



Prof Muzaffer new TIB chair, Hafizuddin treasurer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Muzaffer Ahmad, an eminent educationist and environmentalist, has been elected chairman of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) unanimously, says a press release.

He was elected for a two-year term at the annual general meeting of TIB Board of Trustees recently.

At the meeting, Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, and M Hafizuddin Khan, former adviser to the caretaker government, have also been elected secretary general and treasurer of TIB respectively.

Prof Muzaffer, who earlier acted as the treasurer of TIB, succeeded Samson H Chowdhury as chairman while Mahfuz Anam succeeded Ruhi Ghuznavi as secretary general.

Other trustee board members are Samson H Chowdhury, Prof Khan Sarwar Murshid, Advocate Tawfiq Nawaz, Kazi Aminul Huque, Ruhi Ghuznavi and Sultana Kamal.

Charge framing against 3 JMB men on May 16

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday fixed May 16 for framing charges against three Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) members in a case filed under the Explosive Substances Act with Uttara Police Station on January 5.

Judge Md Momin Ullah of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court set the date after scrutinising the case docket and relevant documents.

The accused are Wahidul Islam, 20, Shafiqul Islam, 30, Hafez Ibrahim, 30.

On March 30, the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) pressed charges

against five JMB members, showing 36 people as prosecution witnesses.

The investigation officer dropped the name of Shakil alias Mollah Omar and Shaon from the charge sheet as Shakil was killed in a gunfight with the law enforcers in Comilla on March 12 while details about Shaon could not be known.

Rab seized arms, explosives, books on jihad and bomb-making materials from the house of Ruhul Amin Bhuiyan at Courtbari in Uttara in the capital on January 5 and arrested Wahidul Islam, Shafiqul Islam and Hafez Ibrahim in this connection.

Protest against move to rename hospital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League (AL) yesterday formed a human-chain in front of the High Court (HC) protesting against the four-party alliance government's move to rename the Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardi Medical College Hospital after Prime Minister Khaleda Zia.

The main opposition AL's Subcommittee for Health and Population Affairs formed the human-chain from 11:00am to 12:00 noon, says an AL press release.

It also said the government's

decision champions corruption, politicisation and nepotism. The release also said the renaming of the medical college as Begum Khaleda Zia Medical College and Suhrawardi Hospital has left the countrymen astonished.

AL Joint Secretary General Obaidul Kader, Health Secretary Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Prof Abdul Mannan MP, Prof MS Akbar MP, General Secretary of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad Dr Iqbal Arsalan joined the human-chain along with others.

May Day observed

UNB, Dhaka

The historic May Day was observed in Bangladesh on Monday, reaffirming solidarity with international labour movement for establishing socioeconomic rights of the workers.

Thousands of workers, carrying red, green and yellow banners, assembled at Purana Paltan, Motijheel, Bangabandhu Avenue, Muktangan and Mirpur in the morning and then took out processions demanding minimum wages on the basis of market prices, safety at workplaces and putting an end to repression.

May Day, also known as International Workers Solidarity Day, commemorates the historic uprising of working people in Chicago, USA, at the height of a prolonged fight for eight-hour workday.

Trade unions, transport and garments associations and political parties also held rallies and brought out processions in the capital and elsewhere in the country.

Labour ministry took out a procession from Motijheel led by LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan while Jatiya Samik League held a big rally at Mirpur, addressed by opposition leader Sheikh Hasina.

Jatiya Party, CPB, Workers Party, Jamaat, Bangladesh Apparel Workers' Federation, National Garment Workers' Federation and other organisations held separate rallies in the city to mark the day.

President Iajuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Opposition Leader Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages, extending their support to the cause of the working class.

The day was a public holiday.



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina addresses a May Day rally at Sher-e-Bangla Stadium at Mirpur in the city on Monday.

STAR: PHOTO

CU Marine deptt students call off siege programme

BDNEWS, Chittagong

Students of the Marine Science Institute of Chittagong University called off their indefinite siege programme yesterday after a fruitful discussion with the university authorities.

The meeting held with Vice-Chancellor Prof M Badiul Alam in the chair. Deans of all faculties, proctor, provosts, teachers of the Marine Science Institute and leaders of the agitating students attended the meeting.

Students of the Marine Science Institute enforced the siege programme backed by Jamaat and BNP on the campus for indefinite period demanding renaming the Institute after Marine Science and Fisheries Institute.



STAR: PHOTO

Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA) President Tipu Munshi speaks at a press conference on 'Electricity and diesel crises in garments sector' at the BGMEA Bhaban in the city yesterday.

Attack on Adv Baset condemned

BDNEWS, Dhaka

The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) yesterday condemned and protested the attack on its former president Advocate Abdul Baset Majumder in Comilla on May 1.

Advocate Baset was reportedly attacked by some ruling party cadres while he was going by a private car to take part in a programme on May Day in Comilla.

The SCBA at an emergency general meeting at its Shaheed Abdul Ahad Hall also demanded immediate arrest of the miscreants and their punishment.