

## Shishu Park to remain open

BSS, Dhaka

The Central Shishu Park (Children's Park) will remain open to all on the day of Eid-ul-Azha from 2 pm to 8-30 pm and the next two days after Eid from 10 am to 8-30 pm, a Dhaka City Corporation press release said yesterday.

## Dacoity at house of Rokeya Hall provost

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dacoits looted cash, gold ornaments and other valuables worth about more than Tk five lakh from the house of Rokeya Hall Provost of Dhaka University on Sunday night.

Campus sources said a gang of robbers entered into the house of Prof. Mamataz Begum at about 7 pm and looted cash money and the valuables confining the residents.

A case has been filed with Ramna thana in this connection.

## Women's right to franchise being obstructed

BNWLA sends Demand of Justice Notice to EC

Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA), a national legal aid organisation working towards establishing the constitutional right of women in the country is concerned over the reports published recently in different dailies on the issue of obstruction of women from their right to franchise at different places in the country, says a press release.

Executive Director of the Samity Advocate Salma Ali recently sent a Demand of Justice Notice for four such incidents of obstructing women from practising their right to vote to the Election Commission (EC). The organisation also requested the EC to undertake positive initiatives to ensure the voting rights of women within ten days from receipt of the notice. In case of failure of EC's part to initiate the suggested preliminary measures BNWLA will file a writ petition before the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Member of the samity Advocate Itehana Sultana sent demand of justice notice on behalf of Salma Ali.

Prothom Alo and some other dailies published a news that the women of Surat union under Jhe-naidah district will exercise their voting right after 43 years. Under the directive of EC the Deputy Commissioner of Khulna division exchanged views with 105 Moulovis and 21 Imams to resolve the matter that has been in practice for a substantially long time.

Non Government Organisations (NGO) like BNWLA and Action in Development (AID) have conducted extensive investigation at the said union and found out that negative forces still exist and are constantly propagating against the lawful right of women.

As a result BNWLA thinks that there is every possibility that is not only against the causes of women but also detrimental for the flourishing democracy of the country, the release added.

## Man arrested for demanding dowry

UNB, Narayanganj

Police arrested a man on Wednesday for beating up his wife and throwing her out from his house for dowry.

Police and family sources said Babul Hossain of Pagla Chitashal in Fatullah upazila married Rawshan Ara, daughter of Shamsuddin of the same village in 1991. Since then he has been torturing her for dowry.

Babul on January 16 this year demanded Tk 20,000 from her parents and on refusal beat her mercilessly and threw her out of his house.

She was rushed to the Sadar Hospital in a critical condition and police arrested him following filing of a case.

Another report adds: Police rescued a schoolgirl after about six months of her abduction from Parshigram in Rupganj upazila on Wednesday.

Police arrested one Ripon in connection with the abduction.

Police said the victim of the same upazila was abducted on Sept 7 last year from Isapur Bazaar Kheyaghat area.



Bangladesh Film Artists Association members took to the streets yesterday demanding an end to the illegal video screening of local films and exemplary punishment to the persons involved in the process.

## AL programmes on March 7

BSS, Dhaka

The nation celebrates the historic March 7 with due respect to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who first called upon people on this day in 1971 to get prepared with whatever they had to fight the enemies for their long-awaited independence.

"Our struggle this time is for our emancipation. Our struggle this time is for our independence" was Bangabandhu's clear indication to the nation on March 7 in 1971 to prepare for a bloody war against the Pakistani centrists.

Bangladesh Awami League took up an elaborate programme to celebrate the day in a befitting manner and with due respect to Father of the Nation and other valiant sons of the soil whose supreme sacrifices brought the nation's long-cherished dream into reality.

As part of the programme, Bangabandhu's portrait will be garlanded in the morning to be followed by a public rally in front of the Bangabandhu Bhaban.

Awami League will also hold the identical programme all over the country in celebration of the day.

