

JU first year (Hons) classes begin today

JU CORRESPONDENT

First year honours classes under 2001-2002 academic session of Jahangirnagar University will begin today with acute accommodation problem.

A total of 1277 students were enrolled under this academic session. Of them, 1142 have been enrolled on the basis of merit while 48 from freedom fighters' ward quota, 15 from tribal students' quota, 12 from players' quota, 10 from cultural activists' quota and another 50 from the ward quota of JU teachers, officers and employees.

Students of the new session will have to face serious accommodation problem due to prevailing session jam. The new batch has been admitted against the students of 24th and 25th batches of some departments are also yet to complete their master degree.

Total seat capacity in five male and four female dormitories is

4500 while the number of existing students is around six thousand. So when the new batch enters the campus, the accommodation problem will be further aggravated.

When contacted, university officials told this correspondent that the authorities allowed more students this year as a new dormitory named 'Bangabandhu Hall' will be opened for male students.

A total of 300 students will be accommodated in Bangabandhu Hall, they said.

Meanwhile, leaders of the BNP-backed student organisation, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) are busy in managing seats for those new comers who may join the party later on. So other students who are not at all interested in politics will face problem to get seats in the dormitories despite their merit.

The university authorities will provide buses for freshmen only. These buses will start from Osmani Udyan in the city at 8.00am and return to Dhaka from the campus at 1.00pm.

Criminal snatched from police in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Bakhna Anwar, 30, a notorious criminal wanted in several criminal cases was snatched from police custody by his accomplices on Tuesday.

Anwar was arrested from Mir-danga at about 11 pm.

According to witnesses, the armed accomplices of Anwar attacked police when they (police) were taking him to Khanjahan Ali Thana. They snatched Anwar at gunpoint and fled the scene.

Cop stabbed to death by dacoit in Natore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Mohammad Amzad Hossain, Sub-Inspector of Shingra thana, was stabbed to death by a dacoit on Monday night.

Mukul, ringleader of a gang of dacoits managed to flee after stabbing Amzad, 45.

Amzad succumbed to injuries on way to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Gold, 93 mobile phones seized in Ctg airport

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The customs officials seized gold bars weighing two kg and 93 sets of mobile phones at Chittagong International Airport in the city on Tuesday.

They also arrested a home-bound passenger, Md. Alamgir, who was carrying these items in his luggage. Alamgir returned from Dubai by a Biman flight at around 11.30am.

