

JU senate elects new VC panel tomorrow

By JU Correspondent

A special session of the Jahangirnagar University (JU) Senate will be held tomorrow to elect a three-member panel for the appointment of a new Vice Chancellor (VC). Ninety one Senators will cast their votes to elect the panel. The Chancellor of the University will appoint one person of the 3-member panel as the VC of the university.

Two panels will contest in the election. The group opposed to the former VC has nominated Prof. Khondakar Mustahidur Rahman (Economics), Prof. Amir Hossain Khan (Physics) and Prof. Enamul Haq Khan for their panel. On the other hand, the supporters of the former VC have nominated Prof. Amirul Islam Chowdhury (Economics), Prof. Mesbauddin Ahmed (Chemistry) and Prof. Maudud Elahi (Geography) for their panel. A third group of the teachers led by Prof. Inamuddin will extend their support to the Pro-BNP former VC group. The system of electing a panel for the VC was introduced in 1984. Previously, the JU VC was appointed directly by the Chancellor.

Prof. A F M Kamaluddin was the first elected VC. He was appointed VC in 1984. After his death in 1987, Prof. Kazi Saleh Ahmed was appointed VC for the next two terms. In 1992, the teachers split into two groups when a large number of teachers, led by Prof. Mustahidur Rahman, protested the nomination of Saleh Ahmed as the VC candidate. Two panels from the two

groups contested the VC panel polls in 1992 and Kazi Saleh Ahmed was appointed VC. The present acting VC, Prof. Abul Hossain, who succeeded Kazi Saleh Ahmed on August 2, 1993 following the latter's resignation in the wake of campus violence, had delayed in summoning the Senate Session saying "the Senate needed to be regularised".

Twentyfive registered graduates were elected on March 28 to update the 91-member JU senate. But the appointment of a VC has been delayed by 11 months, which is a clear violation of The 73 University Act - alleged the JU Teachers' Association (JUTA).

The JU teachers hoisted black flags in front of the VC office and observed a strike protesting the unusual delay in convening the special Senate session.

As per rules, the vacant post of a VC must be filled within 45 days of resignation or removal of a Vice Chancellor.

The 91 member JU Senate comprises the VC, Director General (DG) of the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education; five high officials selected by the government; five MPs selected by the Speaker; five educationists nominated by the Chancellor; five officers from research institutes, selected by the University Syndicate; five college principals selected by the Academic Council (AC); 35 teacher representatives; 25 registered graduates and five students' representatives.



Accompanied by Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura (L) and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono (R), new Japanese Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama waves to people at the Tokyo International Airport yesterday prior to his departure for Naples to attend the G-7 summit meeting. — AFP photo

Referees for qtr-finals

DALLAS, July 6: Two referees from Europe and two from Latin America were chosen Wednesday to officiate in this weekend's World Cup quarter-final matches, reports AP.

Sandor Puhl of Hungary will handle the Italy-Spain match at Foxboro, Mass, while Rodrigo Badilla of Costa Rica takes the Netherlands-Brazil match at Dallas. Both games are Saturday.

On Sunday, Colombia's Jose Torres referees the Bulgaria-Germany match at the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N.J. while England's Philip Don will supervise the Romania-Sweden game in Stanford, California.

WC viewers

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1991 has the city witnessed such emotional celebrations. In Italy, similar scenes of joy were marred when a 15-year-old boy fired a pistol and accidentally killed his seven-year-old cousin in the town of Hercules near Naples.

Fans in Mexico trudged morosely but peacefully through the streets, but in the Los Angeles area some Mexican supporters stoned police after festivities turned sour. At least six people were arrested.

It was a rare incident of soccer-related hooliganism in the United States during the finals. Elsewhere there have been more violent incidents, including in the Netherlands and Brazil, even though those teams made it to the final eight. London bookmakers still quote Brazil as favourites to win the World Cup at 6-4, ahead of Germany of 7-2 and Italy at 4-1. The Dutch Romanians and Spain are all quoted at 10-1, Sweden are on 12-1 and Bulgaria are the outsiders at 20-1.

One gambler banked on Bulgaria, losing to Mexico and lost 1,21,000 pounds (1,86,000 dollars) a London bookmaker said, adding it was the biggest loss on a single soccer bet he could remember.

"When you bet that amount of money you tend to be philosophical about losing, rather than upset," William Hill spokesman Graham Sharpe said. "We expect to hear from him again soon."

Dist admin

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authority to acquire lands, an official source said the present law does not permit the DCs to acquire more than 10 bighas at a time without permission from the Ministry of Land. "To obtain such prior clearance from the ministry, much time is wasted resulting in delay in implementing development projects," the source said.

