

## CA urges people of all faith to work unitedly for dev

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday hoped that the people of Bangladesh irrespective of creed and colour would work together in the government's efforts for future development of the country.

He expressed the views while talking to newsmen after exchanging greetings with distinguished personalities of Hindu community on the occasion of Durga Puja at the International Conference Centre (ICC) at the CA's office.

Conveying his Durga Puja greet-

ings to members of the Hindu community across the country, Fakhruddin said Bangladesh is a country of communal harmony where people irrespective of their caste, creed and colour are all citizens of Bangladesh.

He said the successes and achievements that Bangladesh so far attained were the result of combined efforts of all.

Referring to peaceful, amiable and joyful celebration of Eid-ul-Fitr and Durga Puja, he hoped that the people of all faiths would work together for development and

progress of Bangladesh keeping up the trend of amity.

Earlier, the Chief Adviser exchanged pleasantries and inquired about the well-being of the guests from the Hindu community who attended the function.

Maj Gen (retired) CR Dutta, noted singer Subir Nandi, Dr Lalit Mohan Nath, Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Dr Durga Das Bhattacharya, Dr Purna Mondal, Suranjan Ghosh, Debashish Roy Modhu, Amalendu Ghosh Apu, Nitai Ghosh, Mahadev Baidya and Manik Lal Samaddar were present on the occasion.



PHOTO: PID

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed exchanges greetings with members of the Hindu community at his office in the city yesterday on the occasion of Durga Puja.

## Eliminate corruption from transport sector

Speakers ask govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday urged the caretaker government to eliminate corruption from the transport sector, as it would substantially reduce the level of road accident.

They also underscored the need for raising awareness among commuters, drivers and law enforcers in reducing the rate of road accidents in the country.

The discussion titled 'We Demand Safe Road, We Demand Effective Measure to Prevent Irregularities and Corruption in Transport Sector' organised by Nirapad Sarak Chai (We Demand Safe Road) was held at National Sports Council auditorium in the city.

Speaking at the programme, Nirapad Sarak Chai (NSC) Chairman Ilias Kanchan said widespread corruption in the country's transport sector is largely responsible for the rising number of road accidents in the country.

He said that unscrupulous businessmen import low quality bus, trucks and even tires, which is

ultimately responsible for road accidents.

Previous governments turned blind eye to the irregularities that prevailed in the transport sector of the country, he said adding that if the caretaker government take actions to eliminate corruption in transport sector, the rate of road accidents would go down.

Speaking as the chief guest, former adviser to the caretaker government M Hafiz Uddin Khan also spoke.

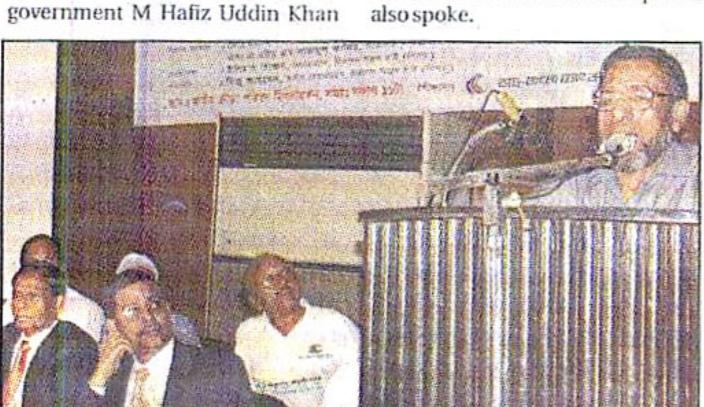


PHOTO: STAR

Former adviser to the caretaker government M Hafiz Uddin Khan speaks at a discussion at National Sports Council auditorium in the city yesterday.

## Maid dies in rooftop fall

UNB, Dhaka

A female domestic help died after falling from the rooftop of six-storyed building at Wari in the city yesterday.

The victim was identified as Aroti Barmon, 19, daughter of Ram Krishna Barmon. She haled from Pirganj of Rangpur district.

Witnesses and police said Aroti, working as a domestic help of Raja Ram Agarwal, went to the rooftop of the six-storyed building for drying clothes. In her carelessness she slipped down at about 11:30am.

