

# Teachers must have commitment to nation

President tells Asian University convocation

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday said the teachers' community must have a commitment to the nation, which can inspire them to discharge their duties with utmost sincerity and dedication.

"A teacher is the guide, philosopher and a trusted friend of a student. So, the role of a teacher is of paramount importance in building the students as rational human

beings," the president said at the 4th convocation ceremony of the Asian University of Bangladesh (AUB) at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre (BCFCC) yesterday.

As a second home, the authorities of the educational institutions as well as the erudite teachers have great role to play in shaping the generation with broader outlook for the greater interest of the nation," said Iajuddin, also chancellor of the university.

He also urged all concerned to come forward with a view to creating a knowledge-based society so that the future generation could lead the nation to the right direction.

"I believe, without morality, education alone cannot make a man perfect and fulfill the hopes and aspirations of the nation."

He said it is important to inculcate moral and ethical values in the students through the education system. "This ethical orientation should start right from the primary level," he suggested.

He urged the guardians to make their homes as an ideal centre of beginning, which is the first educational institution of every individual.

The president also emphasised developing a "caring and sharing society". It is, therefore, important that the members of society take care of each other sharing both sorrows and happiness.

He expressed happiness to see that the nation stood beside the flood-affected people in the recent times.

Justice Mustafa Kamal was the convocation speaker at the function.



President Iajuddin Ahmed gives away Chancellor Gold Medal to Dr M M Emran Chowdhury at the fourth Convocation of Asian University of Bangladesh yesterday. Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr A M Sadeq, right, is also seen.

# \$1 lakh Indonesian help for flood victims

UNB, Dhaka

Indonesia has donated 100,000 US dollar to the Chief Adviser's Relief Fund for the country's flood victims.

Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury received a cheque for the amount from Indonesian Ambassador in Dhaka Warmas Hasan Saputra at the Ministry yesterday.

They also discussed follow-up action following the bilateral meeting in Manila recently between Iftekhar and his Indonesian counterpart Hasan Wirajuda, said a Foreign Ministry release.

"Bangladesh and Indonesia are the two Muslim countries and there is much we can do together for mutual benefit. We are both committed to doing just that," the Foreign Adviser said to the media afterwards.

# 4 DU teachers charged

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warrants against the absconding accused including two DU teachers and order for attachment of their movable and immovable properties.

The court will decide on September 19 whether the charge sheets and final reports of the cases will be accepted or not.

The trial of the cases will have to be completed in 30 working days in accordance with the speedy trial tribunal and speedy trial court.

The police submitted charge sheets of 13 of the 53 cases filed with different police stations in the city. They filed final reports of 38 cases. Investigation of two cases filed with Shahbagh Police Station in connection with torching an army private car is yet to be completed, police sources said.

In the cases 82,000 unnamed persons including students were made accused.

The police charged the four DU teachers in two cases for violating the EPR by inciting and fuelling violent student protests following a brawl between students and some army personnel on a DU playground on August 20.

The violence spread quickly to other educational institutions and places in the country on August 21 and 22 that prompted the caretaker administration to clamp an indefinite curfew on the capital and five other divisional headquarters.

If the charges are proved, the DU teachers will be sentenced to a maximum of five years' or a minimum of two years' rigorous imprisonment and fine.

The 15 DU students were also chargesheeted along with their teachers in the two cases filed with Shahbagh Police Station. Twelve of them were also chargesheeted in another case.

Six of the chargesheeted students are leaders of JCD, student wing of the BNP, and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of the Awami League.

They are DU unit JCD President Hasan Mamun and General Secretary Saiful Islam Firoz, Sir AF Rahman Hall JCD leader Kamrul Hasan Kochi, Shamsunnahar Hall unit JCD Acting President Tanjeen Chowdhury Lili, Rokeya Hall unit JCD President Shahinoor Nargis and central BCL Vice President Apama Rani Pal.

Other chargesheeted students are Rifat Hossain Jiku, Nazrul Islam Russell, Shamsul Kabir Rahat, Mitul, Aziz Hasan, Rokonzaman, Moniruzzaman (arrested), Kamruzzaman and Anwar Hossain.

The police also pressed charges against four persons--Ashik alias Atiq, Harunur Rashid, Rokon and Shamim--in a case filed with Motijheel Police Station for violence.

Two persons--Din Mohammad and Delwar Hossain--were chargesheeted in a case filed with Newmarket Police Station while two others--Imtiaz Bijon and Mostafa Zaman Shibly--were chargesheeted in three cases filed with Dhanmondi Police Station.

Charges were also pressed against Maksudur Rahman and Kazi Monirul Islam Moni in a case filed with Kotwali Police Station, against Ahsan Habib, Farid and Fatimatuzzohra in two cases filed with Gulshan Police Station, and against Lalon alias Lalon Fakir, Sabuj alias Faikuzzaman, Farid and Indrajit alias Sagar in two cases filed with Mirpur Police Station for violence in the areas concerned.

