

DU dean protests 'unfair move' to appoint 6

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dean of the Social Science faculty at Dhaka University (DU) yesterday at a press conference protested 'unfair move' by the university authorities' to appoint six teachers at Political Science Department.

Dean Harun-or-Rashid, also a senior professor of the department, said irregularities, and lack of transparency in the recruitment process right from the outset have doomed the selection to be unfair.

Addressing the press conference arranged at his office, he said the university authorities did not

even issue interview card to a candidate who was ranked third in the SSC merit list, second in the HSC, secured first class 2nd in BSS, and first class third in MSS. He said the application of the candidate has gone missing from the pro-VC office.

Pro-VC heads the selection committee that has been tasked with overseeing the appointment.

Demanding a fresh advertisement for the positions of four lecturers and two assistant professors, the dean alleged that a vested quarter that does not want the recruitment to be done on merit has

deliberately displaced the application.

The authorities have thrown their weight behind a particular candidate who secured first class first in MSS but second class 100th in BSS honours, he observed.

They have postponed the selection committee meeting several times, though the Co-ordination and Development (C&D) committee last year reminded them repeatedly that they must hold the meeting timely and properly.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

'Assets, income of ministers, MPs must be made public'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, from Noakhali

Top leaders of Jatiya Oikya Mancha and Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh (BDB) at a mass contact programme yesterday said the ministers and lawmakers of the country must be corruption-free to build a crime and poverty-free country.

The accounts of property and the sources of income of the lawmakers should be made public before they get nomination, they said at a mass contact at Noakhali Pourashava Auditorium as part of their 'Mas Manifesto' across the country.

"There is no alternative to an effective parliament," Jatiya Oikya Mancha President Dr Kamal Hossain said, adding that unless accountability of the lawmakers and the ministers are ensured, it is quite impossible to establish rule of law and democracy in the country.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



PHOTO: STAR

Water from upstream hills and downpour for four days submerge villages of Nautara union under Dimla upazila in Nilphamari.

Quest for 'common agenda' on caretaker, EC reform

REAZ AHMAD

Hectic politicking has started for forging a 'common agenda' of the 14 opposition political parties including the Awami League (AL) on reforms in the electoral and caretaker government systems ahead of the next general elections.

The AL's reform agenda submitted to the other opposition parties on Tuesday will come up for review at a meeting of the left-leaning 11-party conglomerate today to decide on the crucial reform issue, and see to what extent the main opposition party agenda matches the leftists'.

While the AL and its ally JSD (Inu) are looking forward to seeing their other allies come up with a

common reform agenda, components of the 11-party combine find it difficult to agree even among themselves over the reform issues.

Source in the 11-party said they did not get any response from the AL over the reform agenda the combine had given to it more than two and half months ago. "But at tomorrow's (Saturday) meeting, we'll seriously look into the Awami League's reform plan, and also discuss difference of views among ourselves (11-party) on the issue," a top leader of the combine said last night.

On Wednesday, representatives of the 14 parties -- AL, 11-party, JSD (Inu), and NAP (Mozaffar) -- had a meeting in the city, where 11-party opposed the AL-JSD proposal for a

countrywide hartal on June 30 denouncing what they dubbed the anti-people budget.

In the absence of a positive response from the 11-party even in the last two days, the AL and JSD yesterday announced their hartal programme provided the government does not withdraw all 'anti-people' budgetary provisions by June 29.

Sources pointed out that hardliners within the 11-party think the AL has not been vocal enough about the influence of black money and muscle power in elections, and they see lots of mismatches between the reform agenda of the AL and the combine.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

CRIMES IN CTG ON RISE AGAIN CMP to keep watch on corrupt cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) authority is contemplating to monitor the activities of the twelve police stations and its police officers.

The idea emerged in the wake of the deteriorating law and order situation in the port city and following allegations of cops' involvement in crimes and misuse of power, sources said.

