

## DU should have long term master plan

Says UGC chairman

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) authorities should have a long term master plan to make it a centre of excellence, Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Prof Nazrul Islam said on Thursday.

He was speaking at a reception accorded to 12 former students of the Department of Women and Gender Studies of the university at RC Majumdar auditorium.

"The authorities should review the number of the students," said Prof Islam, adding, "The number of the students could be reduced to 20,000 through high quality admission tests, so that the best students can get admission here."

These students will get the best facilities and thus the DU will emerge as a centre of excellence.

He said currently there are over 52 departments at the university; few more new departments will be introduced soon and there are around 30,000 students all these require more space for their accommodation.

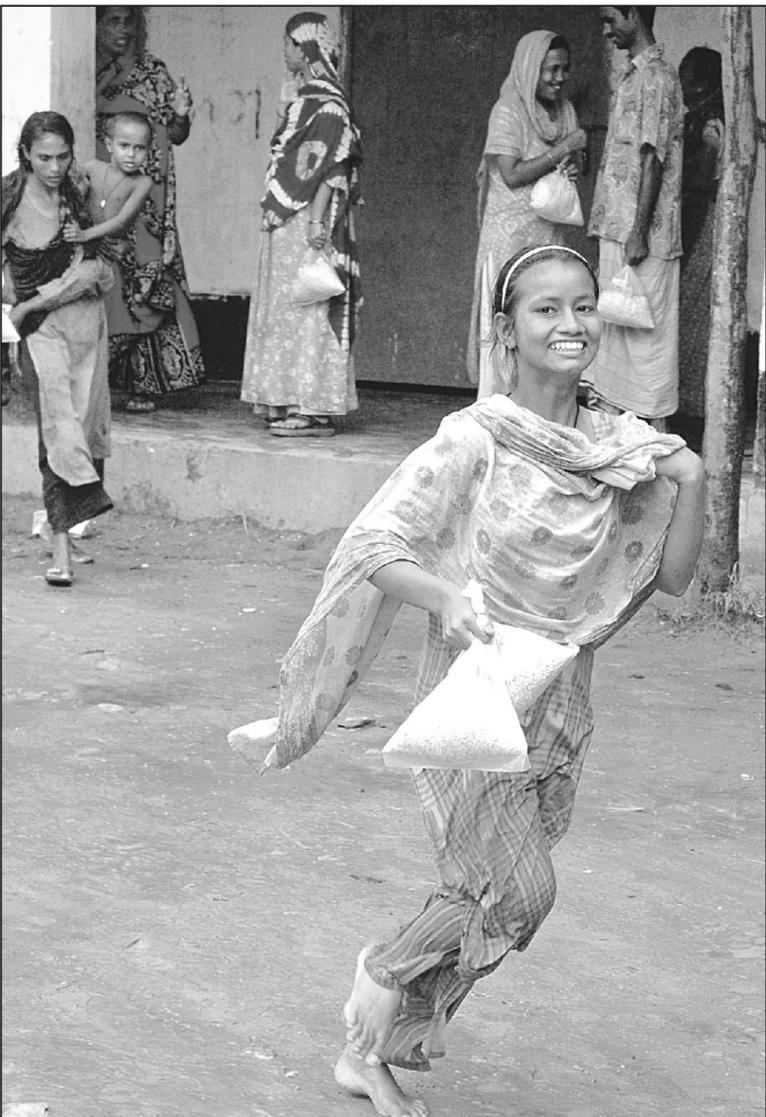
On the DU's much talked about second campus, he said the authorities can seriously think whether they want a second campus or not, and if they do, then what would be the place.

New high-rise buildings can be constructed in the places of old and small buildings to address the accommodation crisis, he added.

He said, "The DU VC requested me to formulate a master plan for the university. I'm sorry; I could not finish it yet. I might mention these suggestions in that plan."

Authorities are thinking about launching new departments to cope with the contemporary world but can they think of annulling the older departments that are out-of-date, he wondered.

Department Chair Prof Ayesha Banu presided over the programme while Dean of Social Sciences Faculty Prof Harun-Or-Rashid, teachers and students of the department were also present on the occasion.



A flood victim is all smiles as she finally managed to collect relief materials after waiting in a long queue in the rain yesterday. The picture was taken on the Abhybinodini High School premises at Rajarbagh in the city.

## NU degree exam results published

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National University (NU) yesterday published the results of degree pass, subsidiary and certificate examinations of the year 2006, with a pass rate of 60.85 per cent.

A total of 40,205 examinees appeared in the three-year degree (pass) examinations and 24,465 of them became successful.

NU Vice-Chancellor Prof Wakil Ahmed officially announced the results at the NU conference room in Gazipur where other officials were also present, says an NU press release.

The pass percentage in Bachelor of Arts (BA) is 58.61, Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) 68.49, Bachelor of Social Science (BSS) 58.25, Bachelor of Science (BSc) 62.75, and Bachelor of Music (B Music) 32.00.

