

'Govt considering ban on student politics'

CU CORRESPONDENT

Education Minister Dr. Osman Farruk has said the government is actively considering the proposal to ban the student politics in all educational institutions of the country.

He said prime minister Khaleda Zia would meet the renowned educationists of the country soon in order to reach a decision over the issue.

The education minister was speaking at a meeting arranged in memory of noted educationist and philosopher Abdur Rahman at the district council auditorium in Chittagong on Wednesday.

He said the government has proposed to impose a ban on the student politics to overcome various problems now prevalent in education sector.

"The quality of education has been decreasing day by day" the minister said adding that "Restoration of congenial atmosphere on the campuses is a must to improve the standard of education".

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin was present at the meeting as special guest.

He criticised the former prime minister and Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina for opposing the proposal of ban on student politics.

Mir Mohammad Nasir Uddin said "we can not support such kind of politics which breeds violence on the campuses".

Lt. Col. (rtd) Mohammad Ziauddin (Bir Uttam), principal of Presidency International presented a paper titled 'A simple analysis of the education system of Bangladesh and some proposal' at the meeting.

Eminent scientist Prof Jamal Nazrul Islam and Prof Mahbubulah, dean of social science faculty of Chittagong University, ATM Saleh Jahur, controller of examination, Chittagong Education Board, Prof Shamsuddin Ahmed Mirza and AK Mahmudul Haq took part in the discussion.

Prof Kazi Ahmed Nabi, dean of the Business Administration faculty of University of Science and Technology, Chittagong (USTC) presided over the meeting which was organised by Abdur Rahman Srimity Mojlish.

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A large number of students crowd in front of the Notre Dame College in the city yesterday for first year admission test.

Degradation cut a swathe through Bangladesh during last 3 decades

State of Environment Report 2001 says

BSS, Dhaka

Despite a rising awareness, environmental degradation cut a swathe through Bangladesh during the past three decades, the Bangladesh State of Environment Report 2001 made this observation.

"The country's ecology has been damaged, the forests have been depleted, the wetlands destroyed, different species of flora and fauna have vanished, wildlife has almost disappeared, biodiversity has been greatly reduced and the air quality deteriorated," said the report prepared by Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB).

The report, fourth of a series published in the past four years, added that even if drastic measures were taken to halt the deteriorating trend, it would be difficult to visualise an optimistic scenario for the country over the next 30 years.

The report, however, praised the initiatives to help protect the fragile nature by the present government.

"Of late though, since June 2001 to be precise, some positive steps started to be taken to arrest such deterioration in the environment sector, it said.

The report particularly acknowledged the "momentous decision" of banning polythene shopping bags by the cabinet and initiatives to ban old vehicles emitting deadly black smoke and the emergency arsenic mitigation schemes.

Besides, the Ministry of Environment and Forest went about addressing such problems like hill cutting, theft to trees in the forest and unauthorised mushrooming of brick fields in and around the country's major cities, it noted.

But, the FEJB report said, although the decision has been taken to set up environmental courts, those were yet to be put in place.

The report also praised the pro-environment actions of the past caretaker government to address some of the burning environmental issues despite their short tenure. They took up the issue of the river Buriganga, applying their authority to evict encroachers from large tracts of land along the moribund river that was once the lifeline of capital Dhaka.

The caretaker administration also tried to address the problem of inland marine pollution as well

as the wanton encroachments on the lakes in Dhaka.

Some steps were also taken to stop an attempt by some private and political quarters to grab parts of the Osmani Udyan - a green patch of land with trees - in the heart of Dhaka City to build a hotel.

The caretaker government also tried to discipline the city's chaotic traffic and curb air pollution, the report added.

The State of Environment Report 2001 said Bangladesh has been treated as a model country with respect to disaster management experience. Communities living in the vulnerable zones have enormous coping capacities while community resilience through indigenous coping capacities and improved warning systems deserve appreciation.

But, it said, efforts must be made to expand activities that require full community participation for enhanced disaster prevention and mitigation.

The report reminded that due to reasons, some of them beyond immediate reaches, for the years ahead, the country is braced for a series of serious environmental problems like climate change, sea level rise, aquifer depletion, arsenic contamination, deteriorating water and air quality and alarming level of soil degradation.

"These are just to mention a few of the environmental problems looming large over this overpopulated and impoverished nation. It is high time that we taken up environmental issues in right earnest and put them high on the national agenda for action to halt environmental degradation," the report said.

