

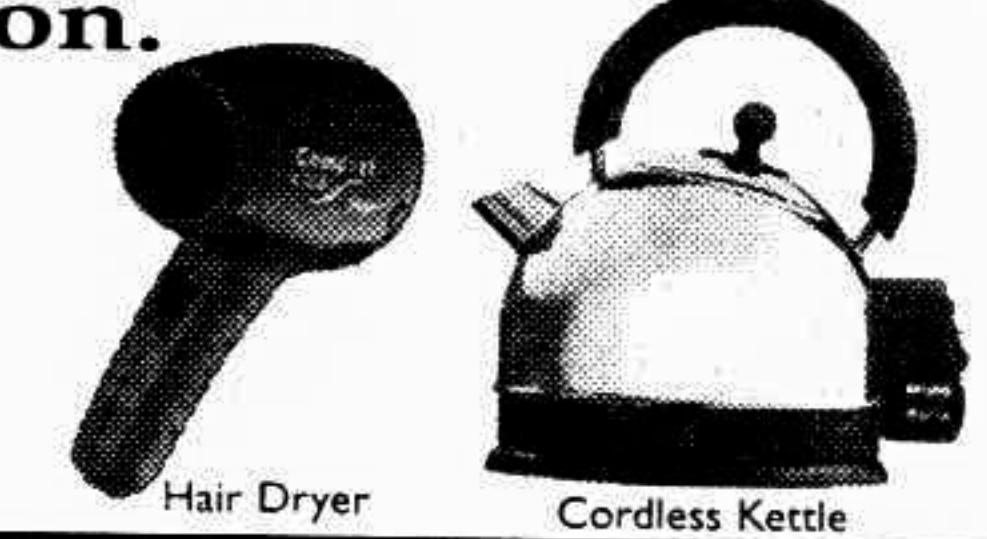
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Cancel certificates of 'JU rapists': Memo to VC

By JU Correspondent

Gonotantrik Chhatra demand expansion order of a rapist for his 'good manners' is also unjust, biased and motivated.

Earlier, GCO brought out a procession on the campus protesting authority's 'enthusiastic endeavour' to take examinations of the confirmed and identified rapists.

Later, at a rally, GCO leaders threatened of greater agitation programmes if the authorities continue to take examinations of the culprits.

They also warned of 'dire consequences if their demands for cancellation of studentship and certificates of the rapists are not met immediately.'

'Authorities' enthusiastic role to take examinations of the rapists further reflects their pro-rapist character,' the memorandum said, adding, 'Authorities' decision to sus-

Ijtema begins

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The government has taken special measures for ensuring security and maintaining smooth traffic around the Ijtema.

Additional police forces were brought from other districts and deployed at every crossing leading to Tongi.

Medical centres have been set up for providing medical treatment to the devotees.

Besides, different non-government and voluntary organisations have set up temporary clinics and medical camps at different corners of the ground for giving emergency treatment to the devotees.

Hundreds of makeshift hotels, restaurants and shops have also been installed.

Tongi, pourashava and Gazipur district police also set up temporary camps for providing necessary assistance to the devotees.

Buriganga dying

From Page 1

ganga. These industries discharge their untreated wastes directly into the river.

Reazuddin said that successive governments have carried out detailed and expensive studies to install a centralised effluent treatment plant at Hazaribagh. "This time also the government has undertaken a study programme of the tanneries. But what we need without delay is the use of the old studies and installation of the centralised treatment plant."

Hazaribagh tanneries alone discharge around 6,000 cubic metres of deadly wastes into the river every day. The DoE report reveals that during 1996-1997, three-fourth length of the river have been observed to be under septic condition during January and May. In 1998, almost the entire length of the river of the river is under septic condition.

Chairman of POROSH AMA Muhith, who conducted the discussion, said that a combined citizens' effort was now required to save the life-line of the capital Dhaka. "No city has ever grown without a river by its side. To save Dhaka, we'll

Nat'l policy for newspaper industry soon

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday announced that the government would frame a national policy for newspaper industry to help flourish the Fourth Estate with more responsibility and objectivity in journalism, reports UNB.

"Newspaper is the mirror of a society and newsmen must maintain truth and objectivity in writing news," she said opening the biennial conference of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) at the National Press Club.

The Prime Minister regretted that a handful of newspapers and journalists were making false, distorted and motivated news stories misguiding society while majority newsmen working hard to present the facts.

"You should not keep your image hostage in the hands of a few newspapers which are damaging your reputation by running false and motivated stories," she told the journalists.

Hasina called for elevating Bangladesh journalism to international standards so that the newspapers here could stand up to the challenges of the new millennium round the corner.

Pointing out government plans for upgrading standard of the profession she said a Tk 5 crore project had been undertaken to modernise the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) with quality training programmes for rural journalists who project most part of the country along with its problems and prospects.

Referring to various demands placed by the BFUJ including implementation of the Wage Board award, the Prime Minister advised the union leaders to settle those through negotiation with newspaper owners. She, however, said steps had been taken for meeting the housing needs of journalists.

Outgoing BFUJ president Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury presided over the opening session which was also addressed by State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed and union leaders Abul Kalam Azad, Anjan Kumar Sen, Mokbul Hosain Mintoo, Shah Kiron Kumar Kochi, Pradip Bhattacharya, Md. Salam Khanam, Qamaruzzaman Helal, Kazi Yasin and Suva Rahman. DUJ general secretary Azizul Islam Bhuiyan conducted the function.

Interns

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They also pointed out that poor budget, inadequate logistics, staff and accommodation facilities at medical institutions were seriously hampering the academic atmosphere.

