DU committee to look into female students' demands

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities have formed a highlevel committee to look into the demands of the resident female students including amendment to existing proctorial rules and regulations.

The committee will make recommendations after reviewing the demands. The female students recently submitted a memo to the Vice-Chancellor.

The four-point demand included keeping their hall gates open until the DU central library is closed in the evening and repealing the rule requiring prior permission for reporting to halls late at night.

The 15-member committee of the university was formed with the National Professor Dr Sufia Ahmed as the chairperson and the Public Relations Officer of the DU Md Nurul Islam as the member secretary.

The other members of the committee are Provosts of Rokeya, Shamsunnahar and Bangladesh-Kuwait Moitree

Boat case trial resumes Mar 6

By Staff Correspondent

Special Judge, Dhaka, Zinat Ara, trying former president HM Ershad and an absconding Japanese national in the Japanese Boat Purchase Case. vesterday adjourned the trial + incidents. until March 6.

Prosecution witness Dr. Zafrul Islam, Deputy Coordinator, Project Implementation Unit, Ministry of Shipping, completed his testimony yes-

He was also cross:examined by Ershad's defence counsel. Ershad and one K. Inoyma, an employee of the Marubeni Corporation, are charged with conniving to cheat the state exchequer of a considerable sum by manipulating the pur chase of some relief boats under a 2.5 billion ven Japanese grant. Ershad allegedly passed orders to buy the boats from Marubeni despite another company having quoted the lowest price.

Arjun Singh

From Page 1 Col 5 and expelled party leader, Mrs Surma Satpathy besides Champatiray.

The PCC (I) had already expelled from the party 49 rebel candidates for contesting against the official party nomi-

Former minister, Jugal Kishore Patnaik, former deputy speaker, Chinatamani Dyan Smantara and former MLAs, Kangali Charan Panda and Srikanta Panda, though not present at the meeting. had sent messages expressing their support for the cause of the rebels, Champatiray

Meanwhile, Arjun Singh today described the AICC-I chargesheet as vague, claimed his expulsion was "pre-determined" and asserted he had at no stage accused the prime minister of a "cover-up" in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination

From Page 1 Col 7

to Midfort Hospital with in-

juries while about 50 were

hospitals and clinics.

given first aid at different

Some 50 people were in-

Police said, they went into

action as the workers tried to

damage vehicles and create

obstruction on traffic move-

ment. They also picked up

Narayangani says : Rolice ob-

structed a procession of the

workers of Adamiee Jute Mills

on Narayanganj-Demra road in

teargas shells and five rubber

bullets and resorted to baton

charge to disperse the angry

Adamjee Jute Mills. Laxmi-

narayan and Chittaranjan Cot-

ton Mills and production in

these mills remained sus-

According to reports re-

ceived in Dhaka last night.

workers of Goalanda Textile

Mills came under police action

when they brought out a pro-

cession in protest against ar-

rest of 16 fellow workers. Po-

lice lathicharged the proces-

sionists resulting in injuries to

some 20 people. Of them, two

were stated to be in critical

Our Staff Correspondent in

Strike was observed at

Police fired at least seven

the morning.

labourers:

pended.

condition.

Our Correspondent in

three people from the spot.

jured in another clash between

police and workers of Taj Jute

Mills at Demra at about 9:30

Seven others were admitted

halls. Prof Akhter Imam. Dr Nileema Ibrahim, Prof Hamida Akhter Begum, Prof Nazma Chowdhury. Prof Sultana Safi. Prof Khaleda Salahuddin, Begum Jubida Guishan-Ara, Prof Rasheda Begum and principals of Eden Girls University College and Siddeswari Girls Col-

The committee will review the legitimacy of the demands of the girl students, monitor the consequent reactions at various levels of the society and discuss the matter with the guardians.

