

Irregular students: barred from race Hunt for DUCSU polls candidates

By Nazmul Ashraf

Some prospective candidates of different student organisations may not be able to contest the July 31 DUCSU and hall union elections since the DU authorities banned participation of irregular students in the election from this year.

A number of would-be candidates, chosen by their respective organisations were learnt to be pursuing the DU Vice-Chancellor to withdraw the ban.

Meanwhile, major student organisations including the pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Awami League-backed Chhatra League (S-A) were pressing for withdrawal of the ban. They had a long discussion with the Vice-Chancellor and other high officials of the university at a meeting of the DU Education Atmosphere Council (DUEAC) Monday. But the meeting ended without any result.

In the previous years including 1990, most of the candidates nominated by the student organisations for the DUCSU and hall unions polls were irregular students. Passed out several years back, the aged student leaders used to contest the polls after re-admission to some diploma courses under certain departments including the library science. After abolition of diploma courses from certain departments, such leaders got enrolled in some institutions under the university. Leading candidates in the 1990 polls were enrolled in such institutes as the Institute of Food and Nutrition.

A Syndicate meeting of the university held on June 17, 1991 had banned participation of the irregular students through amending the constitution of the DUCSU and hall unions.

The amendment was made following a proposal by the DU Teachers Association.

The amendment to the constitution, says: "now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Article 16 of the DUCSU Constitution read with Article 24 (1) of the DU Order, 1973 it is hereby provided that the provisions of Article 4 of the DUCSU Constitution shall remain suspended and inoperative for the purposes of the DUCSU and hall union elections with effect from the election of 1990-91 and only the following categories of students/examinees shall be deemed to be qualified for voters for the said elections namely—

1) All regular and irregular students of degree (hons), preliminary, masters degree, degree pass in industrial arts,

BFA, diploma and higher diploma courses of the university and the senior certificate course students of ISRT who have paid their dues including the union fees and athletic fees as per rules of the university, provided that no student shall be re-admitted in a course which has since been discontinued and the prescribed time for appearing at the examination of which on payment of retention fees is also over;

2) All regular and irregular examinees of degree (hons), degree pass and industrial arts and BFA, preliminary, final masters degree, diploma and higher diploma courses who have paid their university dues of retention fees along with union fees and athletic fees, as the case may be, as per rules of the university, till the date of publication of their results;

3) All students of pre-degree BFA, MPhil and PhD courses shall be treated as voters but shall not be eligible to be candidates in the elections. These amendments shall come into effect immediately for the purposes of the DUCSU and hall union elections and Article 4 of the DUCSU Constitution and Article 14 to 16 of the hall union constitutions shall be deemed to have been amended."