Aroti was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where on duty doctors declared her dead.

## REOPENING OF BNP OFFICE Govt playing 'double standard': Hannan Shah

UNB, Gazipur

Criticising the interim government's "dilly-dallying" in allowing BNP to open party office, he alleged the government is playing "double standard" in this matter.

He forewarned that the BNP activists would not accept if the government handed over the party office to the "sycophants".

"I hope the government will hand over power to the elected representatives through holding a fair election as per people's expectation," Shah told journalists yesterday when he went to appear before the district court in connection with a graft case.

In reply to a question regarding the right of the expelled BNP leaders to make comment about party affairs, Hannan Shah said those leaders will have to beg pardon to the party as they, he said, have tarnished the party image through their behaviour.

All the nine residential halls of Chittagong University reopened yesterday amid tight security after two months' closure in the wake of Aug 22 campus unrest.

However, the classes will resume tomorrow.

Students were returning to halls as Rab and police were checking their identity cards. Law enforcers were patrolling inside the campus and vantage points to ward off untoward incident.

Meanwhile, warrant of arrest was issued yesterday against eight of the 10 charged-sheets in the Aug 22 campus violence case.

They are student leaders Kanchan Sarker, Jamiruddin Russell, Moni

Dipa Bhattacharya, Mesbahuddin, Zahidul Islam alias Black Jewel, the daily Sangram correspondent Mahiuddin Tipu, CU Employees' Association leader Syed Nazimuddin and CU Officers' Association President Zakir Ahmed.

Bijoy Kumar was arrested on September 2 while Moni

Baishnab on September 18. Monti was later freed on bail.

Charge sheet against all the accused was submitted yesterday.

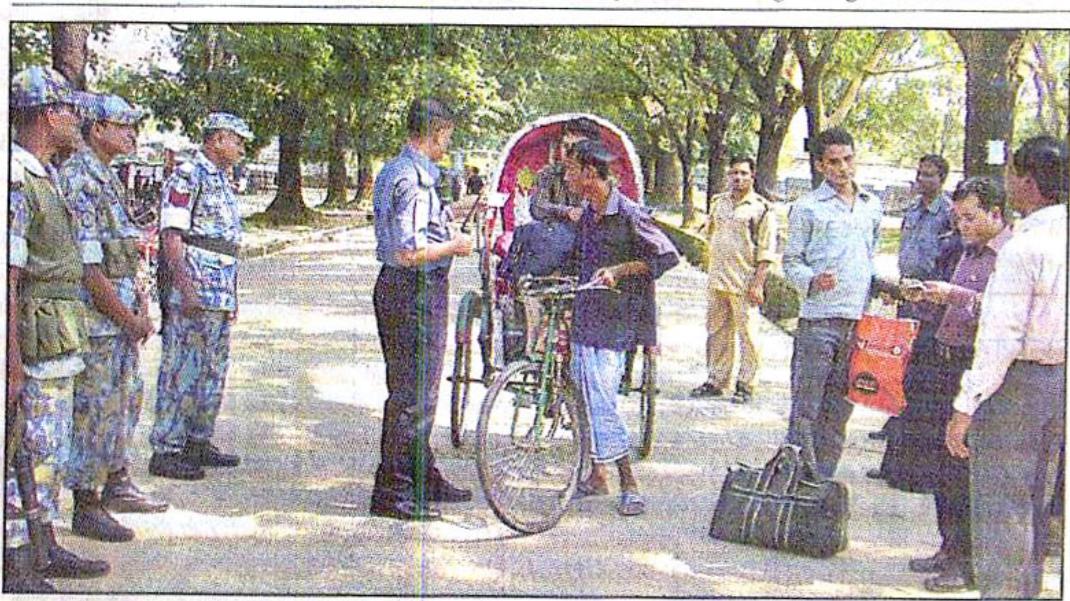


PHOTO: STAR

Students of Chittagong University show their identity cards to law enforcers at the main gate of the university as the dormitories reopened yesterday.

