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BNP, Jamaat obstructing state reforms

Says Nahid; NCP accepts water lily bud as election symbol

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Citizen Party (NCP) Convener Nahid Islam yesterday came down heavily on BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami, accusing the parties of obstructing state reform initiatives and plotting to delay the national polls.

Besides, the party has clarified its position about the referendum date and accepted "shapla koli" (water lily bud) as its electoral symbol.

NCP leaders said the referendum could be held on the election day or even earlier when a three-member NCP delegation met the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) AMM Nasir Uddin at the EC office yesterday afternoon.

At that time, the party leaders declared a plan to nominate candidates for all 300 seats in the upcoming national election.

Later, speaking to reporters at the party's office, Nahid Islam accused the BNP of opposing the consensus commission by submitting notes of dissent on key issues, raising doubts among the public -- and even within their own ranks -- about their commitment to reforms.

Meanwhile, he went on to say that Jamaat's actions appear to suggest possible intentions to delay the election.

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All-rounder Deepti Sharma celebrates with captain Harmanpreet Kaur after dismissing South Africa skipper Laura Wolvaardt (101) as India clinched their maiden ICC Women's World Cup title with a 52-run victory in the final at the Dr DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai yesterday. Deepti shone with a 5-39 to bundle South Africa out for 246 in 45.3 overs after India posted 298-7, powered by half-centuries from Shafali Verma (87) and Deepti (58).

PHOTO: REUTERS

Inu, Hanif charged with crimes against humanity

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal 2 yesterday framed charges against former minister and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) President Hasanul Haq Inu, and Awami League Joint General Secretary and former lawmaker Mahbubul Alam Hanif, for their alleged crimes against humanity.

The three-member tribunal, led by Justice Nozrul Islam Chowdhury, read out eight charges against Inu in a case in which he is the lone accused. The charges include murder, instigation, abetment, persecution, complicity, and aiding ruling party leaders and law enforcers in killing unarmed civilians during the July 2024 uprising.

Pleading not guilty to the charges of crimes against humanity, Inu told the tribunal that he was a victim of "political vengeance."

"I am struck by ghost cases... After Allah, you are the representatives of justice. I hope you will deliver justice. I am

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Mob kills 3 suspected cattle thieves in Gaibandha

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogura

Three people were killed in a mob beating in Gaibandha's Gobindaganj upazila early yesterday after allegedly attempting to steal cows, police said.

The incident took place in Nasirabad area of Katabari union around 4:00am, said Bulbul Islam, officer-in-charge of Gobindaganj Police Station.

One of the deceased was identified as Kawsar Ali, 32, of Damgara village in Bogura's Shibganj upazila.

The Criminal Investigation Department's crime scene unit (Rangpur range) is working to identify the other two victims, the OC added.

Abdus Salam of Helali Para village in Katabari told The Daily Star, "Around 3:00am, when I went to my cowshed to light a coil, I found three cows missing and the wall broken. As I started shouting, neighbours chased the thieves."

"About a kilometre from my house in Nasirabad area, hundreds of people caught the three and beat them up. I heard two of them died on the spot."

Al-Amin, a witness from the same village, said, "Around 3:30am, we went to Nasirabad and saw three people jump into a pond. Hundreds were throwing bricks and stones at them. They were beaten up after they came out of the water."

Rashidul Bari, senior assistant superintendent of police (Gaibandha

SEE PAGE 8 COL 3

Uncertainties driving away RMG work orders

Business leaders say at a seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A portion of fresh apparel work orders are moving from Bangladesh to other countries because of political uncertainty and gas and electricity supply crises, said a group of trade body leaders and exporters yesterday.

"We are in a risky place," said Showkat Aziz Russell, president of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA), at a seminar organised by the Bangladesh Garment Buying House Association (BGBA) on the current challenges in the garment sector and the way forward.

He called on the interim government to hold the election on time and to hand over power to the elected government.

