# NEWS

#### Harassment of female teacher

### JU disciplinary body meets tomorrow to decide student's fate

JU CORRESPONDENT

The Disciplinary Committee of Jahangirnagar University (JU) will meet tomorrow to decide the fate of a MSc examinee who physically harassed an female lecturer of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet, on the JU campus last month.

JU Vice Chancellor Prof Jasim Uddin Ahmad, who heads the disciplinary committee, will preside over the meeting.

Aminul, an MSc examinee under 1998-99 academic session from Statistics department, October 17 physically harassed the SUST lecturer, who is a former JU student of the department of Government and

Hearing her screams, students caught Aminul and handed him over to the provost of Meer Mosharraf Hossen Hall,

Shamsul Alam Selim, Aminul have a confessional statement to the provost. Aminul is a resident student of Al Beruni Hall.

Proctor Prof Mojibar Rahman, who is also a teacher at Statistics department, got Aminul released and issued a showcause notice on him on October 19, asking him to reply within one week.

Aminul gave his reply on October 30 in which he claimed that the allegation against him was not true and that the students who caught him forced him to give a confessional state-

Following the incident, the JU authorities postponed the MSc examinations of Statistics department for an indefinite

When contacted yesterday, a teacher at the department said the postponed examinations

### Al Qaida claims it carried out **Bali blast: CNN**

AFP, Hong Kong

The al-Qaida terrorist network has said it carried out last month's devastating bombing on the Indonesian resort island of Bali, CNN reported yesterday.

The group led by Osama bin Laden said it had attacked "nightclubs and whorehouses in Indonesia" in a web site message which was translated by CNN.com.

More than 190 people, mainly foreign tourists, were killed when a huge car bomb went off outside Bali's Sari nightclub on October

CNN said that the web site has been used in the past by al-Qaida to claim responsibility for attacks, including the synagogue fire in Tunisia in which mainly German tourists died, and strikes on two

"By attempting to strike a US plane in Saudi Arabia and by bombing a Jewish synagogue in Tunisia, destroying two ships in Yemen, attacking the Fialka base in Kuwait, and bombing nightclubs and whorehouses in Indonesia, al-Qaida has shown it has no qualms about attacking inside Arab and Islamic lands,' the statement said.

'This is provided that the target belongs to the Jewish-Crusader alliance," it added.

A spokesman for Bali-based multi-national investigation team which is hunting the perpetrators of the bombing said he had no information about the reported claim by al-Qaida.

"Our investigation has not yet reached a conclusion that far," General Edward Aritonang told AFP by phone from Bali.

Indonesian police said Thursday that a man now under interrogation has admitted being part of a group which carried out

the deadly Bali bombing.

National police chief Da'i Bachtiar, announcing an apparent major breakthrough after weeks of false leads, said the man identified as Amrozi was one of a group with various tasks concerning the bombing assigned to them.

Police have said that the Bali bombing contains the hallmarks of previous attacks carried out by the regional terror network Jemaah Islamiyah.

Indonesian police are currently questioning its alleged spiritual leader Abu Bakar Bashir over a series of church bombings on Christmas Eve 2000 and a plot to assassinate Megawati Sukarnoputri before she became president although he is not a suspect in the Bali bombing.

Indonesian police arrested Bashir after Omar al-Faruq, an alleged al-Qaida operative who is now in US custody, implicated him in terrorist operations in

Bashir is an avowed admirer of Osama bin Laden, who he sees as a "true Muslim fighter," although he has denied any links to terror-

#### ISPR clarifies

FROM PAGE 1 at Dhaka Medical College Hospital

on Thursday was not tortured during interrogation. He was picked up along with two

others on the night of November 2 and was released at 1:00pm on the following day. During interrogation he was not tortured. Rather, he seemed to be drunk. He was released after interrogation, the ISPR said.

It said the report Rashedul was neither taken in an autorickshaw and dropped in front of his house nor taken to Tejgaon thana.



