

# 36 killed on DU campus since independence

By Masud Arif

At least 36 persons were killed on the Dhaka University campus since independence of the country in 1971. Eighteen of them were murdered in the last four years.

The victims included students, outsiders and street urchins. Most of the killings were the results of infighting in student organisations.

Since the gruesome killing of seven students at the Mohsin Hall in April 1974, twelve students were slain on the campus in two years, 1991 and 1992.

Joydip Dutta Chowdhury Bappi, killed on Saturday, was the first victim of this year's violence on the campus.

In 1994, three students — Kamrul Islam Bulbul Sarwar Hossain Mithu and Gazi Zakir Hossain were killed.

Bulbul died when a tear gas shell hit him in his neck in front of the Central Library in September. Police lobbed the tear gas shell during an hour-long gunfight between the pro-Awami League Chhatra League and the JSD-backed Chhatra League (B-K) on the campus.

Besides, Zakir was gunned down by some unidentified armed hoodlums at a room at the Jagannath Hall in November.

Dhaka University remained almost calm in 1993 but at the end of the year, two students, including a Jatityatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader Zinnat Islam Zinnah, was killed in November following an intra-party conflict.

In September 1992, two students and activists of the

JCD — Ashraful Alam Mamun and Mahmud Hossain — were brutally killed reportedly by fellow party men. Mamun was killed in a room of the Surya Sen Hall in early hours of September 4. Police recovered his body from an underground water reservoir behind the hall.

On January 9 in the same year, the Organising Secretary, Moniruzzaman Badal, of the pro-Awami League Chhatra League was shot dead near the Jagannath Hall. At the time, the AL chief, Sheikh Hasina, was addressing the founding anniversary of the BCL near the TSC road crossing in the afternoon.

The overall situation on the DU campus became volatile in October 1991. Four persons, including a street urchin, were shot dead during the armed clashes between two major student bodies — the pro-Awami League Chhatra League and the JCD — on October 27. The victims were identified as Mirza Galibur Rahman, Jafarullah Liton, Mizanur Rahman Mizan and street urchin Khokon.

The Dhaka University authorities expelled 12 students following a series of violence on the campus in July, 1987. During the violence, two students and a rickshawpuller were gunned down.

After the killing of seven students in 1974, two were murdered in 1977, one each in 1978, 1985, 1986, three in 1987 and one each during 1988 and 1990.



Workers of jute and cotton mills damaging a bus on Adamjee Road in Siddhirganj yesterday on the first day of their three-day strike and road-rail barricade programme. — Star photo

## Exempt garments sector from hartals: BGMEA

By Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Jute Spinners Association (BJSA) and the Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) in separate statements yesterday expressed grave concern over the prevailing political situation in the country.

The statements issued by BJSA Chairman Sabbir Yusuf and BGMEA President Redwan Ahmed, MP, said the political crisis including frequent calls for hartal and siege programmes has been affecting the exporters seriously.

Redwan Ahmed said that during the past decade the performance of the garments sector raised hope for revitalising the economy of the country. But this hope will not be fulfilled because of the programmes like hartals and sieges, he said.

As per our internal arrangement, the US quota year ends on January 31 and for this the remaining days of the month are very crucial for the export oriented garments industries, Redwan said. He urged the opposition leaders to keep the garments factories beyond the purview of the two-day hartal beginning January 24.

The BGMEA president also said if the exporters fail to ensure shipment of garment products by January 31, those would become stocklot or the exporters would have to send those by air at their own cost.

Sabbir Yusuf said the buyers of Bangladeshi jute yarn are expressing their annoyance at the failure of local exporters and manufacturers in maintaining shipment schedule. This is because of hartals and sieges, Yusuf said, adding if these continue Bangladesh would lose its overseas markets.

The consequences will be disastrous for the economy as thousands of people would be unemployed if the export-oriented industries and the exporting firms close down after losing the markets, he warned.

The BJSA Chairman also said the jute sector, already in crisis for reasons like a stronger local currency and high price of electricity, is 90 per cent dependent on external markets. So, if the external jute markets are lost, the consequences would be disastrous for the sector, he added.