## Concern over filing of case against RUJ secy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Some 50 journalists in a joint statement yesterday expressed concern over the filing of extortion case against fellow journalist and human rights activist Jahangir Alam Akash.

They hoped that police will ensure proper investigation into the case and will not make Akash a victim of torture during the process of justice.

The signatories to the statement included Rajshahi Union of Journalists (RUJ) President Hasan Millat, Toshikul Islam, editor of a local daily Sun Shine, Abdulla Al Mahmud, editor of Upachar, Mahtab Uddin, editor of weekly Gana Khabar, and senior journalists Mustafizur Rahman Khan Alam, Kazi Gias, Shafikul Islam, Saidur Rahman, Abul Kalam Muhammad Azad, Anisuzzaman and Zabid Apu.

Akash, RUJ general secretary and Rajshahi bureau reporter of the Sangbad and recently closed CSB News, was sued for an alleged extortion of Tk 50,000.

He was granted ad-interim bail in the case from the High Court on October 16.

Mahfuzul Haque Loton, vice-president of Rajshahi district Awami League, lodged the complaint with Boalia Police Station on August 20 and the case was recorded on October 2.

Loton alleged that Akash along with two other persons demanded Tk 50,000 in toll from him on April 13.

The plaintiff alleged that he paid Tk 20,000 following threats by Akash.

Akash told reporters that the case was filed with an ulterior motive following a report broadcast in CSB News television channel on the grabbing of Waqf estate properties in northern region including Delwar Hossain Waqf Estate.

## SCF protests charge sheet against five workers, leaders

CU CORRESPONDENT

Samajtahitik Chhatra Front (SCF) Chittagong University (CU) unit yesterday protested inclusion of five of their leaders and activists in the charge sheet of the case filed in connection with the vandalism on the university campus on August 22.

Terming the case as intentional and false, the organisation demanded immediate withdrawal of the case and release of its detained activist Bijoy Kumar Das.

In a statement yesterday, the organisation also said the allegation brought against the SCF leaders and activists are baseless and politically intentional.

The SCF has been working for protecting the rights of teachers and students since its inception and none of its activists was involved with the vandalism on the day of the incident on August 22, the statement said.

Mentionable, police submitted charge sheet of the case on Saturday accusing ten, including SCF President Kanchan Sarker, Vice President Moni Dipa Bhattacharya, General Secretary Zamir Uddin Russell, Office Secretary Mezbah Uddin and activist Bijoy Kumar Das.

