

Dhaka Day by Day

What Ails DU Library

by Tanya Mahnaz Huq

It can be said with a great deal of conviction that one of the most interesting spots of the Dhaka University is its library. The Dhaka University Library is situated a little distance away from the Arts Faculty and this is really what can be called the heart of the university. Of course, when one speaks of a library, the image that comes into one's mind is of a cool, quiet room with bookshelves lining the walls, and people either reading or talking in hushed voices. But not so in our DU library! The first thing that hits raised to the highest level.

Forget about hushed voices, here one has to almost shout to make oneself heard! Though a number of students try to finish their studying in the midst of this uproar (with fingers in their ears) a great many of them can be found gossiping away with feet upon the tables. They are too shameless to even pay heed to frequent warnings from the librarians. And since the authorities decided to have the library centrally air-conditioned, lots of students spend their time gossiping on the first and second floor, to escape the scorching heat. This is too bad as it can be particularly annoying to those who are trying to study. However, the peak hours for these activities are between 10 am and 1.30

pm and after that the library gradually becomes quiet. The library is quite huge with the reference section on the ground floor, and books to be borrowed on the 1st and second floor.

Like the rest of the university buildings, the library is also in a shambles. There are cobwebs hanging from the ceilings and dust lying thick on books which seem to have been there from the beginning of time. There is always a shortage of chairs and the bathrooms (as usual) seem to be quite beyond repair. Couldn't the concerned authorities, instead of putting in the air coolers, done something to spruce up the place first? On top of it all, along with the shortage of important books one often finds the pages torn out of books by someone unscrupulous! What an unthinking person would do this to his/her own library! Since the price of books is too high, most students have no choice but to depend on the books of the library. So, maybe one hopes one day all these problems of the DU library will be solved and it will return to be a normal quiet place which is quietly and efficiently run, and only used for academic purposes. Maybe, one day.....

Five out of 36 women candidates win polls

Five out of 36 women candidates, who contested in the Wednesday's parliamentary elections, won from 11 constituencies, according to the Election Commission's unofficial results of 271 constituencies, reports UNB.

The winners, who defeated their male rivals, were from the Awami League, BNP and Jatiya Party.

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina won all the three seats she contested while BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia won from all her five constituencies.

Jatiya Party's senior president member Begum Raushan Ershad, who contested from four constituencies, won only one seat (Mymensingh-4). She was beaten in the other three (Mymensingh-8, Mymensingh-

11 and Sherpur-1) seats. The other two winners were Begum Motiur Chowdhury of the Awami League and Khurshid Jahan Huq of the BNP.

Motia Chowdhury won the Sherpur-2 seat while Khurshid Jahan the Dinajpur-3 constituency defeating their rival BNP and Awami League candidates respectively.

Of the 36 women candidates, Gano Forum nominated the highest seven, but none was successful in the June 12 election.

The Awami League had four candidates, BNP 3, Jatiya Party 3, other smaller parties 15 and independents 4.

Following is the list of winners: showing votes secured, constituencies and the position of nearest rivals:

Constituency	Winners	Nearest rival
Bogra-6	Begum Khaleda Zia (1,03,739)	Gulam Rabbani of JP (47,518)
Bogra-7	do (1,07,417)	Waliul Haq of AL (25,276)
Feni-1	do (65,068)	Md Wazirullah Bhuiyan of AL (24,128)
Laxmipur-2	do (59,091)	Tozammel H Chowdhury of AL (26,937)
Chittagong-1	do (66,336)	Mosharraf Hossain of AL (62,040)
Gopalganj-3	Sheikh Hasina (1,02,689)	Bishnu Pada Halder of BNP (2,568)
Khulna-1	do (62,248)	Achintya Kr Biswas of CPB (18,298)
Bagerhat-1	do (77,337)	Mojibur Rahman of BNP (47,302)
Mymensingh-4	Raushan Ershad (72,098)	Amir A Chowdhury of AL (61,755)
Sherpur-2	Motia Chowdhury (63,560)	Zahed Ali Chowdhury of BNP (45,658)
Dinajpur-3	Khurshid Jahan Huq (51,801)	Abdur Rahim of AL (49,855)

Reelection in Ctg-13 demanded

CHITTAGONG, June 14: Al-haj Nazrul Islam Chowdhury, who had contested the election from Chittagong-13 (Chandanaish) constituency on Awami League ticket, today demanded re-election in some 34 centres of ten unions, in the just concluded parliamentary election of June 12, reports BSS.

Addressing a press conference at Chittagong Press Club, Chowdhury alleged widespread terrorism, false voting and the capturing of the vote centre by what he said, "The identified hoodlums of his rival BNP candidate and former minister Oli Ahmed."

He said BNP workers, in collaboration with a good number of presiding officers, resorted to unfair means and violence to manipulate the polls results in favour of BNP candidate.

Chowdhury also alleged that a group of observers from FEMA polls monitoring team in disguise of Chhatra Dal workers using motorcycles resorted to massive terrorism in at least 20 centres in the constituency. He also alleged that most of the presiding officers have been appointed from educational institutions, which were founded by Oli Ahmed during his tenure as cabinet member.

