

Amend laws to strengthen local government

Speakers suggest at roundtable in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Underscoring the need for strengthening the local government, speakers at a roundtable yesterday recommended amending some existing laws to empower the local bodies.

They urged the policy-makers to rethink about their approach towards strengthening the local government, saying that the government should play the key role in dealing with government employees at the local level.

With Prof Mohammad Yunus, Managing Director of the Grameen Bank, in the chair, the roundtable discussion-2 on 'Development budget, local government and economy' was organised by the Local Government Support Group (LGS) at the CIRDAP auditorium in the city.

Speaking at the roundtable, eminent economist Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud identified corruption and wastage as major

obstacles to implementing projects under the annual development programme (ADP) in rural areas.

Mohammad Yunus said the present system of UPs would not help much in strengthening the local government.

Economist Hossain Zillur Rahman, member secretary of the LGS, said it is very important to attach priority to the local economic issues within the local government system and immediate steps should be taken to amend laws that create obstacles for empowerment of local bodies.

Economist Dr Atiur Rahman stressed the need for ensuring the right to information, saying that people should know how much money has been allocated for the development projects in their areas.

QI Siddiqui, former chief engineer of the local government and rural development, said steps should be taken to increase the income of UPs.

He suggested that as part of the capacity building measures, the government should take initiative to provide all the UPs with Internet connections. If all the UPs are equipped with Internet connections and skilled human resources, their capacity would be improved tremendously, he added.

Prof Tofael Ahmed said the ministries are spending crores of taka for the local government, but nobody knows how much is being spent at the local level and this makes way for corruption.

Awami League lawmaker Col. (ret'd) Faruk Khan suggested reducing the tenure of the UP chairmen to two years from five years to check corruption.

At present, a UP chairman candidate spends around Tk 10 lakh during the election campaign. After his election, a chairman eventually tries to recover his investment by resorting to corruption, he added.



Bangladesh Bar Council vice-chairman Barrister Amir-ul Islam addressing a press conference in the city yesterday. (From left) Advocate Yusuf Hossain Humayun and Advocate Abdul Baset Majumder and Advocate Salam Talukder (extreme right) are also seen in the picture.

Bar Council to observe Aug 4 as Justice Day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Bar Council will observe August 4 as 'Justice Day' to press home its seven-point demand.

The Council has urged all bar associations across the country to extend their support to it in observing the day.

Leaders of the Council at a press conference in the city yesterday said their demands include giving priority to the opinion of the chief justice in appointing judges of the High Court, the head of the judiciary making the list for appointment of judges and confirming the services of the three judges who were denied confirmation despite the chief justice's recommendation.

Vice Chairman of the bar council Amir-ul-Islam also demanded immediate implementation of the Supreme Court (SC) directive for virtual separation of the judiciary, creation of an independent Judiciary Commission and formation of a Pay Commission with majority representation from the SC judges. The council chairman should be made member of both the commissions, he added.

Amir-ul-Islam further said Article 115 of the Civil Procedure Code must be amended to minimise misuse of Section 54 of the CrPC and a limit should be set for

the law enforcers regarding arrests. The power to grant remand should be vested in the district judges instead of magistrates. The law enforcing authorities must show enough reasons why a person should be placed under their remand. And an arrested person should be interrogated in jail in presence of his lawyers, he emphasised.

The council said the Judicial Service Commission should be given the responsibility of appointing judges and the criteria for their appointment should be specified so that those.

It also demanded repeal of all 'black laws'.

The press conference was also attended by Abdul Baset Majumder, Yusuf Hossain Humayun and Abdus Salam Talukder.

11 additional HC judges take oath

UNB, Dhaka

The swearing-in ceremony of newly-appointed 11 additional judges of the High Court was held at the Supreme Court Judges' Lounge yesterday.

Chief Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury administered the oath.

The additional judges are Justice Meer Hasmat Ali, Justice Mashuq Hossain Ahmed, Justice A K M Fazlur Rahman, Justice Siddiqur Rahman Miah, Justice Abdul Awal, Justice Sharif Uddin Chaklader, Justice Mizanur Rahman Bhuiyan, Justice Syed Ab Mahmodul Haq, Justice Tariqul-Hakim, Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury and Justice Abdus Salam Mamun.