The inflow of work orders from international clothing retailers and brands is slowing, he said.

"But the data is being presented in the wrong way -- like the previous government did. The current government is also not noticing the problems like a blind person. It is a matter of grief that the newly-elected BGMEA president could not avail an appointment of the chief adviser in 120 days."

The members of the BTMA, the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) and the BGBA have already invested \$75 billion and account for 85 percent of the total exports, he added.

Because of the gas crisis and three to four hours load-shedding, factories cannot make goods in timely manner, said Mohammed Zakir Hossain, secretary general of BGBA.

"We are passing through a bad time because of the current overall uncertain situation of the

country -- if those challenges are not resolved soon, the crisis will only deepen further," said Mohammad Rashed, vice president of BKMEA.

A portion of expected work orders are shifting to other countries or taking longer to finalise, said BGMEA Director Faisal Samad.

"The garment sector has turned into a crisis management sector, as every day there is a new crisis."

"The current government is also not noticing the problems like a blind person. It is a matter of grief that the newly-elected BGMEA president could not avail an appointment of the chief adviser in 120 days."

Showkat Aziz Russell, president of the Bangladesh Textile Mills Association



He and former BGMEA director Shovon Islam criticised the government for reducing the signatories needed for forming a trade union in factories from 50 to 20.

BNP Standing Committee Member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury said if his party comes to power, it will defer the LDC graduation as the businesses need a lot of preparation for smooth graduation.

Shafiqur re-elected Jamaat ameer



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shafiqur Rahman has been re-elected as the ameer of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami for the 2026-2028 term.

This marks his third consecutive term as the party's top leader.

Jamaat's Chief Election Commissioner and Assistant Secretary General Maulana ATM Masum announced the results of the ameer election on Saturday night, according to a press release issued by the party yesterday.

The release said voting took place from October 9 to October 25, when the party's rukon (members) across the country cast their votes through secret ballot.

After the completion of the voting process, the responsible committees counted the ballots.

Shafiqur received the highest number of votes.

He previously served as Jamaat's ameer for the 2020-2022 and 2023-2025 terms.

According to the

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YOUTH SHOOTING TRAINING Experts ring alarm over risk to society

MUNTAKIM SAAD

The government's decision to introduce "shooting" training for general youths has raised concerns among security analysts and criminologists.

They warn that providing such training without a policy framework or strict oversight could have far-reaching consequences in a society already struggling with the misuse of arms, political unrest, extremism, and recurring youth violence.

They also questioned the timing of the move, coming just ahead of the national election.

The government's "Basic Self-Defence Training for Youths" is scheduled to begin on November 8, with online registration already open, to teach combat and protection skills, including martial arts and shooting. The programme will be implemented under the supervision of the youth and sports ministry.

The project would run until February 2028.

The initiative is beyond the youth and sports ministry's jurisdiction and is being undertaken without any clear or transparent understanding of what it entails.

Security analyst Maj Gen (ret'd) ANM Muniruzzaman

Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan (BKSP) issued a circular on October 16, while Youth and Sports Adviser Asif Mahmud Shojib Bhuyain announced the initiative in a Facebook post on October 20.

He wrote, "A total of 8,850 trainees will initially receive training at seven centres across the country. They will be trained in karate, judo, taekwondo, and firearm shooting."

The mention of "firearms" sparked debate and confusion. The next day, he made another post saying, "8,250 young men and 600 young women aged 18 to 35 will receive training." He replaced "firearm shooting" with just "shooting", though one photo card he shared still mentioned "firearms".