N Yemeni troops close in on Aden

ADEN, July 6: Northern Yemeni forces entered outlying but heavily populated northern districts of Aden today in what appeared to be a final push to overthrow the breakaway southern Yemen state, reports Reuter.

Residents said troops loyal to northern military President Ali Abdullah Saleh captured Sheikh Othman by Middy on Wednesday and shortly after took over the nearby Mansoura district both on the mainland north of the rocky peninsula where central districts of the ancient city of Aden lie.

They said northern forces appeared to be in control of the so-called Caltex roundabout that commands the approaches to central Aden.

There was no immediate word on casualties, but residents said dozens of people were killed or wounded.

The advance into the southern stronghold coincided with the reported northern capture of the major southern oilfield, South Yemeni airport of Al-Bayan and the town of Mukalla, the second biggest southern city after Aden, a city of half a million people.

Residents said the northern troops backed by tanks met strong resistance in Mansoura, but machinegun fire and rocket exchanges eased when they reached the police station and the offices of the Yemen Socialist Party, the main southern political grouping.

Jahanara's death condoled

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Understanding among the pro-liberation forces would be exploited by the communal forces, Hasina appealed "let us all work together against the communalism."

Organised by the Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Jatiya Samannaya Committee the meeting was presided over by its leader Abdur Razzak MP and addressed by Mafazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Ganatantrik Party Leader M Akhter, Acting President of Sammilita Sanskritik Jote Ramendra Majumder, Sector Commanders of liberation war, Col (ret) Abu Osman Chowdhury, Lt Col (ret) Kazi Nuruzzaman, Maj Gen (ret) K M Shafulal, left party leader Manjurul Ahsan Khan, Prof Kabir Chowdhury, Prof Khan Sarwar Murshed, Prof Ahmad Chowdhury, Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Poet Begum Sufia Kamal, Hassan Imam, Kazi Aref Ahmed and the only surviving son of Jahanara Imam - Saif Imam Jami.

Earlier, Kalim Sharafi rendered a mourning song while poet Shamsur Rahman recited a poem dedicated to late Jahanara Imam.

Sheikh Hasina blasted the ruling BNP for "failing to implement the four-point accord, signed between the government and the AL-led Opposition in Parliament, which included withdrawal of the cases against Jahanara Imam and 23 others involved in holding a public trial of Golam Azam."

She reiterated her demand for punishing those who took part in atrocities in 1971 and noted that there were provisions to try them for the killings and rapings since Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman only gave the collaborators a general amnesty. She criticised the ruling party for "rehabilitating Golam Azam and his party, Jamaat, by eliminating constitutional provisions barring religion-based politics."

Begum Sufia Kamal urged the pro-liberation forces to complete the unfinished task of Jahanara Imam in seeking the trial of "war criminals". She said the nation would long remember her and would consider her to be a source of inspiration in the fight against the communal forces.

Member of the Nirmul Committee Kazi Arif Ahmed called for a renewed stand against the fundamentalist forces, who use religion for their own political ends.

Kazi Nuruzzaman pointed out that the nation is united on the demand for the trial of the collaborators, following the movement started by Jahanara Imam.

Lt Gen (ret) K M Shafulal lamented that Jahanara Imam was not buried with full state honours. He also called for completing her unfinished task.

Recalling the liberation war days and the death of his brother, Rumi, in action, Jahanara Imam's son Saif Imam Jami noted that his mothers sorrow had later turned into strength.

He said he was overwhelmed with the love expressed for his deceased mother by all sections of the people and hoped that the movement seeking the trial of the collaborators would gain momentum through her death. "I want that the movement that you started under her leadership will grow stronger after her death. This was her final desire. Her departed soul will rest in peace only if this movement proceeds towards the final victory," he said in an emotion-choked voice.

Attended by several thousand people from all walks of life, the meeting was briefly adjourned for Maghreb prayers. Awami League leader and Nirmul Committee member Abdur Razzak, MP, pledged to carry forward the struggle launched - by Jahanara Imam and urged all pro-liberation forces to unite, leaving aside all differences, to eliminate the anti-liberation forces.

He said that this platform should only be for the trial of the collaborators and not for making any political pitches. "We will be showing respect to her departed soul if we do not bow our heads to the evil forces. If we can carry forward the movement, her soul will find peace," he said.

Bombay serial bombings

\$50000 rewards for arrest of two key suspects

NEW DELHI, July 6: India's federal investigating agency announced \$50,000 dollar rewards today for the arrest of two key suspects in last year's Bombay serial bombings which killed more than 300 people, reports AP.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) said the rewards would be paid in foreign exchange for information that could lead to the arrest of the alleged masterminds of the conspiracy, Dawood Ibrahim and Abdul Rajak Memon.

A price of 30,000 dollars has been placed on the heads of other suspects adding up to almost half-a-million dollars, a CBI spokesman said.

