

Govt move to export gas protested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong
Speakers yesterday at a rally strongly protested the government's move to export gas to India through pipelines.

The speakers also urged the government to refrain from making any move that goes against national interest. Bowing to pressure from Unocol, a multinational company, the alliance government is trying hard to reach a decision on the issue within the "so-called" 100-day

Towhid Samad elected Dhaka Club president

The Annual General Meeting and election of Dhaka Club Limited was held on December 22, says a press release.
Towhid Samad was elected President of the Club for the year 2001-2002.

A 10-member Executive Committee was also elected. The members are: Syed Iqbal Azim, Mahmud Koli, Khandaker Mahbubuzaman, Nasiruddin A Ferdous, Wahiduzzaman Khan (Nawab), Asfarul Islam, AA Ibrahim (Kaju), Lt Col Kamrul Husain Murad psc (ret), Emran Ali Beg and Mainul Haq.

period, they alleged. Held at the Central Shaheed Minar in the afternoon, the rally was organised by the Committee to Protect Oil and Gas in National Interest.

Presided over by Abul Momen, a poet and journalist, the rally was addressed by, among others, Prof Jamal Nazrul Islam, President of Bangladesh Economic Association Dr Mainul Islam, Prof Anu Muhammad, President of Chittagong Union of Journalists (CU) Muhammad Idris, Gono Forum leader Advocate Emdadul Islam and labour leader Naimuddin.

PLA team passes busy day

UNB, Dhaka
Chinese People's Liberation Army Deputy Chief of General Staff Lt General Zhang Li passed a busy day here yesterday.

The PLA general and the members of his visiting team went to Shikha Anirban at Dhaka cantonment in the morning and placed wreaths paying tribute to the martyred members of armed forces in liberation war in 1971. Later he went to Shena Kunja where a smart contingent gave him a guard-of-honour.

Colourful JSOJ rally in city on Victory Day

UNB, Dhaka
Joy Bangla Sangskritik Oikya Jote (JSOJ), a pro-liberation cultural front, yesterday brought out a colourful procession in the city in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the country's victory over Pakistan occupation forces.

The Jote is celebrating the victory festival this year with the slogan -- "Culture will Resist Terrorism". Awami League General Secretary Zillur Rahman inaugurated the procession and victory festival. The procession ended at the Paltan Maidan where the Awami League arranged a cultural function.

Jote activists in colourful dresses as freedom fighters, razzakars (collaborators) and boatmen, chanted slogans in the name of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, said a press release.



Joy Bangla Sangskritik Oikya Jote paraded the city streets yesterday in a colourful procession as part of its celebrations marking the Victory Day.

Int'l confce on arsenic Jan 12-13

Dhaka Community Hospital (DCH), Bangladesh and School of Environmental Studies (SOES), Jadavpur, India are going to organise 4th International Conference on "Arsenic Contamination of Ground Water in Bangladesh: Cause, Effect & Remedy" on 12-13 January in Dhaka, says a press release.

Prof Willard Chappel, Prof Dick Wilson, Prof David Christiani, Prof Alan H Smith, Prof RH Loeppert, Dr Alan Welch, Carol R Angel from USA; Prof Protam Singh, Dr Ravi Naidu, Dr Robert G Robins from Australia; Prof John Mc Arthur from Britain; Prof Luo Zeng-Dong, Prof Baoshan Zheng, Gui Fan Sun from China; Prof Chien Jen Chen from Taiwan; Dr Maria Vahper from Sweden; Prof Panagiotis Siskos from Greece; Dr Yasuyuki Shibata from Japan; Prof Dipanker Charabarti, Prof KC Saha, Prof Subhash C Mukhopadhyay, Prof Guha Majumder from India; Dr Pakka Puska from Switzerland and many other arsenic experts will attend the conference.

Prof Zakir Hossain urged all to make sincere efforts to discourage bird hunting and buying birds. Referring to the guest birds, he said the birds are the international resource, and every country should take initiative to protect them.

Call to protect wildlife

BSS, Dhaka
Speakers at a seminar on Saturday urged the government to form a body to protect wildlife, including bird for conservation of biodiversity of the country.

Organised by the Bangladesh Bird Club, the seminar titled "Bird is the wealth in our coast", was chaired by veteran bird expert Prof Kazi Zakir Hossain.

Renowned bird observer Anisuzzaman Khan, Waterbird Conservation Officer of Wetlands International David Li, National Coordinator of Asian Waterbird Census Activities Inam Al Huq, Dr Anwarul Islam of Dhaka University, Abu Naser Khan of Environment Movement and Bird Club member A B M Salauddin addressed the seminar at the National Press Club.

