

AL demands UN-supervised probe into militancy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League (AL) yesterday demanded a UN-supervised international probe into militancy and bomb blasts and killings across the country during the BNP-Jamaat-led alliance rule, and said the present government cannot carry out impartial investigation into these incidents since it 'patronised' the militants.

conference at the party's Dhanmondi office in the capital. "Godfathers and patrons of militants can be tracked down and their trial ensured only if an international investigation under the guidance of the United Nations is conducted," said Jalil, also coordinator of the 14-party opposition line-up.

government's misrule and rise of militancy. And for this, the government under pressure from the international bodies arrested the militant kingpins but it is hiding other godfathers of militants, the AL general secretary said.

Rahman, Bangla Bhai to appear before Bagerhat court tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Jama'at ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) chief Abdur Rahman and Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB) chief Siddique Islam alias Bangla Bhai will be produced along with two other militants before a Bagerhat court tomorrow.



Bangladesh Rice Foundation (BRF) Chairman M Syeduzzaman speaks at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. On his right is Ziaul Karim and on his left are Sadiqul Islam Bhuiyan and Mazharul Haq.

MURDER OF PROFESSORS RU teachers form human chain for killers' arrest

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University Teachers Association (Ruta) yesterday formed a human chain in front of the university main gate demanding immediate arrest and punishment to the killers of Prof S Taher Ahmed and Prof Muhammad Yunus.



Sewerage water remains stagnant for months on a road at East Rampura in the city due to lack of proper drainage system, but the authorities have turned a blind eye to the suffering of the local residents and passers-by.

JMB MILITANCY Lord Avebury for transparent probe to find patrons, funders

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Lord Avebury, a member of the British House of Lords, expects Bangladesh government to carry out a transparent investigation to unearth the political masters behind JMB and their funding sources.

ings across the country. The press statement said these matters would be on the agenda at a meeting with the Bangladesh High Commissioner to UK Sabi Uddin Ahmed on March 20. Avebury will chair the meeting on behalf of the Parliamentary Human Rights Group and as chair of International Bangladesh foundation.

can be helpful to Bangladesh in solving these problems," he added. The council on April 4. A reunion centring the council will also be held at the historic Paltan Maidan on that day, a BCL press release said.

Tk 62.61 lakh received for AMCH in Feb

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Ahsania Mission received Tk 62.61 lakh as cash donations and commitments from different benevolent individuals and organisations in February raising the total fund to Tk 25 crore for establishing Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital (AMCH).

WEATHER TODAY. Includes a sun icon and a cloud icon. Text: Fall in temperature likely. UNB, Dhaka.

Table with 4 columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Lists Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

BCL council on April 4

DU CORRESPONDENT

The much-awaited council of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the main opposition Awami League (AL), will be held in the city on April 4.

PROPOSED NATIONAL RICE POLICY Make farming profitable for farmers

Experts urge govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Experts yesterday urged the policy makers to ensure that farming remains remunerative to farmers and the benefits of subsidy reach them. Presenting the proposed National Rice Policy at a press conference at the National Press Club in the city yesterday, Bangladesh Rice Foundation (BRF) Chairman M Syeduzzaman also called for regulating the use of land in the country to protect the fast depleting farmland.

declined to less than 0.2 percent of the agricultural gross domestic product (GDP) in 2002-05 from about 0.3 percent in 1999-2002, the BRF report mentioned. The BRF Chairman recommended allocating more resources to rice research. He emphasised that the farm subsidy benefits reach the farmers and efficiency be increased in applications of irrigation water, fertiliser and pesticides.

Per capita annual rice consumption is surprisingly high in Bangladesh that stands at 164 kg whereas it is 148 kg in Indonesia, 103 kg in Thailand, 91 kg in Sri Lanka and only 73 kg in Malaysia, shows BRF statistics. Farm research expenditure

