

# Try war criminals, ban Jamaat-Shibir politics

## Demands Nirmul Committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

**Ektator Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee**, a forum for Secular Bangladesh and Trial of War Criminals of 1971, yesterday brought out a protest procession on the Dhaka University (DU) campus demanding the trial of war criminals.

Freedom fighters, students, cultural activists, civil society representatives and general people took part in the programme that also demanded punishment to Jamaat-Shibir cadres who assaulted freedom fighter Sheikh Muhammad Aman Ali at the Diploma Engineers' Institute in the city on July 11.

Starting from the Central Shaheed Minar, the procession paraded around Doyel Chittagong, TSC and then returned to the Shaheed Minar.

Around 2000 people, who took part in the procession, chanted various slogans against the war criminals, Jamaat leaders and commanders of Al-

Badr Al-Shams and Razakars.

People standing on the roadside also expressed their solidarity with the processionists.

Earlier at a rally on the Shaheed Minar, Prof Muntasir Mamun read out a declaration on behalf of the Nirmul Committee.

Kabir Chowdhury said the government must start the trial of the war criminals by constituting a special tribunal, and ban on the so-called freedom fighters' organisation 'Jatiya Mukti Joddha Parishad' and the politics of Jamaat for its anti-liberation warrole.

The Nirmul Committee also called for raising the honourarium of the freedom fighters to Tk 10000 instead of Tk 900 and their free treatment and their family members in all hospitals.

It also urged the political parties to boycott Jamaat and not to forge any alliance with it.

President of the advisory council of

the Committee Prof Kabir Chowdhury presided over the rally which was also addressed by Prof Anwar Hossain, Sector Commanders Maj Gen (retd) KM Shafullah, Lt Col (retd) Abu Osman Chowdhury and journalist Shahriar Kabir.

The declaration demanded immediate trial of war criminals constituting a special tribunal, and ban on the so-called freedom fighters' organisation 'Jatiya Mukti Joddha Parishad' and the politics of Jamaat for its anti-liberation warrole.

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## Killing of 2 BDR men by BSF condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different organisations yesterday protested the killing of two members of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) by the Border Security Forces (BSF) of India on Thursday night.

A human rights research organisation Neeti Gobeshona Kendro (NGK) said the killing of Bangladeshis by the BSF men is becoming a routine affair.

Given a statistics, the NGK said only in last six months at least 32 Bangladeshis were killed by the BSF.

The human rights organisation urged the government to protest the incident firmly and raise the matter in different forums like the Saarc and the UN.

Revolutionary Workers Party of Bangladesh (RWPB) said the killing at a time when the secretary-level meeting between India and Bangladesh was going on is an indication of Indian hegemony over this country.

In a joint statement, RWPB President Khandaker Ali Abbas and General Secretary Saiful Haque urged India to prove that they are a friendly neighbour.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) President Mainuddin Khan Badal, and General Secretary Syed Zafar Sazzad in a statement protested the killing of two BDR soldiers by the BSF men without any provocation.

They hoped that the Indian government would resolve the issue very soon so that bilateral relations and the Saarc spirit are not disturbed.

Islamic Constitution Movement (ICM) led by the Pir of Charmonal said India is showing its aggressive attitudes by killing Bangladeshis time and again.

In a joint statement ICM Amir Syed Muhammad Rezaul Karim and Secretary General Maulana Yunus Ahmad urged the government to take effective steps to stop such killings.

National People's Party a meeting at its office in the city also protested the killing of two BDR soldiers by BSF men, and urged the government to strengthen the border.

In a joint statement BCL President Mahmud Hasan Ripon said they would investigate the incident and take action against the persons responsible.

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ORDN ON PVT PLOT, FLAT Call to form citizens' body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 15 activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of Awami League, and a policeman were injured in a factional clash on Jagannath University (JNU) campus yesterday.

The police also picked up three BCL activists - Arifur Rahman, Suman and Jasim Uddin - for their involvement in the clash.

Of the injured, Sharbon, a fourth year student of political science, was admitted to nearby Sumona Clinic.

The injured policeman was identified as Akbar Ali.

Campus sources said the clash occurred over Thursday's incident of alteration between the supporters of JNU BCL President Kamrul Hasan Ripon and General Secretary Gazi Abu Sayeed.

Bapa also called for including representatives from different professional bodies, consumers and entrepreneurs in the proposed committee.

They also chased each other for about an hour in two phases.

Later, the police baton-charged the activists to bring the situation under control.

Sources said BCL activists are now virtually divided in two groups - Kamrul group and Sayeed group. They have been carrying out organisational activities on the campus

As many as 3,063 institutions - 897 high schools, 57 colleges, 706 madrasas, 831 vocational institutions and 572 business management institutions - are badly needed in the remote areas in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet.

Most of the educational institutions were set up during this era on the basis of personal choice or political gain rather than necessity and were entitled to MPO.

These leaders and policymakers did not take any steps to establish around 3,000 institutions required especially in Dhaka and Sylhet divisions, according to a study of Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (Banes).

