

SUDHA SADAN
JCD-BCL counter rallies at DU
DU CORRESPONDENT

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday at a rally on the Dhaka University (DU) campus demanded immediate closure of Sudha Sadan, residence of the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina.

They said Hasina had been 'conspiring against the country' from Sudha Sadan. They urged the student community to make success the siege programme at Sudha Sadan on April 21.

DU unit President Amirul Islam Khan Alim presided.

On the other hand, the female leaders and workers of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the opposition Awami League, held a rally on the campus protesting JCD leaders' comments on Hasina and siege programme at Sudha Sadan.

They also demanded withdrawal of warrant against DU unit President Delwar Hossain.

The female leaders said the JCD has been making indecent comments against Hasina in a planned way. The student community of the country will resist the JCD programme, they added.

Rokeya Hall unit President Nasrin Sultana presided.



Prof Mohiuddin passes away
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prof Dr Golam Mohiuddin of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) died of cancer at his residence in the city yesterday at the age of 56, says a press release.

Prof Mohiuddin, also General Secretary of Engineers Institution of Bangladesh, and member of the national council of the Communist Party of Bangladesh, left behind his wife and two sons.

His namaz-e-janaza was held on the Buet campus after Esha prayers last night. He will be buried at his family graveyard at Sreepur in Comilla.

Buet, Engineers Institution of Bangladesh, Communist Party of Bangladesh, Workers Party of Bangladesh and 11-Party yesterday condoled the death of Engineer Mohiuddin.



Fire Service personnel hold placards reading various slogans in front of the National Press Club yesterday to raise awareness among the public about fire incidents.

Reform bureaucracy to ensure good governance

Speakers tell workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday laid emphasis on the reforms in bureaucracy and elimination of corruption to ensure good governance.

They attributed corruption as one of the stigmas attached to good governance issues, and demanded its complete elimination.

The five-day regional workshop has begun in the city to prepare guidelines for good governance in 14 member countries of the CIRDAP including Bangladesh.

The Commonwealth Secretariat, in association with the CIRDAP, has organised the workshop.

Speaking as chief guest, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan said good governance needs changes in attitudes and practices of the people from all walks of life including members of the government, opposition, civil society, NGOs and donors.

"This is a tough and gradual process even in the best circumstances.

In the short and medium terms, there will be both winners and losers. But in the long term, there will be only winners," he added.

The LGRD minister said the

government is actively working on the separation of the judiciary from the executive to build up a system of accountability in the country.

He stressed the need for expanding basic education and strengthening local government institutions including an active role of the NGOs, civil society groups and the press to ensure good governance.

Dr Kamal Uddin Siddiqui, principal secretary to the prime minister, said both short and long term guidelines should be formulated to ensure good governance. Guidelines lying in the shelves and gathering dust are useless, he added.

Dr Siddiqui said the guidelines should be formulated not only for central government but also for local government bodies, NGOs, political parties and trade unions.

"There are plenty of examples to show that many civil society organisations, which are pointing fingers at the government on governance issues, are themselves lacking in accountability, financial integrity and transparency," he added.

CIRDAP Director General Dr Mya Maung said good governance is considered to help reduce poverty, provide access to quality services and achieve reasonably high standard of life.

Dr B Sudhakar Rao, a senior CIRDAP official, and the secretary to the rural development and co-operatives division also spoke at the inaugural session.



Information Secretary KM Nazmul Alam distributes certificates as chief guest among the participants of a course on 'news reading and presentation' on Thursday. Bangladesh Institute of Communication Studies and Public Relations organised the function.

Six abducted girls rescued at Patuakhali

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Six girls, abducted from their school in Narayanganj on Saturday, were rescued by the local people while they were crossing a river at Patuakhali yesterday.

The girls have been handed over to Patuakhali sadar police for their safe return to their guardians.

All of them are the students of Miz Mizi High School of Narayanganj.

The abductors, however, managed to flee after jumping into the river.

Subhasi Akter, a sub-inspector (SI) of Narayanganj Police

Station, said an unidentified man brought the girls out from their school luring them to take to a nearby fair at Madaninagar on Saturday.

As the girls did not return homes on time, their guardians informed the matter to the police.

A police team of Narayanganj Sadar thana led by SI Azizul Hoque left for Patuakhali yesterday following an information that the abducted girls were taken there.

President of the Governing Body of Miz Mizi High School said some locals stopped the boat carrying the girls at ferryghat in Patuakhali.



Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal leader A S M Abdur Rob discusses a point with Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil at a meeting organised by the Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad to mark the historic Mujibnagar Day at the National Press Club yesterday.

Plan to set up seismic observatory in div hqs

BSS, Dhaka

Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yousuf yesterday said the government has been planning to set up seismological observatory in all divisional headquarters to avoid complications of measuring the magnitude of earthquake.

He was addressing a seminar on 'Development of Seismology Services in Bangladesh' jointly organised by Bangladesh Weather Directorate and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) at a city hotel.

Japanese Ambassador Matsushiro Horiguchi and resident representative of JICA Takashi Sakamoto also spoke with director of Bangladesh Weather Directorate Akram Hossain in the chair.

Terming earthquake as a 'natural

disaster', he said that the possibility of a colossal earthquake could not be avoided as mild earthquakes were occurring frequently in the country.

BNPPP meet on Apr 25

UNB, Dhaka

The adjourned meeting of Bangladesh Nationalist Party Parliamentary Party (BNPPP) will be held on April 25 at 12 noon at Sangsad Bhawan.

Leader of the House and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will preside over the meeting, taking place against the backdrop of some major political developments.

'Hygiene fair' held at Haripur

BSS, Haripur

Aday-long "hygiene fair" with display of projection materials and documentaries on health issues was held here yesterday.

The 110-mw NEPC Consortium Power Ltd in collaboration with Development Options Opinion Reviewers (DOOR), a media watchdog on development and governance, launched the health campaign programme with the display of health and hygiene related posters, book and booklets, flipcharts, toys and movies.

9th Berger Young Painters' Art Competition

Berger Paints has announced its 9th Young Painters' Art Competition 2004 to promote young painters, says a press release.

The 2005 Berger Corporate Calendar will incorporate the six-award winning paintings from this competition. The prizes for the competition are: First prize Tk 25,000, second prize Tk 20,000, third prize Tk 15,000 and Tk 10,000 each for 4th, 5th and 6th position.

DHAKA TODAY

Certificate giving ceremony

The certificate giving ceremony of children's art competition, organised by Save The Youth Forum to mark Pahela Boishakh, the first day of Bengali New Year, will be held. Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy. Time: 4.00pm.

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen an American film titled 'The Lord of The Ring- The Return of The King' (2003). Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 6.30pm.

Publication ceremony

The Independent University, Bangladesh organises the publication ceremony of a book titled 'Bangladesh National Culture and Heritage' with

Justice Habibur Rahman, former chief advisor to the caretaker government, as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 4.00pm.

Movie show

The High Commission of India will screen a film titled 'Bobby'. Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, Gulshan-2.