

## Teachers allowed a second job

### DU syndicate meet held

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) authorities have decided to allow its teachers to do extra-departmental jobs after taking prior permission.

The decision was taken at a syndicate meeting of the university on Sunday with Vice-Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz in the chair.

According to the decision, interested teachers would be allowed to extra-departmental job including consultancy for six hours a week with 10 per cent overhead charge.

This charge, however, would not be applicable for the teachers

### BSP team meets Saifur

BSS, Dhaka

A delegation of the Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad (BSP) led by its President Barrister Moinul Hossain called on Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman at his office yesterday.

The delegation members thanked the finance minister for payment of outstanding government advertisement bills to the newspapers.

They also discussed with the finance minister different issues related to interest of the newspaper industry.

who are on deputation in government or semi-government organisations with national pay scale.

Around 400 DU teachers are doing consultancy at different organisations including private universities, NGOs without the permission of the authorities.

A five-member committee was formed with Pro-Vice-Chancellor Prof Yusuf Haider on May 21 this year to formulate a policy on the consultancy of the teachers.

### Forced leave withdrawn

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) authorities at a syndicate meeting on Sunday withdrew the forced leave of a teacher of mass communication and journalism department.

DU authorities gave the forced leave to Prof Sheikh Abdus Salam after a female student of the same department brought an allegation of sexual harassment against him on June 24 last year.

A five-member probe committee, headed by Treasurer Prof Syed Rashidul Hasan, investigated the allegation and found nothing against the teacher.

Prof Salam, however, will not be allowed to take any classes of that female student and handle any administrative work of the department as well as university.



Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon stages a demonstration at Mirpur yesterday protesting logging of trees in the area.

PHOTO: STAR

## Politicisation cripples education system

### Non-govt college teachers say

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers of non-government colleges yesterday said 'bureaucratic assault' on and 'aggressive politicisation' of academic institutions have crippled the education system.

They called for reforms in the education sector and an end to the discrimination between government and non-government teachers.

At a press conference, the leaders of Bangladesh National Front of Teachers and Employees also placed their eight-point demand including full pension through the welfare trust, formulation of an up-to-date examination policy, and withdrawal of education board fee hike.

They called on the government to form an education reform committee comprising experts and teachers' association representatives.

The leaders said no teacher should be dismissed on the basis of students' result in the public exams.

Demanding measures to modernise the examination system, they said the institutions' internal examinations should also be evaluated.

They said various government measures in the education sector were 'outdated, inconsistent and politically motivated', which deprived the non-government teachers and employees of their due privileges.

Principals of 13 colleges in Dhaka city alone have been suspended with political motive, they alleged.

"Education Ministry's various orders, circulars and notes have virtually taken away the administrative authority of managing bodies of non-government schools and colleges, creating an anarchic situation," said Principal Quazi Faruque Ahmed, convener and coordinator of the Front.

Faruque cited two cases in Kapasia and Shariatpur, in which leaders of a certain political party head the college managing committees.

Principal Kamruzzaman, Md Shahjahan, Md Azizul Islam, Principal Md Abdus Sattar, Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, and M Arzu were also present at the press conference.

## South Asian Farmer Confce begins today

BSS, Dhaka

A two-day South Asian Farmer Conference begins in the city today.

Organised by the Bangladesh Farmer Federation (BFF), the conference will be held at the auditorium of Women's Voluntary Association, House-20, Road-16 (New), Dhanmondi.

General Secretary of BFF and coordinator of eight organisations Badrul Alam will speak on the occasion.

Central and district leaders of BFF and representatives from different farmer and 'Khetmozur' organisations from Bangladesh and SAARC countries will attend the conference.

Problem, struggle and experience of the South Asian farmers will be discussed in the conference.

The conference will end on July 30 with adopting the 'Dhaka Declaration.'



Bangladesh Chhatra Moitry organised an exhibition of photographs on the Dhaka University campus yesterday to commemorate last year's police atrocities on the students of Shamsunnahar Hall.

PHOTO: STAR

## DHAKA TODAY

### Poetry festival

A monsoon poetry festival, organised by Puber Howa, a literary and cultural organisation, will be held with poet Jahanara Arzu as chief guest. Venue: Eastern University auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.30pm.

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen a feature film titled 'Before the rain'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

### Council

The Central Council 2003 of Bangladesh Krishak League will be held with Awami League President Sheikh Hasina as chief guest. Venue: Mohanagar Natyamancha, Gulistan. Time: 10.00am.

### Lottery

The draw of Shishu Swasthya Foundation, Bangladesh lottery will be held with State Minister for Fuel and Mineral Resources Mosharrar Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Foundation office, Mirpur Section-2. Time: 5.00pm.

### Childpex-2003

The inaugural ceremony of a three-day postage exhibition titled 'Childpex-2003', organised by Philatelists' Association of Bangladesh, will be held with Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: GPO auditorium. Time: 11.00am.

### Discussion

A discussion on 'Science in history', organised by the Organisation for spreading the light of science and civilisation among the people, will be held. Venue: Atomic Energy Commission. Time: 3.00pm.

