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Wishing the
BEST for the
3rd Millennium

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Vested Property Act will be annulled after proper scrutiny'

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the Vested Property Act would be annulled after proper scrutiny and called upon all to remain alert so that the vested quarters could not create confusion by spreading falsehood, reports BSS.

Addressing a big congregation of the members of the Hindu community on the occasion of Durga Puja at Dhakeshwari temple premises, the Prime Minister said the cabinet has already decided to annul the Vested Property Act.

It involves a lot of process, she said the Hindu leaders and urged them not to be misled by the propaganda of any vested quarters.

Extending his greetings to the members of the Hindu community on the occasion of their greatest religious festival, the Prime Minister said Bangladesh is a land of communal harmony where people of all religions live together.

The prime minister said there is no room for communalism in Bangladesh.

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BNP leader abduction Laxmipur poura chairman denies involvement

LAXMIPUR, Oct 7: MA Taher, district Awami League secretary and chairman of pourasava, today denied his involvement in the abduction of BNP leader advocate Nurul Islam and refuted reports published in a section of the newspapers against him, reports UNB.

Addressing a press conference at the pourasava office this afternoon Taher said the allegations and the press reports were 'baseless and fabricated.'

He said he was in Dhaka on September 18 when advocate Nurul Islam was abducted.

Taher told a questioner that the main complainant in the case, wife of advocate Islam, did not file any case against him of his sons.

'I've heard that Deputy Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury along with some BNP leaders submitted an application to the DC/SP on September 28 accusing us,' he said.

Asked about the assault of a staff reporter of the Prothom Alo, Taher said the reporter had a quarrel with the owner of the fax phone shop and at one stage he was beaten up by the owner. He was in no way involved in the incident.

Meanwhile, Taher on Friday filed a general diary with the police against the district BNP leaders including Khairul Anam MP, Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Nurul Islam Bhuiyan, advocate Abdur Rab Chowdhury and advocate Shamsul Alam. In his petition he said the BNP leaders might kidnap him and members of his family or kill them anytime.

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Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Oct 8	5.39 pm
Oct 9	5.53 am

Prayer Timings

October 8		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-45	5-15
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-15	4-30
Maghrab	5-50	6-55
Esha	7-45	8-15

Source: Islamic Foundation

The Daily Star honours 'the nation builders of tomorrow'

By Staff Correspondent

In a unique ceremony entitled "Honouring the Nation Builders of Tomorrow" and amidst loud cheers of hundreds of students and their emotion charged parents, The Daily Star yesterday honoured 144 students of the country for their outstanding results in the O-level and A-level examinations of the June '99 to June 2000 sessions.

Education Minister ASHK Sadique attended the function as the Chief Guest while Prof Abdul Bayes, Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, was the Special Guest. Held at the Osmany Auditorium in the city, the function was sponsored by Aptech Computer Education and attended by nearly one thousand teachers, parents and students from about twenty English medium schools in Dhaka and Chittagong.

The students achieved outstanding results in the O-level and A-level examinations held under the Cambridge University and the University of London. The Daily Star gave out "Certificate of Excellence" to all students who received more than six 'A's in the O-level examinations and three 'A's in the A-level examinations. Special prizes were given to students receiving highest marks in each subject. Grand prizes were also given to those getting 10 and 11 'A's in the O-level examinations.

This was the second such endeavour in which brilliant students in O-level and A-level examinations were honoured by a national daily. The function was presided over by The Daily Star Editor. See page 11 Col 7

Mahfuz Anam.

The Education Minister called upon the achievers to come forward to serve the country by acquiring knowledge comparable to that anywhere else in the world.

