Meet demand keeping social values intact

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar yesterday expressed solidarity with the female students of the Dhaka University who are demanding amendments to some proctorial rules and regula-

Dr. Kamal Hossain, vice president of the Bangladesh Bar Council, said that the demands of the female students though legitimate should be materialised in accordance with the needs of the society and its values.

The seminar on "Sunset Rule of the University: Human Rights. Security and Other Issues" was participated by lawyers, women activists,

teachers and students. The demands of the female students include keeping the gates of their hostels open in the evening in line with the timings of the Central Library and waiving of such restrictions as permission of the local guardian and mandatory applications for reporting late at the dormitories at night.

The speakers urged the students and people of the country to work for removing discrimination between men and women.

The function, held at the TSC auditorium of the Dhaka University, was participated by Advocate Sigma Huda, Sara Hossain, Bar-at-Law ADAB chairperson Khushi Kabir. general secretary of the Bangladesh Mahila Parishad Ayesha Khanam, former provost

of the Bangladesh-Kuwait Moi tree Hall, DU, Dr. Zaheda Ah-

Dr. Shahdin Malik, advisor of the Law Review - a law research centre manned by students - presided over the seminar while Begum Shahria presented the keynote paper.

The Law Review, University Law Research Centre and Department of Law of the DU jointly organised the seminar

Dr. Kamal Hossain, in his speech, said that the amendments to the rules and regulations should be made through discussion with the guardians and in keeping with public

The society will be deprived if the women are deprived of their rights. Dr. Kamal added.

Ayesha Khanam said that changes in society's attitude towards women is more important than the question of

female students should not only fight for changes in the proctorial rules but also must remain alert to realising the rights of women.

Sigma Huda observed that the female students were deprived of equal opportunities in the pursuit of higher education because the deadline for closing the gates of the ladies hostels do not correspond to the timings of the central li-

City wears festive look

From Page 1 Col 2 is why all markets in the capital have suspended their weekly day offs during the Ramadan", said a salesman.

is a shopping season till the Eid, one can easily feel a clear distinction between the rich and poor sections of people. The poor throng the makeshift floating markets on pavements and boulevards and the affluent go to fashionable shopping complexes. Some of the affluent even fly to Bangkok or Singapore for their Eid shop-

Illumination of shopping malls, seen as an additional attraction is reportedly causing frequent power failure in different areas. Traders, however alleged that due to repeated power failure inconvenience is being caused to shoppers.

Prices of different varieties of cloths and garments have already registered a slight in-

Mohammad Mostafa, who owns a wayside shop at Kaptan Bazar, told this correspondent since the price of varn has gone up, has its impact on garments prices very naturally. "Despite this, poor people are coming to my shop and buying garments at a relatively low price."

Samir Mia, a day-labourer. who came to Fulbaria Hawkers Market to buy a shirt from roadside vendors, said it was costing him Taka 60.

However, the seller did not want to miss the very first opportunity to claim: "Sir, if you buy the same type of shirt from any shop inside the market. cost you at least Taka 120.

Ratan Mia, who set up a make-shift shoe shop right on the road adjacent to Gulistan falpatti (fruit market), was very happy with his brisk business. "I buy 'no. 2' quality kades from wholesale markets at Siddig Bazar and Sikkatali at very cheap rates since I know - my customers belonging to low-income group will like it very much to have a pair of shoes at such throw-away prices", he said with a smile.

Hasina

From Page 1 Col 5 ment of politicising the judiclary, the administration and state-owned media. The misrule of the BNP crippled national economy, she said adding, the ruling party has been steeping in corruption. Despite specific allegation of corruption, the Opposition was not allowed to discuss it in

Parliament. "Our agitation is to achieve economic development and political stability." Hasina said and sought cooperation from Bangladeshis living in the USA in her current struggle.

Khorshed Alam Chowdhury presided over the function. also addressed by Bangladesh Association President Shah Alam, Convenor of Bangbandhu Parishad Dr Enayetur Rahim and US Awami League President Nurul Islam Anu. Hasina also attended an iftar party

med and Umme Habiba Shumi.

opinion.

insecurity

She, however, said that the

Some youths who went to the Fulbaria Municipal Super Market, a middle-class market for purchasing jeans pants, complained that sellers were charging higher price taking Meanwhile, now that there

> advantage of the Eid season. A completely different scene of Eid shopping could be seen at the shopping arcades at the New Elephant Road with the sellers already having a brisk business.

