

Judiciary, executive must not be in conflict

Chief justice tells DC conference

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed yesterday said the judiciary and executive must not be in conflict with each other.

"The judiciary exists to uphold rights, deliver justice, and ensure that no person irrespective of status remains without redress. The executive, on the other hand, is tasked with implementing policies, maintaining stability, and facilitating governance. These functions, while separate, must harmonise, and not be in conflict with each other," he said.

He was speaking as chief guest to the Deputy Commissioners' (DCs) Conference, 2025 at the

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Death anniversary of A Rouf Chowdhury

STAR REPORT

Today is the second death anniversary of eminent businessman A Rouf Chowdhury.

He passed away at his home in the capital in 2023 after suffering prolonged illness. He was 86.

Founding chairman of Rangs Group and Sea Resources Group, Rouf had his footprint in the country's media as well.

He was one of the directors of Mediaworld Ltd, the company which owns The Daily Star.

The noted entrepreneur is survived by his son Romo Rouf Chowdhury and daughters Romana Rouf Chowdhury and Sohana Rouf Chowdhury.

Rouf graduated in business management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the US.

The prolific businessman founded over 50 firms in the last four decades. He invested in automobiles, petroleum, pharmaceuticals, real estate, IT, deep-sea fishing, telecommunications, electronics, food processing, banking, and insurance firms.

He started his career at a pharmaceutical company and began his own business in 1979.

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Four SPs withdrawn

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Police Headquarters yesterday withdrew the superintendents of police from four districts.

They have been instructed to report to the PHQ by today.

The four are Cox's Bazar SP Muhammad Rahmat Ullah, Sunamganj SP AFM Anwar Hossain Khan, Jashore SP Md Ziauddin Ahmed, and Nilphamari SP Mohammad Morshed Alam.

However, the orders issued by Deputy Inspector General (administration) Kazi Mohammad Fazlul Karim did not specify any reasons for the withdrawals.

Despite repeated attempts, The Daily Star could not reach him for comment.

Enamul Haque Sagor, assistant inspector general (media & public relations) at the PHQ, confirmed the withdrawals, but said he did not have any more information in this regard.



People crowd this TCB truck opposite the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation in Tejgaon yesterday. With rising price of daily essentials, such facilities have become a beacon of hope for lower-income groups. Even so, the limited number of goods available often means many people are eventually turned away from these trucks, after waiting for hours, without being able to purchase anything. PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Set up waiting list system to recruit teachers

Recommends advisory committee on primary edn reform

ARAFAT RAHAMAN

The government's advisory committee on primary education reform has proposed a new system for teacher recruitment.

The proposed system includes preparing a waiting list based on projected vacancies at the upazila-level schools. Teachers would be appointed from the waiting list as positions become available.

The committee also recommended that when teachers take extended leave — such as for maternity or study purposes — interim appointments could be made from the waiting list on a fully temporary basis, with full pay.

If no candidates from the waiting list are willing to take temporary positions in remote areas, local teachers could be hired with full pay, with relaxed educational qualifications.

Retired local teachers could also be considered for these roles, it said. The committee, led by BRAC University's Emeritus Professor Manzoor Ahmed, made these recommendations in its detailed report presented to Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus last Monday.

According to the Directorate of Primary Education, around two crore students are studying in 1,14,630 primary schools, including government, private, and Ebtedayee madrasas, across the country.

Of them, over one crore students are studying in 65,567 government-run schools.

At present, there are approximately 6,50,000 primary

school teachers across both public and private institutions, including around 3,84,000 teachers against 4,27,000 positions in the government-run institutions.

The committee also proposed launching a "Primary Education Pre-Service Academic Programme" with an aim to ensure that candidates with relevant academic backgrounds are prioritised in the teacher recruitment process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Teachers appointed from waiting list as positions open
- Temporary hiring allowed for teachers on extended leave
- Local teachers or retirees may fill vacancies in remote areas
- Pre-service training for teacher candidates
- Increased autonomy, accountability for headteachers
- Reducing non-teaching workload for teachers

Initially, individuals holding degrees or diplomas under this programme would be given priority in recruitment, with a gradual transition towards making it mandatory, said the report.

The committee suggested the programme to be introduced in all Primary Teacher Training Institutes (PTIs). To implement this, it called for recruiting against all vacant positions in PTIs, creating

new positions, and strengthening its institutional capacity.

Additionally, the report proposed forming a consortium of specialised education institutes from different universities, in collaboration with the National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE), to enhance the capacities of PTIs.

The report also said, "To properly fulfill the responsibility of academic supervision in schools, the capacity of headteachers must be enhanced, and they should be given the necessary autonomy."

"Headteachers must be held accountable — both individually and jointly with other teachers — for children's learning and the overall development of the school," it added.

The report recommended establishing a "learning-focused accountability framework" for teachers and officials working in primary education, to ensure that all educators take responsibility for student learning outcomes and school improvement.

