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SHAH CEMENT

Govt will move soon to ban Awami League Says Asif Mahmud

BSS, Dhaka

The interim government will soon take steps to ban the Awami League as a political party, Local Government, Rural Development, and Cooperatives Adviser Asif Mahmud Shojib Bhuyain said yesterday.

"First of all, it is very positive that political parties have reached a 'consensus' on banning the Awami League," he stated in an interview with BSS, marking six months of the interim government.



Asif Mahmud, who also serves as the adviser to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, said the people of the country rejected the undemocratic and monopolistic rule of the Awami League. "This is why political parties are now reaching a consensus on banning the party," he added.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1



Jubilant scenes as Fortune Barishal players celebrate their back-to-back Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) triumph with family members and coaching staff, posing with the coveted trophy after a thrilling three-wicket victory over Chittagong Kings in the final of the tournament's 11th edition at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Barishal retain BPL title with thrilling win

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It went right down to the last over in the end but Rishad Hossain held his nerve as Fortune Barishal retained the BPL crown with a three-wicket win against Chittagong Kings in the final of the 11th edition at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

This BPL was one of the most controversial in recent memory, with player payment issues and match-fixing concerns making headlines. Yet, for all the controversies, the cricket on the field was able to lift the big crowds during the BPL. The final, too, was played in electric atmosphere with the gallery filled to the rafters and the game certainly lived up to expectations as Barishal chased down Chittagong's 194.

Tamim Iqbal provided the impetus for the chase with a blistering 29-ball 54 but Shoriful Islam turned the game around in two instances with a four-wicket haul. Parvez Hossain Emon's 78 had earlier appeared to give Chittagong the upper hand. Then Kyle Mayers played another

SEE PAGE 6 COL 1

Renaming education cadre proposed

Reform commission suggests forming an autonomous body to oversee recruitment

ARAFAT RAHAMAN

The Public Administration Reform Commission has proposed the creation of a separate body for recruitment tests to appoint education cadre officers.

The reform commission also recommends changing the name of the cadre to "Bangladesh Education Service" with "Education Service Commission" for the recruitment tests.

Basically, the report suggests renaming the entire Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) cadre system by replacing the word "cadre" with "service" for a "better reflection of their characteristics".

Currently, education cadre officers are appointed through BCS exams held by the Public Service Commission (PSC).

For educational administration, the reform commission recommends separating the Secondary Education Division from the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) to create a dedicated "Directorate of Secondary Education".

In its report submitted to Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus on Wednesday, the commission also recommends forming a "Directorate of College Education" and upgrading the director general's position to Grade 1 to enhance efficiency.

The report further proposes the abolition of the dual governance system in higher education at the college level,

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create "Directorate of Secondary Education", "Directorate of College Education"
- Form edn secy-led panel to oversee honours courses at colleges
- Limit private college honours courses
- Affiliate colleges with universities in respective region

advocating for better coordination. A committee led by the education secretary should oversee the implementation of honours programmes. The launch of these courses in private colleges should be limited to maintain academic standards.

To improve the quality of education, the commission proposes that

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

HASINA'S SPEECH India has 'no role to play'

Delhi summons Bangladesh envoy, says she made the remarks in her own capacity

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India summoned Bangladesh's envoy in New Delhi yesterday after Dhaka lodged a formal protest over ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina's remarks.

Comments attributed to Hasina were "made in her individual capacity in which India has no role to play", India's external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in response to media queries at a briefing.

"Conflating this with the Government of India's position is not going to help add positivity to bilateral relations," he added. Md Nural Islam, the Bangladesh acting high commissioner in New Delhi, went to the South Block office of the ministry at 5:00pm.

The summons came a day after India's acting high commissioner in Dhaka was summoned by the Bangladesh foreign ministry to lodge a formal protest over Hasina's "fabricated and provocative" comments in a speech on Facebook Live two days ago.