A salesman of a fashionable shop told this correspondent smilingly that their business increased by 50 per cent this time over that of the last Eid season. "Here: we have in our stock - Max, Hoko and Shadle - for jeans crazy youths and -Zoom-1, Firstman, Sclass and IC Sports -all brand new Tshirts. Youths are simply loving to have these in their Eid shopping bags," added the

salesman. New Market, Gausia, Noor Mansion and Chishtia markets and Dhanmondi Hawkers Market seemed to be ladies zones' as young girls along with their mothers were thronging those in large numbers not only for purchases but also for having a pre-shopping glance of the stock to see what new designs were on the sale. Then they will plan, enquire what their friends are buying and finally decide what should be their dress in the ensuing

Eid, A common sight at the Baitul Mokarram market's jewellery shops was newly married couples moving from one shop to the other before mak ing a choice.

A salesman of a saree shop at Noor Mansion market, however, said business is not very buoyant this year. Due to shortage of import of yarn from China, price of 'Mirpuri Katan'. a women's favourite has shot up, he added.

Cotton sarees were on sale at Bangabazar Hawkers Market, Sadarghat and Islampur markets while Tangail, Katan, Baluchari, Kanjiyaram, Silk. Muga Silk, Print Gorget and Garden Silk sarees were being sold at the Batley Road. Gausta. New Market, Baitul Mokarram and Peer Yemeni markets.

Quality sarees were also on sale at different sale centres of Probortana. Arong, and at Dhanmondi Garden markets For buying children's garments one could visit Paltan Super Market, Eastern Plaza. Nahar Market and Issa Khan Shopping Centre. Besides. young ladies' salwar kameez, three-piece, tops and skirts were available in these mar-

Young men were mostly visiting Priangon, Mansoor Bhavan, Darling Point, Malibagh and Mouchak markets for traditional Eid-wears panjabi and

pajama. Besides, Grameen Cheque, a popular cloth now-a-days, is on sale at 'Grameen Udyog Bikroi Kendra' at Grameen Bank Bhavan at Mirpur Section No 2.

Different varieties of clothes are on sale at a 50 per cent discount at the sale centres of Bangladesh Textiles Mills Corperation.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury addressing a seminar organised by the Bangabir Osmany Memorial Society, in observance of the eleventh death anniversary of Gen MAG Osmany, in the city yesterday. - Star photo

JB TSC branch ransacked

A group of students yesterday ransacked the Janata Bank TSC branch office after the bankers had refused to take fees after the office hour, reports UNB.

The students, reportedly residents of the Jagannath Hall, came to the bank at I pm and insisted on the bank management taking fees of their examinations. But the bank officials re-

the transaction hour was over at noon. Then the agitated students went on rampage. They also beat an employee of the bank,

fused to deposit their fees as

Four Khulna JCD activists hurt in bomb attack

campus sources said.

By Our Correspondent KHULNA, Feb 16: Four students belonging to the Jatiy atabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were severely injured in bomb explosion and gunfire on the Khulna Polytechnic Institute (KPI) campus at 11 am today.

Two of the injured were admitted to Khulna General Hospital in a critical condition

The clash began when a group of students belonging to the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) attacked a JCD procession. The procession was brought out to protest Chhatra Shibir activities on the RU campus.

The JCD in a statement said that the BCL activists supported by some outsiders used revolvers, pipeguns and hand bombs during the 'unprovoked

The BCL in its statemen blamed the JCD of armed ter rorism on the KPI campus.

Tension in Ctg polytech

From Staff Correspondent CHITTAGONG, Feb 16 Tension prevailed in the Chittagong Polytechnic Institute today as the supporters of two rival student groups demonstrated amid blasts of cocktails police said.

The trouble began following chases by the supporters of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the Chhatra Shibir on the campus.

When police intervened to disperse them, some demonstrators started brick-batting them but later fled the campus, police added.

No injury was reported during the melee.

Businessman found slaughtered in Jhenidah

From Our Correspondent JHENIDAH, Feb 16: A hide businessman was found slaughtered at Arabpur field near

Jhenidah town this morning. The victim was identified as Rokanuddin Dafader of the village Sajanna under sadar thana. He was returning from Kushtia yesterday evening having about Tk 25 thousand in his pocket, family sources said.

