

DUAA seminar at TSC Restore image of DU

By DU Correspondent

Speakers at a seminar here yesterday called for bringing back the image of the Dhaka University by removing terrorism from the campus and improving the education standard.

Dhaka University Alumni Association (DUAA) organised the seminar on "75 Years of Dhaka University: Its Tradition and Heritage" at the Teachers Students Centre to mark 75 years of DU and 50 years of the DUAA.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Emajuddin Ahmed addressed the seminar as chief guest while Dr Montazur Rahman Tarafdar of the Department of Islamic History and Culture presented the keynote paper.

The seminar, chaired by Prof Innas Ali, president of DUAA, was also addressed by The Daily Star Editor Mahfuz Anam, Prof Anisuzzaman, Prof Zillur Rahman Siddique, Prof Aktar Imam, Prof Harunur Rashid, Prof Aminul Islam, Prof Muntasir Mamun.

Prof Montazur Rahman said Dhaka University had earned the reputation as one of the best educational institutions within a few years of its establishment in 1921. In this regard he recalled the great contributions of Sattendra Nath Basu, Shusil Kumar Deb, Dr Mohammad Shahidullah, Kazi Abdul Wadud, Abul Hossain, AF

Rahman. From 1947 till 1971, the university had a glorious period with all-round developments. Besides academic pursuit, students, teachers, officials and employees of DU took part in different movements and proved their awareness about their social commitments.

"But the teachers have now deviated a bit from their commitment. The 73 Ordinance has given us academic freedom but it should not be misused," Dr Tarafdar said.

Prof Emajuddin Ahmed said, despite its failures in different fields "the university is still unique in the field of learning."

Referring to terrorism the VC said it is not possible for us to combat terrorism as we are not trained in it. "The government as well as the opposition political parties know well who are the terrorists. If they want, it is so simple a matter to remove terrorism from the campus."

Referring to 'teachers' politics', the VC said there will be politics so long there will be provisions for election in the Ordinance. But there should be consensus among the teachers regarding academic matters.

The VC said, there will be no session in DU if the existing academic atmosphere can be continued for a year.

Boalmari College BCL factions clash: One dies

By Staff Correspondent

FARIDPUR, Nov 2: An young man, injured in a clash at Boalmari on Wednesday evening, succumbed at the Faridpur General Hospital in the small hours today, doctors said, reports UNB.

He was identified as Shamsul Islam, 25, an employee of a shop in Boalmari. Fifty others were also injured in the clash that took place between Sarwar and Musa factions of pro-Awami League Chhatra League at the area.

Witnesses said during the clash ruling BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and JP's Jatiya Chhatra Samaj sided with the Sarwar faction.

Local people said the trouble erupted when the Musa faction, who won the major posts of Boalmari Degree College Students' Union election on October 28, brought out a victory procession on Wednesday morning and exploded several hand-made bombs.

15 shot dead in Karachi

By Staff Correspondent

KARACHI, Nov 2: Fifteen people were killed here early today in an execution-style killing, that brought the death toll in violence in the city to at least 24, police said, reports AFP.

Unidentified "terrorists" lined up the 15 men against the wall with their eyes blindfolded, and shot them dead with machine guns, they said.

On Wednesday, police reported at least nine people had been shot dead overnight.

Political violence has claimed some 1,600 lives in Karachi, Pakistan's economic capital, since the start of the year.

It has flared amid growing confrontation between the government and an ethnic-based opposition party, the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM).

10 hurt as JCD, BCL clash at Barisal College

By Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Nov 2: At least ten students were injured, five of them seriously, in a clash between the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and the Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at the Government Barisal College this morning.

Witnesses said, the supporters of BCL were attacked by JCD activists when they were meeting on the college campus after a procession demanding students union election.

"With goodwill and sincerity, it is always possible to solve a problem through meaningful discussions, however complex a problem or crisis might be. But it is to be remembered that no discussion can bring about fruitful results without a definite agenda. That is why, I think it is necessary to fix an agenda before any dialogue."

"What can be the objective or goal of the dialogue in the context of the present political situation? That must certainly be getting out of the prevailing crisis. You are certainly aware that the entire Opposition and the people have been agitating for the last one and a half years demanding national elections under a non-party neutral caretaker government in the interests of ensuring the democratic process and the right to vote of the people as enshrined in the Constitution. During this democratic movement, people have suffered much and sacrificed a

PM: JN college

By Staff Correspondent

Referring to the long nine-year anti-autocracy movement, she said, it was necessary at that time to oust the undemocratic and corrupt regime.

