

MARINE FISHERIES ACADEMY

Cadets give four-day ultimatum to make probe report public

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Cadets of the 24th and 25th batches of Marine Fisheries Academy here yesterday sought the intervention of the prime minister and the minister concerned to solve the current stalemate at the academy.

At a press conference at Chittagong Press Club, the cadets gave a four-day ultimatum to make public the probe report on the alleged harassment of the cadets and corruption of the academy principal.

Otherwise, tougher agitation programmes would be launched,

they threatened.

The cadets said in view of their demand for removal of Principal Haider Hashim, a committee was sent from Bangladesh Secretariat to investigate into their allegations on November 18.

But, the probe report remains yet to be made public forcing suspension of the first year examination and other academic activities till date, they said.

Cadet Afique read out a written statement at the press conference attended by cadets Rahim, Tariqul Alam Shojib, ASM Helal Uddin Khan and Sumon Das.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Visitors admire a miniature rickshaw at a Handicrafts Fair that began at the Shilpakala Academy in the city yesterday. The fortnight-long fair was organised to mark the 90th birth anniversary of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin.

Dev project staffs threaten tougher agitation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Officers and employees of government development projects yesterday threatened to launch tougher agitation programmes if their five-point demand is not met by January 30.

The demands included transfer of their job to revenue sector, introduction of scale-based wage system and payment of salary arrears.

At a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity Auditorium in the city yesterday,

Munsi Mostafizur Rahman, presi-

dent of Bangladesh Sarkari Ummayan Prokhalpo Karmakarta-Karmachari Kalyan Parishad, said they would submit a memorandum to the prime minister today demanding implementation of their demands.

"We will gather on the premises of Farmgate Agricultural Institute at 10.00am before submitting the memorandum to the PM," he added.

Munsi said, "We are going to place our demands to end the uncertainties of the services of over two lakh officers and employees."

He said all district and thana committees of the association will

also submit memorandums to the prime minister through respective deputy commissioners and thana nirbahi officers today.

Munsi said the association will launch the agitation programmes including work abstention, grand rally and hunger strike across the country if their demands are not met by the stipulated time.

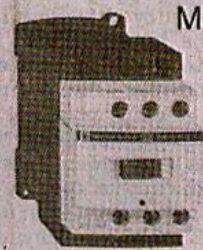
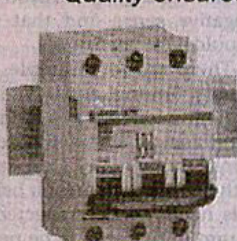
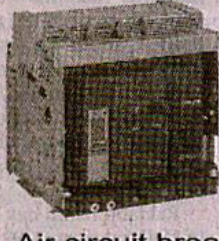
Association Vice-Presidents SM Jasim Uddin and Sheikh Nazim Uddin, General Secretary Sirajul Islam and Convenor of the sub committee AM Shahiduzzaman were present at the press conference.

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Japan's contribution to country's dev enormous: Moudud

BSS, Dhaka

Japan is one of the most trusted friends of Bangladesh as its contribution towards the country's overall development is enormous, said Law Minister Moudud Ahmed yesterday.

"The contribution of Japan to the development of economy, infrastructure and human resources of the country is immense," he said, adding, "The relations between the two friendly countries are not linked to any politics."

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at a seminar on "the role of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in the socio-economic development of Bangladesh."

JICA Alumni Association of

Bangladesh organised the seminar in the city to mark its 30th anniversary. JICA Bangladesh office was established in 1974 to support the development efforts of Bangladesh.

Moudud said that despite the adverse impact of overpopulation, poverty, unemployment and malnutrition, Bangladesh has achieved significant progress in key fields such as education, health, good governance and empowerment of women.

The minister hoped that Japan would further increase its grants for Bangladesh in future.

Japanese Ambassador Matsushiro Horiguchi, who was present as special guest, said Japan has so far provided higher training for 4,000 Bangladeshi experts under the JICA programme.

Chairman of the Centre for Development Research of Bangladesh Mizanur Rahman Shelley presented a keynote paper.

Resident representatives of JICA Akio Arai, JICA Alumni Association President M Golam Kibria Bhuiyan, General Secretary E Hjar Uddin and Research Secretary Prof M Mofazzal Hossain also spoke.

Medicines worth Tk 50 lakh seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police seized smuggled foreign medicines worth Tk 50 lakh from Mohammadpur area in the city and arrested four youths on Thursday night.

The youths were loading a taxi-cab with the cartons of medicines at Kazi Nazrul Islam Road at about 8:30pm when a police van appeared on the scene suddenly.

The four tried to run away but the police caught hold of them. The arrestees are Noor-e Alam, Abdul Quyum, Rokonzaman and Sohrab Hossain. They admitted that they smuggled the medicine to evade tax, said a police press release.

Housewife found dead

UNB, Narayanganj

The body of a housewife who had been missing for three days was found wrapped in a sack at Nayaati Rasulbag in Siddhirganj on Wednesday.

Surbanu, 45, wife of Jamal Uddin, had been missing since Monday. Local people found her body inside a house in the area and informed the police.

Police arrested two brothers and the father of a suspected youth in this connection.

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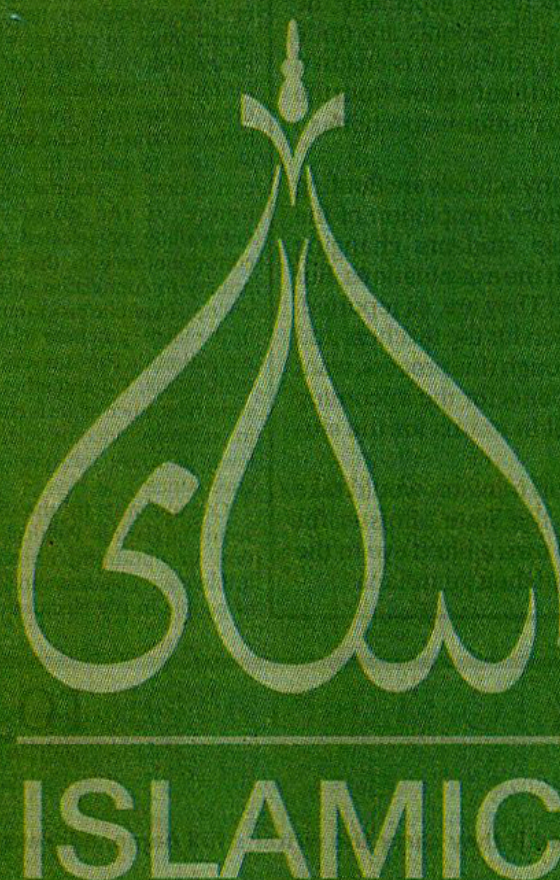
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