PCJ PROTESTS JCD ATTACK AT CU

Strike at educational instts tomorrow

DU CORRESPONDENT

Progatishil Chhatra Jote (PCJ), a combine of left-leaning student organisations, has called a strike at all educational institutions for tomorrow protesting Thursday's attack on its leaders and activists by the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on Chittagong University (CU) campus.

At a press conference yesterday, the PCJ leaders also demanded immediate arrest of and punishment to the JCD activists responsible for the attack, resignation of the CU vice-chancellor and proctor and a ban on religion-based politics.

Protesting the recent police action on the students of Chittagong and Dhaka universities, they demanded punishment to the policemen responsible, arrest of the culprits involved in the attack on prominent writer Prof. Humayun Azad and immediate release of its president Khaleguzzaman Lipon.

The student organisation will stage demonstrations in all educational institutions today to press home its demands.

President of Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) Luna Noor read out a written statement at the press conference held at the Dhaka University Journalists' Association office

PCJ leaders Baki Billah, Mosharraf Hossain, Ziaul Haque Zia, Abu Sufian, Golam Rabbi Khan and Abu Naser Babu were also present. Bangladesh Jubo Union, meanwhile, condemned the JCD attack on

yesterday, the Union President BM Shahidul Haque and General Secretary Mahbubul Islam demanded immediate arrest of and punishment to the JCD cadres.

They also urged the youth community to be united to resist such

Over 1,300 held, 12 firearms recovered

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,316 people including a listed criminal, during their ongoing countrywide drive in the last 24 hours ending at 6.00am yesterday.

They also recovered 12 firearms nine other weapons and 28 rounds of bullets. Eight cases were filed against 10 people under the Arms Act, said a police headquarters release.



Prof. Dr Siraiul Islam, dean of business studies faculty. Dhaka University. Prof. Dr Durga Das Bhattacharya were also present.

Art competition

held to mark the World Health Day.

State Minister for Health and Family

BANDHU art

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an

River conference

An international conference on 'Regional cooperation in transboundary rivers: The impact of the Indian River Linkage Scheme' will be held. Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity auditorium, Time: 10,00am

Rotary discussion

Rotary International organises a discussion on 'Bangladesh business scenario in post MFA era' with MCCI President Kutubuddin Ahmed as guest speaker. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 6.45pm.

Rotary Dhaka Central Weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of

Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1.30pm.

Rotary North West

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

AGM

The annual general meeting of Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association will be held. Venue:

In a statement



inaugurates the reunion of Management Net, an organisation of former students of management department, on the faculty premises yesterday. Prof. Dr MA Mannan, chairman of management studies department, and

Association auditorium. Time: 4.15pm.

Left Gonotantrik Front organises a rally

demanding a ban on communal politics.

DHAKA

A seminar on 'Parliamentary oversight

and government accountability in

Bangladesh: The role of the standing

committee on ministries' will be held

with Speaker Mohammad Jamiruddin

Sircar as chief guest. Venue: Sheraton

be held. Venue: WVA auditorium.

Venue: Muktangan. Time: 3.00pm.

Seminar

Hotel. Time: 10.00am

Rally

An art competition for the children will be

Welfare Mizanur Rahman Sinha will inaugurate. Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy. Time: 3.00pm.

competition

A children's art competition on bird, organised by Belfry Activists for Nations Development and Human Unison (BANDHU), will be held. Venue: Zoology department of Dhaka University. Time: 3.30pm.

American film titled 'The Matrix Workshop Revolution' (2003). Venue: Society The opening ceremony of a two-day auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: workshop on 'Violence-dependent commerce, democracy and the rights of the poor', organised by Nijera Kori, will

Dhanmondi. Time: 9.30am

BSEHR workshop The Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) organises a workshop on 'Women trafficking and repatriation'. Venue: Seminar room of the society, Monipuripara. Time: 10.30am.

Roundtable Bangladesh Mahila Parishad will hold a roundtable on direct election to reserve seats for women in parliament. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 10.00am.

Get-together

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad organises a get-together to mark its 34th founding anniversary. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time:

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen a Brazilian film titled 'City of God' (2003). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm



Dhakabashi, an organisation of the people of Dhaka, took out a colourful procession in the city yesterday demanding issuance of licence by the city corporation to horse-drawn carriage, a traditional transport of Dhaka.

Political will a must to check human trafficking

Speakers tell regional workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Political will and regional cooperation are a must to check trafficking in women and children, speakers said at a workshop in the city yesterday.

They also called for raising awareness in the grassroots level and bringing about socio-economic changes to combat the growing

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) organised the regional workshop on 'Prosecution of women and child traffickers' at the Brac Centre Inn at

AF Hassan Ariff as chief guest. The attorney general suggested involving the local government

Mohakhali, with Attorney General

representatives in the fight against trafficking in women and children.

Carol Horning, an USAID official, Advocate Salma Ali, executive director of BNWLA, and representatives from India and Pakistan also spoke in the opening session of the workshop, presided over by Advocate Sigma Huda, president of

Death in road accident sparks violent protest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The death of a college student in a road accident in the city's Tilagarh area triggered a violent protest

Sadhan Chandra Sarker, a student of the MC College, was crushed under the wheels of a speeding truck when he tried to cross the road at about 10.00am. He died on the spot and the driver sped away

Agitated students put up a barri-

UNB. Dhaka

office said.

tomorrow.