He urged the political parties to end the present crisis immediately for the sake of the national economy.

## One killed, 150 hurt

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During the nationwide programme, the agitating workers also damaged scores of vehicles on highways. The injured included a number of police personnel.

Our Staff Correspondent from Chittagong says, one Abul Kalam, aged 35, was shot dead and over 100 others including 30 policemen, were wounded in an hour long clash in front of the Ispahani Mills gate at Pahartoli Sunday noon.

Of the injured, 20 agitators were rushed to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital and private clinics while the police personnel were admitted to the Police Hospital.

The clash took place as police reportedly attempted to remove the barricade put up by the workers in front of the Ispahani Mills. Police initially baton charged the workers but situation turned worse when they at one stage opened fire and lobbed teargas shells.

The striking workers also put up barricades at several points on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway, and along the industrial belt from Pahartoli to Sitakundia suspending rail and road communications between Chittagong and other parts of the country.

The local workers' leaders have called a half-day hartal in Chittagong today protesting the killing of Abul Kalam by police firing.

Our Narayanganj Correspondent said over 30 passengers were injured when the jute and textile workers attacked buses on the Dhaka-Narayanganj and the Narayanganj-Demra highways during their barricade programme yesterday.

The striking workers put up barricades on several points of the two roads suspending road links between the port town and the capital.

Work at the Adamjee Jute Mills, Latif Bawani Jute Mills, Karim Jute Mills, Laxminarayan Cotton Mills and

## Suicide bomber kills 18 in Israel

BEIT LID JUNCTION, Israel, Jan 22: Two powerful explosions erupted Sunday near a bus stop crowded with troops, killing 18 soldiers and civilians and wounding about 60 in a suicide attack claimed by Islamic militants, reports AP.

After the blast, soldiers' kit bags and jackets, many of them bloodstained, littered the road, which was covered with glass and other debris from a shattered snack bar.

## PM goes to Lanka Jan 25

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will pay a two-day official visit to Sri Lanka from January 25 at the invitation of Sri Lankan President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga. It was officially announced yesterday reports BSS.

It will be the third in a series of visits to the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries which Begum Zia is undertaking as Chairperson of the regional body.

During the visit, Begum Zia will hold official talks with Chandrika.

The two leaders are also expected to review the progress of implementation of the decisions of the Seventh SAARC Summit held in Dhaka and discuss other regional and international issues of common concern.

## HC rejects petitions of 3 Opposition MPs

A High Court division bench yesterday rejected three contempt petitions filed by three Opposition members of Parliament for drawing up contempt of court proceedings against the Speaker and the Secretary of Parliament for serving the notices upon the opposition member of Parliament to attend the ensuing Parliament sessions for violating court's order, reports BSS.

The bench comprising Justice A M Mahmudur Rahman and Justice M Hamidul Huq in their judgement said the applications for drawing the contempt proceedings were rejected as there were no merit in the petitions.

Awami League leader Sheikh Hasina Wazed, Jatitya Party leader Moudud Ahmed and Enamul Huq of Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday filed and moved three separate petitions against the Speaker and the Secretary, Parliament Secretariat, seeking to issue show cause notice upon them for drawing up proceedings of contempt of court against them for violation of court's order dated on January 18 passed by the High Court in writ petition No 88 of 1995.

On January 18, the High Court bench issued rule upon the Speaker in writ petition No 88 of 1995 in which the court asked him not to pass any opinion for ten days regarding the resignation letters submitted by 147 Opposition members of Parliament.

The same court on the same day also issued a rule upon the Speaker and three Opposition leaders to show cause why the en masse resignation letters submitted by 147 members of Parliament shall not be declared illegal and void.

Moudud Ahmed himself moved his petition for contempt. Barrister K S Nabi moved Sheikh Hasina's petition and Barrister Abdur Razzak moved Jamaat MP Enamul Huq's petition.

He said BNP still wants the opposition parties to take part in the normal business of Parliament. The ruling party gave maximum concession to the Opposition and the Prime Minister decided to resign before the election just for the sake of a consensus, he noted.