The report highlighted the need to reduce non-teaching workload of teachers so they can focus more on classroom activities and student development.

Stating that currently 80 percent of positions for Assistant Upazila/Thana Primary Education Officer and Assistant URC Instructor are reserved for divisional candidates, while 20 percent of positions are open to others, the report further recommended a 50-50 split between divisional and open positions.

Remove unfit buses, overhaul the sector Demands Jatri Kalyan Samity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Jatri Kalyan Samity yesterday demanded the removal of unfit and rundown buses from Dhaka and Chattogram.

It called for a public transport system through a public-private partnership under a route rationalisation system, instead of being controlled by transport owner associations.

At a press conference at Dhaka Reporters Unity, the organisation also called for the introduction of 5,000 high-quality buses to address the growing crisis in urban public transport.

Md Mozammel Haque Chowdhury, the association's secretary general, alleged that passenger sufferings have worsened due to a transport crisis caused by the overnight repainting of old, unfit buses into pink-coloured vehicles instead of replacing them with new ones.

On December 19 last year, Road Transport and Bridges Adviser Muhammad Fauzul Kabir Khan instructed the removal of buses older than 20 years from Dhaka by May.

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JULY UPRISING

Injured protesters block Shahbagh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Protesters injured during the July uprising staged a demonstration at Shahbagh intersection yesterday, demanding rehabilitation and compensation.

Around 30 to 40 protesters gathered at Shahbagh around 11:00am, setting a 2:00pm deadline for the government to initiate talks. As there was no response from the government within that time, they blocked the Shahbagh intersection.

Khaled Mansur, officer-in-charge of Shahbagh Police Station, said the protesters blocked the Banglamotor-bound lane in front of BSMU around 2:00pm. Vehicular movement in that direction was disrupted. The protesters remained on the streets until 7:00pm.

The protesters demanded financial assistance for those who have lost their ability to work permanently, alongside a monthly allowance of Tk 20,000, one-time compensation, and job training and employment in government or semi-government sectors for a family member.

For those who have recovered and regained working ability, they demanded a Tk 15,000 monthly stipend, one-time compensation, and job opportunities.

Victims to be recognised as 'July martyrs, warriors' Says adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The martyrs of the July uprising will be recognised as "July Martyrs", while the injured as "July Warriors". Both the groups will receive certificates and identity cards in acknowledgment of their contributions to the uprising that led to the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government.

Liberation War affairs Adviser Faruq E Azam, Bir Pratik, made this announcement after meeting with the deputy commissioners on the second day of the DC Conference yesterday.

According to information from the July Memorial Foundation, the mass uprising resulted in 820 deaths and 11,850 injuries.

Azam said the process of forming the July Directorate is in its final stages. It is expected to be completed within the week.

The adviser said families of the martyrs will receive Tk 30 lakh through savings certificates. This fiscal year, they will be granted Tk 10 lakh, while in the next fiscal year, they will receive savings certificates worth Tk 20 lakh.

Injured individuals will receive lifelong medical benefits and allowances. Those who are severely injured will receive a one-time payment of Tk 5,00,000 and a monthly allowance of Tk 20,000. Those who have lost a limb will receive a one-time grant of Tk 3,00,000 and a monthly allowance of Tk 15,000. Individuals with minor injuries, who have recovered and are fit to work, will be prioritised for employment and rehabilitation programmes, though they will not receive any allowance.

Families of the martyrs will receive Tk 30 lakh through savings certificates. This fiscal year, they will be given Tk 10 lakh, while in the next one, they will get certificates worth Tk 20 lakh.

A DAY IN COURT Inu, Menon put on remand; Qamrul shown arrested

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

The lawyer for Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) President Hasanul Haq Inu yesterday claimed that his client was in favour of abolishing the quota system in government jobs.

He said this while placing arguments before Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate GM Farhan Ishtiaq.

However, state lawyer Omar Faruq Faruqi said Inu was a key associate of fascist Sheikh Hasina. Inu was placed on a three-day remand in a murder case.

Meanwhile, Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon was also placed on a three-day remand in the same case.

Earlier, Inu and Menon were brought to the court amid heavy security.

When journalists sought Inu's comments at the court premises, Inu simply said, "I have nothing to say. Going to a remand hearing."

Later, at 11:25am, as police escorted them back to the CMM Court lockup, he added, "What can I say? It's the same old story."

Menon, when asked for a comment, replied, "What more can I say?"

QAMRUL'S ADVICE TO LAWYER

Meanwhile, former food minister Qamrul Islam was brought to a courtroom at the CMM Court at 10:13am to be shown arrested in a murder case.

Standing inside the dock, he asked one of his lawyers, "Is this a new case or just a remand?"

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A young patron of this year's Ekushey Boi Mela walks through the fair with a bag full of books in hand. True to its tradition, the Boi Mela remains an event that appeals to all ages. The photo was taken at Suhrawardy Udyan yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN