



The road in front of the police control room at Shahbagh in the city has long been in a very bad shape, but the authorities remain indifferent.

PHOTO: STAR

## 'Successive govts have violated rule of law'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The violation of the rule of law in Bangladesh began on the very day the country was liberated and the successive governments have con-

sistently flouted it, said Justice Naimuddin Ahmed.

"I agree with the proposition that there is no rule of law in the country," he said at a seminar on 'Local initiatives for establishing the rule of law' organised by the Society of Justice at a city hotel on Wednesday.

Justice Ahmed said the rule of law was violated on the first Victory Day, December 16, 1971, as some 'freedom fighters bayoneted several stranded Pakistani troops' in violation of the Geneva Convention.

Citing some other examples, he said that the fourth amendment changed completely the basic struc-

ture of the constitution, and that the assassination of the president along with his family members on August 15, 1975 set a grim example of violating the rule of law.

He said that an accused in the Shah AMS Kibria killing case intended to deposit a confessional statement to the magistrate, but the police barred him from doing so, which is another example of the violation of the rule of law.

Politicians must adopt a constitutional way to get rid of such a situation, Justice Ahmed said.

A sense of insecurity haunts every citizen today and people are

utterly disappointed with the successive governments, said Prof Mizanur Rahman, president of the Society of Justice.

Presenting the Society's findings on rape, dowry, Hilla marriage and acid violence, Dr AKM Saifullah said that these social evils occur due to the absence of the rule of law, misinterpretation of Muslim law and lack of awareness and legal knowledge.

Deputy High Commissioner of Australia Richard Rodgers, Kim McQuay of Asia Foundation Bangladesh and Dr Sanaul Mostafa also spoke at the seminar.

## 'JCD, Shibir to work together to safeguard Islamic forces'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of the Islami Chhatra Shibir, student wing of the Jamaat-e-Islami, yesterday claimed that they have held several meetings with the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on the issue of establishing the rule of Islam in the country.

"We have held several meetings with the JCD and discussed various issues," said Shibir President Muhammad Selim Uddin at a press conference on the premises of the Dhaka Reporters' Unity office.

"We also hope that we will work together with the JCD to safeguard the Islamic forces," he added.

About their activities on the Dhaka University campus, Selim said, "It is not a problem for the Shibir to arrange processions and rallies on the campus, but now we want to put more emphasis on spreading religious education among the students."

He also said that the Shibir has a strong and active DU committee and it has been working on the campus for a long time.

The leaders said that the Shibir has enough organisational strength to take out processions and hold rallies on the DU campus at any time as a huge number of its activists are now staying at different dormitories.

"Shibir is not a procession- or rally-only organisation. It motivates the activists to work for establishing the rule of Islam in the country," Selim said.



PHOTO: STAR

Mahila Gono Forum stages a demonstration in the city yesterday to protest price hike of essentials.

## Outsiders have turned TTC into a den of criminal activities

SURANJIT DEBNATH

Outsiders in connivance with some self-claimed leaders of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of the ruling BNP, have turned the Teachers' Training College (TTC) in the capital into a den of criminal activities.

They are grabbing huge amount of money from the admission-seekers promising them admission to the college and accommodation in the college dormitory.

The gang makes arrangement for admission forcing the authorities if any admission-seekers pay them from Tk 5,000 to Tk 6,000 and provides accommodation to those who also pay the similar amount.

"We are compelled to pay for getting seat in the dormitory which does not have adequate seats," said a 2nd year student of B Ed honours who paid Tk 5,500 for a seat.

Sources said the goons have kept around a dozen of rooms in the dormitory in their occupation over the years and often take liquors and drugs there.

The teachers do not dare to protest their activities as they attack the teachers, ransack their offices and disturb the teachers' families throwing stones inside their houses.

The criminals also hurl abusive words and issue threats to hall supervisors when they try to allocate seats among the students, sources added.

The gang led by Ashrafal Haq Chanchal, Osman Gani Rabin, Sharif, Rana, Sabuj and Uzzal went unruly after the authorities allocated seats where they are residing on July 11.

They attacked the offices of teachers and supervisors ransacking windowpanes, doors and furniture.

They also hurled abusive words to four teachers in the presence of the principal, said the teachers and students.

The situation has further deteriorated after the introduction of B Ed honours course in the college.

Formerly, only teachers were allowed for admission, but now the general students can also apply for admission.

"The situation has now changed and we cannot allocate seats among the students. This group had created pressure on us not to allocate seats when we were taking interview of general students for distribution of seats on July 11," one of the hostel supers told The Daily Star when this correspondent asked him about the incident.

Principal Meherunessa admitted that some students violated the rule and broke the glass of two rooms on July 11.

Police were called in to bring the situation under control but none was arrested, she said.

"I filed a general diary (GD) with Nilkhet Police Station in this connection on July 14," Meherunessa

added.

She said a raid was conducted in the hostel a few months ago and police seized some bottles of phenisylde from several rooms.

"TT College was free from any sorts of political activities, but a group of students under the banner of JCD are now chanting slogans and bringing out procession on the campus regularly after the assumption of power by the BNP-led four-party alliance," said one of the teachers on condition of anonymity.

When contacted, JCD General Secretary Shafiq Bari Babu said they have no committee or unit at the college.

"Those who are carrying out criminal activities there cannot have any link to the JCD," Babu told The Daily Star.

Some students alleged that

members the group are having meals in dormitory canteen without paying any bill.

Canteen owner alleged that the cadres are not paying him an amount of Tk 30,000 as meal charge in arrears.

The college started with one-year BEd training course for Monthly Pay Order (MPO)-listed teachers, but recently it has introduced BEd honours course for four years and one-year Masters of Education (MED) course.

