

6 DU teachers get Dean's Award

DU CORRESPONDENT

Six teachers of the Business Studies Faculty of Dhaka University have been awarded the 'Dean's Academic Award' at a function at the faculty's conference room yesterday.

Prof. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury was chief guest at the function.

Four of them were awarded for their research publications in four categories. Dr. M Farid Ahmed and AA Mahub Uddin Chowdhury of the Department of Finance and Banking won the awards in professor and associate professor category respectively, while Mohammad Firoz Zaman was awarded in the assistant professor category and Dr. Mahfuzul Haque in the lecturer category.

Prof. MA Mannan of the Management Department and Prof. SM Mahfuzur Rahman of the Finance and Banking Department were awarded for writing textbooks.

Presided over by faculty dean Prof. Sayed Abul Kalam Azad, the function was addressed by Prof. M Habibullah, Prof. Mohammad Harun-ur Rashid, and Mohammad Mosharrar Hossain.

Collective action needed to stop child sex abuse

South Asia Consultation begins in city

UNB, Dhaka

A three-day South Asia Consultation preparatory to a world congress began here yesterday, calling for collective action to clamp down on Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children.

The South Asia Consultation for the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children will prepare recommendations for the global forum for charting action against the problem which is so acute in the region.

The opening assembly consisted of diverse groups of experts, and 150 participants from seven SAARC countries including high-level government delegates, NGOs, children, media and international organisations.

In her inaugural address, Khurshid Zahan Haque, Minister for Women and Children Affairs, underlined the urgent need for collective action to clamp down on commercial sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children.

"Addressing and reducing child sexual abuse and exploitation is an integral part of government obligations to enable children to fully enjoy their rights," she told the function.

Co-hosted by the government of Bangladesh and UNICEF, the South Asia Consultation marks a major step forward in the process of evolving a regional strategy against exploitation of children. The participating countries will put their country reports on the table to contribute towards building a common strategy.

In his keynote presentation on sexual exploitation in South Asia, Dr Waheed Hassan, Deputy Regional Director of UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia, lauded Bangladesh's leadership role in the fight against the social menace.

Bangladesh is the only South Asian country and one of ten around the world that have ratified the Optional Protocol on the Sale

of Children, child prostitution and child pornography, he said.

He called for stronger commitments to end child sex abuse and exploitation, adding: "We must right it in our homes, in our neighbourhoods, in our nations, across the borders, in every country where it is practised."

A special feature of the opening session was a stimulating presentation by children, based on the deliberation that preceded the regional consultation and enabled children to feed their views into the bigger picture.

In her opening remarks, UNICEF representative in Bangladesh Shahida Azfar, listed the objectives of the South Asia Consultation. She underscored the need for developing a reliable and quality database, in order to tackle the problem.

She called for creating an environment where the victim may speak out without fear of retribution.



State Minister for Cultural Affairs Selima Rahman inaugurates an exhibition of paintings by Korean artists at the Shilpakala Academy auditorium in the city yesterday (left) and visitors admire a painting (right).

50mw shortfall in power supply

UNB, Dhaka

The country will experience 50 megawatts shortfall in power supply during the peak hours this evening.

The maximum power generation during the peak hours will be 2850 mw against the demand of 2900 mw, said a PDB press release.

Rotary Club assembly

The regular weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka North will be held at 6:00 pm at Hotel Sonargaon today, says a press release.

The regular weekly meeting will be for Club Assembly today, the release added.



Bangladesh Nari Pragati Sangha staged a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding steps to increase the parliamentary seats reserved for women and direct election for these seats.

BBA admission test Nov 30

BSS, Dhaka

The BBA admission test 2001-2002 of IBA, Dhaka University, will be held on Friday, November 30.

Admission forms are being available at Agrani Bank, Curzon Hall branch.

The deadline for submission of forms is November 26, a press release said.

Boat capsizes death toll rises to 10

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Four more bodies were recovered from the Moheshkhali Channel yesterday, raising the death toll in the Friday's boat capsizing to 10.

The boat capsized in the channel when it was accompanying two other boats to immerse an artificially made pagoda on the occasion of Prabarana Purnima.

Local people recovered the bodies of three Rakhaine women and a man from Sonadia Island and Moheshkhali area at noon yesterday.

Classes resume at JU

UNB, Savar

Classes resumed at Jahangirnagar University yesterday despite the ongoing strike enforced by Students Unity for Resistance to Rapists (SURRE).

Authorities also announced examination schedules for different departments of the university after teachers and students joined the classes.

Army chief to attend defence confce in Hawaii

Chief of Army Staff Lt. Gen. M Harun-Ar Rashid, Bir Protik, left Dhaka on Saturday night to attend the Chiefs' of Defence Conference 2001 in Hawaii, USA, says an ISPR release.

He is accompanied by a three-member delegation of the Bangladesh Army.

Eighteen countries are taking part in the conference to be held from November 6 to 9.

The Army Chief will speak at the seminar on "The role of armed forces to face challenges of the 21st century" and narrate his experience as Chief Military Observer at the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia.

PM condoles death of Fakhruddin Ahmed

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday expressed deep shock at the death of former foreign secretary and advisor of the 1990-91 caretaker government Fakhruddin Ahmed.

In a message of condolence, she paid tribute to the deceased and recalled the eventual and long career of Ahmed who died on Friday in the United States.

The Prime Minister conveyed her heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Man shot dead in Balutilla

OUR CORRESPONDENT, City

One person was shot dead by unidentified miscreants at Fautekhchari in the district on Saturday night.

Sources said, the victim identified as Md. Shamsu Mia, 35, was standing in front his father-in-law's house at Balutilla, Bagbanbar when gunmen opened fire on him at around 8.30 pm. He died on the spot.

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National Curriculum & Textbook Board Textbook Bhaban 69-70, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 No. 84-Pap/Bha/Ka-77/2001 (Part II) Dated: November 1, 2001 Corrigenum

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