He rejected outright any possibility of tabling any bill providing for an interim caretaker government.

Khandaker Delwar Hossain said the BNP is in favour of a solution within constitutional framework.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the JS business advisory committee was held yesterday with Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali in the chair.

The meeting decided that the 18th session would continue till February 2. A new bill on parliament members' privileges would be placed during the session. Moreover, some 25 private members' bills and several other government bills may also be discussed, sources said.

## Stranded Pakistanis observe 8-hr hunger strike

By Staff Correspondent

A group of stranded Pakistanis staged an 8-hour hunger strike in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday in protest against what they said their illegal eviction from Mirpur camp.

They also brought out a procession and handed over a memorandum to the Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury. A copy was also submitted to the Additional Foreign Secretary Kazi Anwarul Masud.

Among others, Abdul Jabbar Khan, Joint Secretary of the Stranded Pakistanis' General Repatriation Committee, took part in the fast.

By-polls to 4 JS seats Campaign banned from midnight tonight

By Staff Correspondent

The Election Commission (EC) has banned, all kinds of meetings, rallies and processions at four Jatiya Sangsad constituencies — Natog-3, Bakerganj-6, Sherpur-3 and Brahmanbaria-6 — for 48 hours from midnight tonight.

By-elections to the four seats are scheduled to be held on January 25 and voting will take place from 8 am to 4 pm without any break.

A press release of the Commission said, the violators of the prohibition might face vigorous imprisonment ranging from two to seven years including fine. The administration concerned and the law enforcing agencies will take necessary steps in this regard, it added.

The statement further said that the commission had so far permitted 81 local and foreign observers to oversee the by-polls.

## The Midnight File

### Fundamentalist group chief shot dead in Cairo

CAIRO, Jan 22: Police shot and killed the new head of the outlawed fundamentalist Jamaa Islamiyya Group in southern Egypt today, police said. Mahmud Sayed Selim, 29, became Jamaa leader after police killed former chiefs Talaat Yassin Harnam in April and Hassan Abdel Galil in October, they said, reports AFP.

### Yemeni Speaker in Riyadh

RIYADH, Jan 22: Yemeni parliamentary Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar arrived here today for talks with Saudi officials, a week after both countries agreed on steps to reduce tension on their disputed border. Sheikh Al-Ahmar, accompanied by Planning Minister Abdelkader Bajamal, was paying his second visit to the kingdom in less than a month, reports AFP.

## Dilip steals hearts of all

From Page 1 Col 2

Donned in a light brown suit and black tie, the matinee idol with his captivating smile looked as charming as on the silver screen.

At the Press Club, Dilip's enchanting monologue covered the broad canvas of the life of a superstar, the pains and happiness of an artiste, the problems of the motion picture industry and the utter hollowness of what he calls imported culture.

"Dilip Kumar is merely a shadow on the screen and this man is his substance," he said, "however, the shadow has outshone the substance."

Yousuf Khan had worked hard but the shadow had stolen the show, he added.

His speech was punctuated with verses, spangles of wits and fleeting thoughts.

The great Mughal of Indian filmdom promptly stopped quoting the heavily Persianised verses when he understood that the audience was missing the treat.

In the hit film 'Daag', the Maud murder

Police officer's wife sent to jail

By Staff Correspondent

The wife of a police officer accused of murdering her maid was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail yesterday.

Dhaka Cantonment police arrested Sahera Khatun, 30, wife of an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) of Kotwali police station from her Marikdi residence late Saturday night. She was charged with murdering her maid Rafuma, 13.

Cantonment police recovered the body of Rafuma and sent it to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Police also interrogated ASI Jalaluddin of Kotwali police station.

Sahera was produced before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) court yesterday where a bail petition was moved on her behalf.

## PM inaugurates Girl Guides camp

GAZIPUR, Jan 22: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today urged women to come forward and be equally active in all spheres of national life to ensure progress of the country, reports UNB.

"Women constitute half of our population and therefore they cannot lag behind," she said.

