



Chief Justice Mohammad Ruhul Amin speaks at a seminar titled 'Rule of law to establish a corruption-free society' at Cirdap auditorium in the city yesterday. On his right are former attorney general AF Hassan Ariff, Justice Mohammad Tafazzul Islam and Country Director of the Asian Development Bank Hua Du.

# 'Make Buet a centre of excellence'

DU CORRESPONDENT

Former vice-chancellors of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) yesterday called for more funds for research and modern facilities in classrooms to make it a centre of excellence in 21st century.

They said Buet authorities should approach the government as well as the University Grants' Commission to increase the budget for research.

The former VCs said alumni of Buet, the country's highest seat of engineering education, spread all over the world and they are well established in their respective fields.

They urged the alumni to help raise funds for the overall development of Buet as the fund constraint is one of its main problems.

The ex-VCs were speaking at the inaugural session of the celebration of 60 years of engineering education in Bangladesh organised by Buet at its central auditorium on the campus.

Since the inception of erstwhile

Ahsanullah Engineering College in 1947, which later turned into a university in 1962, engineering education in the country marked its 60th anniversary.

Presided over by present VC Prof AMM Safiullah, the inaugural session was addressed by former VCs Prof Dr Wahiduddin Ahmed, Prof Abdul Matin Patwary, Prof Musharraf Hossain Khan, Prof Emeritus Iqbal Mahmud, Prof Dr Nuruddin Ahmed, Prof Dr Alea Murtuza and Convener of the celebration committee Prof Mazharul Haq.

In presence of several hundreds of alumni, eminent academicians shared their memories and experiences and placed their valuable suggestions to face the challenges of 21st century by upgrading the quality of education and research in Buet.

Prof Wahiduddin Ahmed, the oldest person present on the occasion, said Buet, which is an outcome of a long struggle, has been the milestone in higher education and research in the country.

"But instead of being proud of what we achieved during this 60

years, we should now look behind to find out what goals we could not achieve to find ways out for the future of Buet," said 90-year-old veteran educationist.

He called upon young graduates of the university to become good citizens apart from being engineers.

Prof Nuruddin Ahmed said the university has advanced a lot during last 60 years, but it is still far behind than other technical universities across the world.

"The Buet should have launched new courses that could contribute to country's development. It is high time to think how we can improve the quality of its research and how to provide our students with latest facilities," he said.

Alumni, faculty members and present students attended the launching ceremony.

The six-month-long programme will focus on previous and current status of engineering education in the country and will seek direction to keep pace with the progress of engineering education worldwide.

# CA's directive to open flood control monitoring cell

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday asked the authorities concerned to immediately open a Flood Coordination and Monitoring Cell at the CA's office to centrally monitor the activities of all flood control cells to take prompt action in tackling any exigencies of floods in the country.

The directive was given to the Cabinet Secretary and Principal Secretary to the Chief Adviser Ali Imam Majumdar at an emergency high-level meeting on flood preparedness at the CA's office in the afternoon.

The meeting was called at the initiative of the chief adviser.

Disaster Management Adviser Tapan Chowdhury, LGRD Adviser Md Anwarul Iqbal, Cabinet Secretary, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Syed Fahim Munaim, Water Resources Secretary Syed Md Jubair, Disaster Management Secretary Dhiraj Malakar, Secretary-in-Charge of the CA's office Kazi Aminul Islam, DG of SSF

Maj Gen Sheikh Md Manirul Islam, Military Secretary to the CA, Brig Gen Md Amin Tareque, and DG, Development and Coordination Cell in the CA's office, Manjur Hossain attended the meeting.

The CA wanted to know the latest position of the rivers and flood and stressed advance preparation

and strategy to tackle floods as reports say the situation aggravated in some districts.

The disaster management adviser apprised that his ministry has already opened a flood control cell where district-wise river position, food, and damage are being monitored. Also, deputy commis-

sioners in the respective districts are working in full swing maintaining contact with other flood control and monitoring cells.

