

Metropolitan

Sayed seeks expatriates' help for development

WASHINGTON, Dec 26: State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed has called upon expatriate Bangladeshis to commit their mite to the government efforts for the development of the country, reports BSS.

Speaking at a reception accorded to him on Friday evening by members of the Bangladesh community here, Prof Sayeed said: "You can greatly contribute to the development of the country, and enhance its image abroad."

Dr Golam Farid Akhter, Dr Abdur Razzak, Dr Khorshed Alam Chowdhury and Shamim Chowdhury, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Professor Nurul Islam, Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury and Dr Abdun Noor were present. Nurul Islam Anu, president of the US chapter of Bangladesh Awami League, presided over the function.

The minister said efforts of the government have earned success in cutting poverty.

He illustrated a range of efforts undertaken by the government including old-age allowances for the elderly, allowances for the destitute women and widows, establishment of employment bank, housing project for the shelterless, empowerment of women, and free education and scholarship for female students up to HSC.

He said the government, which believes in good governance, transparency and accountability, would achieve greater success if the opposition did not resort to frequent harlots.

Prof Sayeed said Sheikh Hasina's government believes in strengthening democracy and democratic institutions and it was trying to make the Jatiya Sangsad the focal point of all national activities.

He said the people of the country who bought independence very dearly could turn the country into a real 'Sonar Bangla' through unity and hard work.

Earlier in the morning, Prof Sayeed visited the newly constructed Bangladesh embassy building, Bangladesh ambassador to the USA K M Shehuddin and officials of the mission were present on the occasion.

He said the construction of beautiful chancery building on the US soil was yet another glowing example of the present government's efforts of enhancing its image abroad.

The state minister said the presence of Bangladesh's own embassy building at the serene surroundings of the US capital's diplomatic enclave will be the proud symbol of sovereign Bangladesh.

The unique design of the building, the roof of which resembles a full-blossomed water lily, is considered an excellent piece of architectural accomplishment.

National Building Museum, a renowned cultural institution in the USA, in a letter to Bangladesh ambassador praised architectural uniqueness of the building.

Italian envoy calls on PM

The newly appointed ambassador of Italy Dr Mario Pilloppo Pini called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Ghonobhaban official residence yesterday, reports BSS.

Dr Pini congratulated the prime minister on her being awarded with the FAO Ceres Award and her outstanding success in various fields. He also paid rich tributes to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The Italian envoy expressed the optimism that the relations between Bangladesh and Italy, particularly trade and economic ties, would be strengthened in future.

Welcoming Dr Pini, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina assured him of the cooperation of her government in discharging his duties during his tenure in Bangladesh.

Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Dr SA Samad and Foreign Secretary CM Shafi Shami were present on the occasion.

Terrorism on Shahjalal Varsity condemned

Leaders of the National Coordination Committee for Implementation of the Spirit of the Liberation War and Annihilation of the Killers and Collaborators of 1971 yesterday condemned the terrorism by fundamentalist forces at the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology at Sylhet, reports BSS.

The Convenor and the Member-Secretary of the Committee Syed Hasan Imam and Prof Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, respectively, urged the university authorities to remain firm on their earlier decisions on naming the residential halls of the university.

In a statement, they said the perpetrators of terrorism are the killers, collaborators and war criminals and added that Golam Azam has been continuing his conspiracy against the sovereignty and ideals of Bangladesh since 1971.

Golam Azam obtained citizenship here by taking advantage of loopholes in law and that he has been pursuing anti-state activities that are manifested in his recent remarks at an iftar party, they pointed out.

