

## BCL protests arrest of writers, journalists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) staged a demonstration on the Dhaka University campus yesterday protesting the arrest of writers, journalists and intellectuals and violation of human rights across the country.

At a rally, the BCL leaders said that the BNP-led four-party alliance is giving shelter to the fanatics while trying to link the opposition party with the bomb blasts in Mymensingh.

They blamed the four-party alliance for the bomb blasts and demanded immediate resignation of the prime minister.

The leaders urged the students as well as common people to save the country from the heinous activities of Khaleda-Nizami alliance and force the government to quit.

Presided over by BCL vice-president Rafiqul Islam Kotawal, the rally was addressed by Marufa Akter Popy, Balaram Podder, Jahir Uddin Mahmud Lipton, Saifuzzaman Shekhor and Mainul Hossain Mustak.

The BCL also observed the Martyred Intellectuals Day recalling the supreme sacrifice of the illustrious sons of the soil to free the motherland and pledging to materialise their dream for a society free of exploitation and injustice.

The leaders, including BCL president Liakot Sikder and general secretary Nazrul Islam Babu, placed wreaths at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Mausoleum and at Rayerbazar Monument in the morning. They also placed wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu at the Bangabandhu Museum.

## 1400 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,399 more people, including eight listed criminals, from different parts of the country in last 24 hours ending at 6.00am yesterday.

They also seized nine firearms and 17 rounds of bullet and filed cases against nine people under the Arms Act, said an official handout.



President Iajuddin Ahmed stands in solemn silence after placing wreaths at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Memorial in the city yesterday on the occasion of Martyred Intellectuals Day.

## Govt to strengthen good governance

Bhuiyan tells regional workshop in city

BSS, Dhaka

Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives Secretary Dhiraaj Kumar Nath, CIRDP Director General Dr Mya Maung and the coordinator of the workshop Dr B Sudhakar Rao.

Bhuiyan said the government gave priority to human development as a fundamental requirement for building capacity and empowering civil society. It placed emphasis on judicial reforms to establish a firmer basis for the rule of law and underpin accountability mechanism and on building civil society to help articulate and empower the "voice" of ordinary citizens in demanding better governance, he said.

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from the executive. Another cabinet body is working under his chairmanship to ensure good governance, he said.

Linking good governance with poverty eradication, Bhuiyan said the development priorities of the BNP government were moving inexorably to the formulation of efficient growth policies aimed at reducing poverty, particularly in rural areas.

"Rural development and poverty reduction constitute the major agenda by our government policies and programmes," he said, adding, "It is also important basis of our planning process."

Referring to the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy, Bhuiyan said it was aimed at expanding the scope for pro-poor economic growth, fostering human development of the poor, providing social safety nets against unanticipated shocks and strengthening participatory governance and enhancing the voice of the poor.

Stressing the need for institution building for good governance, the LGRD minister said the government decided to constitute village government and empower them with adequate resources and responsibilities.

"It is needless to say that poor governance has harsh impact on the poor people who are least able to depend for themselves because they are lacking in resources and the knowledge to assert their rights," Bhuiyan said.

"In fact, good governance is sine qua non for empowerment of rural poor people," he said. He also stressed the importance of transparency and accountability for good governance. "Transparency is the handmaid of accountability," he added.

Bhuiyan also stressed the need for broadening partnership to meet challenges for poverty reduction.

"Regional cooperation is also needed to nurture and enhance economic and social development, environmental protection and protection against crime and terrorism," he said.

In his welcome address, Maung said the issues related to gender, environment, income and employment, growth, society and politics were parts of the process of good governance.

Fourteen participants from 11 countries, including one from Bangladesh, are taking part in the four-day workshop.



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina along with party leaders places wreaths at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Memorial in the city yesterday.

## CU JCD council today

## Rival factions at loggerheads

CU CORRESPONDENT

Differences between the rival factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), Chittagong University (CU) unit, came to the fore ahead of its biennial council beginning at 11.00 am today.

A row appears to be brewing with the rival factions of JCD locking horns over the sharing of posts in its new committee to be announced at the council. The leaders and activists feared the dispute might lead to bloody clashes.

Aman Ullah Aman, state minister for health, will attend the council as chief guest while convener of the JCD Shahab Uddin Laltu will inaugurate it on the CU campus.

Meanwhile, the prospective candidates have been lobbying the high-ups for desired posts in the new committee.

