

World Anti-Racism Day today

The International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be observed in Bangladesh today (Saturday) as elsewhere in the world, reports UNB.

This year's observance of the day carries special significance as the anti-apartheid struggle is now heading for victory in the backdrop of Wednesday's referendum in South Africa in favour of ending the White rule.

Bangladesh has always been in the frontline in the world-wide struggle to unchain the millions of people from racial

discrimination and persecution. Bangladesh is now facing one of the world's major refugee problems for unabated influx of Myanmar Muslims who fell prey to racial and religious discrimination in their homeland.

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the International Day in 1966 commemorating a 1960 demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa against the country's apartheid laws.

Police shot dead 69 demonstrators, including eight women and 10 children and wounded 180 others.

In its resolution the UN General Assembly called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

The day also marks the beginning of the week of solidarity with the peoples struggling against racism and racial discrimination (21-27 March).

United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) in cooperation with the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) will hold a symposium in the centre premises at 4.30 pm on the day.

Acting Foreign Secretary Farooq Sobhan will attend the symposium as chief guest.

UNDP resident representative Charles Larimont will be the guest speaker. Prof M Inna Ali will preside over the function.

Khaleda's message

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia has reaffirmed Bangladesh's unequivocal opposition to racism of all kinds, UNB reports.

"I, on behalf of the people and government of Bangladesh, wish to reaffirm our unequivocal opposition to and rejection of racism and racial discrimination in all its forms..." Begum Zia said in a message, sent from New York Friday, on the eve of 32nd anniversary of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The Prime Minister was particularly critical of apartheid, "the most abhorrent institutionalised manifestation of racial discrimination, and asserted support to peaceful efforts of the people of South Africa to establish a united, non-racial and democratic society."



Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina addressing the teachers at an iftar party at her Minto Road residence Friday.

— Star photo

GCO mourns Pitu's death today

By DU Correspondent

The Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO) will observe mourning day throughout the country today (Saturday) to protest the killing of Rajshahi University student Yasser Arafat Pitu, shot dead on the RU campus Tuesday last.

As part of its Dhaka University programme the GCO, a left leaning eight-party students alliance, will hold a rally in front of the Aparajeo Bangla of the university and will bring out a mourning procession to observe the day.

Menon defends socialism

CHITTAGONG, Mar 20: Bangladesh Workers Party General Secretary Rashed Khan Menon MP today defended socialism, saying market economy could not ensure welfare of the working class, rather it would help the rich to become richer, reports BSS.

Addressing a party workers conference at the Buddhist Foundation Auditorium here, he called upon his party workers to work for a new democratic order to fight against autocracy fundamentalism and exploitation. Our objective is to lessen the wide gap between the rich and the poor, he said.

Menon also explained the organisational and political matters of Oikya Congress of Workers' Party, Communist League and Sanyabadi Dal.

Discussion on "Rohingya problem and our sovereignty"

'Myanmar makes silent aggression on Bangladesh territory'

Speakers at a discussion Friday urged the government to take up the Rohingya problem in the United Nations immediately to help solve the issue, reports BSS.

Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury was the chief guest at the discussion on "Rohingya problem and our sovereignty," held at Dhaka District Sports Association auditorium. Journalist Gias Kamal Chowdhury, the Daily Millet editor Chowdhury Mohammad Faruq, intellectual M.A. Muhaimin and poet Faruq Mahmud spoke on the occasion. Jatiya Matamat Kendra Chairman A K M Badrodoza

presided. Justice Chowdhury said the Myanmar military government violated human rights. Their atrocities on the Rohingya Muslims were part of a plan to kill or send them to Bangladesh.

He said Bangladesh should go to the United Nations for expulsion of Myanmar from the UN as the country violated the international human rights and made a silent aggression on the territory of Bangladesh by pushing more than two lakh Rohingyas.

Justice Chowdhury urged the government to raise the issue in the UN instead of the

present quiet diplomacy. Gias Kamal Chowdhury said the Myanmar Junta deserved a good lesson for their atrocities. He said the Rohingyas were the citizens of Arakan for several hundreds of years while the Maghs were the outsiders. He stressed the need for solving the Rohingya issue with courage and firmness.

Muhatmen urged the people of Bangladesh to face untidely the Rohingya problem. He asked the politicians and intellectuals to divert their attention to the Rohingya issue rather than to less important national issues.

