

## 'Scrap distorted part of history'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Samrilita Nagarik Samaj (SNS), a coalition of socio-cultural organisations, yesterday demanded the government scrap the 'distorted part' from the recently published Liberation War's history with regard to the proclamation of independence.

Addressing the rally organised by SNS at Central Shaheed Minar yesterday Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil said the present government is out to erase the name of Bangabandhu by twisting the historical facts.

"Jamaat-e-Islami that had been bitterly opposed to our great liberation war in 1971, has understandably got very active to destroy the country's glorious past," Abdul Jalil added.

Speaking at the rally President of the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Monjurul Ahsan Khan said there should not be any difference of

opinion that the liberation war was fought under the leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

"The Liberation War was not merely an army mutiny, rather it was a mass revolution, which gained momentum basing on a 23-year-old historical background," the CPB president said.

President of Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique said the government by deleting the facts has made nothing but a mockery of the history.

"People of this country on March 25, 1971 heard the proclamation of independence that was transmitted through wireless from the then headquarters of East Pakistan Rifles," Dr Arefin said.

Workers Party President Rashad Khan Merion told the rally distortion of the history is a part of the anti-liberation forces' plot to mislead the

country's future generation.

Demanding withdrawal of the distorted part from the Liberation War documents he said all the progressive and pro-liberation political parties must unite in opposition to the conspiracy of communal forces.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) President Hasanul Haque Inu said that, currently the anti-liberation elements within the government are dictating how the government runs.

"Jamaat-e-Islami, which was not that much dominant initially, has been elevated to decision-making level now and the prime minister is completely guided by them," Inu said.

Presided over by journalist Kamal Lohani, the rally was addressed among others by Professor Anisuzzaman, Professor Nim Chandra Vhowmik, Samrilita Sangkritik Jote President Nasir Uddin Yousuf and actor Ramendu Mazumder.



Amr Muktijoddhar Santan (We are Children of Freedom Fighters) forms a human chain in front of the High Court yesterday protesting distortion of history.

## Sumon was tortured to death by Rab

Says Odhikar report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sumon Ahmed Majumder, a key witness in Awami League law-maker Ahsanullah Master murder case, was tortured to death by the members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab), according to an investigation by Odhikar, a human rights organisation.

Sumon, also a Jubo League leader, was tortured severely after he was arrested by a Rab team led by Sub Inspector Shahjahan on July 15, said the probe report.

When his condition deteriorated, he was treated in Tongi General Hospital and handed over to Tongi police.

Sumon was again rushed to the hospital as his condition worsened further at midnight while in police custody. He died soon after he was admitted to the hospital, said the Odhikar report.

"The Rab members asked Sumon to go with them when he was taking a bath at his home on the day of his arrest," Sumon's cousin Nazma told the Odhikar.

They also asked Sumon whether he was the main witness in the murder case, she said.

According to the Rab, its mem-

bers went to a restaurant at Tongi station road to arrest Sumon along with two accomplices Lokman and Pinku. But Sumon was locked in a scuffle with the Rab members and fell sick.

On the other hand, local people said no such incident took place at Tongi station road on the day.

SI Rafique, duty officer of Tongi Police Station, told the Odhikar that a team of Rab brought Sumon, Lokman and Pinku to the police station at about 9.45pm but police refused to take them into custody as their condition was critical.

Police, however, received the three when the Rab team came to the Police Station again at 11.20pm with medical certificate from Tongi general hospital.

Dr Salman, chief of the autopsy team and resident medical officer of Gazipur Sadar Hospital, said they found injury marks in Sumon's body.

The Odhikar team was not allowed to enter the Rab-1 office at Uttara when they went there to talk with SI Shahjahan. The higher officials of Rab also declined to comment on the incident.

## SHAMSUNNAHAR HALL INCIDENT

### BCL demands publication of probe body report

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the opposition Awami League, yesterday demanded publication of the report of the judicial probe committee and punishment to the police personnel responsible for the atrocities in Shamsunnahar Hall of the Dhaka University on July 23 in 2002.

Police stormed into Shamsunnahar Hall in the early hours of July 23 in 2002, dragged about one hundred female students from their beds and assaulted and hurled abuse at them, leaving more than 50 injured.

DU unit President Delwar Hossain at a press conference at the Madhu's Canteen also demanded an end to all kinds of harassment on general students by the hall administration and leaders of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal at the Shamsunnahar Hall.

He announced a series of programmes to observe July 23. The programmes include candle procession from Central Shaheed Minar to Shamsunnahar Hall gate in the early hours of July 23 and discussion at Shamsunnahar Hall the same day, demonstration at the Aparajeeo Bangla and a photograph exhibition of police

atrocities on female students at Battola on July 25.

BCL President Liaqat Sikder, General Secretary Nazrul Islam Babu, Marufa Akther Poppy and DU unit General Secretary Hemayet Uddin Himu also spoke.

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## High Commission of India Dhaka

(House No. 2, Road No. 142, Gulshan-1)  
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All bids may be addressed to the Head of Chancery, High Commission of India, Dhaka, House No. 02, Road No. 142, Gulshan-1, Dhaka. The vehicles will be sold on "as is where is basis". For any clarification Attache (Esstt.) at Telephone No. 988-8789-91 Ext. 228 may please be contacted.

The vehicle is available for inspection on all working days from 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2004 until 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2004 between 1500 hrs. to 1700 hrs. The High Commission of India reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason.

To : All Diplomatic Missions/agencies in Bangladesh.

## Dhaka Int'l Food Fair

begins Sept 17

BSS, Dhaka

The Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) will arrange an international food fair from September 17 to 19 in the city to boost export of agro-processed food products.

EPB Vice-Chairman Meer Shahabuddin Mohammad Ahmed said the trade fair titled Dhaka International Food Fair-2004, first of its kind in Bangladesh, will explore new opportunities from the fast-growing potential sector and help expand market base of Bangladesh in international arena.

About 50 companies are expected to participate in the fair.

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Position applied for should be marked on top of the envelope. Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply. Only short listed candidates will be called for Interviews.