

## News

## Speakers stress need for promoting leadership qualities at all levels

The need for developing leadership qualities in political, social, business and other critical areas of national life was brought into sharp focus at the opening session of a seminar titled "Leadership development" in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The speakers stressed that different countries — the developing ones in particular — face a big challenge in providing the necessary leadership in various segments of life which is essential for a happy and healthy society and hence the task for promoting leadership qualities assumes far greater importance than simply being attached to the issue.

Education Minister A S H K Sadique was the chief guest at the seminar jointly organised by the East West University, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS) and Centre for Development Research, Bangladesh (CDRB) along with Dr Mohammad Farashuddin, founder Vice-Chancellor of the East West University and present Governor of the Bangladesh Bank. The inaugural session of the

seminar was also addressed by US Ambassador John C Holzman as special guest, Dr James Richard Bean, Associate Professor of Organisational Behaviour and Dr Zakir Hossain, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Sociology — both from Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, USA, Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley, chairman of the CDRB, Dr Mohammad Musa, acting Vice-Chancellor of the East West University and Enayet Karim, Director of the CDRB.

The Education Minister said developing leadership qualities entails tremendous significance since leadership is an on-going process covering a wide spectrum. He said the government is not a machine but decisions by individuals that always warrant embellishment and invigoration.

Sadique said values at different areas are on the wane causing worrisome gaps at various levels. He said it is necessary to arrest this decline so that things could improve in the areas that are crucially important for the country.

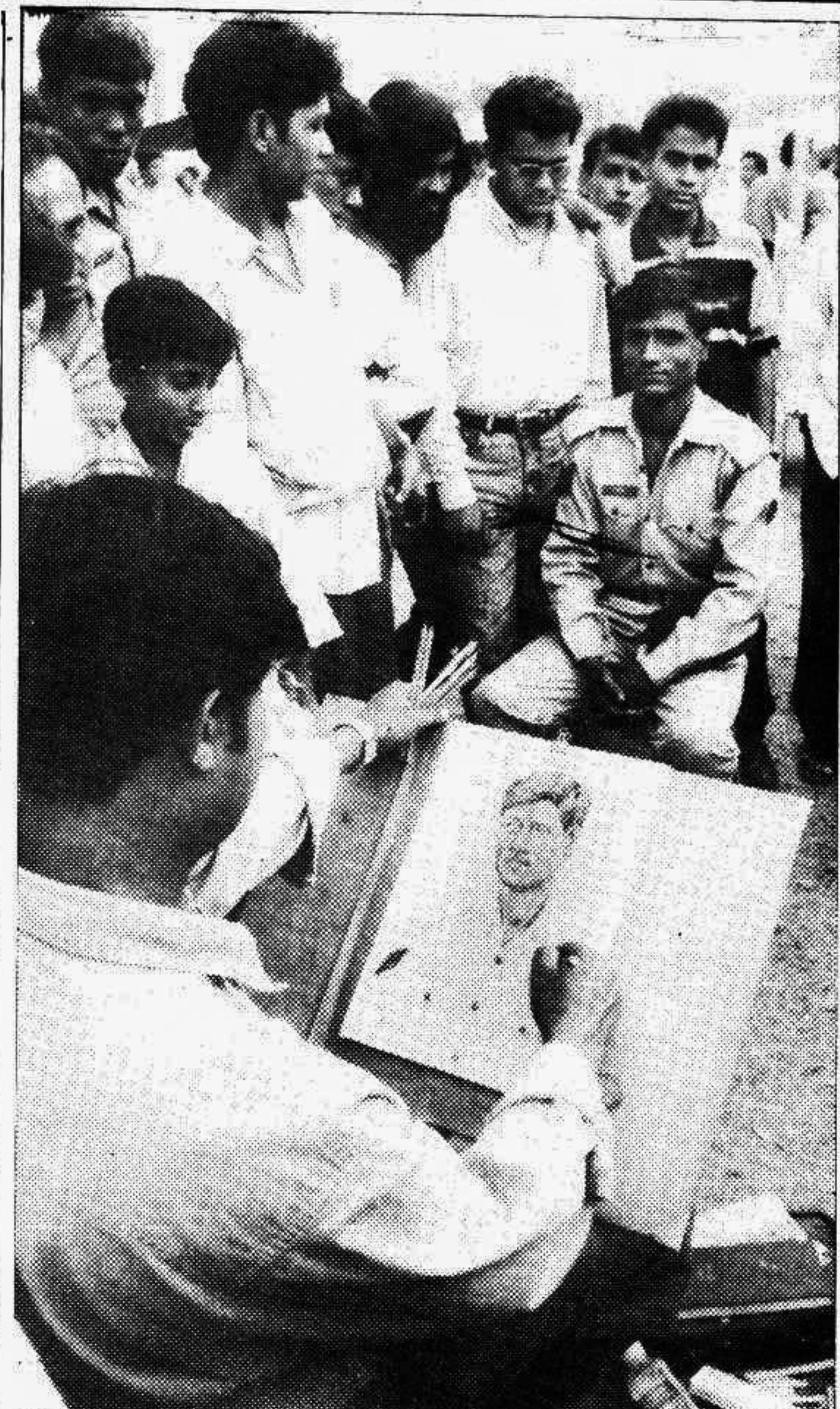
The minister said demo-

cratic policy helps develop values and cited examples that in 1954 elections the ruling circles were routed as they finished with the win of only nine seats but later period saw military rulers organising referendums in which it was shown that the turnout was close to cent per cent and the persons involved bagged 97 or 98 per cent of the votes cast. "Where is the rationale?" he asked and emphasised that transparency and fairness is not only required in the political arena but all basic parameters of national life.

