Report on raping in DU hall fabricated

By DU Correspondent

No incident of raping took .. place at the Zahurul Huq Hall of Dhaka University on April 30, according to the DU probe committee formed to investigate the matter.

The committee, set up by the DU Syndicate, in it's 40page report said the contents of the news stories regarding the incident, published in two vernacular dailies were distorted and fabricated.

The committee placed its report for consideration before an emergency meeting of the Syndicate on Sunday (June

According to the report, a former student of Dhaka University, along with a student of the Eden Girls College stayed in a room of the Zahurul Huq Hall in the afternoon of April

In the news item it was reported that a female student, seeking admission in to a

preliminary course, was taken to the Zahurul Huq Hall where she was allegedly raped by a group of youths.

place on April 30 and not on May 2 as reported in the press. The internal feud of a student organisation was the

cause of distortion of the

The committee spoke of the need for taking necessary steps for distribution of seats in the residential halls according to merit, stopping illegal entry and presence of the outsiders in the residential

Besides, the committee suggested that the university authorities keep strict vigil on implementing the existing rules regarding the entry of the female students in to the residential halls of the male students.

criticism that the budget was a

Saifur on hartals

From Page 1 Col 3 nance Minister said though apparently it was called by teachers, actually it was a hartal backed by political parties

ported the hartal call when a high powered investment del egation from Japan was in the country to explore Bangladesh's tremendous investment prospects. Saifur said, tax policy and

reforms were the important vehicles for redressing social conflicts and maintaining har-

The Finance Minister said tax policies should be supportive and promotive to the development process.

Underlining the importance of the symposium, the Finance Minister said that the tax policies and reforms must be in consistence with the promotion of national growth and development efforts of each countries. Referring to the policy lib-

eralisation in the light of market economy, the Finance Minister said tax policy and reforms should be harmonised with the trade, export and production activities.

The Finance Minister said that the tax policy and reforms should be aimed at removing social injustices conflicts and inequalities through balanced development as well as reduction of poverty.

Referring to the measures taken so far by the government for reforming the income tax policies, Value Added Tax (VAT) and areas of the economy, the Finance Minister said that the society must be ready to accept the reforms.

Dwelling on the social tradition and different conflicting interests on the economic measures and tax reforms, the Finance Minister said the government was not only facing criticism from the opposition political parties, but also from within the ruling party. Refuting the criticism

against the proposed budget for 1994-95 fiscal that it was a richmen's budget, the finance Minister said such criticisms were "uniformed, uneducated and politically motivated."

Referring to the proposal of reducing the rate of tariff and duties on general consumer items, he said such reduction of tariff and duties would directly benefit the common people.

EC examining ID cards for voters, JS told

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder yesterday said the Election Commission has been examining the possibility of issuing identity cards to the voters, reports BSS.

The minister was replying to a question from treasury bench member Khairul Enam (Laxmipur 3) in the Jatiya Sangsad.

The minister said for the purpose the Election Commission has taken a pilot project to cover a rural centre and a municipal area.

He said work on the pilot project in a rural centre has already been completed and the results of the election of that centre are being evalu-

Talukder said if the Election Commission is satisfied with the results and recommends to the government for identity cards for the voters, then it will naturally be considered with due merit.

Besides, the incident took

newspaper report

Dismissing the Opposition

richman's budget, the Finance Minister wanted to know the definition of poorman's budget. He, however, suggested that He said the Opposition supit had become very important to educate the politicians and the political elements about the market and economic

> the government policies. The resident chief of the ADB. Linden appreciated the performances of the Bangladesh economy over the last

management affairs so that

they could objectively criticise

He particularly mentioned the measures for further liberalisation of taxes and duties in the proposed budget. The most striking features of the Bangladesh economy was that it had been able to mobilise 38 per cent of its domestic resources for funding the Annual Development programme, Linden said.

