

All publishers may be allowed to print, market textbooks

The Education Ministry, under fire for its failure in supplying textbooks, is likely to allow shortly all publishers to print and market books, particularly of class six and nine, reports UNB.

Official sources said Chief Adviser Muhammad Habibur Rahman yesterday wanted to know from the Education Secretary the reasons for the scarcity and high price of textbooks of class VI and IX in the market.

Secretary A H M Abdul Hye blamed an artificial crisis on the failure of concerned publishers to fulfil their respective commitments to print and market the books on schedule. Most of the students of different classes, particularly of classes VI and IX, failed to procure their textbooks even after a quarter of their academic year elapsed, causing jitter among the students and their guardians.

A tripartite meeting between the ministry, textbook board and publishers at the beginning of the year — decided to publish all the textbooks of class VI and IX by the first week of April. But the publishing companies failed to keep their schedule.

According to the Text Book Board, the task for printing and publishing the textbooks of the Board has been given to some select private publishing companies upon the decisions of the Education Ministry.

But the publishers said failure in timely supply of necessary material — papers, manuscripts and positives — by the Board was mainly to blame for the delay in printing books this year.

Showcause

From Page 1
Rahman, Faruq Sobhan, Syed Ahmed, Walid Islam, Alamgir Faruk Chowdhury, Azizur Rahman, Sirajuddin, Saiful Alam, Shahajahan Siddiqui, Bir Bikram, Shah Alam, Abdul Mannan, Serajul Haq, Abdul Hye, Enamul Kabir, Khan Muhammad Nurul Huda, Abdus Satter Khan, B Karim and Abu Alam Shahid Khan violated the provisions of rules 25 and 29 of the Government Servants (conduct) Rules, 1979, by attending meetings on March 25 in the Secretariat premises and by joining the political podium called "Janata Mancha" created by Bangladesh Awami League in front of the National Press Club from March 28 to March 30, making speeches and expressing solidarity with the non-cooperation movement of the opposition political parties.

The petition further said that they had acted in gross violation of the rules by exposing themselves as "supporters of the Awami League".

The rule is made returnable in one week and the matter will come up for hearing on 14.

Additional Attorney General Iqbal Wadud Bhuiyan and Assistant Attorney General Mir Asmat Ali appeared for the state.

Tough contest

From Page 1
Dhaka-9 (Dhannond-Mohammadpur): Makbul Hussain (), Begum Khaleda Zia (BNP), Kazi Firoj Rashid (JP), Dhaka-10 (Tejgaon-Ramnal): HBM Iqbal (AL), Major (r) Abdul Mannan (BNP), ar: small Hussain Bengal (JP), ka-11 (Mirpur-Palibabi): KAMAL Ahmed Majun (AL), S A Khaleda (BNP) and

Directive

From Page 1
Law and order situation and progress in the recovery of illegal arms, the chief adviser asked the task force and special team for recovery of illegal arms to gear up their activities to create a clean ground for the June 12 voting.

He also directed the Deputy Commissioners to review the licences of firearms issued earlier and take necessary steps in this regard.

The Home Secretary Syed Rezaul Hayer apprised the chief adviser that a total of 1,286 illegal firearms and some 7,169 explosives had so far been recovered from different parts of the country.

He informed that 17,535 people had so far been arrested on charges of possessing illegal arms and explosives, murder, dacoity, extortion and other criminal activities. Of them, 815 have been arrested in arms-related cases.

The Chief Adviser also had detailed discussion with Education Secretary A H M Abdul Hye on the scarcity and high price of textbooks of Class VI and IX in the market.

The secretary apprised Rahman that an artificial crisis of these textbooks had been created due to the failure of the concerned publishing houses to fulfil their successive commitments to print and market the books on schedule.

In view of the situation, the education secretary said, the ministry was actively considering making the publication of all textbooks of Class VI and IX open to all publishers immediately.

Cabinet Secretary Muhammad Ayubur Rahman, Information Secretary Syed Amir-ul-Mulk and Establishment Secretary Dr Shaukat Ali also met with the Chief Adviser and discussed different issues.

Pre-polls irregularities CEC asks judicial officials to be vigilant

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Mohammad Abu Hena yesterday asked the judicial officials to keep a vigilant eye on pre-election irregularities, reports UNB.

