

Movement to end CU stalemate begins today

CU CORRESPONDENT

Different political and non-political organisations and the Teachers' Association of the Chittagong University (CU) will begin agitation separately today demanding an end to the standoff prevailing on the campus.

CUTA will bring out a silent procession at 2:30 pm today from the Central Shahid Minar of the city.

They will also submit a memorandum to the Chancellor of the university through Divisional Commissioner (DC) at 3:00 pm seeking her intervention to resolve the stalemate.

They will also hold meetings with the student organisations separately to discuss way to resolve the stalemate immediately.

"We will announce fresh programmes soon. We will continue our programmes until the stalemate is resolved, he added. "We want to go to the campus and take our classes and examinations," Prof Iftekhar said. "We want to see the campus as its real face," he added.

"We seek government's intervention to end the standoff at the university," he said.

Meanwhile, the general students of the university under the banner of General Students Oikya Parishad (GSC) would also bring out another silent procession at the 8:30 am.

The procession will start from the Sholash railway station and end at the local press club premises parading the different streets of the city. They will also form a human chain at the press club premises and hold a protest rally at 10 am today demanding an end to the stalemate.

On the other hand, Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) of Chittagong University (CU) will hold a student-teacher-guardian's rally on the local press club premises at 11:00 am today.

Students Solidarity, a non-political student organisation of the university, has threatened a tougher action programme if the classes are not resumed by January 15.

They announced fresh programmes including submission of memorandum to the VC on January 15, exchanging of views with the political leaders on January 16 to 18, submission of a memorandum to the Chancellor through the Divisional Commissioner on January 19 and token hunger strike on January 20.

The programmes were announced at a press conference at a local restaurant yesterday afternoon.

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Chittagong University (CU) threatened to continue its indefinite siege programme on the campus until the killers of Mor-tuza were arrested.



Environment and Forest Minister Shajhan Siraj speaking at the concluding session of the two-day international conference on "Arsenic Contamination in Groundwater: Media Strategy" at the CIRDP auditorium yesterday. Organised by World Water Forum of Journalists (WWFJ) in collaboration with Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB), the session was also addressed by Environment Secretary Sabihuddin Ahmed, Managing Director of The Financial Express Reazuddin Ahmed, Vice Secretary General of Third World Water Forum Tokio Okazumi and WWFJ Secretary General and FEJB Chairman Qamrul Islam Chowdhury.

Int'l confce on arsenic adopts Dhaka Declaration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The two-day International Conference on "Arsenic Contamination in Groundwater: Media Strategy" concluded yesterday with the adoption of the Dhaka Declaration.

The World Water Forum of Journalists (WWFJ) in collaboration with the Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) organised the conference at the CIRDP auditorium.

The Dhaka Declaration expressed deep concern at the rapid expansion of arsenic contamination in the ground water of so many countries including Bangladesh, China, Thailand, India, Nepal, Laos, Cambodia, USA, Australia and Canada causing serious havoc on the livelihood of millions of people throughout the globe.

It underlined the urgent necessity to create mass awareness about the adverse impact of arsenic contamination.

The Declaration said the World Water Forum of Journalists (WWFJ) can place the arsenic issues in all the meetings of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) this year and the Third World Water Forum in 2003 by organizing separate sessions. The WWFJ should also publish the World State of Arsenic Reports, it added.

The Dhaka Declaration said journalists both from print and electronic media who exclusively

cover arsenic issues with proper presentation, can help in generating mass awareness and influencing policy makers. So it acknowledges the necessity of establishing a training centre for journalists who cover highly technical issues and concerns like arsenic contamination. The WWFJ can take the initiative in this regard.

The Declaration urged the editors and heads of the broadcast media to provide sufficient space and airing time for the coverage of

arsenic issues and assign special person for arsenic reporting.

It called on the governments concerned to initiate the formulation of national arsenic policy and ensure its effective implementation by setting up centre for updated information on arsenic issues and periodic briefings for journalists.

The Dhaka Declaration also called upon all donor and aid agencies to play an active role in combating arsenic problems."

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The fourth death anniversaries of Gazi Siddiq Hossain Chowdhury, former relief and rehabilitation superintendent of Bogra, and his wife, Obeda Khatun, will be observed today, says a press release.

On the occasion, a Quarkhwni and milad mahfil will be held after Asr prayers at their Sutrapur residence in the city.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the programme.

Obituary

Anwara Begum, a writer and member of the Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, died at her residence in the city on Friday at the age of 46.

Wife of Advocate Dewan Ziauddin, Anwara was buried at Azimpur graveyard.

Her quikhwani will be held at the Maghbazar T&T Community Centre after Asr prayers on January 14.

Mariam Ameen

Mariam Ameen, wife of Shafiqul Ameen, a former principal of College of Art & Crafts, died at her Mohammadpur residence on January 10. She was 80, says a press release.

She was buried at her family graveyard at Noagan village under Ararbar thana.



Vivekananda Shikha O Sangskriti Parishad brought out a procession in the city yesterday to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.



Students of Narayanang Fine Arts Institute and other organisations staged a token hunger strike at the Central Shahed Minar in the city yesterday to protest the death of Sima, a talented artist, and violence against women.

WEATHER TODAY

Mild cold wave likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country today. Moderate frost may occur over the river basins and coastal belt and light fog elsewhere of the country during early morning, Met Office said.

It predicted that mild cold wave is likely to sweep over the northern parts of the country during the period.

Country's highest temperature 28.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and the lowest 8.6 degree at Saidpur.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:31 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:44 am.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Table with columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

DHAKA TODAY

Founding anniversary

Chalchitram Film Society organises a five-day long programmes, including film show, to mark its 20th founding anniversary. Venue: German Cultural Centre. Time: 6:00pm.

Musical programme

Bangladesh Loksangeet Kendra will hold its monthly programme - a discussion and musical programme. Venue: Bishwa Sahitya Kendra auditorium. Time: 4:30pm.

Eid reunion

Darus Sunnah Islamia Complex will hold an Eid reunion with State Minister for Religious Affairs Mosharraf Hossain Shajahan. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 5:00pm.

Meeting

A general meeting of the Commonwealth Student and Youth Organisation (CSYO) will be held.

IUBAT seminar

Health and Population Centre of IUBAT organises a seminar on 'Strategies for Nutrition Improvement in Bangladesh: Global and National Aspects'. Venue: IUBAT campus, House-135, Road-9A, Dhanmondi. Time: 4:30pm.

Training on prison management

A four-day training on 'Good Prison Management' for prison personnel will begin. Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust and Penal Reform International have jointly organised the training. Venue: BIAM auditorium. Time: 9:30am.

STOCK

TODAY'S TRADED ISSUES JANUARY 12, 2002

Large table containing stock market data for January 12, 2002. It includes sections for 'Day's Market - January 12, 2002' and 'Non Traded Issues'. The 'Day's Market' section lists various companies under DSE and CSE, with columns for FV/ML, Price, Turnover, Last AGM, EPS, and DPS. The 'Non Traded Issues' section lists companies with their respective prices and financial performance. There are also sub-sections for 'Turnover Leaders', 'Capital Gainers', 'Capital Losers', and 'Book Closure/AGM Dividends'.