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## Allocations for higher edn on the decline

By Gobinda Bar

Allocations for higher education came down to 7.8 per cent of the education budget in fiscal 1997-98 from 10.5 per cent in fiscal '85-86, according to the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Out of the total budget of Tk 600 crore for the education sector, Tk 63 crore was allocated for higher education in fiscal 1997-98. The national budget for the financial year was Tk 3926 crore.

In the year 1997-98 the national budget rose to Tk 15,999.91 crore while the allocation for university education was Tk 183.70 crore against a total of Tk 2,342.83 crore for the education sector.

During the last 13 years beginning from 1985-86, education budget increased four times but that for university education increased only 2.9 times, according to the UGC.

The percentage of allocation from the national development budget for university development programmes also declined over the years.

The allocation for university development programmes fell to 0.81 per cent from 1.25 per cent between 1986-87 and 1997-98.

A total of Tk 17.65 crore was allocated for university development programmes in 1986-87, which rose to Tk 103.66 crore in 1997-98. During this



Trees as big as this one are dying in places like Notun Sonakanda, Keraniganj. Floodwater stagnated for as long as two months in the area. — Star Photo

## Stricter rules for female students at JU hall

By JU Correspondent

The authorities of one of the four residential halls for female students of Jahangirnagar University yesterday issued an eight-point 'Code of Conduct' which also contains a timetable for return of the students to the hall.

The main gate of the university's Jahanara Imam Hall will be closed by 9:00 pm and the collapsible gate at 9:30. Prior permission will be necessary for anyone to stay out of the hall after 10:00 pm, after which entry to the hall will not be allowed," it said.

Guardians and none other than their nominated persons will be allowed inside the guest room of the hall, the code of conduct added.

Students returning to the campus in the university bus will have to fill up a prescribed form in case the bus failed to reach the campus within the time table. If the explanation given to the authorities or the form is not filled up, action will be taken, it warned.

Meanwhile, residents of the hall in an instant reaction regarding the code of conduct, said it was not acceptable to them and that they would go for an agitation against it.

"It is a move by the JU authorities to shift their responsibilities on the shoulders of the students as they failed to handle the issue of rape victims on the university campus," one student said.

Provost of the hall Prof M Imamuddin told this correspondent issuance of the code of conduct is nothing new, and it is only to give a reminder to the students.

## Seven killed, 36 hurt in road accidents

Seven people were killed and 36 others injured in three road accidents in three districts yesterday, reports APB.

Four people were killed and 25 injured, eight seriously, in a road accident in Baghaichhari area in Dighinala thana of Khagrachhari district yesterday.

Sources said the accident occurred when an overloaded microbus lost control and fell about 20 feet down the rugged Baghaichhari road at about 4 pm.

Four of the victims, including driver Rabi Chakma, 30, died instantaneously.

Army personnel rescued the injured people, mostly tribals, and sent them to Chittagong and Khagrachhari hospitals.

Another report says: Two people were killed in a road accident at Mogra para on Dhaka-Chittagong highway early yesterday.

Police said the accident occurred when a speeding Chittagong-bound truck ramed another truck, parked roadside for repairing, from behind at about 4 am.

An unidentified helper, 25, of the parked truck, and a night guard of the area, Lokman Hakim, 55, died on the spot.

Police seized the truck, but the driver fled.

In Rajshahi, a teenage girl was killed and 11 others were injured, when a passenger bus fell into a roadside ditch after being dashed by a speeding truck at Bhanga in Puthia thana yesterday.

Police gave the identity of the dead as Runa, 15. The seriously injured persons were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Police said the accident took place when a speeding truck hit the Rajshahi-bound bus from behind at about 5 pm.

## Brunei may open mission in Dhaka

Brunei government is seriously considering to open a resident mission in Dhaka, reports BSS.

This was stated by the Brunei High Commissioner to Bangladesh Pengiran Setia Raja when he called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office here yesterday.

