



Concern grows over Khaleda's health

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People across the country are growing more and more anxious about the health condition of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, who has been hospitalised for a week and has not shown any sign of improvement.

In towns and cities alike, prayers are being held for her speedy recovery.

Yesterday, a five-member team of foreign medical experts arrived at Evercare Hospital in Dhaka to assist with her treatment.

The former prime minister is in the hospital's Coronary Care Unit (CCU). A medical board comprising foreign and local specialists is overseeing her treatment.

Party leaders said Khaleda's condition remains unchanged and, as such, she is not fit to travel abroad for advanced care.

Upon arrival at the hospital, the visiting experts, mostly Chinese specialists, met Khaleda's medical board and discussed her condition.

The board noted that additional expert opinion is urgently required. Another team of specialists from China is expected to arrive today.

Meanwhile, BNP Standing Committee member Salahuddin Ahmed has said the party's acting chairman Tarique Rahman will return home soon.

He made the remark around 11:30pm yesterday while speaking to reporters in front of the party chairperson's office in Gulshan following a meeting of the standing committee.

KHALEDA NOW VIP

Last night, the government declared Khaleda a "very important person".

"Khaleda Zia has been declared a 'very important person' under Section 2 (a) of the Special Security Force Act, 2021. The decision takes immediate effect," read an official notification.

With this, Khaleda comes under the protection of the Special Security Force.

Hours after the announcement, law enforcement officers cordoned off the area outside Evercare Hospital to keep out the crowd of visitors coming in to enquire about Khaleda's health.

Speaking to reporters yesterday afternoon, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir said, SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



Security beefed up around Evercare

Foreign experts join treatment effort

Another team from China due today

Govt declares Khaleda VIP

Tarique to return soon: Salahuddin



Police cordoned off the area outside Evercare Hospital in the capital's Bashundhara Residential Area to keep out the crowd of visitors coming in to enquire about Khaleda's health. The photo was taken at 1:30am today.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Modi wishes Khaleda quick recovery



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing deep concern over BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's health, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India is ready to extend all possible support in any way it can.

"Deeply concerned to learn about the health of Begum Khaleda Zia, SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

PRIMARY, SECONDARY SCHOOLS Teachers' strike disrupts classes, year-end exams

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Annual exams at many government secondary and primary schools were disrupted yesterday as teachers continued their strike despite official directives to complete the tests on schedule.

In the morning, the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE) issued an order instructing institutions to hold annual, junior scholarship, and other exams on scheduled dates.

A circular signed by DSHE Director Prof Khan Moinuddin Al Mahmud Sobel said those exams were slated for November 20 to December 31. SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

It warned that any negligence or irregularity by those engaged in the examination process would lead to action.

The directive came on a day when government secondary school teachers already declared their work abstention after a two-day sit-in to press home their four-point demand.

The demands include upgrading assistant teachers to grade 9 under the BCS (General Education) cadre, recruitment to vacant posts, settlement of pending promotions and postings, approval of due timescale and selection-grade benefits, and restoration of advance increments SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Tarique not on voter roll EC official says he can register if commission permits



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman has not registered as a voter, but he may do so if the Election Commission permits, a senior election official said yesterday.

The remarks came amid growing speculation about Tarique's return from London, where he has been living for more than 17 years.

His possible return has raised questions about his eligibility to contest the national elections, since election law requires SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

PLOT SCAM CASE Hasina, Rehana, Tulip jailed

Tulip terms trial 'flawed, farcical'



EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

Deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina, her sister Sheikh Rehana, and her niece Tulip Siddiq, a Labour MP in the UK, were yesterday sentenced in absentia to varying jail terms over corruption in the allocation of Purbachal plots.

Hasina, now in India, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment; Rehana seven years; and Tulip, the MP for Hampstead and Highgate in London, was given two years in a case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission. SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



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