Body to probe Mirpur garments factory mishap

The government has consti tuted a committee to inquire into the fire incident in MS Poster Industrial Garments at Mirpur on Saturday in which several workers were killed, a Commerce ministry press release said yesterday, reports

Editorial on Page 4

Apart from ascertaining the cause of the mishap and the persons responsible for the tragedy, the committee would put forward suggestions and recommendations to check further occurrences of such

KM Saleheen. Director Export Promotion Bureau and Nurul Hug Sikder, Vice-President, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) will act as convenor and member of the two-man inquiry comm ittee which will submit its report within seven days.

N'ganj gunfight

From Page 1 Col 8 hired mastan. Of the injured, 13 were admitted to different hospitals in Dhaka and Narayanganj with bullet wounds.

Witnesses said, an armed gang, allegedly led by one Alauddin Haji, occupied the Alif Steel Re-rolling Mill at Kutubail under Fatulla thana early today. Later, at 9 am fierce fighting erupted when their rivals, led by Mahbub, came for recapturing the mill.

Police arrived at the spot one hour after the fighting had stopped at 11 am. The Mahbub group claims

that one of their accomplices, Raju, 24, has been kidnapped by their opponents. Fatulla police said, no case

was lodged in this connection till late last night and none was

Our DMCH correspondent adds: At least ten workers of a re-rolling mills at Matuail area of Demra thana were injured when the tin-roof of the mills suddenly collapsed on them at

about 10 am yesterday. The victims admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) were identified as Harun, Yunus, Hassan, Tajul, Siraj, Manik, Abul Kasem, Jamser, Akhterruzaman and Abdur Rahim. All of the injured are between 25 and 30 years of

Chittagong reports: Jute and

textile mills workers observed

a rail road barricade pro-

gramme in the port city yes-

terday. The workers damaged

window panes of a train-

hartali. Alankar cinema cross-

ing and Kalurghat industrial

areas causing suspension of

road communication between

Chittagong city and other parts

train communications between

Dhaka and Chittagong, Dhaka

and Sylhet and Dhaka and

Mymensingh were disrupted

since the agitated workers set

up barricades at different

points including Gorashal and

the points of origin on time

but had to be stopped at dif-

ferent stations including

Tongi, Ariankhola and Pahar-

leaders of the Sangram

Parishad alleged that the gov-

ernment took repressive mea-

sures to suppress the move-

ment of workers. But it would

not succeed in the long run.

They also called upon the

authorities including the

Prime Minister to take

'effective initiatives' so that the

crisis could be resolved

MA Aziz, Lutfar Rahman,

Shahidullah Chowdhury, Shah

Alam and Iqbal Majumder

Among others, Abul Bashar,

through dialogue.

signed the statement.

In a joint statement, the

In other places, trains left

Kaiballadham stations.

tali, they said.

Railway sources said the

Barricades were put in Pa-

Meghna Express.

of the country.

200 hurt in clashes

Exchange in in the city yesterday. - PID photo Country's 3rd satellite station From Page 1 Col 8 telephone for every 250 telecommunications system to ration to cope with a tough the private sector, she said. people by 1997. Currently competition in the high-tech there is one telephone for The government has also

linkage had increased manifold

during the last four years. In

1993-94, the number of inter-

national calls from Bangladesh

totalled 6.7 million while the

number was only 1.7 million in

1989-90 during the previous

regime. The number of calls

from abroad to Bangladesh was

Similarly, whereas Tk 758

million was earned from this

sector in 1989-90, the amount

rose to Tk 2.19 billion last

year. This radical improvement

has occurred due to infusion of

fresh dynamism into the

country's economy, she ob-

The Prime Minister said

20 million in 1993-94.

phone free of cost.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia talking to Bangladesh ambassador to Japan SM Rashed

Ahmed during the inauguration of the Satellite Earth Station and International Trunk

world of Twenty First century.

To face the challenges. Begum Zia said, her government had undertaken an integrated package programme on education, health, employ ment, production and devel opment

"Development of telecommunication network is part of that endeavour. We are building a solid infrastructure," she told the function, attended by ministers, MPs, diplomats and senior officials.