Begum Zia was inaugurating the 8th National Girl Guides Camp at Boropara in Kaliakoir, attended by more than 600 girls from all over the country.

Terming the Guide movement as the best way to achieve leadership qualities, the Prime Minister hoped that the Girl Guides inspired by the spirit of the movement would be able to provide future national leadership.

## Chambers

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Rahman, President of the FBCCI. The Federation's position has been very clear, we want a solution to the present political impasse. If political stability is restored the full potential of Bangladesh's investment prospect will be realised."

"The conference is a great opportunity for Bangladesh to attract foreign investment and I request the Opposition to withdraw the hartal," said M Anis Ud Dowla, President of the MCCCI.

DCCI President A Rob Choudhury said, We have appealed jointly to the Opposition to shift the date of the hartal and I am very much hopeful they will listen to our request and change the date."

Mahbub Jamil, the President of FITCC, also hoped that the Opposition would reschedule the hartal saying, "hartal is a political right but the timing has to be right so that the economic interest is not affected."

Earlier in an interview with a local news agency on Friday, Sheikh Hasina, the Awami League chief said that the conference would not be affected by the hartal, while lamenting that the organisers did not even consult with her as the leader of the largest opposition political party.

## Hasina: Investment confce

From Page 1 Col 6

investors lost all their confidence and enthusiasm in investing into this country for "corruption and delay in completing formalities caused by the government."

Turning to statements by a section of businessmen about the Opposition agitation programme, she reminded that 55 businessmen had been killed in last four years.

Hasina reiterated her demand that the Prime Minister hand over power to the President to pave the way for holding free and fair elections by dissolving present Parliament.

"Soon after the en masse resignation of the Opposition members, the Prime Minister should have handed over power to the President to conduct fresh elections under a caretaker government," she said.

But instead of doing so, she added, the Prime Minister went on making derogatory statements against the Opposition and hatching "conspiracy to foil the ongoing agitation and cling to power."

The Awami League President observed, the present government as well as Parliament lost legitimacy after December 28 when 147 opposition MPs resigned. After the death of four directly elected members and the resignation of 147, argued Hasina, Parliament became illegal.

She accused the government of hatching conspiracy to

foil the ongoing agitation for establishing the people's rights to vote and food.

Referring to Saturday's student killing at the Dhaka University, the AL leader demanded arrest and punishment of the killers.

Hasina called upon all to make today's TV station gherao programme a success, to press for autonomy of electronic media.

The meeting was presided over by vice-president of AL City Unit Reazuddin Mia and also addressed by Syeda Zohra Tajuddin, Amir Hossain Amu, Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Rahmat Ali, Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya and Akhterul Alam.

## 6th NSC lottery Natore businessman hits the jackpot

From Our Correspondent

NATORE, Jan 22: Fortune now smiles on a small businessman of a remote village of Natore district.

Abdur Rashid, the lucky winner of the first prize of the sixth lottery of the National Sports Council claimed the prize of Tk 30 lakh today.

He submitted his ticket to the Deputy Commissioner's office, the DC when contacted confirmed the matter.

Police guards have been provided at the Changthupoi village house of Abdur Rashid in Lalpur thana.

## Response encouraging

From Page 1 Col 7

along with the Board of Investment (BOI).

"The response from foreign investors has been very good. It has been much better than expected," she told The Daily Star yesterday. "Initially, we were expecting around 80-100 foreign participants."

As of Sunday, 203 foreign and some 400 local participants have registered to attend the conference, the first such meet to be held in Bangladesh. The conference will be held at the Sonargaon Hotel in the city. Representatives of some of the world's leading companies are coming to the conference," Ray added. "The fact that the foreign investors are coming to Bangladesh, many for the first time, is a good thing. Their coming here proves their seriousness to look into the investment opportunities available in the country."

The objective of the conference, she said, is to promote direct and indirect foreign investment in Bangladesh. And the foreign participants, primarily from multinational companies and institutional investors, have shown keen interest.

"We hope there will be increased understanding of the investment opportunities in Bangladesh. Some investors will also be interested to talk with prospective joint venture partners. They may also meet government officials to understand the situation closely."

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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