One killed in Sirajganj clash

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 16: A man was killed and five others were injured in a clash between two rival groups over killing of a cow at Bahirgola of the town today, reports UNB. Police said Fakhrul Islam,

35; who received serious injuries in his face died at sadar hospital.

The clash erupted between the groups - one led by Nurul Islam and another by Anu following the killing of the

Border trade

From Page 1 Col 8 industries. It will also help curb smuggling and illegal business in the border, he added.

He said though the two countries had singed the Memorandum of Understanding. the commencement of the border trade has been delayed because of some formalities yet to be completed.

Osmany's anniversary of death observed

Various political and social organisations paid tributes to General MAG Osmany, the Libcration War hero who led the liberation forces in 1971 as the commander-in-chief, on the occasion of his 11th-death anniversary yesterday, reports

The Bangabir Osmany Memorial Society has organised a seminar on "Role of leadership in protecting people's rights. Paving tributes to the late Osmany, prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said that he had worked all his life for establishing the rights of the people.

He said it was duty of the party in power and the opposi tion to work for establishing the political, social and economic rights of the people. He said the people had voted the opposition members to speak for their cause in the Jativa Sangsad but they had failed to discharge their responsibili-

organised a memorial meeting in the afternoon here. Speaking on the occasion. LGRD Minister and BNP Secretary General Abdus Salam

The Jatiya Janata Party has

Talukder said as a man of principle. Gen Osmany, who was an Awami League Minister. quit the party when one-party Baksal was formed.

The minister recalled with honour the democratic spirit of Gen Osmany, saying that he first resigned from Awami. League cabinet in 1974 protesting the corruption. nepotism and favouritism and later resigned from the party protesting one party rule.

Presided over by Abul Khair Chowdhury, general secretary of the party, the meeting was addressed by Labour and Manpower Minister Lt Gen (retd) Mir Shawkat Ali, State Minister for Finance Mojibur Rah man and Jatiya Janata Party president Sheikh Asad.

Boy run over

JHENIDAH, Feb 16: An eight-year-old boy was run over by a Jessore-bound truck today at Loujia of Sadar thana on the Jhenidah-Jessore road. Police said Momin, son of one Moinuddin, fell victim to rash driving by the truck driver when he was crossing the road in front of his house in the morning, reports UNB.



State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Major (Retd) Abdul Mannan addressing a press conference at the Biman head office yesterday. — PID photo.

Biman to maintain aircraft

From Page 1 Col 7 Biman and other senior officials were present at the press conference.

Biman has now five DC-10s. two turbo-prop ATPs and two F-28s to operate 26 international and seven domestic flights. One DC-10 was procured last year on a three-year

Replying to a question regarding the two tenders floated recently to find a maintenance contractor, the minister said "We have changed our decision.

He replied in the negative when asked whether the Biman management had changed its decision only because it had failed to award the contract to a particular company.

"We have no special choice. We always accept the offer of the lowest bidder," the minister said.

The minister could not give any plausible explanation when his attention was drawn to the 'faulty' clause in the tender for

the Airbus purchase asking all the bidders to provide certificates from the manufacturer -, Airbus Industrie — when the company itself was a bidder.

"The particular clause in the tender schedule was not aimed to favour anybody," the minister added. He refuted the allegation that the offer of one company was rejected because it had failed to provide the certificate from the Airbus Industrie, and said there were also other reasons for rejecting that particular offer. He was ambiguous about an-

other question regarding the reason for the former Civil Aviation minister's transfer to the textiles ministry, reportedly because of poor handling of the Airbus procurement "May be, but I don't think it

is true," the minister told the questioner.

Last month the Prime Minister swapped the two Abdul Mannans, inter-changing their respective ministries.

James P Grant's contributions recalled

By Staff Correspondent

developing countries.

We owe to his leadership the popularity of ORT that saves one million lives every year and his role in raising the immunization level from mere 20 per cent to 80 in Third World countries," said Abed.

He was speaking at the memorial service for the former Executive Director of UNICEF in New York last Friday, according to a delayed message received here yesterday. Abed was the only speaker from the Third World countries apart from the UN Secretary General Boutros-Boutros Ghali.

