



Osmany's death anniversary today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 20th death anniversary of the Supreme Commander of the War of Liberation General MAG Osmany will be observed today in a befitting manner.

In observance of the day, different political and socio-cultural organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes, including placing wreaths at his portrait and discussion meetings.

Bangabir Osmany Smriti Parishad will organise a discussion meeting on "Role of Leadership in Preventing Corruption and Criminal Activities," at Osmany Smriti auditorium at 6.00 pm today.

Science, Information and Communication Technology Minister Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan, Gono Forum President and convenor of Oikyo Prochesta Dr Kamal Hossain, Awami League Presidium Member Abdur Razzak MP, Krishak Samik Janata League President Kader Siddiqui, former advisor of the caretaker government Major Gen (Rtd) Moinul Hossain, and Manabjamin Editor Matuir Rahman Chowdhury will take part in the discussion.



S K Achary, professor of Gastroenterology of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi addresses the 11th Annual Convention of Bangladesh Gastroenterology Society at Hotel Sheraton in the city yesterday.

JCD cadres beat up, shave 2 at JU

JU CORRESPONDENT

Cadres of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at Jahangirnagar University (JU) yesterday beat up a student and shaved another's head and beard for his alleged involvement in tempting a girl to smoke.

Unprovoked, the cadres assaulted and beat up Barin Ghosh, a masters student of drama and dramatics department and resident of Shaheed Salam Barkat (SSB) Hall, at around 4:00pm at the hall.

When Paul James Gomage, masters student of anthropology department, attempted to save Barin, the JCD cadres led by Anik of dramatics department and Zia of government and politics department beat up Paul and took him to Meer Musharrarf Hossain (MMH) Hall.

They kept Paul confined till 6:00pm, beat up him with rod and hockey stick and shaved his head and beard for his enticement of a girl into smoking at Transport area at

noon.

Both the victims received first aid at the university medical centre.

"The girl smoked on her own. I didn't tempt her," said Paul.

The victims submitted written allegations to the proctor, SSB and MMH hall provosts and chairmen of their departments.

The incident drew huge attention of the general students and an uneasy atmosphere is prevailing on the campus.

The students in protest besieged the VC's residence till filing of this report at 10:30pm and demanding punishment of the JCD cadres in three days.

'Create congenial atmosphere to bring investors'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

US Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of South Asian Affairs, Michele J Sison yesterday urged all parties concerned to help create a congenial atmosphere to bring investors in the country amid good governance.

Sison, who arrived in the city on a two-day visit on Saturday, was talking to the press at the USIS office at Banani.

"When freedom of expression leads to retreat of the investors then the whole thing needs to be reviewed," she said hinting at the prevailing political unease in the country.

Sison said the US was interested in investing in Bangladesh.

Besides, it also wanted to help civil societies and political parties promote transparency and good governance, she added.

Sison said she had met with a high level delegation of the main opposition party Awami League led by General Secretary Abdul Jalil.

"I told them that the US was committed to working with the people of Bangladesh and asked them what they would do when they would be back to power," she continued.

"There was a consensus among AL leaders and the government in terms of vision of broader outlines," she said.

When asked about US agenda on the natural resources of Bangladesh, Sison replied that it was entirely up to the people of this country to decide what to do with 'this wonderful resource they have'. But there are always some companies to help in this regard, she added.

About her meeting with Home Minister Altaf Hossain Chowdhury, the State Department official said the law and order was the foremost concern for creating a favourable investment climate.

"The huge workforce is the greatest strength of Bangladesh and now we focus on the rule of law

and a good judiciary which are very vital" Sison said.

"Much can be resolved through dialogue," she replied when asked whether the US was trying to mediate between the opposition and the ruling party.

She praised the role of Bangladesh in international peace

keeping. Sison said as partners, problems of international money laundering and financing terrorism could also be addressed.

"We have to talk to Bangladesh more often and I can assure you that there would be more frequent official US visits to this country," she added.

JS passes two bills

UNB, Dhaka

Two bills-Court Management and Administrative Reforms Implementation (supplementary provision) Bill, 2004 and Arbitration (Amendment) Bill, 2004-were passed in parliament last night. The bills, piloted by Law Minister Moudud Ahmed, were passed unanimously in absence of opposition Awami League and Jatiya Party (Ershad).

The Court Management and Administrative Reforms Implementation (supplementary provision) Bill, 2004 is aimed at ensuring speedy and easy disposal of civil suits at minimum cost.

Keeping that in mind, the law ministry is implementing the Legal

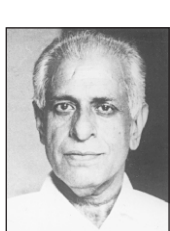
Capacity Building Project in which court administration, case management reforms and introduction of information technology are included.

Narrating the aims and objectives of the Arbitration (Amendment) Bill, 2004, the law minister told the House that desired results had been found in the arbitration system after the law was introduced in 2001.

But in the law there was no provision for setting up of arbitration tribunal and giving interim order about any matters in agreement by the court.

This law had been brought only to ease the system and would remain in force for two years, the minister added.

Death anniversary



Today is the 14th death anniversary of the pioneer of drama and satire in Bangladesh Natyaguru Nurul Momen, says a

press release.

On this occasion, NTV will telecast a programme on the life and works of professor Nurul Momen in its programme 'Aiker Shokal' at 8:00 am today.

President of 'Natyaguru Nurul Momen Academy' Mahmud Nurul Momen will answer questions on the Natyaguru.