

JU teachers won't enter classes till Dec 10

By JU Correspondent

Jahangirnagar University teachers Saturday decided to abstain from taking classes until December 10 demanding ouster of terrorists from the campus.

Jahangirnagar University Teachers Association (JUTA) at a meeting at the central cafeteria reviewed their earlier decision of an indefinite work stoppage. JUTA leaders said.

The JUTA at the Saturday's meeting, however, decided to hold the examinations and carry out other official duties.

Press briefings

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India, followed by Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

In all, 46 Indian newsmen have so far registered with the Dhaka authorities while the Sri Lankans number 26.

Of the 35 journalists from Pakistan, 12 have so far enlisted their names with the government's External Publicity Department until Saturday.

Thirteen Nepalese newsmen have confirmed their arrival and two from the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan.

Only one reporter has registered from the Maldives, the tiny island state in the Indian Ocean.

Apart from newsmen from South Asian countries, all major international news agencies, radio and television networks are sending their representatives to cover the two-day SAARC summit.

However, of the 150 newsmen expected from abroad and hundreds of locals only 72 journalists — 30 foreign and 42 locals — are allowed to cover the opening and closing ceremonies of the summit at the International Conference Centre, officials said.

The organisers initially planned to accommodate 50 journalists during the two functions. The figure rose to 72 at the insistence of the Press Information Department (PID).

"We have tried our best to accommodate maximum number of journalists during the inaugural and closing ceremonies," Principal Information Officer Abdul Rahim told The Daily Star Saturday.

The authorities have arranged all possible modern communication facilities for the mediamen covering the summit.

The Sonargaon Hotel will house a round-the-clock media centre that becomes operational Wednesday. The media centre is equipped with ISD telephones, telex, fax, radio photo transmitters, typewriters and photo copiers.

The foreign photo journalists will have access to the PID darkroom from where they can get their black and white films developed and printed free of cost. However, journalists have to pay for colour prints.

The government has made arrangements with Sonargaon Hotel to accommodate 50 foreign journalists, who will get their names enlisted with the External Publicity Department.

Experts: Drug policy

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since its introduction and observing its implementation process. He has visited Bangladesh six times so far for the purpose.

Chetley informed that the NDP had created a positive impact on other countries and that the Philippines, Nigeria and many other developing countries were looking forward to formulating similar policies.

Chetley believed that the NDP had achieved its main objectives which were to increase availability of and accessibility to good quality essential drugs.

The NDP encouraged to production of more medicines locally and there is less dependence on imported drugs," he added.

Balasubramaniam, who agreed with Chetley, mentioned the curb on the multinational companies dominating the local drug market and said: "This was due to the drug policy."

On the shortcomings in the Bangladesh Drug Policy, Chetley said: "The major shortcoming is that the policy has not been properly implemented. What I have heard in Bangladesh is, not the criticism of the policy, rather the criticism is about the way of implementation."

Chetley pointed out some inadequacies in the government Drug Administration which, he said, "hinders the implementation process."

He mentioned that the Drug Administration took too long to register new drugs and also much time to decide on what raw materials would be allowed to be used to produce medicines.

It also took too much time to decide on changing prices of medicinal products and other related matters, the expert added.

Chetley specifically mentioned inadequate facilities for drug testing and pointed out that the existing system to test the drugs in the market was 'not random enough'.

Adequate facilities to test drugs were essential to maintain the quality of medicines, he emphasised.

Chetley said that the Drug Administration should work effectively to remove all the shortcomings and recommended a number of actions for the purpose.

Chetley suggested a regular review of the Drug Policy and the list of essential drugs to keep pace with pharmacological developments.

He also suggested the upgrading of the Drug Administration's ability to process applications for drug registration and to increase inspections of production systems.

Chetley also recommended improving the facilities and capabilities of the drug testing laboratories. He stressed on ensuring that the committees, part of the drug regulatory system, had technically competent members, adequate servicing and met regularly.

