

T-SHIRT WITH NAMES OF 50 WAR CRIMINALS Unite to resist war criminals

Speakers urge freedom fighters

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A T-shirt with the names of 50 war criminals printed on it was launched at the Liberation War Museum in the city yesterday to press home the demand for bringing the war criminals to book.

Gouraber Mukhtijoddha Sangathan, a pro-liberation platform, organised the programme where the speakers alleged that Jamaat-e-Islami-led war criminals had threatened them to stop the programme.

Noted journalist and columnist ABM Musa launched the T-shirt on the occasion.

The list of the war criminals include Golam Azam, Maulana AKM Yusuf, Matir Rahman Nizami, Delwar Hossain Sayeede, Mohammad Quamruzzaman, Maulana Abdur Rahim, Abbas Ali Khan, Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed, Abdul Quader Molla, Hamidul Haq Chowdhury, Khaza Khairuddin, Mahmud Ali, M Abdul Alim, ASM Solaiman, Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, Fazlul Quader Chowdhury, Zulmat Ali Khan, Quazi Kader, Khan Abdus Sabur Khan, Maulana Farid Ahmed, Shah M Azizur Rahman, Maulana Abdul Mannan, Dr Anu Motaleb Malek, M

Yunus, ABM Khaleq Mazumder, ANM Yusuf, Nurul Amin, AQM Shafiqul Islam, Abdul Matin, M Anuddin, Maulana Nuruzzaman, Maulana M Ishak, Golam Sarwar, M Akhtaruddin Ahmed, Maulana Abdus Sobhan, Capt (ret) Abdul Based, Abdul Matin Bhuiyan, M Abdul Kashem, Obaidullah Majumder, Mir Kashem Ali, Engineer Abdul Zabbar Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, M Abdul Hannan, Barrister Korban Ali, Ashraf Hossain, Advocate Ansar Ali, M Kawsar, Abdul Majid Talukder, Nawajesh Ahmed and AK Mosharrif Hossain.

Speakers at the programme said the new generation will have to take the responsibility to oust the war criminals from the country by trying the war criminals.

They also urged the freedom fighters to be united for safeguarding the nation from the conspiracy of Jamaat.

"The pro-liberation forces are now divided but the war criminals are united. Political parties should declare their stand on the trial of the war criminals," said ABM Musa.

Bhaskar Rasha, convener of Gouraber Mukhtijoddha Sangathan, presided over the programme while Robayet Ferdous of Dhaka University also spoke.

Altaf Mahmud BFUJ secy gen

BSS, Dhaka



Altaf Mahmud, chief of News of My TV, was elected secretary general of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) for the next two-year term.

Election Committee announced the results of the election held at the National Press Club and eight other branches of the union on Sunday.

Kartik Chatterjee of the daily Sangbad was elected vice-president while Qudus Afrad of the daily Purbokone, Abdul Mannan of the Daily Jugantar, Kairuzzaman Kamal of INB and Shamim Siddiqui of the daily Inquilab were elected as members from Dhaka division.

Earlier, Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, editor of The Bangladesh Observer, Mollah Jalal of executive editor of NNB and Faraji Azmal Hossain of the daily Ittefaq were elected unopposed as the president, joint secretary general and treasurer of the BFUJ.

Other elected members from different divisional units of the BFUJ are Asif Siraj, Shamsul Huda Mintu, SM Habib, Humayun Kabir, Kazi Gias, Samudra Haque, Aminul Islam Chowdhury, Wahabuzzaman, Zahidul Kabir Milton, Ataul Karim Khokan and Sultan Uddin Khan.

Appeal for help

RU CORRESPONDENT



Silvia, a student of class four in Briparthura Primary School in Gurudaspur, Natore, has been suffering from acute myeloid leukaemia, a cancer of blood forming cells in the bone marrow.

Condition of the girl is deteriorating day by day, family members said. Doctors have advised her guardians to take her abroad for immediate bone marrow transplant, which involves around Tk 70 lakh.

Silvia is an orphan and her relatives could not afford such an expensive treatment. So, she has appealed to generous people and philanthropic organisations to extend a helping hand to save her life.

Contributions can be sent to Kamal Hossain, A/C No. 2955, Janata Bank, Moukhara Branch, Boraigram, Natore.

DU 'GHA' UNIT ADMISSION TEST

68 students' fate uncertain

DU CORRESPONDENT

Sixty-eight admission seekers under 'Gha' unit of Dhaka University (DU) did not get admit cards for the admission test.

DU authorities said the forms were collected and submitted through unfair means and that is why they did not issue admit cards.

The admission test of 'Gha' unit is scheduled to be held on November 28.

Students said they had collected and submitted the admission forms from Khulna branch of the UCC coaching centre.

Around 30 applicants and their guardians yesterday urged social science faculty dean Prof Harun-or-Rashid to issue the admit cards.

Prof Harun told them that the admission forms were collected and submitted illegally.

Sources said coaching centres in the city collect admission forms from universities and submit the filled forms to respective universities collecting from the applicants those living outside of Dhaka city. The coaching centres also charge extra money for the job.

