

# AL protests killing of Rangpur leader

DU CORRESPONDENT

Awami League (AL) yesterday protested the killing of Rangpur district AL leader and general secretary of District Motor Sramik Union by the members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab).

In a joint statement, acting president Zillur Rahman and General Secretary Abdul Jalil demanded immediate arrest and punishment of those responsible for the killing of Abul Kalam Azad.

They said the BNP-Jamaat alliance government has been killing their leaders and activists in a planned way to eliminate the AL

from the country.

They also condemned the attack on Bikapla Dhara President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury and Jatiya Oikya Mancha President Dr Kamal Hossain during a 'mass dialogue programme' in Mymensingh by the ruling party cadres.

The AL leaders said the attack on the programme was a part of the conspiracy to destroy the democracy.

They demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the persons responsible for the attack.

## Sigma to monitor human trafficking

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Advocate Sigma Huda, who was recently appointed as United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Women, has said she will work to stop human trafficking and establish the rights of trafficked women.

"Trafficking is taking place not only in the developing countries but also in the developed world," she said while speaking at a reception accorded to her by Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA) at its office yesterday.

Sigma, also the president of BNWLA, said there is no country in the world where human being is not trafficked, but only the developing countries are blamed for it.

"Migration and trafficking are not the same thing. So my mission will be to ensure that the free movement of people are not hampered in the name of checking trafficking," Sigma said.

She said she would monitor the trafficking situation in different countries and report it to the UN Commission of Human Rights.

South Asian Regional Representative of International Organisation for Migration Shahidul Islam, BNWLA Executive Director Advocate Salma Ali and Fawzia Karim Firoze also spoke.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami League presidium member Abdur Razzak addresses a Chhatra League (BCL) rally at Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday protesting the move to rename National University.

# Army training for all a must for nat'l security

Speakers say at roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

All citizens must have army training to ensure national security, said the speakers at a roundtable yesterday.

They said national harmony is essential to get rid of any unendurable situation.

The roundtable on 'National security: Urgent consideration' was organised by the Council for National Agenda (CNA) in the city.

The speakers urged the government to incorporate the security issue into national educational curriculum.

They also called upon all political parties to be united for the sake of national security despite their difference of opinion.

The speakers also expressed concern over the August 21 grenade attack on Awami League President Sheikh Hasina.

They called for raising public awareness about national security, and said members of the civil society can play a vital role in this regard.

"The government should incorporate various issues related to national security into educational curriculum especially at primary and secondary level," said former Justice Mohammad Abdur Rouf, chair-

man of the CNA.

"Individual diversity can be accepted but national diversity should not be accepted for the greater interest of the country," said Major General (Retd) M Azizur Rahman.

"Big powers don't want a stable government in Bangladesh which is strategically very important for them. They want to use it for their interest, said Prof Emajuddin Ahmed, former vice- chancellor Dhaka University.

Almost all criminals in the country are more or less involved with different political parties, and those who were killed by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) had political links, said Journalist Sadek Khan, chairman of the Press Institute of Bangladesh.

Justice Sultan Hossain Khan, former chief election commissioner, Abul Hasan Chowdhury, former state minister for foreign affairs, Shah Abdul Hannan and MM Al Hossain, former secretaries, M Anwar Hashim, former ambassador, Anwar Hossain, former vice-chancellor of OIC University, Artist Abdul Sattar, director of Fine Arts Institute, Brigadier General (Retd) M Sakhawat Hossain, columnist, Brigadier General (Retd) Shahedul Anam Khan, editor of defence and strategic issues of The Daily Star, and poet Isharaf