The envoy, who is based in Bangkok, said his government was looking forward to Sheikh Hasina's visit.

The Prime Minister said she had to postpone her visit to Brunei to remain beside the flood-hit people and oversee the relief operations.

## Attack on injured BCL leader in hospital

BHOLA, Oct 10: A Chhatra League leader, under treatment at Char Fashion Hospital, was seriously injured in an attack early hours today by political rivals who hit him repeatedly with sharp weapons, reports UNB.

Police said Jahangir Alam, 25, general secretary of the Chhatra Fashion Paura unit of the ruling party's student wing, was sent to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.

The miscreants unleashed the attack on Jahangir in Char Fashion Hospital, where he was recovering from injury sustained during another attack Thursday night.

The attackers blasted several crackers creating panic among the doctors, nurses, patients and their attendants.

Police arrested three activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, the student wing of BNP, in this connection.

## Tofail

From Page 1

want to respond to him. The truth is known to the nation. A disgruntled section of army even had come to kill me in Mymensingh jail at that time."

"Bangabandhu was the first victim of politics of killing and conspiracy," he said and called upon all to remain vigilant as Begum Zia and Ershad have "continued the trend and hatched new conspiracy" after the Prime Minister announced holding trial of all killings.

Tofail charged General Ziaur Rahman with rehabilitating the killers of Bangabandhu and national leaders by giving them job in foreign missions. "And Ershad rehabilitated them politically," he said.

In this regard, the Awami League leader described how the killers were brought back to the country. Col Farooq was made President candidate, and Col Rashid and Maj Bazul Huda were made parliament members.

Besides, he said, Ershad had helped in the formation of the Freedom Party which was "involved in many political killings and abductions."

Tofail told the meeting that the names of main plotter and killers of Obaidul Haq Babul have come to police and the judiciary. "Today or tomorrow, the truth will be unveiled in public and the killers will be tried," he assured.

Addressing the meeting, a weeping Yasir Obaid Yad, son of late Babul and a student of class VIII, urged all to "pray for the departed soul of my father and trial of the killers who made me orphan."

Babul's two brothers — Hamidul Huq Bahul and Shahidul Huq Mukul — categorically named UP leader Nazur Rahman Manjur as plotter of the killing amidst repeated slogans for immediate trial of the murder.

## Death of boy

From Page 1

The inmates of the building found Sumon hanging from the iron grill of the staircase at the ground floor of the three-storey building early morning yesterday.

Our DMCH correspondent reported that Sumon's body was found hanging but his feet were touching the floor.

Police, however, said there was no mark of injury in Sumon's body.

The family members were interrogated by police but none was arrested in this connection.

## BNP chairperson

From Page 1

scrutinised the following day (October 17). The last date for withdrawal of candidature is October 19.

The Election Commission is headed by Abdu Salam Talukdar and has Khondker Mahubuddin and Nazmul Huda as members. Haris Chowdhury was made the member secretary.

The Commission has appointed Jamiruddin Sircar and Aminul Haq as the Returning Officer and the Assistant Returning Officer for the election respectively.

The incumbent BNP chief Khaleda Zia was re-elected for two years in 1993. She had been getting re-elected since she was put at the helm of the party in 1983. None has ever contested her.

## Tangail handlooms

From Page 1

The weavers said prices of raw materials such as yarn did not go up because nearly all weaving activities remained idle for a long time.

When contacted, Deputy Commissioner of Tangail, Abdus Sattar Khan told The Daily Star that Beldua and Kalihati thanas had the largest number of weavers in the district.

"Beldua was not affected by the floods, I have reports of partial flooding at Kalihati where weavers were not much affected," the DC said.

Abdus Sattar admitted that weavers in the villages along the river Jamuna were badly affected. "But none of the weaving community approached me for any help," he said when asked what measures he had taken to rehabilitate the weavers.