Plea to end campus terrorism

By Staff Correspondent

Eminent educationists and prominent citizens of the country Thursday issued a statement protesting terrorism in the university campuses and urged the government to arrest and punish the terrorists irrespective of their party affiliations.

The intellectuals suggested that the university authorities must effectively discharge their responsibilities to restore discipline in the campus, while all students organisations should expel all terrorists from their respective organisations.

They urged all teachers, guardians and citizens to come forward untidely to end terrorism without showing any indulgence towards terrorists.

The statement said these acts of violence were against the basic norms of democracy. The signatories to the statement are Dr Kamal Hossain, Shahed Ali, Murtoza Khan, Professor Majharul Islam, Azizur Rahman Mallick, Moinul Hossain, Fazlul Halim, Amirul Islam, A Salam Talukdar, Shamsur Rahman, Zahurul Islam, Hashem Khan, Syed Ishtique Ahmed, D C Bhattacharya, Shamsul Huq Chowdhury, Dr Zahurul Haq, Dr A Majed and others.

Obituary

Iqbal Hussain Chowdhury, a pioneer in the shipping business died in Chittagong Friday afternoon at his Chatteswari Road residence. He was 56, reports BSS.

Third son of late Saadat Hussain Chowdhury of Ramnagar Chowdhury Bari of Daganbhuya in Feni, the deceased did his Masters in Economics from Dhaka University and MBA from Canada.

CHITTAGONG, Mar 20: Sabitri Devi, mother of Bangladesh Awami League Presidium Member Prof Pulin Dey died of old age complication at her grand-daughter's Ilem Sen Lane residence here Thursday morning. She was 107, reports BSS.

She left behind her two sons, three daughters and a number of grand children to mourn her death.

Smuggled goods seized from night coaches

The Taskforce engaged in the anti-smuggling drive seized a sizeable quantity of smuggled goods from the night coaches at the Dhaka-Archa Highway at Savar between 1 am to 6 am Friday morning, according to official sources, reports BSS.

The Taskforce comprising members of Dhaka Excise Duty and VAT Collectorate, Directorate of Intelligence of Customs, and Dhaka district police and BDR, checked more than 100 night coaches coming from Satkhira, Khulna, Hill, Chapai Nawabganj, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Benapole and Ishurdi and seized these goods.

The goods include 1000 pieces of sarees, and substantial quantity of three piece clothes, bicycles, fencidil syrup, toys and more than forty maunds of grapes.

These goods had been smuggled into the country through the border, said the sources.

BDR qirat competition concludes

The final of inter sector qirat and azan competition of Bangladesh Rifles was held at the Peelkhana central mosque Friday afternoon, reports BSS.

A total of 37 competitors from 13 sectors of BDR took part in the three-day competition organised by the Static Signal Sector.

Md Abdul Hai, honorary Lance Naik of Rangpur Sector, stood first in the qirat competition. Qari Ahmed Ali, honorary Lance Naik of Dhaka Sector and Sipahi Mominul Islam of Comilla Sector, obtained second and third position respectively.

Md Abdul Hai, honorary Lance Naik of Rangpur Sector, Qari Ahmed Ali, honorary Lance Naik of Dhaka Sector and Sipahi Monjel Hossain of Rajshahi Sector, got first, second and third position respectively in the azan competition.

Maj Gen Mohammad Abdul Latif PSC, Director General, Bangladesh Rifles, distributed prizes.

Two city units of Mahila Dal formed

State Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Begum Sarwari Rahman Friday asked the members of the Jatyatabadi Mahila Dal to be active for implementing 19-point programme of BNP to achieve national progress, reports BSS.

She was addressing a function on the occasion of the formation of Dhanmondi and Mohammadpur thana Committees of Jatyatabadi Mahila Dal, women wing of the ruling BNP, at its central office.

Army Azan, Qirat meet Prize distributed

Prize distribution ceremony of the annual inter-area Qirat and Azan competition of the Bangladesh Army was held at the Garrison Mosque, Dhaka Cantonment, after the Jumma prayers Friday, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

Chief of Army Staff Lt General Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan distributed prizes among the winners.

