

It's high time to resist politics of arms

Speakers say at Jatiya Oikya Mancha meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a meeting yesterday said armed cadres and political link of the teachers have destroyed the environment of educational institutions.

They said the armed cadres are the carriers of the 'sick politics' of some political parties.

The meeting on 'We want educational institutions free from arms and violence' was organised by Jatiya Oikya Mancha at the Diploma Engineers' Institute in the city.

The speakers urged the authorities concerned to disarm and expel the armed cadres and their associates and check the entrance of non-students to educational institutions.

They also demanded of the government to enact laws asking all educational institutions including the universities to get rid of armed cadres with the help of law enforcement agencies.

Jatiya Oikya Mancha President Dr Kamal Hossain said division among the students and teachers paves the way for armed cadres to create anarchy.

chy in the universities.

He said there is nothing so unfortunate when it is heard that the partisan identity plays a role in securing a first class in the examination.

"It is high time to be united to resist the politics of arms," he added.

Bikalp Dhara Chairman (BDB) AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said violence in educational institutions is not any isolated incident from the mainstream politics.

He said the teachers cannot ignore the order from political parties when they are linked to partisan politics.

He laid emphasis on modern scientific education combined with moral values to end violence from the campus.

State power is the key target in present politics, and the political parties can do whatever they like for that," BDB Secretary General Major (Retd) Abdul Mannan said, adding that unless this trend is changed and the students are not freed of partisan politics, the scenario in the universities will not change.

Gono Forum General Secretary Saifuddin Ahmed Manik, Jatiya Oikya Mancha leader Abdur Rouf, and Sony Memorial Foundation Executive Chairman FH Khan also spoke at the meeting moderated by BDB Organising Secretary Mahi B Chowdhury.

Bangladesh Economic Association

(BEA) General Secretary Dr Abdul Barakat said armed politics in educational institutions would never end unless the politics and economics of criminalisation end.

Referring to his own study, Barakat said there are 10 to 15 lakh illegal arms in the country and every year 15 crore bottles of phenyl are brought to the country.

The youths, especially the students, are the main targets of these arms and drugs," he added.

BEA President Dr Kazi Khaliquzzaman said unless the disparity between the rich and the poor is reduced, it is impossible to solve these problems.

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Uphold Bangladesh's image abroad

Hasina urges Russian unit AL leaders

UNB, Dhaka

The leaders and activists of the Russian Chapter of Awami League yesterday met Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina at her suite in Hotel Rossiya in Moscow.

Awami League leaders Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, Syed Abdul Hossain, Dr Haasan Mahmud and former Ambassador Mohammad Ziauddin, Russian unit President Dr. Motaleb Bahar Patwary, General Secretary Dr. Soumitra Dev Partha, former president Dr. Shafiqul Islam, president of Russia-Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Mian Rafiqul Islam Arju, Abdus Sattar, Dr. Shahidul Huq, Eng Monowar Hossain, Dr. Nazrul Islam, Sheikh Motaleb, Shah Riaz Mitu, Bahauddin Talukder, Premananda Debnath, MA Hannan and Dr Khadem A Khan were present.

Hasina urged her party faithful to work unitedly to uphold Bangladesh's image abroad.

"The image has been tarnished due to the despotic rule of the BNP-Jamaat alliance," said the opposition leader, urging all to contribute to the movement for ending the coalition rule from their respective positions.

Later, Pavl P. Borodin, State Secretary of the Union of Republic of Belarus-Russia Federation, hosted a lunch in honour of Sheikh Hasina and the members of her entourage.

ISSUE OF LICENCE FOR PRIVATE TV, RADIO Information ministry sole authority

Supreme Court rules

UNB, Dhaka

The Supreme Court yesterday ruled that the Information Ministry is the sole and exclusive authority to issue licence for broadcasting radio and TV in the private sector.

The decision buried a longstanding controversy as to who would issue the broadcasting licence in the case of now defunct ETV.

"Appeal is allowed," pronounced Chief Justice Syed J R

Fish farm owner stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A gang of unknown assailants shot a fish farm owner and stabbed him to death at Kafrul in the city on Saturday night.

The gang shot Abbas Ali, 35, in his thigh and also stabbed him indiscriminately in Baurtek area after he came out of his house at Damalcourt at 9:30pm.

"Abbas went out of the house after receiving a call on his cellphone, but around three hours later a youth called and informed us of the attack on him," said Razia Khatun, sister of Abbas.

"I soon rushed to the spot only to find my brother lying in a place covered in jungle," said the reporters.

Abbas was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) where the doctors declared him dead at around 1:00am.

A murder case was filed with Kafrul Police Station but no-one was arrested till 8:00pm yesterday.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman yesterday handed over a pair of "Black Bengal Goats" to Thai ambassador Suphat Chiranrat at a simple ceremony at Zia International Airport.

The Thai Airlines will carry the goats to Thailand.

As per her commitment, Prime Minister Khaleda Zia presented the goats to the Thai Princess, an official handout said.

The Black Bengal Goat is a typical species of Bangladesh. It is free from diseases. Its tasty meat and good skin are appreciated everywhere in the world.

Black Bengal Goats for Thai princess

BSS, Dhaka

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