The meeting was told that Health Ministry, the Army and Water Development Board also opened flood monitoring and control cells. Besides, earlier-set standard

methods of preparedness for floods are being followed.

The present government has given priority to flood control so that it can take steps timely. The meeting also discussed an option to inform the media on regular basis about the flood situation and government activities.

10X4

## Workshop on gender, sexuality begins in city

The first International Workshop on Gender and Sexuality, organised by James P Grant School of Public Health, Brac University, began at Brac Centre in the city yesterday, says a press release.

Academics, human rights activists and representatives from NGO organisations, lawyers, filmmakers and early career researchers from India, Kenya, Pakistan, Turkey, the USA, and the UK and Bangladesh are participating in the workshop.

The presentations cover a range of issues from theoretical explorations on sexuality, research experiences of sexuality in diverse contexts, violations of rights of groups/communities to ethical aspects of conducting research, and programme interventions/experiences of working in this arena. The workshop will highlight the relations between sexuality, development and human rights, the release added.

## Nat'l Centenary Scout Camp starts today

The inaugural function of The National Centenary Scout Camp, organised by Bangladesh Scouts to mark the Centenary of Scouting, will be held at National Scout Training Centre at Mouchak in Gazipur today, says a press release.

M Faizur Razzaque, former international commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts, will inaugurate the function as the chief guest.

Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed will attend the function as special guest while Chief National Commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts M Fazlur Rahman will preside over the function.

The camp concludes on August 2.



Buet Vice Chancellor Prof AMM Safiullah, extreme right, hands over a crest to former VC Prof Wahiduddin Ahmed at the inaugural session of the celebration of 60 years of engineering education in Bangladesh at Buet auditorium in the city yesterday. On their right is Prof Abdul Matin Patwari.

# Media urged to recruit 25pc journos from women

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Media organisations should recruit 25 percent of its journalists from women on the basis of their merit, said the speakers at the inaugural session of a workshop yesterday.

They said although a good number of women journalists are now working in both print and electronic media, few of them are involved in decision-making process.

They also laid emphasis on training for women journalist to make them skilled enough to establish their rights in workplace.

The workshop titled 'Gender Sensitive Reporting' for women

journalists from outside Dhaka has been organised by Bangladesh Nari Sangbadik Kendra (BNSK) with the support of Gender Fund of Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) at the National Press Club in the city.

In her welcome speech, BNSK General Secretary Parvin Sultana Jhuma said although a good number of women journalists are working in different mass media, very few of them hold responsible positions.

She said only 200 women journalists are the members of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) out of its total 6000 members.

CIDA Senior Development Adviser Tahera Jabin said training in gender sensitive reporting is essential for women journalists.

Speaking as special guest, Samakal Editor Abed Khan said more women should take journalism as profession as they can analyse a subject with more attention than their male colleagues.

Speaking as chief guest Begum Editor Nurjahan Begum called on women journalists to carry out their duties following the path of the exponents of women's journalism.

"If women lag behind the family as well as society will never develop," she added.

Presiding over the session BNSK President Nasimun Ara Huq Minu said the workshop has been organised under a programme titled 'Creating enabling environment for women journalists in media' to make them skilled enough to help establish human rights through their reporting.

She demanded recruitment of 25 percent women journalists in media on the basis of merit.

BNSK Adviser Setara Musa and Training Module Developer of the workshop Shirajuddahar Khan also spoke on the occasion.

A total of 25 women journalists from Chittagong, Khagrachhari, Barisal, Chuadanga, Netrakona, Kushtia, Patuakhali, Khulna, Natore and Narshingdi are taking part in the weeklong workshop at the Bangladesh Institute of Communication Studies and Public Relation in the city.



Weekly Begum Editor Nurjahan Begum speaks at the inaugural session of a workshop for women journalists at the National Press Club yesterday. On her right is Samakal Editor Abed Khan and on her left are BNSK President Nasimun Ara Huq Minu and BNSK General Secretary Parvin Sultana Jhuma.