



Death anniv of Nurjahan Murshid today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 18th death anniversary of Nurjahan Murshid, a renowned politician, women's rights activist, and one of the organisers of the 1971 Liberation War.

Nurjahan Murshid Smrity Parishad, her family members, and "Brotee" have chalked out different programmes including placing wreath at her grave at Mirpur Intellectuals' Graveyard, said a press release.

Nurjahan was among the few Muslim women who pursued higher education in the mid-1940s. She was the first Muslim woman to be employed as a broadcaster for All India Radio in 1946.

Born in Taranagar of Murshidabad district on May 24 in 1924, she died in Dhaka on September 1, 2003. She played a significant role in different democratic movements. Nurjahan was amongst a very small number of Muslim women who entered higher education and obtained her Master's degree in History from Calcutta University in the mid 1940s.



Daktar Bhai's anniversary of death

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Today is the sixth death anniversary of Dr Edric Sargission Baker, a New Zealander who served poor patients in Tangail for three decades.

The lifelong bachelor, locally known as "Daktar Bhai" (doctor brother), established Kailakuri Health Care Centre in 1996, which was financed by donors. The physician died at the age of 75 in 2015.

Locals and staff of the healthcare centre will place wreaths at his grave at Kailakuri village in Madhupur in the morning after special prayers.

Baker came to Bangladesh in 1979 and joined a Christian mission hospital in Meherpur. Two years later, he moved to Kumudini Hospital in Mirzapur. He joined a clinic run by the Church of Bangladesh at Thanarbaid in Madhupur upazila in 1983.

'They're using Nawab Bari as a dumping yard'

Cumilla City Corporation continues to pile waste on century-old compound, alleges family member

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cumilla

A descendant of Cumilla Nawab family has called out Cumilla City Corporation, alleging that it is illegally dumping sewage waste at the Nawab Bari complex.

He also alleged that the city corporation dumps waste inside their premises by breaking through their locked gates, without consent.

Syed Tanveer Haider, son of Nawab Syed Samsam Haider and fourth generation descendant of Nawab Syed Hoccham Haider, made these allegations at a press meet held at the city's Tomson Bridge area yesterday noon.

"The city corporation trucks enter our premises without our permission and pile up sewage waste. They've turned our ground into a dumping yard," an agitated Tanveer told the press meet.

He further alleged that some people are conspiring against the property of the Nawab family.



Before the city corporation started using the Nawab Bari's ground, it used to be a place for the area's children to come play in the afternoon. But over the years, it has been rendered beyond use. Right, the Cumilla Nawab Bari. These photos were taken recently.

"I have already sent letters to the city corporation, deputy commissioner's office, and the police superintendent but to no avail," Tanveer said.

Contacted, mayor Monirul Haque Sakku told The Daily Star that the claims are exaggerated.

"The city corporation obtained permission from late Masum Haider, a descendant of the

Nawab family, to use parts of their premises as a temporary dump. From time to time, we'll leave some waste, picked up from the canals, to dry there. We remove them after drying."

"Descendants of the family are embroiled in legal fights over their properties," he claimed, indicating that the allegations against the city corporation could be a part of this infighting.

Meanwhile, locals said the area's children are losing out due to dumping of waste at the premises. "They are deprived of the opportunity to play at the Nawab Bari ground. The authorities should consider this and take proper steps to resolve the matter," a local, wishing anonymity, said.

Cumilla-based heritage researcher Ahsanul Kabir said, "The historic Cumilla Nawab Bari was established in 1878. The Nawab family has a history of benevolence, having donated lots of properties for education and the welfare of Cumilla's people. This historic site should be cleaned up immediately."

He also urged the government to conserve the property as a heritage site.

It is worth mentioning that Nawab Hoccham Haider was a chairperson of Cumilla Municipality.

266 more admitted to hospitals in a day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 266 more dengue patients were hospitalised in 24 hours till 8am yesterday, according to Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).



Death toll 42
30 died in Aug so far, 12 in July
7,698 diagnosed in Aug

Among the latest cases, 46 are from outside Dhaka. With the new cases, a total of 7,698 were diagnosed during this month out of a total 10,356 infected this year. Only 837 of total infections were outside Dhaka.

At least 2,286 patients were hospitalised in July, 272 in June, and 43 in May, according to DGHS.

According to DGHS data, 42 people have died of dengue this year. All of them succumbed to the disease in July and August. Of them, 12 people died in July and 30 in August.

Among the deceased, 38 died in Dhaka division, two in Chattogram division, and one each in Rajshahi and Khulna divisions.