Abed said Jim Grant was a simple man with simple ideas and devoted much of his life and energy to ensure not only the survival but also healthy growth of the children of the Third World.

by prominent personalities from the United States and senior official of the United Nations.

President assents to 9 Bills

President Abdur Rahman Biswas gave his assent Wednesday to nine Bills passed by the Jatiya Sangsad, according to a Sangsad secretariat press release here yesterday, reports

This Bills are: the Bangladesh Environment Protection Bill, 1995; the Protection and Conservation of Fish (Amendment) Bill, 1995; the Bangladesh Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill, 1995; the Ansar Bahini Bill, 1995; the Battalion Ansar Bill, 1995; the Village Defence Party Bill. 1995; the Rangamati Hill District Local Government Parishad (Amendment) Bill. 1995; the Khagrachhari Hill District Local Government Parishad (Amendment) Bill. 1995 and the Bandarban Hill District Local Government Parishad (Amendment) Bill,

Judges' promotion

From Page 1 Col 5 secretary were outside the scope of the Constitution because a joint secretary is not a post under the judicial service. The hearing will resume

Amir-ul Islam submitted that the judicial service is not part of the service of the Republic and as such the administrative tribunal has no juris diction and that the writ is maintainable in case of a judicial officer.

Fazle Hasan Abed, Executive Director of the BRAC (Bangla desh Rural Advancement Committee) recalled the contributions of James P Grant in popularising Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) in the

The function was attended

1995.

Sunday.

The writ was filed by Aftabuddin Ahmed, Additional District Judge of Chittagong. challenging the promotions which were in supersession of other senior judges, including himself, and made without due consultation with the Supreme Court which, the petitioner claimed, was required under the Constitution.



Guppy fish being carried in drums for release in city drains and ditches as part of the Dhaka City Corporation's (DCC) belated drive to eradicate mosquitoes. The fish relishes the larvae of the naughty nuisance. -Star photo

The Midnight Kile

Tension prevails at Ullapara

SIRAJGANJ, Feb 16: Tension mounted at Ullapara thana headquarters as the Jamaat-e-Islami and the Ghatak Dalai Nirmul Committee announced public meetings at the same time and same place on Saturday. Both sides declared their respective meetings at the Kawk High School premises at 9 am. Jamaat leader Delwar Hossain Saydee is scheduled to address their meeting, reports UNB.

Israel to ease ban on Palestinian workers

EREZ JUNCTION, Gaza Strip. Feb 16: Israel agreed Thursday to ease a ban on Palestinian workers travelling to Israel and proposed the PLO assume administrative control of a West Bank town. In a two-hour meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin agreed to gradually lift the closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and permit 15,000 Palestinian workers to return to their jobs in Israel next week, reports AP.

Motor vehicles tax payment date

The owners of the motor vehicles who could not pay vehicles tax within the stipulated time, will now be able to pay the same without fine up to March 31, reports BSS.

The decision was taken after special consideration of the matter and the authorities asked all concerned to take appropriate measures in this regard.

Sangram editor

From Page 1 Col 8 Sangram had published a news item that the Five-party had passed adverse comments against the Khatib of Baitul Mukarram Mosque, misbehaved with the Chief Imam and threatened to close down the

When the Workers' Party sent a rejoinder to publish the news, the said daily instead of publishing the contradiction further tried to establish the credibility of its report. As a result, Menon, the

general secretary of the Workers' Party filed the case against the Daily Sangram's editor and the publisher Md. Yunus in the court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate. According to a press release

issued yesterday by the Workers' Party of Bangladesh, the leaders of the then fivesparty Alliance, including Rashed Khan Menon, had gone to Baitul Mukarram Mosque in 1992 to submit a memorandum to the mosque authority urging a prohibition of politics in places of worship. The leaders had also submitted similar memoranda to the Ramna Catholic church, Kamalapur Buddhist monastery and the Dhakeshwari temple, the press

release added. Following the publication of the news item in the Sangram regarding the submission of memorandum to the Baitul Mukarram, the Jamaat-e-Islami workers held meetings and processions throughout the country and allegedly threatened Menon over tele-

Discussion on political crisis today

A round table discussion on Current Political Crisis Wherein Solution" will be held today at 3 pm at Jatiya Press Club, reports UNB.

