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Committed to ensuring equal rights for all citizens

Says Yunus; visits Dhakeshwari temple

UNB, Dhaka

Extending advance Durga Puja greetings, Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday said no government has the right to deny citizens their fundamental constitutional rights.

"We -- the entire nation -- is a broader family. The government is committed to ensuring equal rights and dignity for all citizens," he said, stressing the importance of unity to defeat evil forces.

Prof Yunus visited Dhakeshwari National Temple to witness preparations for the upcoming Durga Puja and exchanged greetings with members of the Hindu community.

The chief adviser, who is scheduled to reach New York on September 22 to attend the UN General Assembly, said the visit gave him peace of mind before leaving Dhaka as he will not be in the country during the festival.

He also urged citizens to remain aware of their

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PHOTO: CA'S PRESS WING

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus visited Dhakeshwari National Temple in Dhaka yesterday to witness preparations for the upcoming Durga Puja and exchanged greetings with members of the Hindu community.

Govt steps up manpower export to Japan

BSS, Dhaka

The Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment has taken a series of major decisions to expand manpower export to Japan, a market seen as one of the most promising for Bangladeshi workers in the coming years.

The decisions were taken at the

third meeting of the ministry's "Japan Cell" on September 3 with Chief Adviser's Special Envoy on International Affairs Lutley Siddiqi in the chair, said a press release issued by the Chief Adviser's Press Wing yesterday.

The ministry informed the Chief Adviser's Office in detail about the decisions through an

official letter, the release said.

According to the letter, initiatives should be taken to make Facebook posts, including quotations from Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Adviser Prof Asif Nazrul and the ambassador to Japan, about the activities of the "Japan Cell"

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Dhaka, Delhi should work together

Says Indian envoy

UNB, Dhaka

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pranay Verma has said Bangladesh and India should work together to strengthen their interdependencies and transform geographical proximity and growing economic capabilities into new opportunities for mutually rewarding cooperation.

He pointed out that Bangladesh and India, as two important economies of the region, are also important drivers for regional integration under the framework of BIMSTEC, whose secretariat is located in Dhaka and which envisions bridging the growth opportunities of South Asia with Southeast Asia.

The envoy said this as he was invited by the National Defence College of Bangladesh to address the 2025 NDC course participants on Monday, said the High Commission yesterday.

The high commissioner said India will continue to seek a "stable, positive, constructive, forward-looking and mutually

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PR SYSTEM

'We're against it in either houses of parliament'

Says Salahuddin

UNB, Dhaka

BNP standing committee member Salahuddin Ahmed yesterday said banning any political party through an executive order would be a "dangerous practice" and stressed that such matters must only be decided by courts.

"We do not support banning any party or its activities by executive order. If there are allegations against any political organisation -- such as genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes -- these must be brought to court," he said while talking to reporters at his Gulshan residence.

Salahuddin said only through a judicial process can the fate of a party be determined, and the Election Commission would then be obliged to accept the court verdict.

Referring to demands by Jamaat-e-Islami and some other Islamist parties to ban the Jatiya Party and the 14-party alliance, Salahuddin said such calls should also be addressed through a legal process.

The BNP leader also reminded that in the 2024 election, around 28 registered parties participated. "If bans are sought in the name of fascism or dictatorship, then all 28 parties would need to be banned. Then with whom will the election be held?"

"In this country, those who are now demanding a ban on political parties -- if they later say that they too will not take part in the election, then will there be any election at all? Their purpose behind

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A farmer tends to his cauliflower field at Phulbari village in Godagari upazila of Rajshahi. Farmers are already cultivating winter vegetables including cauliflower and cabbage, hoping to fetch higher prices in the market. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AZAHAR UDDIN

STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS

42 elected unopposed in RU hall unions

CCTV to monitor vote counting on election day

NUR AHSAN MRIDUL

A total of 42 candidates have been elected uncontested to hall union bodies of Rajshahi University, as no rival contenders came forward in seven dormitories.

Thirty-nine of these candidates are women. Among the 42, 29 have secured secretary posts, while 13 will serve as executive members without a single ballot being cast, said Rucsu Chief Election Commissioner Prof F Nazrul Islam.

Although the Rucsu and hall union elections will be held on September 25, election officials on Sunday night declared that candidates standing alone in their races were elected automatically. The final list was published by Chief Returning Officer Prof Md Setaur Rahman.

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1,088 forms collected for Cucusu, hall polls

Last day of submission today; panels taking shape

SM MAHFUJ AHMED

The distribution of nomination forms for the Chittagong University Central Students' Union (Cucusu) and hall union elections ended yesterday, with 1,088 forms collected over three days.

Of these, 488 were for Cucusu posts and 600 for hall unions.

On the final day alone, 391 Cucusu aspirants and 527 hall union hopefuls collected forms, while 19 forms were submitted. The distribution ran from 9:30am to 10:00pm at the CU Election Commission office. However, one form was collected past 10:00pm.

According to the schedule, candidates can submit their nomination forms until September 17 [today], along with their dope test reports. Any candidate

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