



Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) takes out a silent procession on the campus yesterday protesting the killing of two judges in Jhalakathi.

## Duta condemns killing of judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (DUTA) yesterday brought out a silent procession on the campus condemning the murder of two judges in Jhalakathi and demanded exemplary punishment to the criminals.

The procession started at the Aparajeo Bangla and ended at the Central Shaheed Minar.

DUTA Secretary Prof Dr Md Akhtaruzzaman said although militant activities are going on unabated and the progressive and creative elements are being attacked throughout the country, the government is indifferent to it. "Without government's backing such attacks cannot be carried out," he added.

DUTA President Prof AMS Arefin Siddique said, "Rule of terrorism, not the rule of law, is prevailing in the country". Terming the slain judges 'soldier of justice', he said defying all the threats progressive section of the society will stand against all sorts of unjust activities.

Among others the programme was also attended by former Vice Chancellor of the university Prof A K Azad Chowdhury and Dean of Social Sciences Prof Dr Harun or Rashid.

## Jalil protests arrest of party men

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil MP yesterday said the BNP-led 4-party alliance government is pushing the country towards conflict through repression of opposition leaders and activists by their cadres and arrest by police.

"No autocratic government could stay in power by creating a scary situation through arrest and repression. The fall of this 'autocratic' government is inevitable through united resistance," Jalil said in a statement protesting the arrest of opposition leaders and activists ahead of the November 22 grand rally in the capital.

The AL leader urged the government to refrain from obstructing the opposition's peaceful grand rally.

He said that police arrested many opposition leaders and activists while the ruling party cadres wounded many others through attacking preparatory meetings ahead of the grand rally across the country, including the capital Dhaka, Gazipur, Lakshmipur, Comilla, Niokhali.

## Baby rescued from sand grave improves

SHAHEEN MOLLAH

The condition of a newly born girl who survived miraculously after being buried in a sand field has improved following her treatment at Dhaka Medial College Hospital (DMCH).

People rescued the baby smeared with blood and covered in a poly-thene sheet from the sand field near Hazaribagh-Boubazar in the city on November 17 and rushed her to the hospital where the doctors performed surgery on the two-day-old baby immediately.

Half of the baby's right chin and lower part of the left leg were eaten up by preying crows.

A medical board of doctors from paediatric medicine, paediatric surgery and plastic surgery departments had a meeting yesterday to discuss better treatment for the baby.

Dr Mizanur Rahman, assistant registrar of paediatric surgery, told The Daily Star yesterday that the condition of the girl is now stable. Although the crows have eaten up some parts of her body, her bones remain intact, he said, adding that a plastic surgery can cure her injuries.

He also said many organisations and individuals have expressed their willingness to bear the treatment cost of the baby, but they did not receive any donation. At present, the social service department of the hospital and the paediatric surgery department have been funding the treatment, he added.

A few couples at home and abroad have also been trying to adopt the baby, said Dr Rahman.

Officials at the social service department said they have engaged an attendant to look after the baby and some treatment equipment have been bought for her.

## Buet admission test result published

UNB, Dhaka

The result of the Buet admission test for the session 2005-2006 was published on Thursday, five days ahead of schedule.

Under the current session 780 students, including three tribals, were selected for admission in Engineering and URP Department while 323 others were put on waiting list, says a press release of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) here Saturday.

For Architecture Department, 55 students were selected for admission and an additional 55 were kept in waiting list.

The admission test result is available at website: www.buet.ac.bd

Certificate evaluation, department selection and medical check up for Architecture and Engineering departments will be held on November 29 and November 30.



Bangladesh Awami Swechhasebak League stages a demonstration at Mukttangan in the city yesterday demanding declaration of Monga-affected northern districts as disaster area.

## 'Improve literacy programme for poverty cut'

UNB, Dhaka

Unesco Representative in Bangladesh Dr Wolfgang Vollmann said that improvement of literacy and Non-Formal Education (NFE) programme is a must for poverty alleviation among the Sarc countries.