"But, now there is a democratic government elected by the people at the helm of affairs. There is no need for movements now. Bangladesh cannot afford that luxury to waste even a day in movement. It is high time to expand education and build the nation," she said and sought the cooperation of all in implementing the massive programme initiated by the present government for spreading education and building the nation.

The autocracy, she regretted, had not only ruined the national economy but also destroyed the country's education system.

She said that her government attached the highest priority to the education sector and was now getting the salutary effects of those policies and measures by the way of enhanced rate of literacy in the country.

Prime Minister, announced that an auditorium would be constructed for the college, grant would be given to complete its under-construction mosque and microbus would be provided to teachers.

She informed that the girl students who are studying in the municipal areas would be brought under free education upto Class Ten from January 1996. At present girls outside the pourashava areas are getting the opportunity of free education.

The government is also planning to introduce free education in the HSC level, she added.

The Prime Minister recalled the contribution of the Jagannath College in the anti-autocracy movement and assured it of all support and help.

Later, Begun Zia unveiled the plaque of the Jagannath University.

Tracking down criminals We aren't well-equipped, police admit failure

By Staff Correspondent

Admitting failure, a senior police official yesterday said that they were unable to rescue the kidnapped child, Namus Sakib, due to the lack of special equipment to track down criminals by tapping the telephone.

Sakib, 7, was kidnapped from his school at Purana Paltan on Monday and the kidnappers demanded a ransom of Tk 5 lakh. He was released by the kidnappers Wednesday at a place near his house after one of them, Asaduzzaman, a student of Dhaka University was nabbed from near the Surja Sen Hall of the university.

Sakib in his statement before a magistrate at the court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate yesterday stated how he was kidnapped and released.

His mother while talking to The Daily Star said, "the kidnappers made at least half a dozen phone calls during the two days Sakib was missing."

Officer-in-Charge of Motijheel thana when contacted said: "Police is not equipped with 'gadgets' to locate criminals over telephone. We tried to locate the kidnappers with the assistance of the T and T but the procedure is too cumbersome," said OC S M Mohiuddin.

Two other members of the gang, Hafiz and Rashid, could not be arrested till filing of this report last night. Rashid is a student of Dhaka University, police claimed.

According to Sakib statement, Hafiz, who was known to the family earlier, took him from the school and bought him sweets and later took him to a place. He said he saw a lot of guns, where he was kept for 2 days.

Sakib's mother complained about security measures in the Little Jewel Kinder Garten School where

her son read. "I won't send my son to that school", she said.

Incidents of kidnapping for ransom is increasing alarmingly in the city. At least 15 persons including some children, were kidnapped from Dhaka city and its suburb area during the last one week, according to reports published in newspapers.

According to a recent study conducted by Dr A Rab of Dhaka University kidnapping cases in the city increased by at least 20 per cent in the last one decade.

Woman lawyers take responsibility of Lovely

By Staff Correspondent

NARAYANGANJ, Nov 2: The Bangladesh Mahila Amjibi Samity yesterday decided to rehabilitate Lovely, a jilted lover, now in the safe custody of the Narayanganj court.

Earlier, disgusted at the betrayal by her boyfriend, Lovely, daughter of a former MP from Naogaon, decided to become a prostitute at the red light area here.

The girl was rejected by her lover after she had spent about a fortnight with him in Dhaka.

Shibir ransacks the alleged involvement of the JCD members in the recent Jessore incident.

The Shibir activists ransacked documents, damaged furniture and broke the pictures of the BNP leaders at the district office. Later they also attacked the residence of the district JCD president. Mother and aunt of Akhtar Chowdhury were also injured in the attack.

Police arrested one Shafiqullah, a leader of the Islami Chhatra Shibir and three cases have been lodged with the local police.

Gen Mahmudul Hasan dead

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Ambassador to Turkey, Major General Mahmudul Hasan died of heart failure at his official residence in Ankara yesterday morning, Foreign Office sources told BSS last night.

General Hasan was 53. He was appointed ambassador to Turkey in August, 1992.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas has expressed his profound shock and sorrow at the death of Mahmudul Hasan.

In a condolence message President Biswas recalled the services of late General Hasan and said in his death the country has lost an able and sincere diplomat.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia also expressed her deep shock at the death of Mahmudul Hasan.

In a similar message the Prime Minister recalled that General Hasan performed his responsibility with sincerity and devotion.

