

# Integrate moral aspects in curriculum

President tells AUB second convocation

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday said education lacking moral and ethical standards can bring very little benefit to the society.

"All the moral aspects should be integrated in the curriculum of

higher learning", he told the second convocation of the Asian University of Bangladesh (AUB) at Osmany auditorium here.

Iajuddin said the institutions of higher learning should not be driven to commercially motivated subjects only, as this would lead students to

compartmental academic programmes and limit them in acquiring universal knowledge. He laid emphasis on the need to "educate our people and turn them into human resources that can help us develop our economy and living standards."

The president said the government had enacted the Private University Act in 1992 to allow establishment of private universities for expansion of higher education and "thus to save foreign exchange and to stop brain drain of our young generation."

He said: "Now we have a good number of private universities which have been imparting qualitative higher education in the country."

But he regretted that the academic atmosphere and physical facilities in such private universities were insufficient.

He urged the authorities concerned to think deeply regarding this matter to raise the academic standard of private universities.

The president, who is also the chancellor of AUB, congratulated the graduates of the university for their achievement.

Education Minister M Osman Farruk, State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon, University Grants Commission chairman Dr M Asaduzzaman, Dhaka University vice chancellor and convocation speaker Prof SMA Faiz, and AUB vice chancellor Prof. Dr. Abdulhasan M. Sadeq also spoke on the occasion.



PHOTO:PID

President Iajuddin Ahmed gives away gold medals and certificates yesterday among the students at the second convocation of the Asian University of Bangladesh.



## Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at most places over the country with moderately heavy to heavy fall at places till 6pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 32.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Khulna and the lowest 24.5 degree at Faridpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:43pm today and rises at 5:28 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	29.4	24.9	87	89
Chittagong	29.4	25.2	86	85
Rajshahi	28.6	26.0	96	98
Khulna	32.0	25.7	89	96
Barisal	30.4	26.0	90	100
Sylhet	29.4	26.6	92	97
Cox's Bazar	28.8	24.8	92	96



Charge d'Affaires of Chinese Embassy in Dhaka Duan Zhi Quan called on Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina at her Sudha Sadan residence yesterday.

# 3rd Int'l Confce of Asian political parties Hasina assures China of all cooperation

UNB, Dhaka

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League president Sheikh Hasina yesterday assured China of her full cooperation in holding the 3rd International Conference of Asian political parties in China next year.

Her assurance came when Charge d' Affaires of Chinese Embassy in

Dhaka Duan Zhi Quan called on the opposition leader at her Sudha Sadan residence in the morning and sought her cooperation.

They elaborately discussed various bilateral, regional and international issues.

As the Chinese Charge d' Affaires renewed invitation to Hasina to visit his country, the AL president assured him to visit China at a convenient time.

Referring to the existing friendly relation between China and Bangladesh, Hasina emphasised the need for making it stronger through bilateral cooperation, including joint investment.

Sheikh Rehana, AL presidium member Kazi Jafullah and AL president's press secretary Abul Kalam Azad were present at the meeting.

## AL presidium meets today

UNB, Dhaka

An emergency presidium meeting of the opposition Awami League will be held at its Dhanmondi office in the city at 5pm today.

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and AL President Sheikh Hasina will preside over the meeting.

# 'Reform UP system'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday laid emphasis on the reformation of union parishad (UP) system to ensure the rights and fulfillment of the needs of the people at grassroots level.

The discussion on 'Significant

issues of local government and possible future action' was based on the findings of a survey conducted by the Democracywatch in some union parishads of Mymensingh, Tangail and Gazipur districts.

Taleya Rehman, executive director of Democracywatch, chaired the discussion while Muhammad Jahangir, executive director of Centre for Development Communications, was the moderator.

Enam Ahmed Chowdhury, chairman of Privatisation Board, Jerina Rahman Khan, deputy chief of Associations in Rural Development (ARD), and Badrul Alam Majumder, country representative of Hunger Project spoke on the occasion.

Wazed Firoz, programme manager of Democracywatch, presented the keynote paper at the discussion. The survey revealed that people do not know much about the local government system. Besides, lack of fund, transparency and inefficiency of the chairmen and members have weakened the whole system.

