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ENERGY CRISIS Tarique seeks \$2b from dev partners

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman yesterday sought a US\$2 billion fund from development partners to meet Bangladesh's immediate energy needs and safeguard economic stability amid the ongoing global energy crisis.

"The situation before us demands urgency, solidarity, and decisive action. Immediate support for the most vulnerable countries must be at the top of our collective agenda," he said while addressing the Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) Plus Online Summit.

"We urge the international community to respond swiftly and positively to this call," he added.

The prime minister said the energy crisis is a stark reminder of the shared vulnerability and interdependence of countries, regardless of size or strength.

SEE PAGE 8 COL 4



An unusually light traffic at the GPO intersection in the capital yesterday, a week day. Locals opined that it was the result of it being the first working day after the Pehela Baishakh holiday and the ongoing fuel crisis.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Interim govt patronised mob violence Says adviser Zahed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Incidents of mob violence were given patronage during the interim government period, creating a tendency among people to think they could take the law into their own hands, said Zahed Ur Rahman, prime minister's adviser for information and broadcasting.

"If we want to work effectively against mob violence, then the incidents that took place during the interim government period in the name of mobs, or in a planned way, will also have to be examined," he said yesterday at the government's weekly press briefing on the overall situation in the country.

Action will certainly be taken in cases where there is social consensus, he said.

On the Kushtia incident, in which a sufi pir was beaten and hacked to death, Zahed said the government is looking into the matter very seriously in every respect.

A case has already been filed, though there has been some delay and suspects have been identified. Measures are being taken accordingly, he said.

The government is also reviewing the administrative failure behind

SEE PAGE 8 COL 4



BNP to go tough on grassroots

'Says misconduct is damaging govt's image'

SAJJAD HOSSAIN

The BNP high command has decided to take a tougher stance against a section of its grassroots leaders and activists amid growing complaints that their misconduct is damaging the ruling party's image and giving the opposition more room to criticise.

Party leaders said disciplinary action has been ongoing, but enforcement slowed in many areas, prompting the leadership to push for stricter and more active measures.

Senior leaders said the issue has now reached the highest level, with the leadership making it clear it will no longer be treated as a routine organisational problem. Instead, the party plans to combine disciplinary action with legal steps against those found involved in misconduct.

The decision comes amid growing concerns within the party that a section of grassroots BNP members have been involved in extortion and other criminal activities since the party took office, damaging the government's image.

A senior BNP leader, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "We do not tolerate violations of party rules.

However, after the election, enforcement slowed in many areas, allowing some leaders to flout party instructions and engage in misconduct. That is why we have decided to take a tougher, more active stance against them."

According to party insiders, the high command has instructed senior leaders of the BNP and its affiliated bodies to remain cautious, monitor the situation closely, and take preventive steps on the ground.

Tarique Rahman, no one will be spared."

Party sources said the high command has received numerous complaints from grassroots units in multiple districts about local leaders clashing over tenders, while some have also been accused of unlawful activities linked to control of business establishments.

They added that such complaints have reinforced a growing perception within the

The decision comes amid growing concerns within the party that a section of grassroots BNP members have been involved in extortion and other criminal activities since the party took office.

BNP Joint Secretary General Syed Emran Saleh Prince said, "If anyone tries to use the party's name for unethical acts, action will be taken against them... Party leaders and activists have been instructed not to get involved in any unethical activities for business interests or jobs.

"...There will be no leniency in this regard. If any misconduct comes to the notice of our prime minister [BNP Chairman

party of indiscipline at the local level.

Following the party's landslide victory in the February 12 election, Prime Minister and BNP Chief Tarique Rahman on February 16 directed lawmakers to maintain coordination with grassroots leaders and ensure all political activities remain within legal boundaries.

He said that any wrongdoing at the local level would damage

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1

PIR KILLING Jamaat men among the accused

Cops yet to make any arrest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Four days after the brutal killing of Pir Abdur Rahman Shamim in Kushtia's Daulatpur upazila, police are yet to arrest any of the four named accused, two of whom are affiliated with Jamaat and Chhatra Shibir.

The 52-year-old pir, Abdur Rahman Shamim, was beaten and hacked to death by a mob of 300 to 400 people at his darbar (shrine) in Philipnagar of the upazila on April 11, following allegations of hurting religious sentiments. Two others were injured in the incident.

His brother Fazlur Rahman filed a case with Daulatpur Police Station early Tuesday, accusing four named and 180-200 unidentified persons.

The named accused are Khaja Ahmed, former president of Kushtia district unit Islami Chhatra Shibir and a full member (rukn) of Jamaat; Jamaat activist Rajib Mistri; Khelafat Majlis's

SEE PAGE 8 COL 3

PLANNING COMMISSION Advisory panel outlines overhaul of governance

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

A high-level advisory committee, formed by the Planning Commission to develop a sustainable development strategy, plans to recommend the government introduce a bicameral parliament, reinstate the caretaker government system, and ensure media freedom.