Among 25,736 Bachelor of Arts

(BA) examinees, 575 secured first class while 12,675 got second class and 1,834 passed with third class.

7,614 appeared at Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) examinations and among them, 131 got first class, 3,907 second class and 1,253 third class.

Among 4,110 Bachelor of Social Science (BSS) examinees, 77 achieved first class, 1,958 got second class while 359 passed with third class.

2,703 students appeared at Bachelor of Science (BSc) examinations and among them 287 got first class, 1251 second class and 158 got third class.

In Bachelor of Music (BMusic) eight examinees out of 25 became successful.

The results have already been sent to all NU affiliated colleges. The results will also be available on NU website.

## Bangladeshi academic takes part in prestigious Disney confce

Dr Shafiqur Rahman, a professor of South Carolina State University, took part in an intensive entertainment business and diversity conference in Hollywood that focused on the creative process behind TV and film, says a press release.

He was one of the 40 college educators who were selected from across the USA to attend 'An Anatomy of a Hit' - an entertainment business conference, sponsored by the Disney-ABC Television Group and The Walt Disney Studios in association with the International Radio & Television Society Foundation (IRTS).

Dr Shafiq, a Bangladeshi, serves as professor and coordinator of the university's Journalism/Broadcasting Programme.

The three-day conference was held from August 14 to 16 at Disney's Burbank Studio Lot.

## Housewife shot dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Assailants gunned down a housewife inside her residence at Auspara in Tongi yesterday evening.

The victim was identified as Mahmuda Begum, 40, wife of an expatriate Bangladeshi.

The assailants entered the residence of Mahmuda on the fourth floor of the building at around 6:30pm and shot her in the abdomen and chest, the police said

quoting the family members.

Hearing the gunshots, her daughter Khadiza Akhter, who was in another room, rushed to the room her mother only to find her lying in a pool of blood.

A resident of the five-storey building rushed Mahmuda to Dhaka Medical College Hospital at around 7:30pm where the doctors declared her dead.

## BBC Bangladesh Sanglap today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The fourth edition of BBC World Service's Bangladesh Sanglap will be held at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Center in the city at 5:45pm today.

Former education minister and Awami League advisory council member ASHK Sadique, former state minister and Joint Secretary General of BNP Salima Rahman, General Secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh Mujahidul Islam Salim and President of Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Latifur Rahman will feature in today's Sanglap.

The programme will be aired on BBC Bangla Radio at 8:00pm on Sunday and on Channel 1 at 8:00pm on Monday.

## Woman found dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman was found dead at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city early yesterday.

The dead was identified as Fatima Begum, 35, wife of rickshawpuller Ashraf Ali who resides in the area.

Local people found the body lying on the ground in front of Tejgaon Adarsha Mahila College at about 12:30am and called the police. The body bore injury marks in the head.

The police sent the body to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

## Call for regional cooperation to fight fallout of climate change

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environment and agriculture Adviser CS Karim yesterday painted a gloomy picture of environmental disasters in developing countries, including Bangladesh, which are set to be the worst victims of climate change. He urged more regional cooperation in environment matters to save lives.

"Livelihood and food security will face enormous challenges... people are now suffering as communication networks snapped and educational institutions went under water due to flooding," he said at the inaugural ceremony of a regional seminar on environmental laws.

Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA) organised the three-day Fifth All Asia Public Interest Environmental Law Conference at Brac Inn Centre in the city in association with American Bar Association, US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and Oxfam Novib.

Around 40 environment experts and lawyers from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, the Philippines, China and USA are participating in the seminar.

Speaking as the chief guest, CS Karim said with rise of sea level 30 million people in the developing countries are set to be environmental refugees but few steps have been taken to prevent that.

"We, the developing countries, lack resources and the knowledge to combat such challenges," he said.

Greenhouse gas emission of the industrial countries is the main reason behind global warming, but they are advocating developing countries to maintain environmental standards when these countries face the dilemma whether to go for development or maintaining environmental standards, the adviser noted.

He said overpopulation has created tremendous pressures on the resources of the country.

"Even in the three ministries I am in charge of, there are many conflicts between development activities and keeping the environment standards," he said.

Enforcement of environmental standards therefore take the back seat, he said adding that a balance must be made between development and environment.

Calling for more regional cooperation in protecting environment the adviser said, "For example, we have the capacity to forecast floods three days ahead. But if we could forecast a day earlier, people would be greatly benefited."

The neighbouring countries therefore should have more exchange of information on such issues to save lives of people, he said.

"Collective wisdom will be under serious question if we do not go for actions now," he said, adding that environmental laws also need to change as new issues come up in course of time.

Chairing the session, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies Executive Director Dr Atiq Rahman said some of the small island countries would disappear if the sea level rises by 1.5 metres.

"Environment cost is not considered when electricity is produced in an industrialised country," he said, adding that the mountains, water and air belong to all human being and all should work so that none of these are affected.

