

Metropolitan

Dateline Khulna

Arrest of Ershad's associates demanded

From Our Correspondent

KHULNA, Jan 24: An election office was inaugurated on Tuesday at Natunbar WAPDA embankment area in the city. BNP nominated candidate for Khulna 2 constituency, Advocate Shaikh Razzak Ali attended the inaugural function as the chief guest.

General Secretary of Jatiya Party, Shah Moazzem Hossain and withdrawal of cases filed against the JP leaders.

Caretaker govt's resignation demanded

Freedom Party's Khulna district branch Thursday brought out a procession in the Khulna city demanding the resignation of the caretaker government for its failure to maintain neutrality.

The processionists later handed over memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner, Khulna demanding equal opportunity in both electronic and news media for all the political parties irrespective of their belief and stand. The memorandum further demanded immediate recovery of illegal arms for holding a free and fair election.

In a press release issued Tuesday evening the party accused the Acting President for taking side with a certain political party to install them to the power for giving rebirth of an autocratic rule.

The press release demanded immediate repeal of Special Powers Act 1974 and stop harassment of nationalist forces. Freedom Party said that the procession ended with a meeting at the Maharaj Square.

Oath-taking ceremony

The oath-taking ceremony of the newly-elected Executive Committee of Bangladesh Gono Shilpa Sangstha, Khulna Regional Unit was held on Tuesday in the city at its office premises with Mr. Sadhan Sarker in the chair. Mr. Abu Bakar Siddiqi, Vice-President of the Central Committee of the organisation administered the oath.

It was addressed among others, by Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, Prof. Asit Baran Ghosh, Prof. Dipa Bandopadhyaya, Mahmud Alam Khan, Prof. Achinta Kumar Bhoumik and Dr Ganendra Nath Dala.

ODA official arrives today

Mr. Richard Manning, Under Secretary of the British Overseas Development Administration (ODA), arrives in the city today (Friday) to lead his country's delegation at the annual bilateral economic co-operation meeting with the Bangladesh government, an official handout said here Thursday, reports BSS.

The annual bilateral economic co-operation meeting will be held next week in Dhaka.

Call to halt war in Gulf

An all party meeting was held Wednesday at the Shahid Haidis Park with a call to warring nations in the Gulf to halt war and seat for peaceful settlement.

The meeting also called upon the government to control the market price of essentials.

With Mr Abu Muhammad Ferdous in the chair the speakers of the meeting called upon the government to recover all illegal arms and arrest of Ershad's associates for holding a peaceful and fair elections.

The speakers were Mr. H Shafayat Hossain of BKSAL, A K M Shafuluddin of BNP, Mr. Azizur Rahman of UCL, Mr. Azizul Islam of JSD(Inu), Mr. ABM Nurul Alam of BSD (Khaleque) and Mollah Lutfar Rahman of workers party.

Population census at Dahagram

Three officials from the Bureau of Statistics will leave for Dahagram and Angarapota today (Friday) to complete preliminary works for population census in the enclaves, official sources said Thursday, reports UNB.

Country's population census will be held from March 9 to 17.

The officials are expected to return to Dhaka on January 30.

Workshops on child health ends

A series of workshops on child health, mothercare and nutrition concluded Thursday at the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB), reports UNB.



Members of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad took out a procession after attending the seventh national conference of the Parishad in Dhaka on Thursday. The women activists raised slogans for resisting communal forces in Bangladesh, demanding different steps for their welfare and seeking more jobs.

Mahila Parishad confce begins Call to establish democracy

The 7th National conference of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad began at the Engineers' Institute Thursday with a call to establish a democratic society where women will enjoy equal rights and honour, reports UNB.

Chaired by Poet Sulfa Kamal, the conference was inaugurated by Mrs. Selina Akhter, mother of Shaheed Dr.Milon.

Maleka Begum, General Secretary of the organisation, Jahanara Imam, Prof.Khaleida Salauddin, Dr.Kamal Hossain, Jahanara Ali of Washington based organisation "Sanghati", Dr.Nina Mebedeva, chairman of the Soviet Women committee also spoke on the occasion.

A total of 737 delegates from 37 districts attended the conference which started with the hoisting of the National flag, release of pigeons and singing of national anthem. One minute silence was observed to pay respect for the martyrs of the democratic movement.

In her presidential speech, Begum Sulfa Kamal asked all to build a pollution and crime free Bangladesh for a better future of posterity. She said, economic freedom was amust for achieving liberation of women.

The speakers said, though the freedom of women had constitutionally, been guaranteed, but in practice thousands of women were subjected to repression.

Narrating the role of



Rotary District Governor

Mr. L. K. Siddiqi, a former Minister was elected District Governor of Rotary District 328 of Chittagong for 1992-93 in conference held recently.

The petitioner contended that he retired from service on 20. 11. 90 on attaining the age of 57 years and was on leave preparatory to retirement and that also as per his prayer dated 5. 1. 91 the Government terminated his leave entitlement with effect from 1. 1. 1991 vide notification dated 17. 1. 91. He therefore ceased to be in the service of the Republic.