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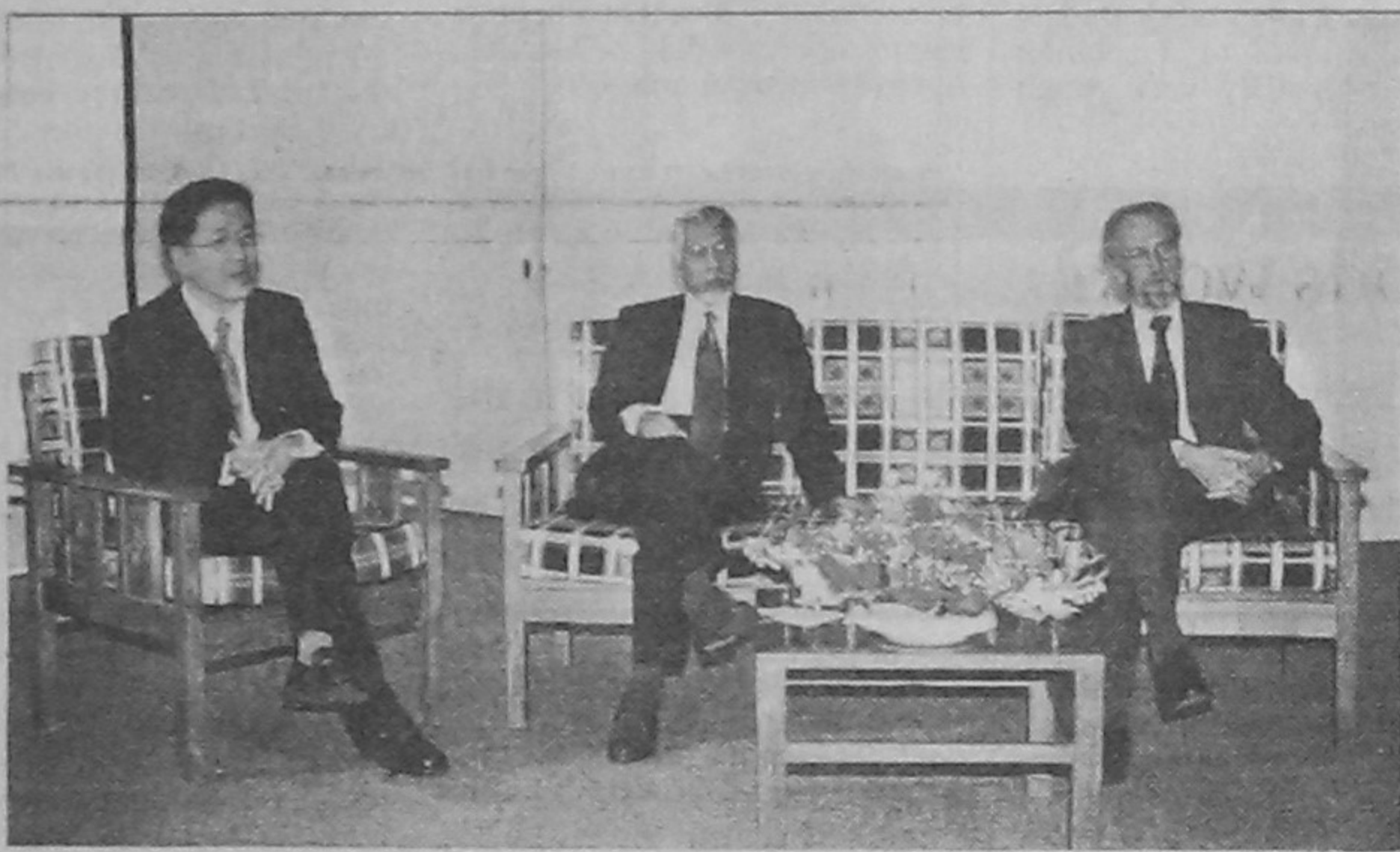
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