Jaiswal said Nural was told that India "desires a positive, constructive and mutually beneficial relationship with Bangladesh, which has been reiterated several times in recent high-level meetings."

"It is, however, regrettable that regular statements made by Bangladesh authorities continue to portray India negatively, holding us responsible for internal governance issues. These statements by Bangladesh are in fact

SEE PAGE 6 COL 6

Saudis can create a Palestinian state in Saudi Arabia

Suggests Israeli PM after Trump floats Gaza takeover plan

AGENCIES

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that Saudi Arabia had enough land to provide the Palestinians with a state.

"The Saudis can create a Palestinian state in Saudi Arabia; they have a lot of land over there," he said in a Channel 14 interview on Thursday.

When questioned about a Palestinian state as a condition of normalisation, Netanyahu said he "would not make an agreement that would endanger the State of Israel."

However, shortly after the press conference, the Saudi foreign ministry said it would not discuss ties with Israel without the establishment of a Palestinian state, reports The Jerusalem Post.

Meanwhile, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) urged the international community and "all donors" Thursday to help feed millions of Gaza civilians and rebuild the war-ravaged area.

The UN agency said it had provided more than 15,000 tonnes of food since a fragile January 19 ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian group Hamas, feeding more than 525,000 people, but that much more needed to be done, reports AFP.

"We call on the international community and all donors to continue supporting WFP's life saving assistance at this pivotal moment," said Deputy Executive Director Carl Skau following a visit.

"The scale of the needs is enormous and progress must be maintained. The ceasefire must hold," he said in a statement.

- WFP calls for urgent action to rebuild Gaza
- Egypt says Israeli support for Trump's plan 'weakens' talks on ceasefire
- WFP urges int'l community to help feed millions in Gaza

Swedchhasebak Dal leader shot dead in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

A Swedchhasebak Dal leader was shot dead in front of his business establishment at Fatullah in Narayanganj early morning yesterday.

The victim, Mamun Hossain, 40, was the son of late Saman Ali and a joint convener of the Fatullah unit of BNP's volunteer wing.

He ran a construction material business in Purba Lalpur, where the incident took place around 4:30am, said Shariful Islam, officer-in-charge of Fatullah Model Police Station.

Mamun's elder brother Amjad Hossain said someone called Mamun out just after he had returned home and gone to sleep late on Thursday night. The family did not know who the caller was.

"Azad, a worker who sleeps inside Mamun's business establishment, heard the gunshots and came out to find Mamun lying motionless in a pool of blood," the brother said.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3



AMAR EKUSHEY-8

This year marks the 73rd anniversary of the 1952 Language Movement.

Drawing on research based on various published books, this 21-part series tells the story of the historic struggle for our mother tongue.

Dr Muhammad Shahidullah's role in Language Movement

AHMAD ISTIAK

When the Language Movement started to create a huge stir across the country in 1948, the Government Azizul Haque College and

SEE PAGE 6 COL 4



Children flip through colourful books at a stall of Amar Ekushey Boi Mela at Suhrawardy Udyan during Shishu Prohor yesterday. The book fair authorities arrange this special event dedicated to children from 11:00am to 1:00pm every Friday and Saturday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Oxford scientists achieve teleportation with quantum supercomputer

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A major milestone in quantum computing has been achieved after researchers at the University of Oxford built a scalable quantum supercomputer capable of quantum teleportation.

The breakthrough centres on the so-called scalability problem of quantum computing, with the researchers claiming it will allow the next-generation technology to be realised on an industry-disrupting level.

The field of quantum computing has been around for decades, but only in recent years have significant advances been made towards realising them on a practical scale.

Utilising the properties of quantum physics, these next-generation machines replace traditional bits – the 'ones' and 'zeros' used to store and transfer digital information – with quantum bits (qubits), which can act as a one and a zero at the same time through a phenomena known as superposition.

This give quantum computer the potential to be orders of magnitude more powerful than today's state-of-the-art supercomputers that use conventional computing technology.