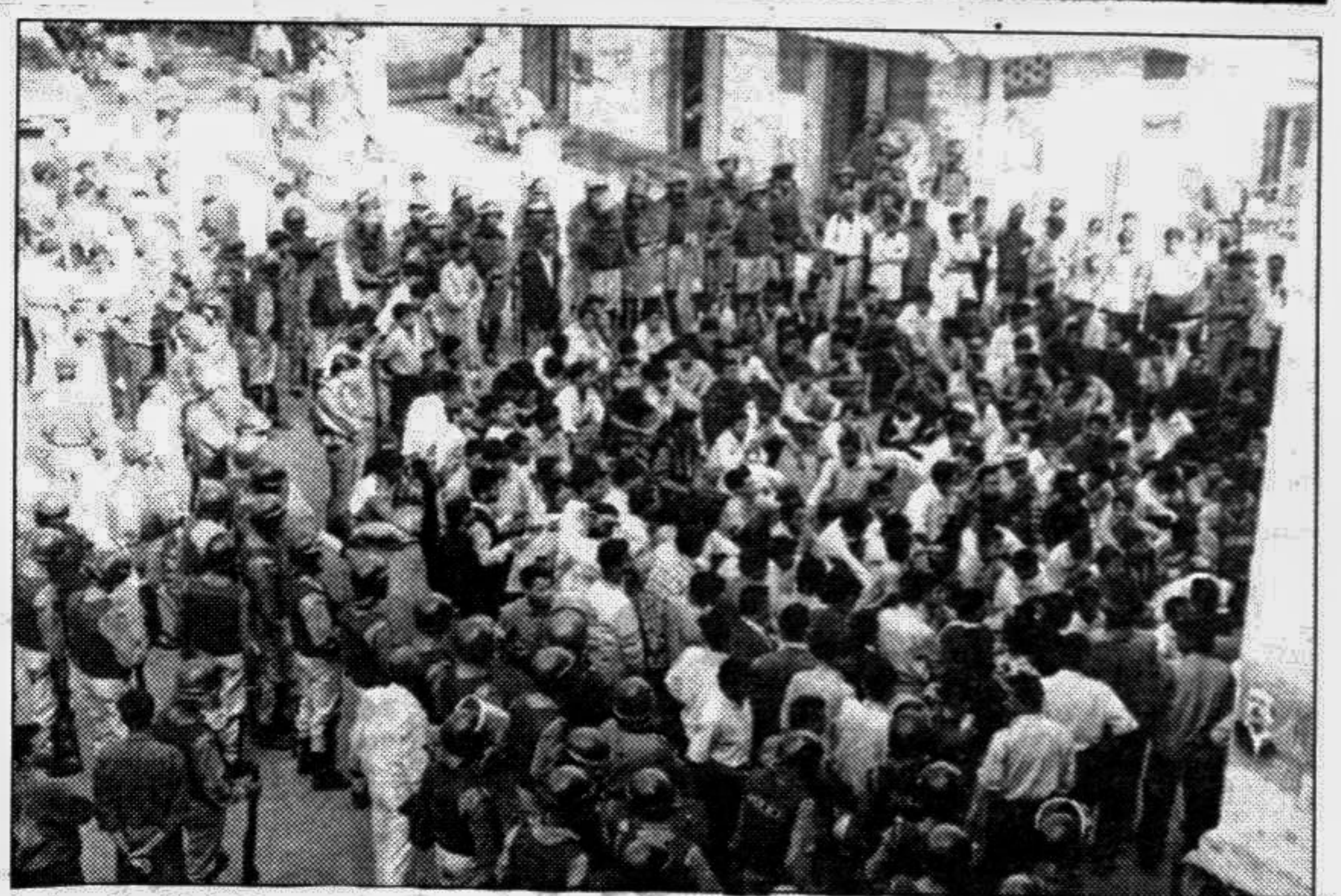
The committee will jointly hold a grand rally at central level at Paltan Maidan at 2 pm on January 1, 2000 in protest against the activities of fundamentalist forces against the sovereignty of the country. To make the rally a success, a workers meeting will be held at the committee's office at 4 pm on December 29.

Daily Jugantar hosts iftar

The Daily Jugantar, a Bangla newspaper which will be launched soon, hosted an iftar party at Sheraton Hotel yesterday, reports BSS.

The daily is likely to hit the news stands in January. Editor of the daily and reputed journalist Golam Sarwar, News Editor Manzurul Ahsan Bulbul and printer/publisher Advocate Saifuddin Islam briefly spoke on the occasion.

Ministers, MPs, political leaders, editors and senior journalists, representatives of various professions, cultural activists, high officials and the elite attended the party.



Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of BNP, laid siege to the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Dhaka yesterday demanding withdrawal of false cases against JCD president and general secretary.



Dr Kamal Hossain, President, Gano Forum, addressing the press conference at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday organised by 11 left-leaning parties.