Earlier, the Dhaka Signals team won the title of the two-day competition which concluded on Wednesday. They obtained 787 points out of a total of 1200 points while the Savar Area team became runners-up with 764 points.

A total of 44 competitors drawn from 11 teams took part in Qirat (recitation of verses from the holy Quran) and Azan (call for prayers) competitions, the press release said. In Qirat, Sepoy Md Mizanur Rahman of the Savar Area team stood first, followed by Signalmn Md Nazmul Ahsan of the Dhaka Signals team who became second.

In Azan, Lance Naik Md Altaf Hossain of the Dhaka Signals team finished first while Sapper Md Abdul Altam Khan of the Dhaka Engineers team was second.

HERE and THERE

Lions Foundation

Bangladesh Lions Foundation organised a seminar on 'Primary care and prevention of the blindness caused by malnutrition' Friday at 9.30 am at the auditorium of the Lions Eye Hospital at Agargaon.

Prof AQM Badrodoza Chowdhury, Deputy Leader in the Parliament attended the function as chief guest. Presided over by Hosneara Khan it was addressed among others by Towhidur Rahman, Humayun Jahir and the eye specialists of National Council of Nutrition.

Demand for Wages

Bangladesh Workers Federation, Bangladesh Shipping, Transport and Metal Workers Federation, Steel and Engineering Corporation Workers Federation and Bangladesh Machine Tools Factory Sramik League in a joint statement demanded immediate payment of the salaries of 1500 workers of the Machine Tools Factory.

The statement issued Friday criticised the management of the factory for not paying the salaries of February to the workers and also demanded festival bonus for them before the Eid-ul-Fitr.

Jatiya Sramik Jote

Jatiya Sramik Jote in a statement Friday expressed its grievance for irregularities in supplying water and gas in the Hajjarbag area.

The statement alleged that the tannery industries of the area were being affected by it.

Rickshaw Malik-Chalok Confederation

An urgent meeting of the Dhaka Rickshaw Malik-Chalok Confederation at its Newmarket office Thursday demanded that the Dhaka City Corporation should lower the rickshaw puller's licence fee.

The meeting, chaired by Federation Chairman Abdul Mannan Khan, was addressed by confederation General Secretary Dewan Abus Selim, M A Kashem, Sultan Puri, Nabab Gani, Md Hasan, Abdul Malek, Arabi, Md Anis Khan, and Babul.

Khelaghar Asar

A meeting of the Central Committee of Khelaghar Asar Friday expressed its indignation at the growing what it said repression on children and kidnapping to take steps to curb it.

The meeting, chaired by the Chairman of the Central Khelaghar Asar Prof Ali Ashgar, called for united resistance against 'communal forces.'

Dr Idris Ali, Prof Mafuza Khanam, Ziauddin Ahmed and Laila Hossain were among others who spoke on the occasion.

Shishu Academy

Several hundred children below 10 Friday participated in a painting competition in the Shishu Academy premises.

Health Education Bureau and Bangladesh Shishu Academy organised the competition to mark the World Health Day '92.

Deputy Minister for Health Serajul Huq inaugurated the painting competition. Director-General of Health Directorate Prof M A T Siddique and World Health Organization representative in Bangladesh Dr ANA Abeyesundere were present.

Garments Workers' Federation

A meeting of the Bangladesh Garments Workers' Federation Friday demanded transport facilities for the security of the female garment workers.

The meeting expressed grave concern at the attack on a female garment worker by the hijackers recently and also demanded punitive measures against them.

The meeting presided over by Alam Reza was addressed among others by Tanvir Siraj, General Secretary of the Federation, Quazi Liton, Rehana Parveen, Jakir Sajjad, Anwar Ali Ruble and Mosharraf Hossain.

Janata Dal

An emergency meeting of the executive body of the Bangladesh Janata Dal Friday expressed grave concern over the recent terrorist activities on the Dhaka University and Rajshahi University campuses.

The meeting blamed government for widespread terrorist activities at the educational institutions.

The meeting also expressed its support to the proposed trial of Jamaat leader Golam Azam in the people's court to be held on March 26 and felt that all other war criminals should be tried in this manner.

The meeting held at the central office was presided over by KM Obaidur Rahman, Chairman of the party.

