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'If chanting Joy Bangla a crime, then hang me'

ASM Abdur Rob tells event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ASM Abdur Rob, president of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, yesterday at a programme said if chanting "Joy Bangla" is considered a crime, he should be hanged.

"I was the chief of the Joy Bangla Force, and many others were with me. If saying Joy Bangla is a crime, then hang me. There is an ongoing court case regarding this matter, so I will not comment further," he said.

Rob, who first hoisted the red-green flag of Bangladesh on March 2, 1971, made these remarks during a discussion

During the Liberation War, those who were shot and killed embraced death while chanting Joy Bangla. After achieving victory, these two words, Joy Bangla, were used to celebrate the triumph. They proclaimed Banglar Joy, Bangaleer Joy.

ASM Abdur Rob

organised by the Serajul Alam Khan Research Centre on the occasion of Serajul Alam Khan's 84th birth anniversary.

The discussion was held at the research centre's office at Baridhara DOHS.

"During the Liberation War, those who were shot and killed embraced death while chanting Joy Bangla. After achieving victory, these two words, Joy Bangla, were used to celebrate the triumph. They proclaimed Banglar Joy, Bangaleer Joy [Victory of Bengal, Victory for Bangalees]", he said.

He added, "You [interim government] have officially

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People cross the Gulshan Lake using boats to get from Banani to Gulshan quickly. The boatmen charge Tk 10 per person for each trip. The practice, while saving time, also poses a risk as many like this child, *inset*, use makeshift rafts to avoid the fare. The photo was taken near the Banani bridge yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



Dismantle market syndicate: Hasnat

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

The interim government's job is to dismantle the market syndicate, not just say it has changed hands, said Hasnat Abdullah, convener of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, yesterday.

"If syndicates are still intact, merely operating under different leadership, it indicates a failure to address the root issues," he said at a rally held at Rajendra College Field in Faridpur.

Hasnat explained how rising living costs, syndicates, and corruption have worsened the lives of people, urging the interim government to take immediate measures to control these issues.

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FOREIGNERS WITHOUT VISA Legal action against them after Jan 31

Says home adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign nationals staying illegally in Bangladesh will face legal action if they fail to obtain the necessary documents to stay or work by January 31.

Home Adviser Jahangir Alam Chowdhury disclosed the updates after visiting the office of the Department of Immigration and Passport yesterday.

"There are many foreigners in the country without visas. Many of them are working. Legal action will be taken against them if they do not obtain visas by January 31," he said.

The adviser said if any foreign nationals are found without visas, they will be deported to their home countries.

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EIB vice president arrives today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

European Investment Bank (EIB) Vice-President Nicola Beer is set to arrive on a three-day visit to Dhaka today to augment assistance for Bangladesh's trade and development.

"She will meet Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus and other advisers. This is an extremely high-level visit at an opportune moment, when the EU is seeking to broaden and deepen relations with Bangladesh," European Union Ambassador to Bangladesh Michael Miller told The Daily Star yesterday.

The EIB, owned by 27 EU member states, is the world's largest multilateral

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Wealth disclosure by judges stalled for 13 years

Experts say it will ensure transparency; call for formulating law

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The practice of submitting wealth statements by Supreme Court judges to the chief justice has been stalled for the last 13 years due to the absence of a specific law or rule.

Talking to The Daily Star, rights activists and legal experts emphasised the need for a specific law or rules for disclosing judges' income and wealth, especially since the interim government advisers are expected to disclose their income and wealth statements, with an ordinance likely to be promulgated to this effect soon.

They said the public disclosure of Supreme Court judges' wealth statements would enhance the judiciary's prestige, dignity, and public trust.

All judges and officials of the SC and lower courts should disclose their wealth statements to set a standard for others. A law should be formulated for them to do so mandatorily, which will help prevent corruption in the judiciary.

Dr Iftekharuzzaman
Executive director, TIB

In 2011, the then chief justice ABM Khairul Haque requested the judges to start the practice of transparency and accountability.

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People have set up makeshift shops, in between rail lines, right next to a signboard forbidding the activity. Such close proximity to oncoming trains could lead to a disaster at any moment, posing a risk to both train passengers and those nearby. The photo was taken near the Jurain Rail Gate recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

The Daily Star

STELLAR WOMEN SEASON 2

CALL FOR REGISTRATIONS / NOMINATIONS

The Stellar Women initiative aims to recognise twelve (12) extraordinary women throughout the year (From September '24 to August '25) for playing a remarkable role in their distinguished fields. Their work must have made positive contributions towards the development of society & the nation.

Inviting nominations/ registrations in the following categories:

Sports	Architect (Residential & Commercial)	Art & Culture
(31 st January '25)	(28 th February '25)	(31 st March '25)

SCAN HERE TO VISIT

For Queries
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www.btistellarwomen.thedailystar.net

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