Shaheen Welfare Assoc executives

A 15-member executive committee of Shaheen Welfare Association (Former Welfare Association For The Children Of Ex-Air Force Personnel), Dhaka has been formed with Md Mahboob-E-Sattar and Haroon-Al-Rashid as President and General Secretary respectively, says a press release.

The committee was formed for 2002-2005 at the general meeting of the Association recently.

Other office-bearers are Md Akbar -- Senior Vice President, Shaikat Ali -- Vice President, Md Rafiqul Islam -- Joint secretary, Md Monir Hossain -- Treasurer.

The executive committee members are Fazal Qader, Khan Md Jan-E-Alam, M S Mustafa, Dr M Kamaluddin, Sirajul Islam, M Hafizullah, Md Syed Mahtabuddin, Rehana Ibrahim and Dr Nigar Sultana.

Police action at DU condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different organisations condemned yesterday's attacks on the teachers, students and journalists by police and the activists of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

They also denounced the Wednesday's police atrocities on the students of Samsunnahar Hall and demanded immediate resignation of the Vice-Chancellor.

The Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) lambasted the police for attacking the newsmen on the Dhaka University campus. The DUJ will hold a protest meeting at the National Press Club on July 31.

The unions demanded punitive action against those responsible for the attack and arrangement for proper treatment for the injured.

Meanwhile, eminent econo-

mist and former advisor to the caretaker government Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud told a roundtable discussion yesterday that as a teacher of the Dhaka University, he is ashamed of what has happened at the DU.

The general students of Dhaka University under the banner of 'Students against violence' also protested the police attack on teachers and journalists.

Condemning the attack on journalists and teachers, the Biplobi Oikya Front said the VC and the proctor are trying to stay in power with the help of the police, BDR and the armed cadres of the ruling party.

The students of Biochemistry department of Dhaka University condemned the police attack on Prof Anwar Hossain, Chairman of the department, and demanded

punitive measures against the persons involved.

The Supreme Court Reporters' Association demanded withdrawal of the cases against the students who were protesting the Wednesday's police attack on the female students.

The Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, Bangladesh Workers Party, Bangladesh Chhatra Maitry, Odhiker, Jatiya Party, Sammitilo Ain-jibi Samannaya Parishad, BUET Teachers' Association, and Jahangirnagar University Teachers' Association condemned the police attack.

The Jatiya Ganotantrik Front, Jatiya Chhatra Dal, Colonel Taher Sangsad, Bangladesh Chhatra League, Bangladesh Chhatra Federation, Jatiya Gano Front and Biplobi Oikya Front also protested the incidents.

Teachers, parents urged to be proactive

Information to adolescents on reproductive health issues

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a workshop said teachers and parents should be more proactive in providing proper information to adolescents on Reproductive Health issues to avert confusion and complexities due to physical and mental changes.

This was stated in an interactive half-day workshop organised by UN Population Fund (UNFPA) at IDB Bhaban here yesterday.

Around 65 students from different schools, colleges and madrasahs in and around the capital and their parents and teachers participated in the workshop and

shared their views on reproductive health (RH) and family life education issues.

Purpose of the workshop was to hear from the youngsters how they want to handle their RH education and how they plan and work about the issue. It has also an objective to avert their confusion on RH issues and keep them safe from any risk.

The participants in an open discussion suggested use of all possible communication channels in this regard with a view to creating environment for adolescents.

The adolescents, however, shared their worries and anxieties, which they face at this age while parents expressed their difficulties dealing with the adolescents.

Instruction to ensure salaries of govt employees on August 1

The CGA at a meeting yesterday gave necessary instructions to ensure the payment of salaries of all government officials and staff on August 1, says a press release.

Different issues including creation of 51 new Chief Accounts Offices were discussed in the meeting.

Asif Ali, the Controller General of Accounts, presided over the meeting of all Chief Accounts Officers in the CGA's conference room.

Additional CGA Kaji Shafiqul Azam, Chief Accounts Officer, Health & Family Welfare, Wazir Ahmed Fateh, Chief Accounts Officer, Home and Ekram Ahmed, Chief Accounts Officer, Information Md Golam Sarwar Bhuiyan, among others, attended the meeting.

JPP concerned

BSS, Dhaka

Jatiyatabadi Peshajibee Parishad (JPP) yesterday expressed concern over the recent police attack on a Dhaka University women's dormitory.

The JPP also condemned the conspiracy being hatched by different quarters against the government centring the manhandling of female students by the police.

Since installation of the four-party alliance government this identified quarters were out to embarrass the government in various ways.