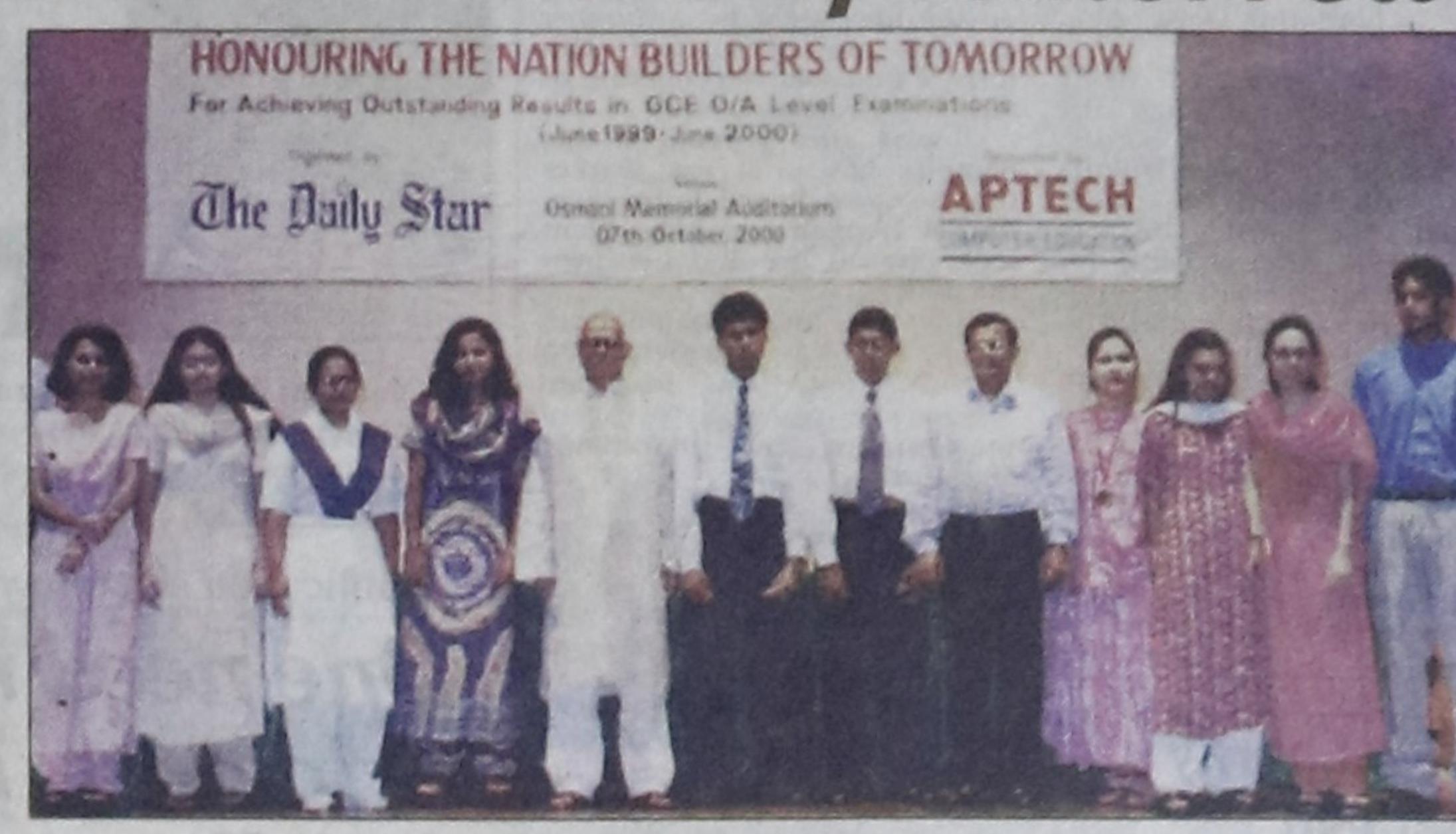
"We need to develop our education system so that people with talent and commitment would serve the country with their merit and brilliance," the Minister said.

He stressed the need for training of teachers and noted that it is the teachers who play the most important role in producing the best students in schools. He called upon the parents to be more attentive to the needs of their children to enable the latter to develop their full potential.

Terming the achievers 'the leaders of tomorrow' he said the standard of education should be raised with the contribution of the brilliant students. "Otherwise the nation would not be benefited from their talent."

He pointed out that the government recently approved the country's education policy for the benefit of the future generation.

Prof Bayes in his brief speech said technology always used to be pro-rich. But the recent development showed that it could also be pro-poor. In this regard, he cited the example of GrameenPhone that brought cellular phones to the poor women in Bangladesh.



The Daily Star awarded the "Nation Builders of Tomorrow" for their outstanding results in the GCE O & A Level examinations in the June 1999-June 2000 period at a unique function at the Osmany Auditorium yesterday. Picture shows students who have obtained 8 A-s and above in their O level and 3 A-s and above in their A level examinations with Education Minister ASHK Sadique (5th from L) and Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Prof Abdul Bayes (5th from R). -Star photo



A flood-hit family at village Mallikpara in Agardari union of Satkhira district now lives on a raft as deluge has rendered them homeless. -Star photo by AKM Mohsin

Many areas in Satkhira town under knee-deep water

From Our Correspondent

Flood water entered Satkhira town and fresh areas in Sadar, Debbhatta, Tala and Assasuni upazillas of the district today.

Several areas of the town have gone under knee-deep water and residents have taken shelter on rooftops and upper floors of buildings.

Some 30 more villages in four upazillas have been inundated and road link between the district headquarters and the affected areas snapped.

Of the affected villages, 14 are

under Sadar upazila, seven under Debbhatta upazila, six under Assasuni upazila and the rest are under Tala upazila.

Hundreds of volunteers are struggling to repair breaches developed in an embankment along the eastern part of the town.

Finding no other alternative they are drinking flood water and using it for cooking food. As a result, intestinal diseases have broken out.

The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre official said the flood situation in Satkhira district is crammed with people as

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thousands more are leaving their inundated houses with their belongings for shelter.

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There is no sign of good governance and rule of law because the Awami League government is not behaving in a civilised manner. You will not find such a situation in any of our neighbouring countries.

He referred to the kidnapping of BNP leader Nurul Islam at Laxmipur. The statements of the

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BNP leader M Saifur Rahman MP has highly praised the print media and journalists, saying only newspapers are now reflecting the hopes and frustrations of the people.

"Today, courage of reporters is much more than that of politicians. Politicians and parties have failed to highlight the prevailing situation in the country.

Replies to a question he said BNPs has been forced to abstain from attending parliament sessions. He however said personally, he is against boycott of parliament.

"BNP is more democratic than any other political party. We can give our opinion because it is not a communist party or BKSAL," Saifur said.

He admitted that the opposition failed to build an effective movement against the AL government's "misdeeds and corruption".

By Staff Correspondent

Saifur Rahman

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M A Saifur Rahman

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