He said, in North Bainjuri Primary School Centre, the supporters of BNP candidate fired at least 20 rounds of gunshots and also exchanged fire with the members of law enforcing agencies. They also blasted bombs in several villages of minority communities in the early hours of Wednesday.

66 rounded up

Police rounded up 66 people on various charges from different parts of city during the last 24 hours till 6 pm yesterday, reports UNB.

Of them 19 were caught for committing murder, dacoity, mugging, terrorism and one was a wanted criminal, said a DMP press release.

Indian dailies hail June 12 polls

Some Indian dailies yesterday hailed the peaceful holding of the June 12 general election and described it as "free and independent election observers."

The Pioneer, describing Awami League's margin of victory as moral victory for the party said, "It is easier to win election than to retain the affection of the people."

Referring to former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia it said, "a stint out of power will probably bring about a proper balance in her perspective."

Commenting on the polls debacle of Jamaat the daily said, "The fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami has been thankfully brushed aside by Bangladesh's electorates."

The daily said the task before Sheikh Hasina is as enormous as it is tricky.



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Adviser for Communications Syed Manzur Elahi addressing as chief guest at the inaugural function of 'Executive Health Check Centre' set up by Bangladesh Diabetic Association at Anchor Tower in Dhaka yesterday. —PID photo

Diabetic Assoc opens health centre in city

An "Executive Health Check Centre," set up by Bangladesh Diabetic Association, was formally inaugurated at the city's Anchor Tower yesterday, reports UNB.

Syed Manzur Elahi, the Adviser for Communication, Shipping, Post and Telecommunication, Civil Aviation and Tourism, and Housing and Public Works, inaugurated the centre at a simple function.

Bangladesh Diabetic Association opened the centre under its "National Diagnostic Network Project" to provide quick diagnostic facilities on payment.

The association has plans to open similar health centres throughout the country in phases.

Speaking on the occasion, the adviser called upon the private sector to come forward with such programmes to serve the people.

He lauded the role of the association in providing right diagnostic facilities to the people.

Syed Manzur Elahi said that since the executives have to remain in tension in carrying out their responsibilities, they need regular health check-up.

Adviser for Health and Religious Affairs Maj Gen (ret'd) Dr Abdur Rahman Khan, Association president Prof Waheduddin Ahmed and secretary general Fasihuddin Mahtab also addressed the function.

FBCCI felicitates Chief Adviser

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) yesterday congratulated the caretaker government for its success in holding the elections in a free, fair and neutral manner, reports BSS.

"On behalf of the business community of the country, FBCCI offers its sincerest congratulations to the caretaker government for discharging its duties with honour and justice by ensuring the holding of a free and fair elections," federation president Salman F Rahman said in a statement.

He said the unprecedented high turnout of voters proved that "the elections were in fact free and fair, and the electorates were free to express their political preferences without fear or intimidation or reprisal."

"Now we call upon the major political parties to cooperate in moving the nation along the path to prosperity and progress, both socially and economically," he said. The FBCCI president urged the political leadership to "uphold their promises to the nation and avoid the politics of revenge and retribution for the welfare of the nation."

He said the members of the business community were unanimous in their conviction that the new government should focus on economy with liberal policies and thereby make the country competitive with its neighbours and the international markets.

ICDDR,B official killed in road accident

Noorjahan Momin (Nina), office manager, Social and Behavioural Science Programme, Community Health Division, ICDDR,B, Dhaka, was killed in a car accident near Uttara Model Town, here Thursday, reports BSS.

Wife of Sah Obaidul Momin, a businessman and noted social worker, she was 45.

Momin was travelling with her son in her car towards Dhaka from Uttara, but the car was hit by a truck causing severe damage. She died soon and the son was also seriously injured.

The quikhwani of the deceased will be held Sunday after Asr prayers at Road 10, House-20, Sector-3, Uttara Model Town.

Friends, relatives and admirers have been requested to attend.

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What's on today....

Rotary Club of Dhaka West: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: RAOWA Club, Mohakhali. Time: 5:30 pm.

Rotary Club of Sonargaon Dhaka: The regular weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Purbani Hotel. Time: 5:30 pm.

Bangla-China People's Friendship Assoc: A joint meeting of patrons, advisers and the members of the executive committee of Bangladesh-China People's Friendship Association will be held. Venue: 18, Purana Paltan. Time: 5 pm.

Weather

Moderate rainfall likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Barisal, Chittagong, Khulna divisions and at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Sylhet divisions in the next 24 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office says day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period across the country.

Monsoon activities is likely to increase throughout the country in the next two days but there would be no appreciable change in the next week, weathermen predicted.

Country's highest temperature 36.2 degrees Celsius was recorded at Srimangal and the lowest 20.0 degrees at Jessore.

The sun sets today at 06:48 pm and rises day after tomorrow at 05:11 am.

The maximum and minimum temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	max	min
Dhaka	35.0	61
Chittagong	35.0	63
Rajshahi	35.7	62
Khulna	35.8	67
Barisal	34.5	65
Sylhet	35.4	60
Cox's Bazar	34.6	65