

Punitive action against DU teacher for concealing his background

By DU Correspondent
 Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury has directed the authorities concerned to take punitive action against a newly-appointed teacher of the university for concealing information at the time of his appointment.

Hafez Muhammad Jalaluddin was appointed a lecturer in the Department of Islamic History and Culture by the DU Syndicate on May 10.

Jalaluddin had concealed that he was expelled from the university for adopting unfair means in BA subsidiary (political science paper-III) examination of 1988, held in February 1990.

He was expelled for four years for the offence. But subsequently the university authorities reduced the expulsion period to one year.

A four-member committee headed by Syndicate member Prof A T M Zahirul Haq was

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JCD walks out of Paribesh Parishad meet

By DU Correspondent
 Police check posts will be set up at some strategic points of the Dhaka University to strengthen the existing security arrangements on the campus.

This was decided at a Paribesh Parishad meeting held yesterday with the Vice Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury in the chair.

The Parishad comprises representatives from different student organisations, provosts of residential halls, pro-vice chancellor, proctor and assistant proctors.

The meeting was also attended by representatives of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Ganotantrik Chhatra Olyka (GCO), a conglomeration of some left leaning student organisations.

Representatives of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of the BNP, walked out of the meeting saying they could not join any meeting attended by the proctor of the university. Dr Nur-U-Nabi, JCD is demanding resignation of the proctor.

At the meeting, BCL de-

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Session was lively, says B Chowdhury

Deputy leader of the Opposition in Parliament Professor A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday said despite being a short session to comply with the constitutional obligation, the Sangsad was lively this time, reports BSS.

Making a statement before the prorogation of the session, Prof Chowdhury thanked the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker for smoothly conducting the current session and hoped they would ensure equal facilities to both the Treasury and the Opposition benches in all the coming sessions.

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Transit, sub-regional cooperation **AL says essential, BNP demands referendum**

By Staff Correspondent

The ruling party argued in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday that transit and sub-regional cooperation were essential for the country's economic progress while the opposition BNP denounced the initiatives and called for holding referendum on the issues.

The divergent views were expressed during a 150-minute general discussion on "transit and sub-regional cooperation", initiated by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad.

Five ministers were among 20 MPs belonging to Awami League, BNP, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami who took part in the lively discussion.

The foreign minister said that the just-concluded SAARC summit in Male had endorsed the concept of sub-regional cooperation, which he noted, was

JS session prorogued

The fourth session of the seventh parliament was prorogued last night after consecutive six sitting days, reports UNB.

Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury read out the prorogation order of President Shahabuddin Ahmed at 11:57 pm.

Six of the Male Declaration that said, for regional solidarity and development cooperation could be possible among three or more countries within SAARC.

Taking part in the general discussion, BNP lawmakers denounced the initiative for providing India with transit facilities and formation of a 'growth quadrangle' comprising India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. They suggested holding a referendum on the issues.

The JP lawmakers gave guarded views on the issues describing both the positive and negatives aspects while the lone Jamaat MP who took part in the discussion criticised the ideas of transit and sub-regional cooperation.

Twenty participants of the

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Abi never mind the quality: Street children quenching their thirst and cooling themselves, using an opportunity when workers left the hose at a work site at the inland container depot at Kamalapur station yesterday. Temperature soared to 36.2 degree Celsius in Dhaka on the day.

— Star photo by S K Enamul Huq

AL pleasing its masters forgetting pre-polls pledges: Khaleda

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, May 15: BNP chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in parliament Begum Khaleda Zia has said that the government is unleashing a reign of terror in the country like 1972-74.

She also blamed the ruling Awami League for selling out the country to its foreign masters, and said, "The transit, corridor, Chittagong Hill Tracts, Chittagong port, electricity import issues were not in the election manifesto of Awami League."

She said the ruling party has forgotten all its pre-election commitments and now doing everything to please its foreign masters.

Begum Zia was addressing the Jatiyatabadi Mohila Dal workers this evening at the Rajshahi Circuit House here.

Begum Zia criticised government for signing unequal treaties with a neighbouring state saying, "We got a treaty in the name of Farakka water-sharing.... both the formula

Depression over Bay

A well-marked low over southeast Bay and adjoining Andaman Sea concentrated into a depression and was centred about 1660 kms south-southwest of Chittagong port at 6 pm yesterday, reports UNB.

It is likely to intensify further and move initially towards north-northwest, said a special weather bulletin.

Maximum sustained wind within 44 kms of the depression centre is about 40 kph, rising to

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supporters of BNP and its front organisations, led by City Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu, gave her a hearty reception. All BNP MPs elected from the district and party leaders were present.

The BNP leader's motorcade on the 12-km path from airport to Circuit House through historic Grand Trunk Road was escorted by more than 50 minibuses and several thousand motorbikes. People lining both sides of the road welcomed her with petals.

Members of Begum Zia's entourage include Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain MP, former minister Tarikul Islam, BNP leaders Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Begum Khurshid Jahan Huq MP, Farida Hassan, Amannullah Amari MP, Nazrul Islam Khan, Gayeswar Chandra Roy and Ehsanul Kabir, JCD president Shahiuddin Chowdhury Annie and general secretary Habib-un-Nabi Sohel, Qamruzzaman Ratan and Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan.

Failing to stop the minister, a helpless Speaker then asked, "Had it been a brief statement (the state minister was supposed to issue) then what should be the nature of a general statement?"