Tender Notice

Description of work: Work (according to schedule) of electricity (of extended part) of Mojabari, Ghoshal, Chechua, Golabati, and Taki villages in Paikgachha upazila included in ADP during 1991-92 financial year under Satkhira Electric Supply.

Eligibility of contractor: PDB enlisted A,B,C licence holder contractors (with past experience Price of tender: Tk 200/- per set). Place and date of tender availability: From the office of Chief Engineer, Distribution, Western Zone, Khulna/ Superintending Engineer, Operation and Maintenance Circle, Jessore/and the undersigned on payment of price per set through Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of Deputy Director (Accounts), Zonal Accounts Office, Jessore up to 29-03-92. Date of receiving and opening 30-03-92 up to 12.00 Noon and on the same day at 12-30 hours. All rules and regulations of tender must be complied with.

Resident Engineer (Executive) Satkhira Electric Supply PDB, Satkhira

Power/Pub-914(3)91-92 DFP(BA) 2095-14/3 G-308

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer

Sunamganj Public Works Directorate Division, Sunamganj

Tender Notice (2nd Call)

1. Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 are hereby invited from Public Works Directorate approved contractors as stated against the work for the undermentioned works. Tenders will be received by the undersigned and Executive Engineer, Public Works Directorate Division, Sylhet/ Moulavibazar/ Habiganj up to 12-30 hours on 29-3-92 and opened on the same day at 12-45 hours by the officer concerned before the contractors (if any) present. Each tender should be submitted under sealed cover superscribing the name of work on it.

Group	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time for completion of work	Class of contractor
1.	Construction of Police Line in 44 newly created districts — one at Sunamganj (construction of ground floor eastern part with stairs of 300-personnel capacity Barrack building). Financial year 1991-92.	31,08,751/=	62,175/=	195 days	Special 1st (first) & 1st (first) class building contractor
2.	- Do - - Do - - Do - (construction of ground floor kitchen with corridor of 300-personnel capacity Barrack building). Financial year 1991-92.	20,23,935/=	40,479/=	165 days	Special 1st (first), 1st (first) & 2nd (second) class building contractor
3.	- Do - - Do - - Do - (construction of Reserve office ground and first floor). Financial year 1991-92.	28,42,280/=	56,846/=	180 days	- Do - - Do -
4.	- Do - - Do - - Do - (construction of Magazine house ground floor). Financial year 1991-92.	19,02,792/=	38,056/=	165 days	- Do - - Do -
5.	- Do - - Do - - Do - (construction of 600 sq. ft. residential quarter — one unit). Financial year 1991-92.	5,90,785/=	11,816/=	150 days	Special 1st (first), 1st (first), 2nd (second) & 3rd (third) class building contractor

2. Contract document containing Bangladesh Form No. 2911, schedule of tender, additional terms and conditions etc. can be seen and collected on payment of usual price from the offices of all Executive Engineers under Sylhet Public Works Directorate Circle, Sylhet and the offices of all Sub-Divisional Engineers under this office. Contractor himself or his representative (in case of representative, authorisation with the representative's signature properly attested by the contractor to be produced) can purchase the tender form on production of Registration Book any day during office hours up to 28-3-92.

Md. Safim Ullah
Executive Engineer
Public Works Directorate Division
Sunamganj

DFP (G) 3951-12/3
G-309



A rally was held at the north gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque demanding establishment of Islamic rule in the country Friday.

— Star photo

BTMC Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited by the Chief Engineer, BTMC, Bastra Bhaban, 7-9 Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka from BTMC enlisted A-4 and above class contractors for construction of Bituminous carpeting road of Darwani Textile Mills, Darwani, Nilphamari. The estimated cost of the work is Taka 3,99,835.70 only.

Earnest Money Taka 10,000/= must be deposited with the tender in the form of Bank Draft/PO/DD from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh in favour of BTMC.

Tender schedule can be purchased at Taka 400/= per set (non-refundable) from Chief Accounts Officer, BTMC, Bastra Bhaban, 7-9 Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka or Accountant-in-Charge, BTMC Shipping Office, 79 Agrabad C/A, Chittagong or the Accountant-in-Charge of the mills up to 30-3-92. Tenders will be received at the office of the Chief Engineer, BTMC up to 11-00 am on 31-3-92 and opened at 11-30 am in presence (if any) of the contractors.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFP (BA) 2087-14/3

G-306