The prospective candidates for the post of JCD president are Mohammad Selim, Ferdous Morshed Khan, Rezaun Siddique Ujjal and Shorab Hossain Shohel while Khoshe Alam and MR Chowdhury Milton are the contenders for the post of general secretary.

According to sources, the rival factions and the members of the convening committee of the JCD CU unit are at loggerheads over the formation of the hall and faculty committees.

The three joint secretaries of the convening committee, out of five, alleged that convenor Mo-

hammad Selim has already formed the six hall and faculty committees of the university unit without any consultation with them and sent the copies of the committees to the press.

"He announced the committees illegally and sent copies of the committees to the press without unanimous approval of the joint secretaries of the convening committee," one of the joint secretaries said yesterday, preferring anonymity.

Many devoted leaders and workers did not get any post, they said.

"Even some Shibir activists have also been inducted into these committees," another joint secretary alleged.

The Shibir activists are Baitul-hab, member secretary of the Shaheed Abdur Rob Hall committee, Saju, convener of the Alaol Hall

committee, and Ruhul Amin and Saiful Uddin, member secretaries of the law faculty committee.

When contacted, President of Islami Chhtra Shibir (ICS) of CU unit Didarul Alam Majumder said, "Not only Shibir activists, but also leaders and workers of other student organisations have been on the JCD of CU unit."

The joint secretaries also accused the JCD convener of nepotism. He inducted his relatives into the Pritilata and Shamsunahar hall committees, depriving the genuine leaders and workers, they said.

The leaders are also divided over the process of forming the new committee. One group want that the quality of leadership be taken into account during selection of leaders while the other group favours election.

## Muktijuddher Bijoy Utsab begins in Ctg today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An 11-day long Muktijuddher Bijoy Utsab begins in the port city today.

The colourful fair is being held at the huge space of Chittagong Outer Stadium on the occasion of the Victory Day.

Ridwan Ahmed, state minister for Liberation War Affairs, along with the mother of a martyred freedom fighter, will formally inaugurate the utsab at 4.00pm.

Mir Md Nasir Uddin, state minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism, will attend the inaugural ceremony as chief guest.

Chittagong City Commands of Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad (BMS) have organised the utsab under the supervision of the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs.

On the eve of the festival, leaders of the Muktijuddher Bijoy Utsab Committee held a press conference yesterday afternoon to explain the aims and objectives of the fair and highlight the programmes.

They said there would be subject-wise discussion on the Utsab Mancha (Festival Platform) every day to highlight post-liberation achievements in different fields of national life.

Noted personalities, veteran freedom fighters and political leaders have been invited to take part in the discussion.

Besides, cultural programmes will also be held everyday. Chairman of the 101-member Utsab Committee Lt Col (Retd) Ziauddin read out a written statement at the press conference.

Replying to a question he said the utsab has been organised without any party affiliation.

A total of 116 make-shift stalls have been erected in the fair premises.

Meanwhile, Muktijuddher Bijoy Utsab is being held in front of Chittagong Stadium Gymnasium Complex and its adjoining areas this year.



BNP Secretary General and LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan places wreaths at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Memorial on behalf of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday on the occasion of Martyred Intellectuals Day.

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Please Contact for Details: Academic Affairs Division, IIUC  
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**Sargodhians-Lowertopians**

**Eid Reunion & AGM 2002**

Venue : Kurmitola Golf Club, Dhaka.  
 Date & Time : Sunday 22 Dec. 2002.  
 Registration : 6:30 PM-7:00 PM (Additional voluntary contribution will be welcomed).  
 AGM : 7:00 PM-8:30 PM.  
 Dinner : 8:30 PM - 9:00 PM  
 Cultural Programme : 9:00 PM.  
 Attendance : Sargodhians-Lowertopians with spouse.

Please confirm your attendance by 20th Dec. 2002 to the following numbers:  
 9555100, 0171804456 (M.A. Malik); 9885643, (Gp Capt Afiaz); 8018609, 8825436, 0171049104 (Capt Yousuf); 9133973, 011014450 (Wg Cdr Khalil); 9882334, 0171-564616 (Sirajul Karim); 9887635, 0171822123 (Amin Sadi).

**পুরস্কার বিতরণী অনুষ্ঠান NIDO - 2000**

**গল্প মেথো... গল্প জেগো**

প্রতিযোগিতা ২০০২

বিজয়ী 'ক' গ্রুপের ১০ জন এবং 'খ' গ্রুপের ১০ জনকে অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হচ্ছে।

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