She conveyed her deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

2 kidnapped girls rescued

By Staff Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 2: The two kidnapped school girls, Amina and Moyna, rescued from Hossainpur area in the town today 11 days after their abduction, reports UNB.

Family sources said one Tapu aided by his five associates picked up Amina Khatun, 13, and Moyna Khatun, 14 from Baghbati High School on October 22 at gun point.

Police raided the house of one Abul Kalam in the area and rescued the girls at about 5 am. But the culprits, however, managed to escape the arrest. The girls were allegedly violated by the miscreants several times. They are now in police custody.

Second letter

By Staff Correspondent

Asked if the PM had accepted Hasina's proposal for accepting the concept of a caretaker government for holding the next elections, the minister, preferring anonymity, said "Why should she agree to such a condition before the proposed dialogue takes place."

14 new cos

By Staff Correspondent

That another 40 companies are expected to be listed during current fiscal year.

Among the 14 listed companies, 10 belong to Beximco Group and the others include Kasem Dry Cells Ltd, National Bank Ltd, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation and Reckitt & Colman Ltd, CSE sources said.

Meanwhile, Chittagong Stock Exchange marked a bullish trend for the past few days due to brisk trading. CSE started floor trading from October 10 with 33 listed companies.

All preparations are afoot for the formal inauguration of CSE on November 4. The inaugural function will be held at Hotel Agrabad. Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia will attend the function as chief guest while Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman will be present as the special guest.

CSE started functioning in a rented house at Kaspia Plaza at Agrabad commercial area.

Now floor trading is held at CSE on 'cry-out' system and an on-screen system will be introduced from July next year, CSE officials said.

The Midnight File

US urges India, Pakistan to hold meet on Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, Nov 2: A senior US official today urged India and Pakistan to hold regular talks to settle their differences on Kashmir and other issues. Robin Raphel, Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs, told reporters in Islamabad that Washington was "encouraging both countries to stay engaged with each other," reports Reuter.

Serb-Croat accord

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after the formal start of the peace talks.

They would communicate through shuttling mediators.

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher opened the talks by saying: "We are here to give Bosnia-Herzegovina a chance to be a country at peace, not a killing field."

He warned the Balkan leaders that collapse of the peace talks could spell a wider war in Europe.

Christopher had brought with him from Washington a draft peace agreement contained in a 'blue book'.

He said any successful accord must, at a minimum, ensure four basic principles.

Jail Killing Day

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The killers were later protected by the indemnity law. Awami League will observe the 'jail killing day' through an elaborate programme.

At 6 am, black flags will be hoisted at the party offices across the country and at Bangabandhu Bhaban at 8 am, party leaders will place floral wreath at the portrait of Bangabandhu.

At 8:30 am, party leaders and workers will visit Banani graveyard and place wreaths at the graves of the four leaders and *fateha*.

A seminar on the four leaders will be held at the AL central office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the city at 3 pm. Party chief Sheikh Hasina will preside.

Colourful fashion show in city

By Staff Correspondent

A colourful fashion extravaganza featuring designs by leading designers of the country brought to life the Winter Garden of the Sheraton Hotel last evening.

The lively show featured designs by Bibi Russel, Kunudini and Angana. A bevy of glamorous young models, presented outfits in Bibi's signature fabric — the Grameen Check — and tied-die silks and block-printed cottons.

The show enthralled the audience as the models paraded on the catwalk to the tune of Bangla music.

The show was followed by a performance by Feedback — a leading pop group.

CSE to broaden base

By Staff Correspondent

Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB) — underwriter of majority of the Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) of different companies — Khairul Huda says, "The decision to set up CSE is a landmark in the history of capital market in the country and it will bring dynamism in the share business and also benefit the investors, particularly small investors."

He noted that creation of the CSE was of immense importance for the port city both from commercial and industrial point of view. "This will reduce the transaction cost for the investors of the Chittagong region."

"We feel that small investors and newly admitted investors of that region would be benefited from the CSE," he said.

ICB has seven mutual funds and one own fund enlisted with both the CSE and the Dhaka Stock Exchange, where it makes at least 25 per cent of the dealings.

"The activities of the CSE may be hampered due to non-availability of the securities most of which are listed with the DSE," Khairul Huda pointed out. "We hope the relationship between the two stock exchanges will be complementary."

Runa Alam of Perri Grine, a foreign investment company, sees the inception of CSE positively but believes that there is still a lot to be done in the country to boost the investment climate.