Criminal activities have gripped the port city for the last few months,

much to the worry of the common people. At least ten people were killed and Tk 1 crore was looted during the period. On the day of the new police commissioner's taking charge on May 17, Tk 11.30 lakh was looted from a garment factory in broad daylight.

Members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested some criminals in relation to the last incident.

There are also allegations that a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Emotions are running high

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Tigers meet Australia again today

AL-AMIN, from Manchester

Bangladesh face Australia today in a repeat clash of the NatWest Series exactly a week after their glorious five-wicket triumph over the world champions at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff.

Emotions are running high

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Rising Teesta floods 100 villages in 3 districts

STAR REPORT

Water level in River Teesta and its tributaries continues to rise, marooning over 12,000 families of some 100 villages in country's northern districts including Nilphamari, Rangpur, and Lalmonirhat.

Especially the situation in Rangpur is worsening fast with the rise in water level threatening to bring down the town protection embankment.

Our correspondents from the northern districts report that situation over the last few days deteriorated mainly because India has opened all the sluice gates of Gozaldo Barrage in the upstream

of Teesta.

Floodwaters continued to sweep through the villages by the choppy Teesta. Besides, villages by the other tributaries of Teesta like Buriteesta, Choralkata, and Burikhora are reeling under three to four feet water.

The affected people in huge numbers have already left houses and taken shelter at higher places mostly in educational institutions. There they have been suffering from acute crises of food, medicine and water as relief works have yet to begin.

Besides, the floodwaters have caused extensive damage to Aman seedbeds, vegetable fields, and crops in those areas.

Our Nilphamari correspondent

reports: The Teesta was flowing above the danger level yesterday, according to Water Development Board (WDB) sources.

At least 1,000 families are marooned in Purba Kharibari, Char Khari Bari, Kisamot Chhatnai, Dolopara, Baishupukur and Vendabari villages of Dimla upazila in Nilphamari.

WDB Executive Engineer Atiquar Rahman said Teesta and its tributaries flowing through Nilphamari district swelled because of continuing rains and the opening of all the gates of Gozaldo Barrage across the border.

He said they are closely monitoring the vulnerable points along the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

Dhaka sheltering rebels, exporting terrorists, says W Bengal CM

BDNEWS, Dhaka

West Bengal Chief Minister (CM) Buddhadev Bhattacharya severely criticised Bangladesh for what he said sheltering insurgents on its soil and exporting terrorists to India.

He made the statement after the foreign secretaries of Bangladesh and India had met in New Delhi in a bid to improve bilateral ties, according to a report of NDTV.

This is the first time that the West Bengal government has raised the issue of terrorism and infiltration so vociferously.

"From Bangladesh, they are operating Islamic fundamentalist groups. They are recruiting jihadis [militants] from India and sending their fundamentalist religious leader to campaign," he alleged.

The Ulfa and even KLO insurgents who operated in north Bengal, were getting shelter in Dhaka and

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

IDB loan for two projects

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh has signed two loan agreements of US\$ 13.22 million with Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to finance two projects in the country.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman and IDB President Dr Ahmed Mohammad Ali penned the agreements at the 30th IDB Board of Governors' meeting that concluded in Putrajaya, Malaysia yesterday.

A loan agreement of US\$ 10.21 million was signed for Sylhet Feeder Roads Upgrading Project (Phase-V) while another US\$ 3.01 million loan agreement for the Health and Population Project.

At the meeting, Bangladesh candidate M Ismail Zabiullah, secretary of Economic Relations Division, was elected executive director of IDB from South Asia yesterday.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Prayer Timing

June 25

	Azan	Jamaat
Fair	4-05	4-40
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-54	6-57
Esha	8-17	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

The idea emerged in the wake of the deteriorating law and order situation in the port city and following allegations of cops' involvement in crimes and misuse of power, sources said.

Criminal activities have gripped the port city for the last few months,

much to the worry of the common people. At least ten people were killed and Tk 1 crore was looted during the period. On the day of the new police commissioner's taking charge on May 17, Tk 11.30 lakh was looted from a garment factory in broad daylight.

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SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Emotions are running high

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

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