The Prime Minister observed that communication technology has a crucial role to play in facing the challenges of the new century and said the government was opening up various sectors of the economy to modern technology and private investment.

Begum Zia said her government had placed the telecommunication sector in the private sector in order to expand telecom facilities.

The government had already handed over cellular phones, paging, trunking riverine and thana-level

Prisoner files

case against jail

authorities

From Staff Correspondent

trial prisoner has registered a

case against the authorities of

Habigani district sub-jail accus

in jail for the last few weeks,

lodged the complaint verbally

with the Assistant Sub Judge

and the Sessions Judge, Habi-

ganj when produced before the

court today. The court asked

him to register the complaint

in writing. He did it accord

ingly. Manju alleged that, the

fail authorities had been mis-

appropriating the money sanc-

tioned for supplying food to

DU students

protest killing

By DU Correspondent

at least four motor vehicles on

the Dhaka University campus

yesterday protesting the

killing at the Rajshahi Unive-

youths stopped the movement

of vehicles for a while near the

Witnesses said, the unruly

A group of youths damaged

the inmates of the jail.

ing them of corruption.

SYLHET, Feb 12: An under-

Mosharraf Hossain Manju,

taken up adequate measures to every 500 people in the modernise telecom system.

"Now a consumer can connect After assumption of office, international link with digital the present government provided 74,000 additional tele phone connections throughout The Prime Minister said inthe country. ternational telecommunication

Within December this year one lakh new connections in Dhaka, 50,000 in divisional headquarters and 22,500 in district headquarters would be added to the network, Begum Zia informed.

Besides, modern digital telephones have been introduced at various places of the country, Begum Zia said adding. "We have taken more measures for giving new three lakh connections within the next three years and another eight lakh by the year 2000."

Begum Zia inaugurated the new Satellite Earth Station through direct talk with the Bangladesh Ambassador to Japan. SM Rashed Ahmed from the stage.

New station doubles int'l tele-links

The country's third Satellite Earth Station and the second complete digital International Trunk Exchange installed at Mahakhali in the city went into operation yesterday, reports UNB.

With the commissioning of the new satellite station. telecommunication linkages with the rest of the world has now been doubled, according to T&T officials.

Installation work of the digital standard-A Earth Station was completed five months ahead of schedule.

It was built with an estimated cost of Tk 646.83 million, of which the World Bank provided Tk 366.2 million. The installation work began in

late 1992. Presently this new station has a capacity of 2,600 trunk circuits (1300 international and 1300 domestic) which would eventually be raised to

16,000. The country so far had only 522 international circuits through the two existing earth stations at Betbunia and Talibabad. Following setting up of the new station, the number of international circuits rose to

high power amplifier. With the installation of the Digital Circuit Multiplication

Equipment (DCME), the station's capacity may be increased 4 to 5 times, if neces sary. There are 1980 circuits besides the DCME in the new satellite earth station.

The country's first satellite earth station (INTELSAT Standard 'A') was established in June 1975 at Betbunia in Rangamati district while the 2nd earth station (INTELSAT standard 'B') was established in January 1982 at Talibabad in Gazipur district.

For prompt handling of the telephone traffic of these two earth stations, an automatic international trunk exchange (ITX) was established at Maghbazar in Dhaka in 1983. This ITX is equipped with 1200 trunk circuits - of which 540 are international circuits

appropriate plans were being implemented for developing and expanding the telecom Later, the Prime Minister service. The government is unveiled the plaque of the statrying hard to ensure a tion and went round it.

tre dia dual feed cassegrair type antenna and 700 watt

and 660 domestic circuits.

