

Report on Legal Aid Bill 2000 placed at JS

The report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Legal Aid Bill, 2000, was returned to the House yesterday after scrutiny, reports UNB.

The Bill provides for legal assistance to the poor and helpless seeking justice in

criminal and civil cases. Law Minister Abdul Matin Khasru on behalf of the chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, placed the report.

With the passage of the Bill, a 14-member National Man-

agement Board of the Legal Aid Organisation will be constituted with the law minister as its chairman.

A similar legal aid committees will be set up at district, upazila and union levels. The District Judge will head the district Legal Aid Committee.

Metropolitan President's speech has given sense of direction to nation

Kalpa Ranjan Chakma tells JS

Minister for Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs Kalpa Ranjan Chakma told the Jatiya Sangsad that the President has given a sense of direction to the nation to take the country ahead in the new millennium, reports BSS.

Taking part in the discussion on the President's speech, the minister hoped that Bangladesh would be able to free itself from hunger and poverty and build it as a happy and prosperous country in the beginning of the new millennium.

He regretted the absence of opposition from the House at the time of President's speech and said the opposition have been keeping themselves out of parliament for quite sometime, disregarding public opinion and aspirations.

Kalpa Ranjan Chakma also said that 'powermongers have

been trying to create chaos in the country to grab power. He criticised the oppositions for creating confusion among the people and said that the people of the country are now more conscious and hence they the oppositions will not succeed.

Referring to the signing of the CHT peace accord, the minister said as a result of it, the image of the country had been enhanced in the outside world. He said, now the possibilities of development in the CHT has opened up and government has taken about step to exploit the development possibilities there.

He thanked the President for mentioning the successes of the present democratic government and said the country is sure to go ahead further in the coming days under the able leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Bengal Studies Confé in USA May 5-7

The 34th Bengal Studies Conference will be held at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Campus, USA May 5-7 this year, says a press release.

Dr Zillur Rahman Khan, Chairman and Prof of Political Science of the University is the convenor this year. About 40 experts in different fields and 30 observers are expected to join this conference from Bangladesh. 200 others will attend the conference from other parts of the globe.

Treasury bench unhappy over opposition boycott of JS

Unnecessary parliament boycott, calling hartal and charging bombs on innocent people became three main activities of the opposition parties deviating from democratic politics, treasury bench observed in parliament yesterday, reports UNB.

"You (Opposition) say you believe in democracy. You say you believe in parliamentary democracy. Then, why are you out of the House," said State Minister for Jute AK Faezul Haq discussing the thanks motion on President's speech.

He said the opposition parties

say they believe in peace, but practically the situation is different. "Hurling bombs on innocent people doesn't justify your claim."

State Minister for Textile AKM Jahangir Hossain urged the opposition parties to come back to the right track upholding democracy and parliament.

Taking part in the discussion, Chittagong Hill Tracts Minister Kalpa Ranjan Chakma observed although BNP and its allies were still opposing the deal, the people of the Chittagong Hill Tracts were reaping the benefits of the CHT agreement.

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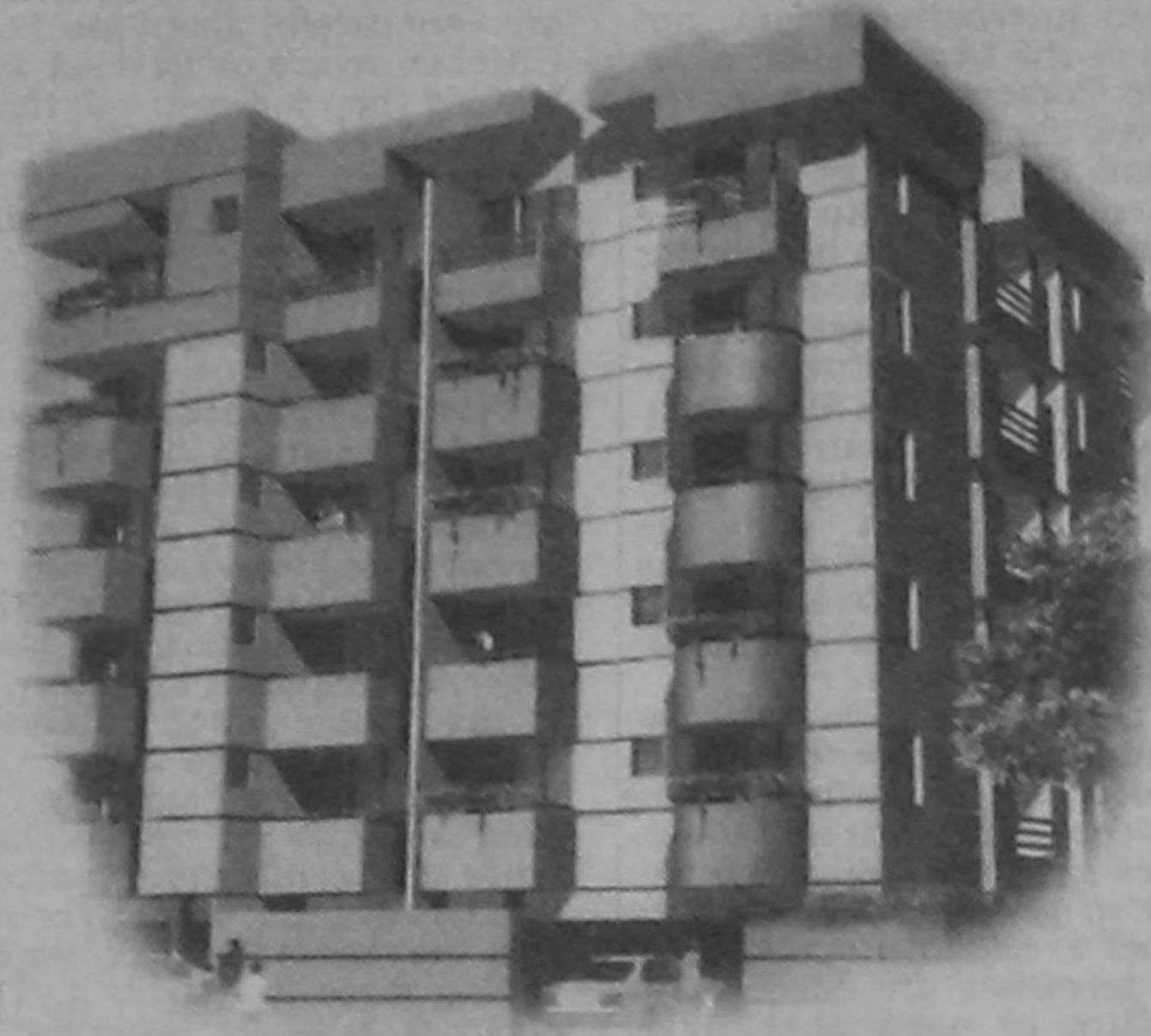
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Savar thana scout convention begins