As many as 3,063 institutions - 897 high schools, 57 colleges, 706 madrasas, 831 vocational institutions and 572 business management institutions - are badly needed in the remote areas in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet.

But the Ministry of Education and the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE), popularly known as Shikha Bhaban, approved excess 5,125 institutions including 3,035 non-government high schools, 671 colleges and 1,419 madrasas elsewhere and entitled those to MPO under political pressure.

The Banes study on 'Location of Educational Institutions as per Electoral Constituency' shows that most of these institutions are situated in Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions.

DSHE Director General Prof KM Aurangzeb said an expert committee of renowned educationists should be formed to identify the areas requiring new educational institutions.

Shikha Bhaban spends Tk 3,043 crore annually on MPO. Yes, some additional institutions were entitled to MPO violating the rules. But Shikha Bhaban brought those institutions under MPO as per the direction of the education ministry." Prof Aurangzeb told The Daily Star.

At least nine teachers and two employees are working at each MPO-enlisted institution and the government has to spend Tk 90,000 to Tk 1.3 lakh every month for each of these institutions, sources said.

Dinajpur tops the list of districts having additional non-government educational institutions with highest 427. Jessor has second highest 372 and Rajshahi has 344 institutions.

On the other hand, 211 non-government institutions including 102 schools are required in Habiganj, but no initiatives have been taken to set up any, Banes sources say.

Besides, according to rules, 57 institutions including 31 schools should be entitled to MPO but only 36 got it.

Academicians say the government's target to take education to every door won't be successful without removing the discrimination in setting up schools, colleges and madrasas and allowing MPO.

"Many people are still deprived of education as there is no educational institutions near them. On the other hand, huge public fund is being wasted as many schools, colleges and madrasas were enlisted in senior politicians' areas in spite of having sufficient institutions within eight kilometres," said a top official of the ministry.

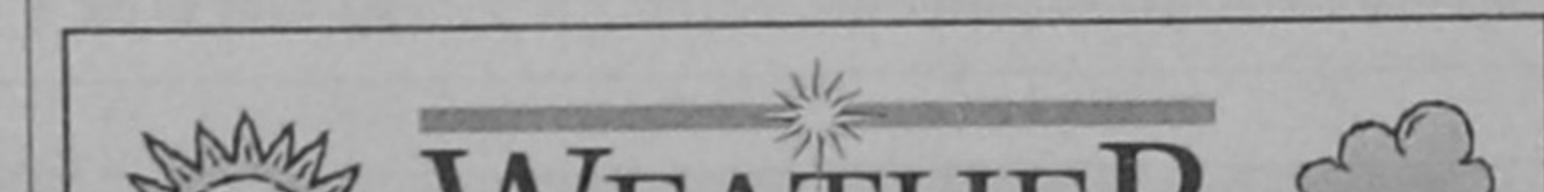
In Rajshahi division, nearly 9,000 institutions were enlisted which is about one-third of the country's MPO-enlisted institutions.

Ministry sources say many senior leaders of BNP and Jamaat set up institutions in their respective areas although there were enough institutions. For this reason, additional 1,689 schools, 457 colleges and 692 madrasas were enlisted only in Rajshahi division violating MPO rules.

On the other hand, Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and some other areas need 897 schools, 57 colleges and 706 madrasas where students are being deprived of education.



Awami League Acting President Zillur Rahman addresses a group of hunger strikers at Dhanmondi office of the party in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)



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 all the six divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

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

Highest temperature 32.6 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Srimongal and lowest 23.8 degrees Celsius at Cox's Bazaar.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:47pm today and rises at 5:23am tomorrow.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Max	Min	Morning	Evening	Humidity percentage
Dhaka	31.4	26.7	85	79		
Chittagong	29.7	25.2	97	85		
Rajshahi	32.4	26.5	89	83		
Khulna	28.8	25.4	100	92		
Barisal	29.3	25.6	97	91		
Sylhet	31.7	25.7	92	95		
Cox's Bazar	31.0	23.8	79	96		



Winners of the 'Mutual Trust Bank-The Daily Star Debate Contest 2008' pose for photograph with the guests at its prize giving ceremony at the Theatre Institute auditorium in Chittagong yesterday.

## MTB-DAILY STAR DEBATE CONTEST

# CU, Ispahani school, Ctg high school clinch titles

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Ispahani Public School and College, Chittagong Govt. High School and Chittagong University (CU) yesterday emerged as champions in the 'Mutual Trust Bank-The Daily Star Debate Contest 2008'.

Ispahani school clinched the title in the category of 1st child debate, Chittagong high school in 16th inter-school debate and the CU in 5th university debate.

Drishy Chittagong, an educational and cultural organisation, arranged the contest in association with Chittagong Development Authority (CDA).

The huge population of the country can be turned into human resources through ensuring such education, which helps develop a scientific habit of mind, they added.

Drishy President Masud Bakul presided over the ceremony moderated by its General Secretary Saif.

The final rounds of the contest and prize giving ceremony were held at Theatre Institute auditorium in the port city yesterday, with noted economist Prof Dr Mainul Islam Chowdhury as the chief guest.