Due to autocratic attitude of the chairmen, the members do not find interest in working with them. In many cases necessary standing committees are not formed. Local people and female members are also deprived of their participation in decision making process and development activities.

According to the survey, there is also lack of co-ordination as most of the chairmen and members are not aware about their duties and responsibilities. They are also inefficient in budgeting, asset management and planning.

Government authorities, NGO workers, and local member of parliaments do not discuss with them, said some of the chairmen and members who participated in the discussion.

They said the union parishad gets only TK 4 lakh annually and they do not have any other alternative sources of income to implement their development projects. Lack of

building is another big problem to house the office, they added.

Mahbubur Rahman Fakir, an UP chairman, demanded more financial power to implement development projects.

## Death anniversary



The third death anniversary of M D Lutfur Rahman, senior tax lawyer and a patron of Ghasful, will be observed today, says a press release.

A milad mahfil will be held at the Chittagong Income Tax Bar Association and Ghasful office in Chittagong after Asr prayers.

Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the milad and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



PHOTO:STAR

The students of science faculty of Dhaka University brought out a procession on the campus yesterday demanding implementation of their four-year honours degree as professional degree equivalent to previous three-year honours and one year masters degree.

## DHAKA TODAY

### Concert

Lever Brothers Bangladesh celebrates the Prometheus's 18 years by organising a special concert titled 'Close Up Prometheus Moment'. Venue: Winter Garden of Sheraton Hotel. Time: 7.00pm.

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen two feature films titled 'Chandni Bar' and 'Dr No'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

### Discussion

A discussion on the 'Use of IT in microfinance sector', organised by Credit and Development Forum, will be held. Venue: IDB Bhaban conference room, Agargaon. Time: 12.00 noon.

### Multimedia workshop

A free workshop on Multimedia, organised by the British Council, will be held. Venue: British Council Library, Fuller Road. Time: 3.30pm.

### IT seminar

A seminar on the 'Quality of IT and business education and the changing trends in the job market', organised by Dhaka campus of the University of Comilla, will be held. Venue: House-33, Road-4, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.30pm.

### Publication ceremony

National Writers Unity organises the publication ceremony of a book titled 'Bangladesh Nazrul 111 Nazrul Bangladesh' authored by Abdul Hye Shikdar. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4.00pm.

### MSS seminar

A seminar on 'Brick field and its ill effect on environment', organised by Manabik Sahajya Sangstha (MSS), will be held. Venue: MSS conference room, Banani. Time: 9.30am.

### Workshop

A workshop on 'Treatment of chronic hepatitis B', organised by Bangladesh Association for Prevention and Treatment of Liver Disease, will be held. Venue: Association office, Elephant Road. Time: 4.00pm.

### Reunion

The reunion of BUET 88 Club will be held. Venue: BUET auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.

### Installation ceremony

The installation ceremony of the newly appointed office bearers of Lions Clubs International District 315-B1, Bangladesh will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 9.00am.

### BRAC seminar

A seminar on 'Binary Pulsars and Gravitational Waves', organised by BRAC University, will be held. Venue: University campus, Mohakhali. Time: 3.30pm.

### Lecture

A lecture on the 'Awareness and salvation in respect of earthquake', organised by Bangladesh Earthquake Society, will be held. Venue: BRAC University, Mohakhali. Time: 3.30pm.

### Medal giving ceremony

Sargam Lolitkala Academy organises a function to award medal to four noted singers. It will be followed by a musical soiree. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm.

## DHAKA TOMORROW

### Film show

Academy Film Society will screen two feature films titled 'Four Feathers' and 'Pretty Woman'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

### Movie show

Alliance Francaise will screen a film titled 'Yamakasi, les samourais des temps modernes' directed by Ariel Zeitoun (2000). Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium, Mirpur Road. Time: 10.30am and 6.00pm.

### Cultural programme

The annual cultural programme of Newcastle Law Academy will be held with Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 5.00pm.

### Seminar

A seminar on the 'Role of Bangladesh immigration lawyers towards immigration laws of different countries of the world', organised by Bangladesh Immigration Lawyers' Samity, will be held. Venue: Supreme Court Bar auditorium. Time: 5.00pm.