The state minister's statement over the Speaker gave the floor to Shahjahan to ask a question to the state minister.

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ADB willing to invest in hydro electric project in GBM region

Asian Development Bank (ADB) is willing to invest in the hydro electricity generation project in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) river basin, an ADB official told BSS yesterday.

He said, marketing of rock was not a problem at all. "We need it for river training, constructing railway slippers and good roads," he added.

Korean mining engineers are currently constructing the 'cage-shaft' used to transport equipment and miners underground. They have already excavated 55 metres of the shaft, which will eventually be 314 metres deep and 10 metres in diameter.

Shaft-sinking is considered to be the most vital and costly work in any underground mining project, as it needs an uninterrupted supply of power.

While sinking the shaft, the surrounding water table is frozen solid using liquid nitrogen. The frozen rock and mud is then excavated with a large drill. Once the cage-shaft is completed, they will begin work

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27 pc work on Madhyapara Hard Rock Project completed

By Govinda Shil

Bangladesh Water Development Board and other government agencies were the principal users of rocks in the country.

The Planning Ministry official said significant traces of gold, silver and diamond was also found while conducting a survey for rock and coal deposits around Madhyapara of Dinajpur district.

Bangladesh currently imports rocks from India and Indonesia at between US\$ 35 and 52 a ton, while MHRMP's rock will be as cheap as US\$ 23 a ton. The production cost will be a mere US\$ 11 a ton.

General Manager of Madhyapara Hardrock Mining Project Md Maqbul-E-Elahi said, "I am being confronted with questions on the viability of the project though 27 per cent of the physical work has already been completed."

"Bangladesh always relied on import in this area, but this project will give us the opportunity to be self-sufficient," he added.

He said Bangladesh Railway (BR), Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA),

Petrobangla Chairman Mosharraf Hossain told The Daily Star that the MHRMP was a 'very good' project and it should be completed in time.

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SAGQ to ensure growth: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said the proposed sub-regional grouping, South Asian Growth Quadrangle, aimed at ensuring economic development of Bangladesh, reports UNB.

In her winding up speech in parliament last night, she said the SAARC leaders at Male had reached consensus on the concept of growth quadrangle within the ambit of the seven-member forum.

The Prime Minister said more discussion would take place at the ministerial and official levels to make effective the proposed 'bloc' of Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Bhutan.

Referring to the Male declaration of SAARC, she said the association adopted a number of decisions to extend economic cooperation among the states, improve communication system, stop drug and women trafficking and terrorism.

Refuting the opposition allegation against the government of selling out country's independence, the Prime Minister said

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Govt-PCJSS accord likely by June 30

By Special Correspondent

The government is preparing to sign an accord with the Parbatya Chattagram Janasanghat Samiti (PCJSS) before the expiry of the ceasefire on June 30 and tenure of the three hill district councils on July 5, according to sources concerned.

Earlier, a consensus was reached on all issues on Wednesday between the two sides to bring peace in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).

The three councils elected on June 25, 1989 had repeated extension of tenure. But the government wants those to be more effective under elected leadership, having wide powers and enjoying special status with a tribal person heading each and non-tribals also having adequate representation.

The sources said the other main issues both sides agreed on are: The security forces would stay in CHT in cantonments, police and border guards would do their jobs, settlers are to vacate occupied lands belonging to tribal people, they will be resettled on khas land, insur-

gents are to lay down their arms and the government will arrange their resettlement under a package programme.

The PCJSS leaders left Dhaka yesterday for their makeshift headquarters at Dudukchhara in Khagrachhari by military helicopter, ending four and a half days of negotiations resulting in a consensus with the National Committee on CHT (NCCHT) to sign a peace agreement.

"We would be back in the city again to initial the peace deal," PCJSS Chief Jyotiendri Bodhipriyo Bodhipriyo Larma alias Shantu Larma told newsmen before leaving for the BAF base Bashar for the helicopter ride back to Dudukchhara, near the border.

"We would meet the Prime Minister as and when needed," he said. NCCHT Chairman Abul Hasnat Abdullah, who was standing nearby, however, remained silent.

Hundreds of cheering tribespeople received Shantu Larma and his three companions

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Trade marks & merchandise acts may be replaced

By Staff Correspondent

A comprehensive new law replacing the Trade Marks Act, 1940 and Merchandise Marks Act, 1893 is under active consideration of the government.

Law Commission sources said that the Commission was preparing a report for a single comprehensive act regarding trade marks, which will incorporate the scattered provisions into the act besides making new provisions for meeting the needs of the day.

The Trade Marks Act is essential not only to protect the proprietors' rights of registered trade marks but also to safeguard the interests of consumers and people in general against deception.

Trade marks in Bangladesh are now governed by the Mer-

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AL leaders start organisational tour in June

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked her party leaders and workers to serve the people, and work with them for a poverty-free sonar Bangla, reports UNB.

She made the call at the first meeting of the newly elected central working committee of the Awami League at Ganobhaban in the morning.

Presiding over the meeting, the party president asked the leaders to apprise the people of successes achieved in different sectors during the last 10 months of the present Awami League government.

Terming the just-concluded ninth SAARC summit in Male very "successful and fruitful", Hasina put up various positive aspects of the meet before the working committee.

The meeting decided that central leaders would go for organisational tour across the country in the first week of

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PM to visit Spain from Monday