Electoral inquiry committees have been formed with judicial officials as people have confidence in them, he said while inaugurating a three-day workshop for judicial officials, organised by the Commission's Election Training Institution here.

The CEC directed the officials to inform the Election Commission of any pre-polls irregularity after an immediate investigation. In this regard, he told the judicial officials to apply their conscience in the light of the existing law and rules.

Abu Hena said all political parties should abide by the Election Code of Conduct to ensure a free, fair and neutral election.

"Adhering to the Code of Conduct will mean improving the law and order situation and creating a congenial atmosphere for the election," he added.

Election Commissioner Mustaque Ahmed Chowdhury and Secretary of the Election Commission Secretariat Muhammad Faizur Razzak also spoke on the occasion.

Call to include farmers' demands in polls manifesto

Eleven peasants and farm labourers union yesterday urged political parties to include farmers' demands in their respective election manifestos to save the country's agro-economy from destruction, reports UNB.

Leaders of the combine of 11 peasant organisations also urged the caretaker government to take effective steps for resolving longstanding problems of peasants-khetmajors before the June 12 general elections.

Addressing a press conference at its central office in the afternoon, Khetmajur Union general secretary Saiful Haq put forward a 10-point charter of demands including retro-duction of subsidy in farm sector and drawing individual policy for agriculture, land and water.

The press conference was attended by Khetmajur Union president Bimal Biswas Sudhansu Chakrabarty, Moindun Khan Badal, Abdul Mannan, Paresh Chandra Saha, Abu Sayeed Khan and Ziad al Manjun.



Dr Kamal Hossain addressing a press conference in the city yesterday.

Check black money, terrorism: GF

By Staff Correspondent

Gano Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday urged the caretaker government to ensure strict control over the use of black money and to contain terrorism before the coming elections.

Unless black money and terrorism are checked, the upcoming election may bring a "dark future" for the nation, he said at a press conference in the city.

The Gano Forum President emphasised that the existing Income Tax Ordinance, 1984 may be invoked to require each party to file its income tax returns and a statement of assets and funds, disclosing sources from which these have been acquired.

He urged the political parties to make formal declarations that they do not patronise or maintain "armed cadres" if the declaration proves to be false, the party's candidates should be disqualified, he suggested.

"All the political parties are nominating their candidates on the basis of wealth, not on the candidates' commitment to their respective parties," Dr Kamal noted.

The big political parties lack morality in selecting candidates. Many leaders who had long been opposing a certain party had now joined that very party," Dr Kamal pointed out.

He urged the radio and TV to play a "better role" in the society by airing political debates, voter awareness programmes and giving in-depth reports on political swindles.

Criticising the Tk 3 lakh limit on election expenses as a means to control flow of black money, he said, "an effective approach involves taking immediate measures to use the law and law enforcing agencies to identify and deal with black money at different strategic points."

According to Dr Kamal the strategic points are: imposition of a legal limit on expenses of political parties, maintenance of accounts of expenditure by the parties and filing of expenditure returns and disclosure of contributions received by the parties.

The press conference was also attended by party leaders Maj Gen (ret'd) Khalilur Rahman, Pankaj Bhattacharya, Ziaul Haq, MA Hakim and Mostafa Mohsin Mantu.

Dr Kamal also suggested pre-polls open discussions and debates on Radio and TV for political parties to present their programme and ideas.

The Radio and TV should also help creation of public opinion against use of arms, armed cadres and black money through its programmes.

UK to hit back if Russia expels its 9 diplomats

LONDON, May 7: Britain said today it will hit back hard if Russia goes ahead with the expulsion of nine British diplomats described by Moscow as "career spies," reports AP.

The confrontation plunged London and Moscow into their biggest diplomatic crisis since the end of the Cold War.

The Conservative government also suggested that President Boris Yeltsin is trying to boost his election campaign with old-style toughness.

If action is taken by the Russians, then that will inevitably create the need for a significant response," Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said, before meeting with defence and foreign ministers from nine other West European nations.

The regular meeting of the Western European Union, a European grouping from the US-led NATO alliance, in the central England city of Birmingham coincided with the crisis.