The total number of students is 1800 and every year 548 students get new admission.

The college has two residential hostels, one for male students and another for female students.



PHOTO: STAR

The National Platform for Protection of Garments Workers and Industry forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday demanding an increase in the wages for garment workers.

## Govt has no right to stay in power

Mahila Gono Forum leaders tell rally

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP-led alliance government has no right to stay in power as it failed to ensure security to people, said the speakers at a rally yesterday.

They demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to the culprits responsible for August 17 countrywide bomb blasts.

The rally was organised by Mahila Gono Forum, women wing of Gono Forum, at Muktangan in the city.

The speakers said the government has also failed to keep the prices of essentials under control causing untold sufferings to the common people.

They said salaries of ministers and parliament members have been increased but the purchasing capacity of the general people did not increase.

Addressing the rally as chief guest Gono Forum leader Engineer Abul Qasem demanded direct election to reserved seats for women in parliament to ensure their equal rights in the society.

Former whip and leader of Jatiya Oikyanancha Abdur Rauf urged the government to keep the prices of essentials within the purchasing capacity of the people ahead of Ramadan.

Forum leaders Jahanara Begum, Julekha Haque Mridha, Farida Akter, Laila Khaleida, Fatema Akter Dolly, and Ferdousi Sultana spoke at the rally.

Later, a procession was brought out that paraded different city streets.

## Govt firm to establish good governance

### President tells Canadian envoy

UNB, Dhaka

Canadian High Commissioner in Bangladesh David Sproule made a farewell call on President Iajuddin Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Iajuddin appreciated the contributions of the High Commissioner in fostering greater understanding and cooperation between the two countries during his tenure in Bangladesh.

He expressed hope that the envoy would carry with him fond memories of his stay in Bangladesh and remain a friend of Bangladesh in his next assignment as well.

He also stated that during the envoy's stint here, Bangladesh's exports to Canada increased by about 100 percent. The President hoped that Canadian assistance to Bangladesh would further increase.

Iajuddin reiterated the government's commitment to establish good governance and informed the High Commissioner about success stories on micro-credit and empowerment of women.

Bangladesh counts on continued support and cooperation from Canada in pushing forward Bangladesh's interests for obtaining

greater economic and trade facilities from Canada, he added.

Sproule said Bangladesh got the benefits of duty-free and quota-free entry of its exports to the Canadian market.

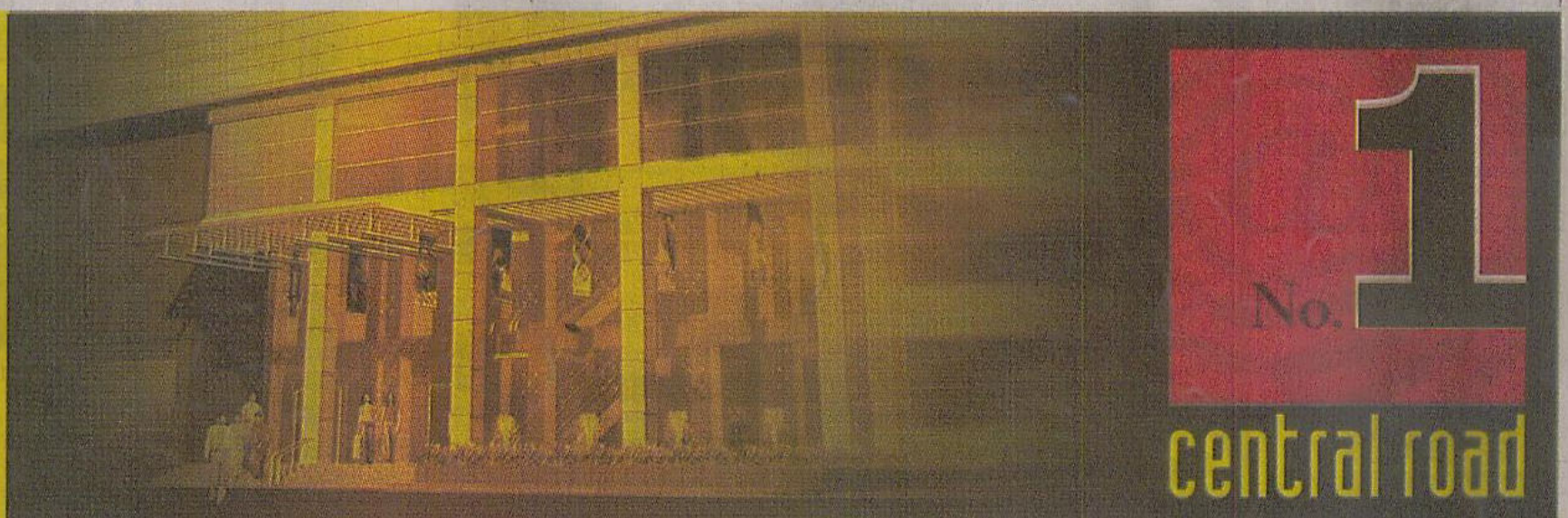
He appreciated the positive developments in Bangladesh, including micro-credit and women empowerment and suggested setting up of linkages between the universities of the two countries.



### Notice

The UNITY CONCERT-JAL, Habib & Shayne of 30<sup>th</sup> September, Organized by JPR Events Company at WATER KINGDOM has been postponed due to some unexpected reasons. In this consequence, the concert on 30<sup>th</sup> September has been cancelled. However, the park will remain opened as usual and the price will be the same. (Entry price: Tk. 260 per person + Entry price of Fantasy Kingdom: Tk 60)

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