France's Ambassador to the United Nations Jean-David Levitte votes in the Security Council for the US-backed resolution calling for weapons inspections in Iraq yesterday at UN headquarters in New York. The resolution passed unanimously, 15-0.

#### Hasina

The former prime minister said government of Bangabandhu and the 1996 AL government did many things for the cause of Islam and Muslims while the other governments exploited the religion for going to power.

In this context, she referred to the establishment of Madrassah Board and Islamic Foundation, and stopping alcoholism, gambling and horseracing. But other governments encouraged those anti-Islamic things, she said.

Criticising the government for price hike of essentials, Hasina said during her five-year rule price of essentials had been stable and now it has shot up abnormally. She called upon the government to bring down prices within the buying capacity of the people during Ramadan.

Awami League leaders Abdus Samad Azad, Zillur Rahman and Mohammad Hanif were present in the function. Madrassah Teachers' Association leaders Moulana Moslehuddin Ahmed and Moulana Mohammad Saiful Islam also spoke at the function.

#### Jubo Dal activist

Collage Students' Union.

Hossain was arrested from his father-in-laws residence at Tootpara Central Road in the city.

The joint forces also arrested JCD's City College unit president

Our Magura correspondent reported that army seized 12,000 smuggled Indian chocolate bombs from a Patuakhali-bound passenger bus at Bahina Square on the Magura-Faridpur highway yesterday afternoon.

The driver, supervisor, two helpers of the bus and a passenger were arrested and the bus (Khulna Ba-628) was seized. The arrested are Horendra Charan, Hemayet Hossian, Golam Rabbani, Arifuzzamn and Ramian Ali. They were handed over to Magura sadar

In Satkhira, army arrested eleven people including two alleged activists of outlawed Purba Bangla Communist Patry (PBCP) from Tala and Shyamnagar upzilas on Thursday night.

The arrested are Rabiul Islam, Mujibur Rahman, Mizanur Rahman Abdus Samad, Anwarul Islam Angur, Abdus Sattar, Siddigur Rahman, Golam Mostafa and Maruf Billah and alleged PBCP activists Abdul Gafur Sardar and Abdus Sabur Sardar.

They were handed over to Tala and Shyamnagar police stations after interrogation. Police later produced them before court, which sent them to jail.

In Narsingdi, army arrested Chakradha Union Parishad Chairman and local BNP leader Ariful Islam Mridha yesterday. He was released in the afternoon after

#### Patenga boozers

FROM PAGE 1

The contraband goods were dropped at the outer anchorage from cargo-ships at the Chittagong Port and were carried ashore to Patenga in mechanised boats, the sources said.

Some linchpins of the smuggling racket had imported contraband from abroad in ocean liners, the sources further said.

The consignments of contraband were trafficked to the Patenga seabeach and other areas in connivance with police and customs officials.

Meanwhile, the smugglers based in the city's main markets, including Reazuddin Bazaar, went

But one such smuggler, who was also ward commissioner of the Chittagong City Corporation, was

arrested in an army raid. Another smuggler known as a criminal godfather in Fatikchhari escaped an arrest-bid.

#### Dr Aftab murder

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the killers immediately. Finance Minister Saifur Rahman on September 17 ordered police to arrest the killers within seven days, but to no effect yet.

Several hartals were observed, processions brought out and rallies held at the upazila headquarters and at other places demanding arrest of the killers

Doctors at government and private hospitals observed strike and kept private practice suspended for three days in Sylhet district at the call of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA). BMA also handed over memoranda to the home minister and the health minister demanding arrest of the killers.

October 16 and 17 but postponed it when the finance minister assured the association of immediate arrest The BMA also organised agita-

BMA again called strike on

tion programmes in Dhaka city to press arrest of the killers. When contacted, the acting SP of Sylhet said there has been "progress" in the investigation and the DB

would be able to nab the killers soon. Later, two more lawmakers --Auranga and Khaleq-- were arrested -- on October 25 and

ship and having his "three Zedong's refrain "Let 100 flowers Represents" political theory, which bloom and 100 schools of thought sanctions admitting capitalists, contend" in a apparent appeal for academic and political openness.