There has been no evidence (of British spying) put forward yet. Whether that's due to Russian politics - I leave people to draw their own conclusions on that," commented Britain's Defence Secretary Michael Portillo before going into the closed-door meeting.

The VC rejected the proposal saying that the Senate, as per sections 22 and 52 of the University Ordinance, had no power to form an investigation committee without any specific allegation.

Quoting the Law Retainer of the DU, the VC however admitted that the Syndicate had the right to form a "fact finding committee".

In support of his stand the VC quoted from the ruling of former Senate chairman, Prof Muniruzzaman Miah in which he had rejected a similar demand in 1990.

Without giving any ruling on the issue, the VC said he would seek legal opinion from the Attorney General on whether the Senate could form a probe body and convene another special Senate meeting within 15 days.

The VC however agreed to form a committee to probe into the alleged irregularities in appointing his daughter and son-in-law as teachers of the Dhaka University.

Opposing the VC's statement, Advocate Ozaer Faruq, a Blue panel member of the Senate, said the opinion of the Law Retainer or the attorney general is not final.

He said the "house" was the supreme authority. There is no legal bar to form such a committee.

Elaborating articles 56, 57 and 58 of the Dhaka University Ordinance the Blue panel senator said:

Later talking to newsmen, the BNP chief noted that the ultimate goal of politicians was to serve the country and the people and that the BNP, during its five years in power, had proved that anybody in the party could serve the people.

Replying to a question, she hoped that Alauddin's long political experience would strengthen the BNP and he would be able to serve the country under the banner of BNP.

Commenting on the prospect of her party's winning in the coming polls, she hoped that people would re-elect BNP.

The election manifesto of BNP would be announced soon, she told another questioner.

Responding to another question about the programmes of both AL and BNP for holding public meetings at the Manik Mia Avenue at the same time on June 10, Khaleda Zia claimed that her party was the first to call the meeting and seek permission of the authorities concerned.

3 shot dead

From Page 1
During the attack the younger brother of Ranadir was also injured. He was admitted to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Another unidentified person was shot dead last night at Idalpur village under Fatikchhari thana.

Police recovered the body from the same village this morning.

The Midnight File

10 killed as molasses tank bursts in India

NEW DELHI, May 7: At least 10 people were killed and several were injured today when a molasses tank burst in a sugar factory in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported, says Reuter.

DU Senate session

From Page 1
atmosphere with the VC in the chair.

But the situation deteriorated when Blue panel members were insisting on forming a probe body.

The VC rejected the proposal saying that the Senate, as per sections 22 and 52 of the University Ordinance, had no power to form an investigation committee without any specific allegation.

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Elaborating articles 56, 57 and 58 of the Dhaka University Ordinance the Blue panel senator said:

Tidal surge

From Page 1
hoisted Riveter Warning Signal Number Two.

Low-lying areas of the coastal districts of Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Peropur, Barguna, Patuakhali, Bhola, Laxmipur, Chandpur, Chittagong and Cox's Bazar and their off-shore islands and chars are likely to be inundated by a surge of about 3-5 feet above normal astronomical tide.

Meanwhile, Chief Adviser Muhammad Habibur Rahman in a meeting with four advisers Tuesday evening discussed the latest position of the depression.

The meeting stressed adequate preparedness to face any possible calamity owing to the depression over the North Bay.

The concerned ministries were directed to remain alert and vigilant to meet the situation.

Adviser for Science and Technology, and Environment and Forest Prof Muhammad Yunus, Adviser for Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock, Disaster Management and Relief and Land A Z M Nasiruddin, Adviser for Commerce, Shipping, Civil Aviation and Tourism, Post and Telecommunications and Housing and Public Works Syed Manzoor Elahi and Adviser for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources and Water Resources Dr Jamilur Reza Chowdhury were present in the meeting.

Others who will speak on the occasion are Dr Anwarul Karim and Dr Abdul Ashashan Choudhury. Shirajul Haq, deputy commissioner, will preside over the meeting. It will be followed by a poetry recitation session and a cultural function. Next day Prof Muhammad Shamsul Haq will attend a meeting. A H M Abdul Hye, Secretary, Cultural Affairs will speak at the meeting.

The birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore will also be celebrated in Chittagong.