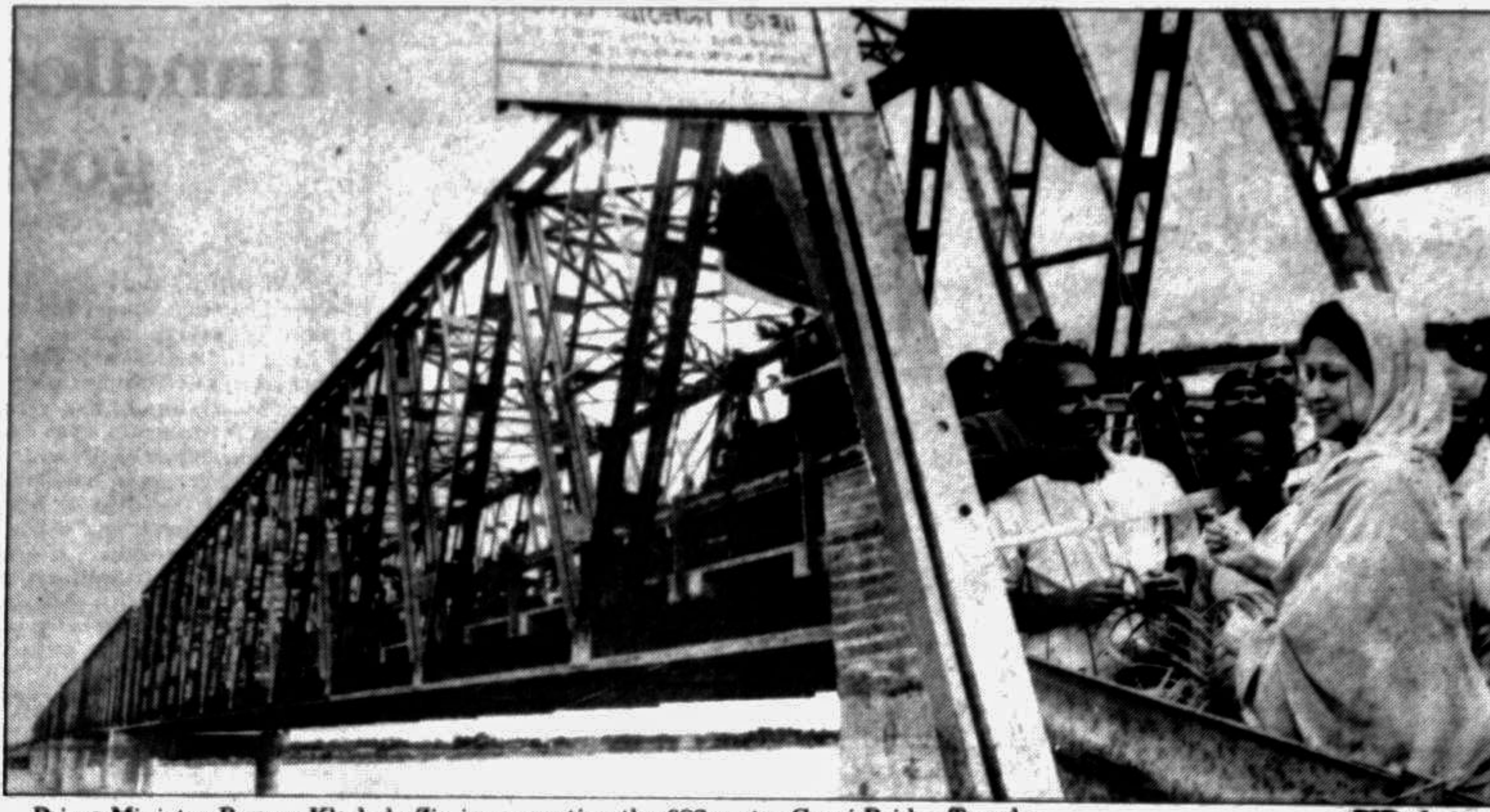
Garments

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Import costs, lost exports and other pressures on the country's balance of payments following the Gulf crisis.

Besides the export quotas, issues about procedural problems of exports of frozen food, garments and other items to the USA figured in the discussions between the members of Metropolitan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and the visiting South Asian Affairs Director of the US Department of Commerce, Richard D Harding, at a meeting at the MCCI.

The US official reiterated continued support of Washington to help promote Bangladesh's exports to the USA. "Bangladesh has excellent prospects for increasing exports to the USA", he said while assuring the MCCI representatives of all possible support by the US Commerce Department to resolve any procedural problems in exports to the USA.

Richard Harding stressed on balancing the trade between the two countries in "the spirit of Uruguay Round of GATT Negotiations". He proposed that Bangladesh should consider signing the 'subsidy agreement finalised in the Tokyo Round of GATT discussions.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia inaugurating the 622-metre Gorai Bridge Tuesday. —PID photo

Gorai Bridge opened

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The organisations involved in the construction of the bridge were present in the function.

Begum Zia said the bridge had contributed significantly to the development of communication system in the western region.

Begum Zia underscored the need for bringing about qualitative changes in the communication system through proper utilisation of money and application of modern technology.

She called upon all concerned to put in their tireless efforts in setting up communication infrastructure and keeping communication system safe and accident free.

The Prime Minister said bridges would be constructed in every important place and in phases where at present passengers and transports are carried by ferries.

Termining the construction of the bridge as a milestone in the communication sector, Begum Zia thanked the British government for its assistance in the construction. She said the bridge will remain as an embodiment of friendship between Bangladesh and the United Kingdom.

Irrigation Minister Majudul Huq said the present government wanted to develop the

remote areas of the country as growth centres through expanding communication network.

Communication Minister Qil Ahmed said the government had taken the task to prepare a road master plan for expansion of communication network. He said about two crore people would be directly benefited by the bridge.

He said the present government was determined to construct the Jamuna multi-purpose bridge. He pointed out that at present construction of 25 small and medium bridges is in progress under the British-Bangladesh economic cooperation.

The Acting British High Commissioner said the Gorai bridge symbolises the deep and close friendship which had long existed between the two countries and it is visible manifestation of Britain's commitment to the economic development of Bangladesh.

Applauding the actions of the Prime Minister taken in recent months, he said in the long run, only a democratically elected government has the authority and commitment to deliver sustainable economic progress.

The Acting High Commissioner said British government's attitude to bi-

lateral aid is increasingly being shaped by its good government policy. He said by good government we mean competent government and institutions that respect democratic values and are accountable to the people, sound economic and social policies that encourage private sector and individual enterprise and provide the means to tackle poverty illiteracy and disease and respect to human rights and the rule of law. He congratulated the Prime Minister for making it clear that her administration subscribes to the same views.

