



PM lying about Khaleda's cases Says Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday alleged that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was lying to international media about Khaleda Zia's case and convictions out of political vendetta.

He said, "Sheikh Hasina recently spoke to Voice of America. In her remarks, she completely lied about Khaleda Zia. There are no corruption cases against Khaleda Zia. False cases have been filed to keep Khaleda Zia detained so she cannot do politics."

Mirza Fakhrul made the remarks while addressing the National Workers and Employees Convention 2023.

BNP leaders and activists, along with at least 20 pro-BNP organisations, gathered at the capital's Motijheel area to join the convention to press home their one-point movement.

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PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Activists and leaders of BNP and like-minded parties gathered in the capital's Motijheel area for the National Workers' and Employees' Convention-2023, organised by Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal and Sammilita Sramik Parishad, to press home their demand for the upcoming polls under a non-partisan government. At least 20 pro-BNP organisations attended the programme.

Where is your 48hr ultimatum? Quader asks BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP must take permission to hold any programmes from this government, which the party terms "illegal", Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader said yesterday.

"If you [BNP] don't do so, there will be consequences, you won't find a way to escape. You will have to flee," he said.

Quader also wanted to know why the BNP made repeated requests to the government to release BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia if it is "illegal".

"I want to ask the BNP where is their 48-hour ultimatum?" Their ultimatum, movement, everything is fake," he said while addressing a rally, organised by the Krishak League, at the south gate of Baitul Mukarram mosque.

The AL leader said the country, its democracy, and the spirit of the Liberation War are not safe at the hands of the BNP.

Asking the party activists to be ready, Quader said, "November is ahead, then December, then January, the final game will be played in January."

"Get ready, the leader is coming. You must take to the streets whenever asked."

Issuing a warning that the AL would face any movements with an iron fist, Quader said, "We will burn the hands of those who will try to carry out arson attacks;

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'RAPE' OF TEEN GIRL Mother holds sit-in for justice

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

A mother in Bogura held an hourlong sit-in yesterday, demanding justice for her teenage daughter, who was allegedly raped last year.

During her protest from 11:00am to 12:00pm on the footpath in the district's Satmatha area, the mother demanded that a police officer be named in the case for "destroying the evidence" to protect the accused.

A man named Muraduzzaman, 48, allegedly raped her ninth-grader daughter in March last year.

"The accused had even captured video of the rape. Subsequently, he raped my daughter multiple times threatening to release the video on social media," said the mother.

The suspect, who was a tenant at her house, was arrested after the mother filed a case, and is now on bail.

According to the mother, police had seized the mobile phone that had the video.

"The officer-in-charge [Kripa Sindhu Bala] demanded Tk 5 to 7 lakh from me. I paid Tk 1 lakh. As I could not pay the rest, he deleted the video from the mobile phone," the mother alleged.

Kripa Sindhu, now OC of Pabna Sadar Police Station, dismissed the allegation.

Muraduzzaman also denied the rape allegation, and said the case against him is false.

After the mother lodged a formal complaint against the OC in August last year, the case was handed over to the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI).

"Kripa Sindhu Bala must be included in the chargesheet. But we have come to know that senior PBI officials are trying to protect him," the mother told reporters during

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Extremists 'given space in Canada' Says Jaishankar

AGENCIES

Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar has accused Canada of giving "operating space" to terrorists and extremists, as he rejected claims by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau that the Indian government may have played a role in the assassination of a Sikh separatist on Canadian soil.

"The Canadian (prime minister) made some allegations initially privately, and then publicly. And, our response to him, both in private and public, was that what he was alleging was not consistent with our policy," Jaishankar said during a discussion at the Hudson Institute in Washington DC on Friday, reports CNN.

Meanwhile, the Indian high commissioner and consul general to UK were blocked from entering a gurdwara in Scotland on Friday.

India in a strong statement termed the incident "disgraceful" and said that the matter has been reported to the UK government as well as the police, reports NDTV.

S Jaishankar regarding Canada's allegation said, India was "open to" further examine the event if the Canadian government "had anything relevant and specific they would like us to look into," but added that the row between the countries preceded

Trudeau's allegations.

Jaishankar said on Friday that the differences went back further than the row over Nijjar's death. He said the Indian government had long accused Canada of inaction in dealing with Sikh separatist extremism aimed at creating a separate Sikh homeland.

He said India believes Canada has a "very permissive Canadian attitude towards terrorists, extremist people who openly advocate violence."

Those individuals "have been given operating space in Canada because of the compulsions of Canadian politics," Jaishankar added.

Elsewhere, a purported video going viral on social media shows a man preventing the Indian High Commissioner to the UK, Vikram Doraiswami, from entering the gurdwara in Glasgow on Friday. Two men are also seen attempting to open the door of the high commissioner's car in the parking area. The car is then seen leaving the premises of Glasgow Gurudwara Sahib.

"On September 29, 2023, three persons - all from areas outside Scotland - deliberately disrupted a planned interaction organized by the Gurudwara Committee for the community, the High Commissioner and the Consul General of India. This interaction was to discuss community and consular issues," the High Commission of India in London said in a statement issued yesterday.



TUPAC MURDER Gang leader charged after 27 years

AFP, Los Angeles

A quarter of a century after Tupac Shakur was gunned down in a gang feud in Las Vegas, a man was charged Friday with his murder, a killing that came to symbolise the violence of gangsta rap as it surged into the mainstream.

Duane "Kelfe D" Davis, 60, had long acknowledged his involvement in the slaying, boasting he was the "on-site commander" in the effort to kill Shakur and Death Row Records boss Marion "Suge" Knight in revenge for his nephew's assault.

Davis' early morning arrest Friday followed 27

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6,000-year-old sandals found in Spanish cave



CNN ONLINE

New analysis has identified the oldest shoes ever discovered in Europe, according to a study published this week in the journal Science Advances.

The 22 woven sandals date from 6,000 years ago, radiocarbon analysis found in the study led by researchers at the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Alcalá University in Spain.

The ancient footwear, along with Mesolithic baskets and other tools, was first discovered back in 1857, when a cave in southern Spain was looted by miners. However, when the artifacts were first dated, in the 1970s, they were identified as being about 1,000 years more recent than this latest analysis found.

The very dry conditions within the cave were ideal for preserving perishable materials, the researchers said, and allowed the preservation of a prehistoric burial site complete with partially mummified corpses, accompanied by baskets, wooden tools, sandals and other goods.



Special Operations Unit rescue personnel with the Westchester County Emergency Services paddle in rafts as they check buildings for victims trapped in heavy flooding in the New York City suburb of Mamaroneck, New York, US on Friday. (Inset) A school bus drives through heavy flooding in the New York City suburb of Larchmont, New York, US, on Friday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Couple, son found dead in Savar flat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Police yesterday recovered the bodies of a couple and their 12-year-old son from their flat in Savar's Ashulia.

The deceased were identified as Moktar Hossain, 50, his wife Shahida Begum, 40, and their son Mehedi Hasan Joy, 12, reports our Savar correspondent.

The couple, who were garment workers, hailed from Thakurgaon's Pirganj upazila.

Police suspect that the trio might have been killed two to three days ago.

The bodies were recovered from the flat on the fourth floor of a six-storey building in Jamgara Fakirbari Mor area around 10:30pm, Zohab Ali, sub-inspector of Ashulia Police Station, told The Daily Star.

The SI said noticing foul smell, locals knocked on the door yesterday evening and found it open. They entered the flat and found the bodies.

The three were found with their throats slit, said the SI.

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