Both Chetley and Balasubramaniam said that the NDP did not put enough focus on traditional medicines like Ayurvedic, Unani and Homeopathic medicines and suggested regulations in this regard.

Replying to a question, both the experts said that they were not against multinationals.

"Multinationals have contribution in developing some essential drugs. I don't mind their making business and reasonable profit, but they should not push drugs, they should come forward to promoting health," said Chetley.

"I expect corporate responsibility from multinational," concluded Balasubramaniam.

Teachers of the university on Thursday in a memorandum to the Vice Chancellor announced suspension of their duties when JU Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) activists laid a 16-hour siege to the syndicate members while they were at a session to decide punitive measures against two JCD leaders of the university.

The JCD activists gheraoed the office of the VC Wednesday evening and took him along with eight of his syndicate colleagues hostage demanding withdrawal of punitive actions against Md Moazzem Hossain and SM Abu Yusuf, accused of threatening and insulting the provost of Al-Beruni Hall on November 27.

Two cabinet ministers had to intervene to release the VC and the syndicate members from their captivity.

Talking to The Daily Star over telephone Saturday, JUTA President Prof Khandakar Mustahidur Rahman said "our programme will continue... the JU administration will have to prove its sincerity in freeing the campus of the hoodlums if it really wants to bring us back to the class rooms."

Meanwhile, despite the decision of JUTA a section of teachers were seen taking classes and holding examinations, Saturday.

Provosts and hall officials of the seven dormitories of the university, who resigned en masse following the untoward incident of November 27, is likely to resume their duties today, campus sources said.

New JP secy likely

Star Report

A change in the secretaryship in Jatiya Party is impending as the Acting Secretary General has sought release from his responsibility, a reliable party source said Saturday.

ABM Shahjahan, who took over the charge from Shah Moazzem Hossain about three months ago, went to Acting Chairman Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury to hand over the charge but Chowdhury urged him to wait until the presidential meeting, the source said.

The source requesting anonymity said that Khaledur Rahman Tilo was expected to be the next choice for the party according to the desire of the Party Chairman Hussain Muhammad Ershad who is now in jail.

Rajshahi College office still under lock and key

RAJSHAHI, Dec 5: Activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir put the administrative office of Rajshahi government college under lock and key for the second day today, reports UNB.

They are demanding a fresh waiting list for candidates seeking admission into eleven class on merit basis.



Sheikh Hasina speaking at a discussion meeting in observance of the 29th death anniversary of H S Suhrawardy at Awami League central office yesterday. — Star photo

Dec 8 hartal

No scope for confusion, says Jahanara Imam

By Staff Correspondent

Jahanara Imam, Convenor of the Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Jatiya Samannoy Committee at a rally Saturday alleged that the government was trying to foil the hartal called on December 8.

Rejecting the government's reservation about the hartal on that day, she said that the SAARC summit would be held on December 12, 13 and 14. No SAARC programme was scheduled for December 8 and there was no scope of confusion about the date of hartal.

Reiterating the committee's demand for fulfilling its four points, she said that the Jamaat-Shibir-Freedom Party must be banned as they do not even consider women as a human being.

The rally presided over by Shamsunnahar Siddiqi was addressed among others by Aesha Khanam, Syed Hasan Imam, Abdur Razzak MP and Aminul Huq Montu.

Leaders of the National Coordination Council of

Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee last night met with Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina at her 29 Minto Road residence.

Awami League sources told UNB that central leaders of the Nirmul Committee apprised Hasina of different steps for making a success their December 8 countrywide hartal and December 10 'human chain' to press for their demands including the trial of Golam Azam.

Assuring all out cooperation to implement the December 8 and December 10 programmes, Hasina said Awami League will play its leading role for safeguarding the national independence and sovereignty and upholding the spirit of 1971 liberation war.

Hasina also called on the people to make the dawn-to-dusk hartal on December 8 a success.