They added that there was no proper mechanism to ensure the standard of education. Till introduction of Quality Assurance Body (QAB) recently, there was no proper mechanism to evaluate the training of intern doctors, they said.

The discussion was jointly organised by POROSH, CEN, BCAS, FEJB, BLAST, BELA and The Daily Star. Among others who spoke at the discussion were Naser Khan of POROSH, Syeda Munira Akhtar Khatun and Mohammad Tawfiq of RAJUK and Mahfuz Anam of The Daily Star.

0-5 বছরের সকল শিশুকে

এই দিন ২ ফেঁটা করে

পোলিও টিকা থাওয়ান।

প্রেরণ ও প্রচার বাংলাদেশ গড়ুন

মে জাতীয় টিকা দিবস

দ্বিতীয় রাউন্ড ২য়া ফেব্রুয়ারী ১৯৯৯

০-৫ বছরের সকল শিশুকে

এই দিন ২ ফেঁটা করে

পোলিও টিকা থাওয়ান।

প্রেরণ ও প্রচার বাংলাদেশ গড়ুন



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives away a silver jubilee medal to an outstanding student at a function of Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University yesterday. — PID photo

PM urges political parties

Join hands to remove campus violence

By DU Correspondent

Activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of opposition BNP, brought out a procession on the Dhaka University campus yesterday covering their faces with black cloths protesting Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit there.

Sheikh Hasina went to the campus in the afternoon to inaugurate the silver jubilee festival of Shamsunnahar Hall of the university.

The processionists paraded the Arts Building area and later held a rally at the Aparajey Bangla.

At the rally, the JCD leaders said that Sheikh Hasina, also chief of ruling Awami League, lost her moral right to come to the campus as AL's student wing Chhatra League, allegedly captured all the residential halls of the university ousting JCD activists.

They also condemned the attack on Amanullah Aman, a BNP MP, during the country-wide hartal on Tuesday.

They also demanded immediate release of all the arrested leaders and workers of JCD including its general secretary Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu.

Among others, JCD president Habib-Ul-Nabi Sohel, Manir Hossain, Mustafizul Islam Mamun, Sultan Salauddin Tuku, Helen Jerin Khan and Mamun Hassan addressed the rally.

Chhatra League brought out a procession on the campus hailing Prime Minister's visit to the campus.

JCD procession protesting PM's visit

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Arrested 9

From Page 1

tacked on the poet.

The other group of eight, which includes two foreigners, has been under a five-day remand since Tuesday last. The rest one -- identified as Ifthikhar Haider alias Rinku -- is likely to be brought to Dhaka from Barisal within a couple of days, police said.

On the basis of statements of the remanded persons, JIC has been searching for some more people in different parts of the country, sources in the JIC claimed.

The JIC is likely to record the judicial statements of two or three of the group of nine under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the sources said.

This group of nine were placed on remand for ten days in two phases. However, it could not be confirmed whether JIC would seek further remand of the nine today.

PM under fire

From Page 1

Bhuiyan said.

The BSCBA president also urged the PM to "refrain from making such false and indecent remarks on the judiciary and the learned judges".

The BSCBA president's statement was faxed to The Daily Star yesterday.

An organised group has recently launched a vigorous campaign against the judiciary to mount pressure on it with an ill motive bringing false allegations against process of justice.

Referring to his petition to the CJ on December 2 last year, Bhuiyan said, "I urged the CJ to take legal action for contempt of court and interference in the independence of judiciary against the persons who make false statements against the judiciary and the judges."

"My firm belief is that the CJ and the highest court would not have come under attack from the chief of the government if the CJ would have taken legal action following my prayer at that time," the BSCBA president said.

Bhuiyan hoped that "the people irrespective of party affiliation and lawyers would extend all-out co-operation to any step by the highest court of the land to save the independence of judiciary and establish rule of law."

Accidents kill 2 Ijtema devotees

From Page 1

leaders of the trade associations who had issued a press statement a few weeks back were expected to take part in the planned meeting. The leaders of the Chittagong Chamber will also be invited, he added.

Another business leader questioned the efficacy of the government's plan to keep the offices open on weekly holiday if the opposition parties call hartals on workday.

"In my view, the problem of hartal cannot be dealt with on ad-hoc basis. We need a long-term solution," he said. "How a 96-hour hartal would be adjusted," he questioned.

He said both public and private sectors would face "serious problems" in their business planning if the authorities shift weekly holiday.

Leaders of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), the apex trade body, are scheduled to meet President Shahabuddin Ahmed on February 11.

BCCI president Abdul Awal Mintoo told APB that he would make an appeal to the President to take initiative for resolving conflicts between the political parties.

"It could bring a positive result since the President was elected unopposed in Parliament," he said, adding that they were also planning to sit with representatives of the donor countries before meeting the President.

He said they were not going to take any initiative for a dialogue between the government and opposition, but made their position on the hartal issue known to both sides.

Vajpayee

From Page 1

later to wish him support while a party colleague said Vajpayee, 72, was fasting "since early in the morning."

"It is meant to promote communal peace and brotherhood in the country," said Vijay Goel, a confidant of the Prime Minister and a leader of his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Vajpayee, who heads a 10-month-old coalition government, has been criticised for failing to take a strong stand against Hindu militants accused of attacking the Christian minority in recent months.

In well-publicised appeals earlier in the week, the Prime Minister said he intended to emulate Mahatma Gandhi -- who often fasted during the Indian independence struggle -- to appeal for peace.

"I call upon the countrymen who are capable of fasting (also) to do so on January 30 to cleanse their body, mind and soul, as a homage to the Mahatma and to rededicate ourselves to build an India of his dreams," his appeal said.

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