"If any rehabilitation is to be done, it should come from the Handloom Board," he said. The DC however did not know how big the weavers community was in the district.

Yusuf Ali Karigar's family, weavers for three generations, now owns four weaving machines. He said he had borrowed Tk 4,000 from a local NGO and sold out two of his six looms for Tk 12,000 each to survive during the flood.

The NGO had suspended its loan recovery programme during the flood but now Yusuf has been asked to start paying the instalments.

"I had to look after the weavers and their families during the flood who work here. Now shall I pay the instalments or start my looms?" asked Yusuf.

Mohammad Ismail Hossain, another weaver of the village said most of the affected weavers now need financial help to regain their pre-flood position. He said if once they get back to full production, it would not take time to repay the money.

## Pre-launching function

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Oct 10: A pre-launching function of the 'Promoth Alo', a Bengali daily, will be held at Royal Garden at Mehdiabagh here at 6-30 pm tomorrow.

Editor of the new daily Motiur Rahman, its publisher and editor of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam will exchange views there with newspaper readers and patrons and well-wishers of the proposed daily.

## 'Clean-up drive'

From Page 1

Abdul Hakim and Muzem Hosain went on retirement during Khaleda Zia's regime. Nine others were retired by the present government on Tuesday.

Remaining police officers of this group are under observation of the government, the sources said. Of them, two top ranking police officers received show cause notices for their alleged corruption last month. They were earlier learnt to have claimed seniority to the incumbent IGP, B I Siddiqui, and challenged his appointment.

Meanwhile, 9 police officials, who were awarded forced retirement after 25 years of service, may seek the protection of law.

On the other hand, sources said, the government is verifying the allegations of corruption against those retirees.

## Kosovo crisis

BRUSSELS, Oct 10: NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana said today that ambassadors from the 16-nation military alliance had completed all the work necessary prior to authorising possible air strikes against Yugoslavia over the Kosovo crisis, reports Reuters.

"The North Atlantic Council has today cleared all the decisions necessary prior to an activation order (authorising air strikes)," Solana told a news conference at NATO headquarters.

Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov said Saturday that if NATO uses force to resolve the Kosovo crisis, Russia may have to revise its relationship with the western alliance, Russian news agencies reported today.

He reiterated that Russia would use its veto in the UN Security Council to prevent airstrikes against Yugoslavia. "We cannot allow this reso-

## Day-long hartal in Chuadanga today

CHUADANGA, Oct 10: Leaders of all political parties, businessmen and transport workers have called for a day-long hartal in the district tomorrow demanding early rescue of an abducted industrialist, reports UNB.

Ashabul Haq, owner of Jyoti Biscuit factory, was abducted on September 30 from his office.

Local leaders called for hartal after the district administration failed to rescue the industrialist from the abductors. They had several meetings with the district administration on the rescue of Ashabul Haq.

## Violent protest

From Page 1

warul Haque.

Assailants armed with ram dao and Chinese axe attacked and hacked Anwar at Singajam High School square at about 7 pm. He died at Mymensingh Medical College Hospital at about 11 pm.

As the news of killing spread, supporters of Anwar brought out a procession in the town and ransacked the residence of Serajul Haque.

The supporters of Anwarul Haque also demonstrated this morning and called a day-long hartal in the town for tomorrow to protest the killing.

The marchers, who carried the body of their leader, held Serajul Haque, former deputy minister for health, responsible for the killing and demanded arrest of the killers.

## All set for air strike, says NATO chief

lution," Primakov was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency.

If NATO nevertheless goes ahead with airstrikes, "it could destroy the world's existing security system," he said, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency. Such a move would set a dangerous precedent for the use of force, without UN approval, against other countries, he said.

After hours of crisis talks with Yugoslavia's president, US envoy Richard Holbrooke flew to Kosovo today to meet with ethnic Albanian leaders as part of a renewed effort to reach a peace agreement without NATO airstrikes.

