



ATTACK ON AGARTALA MISSION

Protests mount, Yunus moves for national unity

STAR REPORT

Amid demonstrations in the capital and different districts over the attack on Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala, Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus last night began a series of dialogues to achieve national unity.

He met the leaders of students against discrimination and other student organisations yesterday evening, will hold dialogues with the major political parties today, and religious groups tomorrow.

Unity is needed to counter the "misinformation" spread by the Indian media, Shafiqul Alam, press secretary to the chief adviser, told a press conference at the foreign services academy yesterday.

Information Adviser Nahid Islam and Shipping Adviser Brig Gen (ret'd) Sakhawat Hussain also criticised the Indian media.

In the afternoon, the BNP and its affiliated bodies marched on VIP Road in the Nayapaltan area, denouncing Monday's attack on the assistant high commissioner's office in Agartala.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2



The BNP takes out a procession in the capital's Nayapaltan yesterday protesting Monday's attack on the Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala, Tripura.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN



Fulfill people's aspirations

CA tells movement leaders; students ask Yunus to reveal 'AL-India deals'

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday said the students are the guardians of the nation and urged them to continue their efforts to transform the country's future.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Dhaka summons Indian envoy, hands him protest letter

Bangladesh's Agartala mission suspends services; CA's press secy blames Indian media's misinformation for the attack

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The foreign ministry summoned Indian High Commissioner in Bangladesh Pranay Verma and handed a protest note yesterday, a day after the Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala was attacked by protesters of the Hindu Sangharsh Samity.

Hours after the attack, the foreign ministry said the Bangladesh government deeply resents the violent demonstration and attack, which was in violation of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

Following the attack, the Bangladesh mission in Agartala suspended all visa and consular services until further notice, citing security issues.

The Bangladesh foreign ministry did not issue any statement or speak to the media regarding the summoning of the Indian envoy.

"He has been asked to come," Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain told the media yesterday, minutes before Verma entered the ministry around 4:00pm for a meeting with acting foreign secretary Riaz Hamidullah.

However, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam, during a media briefing at the Foreign Service Academy, yesterday said, "We have issued a protest letter and conveyed our concerns. The foreign ministry has engaged with the Indian authorities diplomatically."

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

TMC MP echoes Mamata's call for UN intervention in Bangladesh

7 held, 3 cops suspended over Agartala mission attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

A day after West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee suggested in the state legislature that India should seek the deployment of UN peacekeeping force in Bangladesh "to ensure safety of the minorities", her party colleague Sudip Bandopadhyay echoed the same call in parliament yesterday.

During the Zero Hour in the Lok Sabha, the Trinamool Congress lawmaker expressed concerns over alleged atrocities in Bangladesh and urged the Indian government to ask the UN to immediately dispatch peacekeeping forces to Bangladesh.

He alleged that religious minorities, including Hindus, are being "tortured and killed".

He said West Bengal, being an immediate neighbour of Bangladesh, is directly affected by the happenings in that country. In the past too, there had been an

SEE PAGE 7 COL 5

Service seekers paid Tk 1.46 lakh crore in bribes during AL rule

Find TIB surveys on service sector graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People paid an estimated Tk 1.46 lakh crore in bribes to get services during the 15 years of Awami League rule, according to findings of Transparency International Bangladesh.

The anti-corruption watchdog derived the estimate from an analysis of six similar household surveys conducted between 2010 and 2023. All surveys consistently highlighted the entrenched corruption during Hasina's regime.

The latest study, which surveyed 15,515 households, revealed that 70.9 percent of respondents encountered corruption while seeking services between May 2023 and April 2024. They paid Tk 10,902.3 crore during this time, according to TIB's "Corruption in Service Sectors: National Household Survey 2023".

The TIB disclosed the findings at a press conference at its Dhanmondi office yesterday.

70.9pc surveyed households encountered corruption to get services

Service seekers bribed Tk 10,902.3 crores in 1 year

77.2pc believe services cannot be obtained without bribe

It found that the Department of Immigration and Passports, Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), and law enforcement agencies were the most corruption-prone sectors respectively.

However, service seekers paid the highest amount in bribes to avail judicial services, land-related services, and banking services, it said.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Tarique calls for utmost restraint

Urges all not to pay heed to provocation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman has called upon all Bangladeshis to show utmost restraint and not fall prey to any provocation amid the tension between Bangladesh and India.

Bangladesh will continue to uphold religious harmony, territorial sovereignty, and the protection of every citizen's rights and freedom, regardless of race,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



As the number of people in need of kitchen essentials at subsidised prices is on the rise, the crowds near TCB trucks are ever-growing. Though each truck has packages for 350 consumers, many more join the queues at the end of distribution and scuffles break out as the last 10-12 packages remain up for grabs. The photo was taken in the capital's Tejgaon area yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

FDI data overstated by \$5.7b in four years

BB corrects past data after IMF push

MD MEHEDI HASAN

The Bangladesh Bank overstated the net foreign direct investment data by \$5.7 billion between fiscal 2019-20 and 2022-23.

The data anomaly came to the fore after the BB revised the data from fiscal 2019-20 as per the BPM6 guideline of the International Monetary Fund, said BB spokeswoman Husne Ara Shikha.

"We corrected the data as there was an observation from the IMF on the previous data. The FDI inflow came down drastically due to the data correction," she said.

Previously, the data for exports and foreign exchange reserves were overreported and had to be corrected following IMF observations.

In the four fiscal years, Bangladesh actually received \$5.86 billion as net FDI. But the BB previously showed \$11.56 billion.

The FDI data deflated as the companies' losses from reinvested earnings were deducted following IMF methodology, which reflects international best practices. The company's loss was not factored in before.

It was not possible to correct the data before fiscal 2019-20 due to technical reasons, Shikha added.

However, the FDI data for fiscal 2023-24 was released as per BPM6 guidelines.

The net FDI inflows in the last fiscal year were \$1.46 billion, down 8.75 percent year-on-year, central bank data showed.

Accurate data is essential for taking the right policy measures, said Mustafa K Mujeri, executive director of the Institute for Inclusive Finance and Development.

"The FDI data might have been overstated for political reasons -- we harmed ourselves by doubling the FDI data."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



বাংলাদেশ বিমান বাহিনীতে
**অফিসার ক্যাডেট
হিমেবে যোগ দিন**

৯২ বিএএফএ কোর্স
(92 BAFA COURSE)

যোগদানের সম্ভাব্য তারিখ: ২৩ জুন ২০২৫

অনলাইনে আবেদনের সময়সীমা:
০১ নভেম্বর ২০২৪ থেকে ০৫ এপ্রিল ২০২৫। * শর্ত প্রযোজ্য

২০২৫ সালের এইচএসসি পরীক্ষার্থীগণও আবেদন করতে পারবেন।

বিস্তারিত তথ্য ও অনলাইন আবেদনের জন্য: <https://joinairforce.baf.mil.bd>, Help Desk: 01769-990880 (8 AM-2.30 PM)
Email: helpdesk@baf.mil.bd, Follow us: facebook.com/BDAirForceOfficial

GD-1100