By JU Correspondent

Acting Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University (JU) Prof Abdul Bayes yesterday said scouts could contribute a lot to the betterment of society through their movement.

He was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the sixth Savar Thana Cub and Scout convention at JU school and college.

Registrar of JU Mohammad Ali and Savar Thana Commissioner and Camp Chief Abdur Razzak addressed the inaugural ceremony as special guests while Monsur Ali Mia, General Secretary of Dhaka Scouts, presided.

A total of 287 cubs and 200 scouts from 23 schools and 26 colleges respectively are taking part in the 5-day convention.

Meanwhile, the annual assembly of Dhaka Scouts will be held on January 27 at the same venue.

Anti-tobacco campaign

Seat Flame due Feb 1

By Staff Correspondent

South East Asian Anti-tobacco Flame (SEAAT Flame) will arrive in Bangladesh from Delhi on February 1 as part of a campaign to increase awareness about harmful effects of tobacco smoking.

As part of the campaign organised by World Health Organisation (WHO), the Flame will travel nine countries in the region.

The Flame started its journey on January 7 and it will enter the country through Berhampore border and stay for eight days.

Bangladesh Anti-Tobacco Alliance (BATA) will hold different programmes on the occasion from February 3 to 10. The programmes included seminar, rally, truck procession and blood donation camp, says a press release.

Bappi's death anniversary observed

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the ruling party, yesterday observed the 5th death anniversary of Joydip Kumar Bappi.

A BCL leader and student of Dhaka University, Bappi was gunned down on the campus in 1995.

The leaders unveiled a bust of Bappi on the Jagannath Hall premises on the occasion and placed wreath there.

The BCL also held a rally on the campus to mark the day. Prayers were held at the Jagannath Hall in the evening for the salvation of the departed soul.

Shahabuddin visits ailing lawyer SR Paul

President Shahabuddin Ahmed visited ailing lawyer SR Paul at Samarita clinic in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

A veteran lawyer of the Supreme Court Paul has been suffering from old-age complications.

The President stayed there for some time and enquired about his treatment. He wished him early recovery.

JS body meet on agri ministry held

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture Ministry meeting yesterday discussed problems of implementation of agricultural education at diploma level, reports UNB.

Presided over by the committee chairman Dr TIM Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury, the meeting advanced certain specific suggestions to overcome the problems and improve and expand agricultural education in the country.

It also laid stress on taking opinions of the Technical Education Board, private technical institutes and specialists in this regard.

On reviewing report of a 3-member sub-committee the meeting also put forward some suggestions for rural road development schemes.

Agriculture Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury, Mizanur Rahman Manu, Dewari Farid Gazi, Anisul Haq Chowdhury, Imdadul Haq, Abul Kalam Azad Siddiqui, Mujibur Rahman Sarwar and Abdul Wahab attended the meeting.



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MONITOR	Packard Bell 15" Multimedia	Packard Bell 15" Multimedia	Packard Bell 15" Multimedia
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MODEM	56KBPS	56KBPS	56KBPS
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LIMITED WARRANTY	3 Years	3 Years	3 Years
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Notice for Appointment of Consultant

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The Offers, both 'Technical' and 'Financial' in 2 separate sealed covers, with the name of the firm & type of the offer (Technical/Financial), clearly written on the cover, must be dropped in the tender box kept in the office of the Independent University, Bangladesh, House 3, Road 10, Baridhara, Dhaka-1212 upto 12 noon on 28th February, 2000 and opened on the same date at 12:30 PM in the presence of the bidder who may remain present.

The Financial offer of those firms will only be opened once their Technical offer are found to be responsive.

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