PM visits 'Ostrich' at Pagla

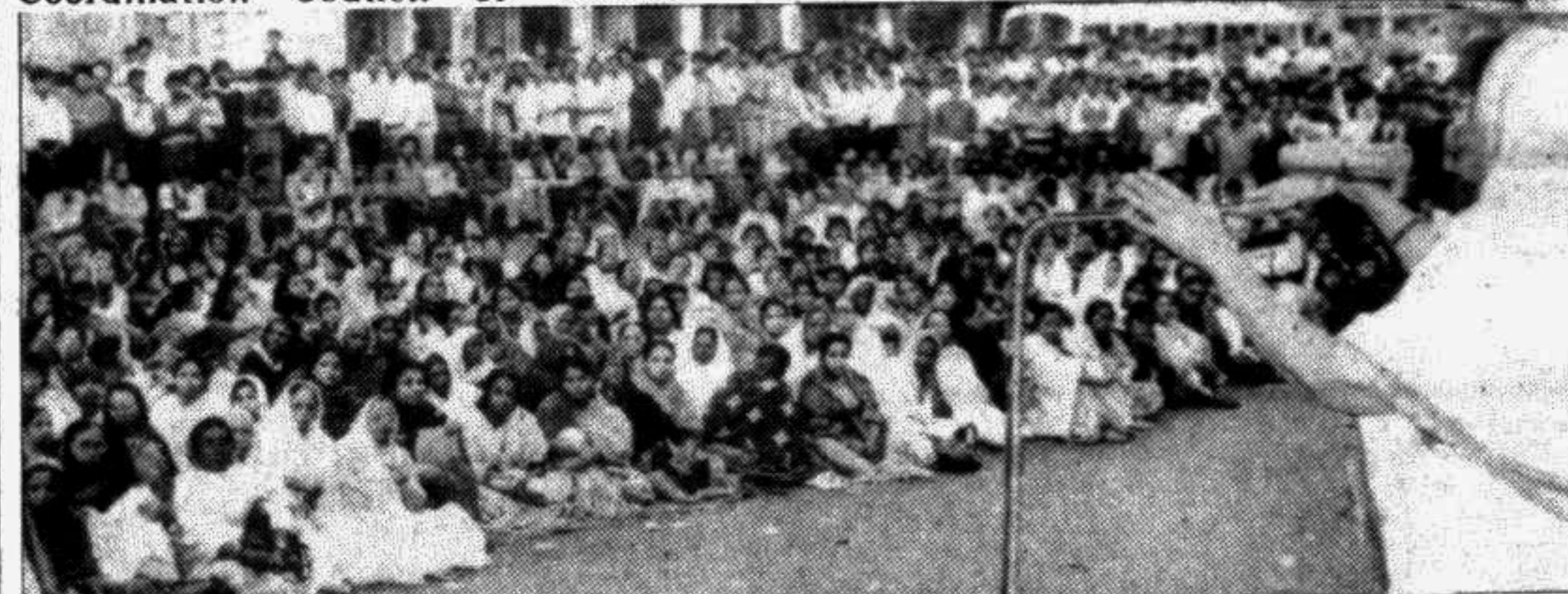
NARAYANGANJ, Dec 5: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today visited Pagla Ghat to see the renovation of 'Ostrich', a paddle steamer being trimmed for SAARC leaders to have a river cruise, reports UNB.

Heads of state or government of the seven SAARC countries will go on a six-hour cruise by the luxury steamer on December 13, sailing from the Meghna Ghat to Gozaria in Munshiganj and back.

The South Asian leaders, aided by their foreign ministers and other aides, will have parleys on board the age-old river craft.

The 235-foot long and 30-foot wide double-decker will be accompanied by salvage vessel Kajal and two tugs and escorted by four naval gunboats.

Begum Zia went round the ship and inspected the conference room, individual rest rooms for the SAARC summiteers.