Jointly organised by the Asian Development Bank and the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies the symposium is being participated by the delegates from 16 countries of Asia and the Pacific region.

The countries are Australia Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Shri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and host Bangladesh.

HC orders editor of Janakantha to surrender

A High Court Division bench vesterday summarily rejected the bail petition of editor of the 'Dainik Janakantha' Md Atique Ullah Khan Masud, reports BSS.

The bench comprising Justice D M Ansaruddin Ahmed and Justice Nurul Islam directed accused Khan Masud to surrender before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka, within 48 hours.

Khan Masud filed an anticipatory bail application on June 12 and appeared before the High Court.

Opposition From Page 1 Col 8

Asked about the government move for placing a bill seeking reforms of the electoral system, especially by strengthening the Election Commission, the Opposition Chief Whip said, reforms of the electoral process was not an alternative to the provision for holding general elections under a caretaker administration.

We definitely want a stronger and independent election commission, but it was not the solution to the problem of holding free and fair elections, Nasim said.

He asserted that elections would not be free and fair if those are held under a partisan government. 'So the need of the hour is to make provisions for holding national polls under a non-partisan caretaker administration, he added.

Earlier, the leaders of the opposition parties and groups in Parliament had a meeting at the Sangsad Bhaban with Abdus Samad Azad of the Awami League in the chair. The meeting was attended by, among others. Salahuddin Yusuf, Tofael Ahmed and Shudangshu Skekhar Halder of Awami League, Moudud Ahmed, Anwar Hossain and Munirul Haque Chowdhury of Jatiya Party, Sheikh Ansar Ali and Shahjahan Chowdhury of Jamaat and Salahuddin Qader Chowdhury of NDP

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Princess Anne, daughter of Britains Queen Elizabeth II, rides in a carriage with her husband Cmdr Tim Laurence as they leave St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle Monday after she - AFP photo was installed as a Lady of the Garter.

Draft of Jakarta Declaration formulated

The draft of the Jakarta Declaration, including a plan of action for the advancement of women in the Asia-Pacific region was formulated at a high level meeting held in Jakarta on Saturday, according to a message received here yesterday, reports UNB.

The meeting was followed by the 2nd Asia-Pacific Mi nisterial Conference on Women in Development (WID) now being held in the Indonesian capital

The conference was inaugurated by Indonesian President Soeharto at the Presidential Palace on Monday. A three-member Bangladesh delegation, led by State Minister for Children and Women Affairs Begum Sarwari Rahman attended the inaugural ceremony.

GDP target

From Page 1 Col 4 almost stagnant structural transformation of the economy during the 1980s give way to clear shifts in the relative importance of agriculture, industry and services. The industry and the service sectors are to become the chief contributors to growth. This would be in keeping with the structural transformation of the economy in response to accelerated reforms and the switching of private sector resources towards export oriented manufacturing.

The Finance Minister has to pay special attention to the industrial sector because it is going through a stagnation The growth rate in the industrial sector increases only from 7.1 per cent to 7.4 per cent in FY 1994. Unless the finance minister succeeds in making all these indicators looking good next year, the sluggish investment would mean that the growth rate would stagnate around four per cent with the government's objective of poverty alleviation remaining difficult to achieve.

'WASA can meet 50pc of city requirement'

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder yesterday informed Parliament that the government had taken short and long term progra mmes to meet the demand of water supply in Dhaka city. reports UNB.

Replying to a supplemen tary from Md. Neyamatullah, the minister said at present the WASA can only meet 50 per cent of the total requirement of water in the city.

Replying to another question from K J Hamida Khanam Salam said the total system loss of water in the capital was 51 per cent of which 22 per cent was technical system loss and remaining 29 per cent incurred due to administrative

At present Dhaka WASA is capable to produce 70 crore litre water a day against the demand of 128.50 crore litre.