Dr. Konard Th. Hell, Professor of Surgery, University of Basle, Switzerland and consultant for F. Hoffman La-roche, addressing the first international scientific conference of Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons at its auditorium at Mahakhali in city Wednesday.

Plea to treat Pali at par with edn system

Speakers at the biennial conference of Bangladesh Sanskrit and Pali Teachers Association on Thursday called upon the authorities concerned to maintain equality of the traditional education system of 'Pali Tole Chatuspathi' with the general education by modernizing it, reports BSS.

The conference, held at the Dharmarajik Buddhist Monastery here, was presided over by President of the Association Pandit Sree Niranjan Kabyatirtha.

The Director General of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, Prof. Abdur Rashid, was present in the inaugural function as the chief guest while Mahasanganayak Sreemot Bishuddhananda Mahathero attended the function as special guest.

The council session of the conference reconstructed the 26-member executive committee of the Association with Sreemot Shuddhananda Mahathero and Sree Dilip Kumar Das Chowdhury.

Seminar on Fourth Plan today

A seminar on 'Fourth Five Year Plan' will be held today (Friday) at the ICMA auditorium at Nilkhet, reports UNB.

Planning Adviser Rahman Sobhan will be the chief guest at the seminar which will be presided over by Forest and Environment Adviser Kazi Fazlur Rahman.

Allied war against Iraq denounced

At least 3,000 school children marched through streets in a silent anti-war procession and called on the UN to halt the Gulf conflict, reports UNB.

The students, some as young as three years, carried signs that read "Peace, yes, War, no", "World for man, not for demon" and "We want food, education not war."

Sponsored by Bangladesh Chhatra Kallayan Sangstha the peace procession started from Shishu Academy premises.

The children, drawn from 30 schools of the city, then went to the UNICEF office and handed a letter to its Dhaka representative for U.N.Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

UNICEF representative Cole P Dodge later told UNB that he immediately sent the letter by fax to Cuellar.

In the letter the children said, "We support heart and soul any struggle for the liberation of their motherland by the Kuwaitis from the Iraqi aggressive power. But we fully resent the attack on Iraq by a few third countries."

Denouncing the allied war against Iraq the children in their letter said no such air raids came when "Palestine people were killed in numbers mercilessly in refugee camps."

Urging the U.N. for steps to end the war the children said all the disputes in the region should be resolved through an international peace conference under U.N. supervision.

They said the "most unwanted war of the time" has posed "most omnipotent

threat to the growing generation of all countries, specially of the poor nations like Bangladesh".

The UNICEF officials, meanwhile, said its Dhaka office is functioning normally.

They also denied a local press report that anti-U.S. demonstrators attacked the house of UNICEF representative in Dhaka.

They said UNICEF has geared up its activity in the Gulf region sending emergency supplies to the Jordan-Iraq border to assist the refugees fleeing the war.

JU teachers, students

Another report adds: Teachers, students and officials of Jahangirnagar University brought out a peace procession on the campus Thursday morning to demand immediate end to the Gulf war.

Vice Chancellor Prof.Kazi Saleh Ahmed led the procession organised by Jahangirnagar University Central Students Union (JUCSU).

JUCSU Social Welfare Secretary Nuruzaman Mallik, Jahangirnagar University Teachers' Association President Dr.Enamul Huq and Secretary Dr.Alauddin Ahmed and the VC spoke at the meeting.

The speakers called for building up world conscience against the bloody war in the Gulf.

Bangladeshis in Saudi Arabia safe

All Bangladesh Nationals in the Gulf including the troops in the Saudi Arabia are safe, a Foreign Office spokesman said on Thursday, reports BSS.

Responding to queries by newspapers on about the security of Bangladesh nationals in the wake of reports that Iraq had launched attacks along the Saudi Border, the spokesman said Bangladesh troops were well inside Saudi territory.

There was no harm to our people and troops even if the reports were true, the spokesman said.

When newsmen insisted on the latest reports on the safety of Bangladesh troops in Saudi Arabia particularly because words had already gone round here that some Bangladeshis might have been affected by the Iraqi attack, the spokesman contacted the Bangladesh Ambassador in Riyadh and confirmed his earlier information about their safety.

DU Degree exams begin Feb 5

The degree pass and subsidiary examinations under Dhaka University will commence on February 5 as scheduled earlier, reports UNB.

This was decided at a meeting of the heads of institutions under Dhaka University under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Moniruzzaman Miah Wednesday, says a DU press release.

The meeting, however, decided to hold the examinations from 10 a.m. everyday instead if 9 a.m. fixed earlier.

HSC exams at Riyadh postponed

In view of the war in the Gulf region, H.S.C compartmental examination, 1990 scheduled to be held on January 31, at Riyadh has been postponed, an official handout, said in Dhaka Wednesday, reports BSS.

Stranded Pakistanis

The 8th International Annual Conference of Stranded Pakistanis General Repatriation Committee (SPGRC) scheduled for January 27 here has been postponed in view of Gulf war, reports UNB.

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