

DU body reviews demand for repealing 'sunset rule'

By DU Correspondent

The review committee formed by the Dhaka University authorities in the wake of female students' agitation against 'sunset rule' held its first meeting yesterday.

Presided over by committee Chairperson National Professor Dr. Sofia Ahmed, the meeting discussed in detail the demand of the female students, who complain that the sunset rule, which brings them back into their dormitories before the sun sets, curbs their basic human rights.

The meeting also discussed the overall campus situation and reviewed the proctorial rules and regulations.

Earlier, at the beginning of the meeting, Vice Chancellor of the University Prof. Emajuddin Ahmed called upon the committee members to place their recommendations on the issue.

The recommendations will be placed before the Syndicate and the Senate of the university if necessary, the VC said.

Meanwhile, different human rights, women's and non-government organisations yesterday supported the demand of

the DU female students.

In a joint statement, the organisations said, sunset rules of the DU violated the rights of female students by confining them within their dormitories by 7 pm.

The rules restrict visits by female students' relatives after evening and force them to seek guardian's special permission to stay outside the residential halls even for academic purposes, the statement said. The rules deprive them of access to educational and cultural facilities enjoyed by other students, both women and men, it added.

These rules are contrary to the constitutional guarantee of equality under Article 28 and do not conform to the Declaration of Human Rights, the organisations said.

They called for eliminating this 'discrimination' between male and female students.

The organisations include Ain O Salish Kendra, ADAB, Mahila Parishad, Bangladesh Nari Prograti Sangha, Nijera Kari, Short Film Forum, Saptagram and Rupantar.

Ershad's counsel wins adjournment

The hearing on the framing of charges against deposed president Ershad in a corruption case was adjourned yesterday following a defence prayer for time, reports BSS.

According to the FIR, Ershad, the loric accused, abused his official position to order the procurement of two sets of TV cameras, accessories, vehicles and other items for prompt television coverage of himself and his wife Begum Raushan Ershad at a cost of Taka 2.93 crore, including a foreign exchange component of Taka 1.65 crore.

Divisional special judge M. Ansuruddin Sikder adjourned the hearing till March 9.

Advocate Humayun Kabir Manju, moving a petition on behalf of the defence, stated that because of yesterday's half-day hartal called by a section of political parties, the chief defence counsel, was compelled to stay home. And since all papers relating to the case were lying with Hossain, it was not possible to proceed with the case, he, therefore, prayed for a week's adjournment.

DU (Amend) Bill '95 placed in Sangsad

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar yesterday introduced the Dhaka University (Amendment) Bill, 1995, in the Jatiya Sangsad which seeks to replace the nomenclature of commerce degrees by 'business studies' degrees, reports BSS.

The statement of object and reasons of the Bill said the amendment was necessitated to serve academic interest in view of the changing situation of trade and commerce, industrial establishments, insurance and banking system, and different government and non-government organisations in the country.

The Bill is seeking to amend two sections of the Dhaka University Order of 1973. The words 'Business studies' have been proposed to substitute the word 'commerce' in one section while in another section the words 'Bachelor of Commerce' to be replaced by the word 'Bachelor of Business Studies'.

BGMEA polls today

From Page 1 Col 8

The incumbent President Redwan Ahmed MP, and the other, by Noor-e-Alam Siddiqi, Managing Director of Doreen Apparels Limited.

The contestants from the Sammilito Nirbaehani Parishad of Redwan Ahmed are Abul Quasem Haider, Abdu Salam Murshed, Md A Moin, Col (Retd) M Anwarul Azim, Md Atiqul Islam, Alhaj Md Bazlur Rahman, Md Shahidul Huq, Md Hanif Chowdhury and Shahab Uddin Ahmed Chowdhury.

Noor-e-Alam Siddiqi, Anisul Huq, Yahya Khan, Md Ozair Afzal, ASM Qasem, Cap (Retd) Anisur Rahman Sinha, Shah Alam, Hafiz Ahmed Majumder and Lutfi M Ayub are contesting from the other panel.

Redwan Ahmed, at a projection meeting of his panel yesterday at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, focused mainly on the achievements of the present committee, including shifting of the utilisation permit from the National Board of Revenue to the BGMEA, reduction of the advance income tax from .50 per cent to .25 per cent, strengthening of the monitoring system of quota utilisation

and modernisation of the BGMEA secretariat.