Referring to short term projects, the minister said the WASA will install 20 new deep tubewells soon and reinstall 10 others by June 1995. These pumps will produce additional 10 crore litre water a day. There are 1,34,524 sub-

scribers of Dhaka WASA and revenue collection of the organisation on an average per month is to the tune of Tk. 6.6

Responding to a call attention notice also from K J Hamida Khanam, the minister said Dhaka WASA will be able to supply additional 50 crore litre of water by 1998 with the completion of 1st phase work

Gunshots on DU campus

By DU Correspondent Some unidentified gunmen fired at least seven rounds of shots on the Dhaka University campus Monday night.

The incident caused panic among the residential students. None was however injured and the cause of the firing was not immediately known.

of Sayedabad water treatment plant and with the BMRE (balancing, modernising, renovation and expansion) of Chadnighat water treatment He said the Sayedabad wa

ter treatment plant should be able to produce 22.50 crore litre a day after completion of its 1st phase work by June

The Sayedabad water treat the World Bank and Japan, is litre water a day with the

Tree plantation programme '94 begins today

launch a nationwide tree plant ing programme today turning afforestation into a social campaign to maintain country's ecological balance, reports

Begum Khaleda Zia will fly today to the northwestern arid Barendra region in Cha painawabganj district where she will inaugurate the National Tree Plantation Programme- 94. She will land at Enayetpur of the district and plant a sapling there. The Prime Minister will

also cancel two commemorative stamps and first-day cover on the occasion.

distribute saplings among schoolchildren to involve them in the drive which will continue for three months.

people of all walks, authorities will arrange tree fair at every thana and district headquarters. Begum Zia will inaugurate a tree fair in the capital on June 26.

noted personalities.

Prokrichi From Page 1 Col 8

tive power of the ministries to the respective ministers and formulation of the Rules of Business.

The sufferings of the patients soared as the doctors in different hospitals abstained from their duties. Different government of

fices including the Roads and Highways Directorate, the Public Works Department, and the Water Development Board looked deserted Leaders of the Prokrichi

held ameeting at the Engineers Institution in Dhaka to review the situation The meeting discussed

submitting a memorandum to the speaker of the Jativa Sangsad. Sources at the meeting said, the Prokrichi leaders discussed the next course of

action and reviewed the current political situation of the country. Some of the leaders at the meeting suggested continuing the movement after the com-

abstention programme. Prokrichi leaders also discussed the proposal to boycott the bureaucrats socially.

pletion of the three-day work

Meanwhile, leaders of the Prokrichi have congratulated their members for successfully observing the first day of the

work abstention programme. The council meeting of the Prokrichi expressed its solidarity with the striking teach-

Leaders said the Prokrichi would bring out a procession in the capital which would proceed towards the Jatiya

Chaired by the Convenor of the Central Action Council. Dr. M A Majed, the meeting was also attended by A N H Akhter Hossain, M A Hena, Jabed Igbal, Dr Gazi Abdul Huq, Dr Mushtaq Hossain, Ahsanul Huq. and Nurul Huda.

From Page 1 Col 4 The meeting of the BCI

Board however expressed its satisfaction over the measures taken by the government with regard to reduction of duty on some of the industrial raw materials and capital machinery. But according to the BCI the budget lacks balance in imposing duties on the industrial raw materials and imported finished products made of same materials. For example, the import duty on locally used synthetic rubber and reclaim rubber (the raw materials of bicycle tyre and tube) is 45 per cent whereas the import duty on imported finished products the bicycle tyre and tube, is also 45 per cent.

The chamber suggested that the gap between the duty on raw materials and finished product be at least 30 per cent to safeguard the local industries. Otherwise, such industries will eventually collapse and join the list of the sick industries.

