

Study Nazrul's works to build knowledge-based society: CA

UNB, Dhaka
Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed yesterday called for research on Nazrul's works for building a knowledge-based society.

Secretary M Sharful Alam also spoke on the occasion.
Chief Adviser's wife Neena Ahmed, Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar, advisers, special assistants to the chief adviser, poets, litterateurs, academics, cultural activists and distinguished personalities were present at the function.

endless source of inspiration in the nation's great struggle for the creation of independent Bangladesh, in the efforts for socioeconomic emancipation and in getting rid of the bondage of dependence by breaking the shackles of British imperialism.

added.
The chief adviser said Nazrul was the "pioneer of our national awakening and had opened a new era in the world of our language and literature".



Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed holds talks with the leaders of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal led by Hasanul Haq Inu at the CA's office in the city yesterday.

2 domestic helps jump from rooftop to escape torture

Employer arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two domestic helps were injured as they jumped from the six-storey building to the rooftop of a nearby building at Mohammadpur in the city yesterday in a desperate bid to escape from alleged torture and sexual abuse by their employer.

girl filed a case with Mohammadpur Police Station under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.
Sources at One-stop Crisis Centre (OCC) of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH) said the girl had an abortion earlier.

and fourth floors of the building adjacent to Krishi Market at Mohammadpur.
Surya Rani, one of the victims, alleged that Mamun used to beat her, and his families never allowed her and the other girl to go out of the building since they were employed a few months back.

Shotgun snatched from police recovered

UNB, Gazipur

The police yesterday recovered the shotgun that was snatched from two police constables in Konabari Bazaar area in Joydevpur on Thursday night.

On Friday and Saturday, the police arrested three criminals -- Abu Zafar, Monir and Habib. Acting on their confessional statement, police recovered the shotgun from a bush at Ambagh Pashchimpara at Konabari yesterday morning.

7 engineers

FROM PAGE 16

engineers of RHD Mozammel Huq (Dhaka division), Mominul Huq (Comilla division), Md Rafiqul Islam (planning, Comilla division) and Abdullal Kafi (Rangpur), Executive Engineer Md Ali Masud Haider, superintendent engineers AHM Mainul Islam Chowdhury and Tapas Kumar Paul, and Project Coordinator of Reza Construction Mamta Uddin.

ACC Deputy Director Mohammad Safiqur Rahman Bhuiyan, the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the FIR, clearing the eight engineers of the graft charges.

In the probe report, the IO prayed for relieving the accused from bribery charges as the charges against the accused were not proved. Moreover, complainant Mahbub Kabir, director of Reza Construction, had earlier submitted an affidavit to the IO saying that he was forced to put his signature on the first information report (FIR).

Members of the task force arrested the eight with Tk 13,99,000 from a coffee shop in the city on January 10 while they were allegedly distributing the bribe among themselves.

Acting on information provided by Reza Construction Director Mahbub Kabir, the task force members caught the RHD officials red-handed at around midnight, sources said.

Reza Construction is the lessee of toll collection rights at Rupsha Bridge and Mahbub offered bribes to the RHD officials for extending the period of the lease.

According to the sources, after the RHD officials demanded Tk 14 lakh from Reza Construction for the lease extension, officials of the firm informed the task force of the matter and asked the RHD engineers to meet at Coffee World and collect the bribe.

Khulna mayor

FROM PAGE 1

Khulna special tribunal judge Shirin Kabita Akhter pronounced the verdict in presence of the detained KCC mayor.

The other convict Sarder Abu Taher has been absconding since filing of the case.

The court acquitted six other accused in the case. They are KCC Executive Engineer Mashuuzzaman Khan, BNP leader Tarikul Islam Jahir, Managing Director of Unique Ice and Foods Ltd Kazi Saiful Islam Babu, Kamrul Islam, Mohammad Anam and Bulu.

Fish trader Abu Abdullah Elin of Rupsha filed the case with Khulna Police Station on November 3 last year against eight people including the KCC mayor on charges of extortion.

The complainant said the accused took Tk 450,000 from him to provide his two nephews with jobs at the KCC.

But they neither gave the two jobs nor return him the money.

Sub-inspector Tipu Sultan of Khulna Police Station, the investigation officer of the case, submitted the charge sheet to the court on February 24 this year.

Charges were framed against the accused on March 3. The court recorded statements of 11 prosecution witnesses during trial.

Police arrested Tahayer from his Dhaka residence on November 2 last year. He has been accused in ten other cases on different charges including extortion and misappropriation.

SC to publish annual report for the first time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) is going to publish its annual report on May 31 for the first time in its history.

SC Registrar Ikhted Ahmed told a press briefing at his office yesterday that the outgoing Chief Justice (CJ) Md Ruhul Amin will unveil the cover of the annual report at a ceremony at Hotel Sonargaon on the day.