Though most patients who were hospitalised have so far been released, 1,202 are still undergoing treatment at hospitals in Dhaka, and 187 are being treated outside the capital, the DGHS data shows.

Amid the rise in dengue cases, the government on August 23 dedicated six hospitals for treating dengue patients, as people have been struggling to get treatment at the capital's public hospitals, due to the major facilities being burdened with Covid-19 patients.

Adopt new support policy for LDCs

Momen urges global community

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh has urged the global community for a new support policy for the LDCs and the graduating LDCs as the pandemic affected the economies, especially of the developing nations, enormously.

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen made the call at the high-level opening session of the four-day Asia-Pacific Regional Review Meeting, which began at the UN Headquarters in Geneva on Monday.

Bangladesh, UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing States and Small Island Developing States and UN-ESCAP convened the event in preparation for the Fifth UN Conference on LDCs to be held in Qatar in January next year.

During the meeting with Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director general of WHO, Momen yesterday emphasised WHO's effective role to ensure the availability, affordability and equitable distribution of Covid-19 vaccines for the

developing countries.

While meeting Filippo Grandi, the UN high commissioner for refugees, Momen requested for UNHCR's support to put pressure on Myanmar for sustainable repatriation of the Rohingyas from Bangladesh.

In recognition of Bangladesh's leading role in LDC, Ambassador Rabab Fatima, along with Ambassador Bob Rae, permanent representative of Canada to the UN in New York, was elected co-chair of the LDC-5 preparatory committee bureau, which will lead preparations for the LDC-5 conference.

MOMEN-RAAB MEETING TOMORROW

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen is going to the UK today on a three-day official visit to chart a post-Brexit, post-Covid new strategic partnership vision, marking the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh-UK diplomatic relations.

Momen will hold talks with British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab on Thursday and attend a bilateral meeting with COP26 President-Designate Alok Sharma.

Khurshid Alam's death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 12th death anniversary of Md Khurshid Alam, a noted fiction writer and former additional secretary of the government.



On the occasion, the family arranged various programmes, including food distribution among orphans and special prayers at Shariatpur Hafeja Madrasa, said a press release.

Khurshid, a BCS (admin) cadre of 1982 batch, worked under various ministries.

He also wrote 19 books -- including "Shet-Kopotter Dana", "Hriday Nodi Roktopath", "Digomborir Prem Nei" and "Poribesh, added the press release.

Poachers on the prowl

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the gap of two months at the Kalipur range office of Banskhal, which falls under the jurisdiction of Chattogram Divisional Forest Office (South).

Taking those into account, the investigators said poachers may be active in the regions, dodging the eyes of the authorities concerned.

"The extent of elephant deaths we see each year is really alarming," eminent wildlife biologist Monirul H Khan told The Daily Star, calling for immediate action.

Experts also recommended strict measures against poaching, protecting elephant habitats, taking steps to reduce human-elephant conflicts and researching on proper conservation of elephants.

As per the law, elephant killing is a non-bailable offence and offenders are jailed

for a minimum of one year and up to a maximum of seven years. Besides, a fine of Tk 1 lakh at the lowest and Tk 10 lakh maximum is imposed for the offence.

The forest officials can file a case if any wildlife is killed within their jurisdiction in consultation with the warden of the wildlife divisional forest office.

Contacted, Abu Naser Md Neyaz Yeasin, immediate past divisional forest officer (wildlife and nature conservation) of Chattogram, said, "As far I recall, there is no previous record of seizing elephant tusks. It's a very sensitive issue and it must be investigated extensively."

"It's time the forest department and law enforcement agencies work together to protect the endangered Asian elephants," he said.

Pranab Mukherjee

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Ratna" in recognition of his contribution by the government of India, it was an honour for Bangladesh to confer the prestigious "Muktijuddho Sammanona" on him in 2013 for his invaluable contributions to Bangladesh's Liberation War.

"He was also known for his extraordinary wisdom, farsightedness and visionary leadership," she mentioned.

"His extraordinary qualities eventually led him to become the first citizen of the country and the first Bangalee president of India."

The prime minister said she had

close relationship with Pranab and his wife Shubra Mukherjee, who was from Bangladesh.

"Pranab dada and Shubra didi had deep affection for me and my sister Rehana. They remained beside us as guardians and family friends during our difficult days in India after the assassination of my parents along with 18 other close family members on August 15, 1975."

She said the demise of Pranab Mukherjee was a personal loss for her and her family, and she will continue to miss him and his affection.

