

DUTA polls

Blue bags
8 posts,
White 7

By DU Correspondent

Pro-Awami League Blue panel and Pro-BNP White panel shared the 15 posts in the executive committee of Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) in the elections, held yesterday.

Blue panel bagged eight posts including that of General Secretary and White panel secured seven posts including that of president of DUTA.

The election of DUTA was held at the Dhaka University Club from 10 am to 2 pm. Prof Hadizuzzaman conducted the election in which 908 teachers cast their votes. Member candidate from the Blue panel Prof Shahadat Ali got the highest number of votes — 521.

White panel candidate Prof Dr AFM Yusuf Haider of Physics department and provost of Surya Sen hall was elected President. He bagged 444 votes as against his rival incumbent president and Blue panel candidate Prof Mostafa Chowdhury.

Prof Dr RIM Aminur Rashid of Blue panel was elected Vice President. He got 473 votes and his rival White panel candidate

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5 shot as JCD,
BCL clash at
Dhaka College

By Staff Correspondent

At least five people received bullet wounds in a clash between the activists of BCL and JCD at Dhaka College yesterday.

The clash began following an altercation between some activists of the two rival student organisations near the college canteen at about 11:30 am.

The feuding groups chased each other. At least ten gunshots were fired during the clash. The clash took place during a meeting of the Dhaka College JCD.

Witnesses said three of the injured were identified as Shakhwet Hossain alias Masaum and Oasim Afza, both students of Dhaka College, and Shahidul Islam alias Kamal, reportedly a student of Dhaka University.

Police said they took Oasim to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment while details about others could not be known immediately.

None was arrested and no case was lodged in this connection till filing of this report last night.

3 held on charge
of killing 3 Ctg
BCL activists

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Dec 28: Police in a pre-dawn swoop on a house at Chalidatoli under Panchali thana in the city today arrested three persons in connection with the killing of three Chhatra League activists on Friday.

They are Nazimuddin, Monsur Alam and Nizamuddin, known as members of Nasir Bahini and associates of one Jasim, accused in the case file in connection with the killing.

Nasir Bahini is backed by Islami Chhatra Shibir, student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami.

Police also recovered two foreign-made guns during the raid, made following a tip-off. Police said the house was Jasim's hideout.

Commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police Asraful Huda said three teams of policemen have been engaged to continue the drive for arresting the killers.

Raids were made at different places in the city last night to arrest the killers, he said.

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Change outlook, recognise talents of youths

Daily Star conference of 'Young Professionals & Entrepreneurs'

By Staff Correspondent

Over 400 young professionals and entrepreneurs at a conference convened by The Daily Star yesterday expressed the view that young people had been ignored in policy making process over the last 26 years since Independence.

This has deprived the nation from making greater strides in growth sectors like software, biotechnology, information technology, power and telecommunication, they opined. This has also prevented expansion of backward linkages in the readymade garments sector.

The conference was participated by young people between the ages 25 and 35. The cross-section of men and women were from several professions and included doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, bankers, bureaucrats, NGO executives, architects and businessmen.

The four-hour programme vibrated with life as at least 50 young men and women eagerly sought the floor to put forward ideas and suggestions portraying their vision of Bangladesh in the 21st century.

The conference of "Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs" was organised in

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Participants in The Daily Star Conference of Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs held at the British Council auditorium in the city yesterday.

— Star photo

Work abstention on Jan 8 threatened
Meet demand for parity
by Jan 7: Prokrichi

By Special Correspondent

The Central Coordination Council of Engineers, Agriculturists and Physicians, belonging to different cadres of Bangladesh Civil Service, have called a full day 'abstention from work' on January 8 if their demand for parity among all BCS cadres is not met by January 7.

This was announced by MAK Azad, Chairman of the Council, at a press conference yesterday. Further programme will be announced after January 8 if the demand remains unheeded, he said in a written statement read out at the press conference. Other leaders of the three professional groups were also present.

The sudden decision to upgrade certain posts of the BCS (Administration) Cadre, benefiting mainly the field level

RUTA polls
Jan 5

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Dec 28: The election to the executive committee of the Rajshahi University Teachers' Association (RUTA) will be held on January 5.

Two panels — one from Moderate Group and the other from pro-Awami League and pro-Nationalist — are contesting the

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Industrial policy in a month

Thrust on pvt sector

The draft of a new Industrial Policy, which identified the private sector to be the main player in the country's industrialisation, was placed yesterday before a government committee for its consideration.

Nasir Bahini is backed by Islami Chhatra Shibir, student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami.