The BCI criticised the budget saying it has failed to give sufficient incentives to attract foreign investments. Bangladesh should offer similar incentives to the foreign investors as offered by countries like Shri Lanka. The chamber demanded

reduction of the VAT rate and said the process of VAT collection should also be simpli-

Oscar winner Mancini dead

The Midnight Rile

REVERLY HILLS. Calif., June 14: Henry Mancini, the fourtime Oscar winning composer who produced such evergreen songs as "Moon River," "Charade' and "Days of Wine and Roses," died Tuesday, his publicist said. He was 70. Mancini died of complications of liver and pancreatic cancer, said publicist Linda Dozeretz. He was at home and his wife, Ginny, was

to Rwanda

TUNIS. June 14: President Nelson Mandela of South Africa expressed hesitation Tuesday about sending armoured vehicles to help the UN in Rwanda, but promised to dispatch humanitarian aid. Mandela, representing his country for the first time at an Organization of African Unity summit, is under some pressure to bring his enormous prestige to bear on the Rwandan conflict, reports AP.

From Page 1 Col 4 bed BCCI's worldwide opera-

tions uncovered evidence of

how the bank's executives ma-

nipulated the world's leading

financial institutions, making a

mockery of banking regula-

Under UAE law, nine mon-

ths' detention counts as one

year's imprisonment. That

means that the six men given

three-year terms have already

they will be released, because

all have declared they are un-

Attorney-General will issue a

statement Wednesday to clarify

about the BCCI scandal during

the trial because after initial

open hearings, the proceed-

took 10 minutes to read out

the verdicts in Arabic as the

defendants listened with long

faces. The sentences were

translated for the English-

dants, many of them British

nationals of Pakistani origin

like Naqvi, told reporters later

tated because they had ex-

pected to be acquitted. They

were seized at the BCCI head-

quarters in Abu Dhabi in

September 1991 and have

been held for nearly three

years in the comfort of the

Police Officers' Club in Abu

Dhabi. The judge repeatedly

refused bail for anyone except

Thai FM

From Page 1 Col 3

explore the possibility of con-

cluding special trading ar-

rangements between the two

its five-day stay, is scheduled

to visit some industrial enter-

will also call on President Ab-

dur Rahman Biswas, Prime

The Thai delegation, during

Some said they were devas-

Eleven of the defendants

At least three of the defen-

speaking defendants.

they plan to appeal.

did not elaborate.

ings were held in camera.

But it is unclear whether

A court source said the

There were few revelations

Judge Shihab Abdul Rahman

served their sentences.

able to pay the damages.

the situation.

tions and international law.

guilty on all charges.

three years' imprisonment.

Funded in 1972 by Abedi, BCCI grew to be the Third World's largest bank with operations in 69 countries. Its main operations were in Luxembourg and the Cayman Islands, which both have a reputation for weak banking regulation.

International regulators shut down BCCI July 5, 1991 after auditors reported massive fraud and loan losses in a scandal which seriously un dermined the international financial system.

US prosecutors allege the bank was actively involved with narcotics dealers and international terrorists as well as money laundering, racketeer ing and bribery. Investigators who have pro-

Japanese loan

The agreement has been

initialled under the Note of Exchange signed between the governments of Bangladesh and Japan on March 29 this year in Tokyo during the visit of Bangladesh Prime Minister to Japan After the signing of the

agreement yesterday, the loan

will now be operational. Sig-

ning of the loan agreement with OECF completes the fi nancing arrangement for the Jamuna Bridge Project.

each for the project.

The project aims at augmenting gas supply to Chittagong area, including the KAF-CO project.

Mohammad Shahidul Alam and OECF chief representative in Dhaka Hisao Tanimoto signed the two agreements on behalf of their respective side.

