

Mahi to cooperate govt in good work

UNB, Dhaka

Appearing in his new role as opposition lawmaker in parliament, Mahi B Chowdhury yesterday pledged that he would be cooperative in good work but constructive in criticism of the government.

In his maiden remarks in the House after being re-elected on Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh ticket in Munshiganj-1 by-election, Mahi said his re-election was a public approval of his decision to resign from parliament on March 10.

"People across the country supported my decision on resignation," he said as the Speaker welcomed the young lawmaker in parliament expressing the hope that he would regularly attend the business of the House.

Defining his future role, Mahi said he would be both cooperative and constructive about government actions, and would pinpoint the

government's wrongdoing through his deliberations.

The lone Bikalpa Dhara lawmaker took his new seat in the fourth row of the opposition benches, close to Qader Siddiqui of Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Janata League.

Mahi had resigned from the ruling BNP to join Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh, floated recently by his father, former president AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury.

Elected in the June 6 by-polls by defeating four-party alliance nominee Momin Ali, Mahi took oath on June 13 as member of parliament.

UBDI chief arrives

Abdur Rab Mollik, chairperson of UK Bangladesh Development Initiative (UBDI) and the founder Chairman of Bangladesh Welfare Association of Barking and Dagenham, arrived in Dhaka from London yesterday, says a press release.

Mallik is also a prominent lawyer and social reformer. UBDI Secretary Md Faizur Rahman Farukh accompanied him.

They will attend the launching ceremony of UBDI initiative in Bangladesh on June 22. The ceremony will be held at 5.00pm at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

Tk 44.40 cr CU budget announced

CU CORRESPONDENT

A Tk44.40 crore budget of Chittagong University for 2004-05 fiscal year has been announced.

Acting chief accounts officer Md Abdul Monayem presented the budget at a joint meeting of syndicate and finance committee on Sunday.

Vice-Chancellor Prof AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury was in the chair.

This is the first time that the budget has been placed with no deficit. Of the total amount, the government will give Tk40.90 crore and the rest Tk3.5 crore will be available from the internal income of the university.

In the budget, the lion share of Tk29 crore has been allocated as salary of teachers and employees.

The second highest allocation of Tk4.9 crore goes to education and students' welfare sectors.

The rest will be spent under the annual development programme (ADP).

Police raid DU campus to drive out drug addicts

DU CORRESPONDENT

Ramna police conducted a raid on the central mosque area of Dhaka University yesterday as part of their ongoing drive to drive out outsiders and drug addicts from the campus.

Last night, they drove out some couples from the mosque and Nazrul mazar areas and asked the university students to leave the areas.

The police also assaulted a student following an altercation with them at about 8:00pm.

The drive began on Saturday after the university authorities asked the police to launch raids as outsiders and drug addicts regularly come to the campus in the evening and stay till midnight.

A rise in the number of outsiders and drug addicts on the campus prompted the DU administration to ask the police to launch regular raids, said DU Proctor AK Firoz Ahmed.

A group of drug addicts regularly come to the science annex

building area, central mosque area and fuller road area to take illegal drugs.

Construction of a boundary wall around the central mosque and Nazrul mazar area is underway to restrict the entry of couples, outsiders and drug addicts.

DU authorities earlier took several attempts to keep the campus free from outsiders and drug addicts but failed due to intervention of some student leaders who have a link with these elements, sources said.

1349 more held

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1,349 people from different parts of the country on various charges in last 24 hours till 6.00am yesterday.

During the drive, they also recovered nine firearms, eight other weapons and 20 bullets and filed five cases against seven people under the Arms Act, says an official press release.