Holbrooke, who talked for more than six hours yesterday with President Slobodan Milosevic, had little to say about his shuttle mission. But his latest visit to Pristina signalled a glimmer of hope in efforts to avoid military intervention, which many have viewed as likely.

## Jail Killing Case Charge sheet likely to be submitted this week

The charge sheet in the Jail Killing Case is expected to be submitted this week, CID sources said, reports UNB.

They said the "memo of evidence" of the November 3 jail killing of 1975 will be sent to the public prosecutor soon before the charge sheet is submitted to the court.

Four national leaders — Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed, Captain Mansur Ali and Quamruzzaman — were killed inside the Dhaka Central Jail 23 years ago and the effective investigation was started on 18 August 1996.

"We are at the final stage of investigation of the case. No more persons will be arrested at this moment," said one source close to the CID investigators.

He said some information are being verified and some of the accused are being interrogated.

Six army men, including Brigadier Zubair, Lt Col Hasan and Lt Col Mohiuddin Ahmed, were interrogated on Friday.

Mohiuddin is in Dhaka Central Jail for about two years.

"We got some important information from them," said the source, adding that the investigators may talk to six or seven more persons, including army personnel and two top politicians, to verify some facts and documents.

## Arms recovered from garments factory in city

By Staff Correspondent

Police recovered five firearms and ammunition from staircase of a garments factory in city's Mohakhali area yesterday.

One person, identified as Shah Alam, was arrested in connection with the incident, police said.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Gulshan police raided Ocean Garments at Rasulbagh at about 11:15 am.

Police recovered a rifle, four guns, 13 bullets and nine crackers.

Police were interrogating the arrested person. A case was filed with Gulshan thana in this connection.

## Punish killers

From Page 1

admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where he died after a few hours.

Family members of Monir alleged that police handed over Monir's body to Anjumane Mafidul Islam (AMI) after autopsy at DMCH the next day saying that the body was unidentified. AMI later buried the body at Azampur Graveyard the same day.

The Director of the Institute read out a written statement at the conference. The statement quoted a witness as saying, "The police sergeant who was present at the spot sent fatally injured Monir to the DMCH with a passer-by in an auto-rickshaw without searching for any document in his pocket."

Ismat Takir, elder brother of Monir claimed that Monir had his eye donation card and identity card with him when the accident took place. "But police in collusion with the car owner, concealed the identity of my brother," he alleged.

## Road barricade

From Page 1

Awami League and the Parishad at Ranggar on October 6.

UNB adds: Unidentified miscreants set ablaze three houses, including a newspaper office, in Masterpara area in the town early today.

Inmates said their houses were set on fire at about 3 am when they all were asleep.

Local people woke up hearing hue and cry, and put the fire out before arrival of fire fighters. Three people sustained minor injuries.

## Talks fail

From Page 1

meeting.

According to sources, PCJSS leaders reiterated their stand on the RC of which Shantu Larma had been named chairman.

They had earlier refused to accept the interim RC, announced September 6.

Besides the RC, the PCJSS had also raised the incongruities in the Rangamati District Council Bill, 1998, appointment of tribal chiefs or Rajas for the Bomang (Bandarban) and Mong (Khagrachhari) circles, withdrawal of army camps, rehabilitation of settlers by the Refugee Rehabilitation Task Force.

The PCJSS chief has postponed his planned visit to Bandarban today due to the road barricade programme called by the Sarbadaliya Oikya Parishad protesting arrest of their leaders in connection with an incident at Ranggar last week. He will visit Bandarban on October 13.

## Jayalalitha discloses Bin Laden had hand in Coimbatore bombing

NEW DELHI, Oct 10: Osama bin Laden, the Saudi financier accused of organising international terrorism, had a hand in a bombing in southern India last February that killed 54 people and wounded 200, a prominent regional leader said today, reports AP.

Jayaram Jayalalitha, an ally of Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, said she had credible information that some of the accused in the bombings in Coimbatore had met Bin Laden and had been trained in Afghanistan for six months before the bombing.