Citv/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Raishahi

Khulna

Barisal

Svlhet

Dhaka

next 12 hours till 6.00pm today.

some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Thundershowers likely

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally

wind is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Comilla, Jessore and Kushtia during the

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country, Met

Yesterday's highest temperature of 35.4 degree Celsius was

The sun sets in the capital at 6.16pm today and rises at 5:47am

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in

Min

20.3

20.6

22.3

23.3

22.5

19.9

21.0

Temperature

in Celsius

Max

32.3

32.0

32.5

34.5

33.2

32.8

recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 17.8 degree Celsius at

cade on Sylhet-Tamabil highway and went on a rampage. About 20 minibuses and trucks were damaged

during the three-hour road blockade. The barricade was removed at around 1.00pm following the intervention of police, college authorities and

administrative officials. The body was sent to the medical college hospital for autopsy.

Sadhan hailed from village Chandpur under Khaliajuri thana of Netrakona district.

Attack on Hasina's motorcade protested

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the opposition Awami League, staged a demonstration in front of the AL central office in the city yesterday protesting the attack on the motorcade of AL President Sheikh Hasina in Barisal.

The BCL leaders at a rally warned that they would launch a tougher programme in response to the attack. They said criminals belonging to

the BNP-led alliance government attacked the motorcade in a planned way 'fearing that the government might fall by April 30'. BCL leaders Jahiruddin Mahmud

Lipton, Saifuzzaman Shekhor, Khan Moinul Islam Mustak. Zakir Hossain Maruf, and Kamrul Hasan Khokon

Congratulations

DU CORRESPONDENT



Sahabul Haque Sabu, a student of Dhaka University, secured first class first position in the MSS final examinations of the department of political science

under 2000-2001 session. He hails from Madanpur village under Shailakupa thana of Jhenaidah district.

President of DU Journalists' Association, he now works for the Daily Ittefag as university correspondent.

His father Abdul Wadud Miah is a Sub-Inspector of police.

Humidity in

Evening

74

70

59 65

53

percentage

Morning

68

73 95

88

58

The first year admission test of the National University under 2003-04 session began across the country yesterday. Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof. Aftab Ahmed visited the Eden College, an examination centre in the city.

Tributes paid to Sadri Ispahani

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a condolence meeting yesterday paid glowing tributes to Mirza Mehdi (Sadri) Ispahani, former chairman of Ispahani Group, calling him a true patriot and a humanist.

"Although he was a businessperson, he surpassed that limitation and won the hearts of millions across the country through his wider involvement in social and humanitarian activities," they said in the meeting held at the playground of Ispahani Public School and College (IPSC) in the port city.

Organised by IPSC authorities, the meeting was attended by Food Minister Abdullah Al Noman as chief guest and City Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury as special guest.

Abdullah Al Noman said Sadri Ispahani would remain alive in our memory for his philanthropic activities. Mohiuddin Chowdhury said Sadri Ispahani was a true friend of the

distressed humanity. Resident Editor of the Prothom Alo Abul Momen said Sadri Ispahani and his family are an inseparable part of

PHP Group Chairman Mizanur Rahman called Sadri Ispahani a visionary personality.

Reunion

Experts presented five papers in

The papers are 'Cross-border

different sessions, followed by open

Human Trafficking: South Asia Perspective', 'Trafficking: Safe Migration', 'Trafficking: Rescue,

Repatriation, Care and Employment

Perspective', 'Trafficking: Role of

Lawyers and Law Enforcing

Agencies in Judiciary System' and 'SAARC Convention on Combating Trafficking: Present Status and

The speakers said each regional country has laws regarding traffick-

ing but these could not be enforced

properly due to indifferent attitude of

political leaders, law enforcers, lawyers and the authorities.

initiative by the law enforcing agencies, inadequate knowledge of the

lawyers, and lack of coordination

among the agencies concerned

were the major obstacles to curbing

cooperation among the neighbour-

ing countries, proper monitoring of

the migrants, developing independ-

ent investigation system and form-

ing watchdog committees to check

ked from Band

a year, says USAID sources.

Around 20,000 people are traf-

They recommended stepping up

Activists and lawyers said lack of

discussions

Future Prospect'

Jagannath Hall Alumni Association Dhaka University, will hold a reunion of former students on the Dhakeshwari Temple premises at 5.00pm on April 16, says a press release.

Former ambassador Ataur Rahman Khan Kaiser and cultural activist Shantanu Biswas also spoke

The Baily Star

on the occasion. Managing Director of Ispahani Group Mirza Salman Ispahani presided over the meeting while Principal of IPSC Hasina Zakaria delivered the

'Songs of the Soul' launched

address of welcome

The publication ceremony of a book of poems, Songs of the Soul, by Zakaria Choudhury was held in the city on Thursday, says a press

Syed Manzoorul Islam, Zakaria Shirajee, Imrul Choudhury, Shihab Sarkar, Muhammad Nurul Huda. Faruq Mahmud, Bimal Guha, Tared Mahmud and Arunabh Sarkar took part in the discussion on the poet and his works.

Himadri Biswas presented a musical show at the function conducted by Tajul Islam Faruq, a business magnate.

Ritwik, a progressive publisher, has published the book. The cover of the book was designed by the poet's daughter, Zakia Shamim Choudhury.



Pakistan and Middle East countries Bangladesh Garments Trade Union Federation stages a demonstration in

the city yesterday to press for its five-point demand.