



Awami League workers and supporters who have fled their homes in different parts of the country to escape repression take shelter at the party's central office in the city yesterday.



Unocal Bangladesh Limited (UBL) sponsored a debate competition entitled "Natural resources are the essential elements for nation building..." in Sylhet Government Women's College recently. Photo shows AKM Nurul Huda, Community Affairs Manager, UBL, handing over the prizes to the winning team of the debate competition. Also seen in the picture are Prof. Mdabir Ali (second from right), Principal of the college, and Syed Asaduzzaman, Media Adviser, UBL.

World White Cane Safety Day today

UNB, Dhaka

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday called upon the affluent people and non-government organisations, apart from the government initiatives, to launch welfare programmes for visually impaired people.

"Disabled people are an in separate part of our society and their socio-economic development should be ensured," he said in a message on the occasion of "World White Cane Safety Day" to be observed today.

The President also said that it is our social and civic duty to rehabilitate the disabled people, mainly those who are visually impaired.

BSS adds: In another message, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia urged non-governmental and voluntary organisations as well as the wealthy section of society to come forward to ensure the social and financial security of the visually impaired people.

She said the government has taken wide ranging national programmes side by side with the initiatives in different international forums, including the SAARC and the United Nations, for their welfare.



Infrastructure in power sector to be developed

UNB, Dhaka

State Minister for Power Iqbal Haseen Mahmud yesterday said the government is determined to develop a sound infrastructure in the power sector removing all irregularities.

He said this while addressing senior officials of the ministry after taking over the charge.

The State Minister said the government is also firm to improve the standard of service to the electricity consumers besides maintaining uninterrupted power supply.

"Negligence by officials will not be tolerated," he warned, emphasising the need for accountability of officials and employees engaged in power generation and distribution.

Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary M Akmal Hossain, Power Division Secretary Mofazzel Hossain, and PDB Chairman Brig Gen MA Malek also spoke at the meeting.

Life sketch of Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan

BSS, Dhaka

Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan was born in 1943 in Machhimpur village under Shibpur thana of Narsingdi district. He passed the Matriculation examination from Shibpur school in 1958 and Intermediate exam from Narsingdi college in 1961. As a student of Dhaka University (attached with Sir Salimullah Muslim Hall), he obtained BA (Hons.) Degree in History in 1964 and MA in 1965. Later, he also obtained a LIB degree.

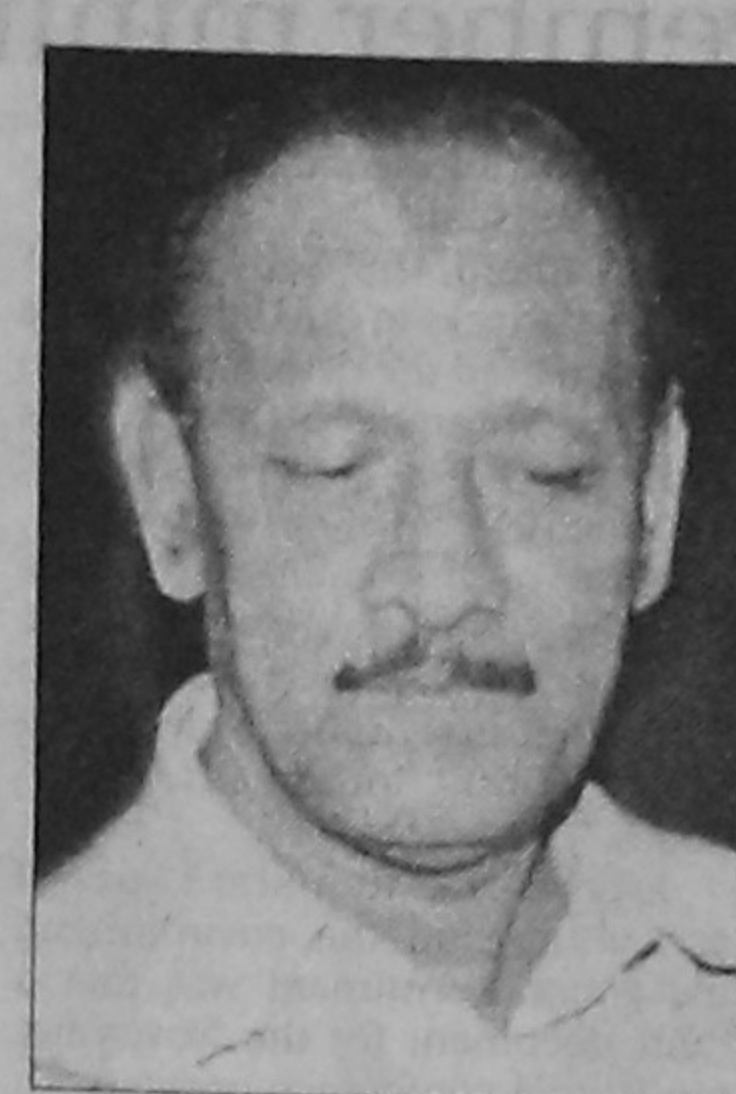
Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan got himself involved in active politics since his student days. He was elected Social Welfare Secretary of Narsingdi Government College Students' Union and was a principal organiser of Provincial Chhatra Union. He was arrested in 1962 because of his role in anti-Ayub movement. He served as organising secretary of Chhatra Union in 1964 and general secretary in 1966. He was also elected a member of Dhaka University Central Students' Union in 1965.