He was speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session of a six-day sub-regional workshop for training of trainers for building up national capacity on Supervision, Monitoring and Evaluation of NFE programmes as a Means to Poverty Alleviation organised by Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

He reminded that United Nations had already announced a literacy decade (2003-2012) to boost up the NFE programme.

He said it is the responsibility of the civil society to persuade the government to take initiative for further effective NFE programme.

Former Unesco representative in Bangladesh Dr Ansar Ali said NFE and formal education was going hand in hand in many countries like Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, but it has not been followed in our countries.

President of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Kazi Rafiqul Alam presided.

Twenty participants from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan are attending the workshop, which will continue until November 24.

## C'wealth Youth Forum in full swing

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Unemployment, crime and conflict, and HIV/Aids are some of the key issues being discussed at the Commonwealth Youth Forum (CYF), which began in Malta on November 16.

The forum was inaugurated by Dr Lawrence Gonzi, prime minister of Malta, with remarks by Commonwealth Deputy Secretary General Florence Mugasha, according to a news received from Commonwealth Secretariat yesterday.

The CYF, which will run up to November 23, brought together more than 100 young people from across the Commonwealth countries. This event is organised by the Commonwealth Youth Programme, the Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council, the National Youth Council of Malta and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Employment of Malta.

Andrew Simmons, deputy director of the Youth Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat, said the CYF would discuss strategies to address challenges faced by young people.

"There will be special workshops on areas such as project management and development, especially in the area of enterprise development for young people. We will be discussing training opportunities and offering them avenues to access these programmes to develop sustainable livelihoods."

"We are also looking to develop the Ambassadors for Positive Living programme of peer counselling and raising awareness about HIV/Aids. We would like to get more young people involved at the national level to deal with this issue," said Simmons.

The CYF participants will also share their views on health and sexuality, Commonwealth values and principles, good governance and active citizenship, sustainable livelihoods and information and communications technology.

## 'Launch movement against militants'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a meeting yesterday paid tributes to comrade Abdus Sattar Khan, founding president of Bangladesh Krishak Federation (BKF), for his invaluable service to the welfare of the farmers' community.

They said following the ideals of comrade Sattar fresh movement has to be launched to realise the rights of deprived farmers.

The meeting was organised jointly by BKF along with seven other organisations to mark the 9th death anniversary of Abdus Sattar Khan at Shaheed Tajul auditorium at Purana Paltan in the city.

Speaking as chief guest Workers' Party President Rashed Khan Menon said the farmers will have to be organised to launch movement at grassroots level against the militants and government.

Most of the militants-cum-bombers are the sons of farmers. A section of fundamentalists in the name of religion are misguiding them, he added.

Menon hoped that a guideline to improve the lot of the poor people including farmers would be announced from the grand rally of November 22.

Presided over by BKF General Secretary B M Solaiman, the meeting was also addressed by the leaders of BKF and other organisations including Bangladesh Floating Workers Union and Bangladesh Kishani Sava.

## 'Take action against bus operators charging high fare'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environmentalists yesterday called on the government to take action against the bus operators who are charging the passengers a fare higher than the rate fixed by the government.

Some operators are charging Tk four to five per kilometre in the name of special service while the government-fixed rate is 83 paisa, they said at a rally at Shahbagh in the city.

They also demanded rearrangement of routes for all passenger buses for the interest of general people.

Save the Environment Movement organised the rally, with its Convenor Abu Naser Khan in the chair.

The speakers called for formation of a committee, comprising civil

society members and government representatives, which will fix bus fare and bus routes.

The bus fare has increased due to fuel price hike, but the CNG-run vehicles are also charging extra fare even though the price of CNG remains the same, they said.

They also criticised the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) for its failure to bring discipline to this sector.

Freedom fighter Shahjahan Mridha Benu, Coordinator of Bishwa Sahitya Kendra Golam Kibria, Advocate Abed Reza, Dr Jesmine Ara Sultana, Md Shafiqul Islam and Md Nazim Uddin spoke at the rally.



Paribesh Bachao Andolon (Save the Environment Movement) forms a human chain at Shahbagh in the city yesterday protesting the increase in bus fare.