He said that his committee had also taken steps for shifting of the quota administration to the BGMEA from the Export Promotion Bureau.

The BGMEA president also said the present committee had managed to protect the country's interest in quota negotiations and taken steps to educate the child workers by setting up schools.

The Noor-e-Alam Siddiqi panel, on the other hand, announced a 22-point set of pledges at a projection meeting yesterday at Hotel Sonargaon.

The promises include measures to keep the garments sector beyond the purview of income tax, to ensure representation of the BGMEA in the concerned government institutions, to cancel the flood insurance system, to abolish the advance income tax system, to make export of garments VAT-free, and to extend the facilities, being enjoyed by the industrial units in the EPZs, to the garments sector.

Some 900 voters of the BGMEA would cast their ballots from 9 am to 5 pm.

Ctg stock exchange

From Page 1 Col 4

Regarding the 'distortion of prices' that may arise out of more than one market with the same listings, Amir Khasru said, "We have nothing to do with the prices as we will leave the matter to the market forces."

"We want more professionals to come and get involved in the equity market. The CSE would extend them the opportunity to utilise their talents in this field," he said.

The CSE Chairman also said creation of the new stock market would give Bangladesh a new exposure to the outside world, which might pave the way for further inflow of portfolio investments.

DSE member Hemayet Uddin Ahmed, however, said the location-based stock exchange is losing its ground in the present context, when the traders can purchase or sell shares staying at home by

virtue of the screen-based trading system.

The DSE is also going to introduce the system by the end of this year, Hemayet Uddin said, adding the decision of allowing a second stock exchange at the moment does not reflect the forward-looking attitude of the government.

He said there are instances in some countries are being unified to meet the need of the time. In Australia, all the six stock exchanges have unified themselves and in the Philippines, two stock exchanges merged into one, Hemayet Uddin, who is also a former Chairman of the DSE, told The Daily Star.

More than one stock exchange in a country with the same listings would only cause volatility in prices and create a feeling of deprivation among some of the investors," he said.

Half-day hartal

From Page 1 Col 5

Police also arrested BSD leaders Mostafa Faruk and Dr Mujibul Haq Arzoo from the spot.

During the hartal hours, rickshaw movement in the city was normal. Some autorickshaws, tempos and buses were also seen plying on the roads. Some shops in the Elephant Road, Green Road and Shabbag were opened after 10 am according to eye witness.

All trains left Kamalapur station in due time. The Chittagong and Sylhet-bound trains however continued operation via Mymensingh as the uprooted rail tracks in Ghorashal were yet to be repaired.

The LDF leaders in a post-hartal press briefing protested attack on their workers and demanded immediate release of Mostafa Faruk and Dr Mujibul Haq Arzoo.

The press briefing was also addressed by Rashed Khan Menon MP, Hasanul Haq Inu, Mujahidul Islam Selim and leaders of other left leaning parties.

The LDF will hold demonstrations and bring out processions demanding removal of the government, reducing prices of essentials and protesting killing of the jute-textile workers on February 19. It will hold a rally at the Noor Hossain Square this evening.



Bangabandhu Avenue in the city during hartal hours yesterday.

Appointment of DU pro-VC demanded

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) yesterday demanded appointment of the pro-Vice Chancellor of the university immediately.

The post of the pro-VC remained vacant since December last.

The DUTA in a meeting observed, the teachers were facing problems as a deadlock was created in the university administration for the absence of the pro-VC.

The DUTA meeting was presided over by its President Prof ATM Zahurul Huq.

PM: Businessmen

From Page 1 Col 2

Industrialisation programme to ensure overall development of the country.

The establishment of the industrial estate in the private sector is also under consideration of the government, she said.

The DCCI President praised the government for taking up various development programmes within a very short span of time and for its reform measures.

He stressed the need for structural adjustment and proper implementation of the reform policies for rapid industrialisation of the country.

Referring to frequent hartal, strike and blockade programme, Khan said the people are opposed to "destructive activities" of the political parties, which only add to their sufferings and hinder development works.

He put forward various proposals regarding tax holiday, trade liberalisation and rehabilitation of sick industries for consideration of the government. Begum Zia gave the assurance that those would be looked into with due attention.