Work is now going on to install the fourth Satellite Earth Station with 100 circuits for establishing direct communication between Sylhet and

TSC road crossing in the afternoon. The new satellite earth sta-Ministries may seek Tk 1000 cr

From Page 1 Col 4

mand how the money is spent." Implementation of Annual

Development Programme (ADP) projects has improved to 32 per cent during the first six months of the current fiscal compared to 26 per cent during the corresponding period of 1993-94, he pointed

 However, he acknowledged that qualitative improvement in implementation is yet to reach the desired level. "Qualitatively we haven't

had as much success as the quantitative improvement in project implementation. It is not up to the desired level," he said. "But we have set an. upward trend."

Chaired by President of the Forum, Moazzem Hossain, Editor of the Financial Express, the meeting was held at the National Press Club. The State Minister for

Planning also acknowledged the flaws in the targeted plans and talked about the newly initiated participatory planning

The ADP targets, he said, are mostly set casually as many are unrealistic. "I have already proposed a new approach for the Fifth Five Year Plan, where I have suggested that instead of having a set target let us look into our needs and priorities" and keep the options

The new approach would place more emphasis on bottom-up local level planning and would be more flexible and qualitative. District level consultative

committees, involving members of parliament and other local people, have been formed for the purpose and the plan-



Dr A Moyeen Khan

ning process for 10 districts has already been drafted. Similar consultative committees would also be formed at the divisional and the national

The next five-year plan

would have four components. The first part would outline the socio-economic setting, the second would consist of basic policy strategies and goals, the third would look into macro-sectoral issues and the fourth part would explicitly take into account the local level input.

"The next five-year plan should not be an economic document but a conceptual one reflecting the socio-political and economic setting in the country," he added. The minister hoped that by

the end of the next five-year plan period, the country would be sufficiently self-reliant, which, he said, would also enable the country to deal more effectively with the unwanted conditionalities of the donor community. "But everything will criti-

cally depend on sustaining real democracy in the country," Dr Khan added. Earlier, Moazzem Hossain.

in his brief welcome address, pointed out that the casualness of setting the ADP targets seem to reflect the lack of political, commitment and wondered if there was any scope to have parliamentary debates in formulating the five-year plans.

The secretary general of ERF, Shamsul Huq Zahid, later read out a vote of thanks. Farm Gate overbridge.

Journalists' memo to information minister for 5th Wage Board

A delegation of the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) met the Information and Commerce Minister M Shamsul Haq at his office in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The delegation included among others the Acting President of BFUJ Manzoer Ahmed. Secretary General Amanullah Kabir and DUJ President Zahirul Huq. and General Secretary Ruhul Amin Gazi. President of Jessore Journalists Union Fakir Show-Rat and General Secretary Mahitul Islam Nantu were

The journalist leaders submitted a memorandum to the Information Minister for constituting the Fifth Wage Board. During the discussions they exchanged views on the overall situation in the newspaper industry and the problems being faced by the journalists in discharging their professional responsibilities.

The Mimister listened to the problems of the journalist leaders sympathetically and assured them that he would extend all cooperation in solving the professional problems of the journalists, a PID handout

Besides, an eleven-member delegation of Bangladesh Journalists' Association called on the Information Minister yesterday. During the discussion the leaders of the association apprised the Minister of the problems being faced by them. He assured them that he would extend all cooperation in solving their genuine demands.

Prokrichi memo to CEC for free, fair polls

By Staff Correspondent

Leaders of the Prokrichi-BCS Central Action Council vesterday submitted a memorandum to Chief Election Commissioner Justice Abdur Rouf suggesting some steps for free and fair elections.

The five-point recommendation of the council includes empowerment of the Election Commission (EC) and stopping the practice of appointing the administrative officials as returning officers.

The council also suggested that the officials from judiciary could be recruited as returning officers if the EC had staff shortage to carry out the

PM: Summit

From Page 1 Col 8 social integration.

NGO representatives and social workers will also participate in the summit.

Sources say, the Bangladesh Prime Minister will also attend the meeting of the nine most populous nations due to be held in Copenhagen on March

NZ minister

From Page 1 Col 5 with Foreign Minister Mostafizur Rahman and meet other ministers.