"The SC annual report will contain various aspects including formation, power and function of the judiciary, its ongoing reforms and development activities, supervision and control over activities of the subordinate courts under the SC, revenue income and budget through courts, important judgments of Appellate Division and profiles of judges of both Appellate and High Court divisions of the SC," he said.

Ikhted said when the incumbent CJ assumed office on March 1, 2007, the number of pending cases with the Appellate Division was 9,119 while at present the number stands at 6,761.

Around 2.69 lakh cases of different natures are pending before the HC division, he added.
Sources said the report will be published with the financial assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB) under its good governance programme.

Two Huji men placed on 3-day remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed two operatives of the banned militant organisation Harkatul Jihad Al Islami (Huji) on a three-day remand for interrogation in connection with the CPB rally bomb attack case.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Ehsanul Haque passed the order after the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) produced Maulana Idris Ali and Maulana Monir Hossain before the court with a prayer for 10-day remand.

The blast at the Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) rally at Paltan Maidan killed five people and injured many others on January 20 in 2001.

Idris and Monir are also accused in a number of grenade and bomb attack cases, including the cases filed in connection with the August 21 grenade attack on an Awami League rally and the April 14 bombing of the Pahela Baishakh celebrations at Ramna Batamul. Idris and Monir are relatives.

In the forwarding report placed before the court, CID Inspector Delwar Hossain, the investigation officer of the case, said the two were involved in the attack.

He said the agency would be able to make a significant breakthrough in the case and identify and arrest others involved in the attack if the two were allowed to be quizzed in remand.

Several other Huji leaders and activists, including the outfit's detained top leader Mufti Hannan, have so far been shown arrested in the case.

CAB executives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Borhan Ahmed and Kazi Faruq have been elected president and general secretary of Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) for a two-year term.

They were elected at the annual general meeting (AGM) of the association at its conference hall at Segunbagicha in the city on Saturday.

Other elected office-bearers are Prof HKM Yousuf -- vice-president, advocate Humayun Kabir Bhuiyan -- treasurer, and Khalilur Rahman Sajal, Prof Zahana Begum, Tapan Khan, Dilip Mukharjee and AAK Mahamudul Hasan Dara -- members.



Family members of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam place wreaths at the grave of the poet beside the central mosque of Dhaka University on the occasion of his 109th birth anniversary yesterday.

Nazrul's birth anniversary celebrated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 109th birth anniversary of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam was celebrated across the country yesterday.

President Iajuddin Ahmed and Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed issued special messages on the occasion, paying tribute to the great poet.

Education Adviser Hossain Zillur Rahman, family members of the poet and members of different organisations placed wreaths to the grave in the morning.

Channel i, a satellite TV channel, organised a daylong Nazrul Fair at its office. Veteran Nazrul artist Sohrab Hossain was honoured with lifetime achievement award at the programme.

Department of World Religion of Dhaka University organised a discussion titled "Kazi Nazrul Islam and inter-religion harmony" at the TSC auditorium to mark the day.

National Nazrul Birth Anniversary Observance Council also organised a discussion at its office in the city yesterday.

Dakshin Bangla Jubo Kallyan Samity, Garments Sramik Kendra, Mehendiganj Unnayan Sangram Parishad, Dakshin Bangla Chhatra Kallyan Samity, Jatiya Ganatantrik League, Bangladesh Nari Mukti Andolon, Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Shamajtantrik Chhatra Front and Kabi Nazrul Sharkari College also organised discussions and cultural programmes.

Obituary

Alhaj Md Abul Kashem, a former messenger of public relations section of Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB), passed away at his residence in the city on Saturday at the age of 54, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, five sons and relatives to mourn his death.

He was buried at a graveyard at Mirpur-11 in the city yesterday.

Death anniversary

BSS, Dhaka

Today is the 16th death anniversary of Dr MA Saitar, former secretary and founder of Bangladesh Association for Community Education (BACE).

On the occasion, discussion and milad mahfil will be held at 3:00pm at the BACE office (House-12/1, Segunbagicha) in the city, says a press release.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the discussion and milad mahfil.

11 Biman, customs staffers detained on graft charges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of the joint forces yesterday detained 11 officials and employees of Customs Department and Bangladesh Biman at Zia International Airport (ZIA) on charges of irregularities and corruption.

Sources said the joint forces conducted the drive in the cargo village area of ZIA from 5:00pm and caught the staffers red-handed while they were sending fabric machinery, garment accessories, electronic items and mobile phone accessories worth Tk 6 crore out of the airport without realising taxes and duties.



Apollo Hospitals Dhaka organised a healthcare awareness programme for the members of Women's Voluntary Association at its auditorium in the city recently. Cardiologist Dr Syed Sakib Nazir of the hospital conducted the programme.