The DCCI delegation apprised the Prime Minister of its poverty alleviation and employment programmes.

The DCCI delegation included Hossain Akhter, Syed Toufique Ali, Shabbir Ahmed Khan, Benajir Ahmed, Belayet Hussain Shikder, Abdu Salam, Mahbubuzzaman, Ali Hossain, Ashraf Chowdhury, AA Moniruzzaman, Absar Karim and AZM Nazimuddin.

Special Envoy of the Prime Minister M. Morshed Khan was present on the occasion.

ROK work permit

From Page 1 Col 8

To implement the decision, the South Korean government will enact a special law on the employment of foreign workers.

Seoul's plan is designed to deal with loopholes exposed in the government's foreign labour policy by organisations employing migrant workers, authorised or unauthorised.

The ministry said, however, that the number of work permits to be issued to unskilled foreign workers will be strictly controlled.

South Korea will seek to have "unauthorised" migrant workers replaced gradually by those with work permits after the law is enacted.

Jamaat, JCD clash in Sirajganj

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 15: At least 10 people were injured in sporadic clashes between the activists of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Jamaat-e-Islami in the town today, reports UNB.

The district Jamaat office at Dargapatti was also ransacked during the clashes.

64 killed in Taiwan fire

TAIPEI, Feb 15: At least 64 people were killed and 11 others injured late today when a fire gutted a two-story restaurant in the central Taiwan city of Taichung, some 100 kilometers (60 miles) south of here, police said.

Arms factories

From Page 1 Col 8

Selim told police that his absconding friend Khokon used to sell locally manufactured revolvers for Taka 3000 each for a long time.

Three cases were filed with the Lalbagh police in this connection.

Child workers' issue

From Page 1 Col 3

labor in the garment factories, the MOU would be signed between the BGMEA and two local NGOs: Gonoshahajjo Sangstha (GSS) and the Underprivileged Children's Education Programme (UCEP), he added.

The two NGOs would set up and run the schools for the underaged children working in the garment factories.

Samet said that the United States would consider providing funds for the programmes under the proposed MOU. He, however, made it clear that the US government was not going to be a party in the MOU.

Some 10,000 children aged between 12-14 have already been identified as fit for light part-time work in garment factories and attending school under the programme, he noted.

He pointed out that for the growth of any economy educated children can become a good workforce of a country, while emphasising the education programme under the MOU. "No country can make progress using child labour."

Responding to a question, Samet said, "Our mission here has not been to investigate."

Wrong policy destroying

From Page 1 Col 7

between the Finance Secretary and BJSa officials to look into the problems of the sector is due soon.

Under the JSAC programme, the composite jute mills are getting a subsidised effective interest rate of only two per cent on their loans — zero per cent for the first three years and three per cent for the remaining 12 years.

On the other hand, the spinning mills are getting bank financing at a high interest rate of 12.5 per cent.

The composite mills are taking full advantage of the situation and are even not complying with a protection clause under the JSAC programme which prohibits them from increasing their jute yarn and twin production, the BJSa chairman noted.

"The composite jute mills are ignoring the protection clause provided under the JSAC and are involved in the export of jute yarn and twin, thus creating a unhealthy competition," he said.

Jute yarn and twin exports by the composite jute mills increased from 10,464 metric tons in 1991-92 to 21,380 metric tons in 1993-94.

"The policy distortion has profound negative impact on the viability of the spinning sector," Yusuf added. "We feel that the industry should be equally treated vis-a-vis the composite jute mills and be given similar restructuring benefits."

He suggested that the interest rate for the jute spinning sector, be lowered to

US ambassador gets legal notice

A legal notice was issued yesterday on US Ambassador David N Merrill asking him to look into a newspaper report on the entry of ex-MP Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury Babu of the Awami League into the United States and his presence at different state functions, reports UNB.

Babu, accused in a murder case under Dhanmondi thana, remains absconding. The Daily Inqilab recently published an interview with the fugitive from the United States.

Advocate Md Anwaruzzaman issued the notice on behalf of Sk. Mohiuddin Ahmed, Chairman of the Ganatantrik Sarbahara Party, according to a copy of the notice.

In the notice, the lawyer asked why the US authorities are not arresting Akhtaruzzaman Babu and handing him over to Bangladesh authorities for trial on the murder charge.

