Uncalled for advice

The Bangladeshi foreign minister countered by saying it would be a sovereign decision of Bangladesh and not within the remit of other countries.

He even went on to say that the Chinese ambassador was speaking out of turn.

Shahab Enam, also research director at the Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, said Bangladesh is already a member of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as part of its commitment towards multilateralism.

"It is very difficult to envisage an alternative to the BRI to stimulate economic and infrastructural growth. Hence, market and economic realities will compel the emerging economies to remain plugged into the BRI.

"I must remind that South Asia has already stepped into an arch of instability spanning from Afghanistan to Myanmar. We need to understand these changes and craft our responses above our emotional prejudices.

The initiative of the Quad was first established in 2007 to form an informal strategic consultative platform between the United States, Australia, Japan and India.

After a decade of inactivity, Japan initiated the Quad's revival in 2017 under the Trump administration. It had its "first-ever leaderlevel summit" on March 12, 2021, with a focus on collective efforts to fight the Covid-19 pandemic.

After the summit, Quad leaders issued a joint statement called The Spirit of the Quad. The statement, in addition to fighting the pandemic, pledged "to strengthen our cooperation on the defining challenges .. promoting a free, open rules-based order, rooted in international law to advance security and prosperity and counter threats

PBI took charge of the case, which Babul

filed with Panchlaish Police Station against

three unnamed accused, from Chattogram

Metropolitan Police (CMP) in February

shot dead when she was walking with her

son to his school bus stop at the port city's

Mosharraf Hossain has pointed the finger

at Babul Akter for the killing and demanded

Kamrul Islam Musa, the main accused in the murder case, was Babul Akter's

informant, which Babul admitted during

his interrogation on December 27, 2017 at

Investigators so far arrested five persons

ncluding Motaleb Mia Wasim, Anwar

Hossain, firearms supplier Ehteshamul Haque alias Bhola, Md Shahjahan and

On June 5, 2016, Mitu was stabbed and

Since the murder, Mitu's father

2020 and started further investigation.

FROM PAGE 12

GEC intersection.

CMP headquarters.

his arrest over the murder.

PBI takes ex-SP Babul

to both in the Indo-Pacific and beyond." On March 14, US President Joe Biden, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison wrote an op-ed in the Washington Post. Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jiming on Monday said that if Bangladesh joins the Quad, its relations with China

would to be "substantially damaged". Former diplomat M Human Kabir said Bangladesh always focuses on advancing the economic component of relationship and its priority is to promote economic cooperation with countries all around the world, including extended neighbours, such as India, China, Japan and other Asean countries.

"I think the comments made by the Chinese ambassador are speculative, as Bangladesh never said or showed interest in joining any military alliance including the Quad. I think they made such a comment from their perspective and as a part of preventive diplomacy."

He added that being at the current state of economic development, Bangladesh prioritises bilateral, regional and global collaboration for the alleviation of poverty, creation of employment for the new generations, intensifying the fight against the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges emanating from climate change.

"I think the next few decades will demand our focus on these issues. And we want to keep good relationships with all countries but more specifically with China, India, Japan, Asean, the EU and the USA as our economic partners. We would prefer to see that a peaceful environment prevails in the region with a view to facilitating such a process of growth and prosperity.

Musa's elder brother Saidul Sikder Shakur.

confessional statements before a court,

implicating seven persons, including Musa,

in the confessional statements by Anwar

and Wasim, were killed in "gunfights" with

police in July 2016 in Chattogram, while

Musa and another accused, Kalu, are still

plainclothes police detained him and his

brother Shakur in the port city's Bandar

area on June 22, 2016, but later only Shakur

Police however said they only managed

was shown arrested in the case.

"on the run".

to nab Shakur.

2016

Wasim and Anwar have given

Leading miserable lives

FROM PAGE 12

been completely left out and even evicted from the labour quarters. The BJMC, however, is unsure as to when these substitute (badli) and temporary workers will get

all their dues as it needs separate allocations for the payment. Ruhul Amin, leader of the jute

mill workers who has been released recently from jail, said, "We are now afraid that the substitute and temporary workers may never get their dues as we have not received any updates from BJMC in last one year. Most of these workers are unemployed and even many of them are begging on the streets."

Ashraful Islam, a former substitute worker of Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills said, "I pull rickshaw van in bazar and my son helps me load and unload goods from my van. He also carries goods on his back to earn some money. My wife and daughter sells balloons and toys at the railway station. There is no hope of sending them to school again."