"This vested quarters are again indulged in heinous conspiracy against this government using of abuse of female students of Dhaka University as a pretext."

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Apply by August 07, 2002 at Manager (Admn.) B4 Madison Apartment, Road # 18, House # 27B, Block B, Banani, Dhaka-1213.
Please mark the Envelope seeking the desired post.



The Dhaka University Journalists' Association took out a procession on the campus yesterday protesting police attack on the newsmen.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer, DPHE
Noakhali Division, Noakhali

- Use tubewell's water in both drinking and domestic purpose.
- Use sanitary latrine.
- Wash hand before eating and defecation with soap.

Tender Notice

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Government of Denmark decide to consider the implementation of Arsenic Mitigation Project addition (AMP) covering Noakhali, Lakshmpur, Feni, Patuakhali and Barguna Districts in addition to the piped water supply components include sinking of hand tubewell's in Arsenic effected areas. Sealed tender in Bangladesh Form No. 2911 with requisite earnest money are hereby invited from the enlisted contractor of "D" category of DPHE (Renewed up-to-date) for the following works under ADP 2002-2003 in Noakhali District under DPHE Noakhali Division, the tender will be received in the office of the undersigned, the Project Director (Addl. Chief Engineer) DPHE DANIDA UWSSP, Dhaka and CPA, DPHE-DANIDA Project, DPHE Bhaban, Dhaka upto 1:00 PM 18.08.2002 and will be opened on 22.08.2002 at 11:00AM at the office of the undersigned in presence of the intending tender submitter or their representative who may like to remain present.

SL No	Name of works	No of Group	Category of Contractor
1.	Sinking of 38-mm dia deep hand tubewells in different Upazila of Noakhali District under DPHE-DANIDA Arsenic Mitigation Project (AMP) during the year 2002-2003.	38 Groups	"D" Category DPHE enlisted
2.	Sinking of 38-mm dia deep hand tube wells in different Upazila of Noakhali District under DPHE-DANIDA Water Supply and Sanitation Project (RWSSP) during the year 2002-2003.	39 Groups	"D" Category DPHE enlisted

1. Tender documents can be obtained from office of the undersigned, the Project Director (Addl. CE) DPHE-DANIDA Projects, DPHE Bhaban, Dhaka, on cash payment as per Govt. rate (non-refundable) during the office hours up to 14.08.2002.
2. Interested tender submitter may obtain further information from the office of the undersigned and also from the above said office.

Md. Nazmul Hoque
Executive Engineer, DPHE
Noakhali Division, Noakhali

DFP-18909-25/7/02
G-1944

SINGER
HALF YEARLY REPORT 2002

This is for the information of the Shareholders of Singer Bangladesh Limited that the unaudited financial statements of the Company for the half year ended 30 June 2002 have been sent to the Shareholders and Stock Exchanges on 29 July 2002.

Sd/-
Mohd. Sanaullah Dated: 30 July, 2002
Company Secretary 39 Dilkusha C/A,
Dhaka-1000

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EASTLAND CAMELLIA LIMITED
NOTICE
The half-yearly accounts to June 30, 2002 have been despatched to the Shareholders, DSE & SEC on 29th July 2002.

WANTED
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শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭
A lecturer in English with requisite qualifications & sound background in the subject is urgently required for appointment. Application with 2 (two) copies of recent passport size photographs and Bank Draft/Pay Order of Tk. 200/- in favour of Sonali Bank and also along with the necessary certificates, testimonials etc. must reach the college address as above by Aug 10, 2002.
Umme Kulsum Mannan
Principal

FEDERAL INSURANCE CO. LTD.
Chamber Building (2nd Floor)
122-124 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000
PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION
It is notified for kind information of the honorable shareholders of Federal Insurance Co. Ltd. that a dividend @ 10% for the year 2001 has been recommended in the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 29 July 2002. It is also decided that the 14th AGM of the Company will be held on 15 December 2002.
Abdul Haque FCA
Company Secretary

Congratulations

Amir Humayun Mahmud Chowdhury
for being elected as President
and
Md. Anwar Shawkat Afsar
as Director by a large margin in the election of
Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCCI)

Dr. Md. Pervez Shazzad Akter
Director - FBCCI
Bengal Bay Group of Companies Ltd
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Applicants meeting the above criteria are requested to apply with a complete CV mentioning names and addresses of two referees and with two recent passport size photograph to:
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