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DU BCL's council session tomorrow

By Mahbub Zaman

The Dhaka University unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) will hold its council session tomorrow to elect new leaders for the next one year.

Shahjalal varsity students withdraw hunger strike

From Staff Correspondent SYLHET, Oct 12: Twenty-five students, who began hunger strike yesterday morning at the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology broke their fast this afternoon after assurance from the VC that their demands will be met.

Kamaluddin steps aside from FBCCI election

Vice-president candidate and Chittagong Chamber president Kamaluddin Ahmed for the October 15 FBCCI election has withdrawn from the race yesterday, reports UNB.

Jamaat

From Page 1 "But we'll visit the hunger strikers and express solidarity with their causes", Quamruzzaman said.

Talking to The Daily Star, BNP Joint Secretary General Haris Chowdhury admitted that the Jamaat had taken an exception to the programme of the seven-party. But he hastened to add the Jamaat leaders would turn up at the hunger strike venue to express their solidarity.

Munshiganj

From Page 1 colleges and madrasahs had been turned into flood shelters during the deluge. The district's total population is 11,883,387.

A total of 81 people and 1745 cattlehead died during the two-month-long flood. Of the 307 km roads and highways affected by the flood, 165 km were damaged totally. Seven bridges and culverts were damaged totally and 297 were damaged partially.

The flood also damaged four educational institutions totally and 704 partially. The number of damaged trees is 1,74,752.

The BCL committee at Zahurul Haq Hall was elected through vote. Committees in other halls were selected on the basis of consensus.

Potential candidates for the post of president of the DU unit committee are Sazzad Hossain, Mihir Kanit, Ghosal, Abdul Aleem, Syed Nurul Islam, Iqbal Hossain, Sheikh Nowsher Alam Heera, Saleh Mohammad Tutul.

The candidates for the post of general secretary are Biplob Sarkar, Anisur Rahman Sarkar Litu, Sumon Jahid, Mahfuzur Rahman.

Some activists of BCL talking to The Daily Star said that they want to see "political elements" in the committee. "We do not want to see any armed cadre in the committee", said an activist.

The BCL central committee has, meanwhile, changed some party rules. According to the new rules, no married student will be a member of the committee. Nobody above the age of 27 will not be accommodated in the committee.

The council of the central committee of BCL will be held on October 22.

Jyoti assures smooth transportation of rice from India

West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu has assured Bangladesh of full assistance and support in smooth transportation of rice being imported from India, reports UNB.

The assurance came when Bangladesh High Commissioner to India C M Shaif Sami met the Chief Minister of West Bengal at his office yesterday.

Jyoti Basu felicitated the Bangladesh government for effectively handling the recent devastating floods in the country.

List of VGF card holders yet to be completed in Sylhet

From Iqbal Siddiquee SYLHET, Oct 12: The local authorities are yet to complete preparation of the list of the VGF card holders of Sylhet district the deadline ended today. Even, list from a single union parishad is yet to reach the district headquarters, said a district official this afternoon.

The officials informed that the government had sanctioned 80,300 VGF cards for the 98 unions under 11 thanas of the district and 15 wards of Sylhet. The 13-member union level committees are to prepare the lists with the advice from the concerned MP. The lists are to reach the TNOs office and then to the Deputy Commissioner's office. The Foreign Minister who is in charge of the district is also to approve the lists, said the official.

Essentials

From Page 1 was selling at Tk 19 against Tk 20 to 21 15 days back and IRR at Tk 15 to 16 against its previous price of Tk 16 to 17.



The overbridge constructed by the DCC at DIT Extension Road near the Dainik Bangla crossing is hardly used by pedestrians.

Bangabandhu Murder Case Neither ML nor Indemnity Ord can protect killers: SPP

Neither the martial law nor the Indemnity Ordinance can protect the killers of Bangabandhu, the Special Public Prosecutor told the court in the Bangabandhu Murder Case, reports UNB.