A series of 19 explosions rocked Coimbatore, which is 2,400 kilometres south of New Delhi. Investigators said the bombs were part of a conspiracy to assassinate Interior Minister Lal Krishna Advani, who was due in the city to campaign for his Bharatiya Janata Party.

Jayalalitha said police made the discovery while interrogating a suspect in the bombing. The suspect, Abdul Nazzar Madani, was one of four men charged with planning and executing the bombing.

She alleged that Madani had met earlier with Bin Laden in the city of Hyderabad, although there had been no previous indication Bin Laden had ever been in India.

"About 200 men trained in Afghanistan are roaming free in South India," Jayalalitha said.

Jayalalitha said the ruling coalition was strong and her support to the government would continue as long as it worked for the good of the people.

But she refused to rule out an alliance with the main opposition Congress party in the future.

"As a good strategist, I do not rule out any option," she said. Jayalalitha, leader of the All-India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, was speaking to journalists in New Delhi.

Jayalalitha said her alliance with the right-wing BJP was for seat sharing during elections and it did not signify any change in her secular beliefs. She didn't elaborate.

## Gunfight at Faridpur: One killed, 12 hurt

FARIDPUR, Oct 10: One person was killed and 12 others, including two girls and a woman, were injured in a gunfight between two rival groups at South Alipur in the town today, reports UNB.

Police identified the dead as Babu 25, an alleged criminal of Bhanga thana.

A tense situation was prevailing in the town. Additional police were deployed in the area to avert further trouble.

## Three Indian film actresses held, freed on bail

JODHPUR, Oct 10: Three film actresses — Tabu, Sonali Bendre and Neelam — were arrested last night under the Wildlife Protection Act for allegedly hunting protected animals near here last week, forest officials said, reports PTI.

The actresses were later released on bail, they said.

Actors Salman Khan and Saif Ali Khan, who were also named in the case, had earlier yesterday secured interim anticipatory bail from the district and sessions court.

The case against all the five cine stars was that they had hunted and killed at least two black bucks and a chinkara, both protected animals, on October 1 in Gudha Bishnola area here.

The officials said the bodies of the animals killed had been recovered and the post mortem had established that they had been shot.

## Hunger strike

From Page 1

The seven-party meeting, held at the Minto Road official residence of the Leader of the Opposition with Abdu Salam Talukdar in the chair, strongly criticised the government for what it said the "extremely deteriorated" law and order, corruption in distribution of relief, arrests of three opposition leaders including BNP MP KM Obaidur Rahman in connection with the jail killing of November 3, 1975, "false cases" against Khaleda Zia and other opposition leaders, ruling party's attacks on the opposition activists and rape incidents at Jahangirnagar University.

"The people are faced with starvation, famine, unemployment, epidemic and lawlessness. The government is loudly speaking of trial of the killers but it did not try anyone for the killing of 200 opposition activists including university student Rubel in its two-and-a-half year rule. In some cases, the killers were not even arrested," said the resolution.

"The national economy has collapsed, the country has been turned into an Indian market, the country's sovereignty is threatened, the administration has been politicised and the people are fed up with the government's misdeeds..." it added.

"Such a situation cannot be allowed to continue further. There is no option to building up a public resistance against the corruption and fascism by the government."

## Bourses

From Page 1

to the two having similar IP addresses.

"Such network collision is very common and happens in networking system. We have identified the brokerage firm that did it," he said.

An expert in business of networking said "these collisions can be avoided by locking the IP address."

The market sources said this was the second such incident of networking collision the first one was when the Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria formally inaugurated the automation system on August 13.

Soon after the minister logged into the system trading of almost 60 per cent of the brokerage firms stopped suddenly. Many failed to get access to the system and those who managed to access failed to participate in the day's trading due to malfunctioning of the system.

Automation experts at DSE managed to fix it after an hour and half.

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Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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