Speaking to BBC Bangla recently, Asif said the aim

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Teachers of Ebtedayee (primary) madrasas and several education organisations stage a sit-in in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday, demanding MPO inclusion. The protest, one of several held in Dhaka to press various demands, caused severe traffic congestion and public suffering.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

সতর্কতামূলক বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড বাংলাদেশের একটি স্বনামধন্য জীবনরক্ষাকারী ঔষধ প্রস্তুতকারক প্রতিষ্ঠান যা সুদীর্ঘকাল যাবত দেশের প্রচলিত আইনগত প্রক্রিয়া সম্মানে রেখে এবং সকল নিয়মনিয়তি মেনে দেশের অভ্যন্তরে এবং বহির্বিধে সুনামের সাথে ব্যবসা পরিচালনা করে আসছে, এবং দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড সর্বদাই সামাজিক দায়বদ্ধতা ও আর্ন্তমানবতার সেবার নিবেদিত। "দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড" বাংলাদেশ সিকিউরিটিজ অ্যান্ড এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন এর অধীনে একটি নিবন্ধিত পাবলিকলি লিস্টেড কোম্পানি। এই কোম্পানির পরিচালনা পর্ষদের কোন সদস্যের শেয়ার মার্কেটে অন্য কোনো লিস্টেড কোম্পানি নেই। আমাদের দেশের কিছু উইফোর ও অসাধু ব্যবসায়ী তাদের প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামের সাথে "এক্সিম" শব্দটি যুক্ত করে প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামকরণ করে ব্যবসা পরিচালনা করছে, যার ফলে সাধারণ মানুষের মাঝে বিভ্রান্তি সৃষ্টি হয়, এবং এতে অনেকে ভুল বুঝে উক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানকে দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড-এর সহযোগী প্রতিষ্ঠান মনে করে আর্থিক লেনদেন বা যে কোনো বিষয়ে চুক্তিবদ্ধ হয়ে অপ্রত্যাশিত আর্থিক ক্ষতির সম্মুখীন বা প্রভাবিত হতে পারেন। যার ফলশ্রুতিতে, দেশ এবং দেশের বাইরে দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড-এর সুনাম তথা ভাবমূর্তির ওপর নেতিবাচক প্রভাববসহ জনমনে চরম বিভ্রান্তি সৃষ্টি হওয়ার সম্ভাবনা রয়েছে বলে কোম্পানির কর্তৃপক্ষ মনে করেন। উক্ত বিষয়টি বিভিন্ন মাধ্যমে, দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড-এর কর্তৃপক্ষের কাছে দুর্ভোগের হওয়াতে, বিষয়টি অনুধাবন করে কোম্পানির নামের বিভ্রান্তি দূর করার লক্ষ্যে এবং সর্বসাধারণকে সতর্ক করার নিমিত্তে বিষয়টি সকলের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণের উদ্দেশ্যে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রদান করা হলো। বিশেষ করে, যদি কোনো কোন প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামের সাথে "এক্সিম" নাম সংযুক্ত থাকে তাহলে সঠিকভাবে যাচাই বাছাই করে এবং সর্বোচ্চ সতর্কতা অবলম্বন করে উক্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের সাথে আর্থিক লেনদেন অথবা ব্যবসায়িক সম্পর্ক স্থাপনে সকলকে বিশেষ সতর্কতা অবলম্বনের জন্য পরামর্শ দেওয়া হচ্ছে। যেহেতু দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড-এর কিংবা এর পরিচালনার পর্ষদের কারোই বাংলাদেশে কোন পাবলিকলি লিস্টেড কোম্পানি নেই এবং অত্র প্রতিষ্ঠানের কোনো সাবসিডিয়ারী কোম্পানিও নেই সেহেতু সঙ্গত কারণেই "এক্সিম" শব্দটি ব্যবহার করে শেয়ার বাজারে, অথবা অন্যত্র কোন কোম্পানি পরিচালনা করলে, তাহার সাথে দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিমিটেড-এর কোনো প্রকার সংশ্লিষ্টতা বা সম্পৃক্ততা নেই বলে গণ্য করার জন্য সর্বশ্রিত সকলকে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

দি এক্সিম ল্যাবরেটরিজ লিঃ

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