"The jute mills owes me Tk 250,000 to Tk 300,000. If I get that money, I will return to my village home in Barishal and will try to set up a small shop," he said.

Just about a week ago, one of Ashraful's neighbours, sixty-fiveyear-old worker, Alimuddin died after a heatstroke while pulling rickshaw in Khulna city.

Alimuddin's son Md Hasan said, "My mother is very ill and we need money to purchase medicine for her. I also pull rickshaw but due

to excessive heat and lockdown, people do not usually come out of their homes which significantly affected my income. So my father, who never pulled a rickshaw before, went out with a rickshaw to earn some money."

"I heard that my father will get several hundred thousand taka from the mill but there is no sign of that money. I could not even arrange the money for my father's burial. Some of his colleagues helped me arrange his funeral," said Hasan.

Kamal Hossain used to work as a substitute worker at Amin Jute Mill in Chattogram. He said, "A few days ago, my

younger brother got seriously injured in a road accident. The doctor wanted to operate on my brother's head and it cost around Tk 200,000. I could not manage that money at that time and my brother ultimately died from that injury.

"I'm yet to receive at least Tk 300,000 due wages from the mill. Had I received that money, It might have saved my brother," said Kamal.

In such a desperate situation, these workers are waiting for another Eid in starvation devoid of joy.

"I cannot even feed my family three times a day. How can I purchase milk, sugar and shemai [vermicelli] for them? In fact, this vear. Eid dav means no income for me as all the bazars will be closed and I may not find anything to carry on the van," said Ashraful.

"This Eid is only for the highranking officers of BJMC who still have their jobs, leading luxurious lives, but they are procrastinating our legal dues. However, they did not make any delay to sack the workers en masse and evict us from our homes. Allah will not tolerate such injustice," commented an angry Kamal

WHAT BJMC SAY

Abdur Rouf, chairman of the BJMC, said, "I agree that it is the rightful demand of the temporary and substitute workers and we shall definitely pay their due wages. However, their dues were not included in the initial allocation of Tk 5,000 crore. It was only for paying the debts and paying the due salary and benefits of the permanent workers."

So, to pay these workers, the BJMC has asked for another allocation of around Tk 300 crore from the finance ministry.

The BJMC still could not pay dues of around 2,000 permanent workers due to discrepancy in the spellings of their names. According to the BJMC, once the cases of permanent workers are resolved and BJMC got that requested allocation, they will start paying the temporary and substitute workers.

"The finance ministry is extremely busy preparing the annual budget and the ongoing lockdown has also affected the working hours. So, we cannot confirm when we will be able to start to paying them," said the BJMC chairman.

She was later shifted to the

Talukder,

was

US asked

FROM PAGE 12

"Murderers of 200,000 people do not know the meaning of good faith."

He said MM Ahmed telling officials here that about 70 officials of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Awami League were ready to cooperate with the government was "an outright lie," and that only one elected official had thrown in with the central government.

Rehman Sobhan said if Ahmed did not get the economic aid and postponement of debt payments he was seeking, continued military options against the Bangalees would become economically unbearable for West Pakistan.

"The major economic demands are for commodity assistance to keep industry afloat. They are geared to supplies from the West."

Rehman Sobhan said the suggestion that China might meet these needs was raised because "the Chinese are in no position" to supply Western materials.

"The US has to make up its mind whether it wants to underwrite a military adventure with no conceivable policy solution at the end of it."

He suggested the US government tell the Pakistan government: "If you want to do it, you foot the bill.

'RELIEF AID IS NOT NEEDED NOW' Pakistan President Yahya Khan told UN Secretary General Thant that United Nations emergency help for East Pakistan was not needed now but he left open the possibility of accepting international aid in the future.

In a letter, Yahya also complained that news accounts of widespread casualties and destruction in East Pakistan were "highly exaggerated—if not altogether tendentious".

The pakistan president told Thant that there were adequate supplies of medicines and food in East Pakistan, that authorities there saw "no cause for concern" and that rehabilitation and reconstruction were moving ahead.