Left-leaning parties meet with JSS, newsmen

By Staff Correspondent Leaders of 11 left leaning political parties had separate meetings with delegates of Jana Sanghati Samity (JSS) and with newsmen at Jatiya Press Club yesterday, said a press release.

During the exchange of views with the 11-party leaders, the JSS delegates sought support in favour of their demand for the full implementation of the CHT Peace Treaty.

The leaders briefed the newsmen and JSS delegates about the need for the rise of an alternate political force in the country against the AL-BNP trend.

Bisforan banned

The government has proscribed a book for its vulgarity, indecency and profanity, an official handout said yesterday, reports BSS.

All published copies of the book, Bisforan, published by Shaiful Islam Shamim from New Town Bazar of Dinajpur have been seized.

Further publication, sale, distribution and preservation of the book have also been proscribed, the handout added.

JCD strike at JU tomorrow

By DU Correspondent

Jatiyatobadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the student wing of opposition BNP, has called a strike at Jahangirnagar University (JU) tomorrow to protest police "atrocities" on JCD activists in the city on November 17.

JU unit of JCD announced the programme at a press conference on the university campus yesterday, also to press home their demand to immediate release of all leaders and activists of JCD. When contacted, acting president of JCD Monjur Elahi confirmed the strike at JU.

Jagannath University College unit of JCD will also stage a demonstration on the college campus on November 29 to protest the police action on opposition student fronts and arrest of JCD activists.

JCD leaders and workers, including its President Habib-un-Nabi Sohel and General Secretary Nasruddin Ahmed Pintu were arrested on the day while protesting Dhaka University authorities' decision to confer honorary Doctorate degree on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Meanwhile, JCD brought out separate processions and held rallies at all the district headquarters across the country to protest police action on the JCD activists.

They also submitted memoranda to Deputy Commissioners demanding immediate release of all the arrested leaders

and workers of JCD, including its President Habib-un-Nabi Sohel and General Secretary Nasruddin Ahmed Pintu.

Central unit of JCD brought out a procession in the city from the Jagannath University College campus in the morning and marched towards the DC's office to submit a memorandum to him.

Prior to submitting memorandum to the DC, JCD held a rally in front of his office which was addressed, among others, by its acting president Monjur Elahi, Hazzul Basit Anjum, Mozaffa Bazzim Zakir, SM Nuruzzaman, Rafiq Sikder, AKM Mozammel Haq, Sagir Ahmed, ABM Mosharrif Hossain and Manir Hossain.

The leaders said that police had swooped on a peaceful procession of JCD without any provocation but regretted that no action was taken against the responsible police personnel.

Rotary News Meeting

The annual meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held at Hotel Sonargaon at 4:30 pm today, says a press release.

Members have been requested to attend the meeting on time.

Advertisement for GCE 'O' & 'A' Level Courses, featuring subjects like Accounting, Biology, Business Studies, etc., and contact information for The English Language Centre & Academy.

Advertisement for Sale of Stock Lot, listing various items like Cotton Twill Long Sleeve Shirts and Twill Fabric.

Advertisement for বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিব মেডিক্যাল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় (Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Medical University), listing various medical courses and departments.

Advertisement for বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিব মেডিক্যাল বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় (Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Medical University), listing various medical courses and departments.

Advertisement for 48 miscreants held in Ctg, reporting on a police raid in Chittagong.

Advertisement for Air chief returns, reporting on the return of Air Vice-Marshal Jamal Uddin Ahmed.

Advertisement for Computer experts warn against local viruses, discussing the threat of computer viruses.

Advertisement for Khoka returns from Sweden, reporting on the return of Khoka Hossain.

Advertisement for BCS Information Assoc polls Jan 21, reporting on the election of the BCS Information Association.

Advertisement for ATN 2000 Eid Fashion Show, featuring a fashion show by ATN.

Advertisement for Eating Out, listing various restaurants and dining options.

Advertisement for Sajna An Exclusive Restaurant, offering Indian dishes and catering services.

Advertisement for The Most Exclusive Restaurant, offering a variety of cuisines.

Advertisement for Santoor, a restaurant offering a symphony of dining.

Advertisement for Fresh Mushroom Available at, listing mushroom products and contact information.