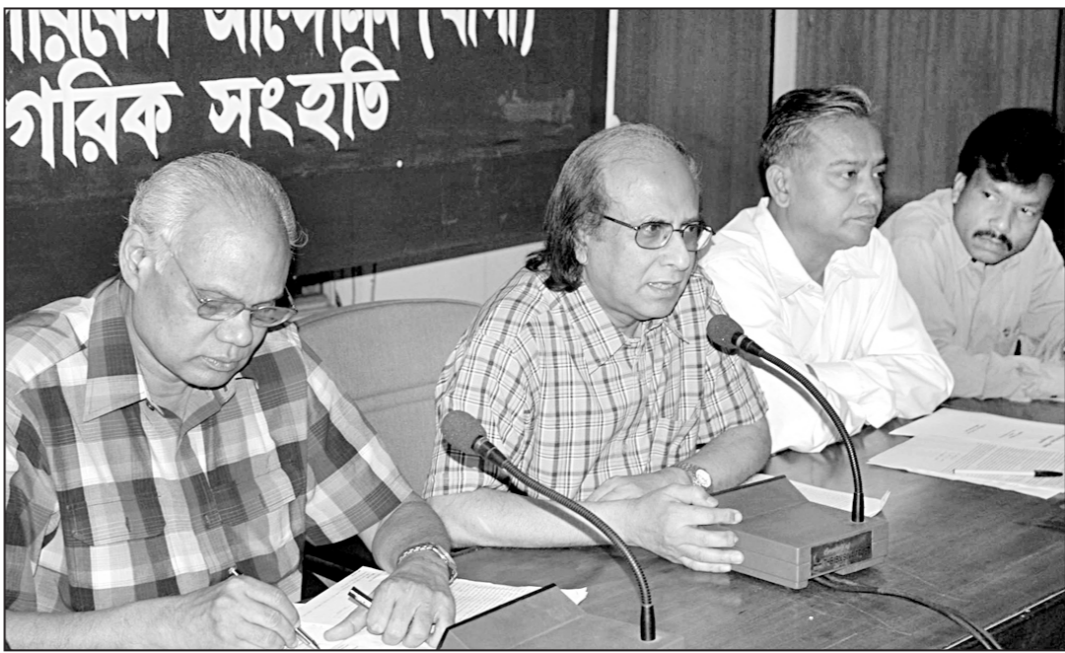
Death anniversary

DU CORRESPONDENT

Today is the fourth death anniversary of Advocate M Abdur Rahim, a senior lawyer of the Supreme Court, says a press release. Relatives, friends, colleagues and well-wishers have been requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Dilruba Rahman Ruma

Today is the first death anniversary of Dilruba Rahman Ruma, wife of renowned filmmaker Badal Rahman, says a press release. Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the doa mahfil and pray for salvation of the departed soul.



Bangladesh Economic Association President Dr Qazi Kholiqzaman Ahmad addresses a seminar on 'Haor Management in the north-eastern part of Bangladesh' at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. On his right is Bapa Executive Member Khandker Bazul Haque and on his left are engineer M Inanul Haque and Bapa Joint Secretary Mihir Biswas. Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) and Nagorik Sanghati jointly organised the seminar.

Film festival begins at JU today

JU CORRESPONDENT

A week-long film festival, organised by Jahangirnagar Students Film Society (JSFS), begins on the university campus today. JU Vice-chancellor Prof Khandaker Mustahidur Rahman will inaugurate the festival as chief guest at a colorful ceremony at the central auditorium at 5:30pm. Mrshedul Islam, president of Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies (BFSS) and a prominent filmmaker, will attend the function as special guest.

6 killed in road crashes

STAR REPORT

At least six people, including two air force men, were killed and 26 others injured in separate road accidents in Tangail, Khulna and Gaibandha yesterday. Our Correspondent from Tangail reports: Two Air Force men were killed and 17 others were injured, two of them critically, in a road accident at Karatipara in Tangail yesterday.

helper of the truck laden with sand. Of the three injured, Shrimp trader Mosharruf Hossain and Mohammad Musa were rushed to the hospital in critical condition. Police recovered a cell phone and Tk 5,000 from the place of occurrence. Our Correspondent from Gaibandha adds: Two people, including one woman, were killed and four others injured seriously when a speeding truck hit a rickshaw van near Gobindaganj pourashava early hours of yesterday. Police said the rickshaw van skidded off the road and fell into a roadside ditch as the truck hit it carrying six passengers on Rangpur-Bogra highway at Boalia Cross Road near Gobindaganj Pourashava.

KHULNA BOMB BLAST 2 Jubo League leaders arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Two Jubo League leaders and another person were arrested in connection with the bomb blast at Daulatpur in the city on Friday night. The arrested were identified as Daulatpur thana Jubo League convener Mizanur Rahman Tarafdar, his brother-in-law Bellal Hossain and Khulna city Jubo League Joint Secretary Delwar Hossain.

Belta's Teacher Training Event begins Mar 20

Bangladesh English Language Teachers' Association (BELTA) will organise a six-day teacher training programme from March 20 to 25 in collaboration with the international Forum, 'Teachers Helping Teachers', says a press release. Nine international ESL specialists will conduct teaching methodology workshops simultaneously at two venues, BIAM and Presidency University in the city. Interested teachers of English from schools, colleges/universities are requested to register by 15 March. Registration fees: Tk 500 BELTA members, Tk 700 Non-members. Limited seats at each venue. Further information could be obtained from Presidency University (8857617-8) or BIAM (9348395/202, /705, 8317352).