Five parties fail to submit financial statement to EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five political parties have failed to submit their annual financial statement to the Election Commission for the 2020 calendar year.

Gonoforum, Bangladesh Samyabadi Dal, Gonofront, Bangladesh Jatiya Party and Bangladesh Sangskritik Jote failed to submit their financial statement till 5pm yesterday, the extended deadline.

Among them, Samyabadi Dal applied for time extension, said EC officials.

Thirty-four out of 39 registered

political parties have submitted their annual financial statements.

As per the Representation of the People Order, 1972 each registered political party is obliged to submit its financial statement of the previous calendar year by July 31. But the EC extended the time till August 31 due to Covid-19 situation.

EC Deputy Secretary Abdul Halim Khan said they would soon submit a report on the issue of parties not submitting statements. "The commission will take decision about them," he said. According to the law, EC can cancel registration of political parties if they fail to submit their financial audit report, he added.

'Stop harassing journalists at EC' 24-hour ultimatum given to authorities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of journalists yesterday gave a 24-hour ultimatum to authorities to stop harassment of reporters by officials of Election Commission and police deployed at EC premises. They issued the ultimatum from a human chain in front of Nirbachan Bhaban in Agargaon.

They alleged that EC officials misbehave with reporters when they go there for professional reasons. Many wings of the EC also remain off-limits to them. Contacted, EC joint secretary and director SM Asaduzzaman declined to comment.

ব্যবসায়িক অংশীদার আবশ্যিক
সিলেট শহরে ফাইভ স্টার আন্তর্জাতিক চেইন হোটেল প্রকল্পের জন্য অংশীদার আবশ্যিক।
বিস্তারিত জানতে যোগাযোগ করুন।
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JS session begins today

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prorogued on July 3 after 12 sittings.

According to the constitution, there is an obligation to convene the parliament session within 60 days after the end of a session.

Only MPs, staffers and officials of the parliament secretariat who will be tested negative for Covid-19 will be allowed

to attend the session, sources at the parliament secretariat said.

Media has been requested to cover the budget session through live telecast on Sangsad Television and BTv. No pass will be issued to journalists to cover the session due to the pandemic situation.

Amend laws for a tobacco-free

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sale and use of e-cigarettes; and fix the packaging size of tobacco products.

Saber said to make the country tobacco-free by 2040, as per the prime minister's announcement, the existing tobacco laws need to be amended.

"If the law is amended, it could play a more effective role in protecting public health," he said.

Emphasising the need to protect public

health, Mokbul Hossain said to lower the use of harmful tobacco products, their availability should be restricted. Indirect tobacco advertisements should be stopped and sale of such products should be banned everywhere.

National Heart Foundation of Bangladesh Secretary General Prof Khandaker Abdul Awal (Rizvi) Department of Pathology and Research Head Prof Sohel Reza Choudhury were also present.

What are guidelines

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president Muhammad Ariful Islam said many projects cannot be completed timely and within the estimated budget due to lack of professionalism.

"The result is an increase in public suffering and the prolongation of project calendars," he said. He suggested taking public suffering as a key consideration before implementing a project.

Ariful also suggested keeping a provision for penalties to ensure that a project is carried out well.

BIP has already provided a set of recommendations in this regard, which includes submission of working plans by utility service providers to the city corporations at the beginning of a year, speakers said.

Based on the working plans, the city corporations can play the key roles of coordinating between the service providers, keeping road digging suspended during rainy season, implementing the road digging guideline, and blacklisting violators.

Ethical practice

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workers begins at recruitment stage and hence ensuring ethical recruitment will go a long way in addressing their plights.

Shahidul Alam, director general of Bureau of Manpower, Employment and

Training, emphasised on the need for addressing the social costs of migration.

Former secretary generals of BAIRA Ali Haider Chowdhury and Shameem Ahmed Chowdhury Noman, also spoke at the event.

UNIDO
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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

UNIDO is involved in the implementation of two packages under the Livestock and Dairy Development Project (LDDP) in Bangladesh, focusing on food safety and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) surveillance system for the livestock sector. Accordingly, UNIDO is currently looking for highly qualified experts (more than 10 years' experience) with relevant advanced university education for the following positions:

1. Food safety legal expert
2. Livestock experts, focusing on marketing, value chain management, food safety and inspection
3. Research analyst on veterinary services following OIE requirements
4. Quality assurance expert
5. AMR surveillance expert
6. Microbiology expert

Application to be sent to both Mr. Gabor Molnar (g.molnar@unido.org) and Mr. Zaki Uz Zaman (z.zaman@unido.org) until 16 September, 2021.

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