Bogra by-polls

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League leader. He estimated a 60-65 per cent turnout in tomorrow's voting.

In the '91 election, 58 per cent votes were cast in Bogra-4.

The Opposition's anti-democratic practices will help us get more votes than before," a BNP leader of Bogra, Sardar Abdur Rashid said and accused the AL and Jamaat of trying to foil the election.

The AL's Kahaal thana unit chief Abdul Aziz told reporters that a half-day hartal called here tomorrow is aimed against the anti-liberation forces but not against the by-election. The voting area has been exempted from the purview of the hartal, he said.

There are 1,72,932 voters in this northern constituency.

Pak trade team due July 14

An eight-member trade delegation from Pakistan will visit here from July 14 to 17. The members of the delegation, during their stay here, will meet the members of the local business and trading community. They will also hold discussions with the members of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) and other trade bodies, reports BSS.

Body to probe Sahajalal Varsity incident

SYLHET, July 6: A high power enquiry committee has been formed to investigate into the incidents of the Sahajalal University of Science and Technology, reports UNB.

Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Syed Mohibuddin Ahmed informed today that on the basis of the report of the enquiry committee the Disciplinary Board of the university will take punitive measures against the students responsible for hampering the atmosphere of the university.

Registrar of the university Prof Abdul Aziz read out a written statement on the situation of the university on behalf of the Vice Chancellor at a press briefing held at the residence of the VC at 11 am today.

Landslide kills 4 children in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, July 6: At least four children, including two minor girls, were killed in a landslide in Panchlaish area, early this morning.

Police said, the landslide occurred due to heavy down-pour. Two minor boys and two minor girls of a family died when their slum house at Nabinsagar hill near the Amin Jute Mill under Panchlaish thana collapsed in the landslide.

Malaysia to recruit 17000 foreign workers

KUALA LUMPUR, July 6: Malaysia plans to recruit 17,000 foreign workers for rubber and oil palm plantations owned or backed by the government, Minister of Rural Development Anwar Musa said Wednesday, reports AP.

Anwar told reporters the recruitment, decided at the Cabinet's weekly meeting Wednesday, was needed to meet an acute shortage in the plantation sector.

The shortage had caused 500 million ringgit (192 million dollars) in annual losses, Anwar said.

The Cabinet decision was expected to involve initial expenses amounting to 15 million ringgit (5.8 million dollars) for recruiting and bringing the workers here, he added.

Malaysia's high economic growth of around 8 per cent annually in the past few years, coupled with foreign investment flowing in to open up new industries, has resulted in a labour shortage.

Malaysia has about 800,000 foreign workers with work permits and another 350,000 illegal immigrants who work without permits.

The foreign workers are mostly Indonesians, Filipinos, Thais, Burmese, Bangladeshis, Indians, Pakistanis and Sri Lankans.

Hearing of JP office case put off till July 25

The Special Judge's court trying former President Hussain Muhammad Ershad and two others including a minister in a corruption case rescheduled hearing yesterday after nearly a fortnight with Mrs Zinat Ara, First Additional District and Sessions Judge, Dhaka in the chair, reports BSS.

Special Case 50 of 1993, better known as the Jatiya Party (JP) office case, relates to expenditure of nearly Taka 82 lakh of government money for renovating and refurbishing an abandoned house in the city's Dhanmandi area for use as the central office of the then ruling Jatiya Party.

The PW-2 told the court that the renovation, modification and alteration work of the house on Road No 3, Dhanmandi Residential Area and fixing of various fittings in that building were not done as per rules. He said he had duly intimated the wrongdoings to the higher authorities. "I only executed the work at the field level," he added.

The judge fixed July 25 as the next date for hearing the case.

Radio stations

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Agriculture Minister M Majid-ul-Haq, Commerce Minister M Shamsul Islam, Religious Affairs Minister Keramat Ali, Industries Minister A M Zahiruddin Khan, Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, State Minister for Planning Dr A Moyeen Khan and secretaries concerned attended the meeting.

SAARC

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Ministers are expected to exchange views on income-generating projects, eradication of malnutrition and illiteracy and upgradation of rural infrastructure for working out plans for poverty alleviation, a core element to the SAARC.

They are expected to identify new areas of cooperation to make the 10-year-old association more dynamic and workable for promotion of socio-economic condition of more than one billion people in the region.

Indian Finance Minister Manmohan Singh will lead his country's delegation at the meeting while Pakistan team will be headed by VA Zafary, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Finance and Economic Affairs. Finance Minister Saifur Rahman will lead the home-side.