A man sells shahi halim (a food of different ingredients) in front of a restaurant in the city yesterday. Its sales go high

Open doors to capitalists

Jiang echoed Chairman Mao

But police have thrown a tight security cordon around Beijing and detained a prominent democracy ened Chinese reporters with jail sentences for leaks about the highly secretive meeting.

Just before delegates arrived for the opening session, police detained two women who threw leaflets in the air outside the Great Hall of the People and grabbed the flyers from reporters before they could be read.

Moments earlier, they detained three women who tried to push their way to the entrance of the Great Hall in what appeared to be another protest.

Policy shifts

Jiang's speech was filled with political rhetoric but delegates, diplomats and China watchers scrutinised it for the slightest hint about the leadership change or a subtle shift in language which could indicate a major policy change.

Jiang said China and rival Taiwan should put aside political differences to resume talks, but upheld Beijing's right to use force against the island.

"One the basis of the one-China principle, let us shelve for now certain political disputes and

and negotiations as soon as possible." he said. Taiwan has been self-ruled since

resume the cross-strait dialogue

1949, when the Nationalist army lead by Chiang Kai-shek fled there to escape Mao Zedong's Communist forces, which seized control of mainland China

Beijing regards Taiwan as a rebel province that must be brought back into the fold, with force if necessary.

"Our position of never undertaking to renounce the use of force is not directed at out Taiwan compatriots. It is aimed at the foreign forces' attempts to interfere is China's reunification and the Taiwan separatist forces' schemes for 'Taiwan independence," Jiang said.

On the economy, he said China should expand reform of state companies, introducing more competition and keeping only a handful of firms under total government control.

The government would encourage urbanisation and agricultural investment to help people in the countryside -- where the majority of Chinese live and where the income gap with urbanites is gaping dangerously -- make more money, he said.

He also pledged to fight terrorism, official corruption and "evil cults." a term used before to describe the banned Falun Gong spiritual movement.

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Cantonment and the Badda police stations. A deputy secretary surrendered

Police Station Our Staff Correspondent in Khulna reports: Fifty-three 53 firearms were deposited with the five police stations in the city yester-

Of those, 17 were deposited with the Kotwali Police Station, 10 each with Sonadanga and Khalishpur, 14 with Daulatpur and two with

Our Barisal correspondent reported that 14 arms and 731 bullets were surrendered to the Kotwali Police Station yesterday.

The government on Monday issued an order asking all licensed arms holders across the country to deposit their arms with the police stations or the offices of deputy commissioners by November 15.

The government would take

legal action as per the Arms Act, 1978 against those failing to surren-

# 7-day deadline

"When this resolution passes, will be able to say that the United Nations has recognised the threat and we are going to work together to disarm him." Bush said.

Chirac's spokeswoman Catherine Colonna said the French leader "finalised an agreement" on the text during the call with Bush.

The measure gives Iraq seven days to confirm its intention of complying fully, and another 23 days to make a full declaration of its programmes to develop chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles.

Iraq had earlier said the US draft was "bound to fail" and that the United States was hell-bent on waging war. The US draft is full of hatred

and concealed aggressiveness, it says what we should do and what we should give, and in any case threatens the use of force," said the Babel newspaper, run by Saddam Hussein's eldest son After council members met late

Thursday, the US ambassador to the United Nations, John Negroponte, told reporters he sensed "broad support for the resolution.' At least nine positive votes are

required to adopt a resolution. Any of the five permanent members -Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States -- can veto a Syria, one of the countries

elected to sit on the council for two years, strongly suggested it would vote against the measure. "We have listened to the

amendments made by the US and the UK, and we have informed the council that we still have some remarks," Syria's deputy ambassador, Fayssal Mekdad, said. The resolution would impose

"very difficult and impossible conditions" on Iraq, he said. Syria had also hoped to introduce wording in favour of declaring the Middle East a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, he In Washington, US State

Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the United States maintained the right to present Iragi violations on their own without going through the UN arms inspectors or the IAEA.