Earlier Begum Zia formally inaugurated the bridge by cutting ribbons, she offered munnajat. The Prime Minister crossed the bridge by car.

The 622 metre long and 9 metre wide bridge with seven spans was constructed at a cost of Taka 23.32 crore in local currency and 1.825 (one point 825) million pound sterling in foreign exchange. The Bangladesh government had spent Taka 1.50 crore of the local currency. The rest of the fund was provided by British Overseas Development Assistance Fund.

Located at 42 km point of Faridpur-Magura road, the bridge has been completed over three years and a half.

Ministers' absence

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AL member Asaduzzaman and BNP member Abdul Matin tried to argue that the dropping of the item from the agenda amounted to the curtailing of their privilege.

The Speaker requested them to follow the Rules of Procedure and moved to the first item of the day—the moving of a call attention by AL member Mosharraf Hossain.

When the AL MP read out his call attention notice relating to proper utilization of white clay of Mymensingh, it appeared that the State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources was not present in the House to make a statement.

Barrister Nazmul Huda rose requesting the Speaker to keep the matter pending and allow the State Minister for Energy to make a statement after an hour, because the latter would come to the House by 5.30 p.m.

The Speaker complied and moved to the next item in the orders of the day—the moving of the referendum bill, 1991.

Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury, the member in charge of the bill, was also not present in the House at the time and Barrister Nazmul Huda rose for a second time explaining that Dr Chowdhury had accompanied the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to inaugurate a railway bridge outside Dhaka.

He assured that Dr Chowdhury would come to the House after the Magreb recess.

About half a dozen opposition MPs stood up to accuse the government of neglecting parliament. ASM Firoze and Rahmat Ali of the AL spoke criticising the ministers for their absence from the House.

In reply, Mujibur Rahman, State Minister for Finance said that the Opposition MPs demanded construction of roads and bridges, but criticised the government if ministers went to inaugurate those.

He said some Opposition MPs criticised Finance and Planning Minister Saifur Rahman for his tour abroad even though they knew that he himself (Mujibur Rahman) was taking note of their discussions on the budget.

The Speaker breathed a sigh of relief as a handful of cabinet ministers including Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury entered the House before the conclusion of Mujibur Rahman's statement.

Extended meet today

Implementation of Wage Board award demanded

Three federations of the journalists, press workers and working employees of the newspapers and news agencies and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) Tuesday demanded immediate full implementation of the Fourth Wage Board award and payment of all arrears, reports BSS.

In a joint statement, President and Secretary General Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) Reasuddin Ahmed and Amanullah Kabir, President and General Secretary of DUJ Zahirul Haq and Ruhul Amin Gazi, President and Secretary General of the Bangladesh Press Workers Federation Mosharraf Hossain and Bazur Rahman and President and Secretary General respectively of Bangladesh Newspapers Employees Federation Jahangir Kabir and Mir Mozammel Hossain said that the remuneration of all journalists and employees are determined by the legally constituted Wage Board award.

But after formulation of the Fourth Wage Board award Bangladesh Sangbadpatri Parishad had been engaging in various intrigues and procrastination to deprive them of their minimum wages.

After the final rejection of the writ petition of Bangladesh Sangbadpatri Parishad by the Full Bench of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court there is no alternative to implementing the Wage Board in all newspapers and news agencies of the country, the leaders cautioned.

They reiterated their demand for immediate implementation of the Wage Board award to ensure peace and stability in the newspaper industry and no delay in implementing the Wage Board under any pretext would be tolerated in future.

An extended meeting of the three federations and DUJ will be held at the National Press Club at 11 am today. Members of the all units under the three federations and DUJ have been asked to attend the meeting.

CU teachers

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authority, constituting the commission of enquiry, is not bound either to accept the report or to publish. Justice Shahabuddin told the delegation. He also said the report was intended to find out certain facts relating to the matter of enquiry.

The Acting President expressed his concern at the situation in which the university remained closed for the last seven months to the great detriment of the students and teachers. He said it was revealed in the report of enquiry as well as an admitted fact that of the demand for resignation of the Vice Chancellor, the teachers were sharply divided which ultimately resulted in the clash between two groups of students on December 22 last year.

Justice Shahabuddin disapproved of the actions of both the groups of teachers who, he said, are the respected scholars. He found that it was primarily a matter of rivalry between the two groups of teachers.

The Acting President urged both the groups of teachers to settle their differences amicably, resume classes immediately and thereby restore normalcy on the campus.