S Rizwana Hasan of Bela, Sneha Barot of American Bar Association and Lalanath de Silva of Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide of Sri Lanka also spoke at the inaugural session.



Bangladesh Air Force Women Welfare Association President Begum Shameema Zia hands over a cheque for Tk 5 lakh to Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his office on Thursday for the flood-affected people.



ATM Hayatuzzaman Khan, former chairman of Dhaka Bank, hands over a cheque for Tk 25 lakh to Executive Director of ICDDR,B Alejandro Craviato in the city recently in donation for flood relief programme.



Community Participation and Development in association with Save the Children Sweden-Denmark distributes relief among flood victims in the city's Mohammadpur area recently.



Earth Foundation officials distribute relief among flood-affected people at Sonargaon in Narayanganj recently.



Nagorik Odhikar Sangrakkhan Forum in association with Resource Integration Centre and Manusher Jonno Foundation distributes relief among flood-affected people in the city's Khilgaon and Goran areas yesterday.



Jamuna Bank officials distribute relief among flood victims at Hasail in Tongibari, Munshiganj on Thursday.



Director of Amin Mohammad Group Maj (Retd) KM Shafiqur Reza distributes relief among flood-affected people at Nashason in Shariatpur yesterday.



## Appeal for help

Students of Ananda Mohan College in Mymensingh have appealed for financial assistance for the treatment of their fellow student Nurani Begum who has been suffering from cardiac problem.

Both the valves of the heart of Nurani, a fourth-year student of social welfare department, have been damaged, says a press release.

According to the doctors, she needs immediate treatment to change the valves within three months which will involve Tk 7 lakh.

But it is not possible for her father, a teacher of primary school, to arrange such a huge amount of money for the treatment of his daughter.

So, the students have made a fervent appeal to affluent people and different organisations to come forward with the financial assistance to save her life.

Contributions can be sent to Nurani Begum, Savings Account No 6851, Janata Bank, Women Branch, Mymensingh.

Interested persons can also call at 091-65673 (Social Welfare Department).

## Obituary



Prof Abdul Mosabbir, former chairman of English department at Jagannath University, passed away at Samorita

Hospital in the city on August 12 at the age of 75, says a press release.

He left behind two daughters and a host of students, relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

He was buried at his family graveyard at Shippasha village at Bahubal in Habiganj.

## Death anniversary



Today is the sixth death anniversary of Mostafizur Rahman, a freedom fighter and architect, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad and doa mahfil will be held at his Hasnabad apartment at 189, Boro Maghbar residence in the city after Asr prayers.

His relatives, friends and admirers are requested to attend the programme.

## WEATHER TODAY

## Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at many places over Sylhet division in the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy rainfalls are also likely at places, Met Office said, predicting that day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Sylhet and the lowest of 24.2 degrees at Rangamati.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:30pm today and rises at 5:35am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.4	26.0	98	90
Chittagong	29.6	24.8	90	81
Rajshahi	27.7	25.4	100	93
Khulna	29.5	26.4	90	97
Barisal	31.6	26.7	87	93
Sylhet	33.7	25.2	88	88
Cox's Bazar	30.7	25.0	96	83

## DHAKA TODAY

**Roundtable**  
Shaptahik2000 organises a roundtable titled 'Jute industry of Bangladesh: Present context'. Venue: Seminar room of The Daily Star. Time: 10:00am.

**Lecture**  
Asiatic Society Bangladesh organises Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed Memorial Lecture 2007. Venue: RC Majumdar auditorium. Time: 4:30pm.

**Seminar**  
Bangladesh Adivashi Odhikar Forum organises a seminar on the land-related problems of the indigenous people. Venue: Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium. Time: 4:00pm.

**Workshop**  
Reporters' Against Corruption (RAC) and the Commonweath Cultural Society of Bangladesh (CCSB) have jointly organised a six-day workshop for journalists on business communication beginning from today. Venue: Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium. Time: 11:00am.

**View exchange meeting**  
Citizens' Rights Movement organises a view exchange meeting on judiciary. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:30am.

**Debate**  
Dhaka University Debating Society

(DUDS) organises an exhibition debate and a cultural programme to raise funds for the flood victims. Venue: Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) auditorium. Time: 3:00pm.

**Talk**  
Globalisation Study Group organises a talk on 'Globalisation and development: Can they be reconciled?' by Dr Brian Shoemith. Venue: RC Majumdar auditorium, Dhaka University. Time: 10:30am.

**Seminar**  
Bangladesh Institute of Social Research (BISR) organises a seminar on 'Flood loss in Bangladesh'. Venue: BISR conference room. Time: 5:30pm.

**Brac Workshop**  
Brac organises a workshop for its distributors and dealers. Venue: Brac Centre. Time: 9:00am.

**Rotary Dhaka Central**  
The regular meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30pm.

**Rotary Dhaka North West**  
The Club Assembly and regular meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka North West will be held. Venue: Dhaka Club. Time: 5:00pm.