The discussion has been organised by the Centre for Bangladesh Studies.

Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury, Barrister Abdus Salam Talukder and Khandaker Delwar Hossain of ruling BNP. Tofael Ahmed and Abul Hasan Chowdhury of Awami League, Gano Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain, Workers Party leader Haider Akbar Khan Rano, Prof Rehman Sobhan, Khandaker Mahbubuddin. Barrister KS Nabt, Prof Monsur Musa, Prof Shamsur Rahman, Prof Kabiruddin Ahmed, Prof Aftab Ahmad, journalists Bazlur Rahman and Syed Zafar will take part in discussion

Immunization

From Page 1 Col 4 would be eradicated from the

Chowdhury Kamal Ibné Yusuf stressed the need for creating mass awareness in alleviating the six antigens and sought cooperation of the media in this regard.

Dr. Nasim Reza spoke of the NID programme and its targets and the urgent need to drive out the polio disease from the

The slogan for this year's World Health Day on April 7 is 'A polio-free world."

In this context, he men tioned that China, the Philippines and Vietnam have been observing the NID since 1993 while Iran, Thailand, India, Cambodia and Laos joined the programme last year.

Explaining the NID pro-

gramme, he said, two crore children aged upto five years will be given four doses of oral vaccine - the first one on March 16 and the second one a month later, on April 16. Even those children already immunized will be brought under the special drive as there was no harm in taking the vaccine for a second time, he

Taslima's condition for return

OXFORD, Feb 16: Taslima Nasreen, the feminist author who fled Bangladesh after outraging Muslim fundamentalists, said Thursday that she would be willing to face trial for blasphemy and even go to prison if her government could

guarantee her safety, reports "If they decide I have to go to trial, I have to go back, but with the condition that the government whould full security in Panda 'sh. she said in an intermedew with The Associated Press and

"I am prepared to go to

prison, but in prison I need that guarantee that no one will kill me." Ms Nasreen, who has been charged with blasphemy. added that she thought such

guarantees were unlikely. "This government is more or less fundamentalist, and the largest opposition party ... is also a fundamentalist party, With the help of government, fundamentalists are gaining strength and one day they will destroy our society," she said.

Warrants of arrest against 2 Jamaat leaders in Rajshahi

RAJSHAHI, Feb. 16: The

City Magistrate Court issued warrants of arrest against two Jamaat leaders in a defamation suit filed today by Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu, reports

Accepting the case the court issued warrant of arrest against City Jamaat Ameer Ataur Rahman and General Secretary Tasneem Alam.

Speaker

From Page 1 Col 7 the normal functioning of another statutory organ of the state, the Election Commission. Advocate Islam

submitted. He further maintained that the Speaker mentioned in his affidavit that he did not take any decision on the resignation letters because negotiations were continuing between the ruling party and the

Opposition. The counsel alleged that the Speaker was not functioning as Speaker, rather he was representing a political party and working for its interest against the interest of the na-

tion and opposition members.

both the Speaker and the

He further submitted that

Parliament Secretary had violated the Constitution by not abiding by their constitutional obligations. The only function of the Speaker after the resignations was to inform the House and that of the Secretary was to

publish a gazette notification

and send all relevant papers to the Election Commission. The lawyer cited various articles of the Constitution and rules of the Rules of Procedure and some judgements of Bangladesh and Indian courts to show how the petitioner was aggrieved and about his

locus standi to move the court. He also spoke about the responsibility of judges in such constitutional matters. "The whole nation is waiting for the judgement in this landmark case," he said. It would be an example for the whole sub-

Advocate Islam referred to

Article 74 of the Constitution and described the Speaker of Jatiya Sangsad as an institution but said the Speaker had not

acted accordingly. The hearing resumes February 19.

system (CDS).

continent, he added.

Ctg stock From Page 1 Col 4 introduce both off-screen and on-screen trading system be-

sides the central depository

Amir Khasru Mahmud, a member of Parliament from the ruling BNP, is the chairman and Salman Ispahani and Habibullah Khan are Vice Chairmen of the Bourse, which would have some 75 members for dealing with the share traders.

All new companies would have to be listed with the CSE and the Dhaka bourse simultaneously. Companies from the neighbouring countries could also be listed with the CSE. the sources said.