Police also recovered two foreign-made guns during the raid, made following a tip-off. Police said the house was Jasim's hideout.

Commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police Asraful Huda said three teams of policemen have been engaged to continue the drive for arresting the killers.

Raids were made at different places in the city last night to arrest the killers, he said.

policy on the basis of consensus.

Calling the private sector as the engine of growth, the minister said the industrial policy should be a promoter of export-led industrial units apart from production of consumer goods.

The draft emphasised the need for developing a modern entrepreneurship to fully utilise the domestic potential and resources. It noted that a vibrant private sector would be the dominant factor in the country's industrial scenario.

The draft also emphasised export-oriented and labour-intensive industrialisation with higher productivity and workers' skill.

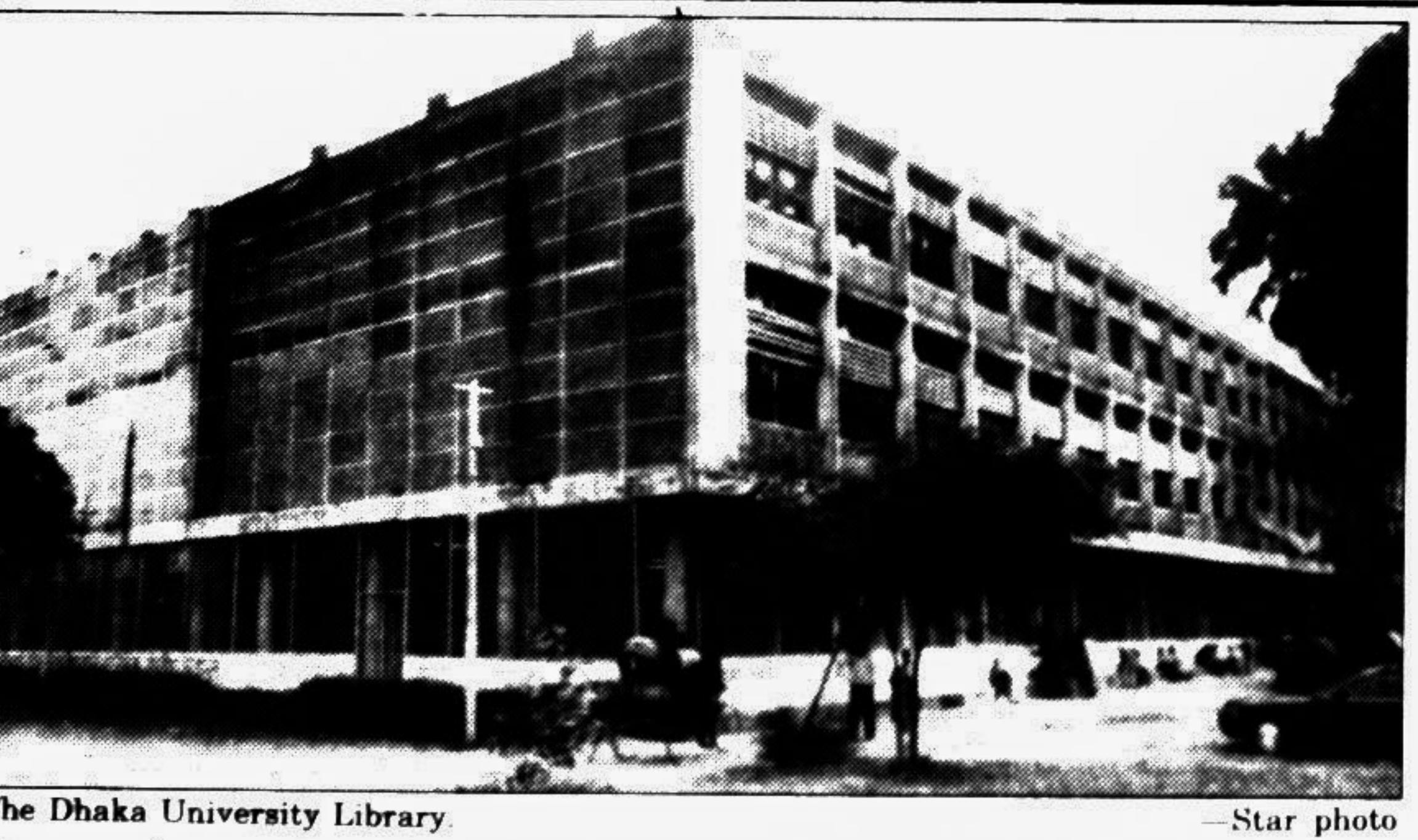
Tofael told the meeting that the government wants to frame a realistic industrial policy, to be acceptable to all quarters, for its continuation, even after the change of the government.