First Vice-President of BGMEA MA Salam, Mutual Trust Bank Executive Vice-President Md Nurul Islam, Editor of the Star Campus, a weekly supplement of The Daily Star, Shahnoor Wahid, Assistant Professor Asrar Chowdhury of Jahangirnagar University, Mutual Trust Bank Assistant Vice-President Ahsan Ullah Khan and Sunshine Grammar School Principal Samaia Begum were present as the special guests.

Eleven schools took part in the child debate. Taohida Jahan Usra, a student of class six of Ispahani school, was adjudged the best debater.

Chittagong Collegiate School became the runner-up in the 1st child debate. And the motion of the final debate was 'Merit cannot be judged properly through existing examination system'.

Eleven schools took part in the child debate. Taohida Jahan Usra, a student of class six of Ispahani school, was adjudged the best debater.

He also said that his bank would continue to patronise such debate programmes as part of its corporate social responsibility.

Poet Jinnah Chowdhury, former debater Dr Masud Rana, lecturer of University of Science and Technology Chittagong (USTC) Irfan Jaman Nur, Assistant Headmistress of Kapashgola High School Moshabber Begum and Israt Jahan of St Placid's High School were the judges of the debate.

Premier University got defeated in the final round of the university



Speaking at the prize giving ceremony, they stressed the need for science and technology-based education for everyone in order to ensure proper development of the country.

The huge population of the country can be turned into human resources through ensuring such education, which helps develop a scientific habit of mind, they added.

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Agabad Girls School became the runner-up of the 1st child debate. And the motion of the final debate was 'Merit cannot be judged properly through existing examination system'.

Eleven schools took part in the child debate. Taohida Jahan Usra, a student of class six of Ispahani school, was adjudged the best debater.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Mainul Islam urged the students to prepare themselves as future leaders by acquiring vast knowledge so that they could lead the country in the right direction.

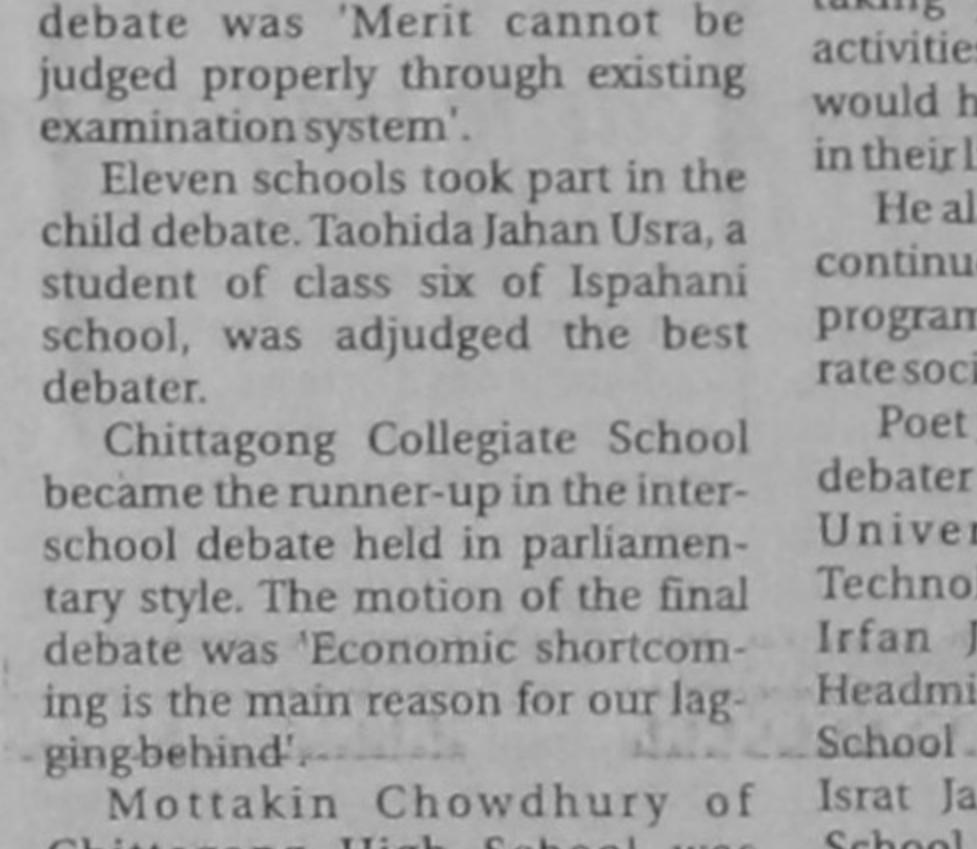
Such debate contests are a platform for developing merit, he added.

Md Nurul Islam of Mutual Trust Bank said students could develop their personality and other skills by taking part in extra-curricular activities such as debate, which would help them achieve success in their lives.

He also said that his bank would continue to patronise such debate programmes as part of its corporate social responsibility.

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Newly appointed World Bank Vice President for South Asia Region Isabel Guerrero makes a courtesy call on Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at the CA's '