Jahanara Imam addressing a rally in front of the National Press Club yesterday in support of December 8 hartal. — Star photo

SAARC programme body meet

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December 12-13. "It is basically preparatory in nature," said a Foreign Ministry official, speaking on the meeting of the Programme Committee that sends its recommendations to the Standing Committee.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that the Committee would deliberate on the proposed SAARC documentation Centre and the SAARC Meteorology Research Centre.

The delegates will also review the activities of the existing institutions like the SAARC Audio Visual Exchange (SAVE) Programme and other programmes.

The meeting is to prepare the calendar of activities in seven of 13 areas of cooperation under the Integrated Programme of Action (IPA). The other six areas were discussed by the Committee and

later endorsed by the Foreign Ministers in their July meet in Colombo.

The Programme Committee is expected to approve a budget almost similar to the one of the current year.

In 1992, an amount of 700,000 US dollars was allocated for the Kathmandu-based SAARC Secretariat.

Of the total amount, India contributed the highest 161,000 US dollars, followed by Pakistan's 120,000 US dollars.

Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal gave 57,000 US dollars each. Two tiny states, Bhutan and the Maldives, spent 25,000 US dollars each.

The Bangladesh delegation to the meeting includes the Director General in charge of the South Asia Desk at the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Syed Moazzem Ali, Director General in charge of the Eco-

nomic Affairs Desk Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Director of the Meteorology Department Hamiduzzaman Khan, two Directors at the Foreign Ministry's SAARC Desk and a Deputy Secretary from the Ministry of Finance.

Director General of the SAARC Desk QAMA Rahim will lead the Dhaka team. Rahim will preside over the meeting and take over as the next chairman of the SAARC Programme Committee.

Meanwhile, Bhutanese Foreign Secretary Sewan Ringin arrived yesterday to attend tomorrow's Standing Committee meeting. The other Foreign Secretaries are scheduled to come today.

The Foreign Minister of Bhutan, Dawa Tsering, is expected to come today. The Council of Ministers begins its two-day meeting Thursday. The other Foreign Ministers are to come the day before.

Crime incidents fall in Nov

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vigilant in preventing terrorism in the city and elsewhere in the country, he added.

Of the total murder, three were housewives and one was a Naik of police.

Mohammad Rafiq, a shopkeeper, was killed when a group of gunmen from the Dhaka College compound opened fire on a procession of the owners and shopkeepers brought out against terrorism and extortion near the college on November 19.

The murder of the shopkeeper evoked instant reactions among the businessmen and led to a whole-day strike in the city. But no significant headway was made by police in connection with the investigation of the murder.

A Naik of police Raja Mia was stabbed to death at Uttara by a group of unidentified men on November 25. Mohammad Jamal, a labourer was stabbed to death at Mirpur on November 8. A truck driver Mofiz Mia was found dead under a bridge at Keraniganj. He was killed as a

sequel to a quarrel between two groups of transport workers. An unidentified man was beaten to death at Mirpur by a group of people on November 28.

Of the others, Jesmin Akhter Lopa, 19, a housewife was found dead at her Satish Sarker Road residence at Sutrapur on November 12. Relatives of Jesmin's husband said that she committed suicide. But on a complaint by Jesmin's father the body was exhumed on November 18 and was re-examined. Police apprehend that Jesmin was murdered and was investigating the matter.

Another housewife, Shaheena, 40, was stabbed to death by her husband at Sabujbagh on November 24. Police arrested the 'killer' husband Ratan Sarker. In another incident Rashida was strangled to death reportedly by her cousin at a residence at Hajipara on November 10.

A total of 24 people including a South Korean national was killed in road accidents in the city during the last month.

JB Kim, the South Korean was killed in a road accident near the Zia International Airport (ZIA) and his brother was wounded.

Police also recovered eight bodies from different places in the city. All the deaths were mysterious. However no significant progress was made in the police investigations.