Haggling among council diplomats over the point was a "red

"On any issue, any member of the council can report anything it wants and ask the council to look at it and decide what action is appropriate.

Also in Washington, the US State Department announced that Secretary of State Colin Powell met in Washington with the chief of Turkey's army to discuss several issues, including a possible military action against Iraq Powell and General Hilmi

Ozkok, the new chief of the Turkish General Staff, met on Tuesday, spokesman Richard Boucher said, noting that the two leaders "discussed a number of political and security issues of mutual concern, including Iraq, Cyprus, and Turkey's accession to the European Union.

But Boucher's had no specifics on the substance of Powell's meeting with Ozkok, who is in the United States at the invitation of General Richard Myers, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff. On Wednesday, Ozkok said the

United States should avoid waging war on Iraq, but dismissed any suggestion of a potential split between the two NATO allies. "Of course we have concerns. Our national policy on Iraq, which

is the only thing I can talk to you about, is that this business be resolved without a war," Turkey's Anatolia news agency quoted him Washington is keenly watching

the aftermath of Sunday's elections in Turkey which gave the Islamist-rooted Justice and Development Party (AK) an outright majority in the parliament and the chance to form a govern-The Pentagon is looking into

whether to vaccinate soldiers against smallpox, a spokesman said when asked about vaccination ahead of a possible war with The US Department of Defense "has been carefully assessing the

nel for some time," said spokesman Jim Turner, adding that "no final decision on smallpox policy has been made.' Turner refused to confirm press

issue of smallpox for his person-

reports that some 500,000 soldiers could be vaccinated

Washington fears that Iraq has undeclared stocks of smallpox that can be used as biological

# Role of orphanages

FROM PAGE 12

istration of these orphanages. Besides the 35 or so registered

non-government orphanages, there are three orphanages in the city that are managed by the government. One is located at Tejgaon with accommodation for 200 girls, the second one at Mirpur for 100 boys and the third one at Azimpur with separate facilities for 100 boys and 100 airls.

It is understood that in most of the orphanages, both government and non-government, facilities are provided for general and religious education as well as for vocational training in several trades. An inmate is allowed to stay in an orphanage until the age of 16 years or when he or she passes the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination. Inmates who acquire skills in some trade are helped by the orphanage authorities in obtaining employment outside.

In such an important sphere of social concern where the future of thousands of orphans are at stake. the efforts of the government alone in dealing with the issue of orphan welfare are not enough. Under the circumstances, it is of paramount importance that the affluent sections of the society come forward to render important financial help to the orphanages in their endeavour to provide the hapless children of the society with the necessary material and moral support to become worthy of citizens the country. In this context, it is also necessary to ensure that managers of orphanages do not deprive the orphans of their just needs. Also, there needs to be a mechanism in place, if one is not there already, to make sure that the funds placed at the disposal of the management of these institutions are not misused in any way, and regular

monitoring in this regard is essential. Another important social aspect that is becoming increasingly important in today's urban society is the need for providing daycare services for children whose both parents have to work and there is none at home to take care of them. The concept of davcare centre for children is comparatively new in our society. This new aspect of social service has emerged particularly in urban areas where more and more women, due to economic compulsions, are entering the workforce and working alongside their male counterparts in various occupations including office jobs. Many of these women are also mothers of one of more children and often find themselves at a loss when it comes to finding someone reliable to care for their children in their absence. Unfortunately, the culture of daycare centre has not developed much in our society, which could otherwise render a great service to working women by taking care of their children. In this context, the

need for setting up daycare centres

In recent years, the government has taken some steps for setting up davcare centres in various parts the city to help out working mothers. At present, there are reportedly eight daycare centres in Dhaka City. They are located at Azimpur, Kalyanpur, Mohammadpur, Moghbazar, Rampura, Jatrabari, Faridabad and

for children has become quite neces-

sary, and this should be addressed

both at government and private

the Bangladesh Secretariat. Except for the one at the secretariat, which has a capacity of 50, all the rest of the centres can accommodate 80 children. Children aged between six months and six years are allowed at these centres. The average annual cost of running each of these centres ranges from Tk 40,000 to Tk 45,000.