Trade links and economic cooperation between the two countries are at a low level and Bangladesh officials and businessmen are likely to be briefed on the issues. Imports from New Zealand

mainly include dairy and animal products and leather while Bangladesh's exports are limited to jute, yarn and twine and some textiles. Exports to New Zealand were worth 2.7 million US dollar while imports 3,4 million US dollars in 1993-94. A chamber official said, the

visit might result in setting up a joint chamber with New Zealand.

DCC flyovers

From Page 1 Col 5

Government and Rural Devel opment (LGRD), under which the DCC functions, has recommended approval of the feasibility study. "As soon as we get the approval, we shall start our work," said the official. The proposed sites of the

flyovers are Jatrabari intersection. Malibagh level crossing, Fulbaria crossing. Khilgaon crossing and the intersection near Hotel Sonargaon.

Meanwhile, the Roads and Highways Division has also submitted a project concept paper (PCP) to the authorities concerned for the construction of two flyovers - one at Maghbazar intersection and the other at Mahakhali cross-

The proposal for the two flyovers remains on the priority list, sources said. The PCP shows the construction cost to be about Tk 100 crore.

The DCC is implementing a Tk 2.80-crore "crash programme" of the Planning Ministry to construct four overbridges (foot-overs) in the

The project, expected to be completed by the end of April. also includes extension of the

The Midnight File

Delhi begins troops

NEW DELHI, Feb 12: The Indian government began deploying large contingents of troops today to Bihar ahead of staggered polls next month in the violence-prone eastern province, national television station said. Hundreds of paramilitary troops have been deployed in the oppositionruled state's southern region of flush out Maoist rebels and crush 'private armies' of feudal landlords who oppose the upcoming polls, it said, reports AFP.

Mandela fails to persuade 11 party members not to resign

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 12: South African President Nelson Mandela failed today to persuade 11 ANC members not to resign from the executive of the party's Women's League headed by his estranged wife Winnie. He stepped in to try to resolve the controversy, holding four hours of talks with the I I women who announced their decision to quit on Saturday. citing bad leadership, undemocratic practices and unaccountability in the organisation, reports Reuter.

Hearing of writs

From Page 1 Col 7 was politically motivated and malafide and the appearance of the Speaker after nearly 20 days of the issuance of the rule only speaks that the Speaker, the ruling party and the petitioner have worked in connivance in delaying the effect and thereby to frustrate the constitutional and democratic

process in the country. Earlier, former judge Maksumul Hakim, appearing for the government, said nothing could be achieved by "running out of Parliament". The demand for a caretaker government cannot be achieved by resigning from Parliament, He

.The government counsel, Speaker, said the Speaker is the genuineness and voluntariness of the resignation letters,"

There is also no provision 147 Opposition MPs.

elections under a caretaker government is contrary to the provisions of the Constitution. The government also denied the opposition parties' claim that the demand for a caretaker government is a popular demand.

the court for ignoring the allegation of involvement of the ruling BNP with the case because the ruling party as not been made a party to it.

He termed the petition premature since it came before the Speaker could take any decision regarding the

On Thursday, Additional At-

the right to the Speaker to examine the resignation letters.

RU gunfight From Page 1 Col 4

crackers, the activists of the rooms at Madarbox Hall, some 30 at Habibur Rahman Hall and about 20 at Suhrawardy Hall beat up many students and set lire to furniture

about Taka 50 lakh.

of the ICS brought out a procession carrying the bodies of the two victims and later demonstrated in front of the official residence of the Vice-Chancellor, protesting his orders closing the university indefinitely

Yusuf Ali, ordered the closure as the armed clash was going on at about 9 in the morning. The VC got his order approved by the Syndicate that met later.

police on duty on the campus remained silent spectators when the rival students groups clashed using firearms. BDR was later deployed on the campus. None was however arrested in connection with the

ing with the vice-chancellor in the chair, demanded that the Chancellor of the universities form a judicial committee to probe the matter. It condoled the deaths of two students. expressed sympathy for the members of their families and sought cooperation of all the teachers and students to restore normalcy on the campus

