

BCL demands end to harassment of 5 DU teachers

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at a rally yesterday demanded an end to harassment of five Dhaka University teachers.

The teachers include former Vice Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, Prof Durga Das Bhattacharya, Prof Sultana Safi, Prof Khandoker Bazlul Haque, and Dr Mohammad Samad.

The BCL leaders made the demand at a rally on the DU campus.

Earlier, the BCL, student wing of the opposition Awami League, brought out a procession protesting the harassment of the teachers.

The BCL leaders said the BNP-Jamaat alliance government has been harassing eminent teachers, politicians, journalists, and intellectuals in a planned way.

The government has been harassing the DU teachers by filing false cases, they said adding that the student community will resist 'government's conspiracy' against the teachers at any cost.

Presided over by BCL DU unit President Delwar Hossain, the rally was addressed by the BCL President Liaqat Sikder, General Secretary Nazrul Islam Babu, Asraful Azim Rubon, and Hemayet Uddin Khan Himu.



PHOTO: STAR

The Jatiya Mukti Council stages a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding immediate arrest of the killers of Gyaneshwar Chakma, a leader of the United People's Democratic Front.

Diarrhoeal diseases claim 40,000 children a year

10th Asian Confce begins in city Dec 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 10th Asian Conference on Diarrhoeal Diseases and Nutrition begins in Dhaka on December 7.

This year the theme of the conference is "Improving Child Health and Nutrition."

President Iajuddin Ahmed will inaugurate the three-day conference at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain will attend the function as special guest.

About 900 participants including world renowned scientists and experts in the field of diarrhoea and nutrition are expected to attend the conference.

Nabanna Utsav today

UNB, Dhaka

Nabanna Utsav-1410 will be celebrated at Bakultala of the Institute of Fine Arts on the Dhaka University campus today.

The Utsav, organised by Jatiya Nabanna Utsav Udjapan Parishad, will begin at 10am and continue till 9pm on the day.

Programmes include song, dance, painting exhibition and Pala Kirtan.

Eminent poet Shamsur Rahman will inaugurate the programme in the morning. A colourful procession will be brought out at 10am on the occasion.

This was disclosed at a press briefing organised by the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) at Sasakawa International Training Centre auditorium in the city yesterday.

Speaking at the briefing, experts said about 40,000 children die in diarrhoeal diseases in the country every year.

Dr David A Sack, director of ICDDR,B, said the conference will focus on improving the child health and nutrition as 1.2 to 1.4 million children die worldwide in diarrhoeal diseases every year.

Besides, 45 to 52 percent children are born in Bangladesh with low birth weight due to lack of nutrition, he added.

Dr AKM Helal-uz-Zaman, joint secretary of the health and family welfare ministry, said the conference would help develop a comprehensive national nutrition programme.

Associate Director of ICDDR,B Dr Mohammad Abdus Salam, Chief of Health and Nutrition of Unicef in Bangladesh Dr Kayode Oyegbite, Medical Officer of Who Dr George John Komba Kono, and Director General of Health Services Dr M Mahbubur Rahman also spoke.

Death anniversary



The fourth death anniversary of Haji Md Selim, a politician and social worker, will be observed today, says a press release.

A former acting administrator of Dhaka City Corporation, he was the chief advisor to weekly Joyjatra.

Md Selim was also a member of the executive committee of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Wonders Club.

Prayers will be offered at his grave and a doa will also be held to mark his death anniversary.

Kazi Mashi Uddin Ahmed

A milad mahfil will be held today to mark the second death anniversary of Kazi Mashi Uddin Ahmed, former assistant general manager of Bangladesh Krishi Bank, says a press release.

Mashi Uddin died on December 1 in 2001.

Waz mahfil

An eight-day long annual waz mahfil and isal-e-sawab will begin on the premises of Markaje Isayate Islam at Mirpur on December 12, says a press release.

Transport owners threaten countrywide agitation

People of 3 upazilas continue boycott of pvt bus, minibus in Sylhet, demand more BRTC buses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Transport operators have threatened to launch a countrywide agitation if the authorities do not withdraw BRTC service from three upazilas of Sylhet district immediately.

Fresh agitation programme for Sylhet and Chittagong region will be announced at a meeting on December 15 while the representatives of transport owners and workers will decide on nationwide programme at their meeting on December 17.

The leaders of transport associations pressed for their demand at a rally of transport owners and workers in the city's court point area on Wednesday night.

Executive President of Sarak Paribahan Federation Shahjahan Khan MP, Vice-president Abdur Rahman Bakht Dudu, central leader Humayun Kabir Mainuddin, Abdul Mannan, Sajib Ali and Saleh ahmed Khashru spoke at the rally.

On the other hand, the people of three upazilas -- Jaintapur, Kanaighat and Gowainghat -- decided to continue boycott of private bus and minibus service.

The decision came from a big rally held at the Jaintapur upazila headquarters on Wednesday afternoon.

The speakers at the rally said the boycott would continue until settlement of disputes over the BRTC service introduced in the region.

They demanded punitive measures against the transport workers who damaged a BRTC bus on Sylhet-Tamabil Road during the Ramadan.

They also called for providing route permit to small passenger carriers like tempo.

Otherwise, the speakers said, tough agitation programme would be launched after 15 days.

Ex-upazila chairman and convener of 17 Parganas Shalish Samannaya Committee Siraj Uddin Ahmed presided over the rally while former MP Imran Ahmed, former upazila chairman Mohammad Abdullah and Upazila BNP Secretary Abdul Malik Manik spoke.

The people of the three upazilas began the boycott of bus on October

13 protesting the activities of the transport owners and workers who once forced the BRTC service to pull out of Sylhet-Tamabil route.

Meanwhile, the Greater Sylhet Ganadabi Parishad, a non-partisan organisation, has demanded more BRTC buses in different routes in Sylhet.