Led by Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud, the committee has 35 members, including leading economists, public health and education experts, and heads of three major trade bodies.

It was formed on April 8 to "accelerate the country's economic development and formulate strategies to implement the government's manifesto", as well as "provide necessary advice and guidance to the General Economics Division of the Bangladesh Planning Commission".

MORE ON BI SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

'They filed a false inquest report'

Father, who asked 'how many bullets does it take to kill a boy', tells ICT-2

SHARIFUL ISLAM and SIRAJUL ISLAM RUBEL

A grieving father, who once shook the nation's conscience by asking a senior police officer, "How many bullets does it take to kill a boy, sir?", yesterday alleged that police, under pressure from senior officials, filed a false inquest report over his son's killing during the July 2024 mass uprising.

Standing in the witness box of the International Crimes Tribunal-2, Sub-Inspector Moynal Hossain Bhuiyan broke down in tears as he recounted his son's killing and the discovery of his body.

Imam Hasan Tayim Bhuiyan was shot near Kajla Bridge in Jatrabari on July 20. Moynal said the body bore multiple bullet wounds on

SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

'We don't know what happened to them'

Families of 250 missing in Andaman boat tragedy urge govt action

MOKAMMEL SHUVO

Families are worried after a Malaysia-bound fishing trawler carrying around 300 Bangladeshis and Rohingyas from Teknaf capsized in the Andaman Sea last week.

They said they could not contact their relatives for eight to 10 days.

Local sources said the victims, Bangladeshis and Rohingyas, were reportedly lured by promises of jobs or forced or trafficked into the perilous journey.

The incident has drawn international attention.

In a joint statement, United Nations High

SEE PAGE 8 COL 1



A child crying in distress at a measles ward at the DNCC hospital in Mohakhali yesterday. At least 166 children have died so far of suspected measles.

PHOTO: MEHEDI HASAN

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের স্টল পরিদর্শন করলেন মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী তারেক রহমান

কৃষি সম্প্রসারণ অধিদপ্তরের উদ্যোগে আয়োজিত "কৃষি কার্ড বিতরণ কার্যক্রম ও কৃষি মেলা ২০২৬" এর উদ্বোধন উপলক্ষে গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী তারেক রহমান টাঙ্গাইল পৌর উদ্যানে স্থাপিত বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের স্টল পরিদর্শন করেন। স্টল পরিদর্শনকালে মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী দেশের কৃষি উন্নয়ন, কৃষি ঋণ বিতরণ কার্যক্রম এবং প্রান্তিক কৃষকদের জন্য বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের বিভিন্ন উদ্ভাবনী ও সহায়ক উদ্যোগ সম্পর্কে বিস্তারিত অবগত হন। এ সময় বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক সফিয়ারা বিনতে আলী মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীকে অবহিত করেন যে, তাঁর যোগাযোগকারী দশ হাজার টাকা পর্যন্ত কৃষি ঋণ মওকুফ কর্মসূচির আওতায় মোট মওকুফকৃত ঋণের প্রায় ৫২ শতাংশই বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের। দেশের মোট কৃষি ঋণের ৪০% কৃষি ব্যাংক কর্তৃক অর্ধায়িত এবং বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক ২০২৫ সালে প্রায় ৩.১৩ বিলিয়ন মার্কিন ডলার বৈদেশিক রেমিট্যান্স আহরণ করে দেশের সকল কৃষকদের মধ্যে দ্বিতীয় শীর্ষ স্থান অর্জন করেছে। এই অর্ধবছরে ৪.০০ বিলিয়ন মার্কিন ডলারে উন্নীত করা সম্ভব হবে বলেও তিনি মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রীকে অবহিত করেন। তিনি আরও বলেন, আমরা উজ্জীবিত এবং "সবার আগে বাংলাদেশ" ধারণ করি এবং সেভাবে এগিয়ে যাবো। মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী স্টল পরিদর্শনকালে বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের কার্যক্রম সম্পর্কে অবহিত হয়ে গভীর সন্তোষ প্রকাশ করেন এবং রেমিট্যান্স আহরণসহ কৃষি ও কৃষকের কল্যাণে বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক এ ধরনের কার্যক্রম অব্যাহত রাখা হবে বলে আশাবাদ ব্যক্ত করেন। এ সময় বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংকের উপব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক মোঃ আঃ রহিম ও মোহাঃ খালেদুজ্জামান এবং মহাব্যবস্থাপকসহ সন্ত্রিস্ট কর্মকর্তাবৃন্দ উপস্থিত ছিলেন।

বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক
গণমানুষের ব্যাংক

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