



Commonwealth Secretary General Kamallesh Sharma speaks at a talk on 'The Commonwealth: Current Priorities, Future Directions' at BEI conference room in the city yesterday. On his left are BEI President Farooq Sobhan and eminent economist Prof Rehman Sobhan. Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) organised the event.

## Reforms in land commission law soon: Debashish

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Special Assistant to Chief Adviser Raja Debashish Roy at a consultation yesterday said the government is working to bring some reforms in land commission law in a month or two.

Debashish Roy, also in-charge of CHT and environment and forest ministries, was speaking as the chief guest at the consultation on 'Collective action on indigenous issues' at Biam auditorium in the city.

### President undergoes eye check-up

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday underwent eye check-up at Haroon Eye Foundation in Dhanmondi.

Prof Sheikh MA Mannaf examined eyes of the president.

After the check-up, Iajuddin returned to Bangabhaban at noon, said a Bangabhaban release.

## BCL expels 4 over factional clash at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University BCL leaders expelled its four activists of Salimullah Muslim Hall unit as they were involved in Sunday's clash at the hall compound, which left five activists injured.

The expelled activists are Sumon, a fourth year student of public administration, Bahsar, a first year student of political science, Anu, a student of Pali and Sangskrit, and Russell, a first year student of philosophy.

Meanwhile, two activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of Awami League, were injured in a fresh factional clash on Dhaka University (DU) campus yesterday.

During the clash, a group of activists loyal to DU BCL general secretary Sazzad Saqib Badsha beat up two students who are loyal to DU unit president Shohel Rana Tipu at Ziaur Rahman Hall.

Later, the two -- Shahidul Islam, a third year student of history, and Mahmud Hasan, a third year student of Bangla -- were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with injuries in their heads, chests and legs.

Sources said yesterday's clash was the sequel to August 13 clash when BCL men loyal to DU unit president Tipu beat up three activists loyal to Badsha at Ziaur Rahman Hall.

When asked for comments, DU unit General Secretary Badsha said these are isolated incidents resulting from personal conflicts and that they are trying to address these issues.

## OFA reunion Dec 26-28

METRO DESK

The Golden Jubilee Reunion of Old Faujians' Association (OFA), an organisation of former cadets of Faujderhat Cadet College, will be held at Faujderhat Cadet College from December 26 to 28, says a press release.

For further details, Old Faujians can contact OFA Secretariat, House #179, Lane #02, Eastern Road, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka. Tel: 8 8 5 7 3 8 4. E-mail: ofagb@bangla.net.

## Save waterlogged people in Kobadak river basin

Nagorik Sanghati urges chief adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

People, living in the waterlogged areas along the bank of Kobadak river in Khulna-Jessore region, are suffering from severe shortage of food, drinking water and medicine, said the speakers at a press conference yesterday.

They urged the Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed to visit the area to see for himself the sufferings of the people and declare the region a disaster area.

The press conference was organised by Nagorik Sanghati at Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium in the city following a visit to waterlogged areas by its members.

The speakers placed a 10-point demand including immediate supply of adequate relief materials, setting up of special medical team

and creation of alternative jobs for the affected people.

The other demands included re-excavation of Kobadak river and other tributaries, removal of unplanned sluice gates and embankments, and withdrawal of all certificate cases and allocation of fresh agricultural loans.

Robayet Ferdous, associate professor of mass communication and journalism department at Dhaka University, urged the political parties to uphold the matter to create pressure on the government to resolve the problem immediately.

He also demanded formation of a committee to monitor the dredging works in the river Kobadak so that nobody gets chance to loot the allocated money.

Prof Dr ASM Atiqur Rahman of

social welfare institute who is also the president of Nagorik Sanghati, said both government and non-government organisations should come forward to take effective measures for permanent solution of the problem.

Besides, the government should take some short-term measures for recession of water so that the people can come out of their home in search of their livelihood.

Presided over by Nagorik Sanghati General Secretary Sharifuzzaman Sharif, the conference was also addressed by Hafizur Rahman Karzon, associate professor of law department at Dhaka University, Sharmin Nilormi, associate professor of economics department at Jahangirnagar University, and writer and researcher Shoumitra Dev.

## Bodies of 17 Bangladeshis to be brought from Turkey soon

UNB, Dhaka

Bodies of 17 Bangladeshis, who were killed in a road accident at Istanbul in Turkey on October 5, will be brought home soon, official sources here said yesterday.

Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Ministry has taken initiative to bring the bodies to the country as per the instruction of Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, also in-charge of the ministry.

The bodies will be brought back with the financial assistance of Wage Earners' Welfare Fund of the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET), the sources said.

The deceased were identified as M Motahar Miah, M Ahmed Ali, M Monjur Ali, M Ojud Miah, M Syed Miah and M Wahed Miah, M Faruk Ahmed, M Kamrul, M Shamsu of Habiganj district, M Alamgir, M Lil Miah, M Kadir and M Nasir of Sunamganj district, M Sattar Miah of Jhenidah, M Ripon of Faridpur, M Moksudul Islam of Chapainawabganj and Sujit Kumar of Netrakona district.

## Nasir's family demands arrest of killers

UNB, Dhaka

The family of Nasirullah Khan yesterday demanded immediate arrest of his killers to protect them.

"The killers of my father have been repeatedly asking us over phone to withdraw the case filed against them, with threat of annihilating all of us," Nur-a-Alam, son of Nasir Ullah told reporters at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

Nasirullah, a veteran freedom fighter and employed as Ansar-VDP, was shot dead in his house at Uttarkhan in the city early hours on September 27 by unidentified criminals.

The scared son of Nasir said the killers admitting their involvement in the murder demanded Tk 5 lakh through a SMS on October 20 with threat of killing the entire family. The message also asked for withdrawal of the case.

The passion of 25-year old son of Nasir rose as he was speaking. "Please help us. Do something to save the family," he said with folded hands and broke down in tears.



Special Assistant to the Chief Adviser Raja Debashish Roy, Father RW Timm and Maj Gen (ret) CR Dutt inaugurate 'Bijoya Sammelan' by lighting lamps on the Dheka Shwari Temple premises yesterday. Mahanagar Sarbajaneen Puja Committee organised the event on the occasion of Kali Puja, a religious festival of Hindus. (Story on Page 2)

বন্ধু, আড্ডা, গান - এখানেই  
হাসিখুশি শুরু



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