He said after 15 days of normal work in the university he would look into the matter to find out a permanent solution to the problem.

After prolonged discussions, both the groups of teachers present in the meeting promised to follow the advice of the Acting President and resume classes from tomorrow.

Education Minister Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury was among others present.

The Midnight File

Jordan close to new, moderate govt

AMMAN, July 16 : Jordan's Parliament was on the brink Tuesday of approving a new, moderate government after the nation's largest Muslim fundamentalist party opposed it. Thirty-nine members of the 80-man Chamber of Deputies had approved Prime Minister Taher Masmri's Cabinet by late Tuesday afternoon, when the lower Chamber of Parliament adjourned for the day, reports AP.

Chances of return to Clark 'remote'

WASHINGTON, July 16 : Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said Tuesday he believes that continued US use of Clark Air Base in the Philippines, which has been severely damaged by volcanic eruptions, is "just not a viable prospect." It was the most gloom assessment yet offered by the Defense Secretary, who is expected to present his final decision on the matter within the next few days, reports AP.

30 injured

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Union and Marufa Mahbub Tuhiin the newly elected Assistant General Secretary of the Women College students union were admitted to Nanyangyang hospital.

The election to the Women's College Students Union was held Monday.

The BNP backed JCD candidates won in nine posts including those of the VP and the Awami League backed BCL(S-A) candidates in five posts including those of the General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary.

Witnesses said, the BCL (S-A) workers brought out a procession this morning protesting alleged rigging in the polls. While the procession reached near the office of the district commissioner, where a BCL (S-A) memorandum was scheduled to be submitted, the JCD workers allegedly attacked the BCL (S-A) processions at 10.30 am.

Manhunt

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investigating the murder alerting all police stations and giving a full description of Rafique.

Meanwhile after post mortem, the bodies of Moslemuddin, Zian and Marjina were handed over to Golam Mustafa Tuesday.

All the three victims of the sensational murder belonged to the family of Mustafa.

The bodies were taken to Gaibandha, the home district of the deceased, for burial.

Police could not ascertain the motive behind the gruesome murder. But circumstantial evidence suggested that it was a cold blooded murder.

Rafiqul Islam, a friend of Moslem, has been suspected of being the killer of these three and was seen escaping with a sharp knife in his hand.

Police searched the place where the suspected killer Rafique lived.

It was a messhouse at Block E, Road No. 6, House No 7 of Section A in Mirpur where police found Rafique's roommate Md. Maznu Shikder.

Maznu during interrogation said that Rafique did not return to the 'mess' since the night before the murder.

Rafique's father lives in a slum at 5, Purabasti of Kalyanpur.

Sources in the Detective Branch of police said that they were considering a number of options as probable motives for the murder.

Bitterness arising out of giving money to Golam Mustafa, who has a manpower business, for a job in Saudi Arabia may have led to the murder. While rivalry arising out of a love affair may have also been the cause.

The DB is sure that the murder was committed single handed.

DB sources said that a picture and a passport of Rafique were found in the house of Golam Mustafa.

SSMC gunbattle

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said that 'Ehteshamul Huq Tuhiin, convener of the SSMC unit of JCD, who received bullet injuries on his forehead was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital while six others were admitted to the SSMCH. The rest received first aid in the SSMCH and nearby clinics. The clashes ensued when the Awami League backed BCL activists allegedly entered the Main Hostel at Nolgola early in the morning under cover of gunfire and started ransacking the rooms. The BNP backed JCD activists retaliated after allegedly bringing in "reinforcements", sources said.

More than hundred shots of gunfire and cracker blast were heard during the clash which continued for several hours till about noon.

Tuesday's clashes were in sequel to another clash last Saturday between the two groups fighting over the occupation of some Hostel rooms, campus sources said.

Belongings including expensive medical text books were looted during Tuesday's clash.

In a press release, the JCD unit of SSMC blamed the BCL activists for the incidents. Slatting the incidents they demanded punishment for those responsible for the incidents.

BCCI bonds

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chased from the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) limited branches in Bangladesh upto July 5, 1991, may encash them through the Argani Bank main branch, Motijheel Commercial Area, Dhaka.

The holders of these instruments have been advised to present them at the main branch of the Agrani Bank from July 22, 1991.

The press release said the Agrani Bank will accept the instruments against proper receipt and after due scrutiny as per rules and will pay the due amounts to the holders as early as possible.

Shafiullah

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Bangladesh mission in London in 1972 when the British government accorded recognition to liberated Bangladesh. He was also acting as head of the unofficial Bangladesh mission there during the liberation struggle.