The RU was last closed for an indefinite period on February 6 last year following a gunbattle between activists of the ICS and the All-Party Students Unity (APSU).

deployment in Bihar

defending the role of the the sole authority to examine-

in the Constitution for en bloc resignation, he pleaded, referring to the December 28 submission of resignation by He said demand for holding

Maksumul Hakim prayed to

resignations.

torney General Abdul Wadud Khandaker, in a private capacity, filed an affidavit for the Speaker and Parliament Secretary, while Additional Attorney General Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan filed the affidavit for the government.

Submitting vesterday on the affidavit on behalf of the Speaker and Parliament Secretary, Wadud Khandaker said that the writ is not maintainable as the petition was not filed by any aggrieved person.

The Constitution has given

Besides trading about 300 gunshots and exploding 150 two sides ransacked about 100

The losses at the three halls were initially estimated at

The stick-wielding activists

The VC, Prof Mohammad

Campus sources alleged that

The Syndicate, at its meet-

Khandaker submitted and said the Speaker required reason-

able time to scrutinise. The Speaker will have to see whether the resignation letters were voluntary or have been made any other way." said, adding: "The Speaker re" frained due to the interference of the court by an order of

In response. Moudo Ahmed said the government had come t the court at the end of the day with a 'malifide intention' to delay the whole process. Accusing the Speaker of

violating the Constitution by

holding up the resignation

letters of the MPs. Moudud said: "There is provision to punish one for stealing Tk 5. but no penalty for violation the Constitution. Earlier, all the three lawyers of the opposition political leaders - Sheikh Hasina. Barrister Moudud Ahmed and Moulana Matiur Rahman Nizami — had opposed the fil-

ing of affidavits by the Speaker.

the Parliament Secretary and

the government after such de-Referring to the Speaker's submission that none of the PMs was found after resignation on December 28 evening for scrutiny, Moudud Ahmed said that this was false. "By making a false statement, Moudud said, "the Speaker has

destroyed the institution of his He further contended that the Speaker had acted as a political lea

the ruling population as the Speaker Laftament. Referring to the affidavit filed on behalf of the severit. ment. Mouded Animed said an

Assistant Secretary of the government is not competent to swear in such affidavit. As the matter is of a highly political nature and speaks of the government views. Moudud appealed to the court

not to take the statements of

the Assistant Secretary into

cognizance. Earlier, concluding his submission on the question of maintainability. Barrister Abdur Razzaque said "if there is a constitutional crisis in the country it is the creation of the Speaker, and if there is a political crisis, it is the creation of

the government." . Citing the case of "Federation of Pakistan vs Tamizuddin Khan," Razzaque said: "If there is political crisis in the country, politicians will sort it out, and if there is a constitutional crisis then the functionaries under the Consti-

tution will sort it out. Referring to the petition that there would be a disaster. a constitutional crisis, breach of peace and harmony, Barrise ter Razzaque, alluding to a 1942 judgement by an English judge, Lord Atkins, said, "Amid the clash of arms in this country, the law is not silent, it speak the same language in

peace and war." He pleaded the court to only look into the law, not what the petitioner has mentioned about disaster and cri-

Hasina condemns killing of policeman

Awami League president Sheikh Hasina yesterday condemned the killing of police havildar Abul Hashem in Lalbagh area on Saturday, reports

UNB. New DCCI chief From Page 1 Col 4

have also failed to change the tural socio-economic condition, he added.

For this, the DCCI chief

said, the administrative ma-

chinery of the government was responsible. The policies were not implemented properly by the "primitive bureaucratic." structure." "A structural reform of the administration has, therefore, become a must which should

reaucracy and 'economisation of unproductive bureaucratic manpower. Former presidents of the

ensure inter-alia, due account

ability at all tiers of the bu-

DCCI Abdur Rob Chowdhury and M Yunus and its directors were also present at the press briefing

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