Student days over, Bhuiyan joined National Awami Party and played a significant role in organising peasants' movement in his locality under the leadership of Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani. He played an active role in the mass upsurge of 1969. Side by side he also undertook teaching assignments in Monohardi College and Shibpur Shaheed Asad College.

After the start of the independence war in 1971, Bhuiyan stayed back in Shibpur and carried out a heroic resistance struggle against the occupying forces with the help of thousands of freedom fighters trained by him. Because of this resistance, the enemy forces could not even enter the Narsingdi area.

After independence, he became the principal organiser of the peasant community and played a leading role against the repression and anti-people role of the then Awami League regime. Later, Bhuiyan played a crucial role in the formation of United Peoples' Party and subsequently became its general secretary. Later, he resigned from the post in 1979 when differences emerged on ideological issues.

In 1980, Bhuiyan joined Bangladesh Nationalist Party



(BNP) imbued with the ideals of its founder Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.

After the illegal seizure of power by the autocrat H M Ershad in 1982, Bhuiyan organised movements against the illegal regime and played a vital role in expediting the downfall of Ershad.

Bhuiyan was elected an MP in the 1991 parliamentary election from Narsingdi-3 constituency. He was appointed as State Minister on March 20, 1991, and given the charge of Ministry of Jute.

Bhuiyan is married and has two sons.

He was minister in charge of the Ministry of Labour and Manpower from September 19, 1991.

Bhuiyan was again elected an MP in the parliamentary election held on October 1, 2001. He took oath as a Minister on October 10, 2001, and was appointed as Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Ministry.

BUET students protest attacks on minorities

UNB, Dhaka

Students of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) formed a human chain on the campus yesterday protesting the attacks on the minority people across the country before and after the Oct 1 election.

DHAKA TODAY. BIBM Seminar: A seminar entitled "Financing of Small Rural Enterprises" will be held. Roundtable discussion: The Khan Foundation is organising a round-table discussion on "Experience Sharing of Election Observation". Signing ceremony: WinCom Software Systems will hold a contract signing ceremony for "Computerisation of Modern Dental Clinic". Inaugural Ceremony: The inaugural ceremony of "Hepatitis B Action Week" organised by Glaxo Smith Kline, will be held.

WEATHER TODAY. Moderate rain likely. UNB, Dhaka. Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Khulna divisions in next 12 hours till 6 pm today. Little change in day temperature is expected over the country during the period, Met Office said.

STOCK

Table with multiple columns: TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES (DSE, CSE, Financial Performance), Day's Market - October 14, 2001 (Indicators, Turnover Leaders, Capital Gainers, Capital Losers, Book Closures/AGM/Dividend/IPO), and Non Traded Issues. Includes various company names and their stock prices.

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