Weather Today section with a sun icon and a table showing temperature and humidity for various cities in Bangladesh.

CU classes resume tomorrow

CU CORRESPONDENT

Classes at Chittagong University (CU) will resume tomorrow after a three-day unscheduled suspension.

CU Proctor Prof Jasim Uddin said classes will resume on Tuesday and shuttle trains will also start plying according to the pre-scheduled times.

"The trains are running in on trial basis from yesterday and the railway authority assured us of plying the trains as usual from tomorrow," he said.

CU syndicate in an emergency meeting on Friday suspended all academic classes following inability of the railway authorities to ply trains without repairing the damaged equipment and signals of Sholoshahar Railway Station.

Meanwhile, the probe committee of railway formed to investigate the Thursday's train accident also submitted its report yesterday.

Railway East Zone Divisional Manager Ibrahim Khalil told The Daily Star that the railway staffs, guards or loco-master of the train was not responsible for the accident as no negligence in duties by them was found in the investigation.

The student, who was killed in the accident, fell off the rooftop of the running train and was crushed by it, he said.

The three-member committee, headed by Divisional Commercial Manager SM Shahnewaj, prepared the report after taking depositions from the concerned railway staffs and government railway police (GRP), he informed.

Mahmudul Hasan Mamun, a 3rd year student of Accounting Department, was crushed under the wheels of a CU-bound train at the Sholoshahar Station on Thursday morning.

Dhaka Today Seminar section with details about a seminar on 'The wretched of the earth' and a convocation event.

UCB DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Motijheel Ideal School, Siddeshwari Girls' College clinch titles

DU CORRESPONDENT

Motijheel Ideal School and College and Siddeshwari Girls' College emerged as champions at the UCB Second Inter School and College Debate Championship 2008 in the school and college categories respectively.

Ahmad Rashik Faiyad of Ideal School was adjudged the best debater at school level while Sabrina Binte Ashraf of Siddeshwari Girls' College became the best debater at college level.

Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS) organised the three-day event to mark its 25th founding anniversary at the university's Business Studies Faculty auditorium.

Motijheel Government Boys' High School and Adamjee

Cantonment Board College became runner-ups in the school and college categories respectively.

A total of 22 schools and eight colleges participated in the competition where all debates were held in parliamentary debate format.

DU Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof AFM Yusuf Haider distributed the prizes among the winners as the chief guest while Editor of the daily Shamokul Abed Khan, Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam and Executive Vice President of United Commercial Bank Ltd Mirza Mahmud Rafiqul Islam were also present at the closing ceremony.

The Daily Star, the Shamokul and Radio Today were the media partners of the event.

DUDS also brought out its annual publication titled 'Pratibad' (Protest) on the occasion.

'Develop skilled workers for overseas employment'

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury yesterday said it is possible to expand the country's employment opportunities abroad by developing skilled manpower.

He said this while inaugurating a daylong workshop on "Skill Development and Overseas Employment" organised by Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) in the city.

The foreign adviser, who is also in-charge of the Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment, said syllabuses of the country's technical training centres (TTCs) have been prepared suiting the requirements of overseas manpower market.

He called on the TTC principals to impart training to our people in the light of the syllabuses to help build skilled manpower.

Presided over by BMET Director General Abdul Malek, the workshop was also addressed by Secretary of expatriate welfare and overseas employment ministry Abdul Matin Chowdhury.

Iftekhar said a total of 8.32 lakh people got employment abroad in 2007, which was 118 percent higher than the previous year.

In the first four months of the current year, 3.32 lakh people got overseas employment. If the current trend continues, the country will be able to send 9 lakh people this year, he added.

He further said our people have been working in over 100 countries. Recently workers were sent to Russia and Romania. Our trained manpower will start leaving for Korea from June 2.

Iftekhar said this time the slogan should be "It is not quantity but quality". He stressed the need for

improving both skill and quality of our manpower simultaneously with increasing the number.

He said the remittance received in the first three months of the current year was \$3.0 billion and if the trend continues, it will cross \$9.0 billion.

Social Welfare Instt teachers to take classes from today

DU CORRESPONDENT

Teachers of the Institute of Social Welfare and Research at Dhaka University (DU) finally took decision to start taking classes of master's students after getting assurance from the vice chancellor of appointing a new director at the institute.

The agitated students of the institute confined some teachers to the institute building for two hours on Saturday as they disagreed to take classes on scheduled date under incumbent Director Prof Syeda Firoza Begum accusing her unfit to run the institute.

The teachers said they have taken decision to take classes from today as the VC assured them of solving the problem within the next two days.

A syndicate meeting has been called today to resolve the problems at the institute, sources said.

Master's classes are yet to start due to internal conflicts among the institute teachers even after one year of their honours' final examinations.