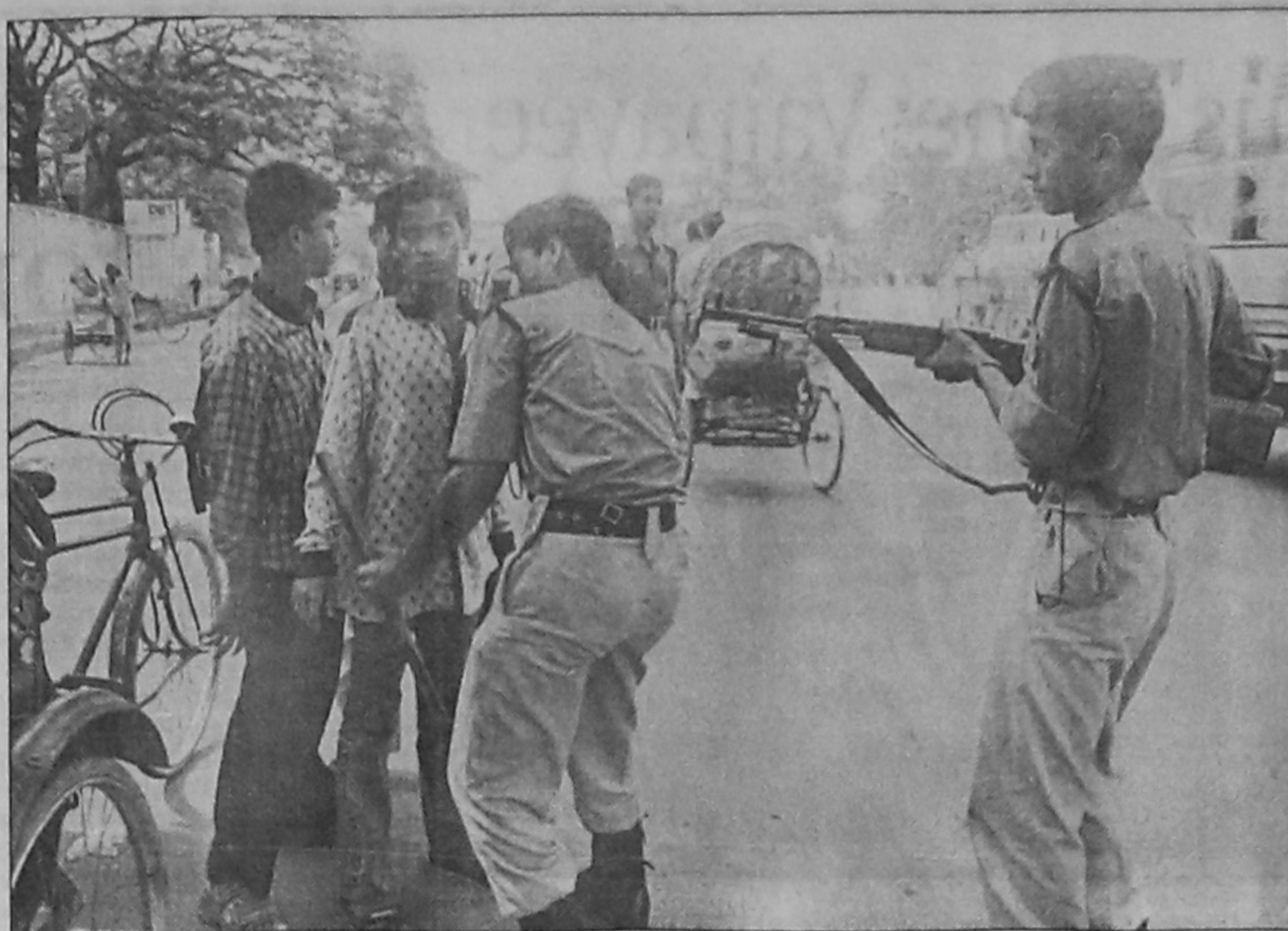
Obituary

Moslehuddin Shaheen, a medicine trader at Tongi Bazar, died on Tuesday night at the age of 36, says a press release.

He had been suffering from Asthma for long.

He left behind wife, one son, three brothers and host of relatives to mourn his death.

His namaj-e-janaza was held at Tongi Bazar mosque after Iqrah prayers yesterday. He was buried at Tongi Pourasava graveyard.



A policeman searching a boy in front of Notre Dame College in the city yesterday as part of the ongoing crackdown on criminals.

Russia tops TI's bribe payers index

UNB, Dhaka

Russia tops the Transparency International's Bribe Payers Index (BPI-2002) among the 21 leading exporting countries around the world.

China, Taiwan and South Korea are in the next position of the index released by TI in Paris on Tuesday.

Australia is shown in the index as the least bribe payer country, followed by three European countries -- Sweden, Switzerland and Austria.

The United States and Japan are respectively in the 13th and 14th positions in the bribe-payers index, says a TI press release here.

The index is based on surveys conducted in 15 emerging market countries by Gallup International Association.

The BPI 2002 was conducted in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, South Africa, South Korea and Thailand. These are among the very largest such countries involved in trade and investment with multinational firms.

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The survey questions related to the propensity of companies from 21 leading exporting countries to pay bribes to senior public officials in the surveyed emerging countries.

As many as 835 interviews were carried out between December 2001 and March 2002, principally with senior executives of domestic and foreign companies, but also with executives at chartered accountancies, binational chambers of commerce, national and foreign commercial banks and commercial law firms.

Presenting the index at a press conference in Paris, TI Chairman Peter Eigen said politicians and public officials from the world's leading industrial countries are "ignoring the role" in their own backyards and the criminal bribepaying activities of multinational firms headquartered in their countries. But they are "increasingly focusing on the high level of corruption in developing countries".

All these countries now have laws making corrupt payments to foreign officials a crime, he mentioned.

But the TI chairman lamented that laws were not being properly enforced. "Our new survey leaves no doubt that large number of multinational corporations from richest nations are pursuing a criminal course to win contracts in the leading emerging market economies of the world," he said.

Magistrate Sirajul Haider found Mohammad Khalilur Rahman guilty and gave the verdict.

Court sources said Khalil gave his statements on behalf of the prosecution side before the court on June 9, 1999 and again appeared as a defence witness on May 6.

Magistrate Sirajul Haider on May 11 summoned the witness when the matter drew his attention and after verifying trial records he ordered the arrest of Khalil.

The incident was a sequel to previous enmity, sources said.

The gang shot Suman, a grill shop employee and son of Badsha Mia, after calling him out of his residence.

Wounded Suman was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

At the Tejgaon polytechnic institute cricket ground, a 12-year-old boy was injured in a cracker blast when he was looking for a cricket ball at about 11.30am.

The victim, Azizul Islam, son of Nurul Islam, was admitted to DMCH.

In another cracker blast, 10-year-old Rony was injured while collecting rags from a dustbin at about 1pm.

Son of Mohammad Sohul of Islambagh, Rony received injuries in his hands, chest and legs. He was also admitted to DMCH.

In another incident, Shaheen Alam, 24, was stabbed by his rival at Gopibag rail crossing at about 2pm.

Sources said one Tajul Islam took him to the area following a feud over an affair with a teenage girl and stabbed him in his hands, legs, chest and back.

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