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Dhaka condemns Israeli air strike on Gaza

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh yesterday strongly condemned and denounced the recent indiscriminate Israeli air strike on Gaza city that has caused death of a large number of innocent Palestinian civilians, including children.

A foreign ministry release said, Bangladesh has urged Israel to stop the policies of oppression and killing of innocent Palestinians. It said Bangladesh considers the illegal occupation of the Palestinian territories by the Israelis as root cause of the problem and demands and immediate and complete and to the Israeli occupation of all Palestinian and Arab territories.

Bangladesh holds the view that a viable and lasting peace in the region is not possible until the legitimate rights of the Palestinians are acknowledged and the Israeli occupation forces are withdrawn from the occupied territories as per Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, it said.

It added that Bangladesh fully supports the Security Council Resolution 1397 (2002) which demands immediate cessation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction.

It said Bangladesh reiterates its unflinching support to the just cause of the Palestinian people for their struggle for the State of Palestine with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

11 arms seized

BSS, Dhaka

Police recovered a huge weapons and ammunition under its ongoing countryside operation in the last 24 hours till yesterday morning.

They seized 17 weapons including 11 firearms and 19 bullets, a Police Headquarters press release said.

Death anniversary

BSS, Dhaka

The second death anniversary of Daiyan Malik, eldest son of Malik Abdullah Al-Amin Sadi, Special Judge, Comilla will be observed today, says a press release.

Daiyan died of Dengu fever on July 26, 2000 at the age of only nine years and nine months.

On the occasion, milad will be held at orphanage and madrassa. Relatives, friends and admirers are requested to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

Chehlum

BSS, Dhaka

Chehlum of Freedom Fighter Ahmedul Ameen, Managing Director of the Bangladesh Oilfield Services Limited will be held today after Asr prayers at his residence at Uttara, says a press release.

Friends, relatives and admirers are requested to attend the prayers.

Ahmedul Ameen was Editor-Publisher of the weekly Sunday Express. He died on June 20 at Sikdar Medical College Hospital.

DHAKA TODAY

BSS, Dhaka

Film show
As part of its 'Uttam Kumar Retrospective', Jahangirnagar Film Society in cooperation with the High Commission of India will screen a film titled 'Chhaddaveshi'. Venue: High Commission of India Cultural Centre, Salmajid Road. Time: 6:00pm.

Prize giving ceremony
The prize giving ceremony of children's painting, recitation and musical competition, dedicated to the 9th founding year of Serov Academy of Fine Arts, will be held. Venue: The Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 5:30pm.

Alliance Francaise
Under its weekly movie programme, Alliance Francaise will screen two films titled 'Le Moyen Age' directed by Marguerite Gonon and 'Un dimanche a la campagne' directed by Bertrand Tavernier. Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium. Time: 10:30am and 6:00pm respectively.

Rotary
Regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka will be held. Venue: CIRDAP Cafeteria. Time: 5:30pm.

Dental camp
Under the auspices of the Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU), a free dental camp will be held. Venue: DRU auditorium.

Blood donation
Melody Cultural Club organises a voluntary blood donation programme, seminar and cultural function with Acting Speaker of the Jatiya Sangshad Akhter Hamid Siddiqui as chief guest. Venue: National Museum auditorium. Time: 5:00pm.

Conference
In observance of the birth anniversary of world renowned forest conservator Jim Corbet, a conference of the workers of Nature Conservation Committee will be held. Venue: Press Club Hall Room. Time: 4:00pm.

BAPA rally
Green Force, an associate of Bangladesh Environment Movement, will organise a rally for protection of environment in Kathalbagan area. Venue: Kathalbagan market. Time: 4:00pm.

Coordination meeting
A coordination meeting of different sub-committees of Bixampur Foundation will be held to review the progress of its programme for awarding gold medal and stipends. Venue: 24/2, Eskaton Garden. Time: 5:00pm.

ICM rally
Islamic Constitution Movement (ICM) will hold a rally and bring out a procession to realise their various demands. Venue: North Gate of Baitul Mokarram. Time: After Asr prayers.

Mahfil
The weekly Asheque-Rasul mahfil of Dewanbag Sharif will be held. Venue: Babe Rahmat, Arambag. Time: 10:00am.

Seminar
Bangladesh Chamber of Industries (BCI) organises a seminar on 'Law and Order: Precondition of Development' with Law and Parliament Affairs Minister Barrister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Purbari. Time: 3:00pm.