CU dormitories reopen amid tight security

8 charged-sheets in Aug 22 violence case

UNB, Chittagong

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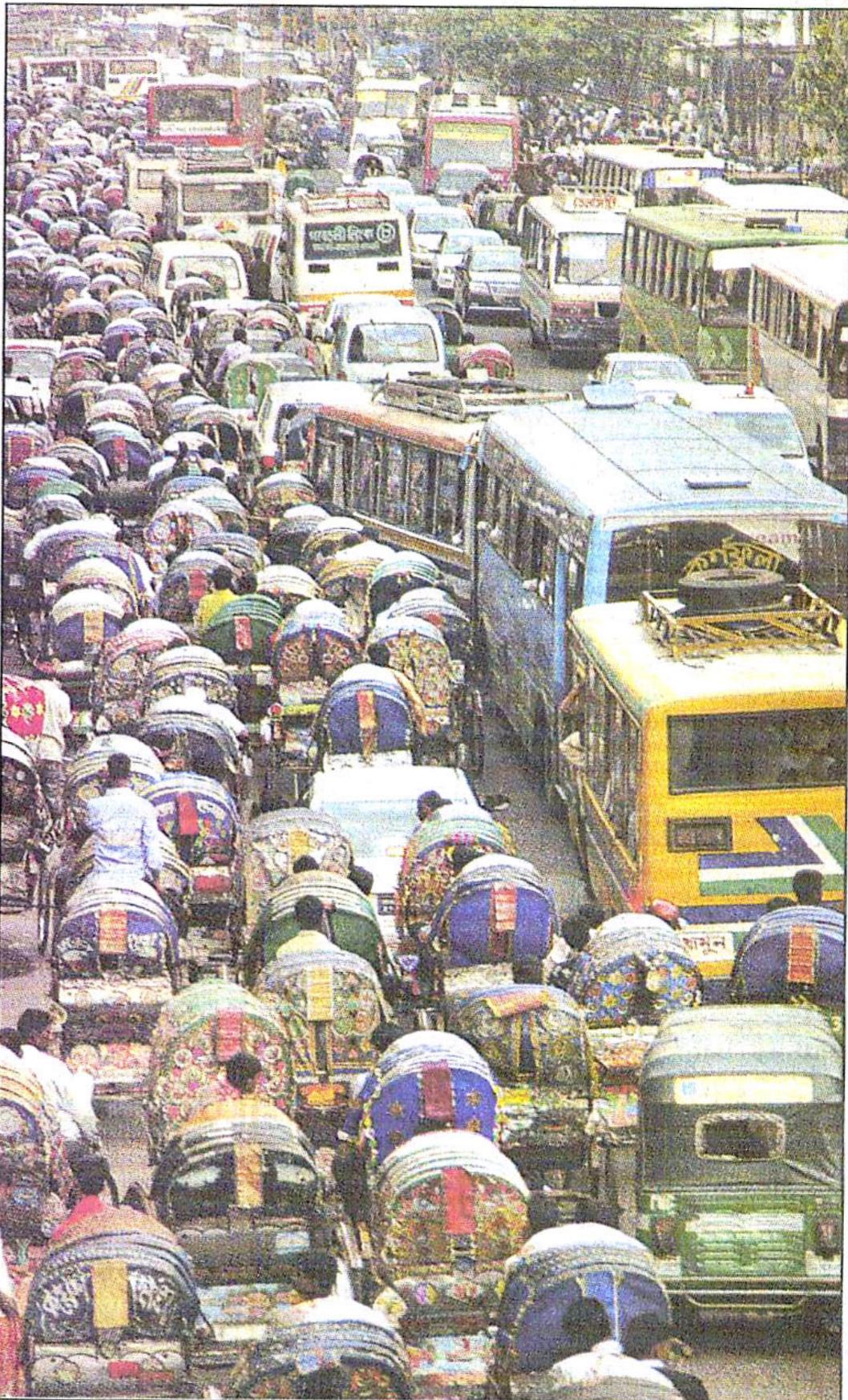
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Hundreds of vehicles get stuck in a gridlock at Paltan in the city yesterday, causing immense suffering to the commuters and pedestrians.

## Voter listing begins in Ctg

Bss, Chittagong

The registration of voters to prepare voter list with photographs and national ID card began at all 41 wards under Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) yesterday.

District Election Office (DEO) with cooperation of Bangladesh Army is conducting the tasks, DEO sources said.

On the inaugural day of the process, a procession to motivate voters for registration was brought out in the morning.

It started from Lalbagh Maidan and ended at Shaheen Miner after parading different streets.

Led by Deputy Commissioner Chittagong, Mohammad Ashraf Shamim, officials from DEO, district administration, CCC ward commissioners and development activists joined the procession.

Addressing a rally after the procession, Ashraf Shamim said the present government has taken initiative to prepare an accurate voter list to ensure a free and fair poll. He called upon all concerned to extend their cooperation so that it can be completed successfully within the stipulated time.

The awareness programmes, including miking, posterizing and distribution of leaflets, are being carried out jointly by DEO and the Election Working Group, a non-government organisation.

A total of 4,750 data collectors, 950 supervisors and 50 assistant registration officers have started collecting door-to-door information yesterday.

DEO source said after completion of collecting data, registration process will be started by taking fingerprints and photographs at 483 registration centers under the direct supervision of Army experts.

## AUG 22 CU INCIDENT

### Students asked to give deposition Oct 27-28

CU CORRESPONDENT

The probe committee formed to investigate into the August 22 incident on Chittagong University (CU) campus requested the university students to give deposition before it on October 27 and 28.

Interested students who could not give deposition have been asked to be present at the Dean Office at 11:00am on the scheduled days, said a press release of the committee.

CU authorities formed the four-member committee headed by Prof Dr Md Anisur Uddin Ahmed to investigate into the incident.



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