In addition, the government grants a monthly subsidy of Tk 800 for each child. The services offered by the daycare centres are preschool education, primary healthcare, provision for balanced food and arrangement for indoor games. The centre at the secretariat remains open from 9:00am to 5:30pm while the others remain open from 8:00am to 5:00pm. The officers and employees of the secretariat who entrust their children to the secretariat centre pay a monthly charge of Tk 300 per child, while the other centres charge Tk 30 each month for each child.

It is the general opinion of observers that these centres represent quite a limited government endeavour to provide welfare for children of working parents. Lately, there have been some private initiatives, although on a very small scale, to provide daycare

At present, around six daycare centres are operating in the city under private initiative. But these centres charge exorbitant rates for their services, which can be afforded only by the affluent sections of the society and is way beyond the means of many working mothers of the middle class.

There are many educated women in the society who could put their aptitude to good use by taking up daycare enterprises instead of remaining confined at home. Also, there are other qualified women who, for one reason or other, could not find employment in the service sector. Such women should consider a profession in providing daycare facilities, either on their own or through joint venture. Such ventures have the prospect of being highly successful in our emerging socioeconomic context. Besides the handsome payoffs for the entrepreneur, these daycare centres would also provide valuable social service.

# AL may agitate

Khan -- walked out of a parliamentary committee meeting following BNP lawmakers' refusal to adopt a resolution condemning army action regarding MPs. The AL termed the action 'infringement of privileges and dignity' of the legislators. The AL lawmakers met

written into the party constitution.

Jiang offered no clues about the

personnel changes, which have

been kept under tight wraps. The

final line-up will not be known until

the chosen ones emerge from

behind a screen in the Great Hall a

day after the congress ends on

But in a break from precedent, he

reviewed the 13 years since he took

power after the 1989 Tiananmen

Square demonstrations ended in

rather than the usual five since the

Jiang said the party should recruit

"mainly from among workers, farm-

ers, intellectuals, servicemen and

cadres, thus expanding the basic

component and backbone of the

advanced elements of other social

strata who accept the party's

programme and constitution in

order to increase the influence and

rallying force of the party in society

act fully on his "Three Represents"

He also urged party delegates to

"We should never copy any

models of the political system of the

"We should admit into the party

Revamping the party

bloodshed and a leadership purge,

November 14

last congress.

Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar on October 23 and handed over to him a memorandum following the arrest of party leaders and former ministers Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, MP, and Saber Hossain Chowdhury during the ongoing drive.

The memorandum termed unprecedented the recent raids on houses of some lawmakers without any warrants or specific charges. Referring to the arrest of Selim and Saber, it said they were taken to unknown destinations and asked irrelevant and irritating questions by unidentified people.

November 1 respectively.

AL sources said that against the backdrop of arrest of lawmakers and death of more than 20 people while in custody or after their release, the party would seek an explanation from the government in the coming parliament session about deployment of army and its action.

Talking to The Daily Star

recently, AL presidium member

Abdus Samad Azad expressed grave concern at the death of more than 20 people and arrest of parliament members. He mentioned the very short duration of the last session of the parliament and hoped that government would agree to a longer

duration of the coming session

so that "we can discuss the critical situation in the country.' Opposition whip Farug Khan told this correspondent he felt that the fifth session of parliament should continue for at least three weeks so that legislators get ample scope to discuss important issues of public inter-

## Licensed arms

his licensed gun to the Khilgaon

Khanjahan Ali police stations

According to official sources there are about 1,10,000 licensed arms in the country.

der their arms within the deadline