"The whole market is still emerging. What CSE will be able to do for the capital market still depends on the development of the industrial sector," she said.

Chief of the Treasury and Institutional Banking of Standard Chartered Bank Mamunur-Rashid said that the people's trust in the share market, which was once lost, has

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FBCCI: Protest strike

By Staff Correspondent

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related with business to come out closing their work and stand up on the streets in front of their work places for 15 minutes from 12 noon, Salman said.

"At this critical political situation when one group is calling week long hartal and another group is preparing to resist the programme — the business community who are the worst victim of the situation, cannot remain a silent spectator," the FBCCI president said.

He said the business leaders irrespective of their party affiliations have supported the programme.

"We are not going to protest against the programmes announced by the opposition political parties but we are protesting the political deadlock created by the political leadership," the FBCCI chief said. He held responsible the ruling and opposition parties for the crisis.

Responding to a question whether they are helping the government by the programme he said, in parliamentary democracy the Opposition is also part of the government. So they can not avoid their responsibility of removing the sufferings of the common people, Salman asserted.

The FBCCI chief further said the present political crisis was affecting the law and order. Businessmen are being kidnapped and killed by the miscreants. Toll collection, abduction, violence and other social crimes have also increased due to serious deterioration of the political situation, he alleged.

One chopped to death in city

By Staff Correspondent

Police recovered the body of a young man from Laboratory Road in the city in the early hours of yesterday.

Shaheen, 22, son of one Ishaquddin Talukder, was chopped to death by some unidentified men, said Dhanmondi police adding that they recovered the body after receiving a ghost phone call.

Police were looking for Shaheen for a long time as there are a number of cases against him.

Ishaquddin lodged a case with the Dhanmondi police but no arrest was made till late last night.

Holiday Inn case

By Staff Correspondent

From Page 1
A division bench of the HC upon hearing the criminal revision petition issued a rule and stayed all further proceedings of the case pending in the lower court.

The rule was heard by the division bench of the HC comprising Justice Naimuddin Ahmed and Justice Md Ruhul Amin. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed gave verdict to quash the matter, while Justice Md Ruhul Amin gave a dissenting judgement.

The case was later sent to the Chief Justice who referred it to the 3rd judge, Justice A M Mahmudur Rahman.

Justice Mahmudur Rahman upheld the judgment made by Justice Md Ruhul Amin and refused to quash the matter.

Barrister Maudud Ahmed challenged the final judgment of the HC and filed the petition for leave to appeal in the Appellate Division.

Earlier, Md Ataur Rahman, an Anti-Corruption Bureau officer, lodged an FIR on May 9, 1991 with Motijheel Police Station against former president Ershad.

Ershad, former deputy prime minister Maudud Ahmed (at the time of occurrence), former Minister for Works, Shafiqul Gani Swapan, former chairman of RAJUK and Abul Khayer Litu, a businessman.

It was alleged in the FIR

World Bank aid strategy

By Staff Correspondent

incorporating 'well defined' benchmarks for assessing progress, the CAS noted: "Given such a strategy and evidence that political will exists for its timely implementation, IDA will be prepared to make new credits against step by step progress in addressing the underlying sectoral problems."

The report noted that the reemergence of democratically elected government since 1991 has underscored the power of special interest groups like public sector employees, protected business and politicised unions, rural elite and some politicians to block reforms.

"Bangladesh's success in achieving its poverty alleviation goals will be determined in large parts by its ability to reconcile these tensions," it added.

After the elections, the WB plans to review the CAS with the next government to adjust its strategy to incorporate the elected government's policies and priorities.

The WB will submit to the next government shortly after its assumption of power a report detailing out the advantages of 'bold reforms' over the next several years and the serious consequences of faltering. To this end, the Bank is undertaking a study titled, "Bangladesh 2000" in collaboration with a "broad group" of locals.

Disagreement between the Bank and the government over the pace and implementation of reforms, along with opposition from bureaucracy and interest groups can thwart the reform that has already slowed down in recent months, the Bank observes.

The Bank, however, wants to "make every effort to build a consensus for major change within whatever government emerges from the elections."

A major task of the post-election government would be to counter the special interest groups opposing the reforms and "a low case scenario would occur if there were continuing political instability or the government in office were to place short-term political objectives ahead of macroeconomic stability and longer-term poverty alleviation," the CAS said.

Urging the government to formulate a longer term strategy for sectoral reform