Brushing aside the defence argument, Advocate Serajul Huq yesterday said that neither the martial law proclamation nor the Indemnity Ordinance made any provision to protect the killers of Bangabandhu and others.

On the second day of his closing argument, the prosecution counsel said the Constitution was not abrogated when Khandaker Mushtaq Ahmed promulgated martial law on August 20, 1975 giving effect from August 15.

About the judgement of a Pakistan court in the Dooso case cited by defence that martial law is a legal legislation, he said the difference between the martial law promulgated by Gen Ayub Khan in 1958 and the one in 1975 was that Ayub Khan's martial law had annulled the constitution, but this did not happen in Bangladesh.

Huq said the judgement in the Dooso case was based on the 1958 martial law, and moreover, that judgement was later overruled by another Pakistani court in the Asma Jilani case.

As the 1975 martial law proclamation kept the Constitution in force, so the murder of the President (Bangabandhu) was not protected, he argued.

The proclamation of 1975 did not make any regulation or rules in conflict with Article 31 (right to protection of law) and Article 32 (protection of right to life and personal liberty) of the constitution. As such these constitutional provisions were alive before and from the time the proclamation was made, he said citing a judgement of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

"It can be safely argued that at no stage did the proclamation empower any person the right to take away the life of any person or the power to deprive anybody of the right to enjoy protection of law."

Huq submitted that although martial law is supra constitutional, yet the martial law in 1975 itself kept alive the Articles 31 and 32.

"So, the killing of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib and his family members was not authorised or protected by the proclamation... Articles 31 and 32 remained intact even though the martial law was in force," the prosecutor told the court.

Moreover, he mentioned, in the proclamation it was said that with the mercy of Almighty Allah and the blessings of the people, he (Mushtaq) has taken over the power of the government. "But nowhere the killing of the President was mentioned."

PM follows her father to silence opposition: Khaleda

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia on Sunday said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is following the path of her father to silence the opposition, reports UNB.

"But power could not be made permanent that time and it won't be possible this time too," she told a meeting of the Union Parishad chairmen and members of Pabna district at 29 Minto Road Sunday night.

The BNP chairperson said protests will have to be continued and resistance to be built up against the repression of this government.

She called for observing the programmes announced by the 7-party alliance.

Salman Khan refused bail, arrested

NEW DELHI, Oct 12: One of India's most popular movie stars was arrested today on charges of hunting and killing three rare antelope while on movie location, officials said, reports AP.

Police investigators arrested Salman Khan, who had allegedly killed two black bucks and a chinkara in a restricted wildlife preserve in the western state of Rajasthan, after a city judge rejected his bail petition. Alka Kala, the state's highest forest official, told the Associated Press.