Deputy Minister of Planning, Human Resources and Environment of the Maldives Dr Abdul Sattar Yousuf, Minister of State for Commerce and Civil Supplies of Nepal Surendra Prasad Chaudhary and Bhutanese Planning Minister Lynopo C. Dorji will lead delegations of their respective countries. Sri Lanka is unlikely to be represented at the meeting by any minister as they are busy with forthcoming general elections.

All ministers are due to arrive here Saturday. SAARC Secretary General YK Silwal will also attend the meeting.

Senior officials of the member-countries who will hold a two-day meeting from Friday to finalise agenda of the ministerial meeting are scheduled to arrive in the city today.

The Midnight File

Arafat invites Mitterrand to visit Gaza, Jericho

PARIS, July 6: PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat invited French President Francois Mitterrand today to visit the newly autonomous Gaza strip and Jericho "as a first step for the whole of Palestine". Speaking to reporters after talks with Mitterrand, Arafat did not say if the French leader had accepted the diplomatically sensitive first invitation to a foreign head of State, but he said: "I can tell you proudly that President will be by our side as usual, with the Palestinian people," reports Reuter.

Clinton in Warsaw

WARSAW, July 6: US President Bill Clinton arrived in Warsaw today at the start of a 26-hour visit to Poland on the second stage of a European tour. Clinton flew into Warsaw's main military airport from the Latvian capital Riga. He will address Parliament on Thursday and briefly meet the foreign ministers of Poland and other central and eastern European countries before heading to Naples, reports Reuter.

Salam on Hasina's remarks

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and peoples welfare, salary and allowances and other benefits of four hundred officers and employees of the Prime Ministers office, all expenses of transport pool, expenses for various state functions, meetings, conferences and special security force's expenses. As a matter of fact the amount that the Leader of the Opposition mentioned was more than the monthly average expenses of the Prime Minister's office. The average monthly expense of the Prime Minister's office is less than Taka one crore.

He said the budget allocation of Prime Minister's office for one year is Tk 1 (one) lakh 70 thousand. On the other hand annual budget allocation for the salary of the opposition leader and deputy leader without allowances was Tk 2 (two) lakh and 80 thousand. In other words, the salary and allowances of the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition were almost equal, he said. In this context, he mentioned that the Prime Minister had been donating her monthly salary to different schools and madrasahs.

The minister said the Leader of the Opposition in her statement on that day had shown the overall expenses of the Prime Minister's office as 'Prime Minister's allowance. He said in this way one day she might show the entire expenses of the government as the allowance of the Prime Minister. He said it was necessary to have an idea regarding administrative and revenue expenses of the government by all political leaders.

He expressed the hope that the Leader of the Opposition would refrain from issuing misleading statements in future to maintain the dignity of the position of the Leader of Opposition.

Mandela invites Angolan leaders to peace talks

JOHANNESBURG, July 6: President Nelson Mandela enters the thicket of African diplomacy Thursday by hosting talks on the 19-year-Angolan civil war that has defied negotiations, elections and sanctions, reports AP.

In his first foreign peace-making efforts since coming to power, in May, Mandela has invited Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and two other African leaders to Pretoria to launch an intervention requested by the United Nations.

He said Monday he planned to meet over the weekend or early next week with Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi with the eventual goal of bringing dos Santos and Savimbi to the same table.

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Last message

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"Still there is a long way to go. People of all levels including politicians, cultural activists, freedom fighters, students, youths and women are in the movement. I know people are the source of all power and I am giving the responsibility of the movement to the people," she said.

Hasina

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elections to share seats in Parliament. "That meeting benefited Jamaat and it won 18 seats," she added.

Hasina maintained that the rehabilitation of Jamaat was completed through another meeting between Begum Khaleda Zia and Golam Azam after the elections on sharing the women's seats in Parliament.

"Golam Azam was given citizenship according to agreements reached at the two meetings," she said.

The AL chief accused late president Ziaur Rahman of allowing Golam Azam to enter Bangladesh.

"Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman declared general amnesty but the amnesty do not allow any killer or rapist of the liberation war period to go scot free. There are laws to punish the war criminals," Hasina said.

EC envoy

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participation in the development projects of the country. Drury said the EC has at present a number of projects in Bangladesh in the field of embankment, poverty, poverty alleviation and human resource development. Some new projects are also being launched with the partnership of some of the local NGOs, he added.

The EC delegation chief lauded the expansion of the Bangladesh Garments sector in the European markets and said efforts should be made for backward linkage in facing open competition in the years ahead when all the special privileges for the Third World countries will be withdrawn as per the GATT Accord.

About 45 per cent of the country's total garments export go to European Union, largely due to preferential treatment.

Drury hinted at gradual reductions in traditional food aid in the backdrop of the country's self-sufficiency in food production.

Higher level of food aid would affect the prices of local farm produce and thus discourage production, he said.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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