From Page 1 Col 4

"It is more regrettable that

the opposition parties ex-

tended their support to the hartal. Does it mean that the opposition parties are against try," Shamsul Islam said.

for the sake of our economic development."

day of laying the foundation stone of the long-cherished Jamuna multi-purpose bridge. The commerce minister urged the Opposition to join Parliament session shunning

the path of hartal and to take

Treasury bench MPs A T M Alamgir, Begum Shamsunnahar Khwaja Ahsanullah, Safiul Azam, Rezaul Karim, Alhaj Shamsuddin Ahmed, Begum Rahima Khandaker, Major (Retd) Akteruzzaman and Abdus Salam Pintu also took part on the discussion. The supplementary budget, which sought a Tk 4,566 crore additional allocation, is likely to be passed today.

opposition parties of blackmailing the people by creating a stalemate in Parliament. The other speakers favou-

the sit-in. reviewing the outcome of the strike and planning future course of action with the representatives from the districts last night

bazar began at around 8 pm. Earlier, the central liaison committee leader Quamruzza-

man told the agitating teachers in front of the Press Club that the committee thought the government would accept the four point charter of demands following the 'successful' har-

ment plant, jointly financed by expected to produce 45 crore completion of 2nd phase of its BCI worried

The Prime Minister will

The Prime Minister will

To ensure participation of

During the three-monthlong programme, authorities will arrange mobile, sale of sapling and planting trees by

Private sector must be fully activated isters concerned. tional prices the biggest probernment officials and chamber Noting the close relationleaders.

From Page 1 Col 7 sought clarification on various

customs and other existing regulations relating to foreign investment. He called for a reduction of

ticipation in developing the "very much needed" infrastructure facilities in the country. Political stability and consistency of policies are a must for attracting foreign investment on a continuous basis, he said while appreciating that

democracy has taken a firm

bureaucracy and red-tapism

and sought private sector par-

root in the country. Making it clear that he has no intention to interfere in the domestic situation in the country, Haruna, however, said: "I understand that there is a general strike going on today, we would like to hope that there is more cautiousness and carefulness" about observing such strikes, while referring to the hartal observed in Dhaka by the striking teachers.

Allegorically comparing a foreign investor with a horse, Haruna added: "you can take a horse where the water is but you cannot force it to drink. The horse will pay attention to whether the first horse is drinking or not".

The delegation leader termed the Karnaphuli Fertilizer (KAFCO) project, with substantial Japanese private investment, as the first Japanese horse in Bangladesh and said future investment largely depends on the success of the project. Marubeni Corporation also has a stake in the KAFCO project.

Haruna said he is aware the the KAFCO project has been receiving cooperation from the Prime Minister and other min-

ship that exists between Bangladesh and Japan, he said "but the relationship between the private sectors of the two countries has not matched the close ties that exists between the two governments".

"I will inform Japanese businessmen about the private sector in Bangladesh to increase their interests and through talks with the Japanese chamber of commerce and industries, forge closer ties," he added.

Noting that all the 11 Japanese companies located in Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) were operating successfully, he said that if the conditions were better known. then more Japanese investors would show interest in coming to Bangladesh. "There is a great need for Bangladesh to conduct much more promotional efforts in Japan as the businessmen are mainly interested in East Asia and are not well-informed about Bangla-

Haruna said that Japanese investments went to Korea and Taiwan in the first phase, then those went to Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia and now the investors are going to China and Vietnam. But he pointed out that Bangladesh does not figure out anywhere on the list of new destinations of Japanese investments, because of the lack of knowledge about the country among the Japanese businessmen.

Describing the visit as 'very effective', he said the mission was able to conduct "efficient and fruitful discussions" during meetings with high-level gov-

During its stay here the

mission called on the Prime Minister, some ministers, and held meetings with chamber leaders in Dhaka and Chittagong. The team also visited the export processing zones both in Dhaka and in the port city.

