

Removal of CEC demanded

RU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Rajshahi University(RU) unit yesterday urged the president/chief adviser to ensure the removal of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Justice MA Aziz and other Election Commissioners to create an atmosphere suitable for holding a free and fair election.

At a meeting in front of the central library, BCL leaders expressed grave concern over the caretaker chief's "failure" in creating a neutral atmosphere for elections.

They alleged that he is now implanting the blueprint of BNP-Jamaat alliance.

The BCL leaders blamed him for pushing the nation towards uncertainty.

They also urged the people to remain alert against any conspiracy to foil the elections and democracy.

They threatened to launch a tougher movement if the CEC is not removed from his post.

The rally was addressed by BCL RU unit General Secretary Ayeen Uddin, BCL leader Rashidul Islam, Nasir, Ujjal and Habib.

Earlier, they took out a procession that paraded different streets on the campus.

Acid attack on woman in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife suffered serious burn injuries when three people threw acid on her at West Shewrapara in the city's Mirpur last night.

The victim was identified as Mousumi Parveen, 24. She was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with acid burn in the right side of her body.

Mousumi said three people riding a motorbike threw acid on her at around 7:30pm when she was walking down a lane in

Shewrapara area.

She said her husband Azizur Rahman and two in-laws might have thrown acid on her as she filed two cases in 2004 against her husband and five others.

She said her husband was threatening to kill her for filing the cases. She filed the cases as Azizur got married for the second time and he used to torture her.

Mousumi, who hails from Abhoynagar upazila in Jessore, came to Dhaka on Friday to visit one of her friends at Shewrapara.

Priest commits suicide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A priest committed suicide at a temple at Lalbagh in the old part of the city last night.

The priest was identified as Gopal Das Achari, 32, priest of Sarango Daradi Akhra on Haranath Ghosh Road.

Gopal's father Parameshwar Maharaj found his son hanging from the ceiling fan in his room inside the temple compound at around 8:45pm, police said.

Quoting Parameshwar police

said Gopal had been suffering from mental illness for the last few years.

In another incident, Zannati Begum, 20, a garment worker, committed suicide at Ashulia in the outskirts of the city in the early hours of yesterday.

Ashulia police recovered the body at around 3:30am breaking open the door of her room in Bhadail area.

Zannati got married three months ago to a fellow garments worker.

BANSHKHALI CARNAGE 'Bring prime suspect to book'

CU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Hindu Bouddha Christian Oikya Parishad yesterday demanded immediate arrest of and exemplary punishment to Amin Chairman, the alleged mastermind behind the sensational Banshkhali carnage.

Eleven members of a minority family were burnt alive in the carnage that took place in 2003.

Hundreds of Parishad members formed a human chain in front of the Chittagong Press Club in the port city yesterday to mark the third anniversary of the carnage.

Parishad leaders alleged that the police had deliberately submitted a faulty charge sheet in December last year dropping the name of prime suspect Amin Chairman, who is a cousin of a former state minister.

They also criticised Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury, alleging that he tried to occupy the land of cattle shed of Basanti Temple in Anwara upazila.

They also threatened not to participate in the upcoming general election unless the caretaker government ensures that the minorities will not face persecution in the wake of election.

Veteran revolutionary leader Binod Bihari Chowdhury, Prof Ranajit Kumar Dey, advocate Rana Das Gupta, Father Joseph Jibon Gomez and Ranajit Kumar Chowdhury spoke at the programme.

On November 18 in 2003, a gang of criminals killed 11 members of a minority family by setting fire to their house in Banshkhali upazila. The gruesome act of arson drew widespread condemnation both at home and abroad.

JU admission test begins today

BSS, Savar

The admission test of the first year honours courses for 2006-2007 session at Jahangirnagar University (JU) begins today.

The written test of 26 departments under four faculties will continue till December 2.

JU authorities have sought cooperation from all concerned to hold the admission test peacefully.



Authorities have turned a blind eye to the suffering of commuters and pedestrians caused by road digging from Science Laboratory to High Court intersection in the city. The road was dug for installation of underground cables, but no steps have been taken to repair the road on urgent basis.

AL factions clash in Khulna: 12 injured

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

At least 12 people were injured in a clash between two factions of Awami League at Kapilmuni under Paikgachha upazila of Khulna district yesterday.

Two of the injured Mujahid, 24, and Jahangir, 23, were admitted to Kapilmuni private hospital.

According to police and eyewitnesses, the clash began when two separate processions of the factions faced each other at Kapilmuni Bazar.

Supporters of both factions used brickbats during the clash, which has disrupted communication on Khulna to Paikgachha road for one hour.

Police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. Additional security forces were

deployed at Kapilmuni apprehending further violence.

Ctg BMA demands polls schedule

BSS, Chittagong

Chittagong chapter of Bangladesh Chittagong Medical Association (BMA) yesterday formed a human chain demanding dignity of all constitutional posts, immediate announcement of polls schedule and all necessary steps to hold the next general election peacefully.

Apart from local BMA leaders, more than 200 physicians working in various institutions in the port city joined the human chain on the Jamal Khan Road in front of Chittagong Press Club in the morning.

Addressing a rally afterwards, BMA Chittagong unit President Dr Golam Murtaza Harun said people should not be made hostage in a democratic polity by any political party for realising its own demands.

"The constitution must be upheld above all when the solution of confrontational issues related to present crisis comes up on priority basis in the greater interest of the nation and democracy," said Dr Harun.



Winners of a cultural competition organised on the occasion of Citigroup Global Community Day 2006 pose for photograph with the guests at the prize giving ceremony at Banani DOHS playground in the city yesterday.



Citizens' Rights Movement forms a human chain at Shahbagh in the city yesterday demanding resignation of the Chief Election Commissioner and electoral reforms.

BCL MEMO TO CU VC Seat allocation on merit basis demanded

CU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) Chittagong University (CU) unit here yesterday submitted a memorandum to the Vice-Chancellor (VC) demanding implementation of their seven-point demand including merit based allocation of seats in the halls.

The BCL leaders submitted the memorandum through Proctor Prof Didarul Alam Chowdhury.

The demands include allocation of seats in the dormitories on the basis of merits, removal of politically recruited hall provosts and house tutors, keeping the campus free from outsiders, recovery of arms from halls, cottages and residential areas, end to recruiting teachers on political consideration and ensuring co-existence of the student wings of all political parties in all dormitories.

BCL CU unit General Secretary Ershad Hossain, Vice President Abul Mansur Jamshed, Joint Secretary Joyanal Abedin and Organising Secretary Badrul Ahmed Bidyut were present while submitting the memorandum.