Before taking over his new assignment, Karim had been Ambassador to Iran, the Soviet Union, China and Iraq and High Commissioner to Sri Lanka.

CU reopens

From Page 1 Col. 5

gramme of the Teachers Association, aimed at the removal of the incumbent Vice Chancellor, paralysed the functioning of the university.

No class was held today as the campus was tense. Both the rival groups of students brought out processions on the campus. The students belonging to Chhatra Shibir entered the campus earlier than other students and tried to occupy the halls, sources said.

The supporters of the All-Party Students Unity (APSU) of the university entered the campus in a procession and chanted slogans protesting the presence of alleged terrorists of Chhatra Shibir who has been demanding removal of the Vice-Chancellor and implementation of the Inquiry Commission report.

Campus sources said most teachers were absent today.

The presence of students on the campus also was very thin. Six residential halls also reopened today, but only 10 per cent students came back to their halls.

The police and BDR were deployed in and around the campus.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) brought out a procession on the campus and held a brief rally demanding immediate arrest of the killers of student leader Faruquzzaman Faruque and formation of a fresh inquiry commission for probing all incidents of the university.

Fairfax

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terrogation' as it would be an alleged violation of human rights conditions.

When contacted, Shamsul Morshed Khan of the Foreign Ministry said that it would not be wise to write anything on the Fairfax issue as it might create unnecessary problems for the country.

The Fairfax team had reportedly been brought here by Dr Kamal Hossain. But the contract for engaging it was signed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

If the Fairfax team establishes the prima facie evidences about the transfer for money it will submit a report to the Foreign Ministry.

The Foreign Ministry may refer the cases to Attorney General Aminul Haque for consultation and recovery of the money.

Meanwhile, the Home Ministry is actively considering reviving the case against Ershad and three other persons for alleged involvement in the killing of Selim and Delwar in February 1983 under the wheels of a police truck.

The case was lodged by the brother of Selim, Hafizur Rahman Bachchu with the Ramna Thana.

Besides, the case of the former President of the Chhatra Union Mostafizur Rahman Babul against Ershad for illegally assuming power is also being considered by the Home Ministry.



My heart dances like a peacock it dances Rabirag, a cultural organisation, celebrating advent of monsoon in the city yesterday. —Star photo

Walkout

From Page 1 Col. 3
President Ziaur Rahman who had 'captured' power.

Nazmul Huda, State Minister for Food, protested Salahuddin Yusuf's statement saying Zia had not captured power, rather he was installed in power by the Armed Forces and the people.

Sudhansu Sekhar Halder of AL, Suranjit Sengupta of Ganatantri Party and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad sought to speak. The Speaker repeatedly told them that at such a stage of a bill only one member could speak. They demanded that the bill should not be introduced, because a number of Constitution amendment bills, now being scrutinised by the Select Committee, stood for omitting the clause relating to holding of a referendum.

When the Speaker put the matter to a vote, Abdus Samad Azad led the walkout. The bill was then introduced by a voice vote.

The bill provides that the Election Commission will announce the date of referendum by a gazette notification within seven days of receipt of an order from the President so that the referendum can be held within 40 days of such a notification.

It seeks to empower the Election Commission to appoint a returning officer and as many assistant returning officers, presiding officers and polling officers as may be necessary to conduct the referendum. The bill also outlines in detail the procedures to be followed to ensure proper casting and counting of votes.

After walkout Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad briefing newsmen said the walkout was not against the introduction of the bill but

to protest the role of the Speaker who did not allow them to speak on the bill.

Awami League leader Tofael Ahmed said, they staged the walkout because the bill for holding a referendum was tabled by avoiding the Select Committee, which is now scrutinising the Constitutions amendment bills.

When asked, Ganatantri Party leader Suranjit Sengupta said the Parliament could not be sovereign by keeping the Article 142(1) in tact. He said the Article was incorporated in the Constitution during martial law period. He said there would be no necessity of holding a referendum since the Joint Declaration of the three alliances was supported by all political parties.

On the other hand, Awami League leader Sudanshu Shekhar Halder said the provision which was incorporated in the Constitution with the support of two-third members of parliament could be repealed by two-third majority.

However, he said, even in case of holding a referendum there was no necessity of bringing a bill.

The Election Commission which (is) responsible for holding election can formulate necessary rules to hold the referendum," he added.

BNP leader Col (Retd) Akbar Hossain said, it was a pressure from the opposition to repeal Article 142(1) which protects eight clauses of the Constitution. He said BNP could not accept it because it would pave the way to another 'parliamentary coup' like the one that happened through the Fourth Amendment, when the fundamentals of the Constitution had been changed keeping the people in total darkness.

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