Inauguration
The inaugural function of the 12th branch of Standard Bank Limited will be held with Mayor of Dhaka Sadeque Hossain Khoka as chief guest. Venue: 81, Motiakhola Commercial Area. Time: 10:30am.

Workshop
The Asia Foundation and CSL Software Resources Limited will jointly organise a workshop on 'IT Centric RMG Industry Management'. Venue: Santoor Restaurant, Dhanmondi. Time: 5:00pm.

Meeting
A regular monthly meeting of Dhaka based Pabna Sanity will be held. Venue: Shantibagh Office. Time: 6:00pm.



Nari Unnayan Shakti staged drama in the city as part of its week long cultural programme to create awareness against HIV/AIDS.

Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Dhaka

Tender Notice

No.P&D/LP-1(718)/2002-2003/DR-111(3) Dated: 24.7.02
Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide suppliers for supply of ID Card Printer, Card Printing Software and Card Accessories.

Intending participants shall have to obtain permission for purchasing tender paper etc. on application to the undersigned. Application must accompany TIN certificate, trade licence and certificate of experience about concern works/supplies etc. from reputed organisations. Tender paper and other terms & conditions will be available from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk. 500.00 (five hundred) (non-refundable) to the Sonali Bank, BUET Branch, Dhaka. Each tender must accompany a Bank Draft or Pay Order from nationalised/scheduled bank amounting to 5% of the quoted amount as earnest money deposited in favour of the "Comptroller, BUET" without which no tender will be considered. Tenders must be put into the tender boxes kept for this purpose in this office or offices of the heads of the Department of Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering (Civil Engineering Building and EME Building respectively) up to 12:00 Noon on 3.8.2002 and will be opened on the same day at 12:30 PM before the participants presents.

The university authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders or one or more items of any tender without assigning reason whatsoever.

No tender paper will be sold on the opening day of the tender.

Deputy Director
Planning & Development.

GD-634

Meherpur Jubo Dal leader Tiger Faruk released on bail

UNB, Meherpur

A Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal leader, accused in 10 cases including a murder, was released on bail granted by the district judge's court on Monday.

Court sources said Sadar upazila Jubo Dal leader Omar Faruk popularly known as 'Tiger Faruk' was arrested and detained during the Awami League rule.

BNP and its front organisations leaders and workers received him at the jail gate and brought out a procession with several minibuses to celebrate the release.



The ad-hoc workers of Adamjee Jute Mills who did not get any financial benefits after its closure brought out a procession at the Mukhtangan in the city yesterday demanding the payment of their dues.

WEATHER TODAY

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Barisal and Khulna divisions today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met office said. Country's highest temperature 37.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and the lowest 23.3 degree at Srimangol.

The sun sets in the capital at 6.45 pm today and rises at 5:25 am tomorrow. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	29.8	25.3	83	86
Chittagong	32.3	26.5	84	76
Rajshahi	34.3	28.7	81	80
Khulna	37.0	27.7	81	83
Barisal	34.5	28.0	85	92
Sylhet	29.2	23.6	98	92
Cox's Bazar	32.0	26.2	86	87

Consultancy Opportunity

Policy Leadership & Advocacy for Gender Equality Project (PLAGE)

(A Project to assist the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MWCA) in the area of policy leadership and advocacy within and outside the Government of Bangladesh in order to mainstream gender equality)

An executing agency managing an international development project is looking for a Policy Analyst and Planner for the contract period September- March 2003

The candidate has experience in the development and implementation of policies to promote gender equality, and in the analysis & amendment of macro-level government policies to integrate gender equality concerns.

- At least 10 years of professional experience in a related field
- a Master's Degree or equivalent in a related social science field
- extensive experience in policy advocacy, analysis and research strategy development
- experience conducting research related to gender issues
- a solid understanding of and commitment to working in the field of gender equality issues in Bangladesh
- familiarity with Government of Bangladesh procedures and operations related to policy development and implementation
- experience in research management
- highly developed interpersonal, communications and analytical skills
- ability to work as a member of a team
- fluency in English and Bangla and the ability to write reports in both languages
- must be available to start work by September 1, 2002

Qualified individuals, interested in applying for this position may fax to number noted below to request a detailed job description.

The deadline for receiving applications and detailed CVs including three professional references is August 4, 2002. Applications, with the position indicated clearly on a sealed envelop, should be sent to:

PLAGE Selection Committee
Urban Rose, House# 61, Flat# 1A, Road# 24, Gulshan-1
Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh. Fax: 88-02-8823063
Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

PLAGE - Towards Gender Equality