Six people reportedly committed suicide in the city in November. Of them, two were businessmen, one was a house wife, one was a maid servant and two others were youngmen. Unnatural Death (UD) cases were lodged with the respective police stations but no investigation was made, according to police sources.

During November some 40 robbery and mugging incidents were committed in the city. Besides, 10 German made sophisticated pistols were recovered from a consignment of washing machine imported from Pakistan. Police arrested three people including a Pakistan national in this connection and investigation was going on, according to police.

Hasina

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speech in the meeting, the Awami League chief alleged the government had snatched people's right to protest by introducing the Anti-terrorism Ordinance like military rulers did in the past.

Under this new law, she alleged, the government was only suppressing its political opponents in a bid to cling to power whereas this law had not been effective to punish the pro-government Chhatra Dal terrorists at Rajshahi University, Jahangirnagar University, Engineering University and other educational institutions.

AL Presidium members Mohiuddin Ahmed, MP, and Sajeda Choudhury MP, its central leaders Sudhangshu Shekhar Haldar, MP, KM Jahangir, MP, city unit President Mohammad Hanif and General Secretary Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Bir Bikram, lawyer Gazul Haque and others also spoke on the occasion.

On her evaluation of BNP's two-year-rule, the opposition leader remarked its activities reminded the people of the fallen autocracy. This government gave nothing to the masses in return of their votes rather frustrated them by imposing VAT and other taxes.

This is a mockery by the government, Hasina said, that extra taxes were imposed on the consumers items while those on luxury goods, reduced.

The opposition leader alleged that the Prime Minister had recently instructed to revise and reprint a Parliamentary Standing Committee report since it found the relatives of the PM and her cabinet colleagues guilty of corruption. Practice of parliamentary democracy cannot go smoothly if the BNP government continues indulging in corruption in such a way, Hasina viewed.

She called upon all concerned to rally round her party to protect democracy from the hands of conspirators and bring about people's economic emancipation.

Jute seed

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variety could be grown in the same area of land.

"That is why," the Jute Minister told The Daily Star, "nobody can stop the farmers from cultivating Indian jute."

"In order to stop them," he added, "we must develop our own high yielding jute seed."

The Minister said that he had instructed the Jute Research Institute last June to invent a high-yielding jute seed by 1993.

He added that the jute farmers received Taka 450 for a mound of Tosa-B jute and no more than Tk 200 for the low-quality Indian jute. "This is also working as an incentive to sculpturing the traditional jute," he said.

In Bangladesh, jute is being cultivated on about 1.2 million acres of land. Of this 1.19 lakh acres in greater Faridpur are used for cultivation of the best quality jute.

Jute experts fear that although export of jute has not been affected by the declining quantity of the fine golden fibre until now, the present trend of cultivating Indian jute would compel foreign countries to stop buying Bangladesh jute within five years.

The jute production in fiscal 1991-92 was 52.73 lakh bales (one bale equals 180 kg). But sources said that the jute Minister said that the produce was rather low in quality due to inadequate rainfall.

The Jute Minister indicated that the jute policy in the process of formulation, would consider the problem arising out of the cultivation of Indian jute seeds and would also aim at conserving the Bangladeshi seed.

Paracetamol

From Page 1 Col 6

observation made at a seminar at Dhaka Shishu Hospital recently that Paracetamol syrup contains injurious chemical like diethylene glycol.

The Drug Administration Directorate suggested that whenever it is necessitated to use Paracetamol, one could use crushed Paracetamol tablet mixed with water, honey, sugar or molasses.

The Drug Administration Directorate has, in the meantime, collected samples of all Paracetamol syrup available in the market and those are being analysed with the help of the Government Drug Testing Laboratory and World Health Organisation (WHO).

In absence of necessary equipment for analysing the Paracetamol syrup in Government Drug Testing Laboratory, samples of some of the brands of the syrup have been sent abroad with the help of WHO.

The analysis report is yet to be received by the directorate.