Holzman in his speech said that American government favours helping in all possible way impart of knowledge and added that the world is faced with great challenges in developing the human resources.

Dr Shelley said strengthening of modern ideas towards leadership development is one of the basic objectives of the seminar that is taking place.

Dr Mohammad Farashuddin said education can be considered as an "working capital" of invaluable significance that can deliver the benefits in many ways including developing leaders in different sectors.



Students of Dhaka University have been raising funds for underprivileged students by sketching portraits of visitors at the month-long Ekushey Book Fair. — Star photo

## Weather

### Dry weather likely

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6 pm today, reports UNB. Night temperature may fall slightly over the country during the period.

The country's highest temperature yesterday was recorded 36 degree Celsius yesterday at Chittagong and the lowest 16.1 degrees at Rangpur.

The sun sets today at 6.01 pm and rises tomorrow at 6.21 am. Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius			Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening	
Dhaka	32.6	23.4	50	45	
Chittagong	36.0	20.4	55	55	
Rajshahi	32.0	19.8	63	55	
Khulna	32.8	21.6	71	60	
Barisal	32.2	21.9	79	52	
Sylhet	34.3	21.0	61	63	
Cox's Bazar	35.4	21.2	63	64	



The Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof A K Azad Chowdhury distributing certificates as chief guest at a function at TSC yesterday among the students of BA (Hons) examination of English Department who came out successful in the years '93, '94, '95 & '96. — Star photo

## SCF, BCU councils at CU to be held next month

From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Feb 27: The council of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF), Chittagong University unit, will be held on March 4.

Khaliquzzaman Bhuiyan, general secretary of Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) will be present at the council as chief guest, while Khakon Das, president of SCF CU Unit, will preside.

Meanwhile, the council of Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU), Chittagong University unit, will be held on March 15.

Mozahedul Islam Selim, general secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), will be the chief guest while Nurul Ahsan, president of BCU CU unit, will preside.

## DU English Dept certificate awarding ceremony

The graduation ceremony of the Department of English of Dhaka University was held yesterday at TSC auditorium, reports UNB.

Vice Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury gave away the certificates among the students graduated from the department in 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996.

Presided over by the Chairman of the department Dr Niaz Zaman, the programme was addressed, among others, by former student Atiqul Haq and Syed Anwarul Haq, a teacher.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Chowdhury said that congenial academic atmosphere has been prevailing in the university and classes and examinations are being held on schedule.

There is no violence or terrorism at present, he said.

With the improvement of atmosphere, both the quality of research and the standard of education of the university marked significant improvement, he observed.

## No Pak visa to be issued March 1-3

Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka will not issue any visa March 1 to 3 as its visa section will remain closed in view of the D-8 summit, said a High Commission press release yesterday.

## 4 houses gutted in Ctg

CHITTAGONG, Feb 27: Four houses were gutted in a fire at Chandgaon Farida Para last night, reports BSS.

Fire service sources said today that the fire originated from electric short circuit in a house and it engulfed the nearby area. Firemen brought the fire under control within an hour.



Pakistan Foreign Minister Sartaj Aziz called on Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad at a city hotel on Friday. — PID photo

## Justice system needs reforms to meet demands of time: Khasru

The justice system of Bangladesh needs reforms to meet the demands of the time. The government is fully committed to this reform and this is the high time for people to speak out about the inadequacies of the system, said Abdul Matin Khasru, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, while addressing a workshop on proposed legal and judicial reforms in Khulna yesterday, says a press release.

This was the second of a series of workshops organised by the Ministry of Law, Justice and parliamentary Affairs in collaboration with the World Bank for people's participation in the preparation of the forthcoming Legal and Judiciary Capacity Building Project.

The day-long workshop was presided over by Aminullah, Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. The Minister said, "The laws and the justice system are for the people, but they are the worst sufferers of the malpractices that result from the present system. We must crush the system that perpetrates injustice to people and put in place a pure justice system," the Minister said that reforming the legal and judicial system is not a partisan issue, everybody needs it.

After a day-long intensive and lively discussion, the participants came up with pragmatic sets of recommendations, which will be taken into account in finalising the strategy paper. From this paper, the first phase of the project will be identified and implemented by the Government of Bangladesh with assistance of the World Bank and the donor community.

Amre M Moussa and Sartaj Aziz, the Foreign Ministers of Egypt and Pakistan respectively, visited the National Museum at Shahbagh yesterday afternoon, reports BSS.

The two foreign ministers spent some time at the museum and showed interest in the exhibits put there.

The two are in the capital in connection with holding of the second D-8 summit.

Mohsin Alikhan, Professor Syed Mynuddin, Dr Khurshid Alam and Dr Subrata S Dhar from the World Bank were present.

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