He said parliament members from all political parties having representation in the House were made members of the committee with a view to formulating a prudent industrial

policy.

An official handout said the

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The Dhaka University Library

BR losing Rs 5 lakh a month at
3 border points

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladesh Railway is losing about five lakh Indian Rupees every month due to absence of custom clearance facilities at some entry points with India during the two weekly holidays, according to official sources.

The BR is paying a demurrage of about Rs 119,000 to the Indian Railway every week for delay in custom clearance due to lack of such facilities during the two days.

Railway wagons are used for importing items like cement, fertilizer and stone chips from India through Darshana, Rohanpur and Birat customs points, where the facilities are now available five working days of the week.

Absence of custom facilities in the two weekly holidays also creates operational problems at those stations, said a source in the BR which receives two or three trains from India every day. Round the week customs clearance facilities are available at Indian entry points, the sources said. Such facilities are now available only at the Kamalapur station, they added.

The BR has requested the National Board of Revenue to ensure round the week customs checking facilities at Darshana, Rohanpur and Birat railway stations, the sources said.

HONG KONG, Dec 28: Hong Kong will kill and burn all chickens in the territory in a bid to rid itself of the 'bird flu' that has killed four people and aroused fears worldwide of an epidemic, the government said today. reports Reuter.

The radical step, in which up to 1.3 million chickens from about 1,000 markets and 160 farms in Hong Kong will go up in smoke starting on Monday, follows a ban on imports from mainland China and intensive probes into the mysterious killer disease.

We have huge unexploited and under-exploited domestic resources which can contribute much for establishing small and medium scale industries in the semi urban and rural areas, Tofael added.

The meeting decided to coopt SM Akram MP and industrialist Din Muhammad as members of the full committee.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury MP, Ashiqur Rahman MP, AKM Mosharraf Hossain MP, M Tajul Islam MP, Bangladesh

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policy on the basis of consensus.

Calling the private sector as the engine of growth, the minister said the industrial policy should be a promoter of export-led industrial units apart from production of consumer goods.

The government has identified some thrust sectors like textiles including readymade garments, computer software, frozen food and leather to boost export, he said, adding these should be incorporated in the industry.

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Saber Hossain Chowdhury

MP, Ashiqur Rahman MP, AKM

Mosharraf Hossain MP, M

Tajul Islam MP, Bangladesh

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The Dhaka University library has a very small collection of useful books, journals and periodicals compared to the students' needs.

Most of the students who use the library say they do not get the required books and journals. Although the DU authorities claim that the library is the biggest in the country with more than five lakh collections, students say the shelves are filled up with age-old books and other materials which have no relevance now and are useless.

Sources in the library say poor management and maintenance, non-return of books by the users and lack of funds for purchasing new books created

the present situation. The few current collections are now with the teachers, they said. Once a teacher takes a book he keeps it for years together. Sometimes they take books for their wards and relatives, a source said.

In the rare section of the library, there are some irrelevant and age-old annual reports of the United Nations and its agencies and some books on the United States, gifted by the USIS when its library was shifted from the Jibon Bima Bhawan, a student claimed.

Only teachers and researchers of the university have access to the rare section where there are some current books and journals. Books and

journals are often lost from the library, mainly from the rare section, it was also alleged.

International journals and periodicals are made available to the students only when they are sent to the journal section after four or five years of entry into the university.

The reference section of the university is in a very deplorable condition with no supply of current reading materials. Even the latest edition of the most common SHIPRI Year Book or Europa Year Book are not available there.

Talking to the Daily Star, the librarian said the budget for the library is not enough to meet the increasing demand of

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DU library in poor health

By M M Aminul Islam

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Crash-landing

Cabin crew
interviewed:
Sound of voice
recorder poor

Star Report

The investigators probing the recent crash-landing of Biman's F-28 aircraft interviewed its cabin crew yesterday.

The six-member committee headed by Group Captain Iqbal of the Civil Aviation Authority also replayed the cockpit voice recorder.

But the sound was too poor, making it difficult to decipher anything out of it.

The black box and the voice recorder were yet to be sent abroad for decoding. Civil Aviation sources said.

The recorder contains the conversation between the crew and the air traffic controllers before it lost contact.

The plane had crash-landed on a wet land, eight km off the runway of Sylhet airport on Monday.

The management board of the Biman yesterday held a meeting to assess, among other things, the situation following the accident that sent the air liner's domestic schedules in disarray