"Judging from the newspaper coverage and reports about our visit, there are indications of great expectations about Japan," Haruna said, adding "we have to brace ourselves and think seriously" about investing in Bangladesh. He lauded the macro-eco-

nomic performance of Bangladesh, which resulted in lower inflation, higher foreign exchange reserves and a more favourable balance of payment situation. "Looking at the present rate of inflation and the foreign ex-

changed reserve position, it

appears that further economic

growth will be possible," he The press conference was also attended by Morshed Khan, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister, Executive Chairman of the Board of Investment Mokammel Haq and deputy leaders of the Japanese mission Jiro Rokukawa and

Responding to a question. Haruna pointed out that the Japanese import duty structure is one of the lowest in the world, although the Japanese market is often said to be a closed one. However, he added that regulations are being removed at a fast pace and further deregulation is in the off-

Kazuo Nukazawa.

He termed the difference between domestic and interna-

lem, as domestic prices are higher because of distribution problems. He said that the internal prices should be lowered to the international level Responding to another

question about a local court

case involving Marubeni, he

said: "I am in Bangladesh as

part of the Keidanren economic mission, so I rather not comment on the ongoing The case involving former president H M Ershad is about the procurement of 275 engine-boats under a grant from the Japanese govern-

ment, in which Marubeni was

involved.

Replying to a question from a visiting Asahi newspaper reporter, Morshed Khan said Bangladesh does not look at Myanmar as an economic rival or a threat, as closer cooperation within the region would fuel future growth of the countries. Describing Myanmar as a friend in development, he noted the strong historical and cultural ties between the two nations and that a border trade accord was also signed between the two countries.

Saying that confrontation

should be replaced by cooperation, he called for Asia-wide cooperation with the economic leadership of Japan. Mokammel Hug noted that a total of 37 Japanese companies had invested 92 million

In addition, Japanese equity participation in the 510 million dollar KAFCO project stands at 210 million dollars.

US dollars in the country.

with him, reports AP. Mandela to send aid

BCCI founder, 11 others

dant, Igbal Ahmed Radwi, not

Charges included dissipating shareholder's funs, forging bank records and granting fictitious, loans, each of which carried a maximum penalty of

From Page 1 Col 8 city yesterday.

Two other co-financiers -World Bank and the Asian Development Bank -had already signed agreements to provide 200 million US dollar

Another loan agreement with OECF to provide US dollars 13 million (1405 million yen) to the development of Feni/Bakhrabad Gas Project was also signed yesterday.

ERD additional secretary

Issue of hartals

delegation was in the country to assess the investment atmosphere here.

the development of the coun-The minister said "We told the Japanese team that we will work out a plan jointly with the Opposition to avoid hartal

The commerce minister recalled that a political party had also called hartal on the

part in the budget discussions in the interest of the people. The session resume at 5:30 pm yesterday. Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni in the chair. The discussion on supplementary budget began after question-answer session and disposal of the notices on matters of public importance.

Akteruzzaman accused the

Twelve of the units are located in the export processing red passing of the supple-

mentary budget and appealed to the Opposition to join Par-liament session.

prises, the Export Processing Zone at Savar and members of the leading trade bodies. The Thai Foreign Minister

countries.

Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and commerce and industries ministers. Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mostafizur Rahman and his

Thai counterpart are expected to exchange views on bilateral, regional and international is-Sources indicated that the matter of issuing visas to

Bangladesh nationals, arrival at Bangkok, which has recently been suspended, may also be taken up for discussion. A consular agreement may be signed

between the two countries. Half-day hartal From Page 1 Col 5 f deflating of rickshaw tyres.

two picketeers. Police said the arrested people were not teachers The teachers brought out several processions and held a

Tejgaon police picked up

parts of the city. The Central Liaison Committee of the teachers called the hartal to press home its four-point demand which include implementation of the national pay-scale for private

schools and colleges.

number of rallies in different

ported by the opposition political parties including the Awami, Jatiya Party, Workers' Party, Ganatantrik Party, JSD (Inu), BSD (Mahbub), Gano Forum, Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) and several student organisations. Meanwhile, the liaison co-

The hartal call was sup-

mmittee of non-government schools and colleges expressed its determination to continue The central committee was

The meeting held at K L Jubilee High School in Bangla