



Students of the SSC programme under Bangladesh Open University (BOU) observed a token hunger strike in front of the National Press Club yesterday demanding that BOU SSC programme be made the equivalent of the SSC exams conducted by the education board.

— Star photo

Metropolitan

Tofail to attend symposium on LDCs' trade

After a year of hibernation arising out of the trouble at Seattle meeting of WTO, international organisations have renewed their efforts to improve LDCs' trade, reports BSS.

As part of their initiatives, UNCTAD together with Norwegian Government has organised a two-day symposium on "The role of the private sector in enhancing productive capacity in LDCs" in Oslo on January 29-30.

World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in cooperation with the Portugal Government has also organised a high-level interregional round-table on intellectual property for LDCs in Lisbon on February 1-2.

Industries Minister Tofail Ahmed, who has been playing an important role in establishing the rights of LDCs in various international forums, left Dhaka Saturday night to attend the meetings.

The Industries Minister will present a key-note speech at the symposium. The main objective of the symposium is to provide an opportunity for the governments of LDCs, their development partners and representatives of the private sector to discuss the role of the private sector.



Moifol Haq, Dr. Salabuddin, Ashish Nandi, and Prof. Imtiaz Ahmed at the concluding ceremony of a two-day preparatory meeting of International Conference on Genocide held at a city hotel yesterday.

Int'l confce on Genocide in Dhaka Jan 13-14, 2002

By DU Correspondent

Bangladesh will host an International Conference on Genocide on January 2002, the first of its kind in the world.

Liberation War Museum (LWM), Centre for Alternatives (CA) and Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi will jointly organise the programme on January 13 and 14, 2002 in collaboration with other regional and international centres and institutes.

This was disclosed in the concluding ceremony of a two-day preparatory meeting leading to the conference yesterday at a city hotel.

The objectives of the conference are to reflect upon people's understanding of genocide, to bring together the narratives of the genocide perpetuated in different parts of the world during different phases of history and to understand genocidal mentality and how it involves not only regimes but also ordinary citizens, professionals, security experts, who apparently do not support genocide.

The other objectives are to bring up the issue of the genocide within the domain of public discourse, to build up a research institute on genocide, to establish institutional linkage with other such institutes, to start a process of identifying the perpetrators and launch a world wide platform to ensure that justice is meted out to those responsible for crime against humanity and to build up resistance through advocacy and awareness raising on

issue at various political and social levels so that the states and people refrain from these type of crimes and evils in the future.

Various other programmes will be held alongside the conference including discussions, music, theatre and dance.

The discussions and deliberations will be held in five main panels - theoretical, narratives of victims, narratives of witnesses, narratives of perpetrators and justice and resistance.

Conducted by Akku Chowdhury, the programme was addressed by Ashish Nandi, Dr Salabuddin, Prof. Imtiaz Ahmed and Moifol Haq.

The programme was followed by screening of documentary films including - Tears of Fire and Coalition of Museum of Conscience.

DU Mohsin Hall ex-students reunion in April

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Participants of the last reunion have been requested to send their new addresses and telephone numbers.

Other interested ex-students have been requested to contact the following persons for more information: M I Talukdar 8618028 (O) 861150707 (R), Dr M Zahangir Kabir 8111467 (O) 9004721 (R), Dr M A Kamal 8629934 (O), 8819994 (R), Khalil Alam 9665299 (R), Nasim Mahmud 8612504 (R), Fateullah Bhuiyan 9669073, Md Faizur Rahman 7101054 (R) 7210879 (R), SMA Karim 9113514 (O) 9123742 (R).

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