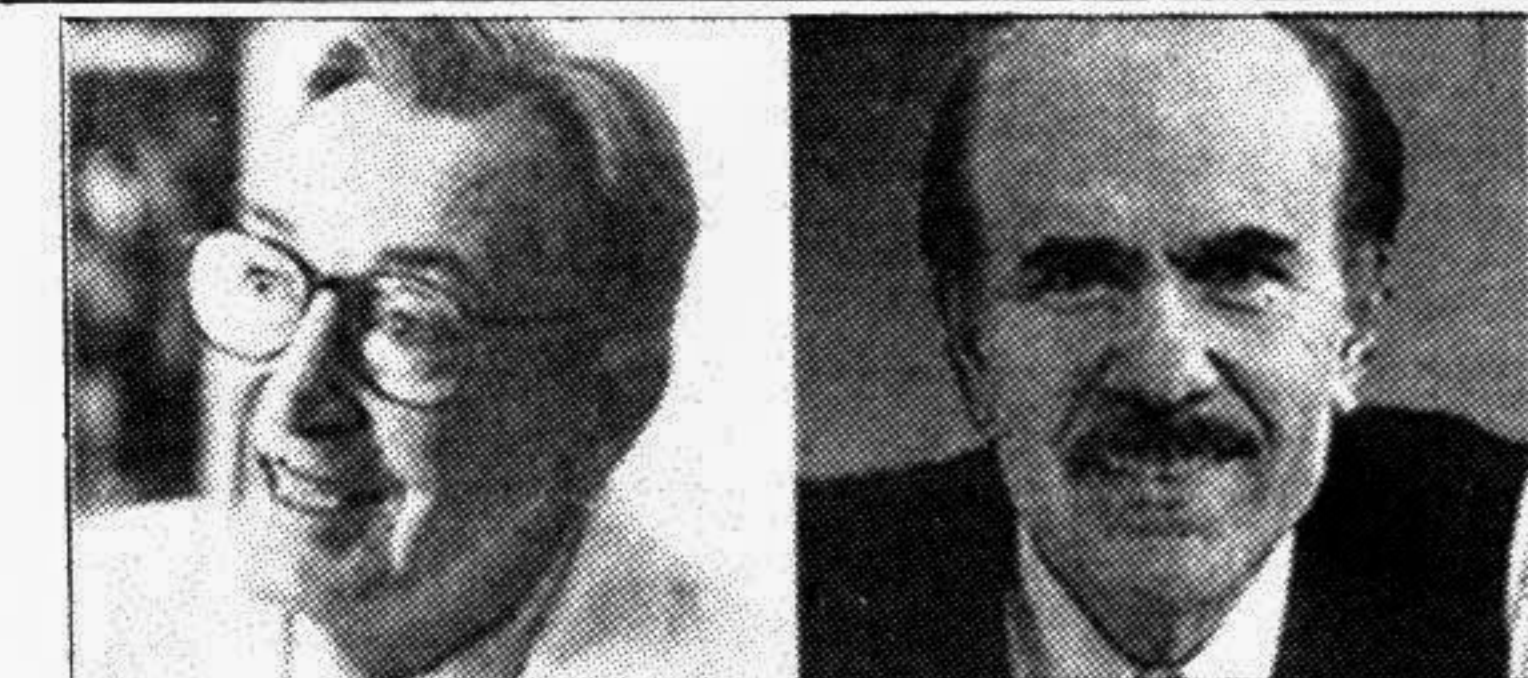
The charges carry a maximum imprisonment of seven years, she said.

Another popular actor Saif Ali Khan and actresses Sonali Bendre, Tabu and Neelam who were present at the time of the killing in fort town of Johdpur were granted bail by judge Dwarka Narayan Joshi, officials said. Tabu and Neelam use single names.

The other actors will still be tried, Kala said.

"All were involved but the judge found that it was Salman who pulled the trigger."

judgement From Page 1 dition and 13 are absconding. The accused detained in the Dhaka Central Jail are: Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Faruk Rahman, Lt Col (relieved) Sultan Shahrier Rashid Khan, Taheruddin Thakur, former minister of state for information, Lt Col Muihuddin Ahmed, Acting Director of BNCC, Dhaka and Honorary Captain Abdul Wahab Joarder.



The winners of the 1998 Nobel Medicine Prize. (From left): Prof Robert F Furchgott, Prof Louis J Ignarro and Prof Ferid Murad.

Nobel Prize

From Page 1 cause the relaxation lets blood flow in. The widely popular Viagra is designed to increase nitric oxide's effect.

The winners' research has sparked studies on a wide range of new drugs, including those that can be used in the treatment of atherosclerosis and shock.

Studies also show that white blood cells use the gas to kill infectious invaders, and to defend against tumours. This has led to tests to see whether nitric oxide could be used to halt tumour growth.

Tofail: Ershad came

From Page 1 out permission from his higher authorities.

In support of his contention, Tofail read out excerpts from a book written by Colonel (Rtd) Shafayet Jamil.

The Minister said Ershad was the first army officer who had incited his juniors in the cantonment to stage mutiny in late 1974 before he left for training in Delhi.

For his wrong doings, Ershad was summoned and reprimanded by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in presence of Army Chief General Shafiqullah, Deputy Chief of Staff General Ziaur Rahman and Col Shafayet Jamil.