The Midnight File

Sharif visits Japan Dec 16

ISLAMABAD, Dec 5: Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is due to leave here on December 16 for a four-day official visit to Japan. It was announced here today. Sharif is scheduled to hold talks with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on measures aimed at further strengthening relations between Pakistan and Japan, the Japanese embassy here said, reports AFP.

Princes Anne to marry navy commander Laurence

LONDON, Dec 5: Princess Anne, who was divorced earlier this year from Mark Phillips, will marry Royal Navy Commander Timothy Laurence, Buckingham Palace said Saturday. The 42-year-old princess, who has two children, would be the first member of the royal family to divorce and remarry, reports AP.

2 at Keraniganj, 1 in city

Three murdered

By Staff Correspondent

Three people were murdered in the capital and in its outskirts, Keraniganj Saturday.

Within a span of four hours a youngman was slaughtered and a 40-year old man was stabbed to death at Golam Bazar at Keraniganj as a sequel to rivalry between two groups of musclemen Saturday.

A group of people led by Khaleq rushed to a restaurant at Golam Bazar, exploded crackers and opened fire and held Rama, 28, a leader of their rival group.

The gunmen brought Rama near Rani Hotel and Restaurant, two kilometres off from Keraniganj Police Station and slaughtered him at around 8:30 am yesterday, witnesses said.

When the gunmen fled, angry supporters of Rama stormed Khaleq's residence, dragged Khaleq to Golam Bazar, two 200 yards off from the restaurant and stabbed him to death at around 12:45 pm.

Keraniganj police said, following the two murders, police arrested two persons, Abdul Karim — of Rama group and Mohammad Rafiq of Khaleq group. Both the nabbed persons were detained in the Keraniganj Police Station, said police.

Following the two murders heavy contingent of police was deployed in the area to avert fresh violence. Three platoons of police from Range Reserve Force and District Reserve Force in Dhaka rushed to the spot to strengthen the security, said police.

Our DMCH Correspondent

Shibir enforces strike at RU

RAJSHAHI, Dec 5: The Islami Chhatra Shibir today enforced a strike on the Rajshahi University campus to press home its two-point demands, reports UNB.

Shibir called the strike demanding resignation of Vice Chancellor Prof Anisur Rahman and Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Azheruddin for postponement of the RUCSU polls.

No classes were held and administrative buildings remained closed during the day. But the strike was peaceful.

reports: A youngman was murdered by a group of unidentified men at Noyatola, Magbazar, Saturday evening. Ramna police recovered the body of Delwar Hossain Ditu, 18, from a drain at Shahbaz Lane and sent to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) morgue for autopsy.

Passengers of coaches, trucks robbed

From Our Correspondent

COX'S BAZAR, Dec 5: Armed dacoits blocked the Chittagong Cox's Bazar road and looted three coaches and five trucks this morning.

About 10 dacoits blocked the Kachhapia Dala Road at Chokoria thana with large boulders at around 8 am and continued their looting for about one and a half hour. Later they decamped with cash worth over Taka seven lakh.

During the incident, a police patrol jeep was on duty only one-kilometer north of the spot and there was also a permanent police camp one kilometer south of the spot.

A team of policemen arrived at the spot only after 15 minutes of the dacoity. However, none was arrested till writing this report.

Democracy-day

From Page 1 Col 5

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina will address a public meeting to be held at Shapla Square under the auspices of Sonali Bank Employees' Union. Besides, AL will also hold a rally in front of the Party Central Office in the afternoon.

The Patriotic Democratic Front (PDF) will hold its rally at the NAP office premises at 3:30 pm to observe the day as 'Autocracy Overthrowing Day'. PDF leaders will address the rally.

The Five-party's meeting in observance of 'Mass Uprising Day' will take place at Tahir auditorium at 4 pm.

To mark the day, Jamaat-e-Islami will hold a public meeting at the north gate of Baltut Mokarram at 3 pm. Central leaders of the party will address the meeting.

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