As for international help, if and when required, "it will be administered by Pakistan's own relief agencies", Yahya said. NURUL AMIN REFUSES TO HEAD

PUPPET REGIME

Nurul Amin, leader of the Pakistan Democratic Party and a member of the Pakistan National Assembly, refused to head a puppet government in East Pakistan. Nurul Amin, who met Yahya in Rawalpindi yesterday, told newsmen that the formation of a presidential advisory council would not serve any useful purpose.

Shamsuddoza Sajen is a journalist and researcher. He can be contacted at sajen1986@gmail.com

Govt. Barishal College, Barishal Website: www.gbc.gov.bd Memo No. CEDP/IDG(1103)/21/76 e-Tender Notice: 03/2020-2021

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Reasoning unacceptable, lame

to not permit Khaleda Zia to go abroad for better treatment. People are being misled. We strongly condemn it.

'ASM Abdur Rob was in jail. In 1979, then president Ziaur Rahman released him under the law. He was sent to Germany for treatment. Former health minister Mohammad Nasim was convicted in 2008. The government sent him abroad for treatment."

The BNP leader further said, "I won't name them, but two brothers of a very high-ranking influential government official were sentenced to death. They were sent abroad, after pardoning them under Section-401. Why all these lame excuses in the case of Khaleda Zia?"

HC asks AG to stop

FROM PAGE 12 hearing on his contempt of

contempt of court petition with the HC on Sunday, court petition on May 17 and seeking its directive on to issue an order of status quo three government officials on felling trees at Suhrawardi to cancel the activities of Udyan till further hearing.

generosity. You don't have a big heart, as Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Coronary Care Unit of the hospital had. He [Sheikh Mujibur Rahman] with breathing difficulties. showed this generosity to many of his political opponents, released

"According to the existing law,

jail sentence was suspended, he

her punishment to 10 years.



as directly taking part in the killing. Of the accused, Nurul Islam Rashed and FROM PAGE 12 Nur Nabi, whose names were mentioned

Giving examples, Fakhrul said,

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh He said, "You don't have that

CMP issued a red alert for the two with a bounty of Tk 5 lakh on Musa on June 29, Although police said Musa is on the run, his wife Panna Akhter claimed that

Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal told reporters on Sunday. The law ministry gave this opinion after reviewing for the second time Section-401 of the

Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) under which Khaleda's

pointed out. The 76-year-old former premier, who tested positive for Covid-19 for the second time on April 24, was admitted to Evercare Hospital on April 27 for a thorough check-up.

On April 28, a 10-member medical board, headed by Prof them and helped them." Shahabuddin there is no scope for granting the

application to let BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia go abroad," Home

formed to oversee her treatment. Khaleda first tested positive for Covid on April 11 and eight people at her residence were infected with the virus.

Amid the coronavirus outbreak, the government on March 25 last year released Khaleda, suspending her jail sentence for six months.

Later, the suspension was extended twice. The BNP chief landed in jail on February 8, 2018, after a special court sentenced her to five years in prison in the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case. On October 30 that year, the High Court enhanced

Date: 10/05/2021

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	সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় তথ্য অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে খোলার সময় দরদাতা/প্রতিনিধিগণ উপস্থিত থ				workers were waiting at	(Manufard									
	যোলার সময় দরদাতা/প্রাতানাধগণ ডপাস্থত থ ত প্রতিষ্ঠানকে চুক্তিবদ্ধ হওয়ার পূর্বেই যে কো			হারযোগ্য চেক্তিবদ্ধ ব	কাজ সমাপ্ত না হওয়া	present to return to their workplaces in UAE, Oman,	La ISIA								
পর্যন্ত) ব্য	ংক গ্যারান্টি হিসাবে উদ্ধৃত দরের শতকরা ১০।	(দশ) ভ	গ হারে Performance (Guarantee নিমুঝায	করকারীর দণ্ডরে জমা	and Kuwait.									
দিতে হবে		-				"Their visas and work							5	(Biswajit Barua) perintending Archi	tect
	হু যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা সকল দরপত্র বাতিগ প্রান্তি সাপেক্ষে বিল পরিশোধ করা হবে।	ল করার	ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।			permits will be expired								Circle-Co-ordinatio	
চ) তথাবৰ	। আতে পালেকে বিগ সারলোব করা হবে।			নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী		within the next two months if they fail to go to their								artment of Archite	
			বরি	ন	workplaces in the three		Segunbagicha, Dhaka-1000.								
জিডি-৯৫৩ বরিশাল						countries," he added.	GD- 963							elephone-02-95552	