### Meeting

An opinion sharing meeting on the accountability of health services for women, organised by Naripakkhya, an organisation for women, will be held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharrar Hossain as

chief guest. Venue: CIRDP auditorium, Tophkana Road. Time: 10.00am.

### Farmers' conference

The inaugural session of South Asian Farmers' Conference, organised by Bangladesh Krishak Federation, will be held. Venue: WVA auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 9.00am.

### Rotary meeting

Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Sonargaon Dhaka will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5.30 pm.

## DHAKA TOMORROW

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen a feature film titled 'Ghost Ship'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

### Convocation

The second convocation of Asian University of Bangladesh will be held with President Iazuddin Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 10.00am.

### Discussion

A discussion on 'Significant issues of local government and possible future actions', organised by Democracywatch, will be held. Venue: CIRDP auditorium, Tophkana Road.

### Memorial meeting

Bangladesh Science Writers and Sangbadik Forum organises a meeting in memory of Prof Md Abdul Kader, an IT pioneer and founder of monthly Computer Jagat. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 3.30pm.

### Lecture

Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh organises a lecture session on the occasion of its 20th founding anniversary. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 9.15am.

## British official calls on Reaz

UNB, Dhaka

Tom Phillips, Director for South Asia in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the UK, called on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Reaz Rahman yesterday and discussed matters of bilateral interests. They discussed ways to further boost economic cooperation between the two countries.

The forthcoming Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association scheduled to be held here in October also came up for the discussion.

UK and Bangladesh are cooperating in various fields including development cooperation, trade, investment, education, culture, defence and counter-terrorism.

UK is the third largest destination of Bangladesh's export, which amounted to 648 million US dollar in the fiscal 2001-02. Britain is also the fourth largest development partner of Bangladesh.

## Rajshahi city BCL council today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

After nearly eight years, the council of Rajshahi city unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) will be held today.

The inaugural session will be held at the district council auditorium in the morning with city BCL Convener Abdul Momin in the chair.

Former vice-chancellor of Rajshahi University and AL's advisory committee member Prof Abdul Khaleque, and AL central member AHM Khairuzzaman Liton will be present as special guests.

## Obituary

UNB, Dhaka

Dr M Abdul Berek, a first batch student of Chittagong Medical College, died of a cardiac arrest here on July 23 at the age of 70.

Dr Berek had worked 28 years in Saudi Arabia and went on retirement as Deputy Director of Jeddah Chest Diseases Hospital.

He left behind his wife, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

KIM Golam Rabbani



says a press release.

He is survived by two sons and six grandchildren.

His kulkhwani will be held at Concorde Terrace, House # 21, Road # 32, Gulshan Avenue, after Maghrib prayers on July 31.

## Save Ruma, Nadim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The father of two children who have been suffering from thalassaemia seeks financial assistance for their treatment abroad.

Ruma, 12, and Nadim, 10, have been suffering since they are six months old. Ruma is the first girl of class five in Ekrampur Govt. Primary School and his brother is a student of class three of the same school.

"I have spent a lot of money on their treatment in the last ten years, and I need Tk 35 to 40 lakh for their treatment abroad. But I am not in a position to afford such expensive treatment," said their father M Rafiq, a small vegetable trader.

"We want to live a normal life; we want to go to school like others with the help of the people," said Ruma.

Rafiq said he has to spend Tk 6,500 every month for their treat-



Nadim Ruma

ment. They reside at 38/2 RM Das Road, Sutrapur Bazar in old part of Dhaka.

Interested persons have been requested to send contributions to the following account: M Rafiq, savings account No. 3752, Sutrapur branch, Pubali Bank Limited.



PHOTO: STAR

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed speaks at a protest meeting at the Supreme Court Bar Association hall room yesterday. The Ainjibi Oikya Parishad organised the meeting to protest the 'move to create division among the lawyers'.

## Rajshahi lawyers boycott courts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Lawyers of Rajshahi Bar Association (RBA) yesterday observed a daylong strike and staged a sit-in programme to protest what they said the government's adverse attitude towards the lawyers.

All the lawyers of the bar abstained from attending the courts and took part in the sit-in programme in front of the district judge's court.

They also took out a procession and held a rally on the court premises.

Later addressing a press conference, the lawyers demanded immediate withdrawal of compulsory submission of income tax return, imposition of VAT on lawyers and provision of trade license for them.

They also demanded refixation of taxable income limit from Tk 90,000 to Tk 200,000, and the minimum tax limit at Tk 1,200 in place of Tk 3,600.

RBA President Advocate Ekramur Rasul said the government has unwisely taxed lawyers who are engaged in serving the poor people.

RBA General Secretary Advocate Mohammad Yahia read out a written statement at the press conference.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions till 6pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over the country is expected during the period, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sayedpur and the lowest 25.0 degree at Chittagong, Rangpur, Cox's Bazar and Teknaf.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:43pm today and rises at 5:27 am tomorrow. Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.8	26.0	92	90
Chittagong	31.8	25.0	79	79
Rajshahi	32.8	26.6	97	72
Khulna	31.0	25.5	98	92
Barisal	30.0	25.5	96	94
Sylhet	31.6	25.5	83	92
Cox's Bazar	31.4	25.0	95	83