"The 36 accused were identified from video footages and in police investigation," Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Naim Ahmed told journalists at Rajarbagh Police Lines yesterday after opening a weeklong training programme on Personnel Information Management System software.

Naim said the police have submitted charge sheets within two weeks as per his commitment made at a press briefing recently.

Our correspondent in Rajshahi adds: A metropolitan magistrate yesterday relieved three detained Rajshahi University (RU) professors of the charge of suspicious role behind campus violence under Section 16(2) of the EPR of 2007 as specific charges were pressed against them in regular cases.

The three teachers are former RU vice chancellor Prof Dr M Saidur Rahman Khan, RU syndicate member and Progressive Teachers' Alliance convenor Prof Dr Abdus Sobhan and Prof Moloy Bhowmik.

Magistrate Rabiul Alam issued the order following a prayer of the investigation officer (IO) who said there was no need to continue the case as police pressed specific charges against the accused in regular cases.

The IO, sub-inspector Faruk Hossain of Motihar Police Station, told the court that Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested them on August 24 under Section 16 (2) of the EPR for their suspicious roles behind the violence on RU campus.

"After interrogating them as they were remanded, the police have become sure of their involvement and pressed specific charges against them in regular cases," said the IO in his prayer.

Police on September 1 pressed charges against 20 persons including eight teachers, an officer and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leaders and workers in two cases over campus violence in late August.

Following a case filed by Officer-in-Charge of Motihar Police Station Khondoker Ferdous Alam, Sub-inspector Nasir Uddin submitted charge sheet accusing six teachers under Section 3 (4), 4 (3) and 8 (2) of EPR for bringing out a silent procession on RU campus on August 21 calling upon students to resist the Dhaka University (DU) incidents.

Three other teachers accused in the case, Dulal Chandra Biswas, Selim Reza Newton and Abdullah Al Mamun of mass communication department surrendered to a court.

"Following the teachers' support, students called a strike on August 22 that resulted in the violence," the OC said in the case.

Besides on July 26, the teachers observed leave en masse demanding three points including release of Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina and withdrawal of the ban on politics, he added.

"The leave en masse was virtually a strike in another name which is prohibited under the Emergency Power Rules," says the charge sheet.

In another charge sheet, SI Mukhtar Hossain accused 14 persons including Prof Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan Sajal and Prof Golam Sabbir Sattar Tapu under Section 3 (4) and 8 (2) of torching a DGFI vehicle during the violence.

# Expulsion during ban on politics

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with Bhuiyan and expelled joint secretary general Ashraf Hossain for any official purpose with the BNP.

Earlier on September 2, Khaleda expelled Bhuiyan and Ashraf from the BNP for what she said was attempting to split the party.

The meeting between the followers of Bhuiyan and the EC took place at a time when the commission has been struggling to decide which of the factions to be invited for the dialogue on electoral reforms.

The delegation assured the EC of all-out support in holding the ninth parliamentary election in a free and fair manner.

"The election commissioners told us that they will read the letter and take a decision in time after discussion among themselves," former water resources minister Hafizuddin told reporters coming out of the commission.

"We requested the Election Commission to take proper steps to keep the party united," Hafiz said.

The EC has earlier said they have a lot of time for making a decision in this regard since the BNP is scheduled for talks on November 22. CEC ATM Shamsul

Huda yesterday reiterated the same view.

The letter brought up a number of points seeking to rationalise that pro-Bhuiyan faction is the real BNP.

Signed by BNP Office Secretary Mofiqul Hasan Tripti, it said before her arrest on September 3, the chairperson expelled Bhuiyan and Ashraf in an undemocratic and illegal manner. "We have rejected the decision. Leaders of national executive committee, former lawmakers and presidents and secretaries of district units have endorsed our rejection," read the letter.

Bhuiyan and Ashraf were not even served any show-cause notice and the chairperson took the decision unilaterally without consulting the standing committee or national executive committee, the letter claimed.

"She has taken the measures to foil the initiative to bring reforms in the political parties and electoral system," it alleged.

Hafizuddin however said Khaleda Zia is still their chairperson and they wonder how come she issued the expulsion orders.

"United, the BNP will contest the next parliamentary election. A split

will eventually help its main rival Awami League," he noted.

Chairperson's Advisers Mofazzal Karim and Major General (ret'd) ZA Khan were the other members of the delegation that arrived at the EC on 4:30pm. The CEC welcomed them in his office room. The two other election commissioners---Muhammed Sohul Hussain and Brig Gen (ret'd) M Sakhawat Hossain--were present at the meeting.

# NU first year exams begin Sept 20

The first year honours examinations under the National University (NU) will begin from September 20, says a press release.

Detailed schedule of the examinations will be available at all concerned examination centres/colleges and National University website [www.nu.edu.bd](http://www.nu.edu.bd).