



PHOTO: STAR

Children are engrossed in painting pictures at a drawing competition on the National Museum premises in the city yesterday. The National Museum organised the competition to mark the Victory Day.

2 hotel staffs shot in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unknown assailants shot a hotel manager and hotel boy at Ramna in the city yesterday. The injured are hotel Manager Mohammad Babul, 35, and hotel boy Tajul Islam, 31. The incident occurred at Top Khwana Road at around 1:30pm when a gang of four extortionists stormed into the hotel and started spraying bullets indiscriminately, leaving Babul and Tajul bullet-hit on hand and abdomen. Babul was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in a critical condition while Tajul was admitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital. Police suspect that the assailants who had been threatening the hotel owner for tolls for the last couple of days might have carried out the incident.

LDP interviews 1,500 nomination seekers

UNB, Dhaka

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has completed interviewing the nomination seekers although it says the party will not participate in the election under the present caretaker government. The nomination board comprising LDP President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and Executive President Col (ret'd) Oli Ahmed interviewed 1,500 nomination seekers who expressed their interest to contest from 200 constituencies, according to LDP sources. The nomination board completed the interview in three days from December 17. Meanwhile, Oli Ahmed at a function yesterday blamed BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and

President and Chief Adviser to the caretaker government Iajuddin Ahmed for the present political crisis. He demanded that the election be deferred by one or two months and the Election Commission be reformed. "The present condition is not suitable for the people to choose their own government. In such a situation, it will not be possible for the 14-party combine and the like-minded parties to participate in the elections," he said. Former MP of Laxmipur-3 constituency and district BNP general secretary Khairul Enam along with more than 500 BNP activists formally joined the LDP at the function.

Security guard found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday recovered a body of a security guard who went missing on Tuesday night from city's Demra area. The dead was identified as Tariq bin Tawhid, 28. Police recovered the floating body around 10:30am at a pond at Demra ghat. Tawhid, who worked at a house at Banani, went missing from his workplace since his employer's car was hijacked on Tuesday, added the police. A case was filed against Tawhid with Banani Police Station after the car hijack. Police suspect that Tawhid might have had connection with the car robbers who killed him for personal feud. The body was later sent to Sir Salimullah Medical College morgue for autopsy.

DU Alumni Assoc finally gets its permanent office

DU CORRESPONDENT

A reunion of Dhaka University Alumni Association (Duaa) was held to celebrate its permanent office at the newly built Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Building on the campus yesterday. It was organised to mark the allocation of a permanent office for Duaa on the ground floor of the Senate Building. The Duaa did not have any permanent office in its 58 years of journey. DU former vice-chancellor Prof Maniruzzaman Miah, Duaa President Syed Manzur Elahi, General Secretary Rakibuddin Ahmad, The Bangladesh Observer Editor Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Ex-secretary Oliur Rahman, former IGP Abdul Qaiyum, Prof Habibur Rahman Bhuiyan, Nasrin Zaman, Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) Adviser Prof Mustafizur Rahman and TSC Director Alamgir Hossain were present on the occasion. Manzur Elahi said the year 2006 is a milestone for the Duaa as its dream for a permanent office has been materialised.

He said the association is going to take initiatives to collect funds to launch scholarship for university students soon. He said the Duaa will also extend cooperation to university authorities for its infrastructure development. Giving an annual account of its activities including a mega reunion this year, Duaa president said it will accord a reception to Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus. Rakibuddin Ahmad hoped that members of the association would provide necessary contribution to furnish its office. The function was rounded off with a cultural programme.

One dies in rooftop fall

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A shrimp exporter died yesterday morning falling from the rooftop of his three-storied building at Chandmari in the city. The victim, identified as Shafiqul Islam Batu, 40, was proprietor of Dhruvo Fish Ltd at city's Natun Bazar. According to family sources, the accident occurred as he slipped while walking on the rooftop in the morning.



PHOTO: STAR

Journalists who have been awarded for their contribution to human rights and the winners of painting and essay competitions pose with Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassir Husain at a ceremony in the city yesterday marking the 10th National Convention of Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR).

Duta elections today

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) election will be held today to elect the executive council for the year of 2007. Pro-BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami teachers known as 'White Panel' and pro-Awami League teachers known as 'Blue Panel' with left-leaning 'Pink Panel' teachers are contesting the election. Blue Panel's Prof Sharif Ullah Bhuiyan, also the incumbent president of the association, and Prof Anwar Hossain will contest against Prof Sadrul Amin and Prof Sirajul Islam of White Panel for the posts of president and general secretary. Prof ABM Faruque, Prof Maksud Kamal and Prof Ashraf Uddin Chowdhury of Blue Panel are vying

for the posts of vice president, joint secretary and treasurer respectively with White Panel nominees Tazmeri SA Islam, Dr Mamun Ahmed and GM Chowdhury. Ten member candidates of Blue Panel are Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, Prof Mohammad Akhtaruzzaman, Prof Aminur Rashid, Prof Hossain Monsur, Prof Syed Monjurul Islam, Prof Harun-or-Rashid, Prof Sadeka Halim, Prof ASM Mahfuzur Rahman, Dr Zinat Huda and Dr Jorina Akhtar. Ten member candidates of White Panel are Prof Abu Ahmed, Prof Taslima Monsur, Prof Obaidul Haque, Prof Syed Salehin Kadri, Laila Noor, Dr Sukomol Borua, Prof Abul Bashar, Prof Shajahan Mia, Prof Shamsuddin Ahmed and Prof Razia Akhter Banu.

Anti-corruption concert Dec 29

With a view to creating awareness about corruption among the young generation, Transparency International, Bangladesh (TIB) will organise the first ever anti-corruption concert in the country on December 29, says a press release. The concert will be held at Gulshan Youth Club from 2:00pm to 10:00pm. The tickets will be provided free of cost to the youths and the interested people can also collect tickets by calling at 9884811, 8826036 and 0171-1405148, the press release adds. Channel i, Radio Foorti, Radio Today, The Prothom Alo, The Daily Star, Bangla Vision, SAS and others are associated with the organisation of the concert.



PHOTO: STAR

Members of Khelaghar Asar, an organisation for children, take out a colourful procession in the city yesterday marking the conference of the organisation.

BNP workers go on rampage in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A section of BNP workers loyal to former lawmaker Ali Asgar Lobi went on a rampage at Khan A Sabur road in the city yesterday evening, damaging several cars and billboards. The supporters of Lobi faction of Khulna BNP took out a procession demanding that BNP give nomination to Lobi for the forthcoming election from Khulna-2 constituency. Member-secretary of city BNP convening committee Shaharuzzaman Mortuza led the procession. But the supports suddenly went berserk and hurled pieces of bricks at passing vehicles. Later, police brought the situation under control.