue for about an hour to buy three kgs of onion for Tk 100. Buyers complained that about 1kg of each 3-kg packet of onion was rotten.



Chattogram regain top spot

SPORTS REPORTER

Fifties from Imrul Kayes and Lendl Simmons helped Chattogram Challengers romp to a seven-wicket victory against Rajshahi Royals and regain their top spot in the Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League (BBPL) under lights at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Considering Chris

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