A group of commercial sex workers hold up placards yesterday in Bombay calling for boycott of the elections to protest police harassment and official indifference to long-pending demands for better health and other facilities.

BNP interview

From Page 1

gan on May 4 last.

There were 10 single applicants for BNP nomination in Khulna division. They are: Tariqul Islam (Jessore-3), Shahidul Islam (Jhenidah-3), Nazimuddin (Magura-2), Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (Bagerhat-1), A S M Mostafizur Rahman (Bagerhat-2), Prafulla Kumar Mandal (Khulna-1), Ashraf Hossain (Khulna-3), G A Sabur (Khulna-6), Habibul Islam Habib (Satkhira-1), Shamsul Haq (Satkhira-2).

Other noted BNP leaders from Khulna division, interviewed yesterday, included Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali, Majid-Ul-Haque, Khulna city mayor Shaikh Toyebur Rahman and M Mansur Ali.

In Rajshahi division, 17 applicants had no rivals for BNP nomination. They are: Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir (Thakurgaon-1), Zulfiqar Mortuza Tulu (Thakurgaon-2), Abdul Malek (Thakurgaon-3), Shaheen Islam Tuhin (Nilphamari-1), Dewan Nurun Nabi (Nilphamari-2), Asadul Habib Dulu (Lalmonirhat-1), Prof Paritosh Chakraborty (Rangpur-2), Rahimuddin Bharausha (Rangpur-4), Matur Rahman (Rangpur-6), A K M Mayeedul Islam (Kurigram-3), Abdul Bari Sarkar (Kurigram-4), Akhter Habib Siddiqui (Naogaon-3), Barrister Aminul Haq (Rajshahi-1), Abdul Majid Minu (Sirajganj-1), Abdul Mannan Talukdar (Sirajganj-3), Maj (ret'd) Manzur Kader (Pabna-1) and Saiful Azam (Pabna-3). Other noted applicants from Rajshahi included Mirza Golam Hafiz, Jamiruddin Sircar, Kabir Hossain, Rajshahi city mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu, Dr Alauddin and Abu Hena.

The candidates are Nayeem Jahangir-Jamalpur-3, Advocate Abudus Salam-Rajshahi-1, Iqbal Majumder-Feni-1, Tofazzal Hossain-Dhaka-9, Faiz Hossain-Dhaka-2, Faizul Huq Jyoti-Manikganj-2, AKM Jahangir-Rajshahi-4, Advocate Hamidul Huq-Rajshahi-5, Advocate Bazul Kabir-Nababganj-3, Nurul Alam Shaheen-Naogaon-4, Nurul Islam Master-Kurigram-4, Fazlul Huq Ripon-Comilla-3, Abu Taher-Feni-2, Hafizur Rahman-Manikganj-1 and Dewan Zahid Hussain-Tangail-2.

Zafar was not in JP interview board

By Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Party presidium member Kazi Zafar Ahmed, who is also a member of the party's parliamentary board, did not attend the board's meeting that interviewed nomination seekers yesterday, according to a source in the party.

When contacted, Kazi Zafar told this correspondent that he was indisposed.

But the source said that he joined a party presidium meeting at the Banani party office last night. According to the meeting sources, the presidium discussed possible alliance with some other smaller parties in the forthcoming general elections.

Oikya Prokria candidates

The Oikya Prokria, an alliance partner of the Left Democratic Front, yesterday announced the names of its candidates for the coming parliamentary elections, a party press release said, reports BSS.

The candidates are Nayeem Jahangir-Jamalpur-3, Advocate Abudus Salam-Rajshahi-1, Iqbal Majumder-Feni-1, Tofazzal Hossain-Dhaka-9, Faiz Hossain-Dhaka-2, Faizul Huq Jyoti-Manikganj-2, AKM Jahangir-Rajshahi-4, Advocate Hamidul Huq-Rajshahi-5, Advocate Bazul Kabir-Nababganj-3, Nurul Alam Shaheen-Naogaon-4, Nurul Islam Master-Kurigram-4, Fazlul Huq Ripon-Comilla-3, Abu Taher-Feni-2, Hafizur Rahman-Manikganj-1 and Dewan Zahid Hussain-Tangail-2.

Zaker Party ends interview

By Staff Correspondent

Zaker Party has interviewed a total of 2500 nomination seekers for 300 parliamentary constituencies, a party press release said here yesterday.