He sought the Ambassador's reply within five days after receipt of the notice. Otherwise, he would take up the matter with the appropriate authorities, the notice said.

Ruling party MP demands ban on Jamaat-Shibir

By Staff Correspondent

Ruling party MP Major (retd) Akhtaruzzaman yesterday demanded imposition of ban on the activities of the Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front Islami Chhatra Shibir.

Rising on a point of order in parliament, he said the Jamaat-Shibir activists showed their audacity at Rajshahi and Dhaka during the past three days.

He urged the people to resist the activities of the rightist party.

Akhtaruzzaman said the unruly Jamaat-Shibir workers attacked and injured several persons including a woman journalist. They also attacked police and damaged dozens of vehicles, he added.

He said that after getting citizenship through the court, Jamaat chief Golam Azam had been making 'audacious' statements time and again.

"Snakes can never be tamed because at the very first opportunity they would bite their tamer," he said without referring to Jamaat-Shibir.

Action against Jamaat, Shibir demanded

By Staff Correspondent

The Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Jatiya Samannay Committee yesterday demanded stern action against the fascist Jamaat-Shibir axis for creating 'terror' in Rajshahi University.

The demand was voiced at a meeting, held in the city's Taher auditorium with committee convenor Syed Hasan Imam in the chair.

The meeting was also addressed by Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Kazi Aref Ahmed, Nurul Islam Naifid, Ahad Chowdhury, Panna Kaiser, Mozaffar Hossain Chowdhury, Maya and Aminul Huq Mantu.

The Jamaat-Shibir axis continued their activities as the government never took any effective measures to bring the killers to book, the Nirmul Committee leaders alleged.

Nurses' demand

From Page 1 Col 7

held throughout the country held rallies, brought out processions and observes strikes during the last one month protesting implementation of the CMEQA programme.

The CMEQA was first inaugurated at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital on January 15 as a test case. But, in the wake of strong resistance and non-cooperation from hospital staff, the government is now giving a second thought to the issue.

The Midnight File

Russians, Chechens agree to 48-hr ceasefire

SLEPTSOVSK, Russia, Feb 15: Russian and Chechen officials reportedly agreed today to a 48-hour complete ceasefire in Chechnya, despite skepticism and widespread violations of an earlier truce. The new ceasefire was set to take effect at midnight. Chechen field commander Shamil Basayev was quoted as saying by Russian news agencies at the conclusion of talks in the town of Sleptsovsk, Ingushetia, just west of Chechnya, reports AP.

Bomb attack on APSU rally in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Feb 15: At least five students were injured in cocktail bomb attack on an APSU rally at 8:15 tonight (Wednesday night) near the Saheb Bazar Sonadighi crossing in the city. Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal Rajshahi University unit Office Secretary Nuruzzaman Tapan and a passerby, Suman, were among the seriously injured, reports UNB.

Erratic power supply 3 shops gutted in city

By Staff Correspondent

Traders and residents of the busy Elephant Road-Nilkhet area experienced erratic power failures in the past few days.

Electricity supply in the Elephant Road, Kataban and Nilkhet areas snapped for more than eight times yesterday. The market places in those areas were badly affected during busy hours in the evening.

When the Satmasjid Road sub-station was contacted, an employee of the Dhaka Electricity Supply Authority (DESA) told The Daily Star that the power supply was disrupted due to faults in a feeder line.

Frequent power failures were also reported from Topkhana area in the afternoon.

Three shops were gutted by fire at Shahjahanpur in the city yesterday afternoon.

Fire service sources say, welding work at a shop was the cause of the fire.

None was injured in the accident.

The affected shops are the National Welding Shop, New Navana Workshop and Tiger Workshop.

The fire fighters from the headquarters and Khilgaon station extinguished the blaze within one hour.

Judges' promotion

From Page 1 Col 6

judges, including the petitioner.

Hearing of the writ is taking place before a division bench of the High Court comprising Justice Naimuddin Ahmed and Justice Md Ruhul Amin.

Appearing on behalf of the petitioner, Dr. Kamal Hossain submitted that any promotion or demotion involving a magistrate to a district judge must be executed as per the provisions of Article 116 of the Constitution, which stipulates consultation with the Supreme Court regarding promotion of judges.