Prof Zakir Hossain urged all to make sincere efforts to discourage bird hunting and buying birds. Referring to the guest birds, he said the birds are the international resource, and every country should take initiative to protect them.

Govt steps sought to stop misuse of Red Crescent emblem

UNB, Dhaka
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BRCS) has sought effective government steps to prevent the abuse or misuse of the Red Crescent emblem.
The call was made by BRCS chairman Maj General (ret) ZA Khan at press conference at the National Press Club in Dhaka on Saturday.

He said bird hunting and trapping and habitat degradation are causing serious threat to the coastal birds.

Dr Anwarul Islam said we have laws regarding wild animals but most of us not aware about them. By making people aware about the laws, shooting and trapping of birds could be stopped, he said.

British HC closed Tuesday, Wednesday

UNB, Dhaka
British High Commission in Dhaka will remain closed on Tuesday and Wednesday on the occasions of Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

However, the Consular Section will provide emergency services for the British citizens during this period, said a press release yesterday.

Body to end CU stalemate

CU CORRESPONDENT
A nine-member committee headed by Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Chittagong University Prof Mohammed Shamsuddin and Prof MA Hakim as member secretary was formed to end the stand-off facing the institution.

The decision was made at a roundtable meeting of the teachers of all panels of the university. Other members of the committee are Prof Yusuf Sharif Ahmed Khan, Prof Mohammad Lokman, Prof Mahbubullah, Prof Ifterruddin Chowdhury, syndicate member SM Fazlul Haq, Prof ANM Munir Ahmed and Prof Khan Towhid Osman.

The academic activities of the university will resume on January 1 next year after a long vacation of Ramadan, Martyred Intellectuals Day, Victory Day, Eid-ul-Fitr and Christmas.

Medicine shops, private clinics, commercial ambulances, vehicles used by doctors and pharmaceutical companies use the symbol of the Red Crescent knowingly or unknowingly that they are not authorised to do so, he said.
The chairman pointed out that the present law should be updated in this regard to prevent the perversion.

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BRCS) and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) jointly organised the press conference.
Among others, visiting delegation chief of the ICRC John Bales, Syed Morshed Kamal, Dr Fazlul Karim, MA Jalil, Shahjahan Miah and Secretary General of BRCS Hasan Quresi attended.

JU admission test 44 candidates to vie for single seat

JU CORRESPONDENT
Admission tests for the first year honours classes under the 2001-2002 session at the Jahangirnagar University (JU) will take place from February 11 to 19.
Official sources said that about 44 candidates would vie for a single seat in the tests.

As many as 38,340 candidates are likely to sit for the tests of admission to about 800 seats in the 24 departments under four faculties.
Besides, 100 more students will be enrolled from different quotas: the wards of university teachers, officers and employees, and of freedom fighters, players and cultural activists.
The tests will be held at different academic buildings of the university and at the JU School and College.

No examination will be held on February 15 and 17 due to holidays, the official sources said.
Regular classes and examinations of the present batches will remain suspended during the tests.
Results of the written tests will be published on March 14 in different dailies and also be available at www.juiv.edu.
The candidates will be interviewed on March 21, 23 and 24, and the final results will be published on March 31.

Admission from the merit list will take place from April 1 to 11 and from the waiting list from April 20 to 25.
Classes of the 31st batch will begin on May 4 next year, the sources added.

DUJ Ittefaq unit formed

BSS, Dhaka
Alamgir Hossain and Khandakar Golam Jilani were re-elected Unit Chief and Deputy Unit Chief of the Ittefaq unit of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

They were elected at the annual general meeting and election of the unit yesterday at the Ittefaq news room with Executive Editor Hasan Shaharir in the chair.

Earlier, Unit Chief Alamgir Hossain and Deputy Unit Chief Khandakar Golam Jilani placed annual report and annual accounts of the last fiscal which was unanimously adopted in the meeting.

Among others, unit members Rahat Khan, Ziaul Haq, Safiqur Rahman, Akram Hossain Khan, Yasin Ahmed, Silabrota Barua, Aftab Ahmed, Seraj-ul-Haq, Lutfur Rahman and Giasuddin Ahmed took part in discussion on annual report and annual accounts report.

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Mr. Jatish Saha, S/o Late Kshitish Saha of village : Sutrapur, P.O. + P.S. : Kaliakair, Dist. : Gazipur, has left Dhaka to United Kingdom on 13-10-2001 for attending post graduation on MBA. He could not meet kith & kins and well-wishers due to time constraint, for this he is extremely sorry. He is seeking blessings from all to complete the course successfully.

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