The list of the nominees will be published soon, it said.

Addressing the workers on the conclusion of the interview at the party office in the city yesterday, chairman of the party Mostafa Anwar Faisal said, "If voted to power, Zaker Party will establish an effective and stable government upholding Islamic values and democratic norms," the press release said.

BNP finalises

From Page 1
Hamida Khanam, and her husband, KJ Abdul Hafiz, have sought BNP nomination from Narsingdi-4 parliamentary constituency.

Former law, justice and parliamentary affairs minister Mirza Golam Hafiz and former education minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar applied for BNP nomination from Panchagarh-1 seat. In the 1991 polls, Mirza Golam Hafiz won the seat with BNP ticket while Sircar was elected from Dhaka-9 seat in the by-election after Khaleda Zia vacated it.

Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali and Khulna city mayor Shaikh Toyebur Rahman have applied for the Khulna-2 seat while the Rajshahi city mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu, former state minister Kabir Hossain and Abu Hena, a new entrant in the party both sought the party ticket for the Rajshahi-2 seat.

Former minister, Anwar Zahid, who recently joined BNP, did not applied for BNP nomination.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়

ব্যাংকিং বিভাগ

তারিখঃ ২১-০১-১৪০৩ বাং

০৪-০৫-১৯৯৬ ইং

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

The Representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996 (P.O. No. 13, 1996) অনুযায়ী

কণ খেলাপী কোন ব্যক্তি সসদ সদস্য হিসাবে নির্বাচিত হইবার জন্য অযোগ্য হইবেন।

২। আইনের উক্ত সংশোধনী মোতাবেক, কোন ব্যক্তি মনোনয়ন পত্র দাখিলের দিন

(ক) ব্যক্তি হিসাবে

(খ) কোম্পানীর পরিচালক হিসাবে

(গ) কার্যের অংশীদার হিসাবে কিংবা

(ঘ) কোন ব্যাংক, লীজিং কোম্পানী অথবা আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান আইন ১৯৯৩ এর অধীনে লাইসেন্সপ্রাপ্ত কোন আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানে পরিচালক হিসাবে

কোন সরকারী, বেসরকারী, দেশী কিংবা বিদেশী ব্যাংক কিংবা লীজিং কোম্পানী কিংবা কোন আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান হিসাবে গৃহীত স্বপ্নের অর্থ বা উক্ত স্বপ্নের কোন কিস্তি পরিশোধে খেলাপী হইয়া থাকিলে তিনি সসদ সদস্য হিসাবে নির্বাচিত হইবার অযোগ্য হইবেন।

৩। এই আইনের বিধান হইতে পরিপ্রাপ্ত পাত্ত্যার লক্ষ্যে কোন কণ খেলাপী কোন কোম্পানী/কার্য/আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানের পরিচালক পদ হইতে পদত্যাগ করিলে ইহা বৈধ বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে না যতক্ষণ পর্যন্ত না সংশ্লিষ্ট ব্যাংক ব্যবস্থাপনার সম্বন্ধিতক্রে উক্ত পরিবর্তন রেজিস্ট্রার অব জয়েন্ট স্টক কোম্পানী অথবা রেজিস্ট্রার অব ফান্ড কর্তৃক গৃহীত হইয়া সংশ্লিষ্ট দলিলাদি সংশোধন করা হইবে।

৪। পুনরুৎপাদিত স্বপ্নের বেলায়ও মনোনয়ন পত্র দাখিলের দিন পর্যন্ত কোন কিস্তি প্রদেয় থাকিলে এই কণ খেলাপী বলিয়া গণ্য করা হইবে।

৫। সকল ব্যাংকসমূহের শাখার কণ খেলাপীদের তালিকা যাচাই করিয়া হাসানগাদ করা হইতেছে।

আসন্ন সসদ নির্বাচনে অংশ গ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক সকল প্রার্থীকে তাহাদের নিজ নিজ ব্যাংক বোধ্যাচন করিয়া তাহাদের কণ সংক্রান্ত তথ্যের সঠিকতা সত্বে নিশ্চিত হওয়ার জন্য বিনীতভাবে অনুরোধ করা হইতেছে।

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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