He also added that even under Article 152, the 'judicial services' means and includes officials upto the post of district judge and any decision including posting, promotion and grant of leave should be done through effective consultation with the Supreme Court.

Dr Hossain said that these constitutional provisions should be followed, otherwise the government would exercise the power whimsically and would reward only those who favour the government while those discharging their responsibilities independently, like the petitioner, would suffer.

Speaker

From Page 1 Col 7

The counsel argued that there was no question of acceptance or rejection of the resignation letters since the Speaker is not the appointing authority of the MPs.

He further stated that the Speaker received the resignation letters of the MPs from their respective leaders without any objection when all the opposition MPs were present in the Parliament building.

"Advocate Islam continued that the ROP barred members from moving a motion or any discussion relating to any matter under adjudication by a court of law. He submitted that even after receipt of the notice from the court and during pendency of this writ petition, members in Parliament were allowed to discuss the matter in the House.

About the submission of resignation letters in three folders by the leaders of the opposition parties, Advocate Islam said if the Speaker had any doubt about the letters, he could have immediately opened the folders to check them.

About Jatiya Party member Mahmudul Hasan's decision not to resign, Advocate Islam submitted that Mahmudul Hasan, who was elected a member on a Jatiya Party ticket, in no way could retain his membership because he had violated the party decision.

Earlier, Advocate Alauddin Khalid, who filed the writ, read out his reply in reply to the Speaker before the special bench comprising Justice AM Mahmudur Rahman, Justice Kazi Ebadul Huq and Justice Mohammad Abdul Karim.

The hearing resumes this morning.

Osmany

From Page 1 Col 4

tions have drawn up elaborate programmes to mark the occasion.

Bangabir Osmany Smriti Parishad will hold a seminar on "the role of leadership in safeguarding rights of the citizens" today at 3 pm at the National Press Club.

Deputy Leader of the Jatiya Sangsad Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Awami League General Secretary Zillur Rahman, eminent lawyer barrister Syed Istiaque Ahmed and Gano Forum President Dr. Kamal Hossain will take part in the seminar.

The Jatiya Janata Party, which was floated by General Osmany, will hold a discussion at the National Book Centre auditorium today at four in the afternoon. Abdu Salam Talukder, Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives, will attend the function as chief guest.

The Sylhet Division Movement and Development Council held a discussion on "the Liberation War and Role of Osmany in Democracy" yesterday. The speakers at the function highlighted various aspects of the life of MAG Osmany.

বিসমিল্লাহি রহমানি রহিম
বি জি এম ই এ নিবাচন ১৯৯৫
সম্মিলিত নির্বাচনী পরিষদ
মনোনীত প্যানেল

জনাব বেদোয়ান আহমেদ, এম পি, এর নেতৃত্বে বর্তমান উন্নয়ন কর্মকর্তার খারাবাহিকতা রক্ষা ও পরবর্তী পরিহিতিতে নতুন উদ্যোগ ও কার্যক্রম সুস্থ ভাবে পরিচালনার স্বার্থে সম্মিলিত নির্বাচনী পরিষদের পক্ষে আপনাদের মতামত ভোট মদান করে সহায়ক করুন।

ক্র	নাম	নির্বাহক	মত	মোট
১	জনাব মাসুম হোসেন হোসেন	ইউ এফসি সি	১০০	১০০
২	জনাব মাসুম হোসেন হোসেন	সামানি প্যানেল সি	১০০	১০০
৩	জনাব মোহাম্মদ এ হোসেন	এসি প্যানেল সি	১০০	১০০
৪	জনাব মোহাম্মদ এ হোসেন	এ সি এর কার্যক্রম সি	১০০	১০০
৫	জনাব মোহাম্মদ এ হোসেন	ইসলাম প্যানেল সি	১০০	১০০
৬	জনাব মোহাম্মদ এ হোসেন	ইসলাম প্যানেল সি (স্বাধীন)	১০০	১০০
৭	জনাব মোহাম্মদ এ হোসেন	ইউ এ, এ, প্যানেল প্যানেল সি	১০০	১০০
৮	জনাব মোহাম্মদ এ হোসেন	আবদুল হোসেন ইয়াসিন সি	১০০	১০০
৯	জনাব মোহাম্মদ এ হোসেন	কে সি প্যানেল (স্বা) সি	১০০	১০০