Ershad sought apology from Bangabandhu, Tofail said, adding, "I was also present at that time."

Action against DU teacher hailed

By DU Correspondent

Teachers and students of Dhaka University yesterday welcomed a Syndicate decision to retire a professor of the university for giving high scores to undeserving students in exchange of money.

The DU Syndicate on Saturday decided to send Prof AHM Mahbul Alam of Economics Department into retirement after recommendation from a tribunal it set up to try the teacher.

Hailing the decision, Vice-president of the Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) Prof RIM Aminur Rasheed said that the university authorities had taken the decision rightfully, following proper procedures.

It was earlier decided at a general meeting of the DUTA that the particular teacher should be sacked if the allegation brought against him is proved. DUTA Vice-president said.

The university authorities investigated the allegation as per rules laid down in the Dhaka University Order 1973 and took action accordingly as he was proved guilty, Rasheed said.

Welcoming the decision, Prof. Asaduzzaman, Dean of the Faculty of Social Science, said "This is a good beginning."

"The people who are destroying the image of the university by adopting such unfair means should be punished," he said.

Prof. Asaduzzaman said an independent investigation should be carried out to find out whether there are more such incidents in the university.

A teacher of the Chittagong University talking to The Daily Star last night, welcomed the decision.

Teachers and students of Dhaka University yesterday welcomed a Syndicate decision to retire a professor of the university for giving high scores to undeserving students in exchange of money.

Abu Naser Rajib, a student of the DU, alleged, it frequently happens that certain teachers of the university give high scores to some particular students because of their warm relations with them.

But this is perhaps the first reported incident that a teacher has given high scores in exchange of money, he said. Recurrence of such incident should be stopped, he said.

decision "Misconduct of such a magnitude by a university teacher is unforgivable," said Shahidullah, a lecturer of the Journalism Department.

He thanked the DU authorities for taking such a bold step and said this would create a precedent.

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PM: Shelters

From Page 1 bilise more fund from abroad to support the government's massive flood rehabilitation programmes.

Earlier, ADAB president Dr Kazi Faruq Ahmed apprised the Prime Minister of their relief activities and post-flood schemes for the affected people.

A memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister which was read out by ADAB vice-president Aroma Goon. In the memorandum, they said that some 10 lakh affected people would be benefited from relief activities of all NGOs. Over Tk 200 crore relief goods were distributed by the NGOs.

Besides, they said Tk 250 crore would be disbursed under micro-credit programme for the people in the flood-hit areas.

The ADAB delegation praised the Prime Minister for successfully handling the flood relief and allocation of Tk 3,270 crore as agriculture loan.

The other delegation members included Abdul Matin, Geffry F Perera, Shamsul Huda, Omar Faruq Chowdhury, Abdul Qader, Tahera Yasmin Huq, Rasheda K Chowdhury, S M A Rashid and Qazi K Alam.

Manifeso From Page 1 Mintoo denied allegations that he is a pro-government candidate, claiming himself as a neutral candidate.

UNB adds: Mintoo also denied affiliation with any political party.

The allegation of political affiliation is applicable for him, not for me as he approached the leader of the opposition, politicians and ministers to buy their support," Mintoo said pointing to his rival M A Rof Chowdhury.

"Had I sought nomination in the national elections, I could have it from any party. This proves I don't belong to any political party," he said.

Mintoo hoped that none will be confused by propaganda of Rof Chowdhury and said there is no apprehension of any irregularity in the election if no interference takes place from the outside.

He said there is no necessity for debate in public or on TV as the FBCCI election is not a national election. "I'm also busy going to every voter."

Shantu Lama From Page 1 of the interim Regional Council in protest against the induction of some non-tribal members who were not on the list given by the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity, the political umbrella of the now-defunct Shantibahini.

A dialogue between Kalparanjan and Lama may open afresh or a dramatic polarisation may take place in the CHT politics during their tour," local political circles believe.