Sources said DU authorities on October 19 held an employee of the UCC coaching centre with 150 forms of 'Gha' unit from the campus

and handed him over to police. Abdullah Al Mamun, an admission seeker, told reporters that they had collected the form a teacher of UCC's Khulna branch to save the transportation cost.

He also said the UCC Khulna branch teacher Palash charged extra money than actual price of the forms and assured him of the admit card.

He said Prof Harun has told them that he would consider issuing of admit cards if they can bring the persons from whom they collected the admission forms.

"But, how we will bring 'Palash Bhai' (UCC teacher) as he is not receiving my phone", Mamun added with frustration.

While contacted Palash told reporters that he is not involved with the process.

UCC Director Kamal Patwari told reporters that they have provided the authority to collect and submit the admission forms to the branches in the city. He also said they would not take responsibility about anything happens at the branches outside the city.

Admission seekers told reporters that they would file case against the responsible persons of the coaching centre if they do not get admit cards.

Three to die for killing 3 BDR men

UNB, Thakurgaon

A Thakurgaon court yesterday sentenced three people to death for killing three Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) members in 2004.

District and Sessions Judge Md Joshon Ali handed down the verdict to Yunus Ali, his younger brother Raju Islam and his (Raju) friend Raju Hossain.

The court also fined Yunus Tk 50,000 and two other convicts Tk 25,000 each.

The court, however, acquitted six other accused.

According to the prosecution, the convicts stabbed three BDR members -- Alamgir, Sujon and Nur Nabi -- to death as they prevented the three and several other youths from teasing two girls at Nischintapur Paschimpara in the town on February 5, 2004.

RIGHTS TO INFO ORD-2008

'An epoch-making step of govt'

BSS, Dhaka

Information Secretary Jamil Osman yesterday said Rights to Information Ordinance-2008 would play an important role in providing information to doorsteps of the people.

Describing the implementation process of the ordinance as an epoch-making step of the government, he urged all concerned to work sincerely for its implementation.

The information secretary was addressing an orientation workshop for MoI officials on 'Right to Information Ordinance' organised by Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) at its seminar room.

Chief Editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury and PIB Director General Mohammad Nazrul Islam addressed the workshop.

Jamil Osman called upon all concerned organisations to appoint designated information officer within 60 days of the promulgation of the ordinance.

He also said the process of forming an information com-

mission is underway and he hoped the information commission would be formed within stipulated time of the ordinance.

Dr Asif Nazrul of Dhaka University gave a lecture at the first session of the workshop.

RMG workers blockade road for wages

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Several hundred workers of a garments factory at Savar yesterday put up a barricade on Dhaka-Aricha Highway demanding payment of their salaries.

The barricade disrupted vehicular movement on the road, causing severe traffic congestion in the area.

Witnesses said the workers of Bangladesh Dying Factory Ltd, a sister concern of Dowl Group, took to the street at about 8:00am demanding their salaries.

Later, the workers went back to work after being assured of the wages, police said.

Tk 3,324cr housing

FROM PAGE 16

approved eight projects involving Tk 4,281 crore, including the one for building flats. Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed chaired the meeting.

Government employees will buy 1,700 flats while the developers will sell the rest to private buyers at commercial rates. The project is the first such joint venture with the government providing the land and developers bearing construction cost of the flats.

Talking to reporters after the Ecnc meeting, Finance and Planning Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam said government employees would pay the price of flats in instalments.

Cost of land for the project has been estimated at Tk 1,304 crore and construction cost at Tk 2,020 crore.

Implementation of the project for constructing 38 buildings -- all 17-storey -- is likely begin in January next year and end in December 2011.

Public Works and Housing ministry sources said the project area will have all civic amenities including lake, swimming pool, health centre, shopping complex, schools, colleges and mosques.

Two of the eight projects okayed by the Ecnc yesterday include that for Promotion of Services and Opportunities to the Disabled Persons in Bangladesh at a cost of Tk 155 crore, and Services of Children at Risk at a cost of Tk 89 crore. Both the projects are donor-funded.

The other projects include Operational Capability Strengthening (2nd amended) Project involving Tk 257 crore, 33 KV linkage line (2nd amended) project for rural electrification sub-centre costing Tk 240 crore. Chancery complex construction (1st phase) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, costing Tk 35 crore, project for construction of chief judicial magistrate's court buildings at 64 district headquarters, project for construction of National Board of Revenue (NBR) Bhaban at a cost of Tk 141 crore and Strengthening of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (Phase-II) project costing Tk 40 crore.



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia speaks at a meeting of the party standing committee at her Gulshan office in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

EC registers 39 political parties to contest JS polls

UNB, Dhaka

The Election Commission has registered 39 political parties for the upcoming parliamentary elections rescheduled for December 29, screening out a host of others under the reformed rules.

The commission yesterday published list of the registered political parties along with the election symbols allocated to them.

Names of the parties' presidents and general secretaries along with addresses of their central offices are also enlisted with the registration, settling all disputes coming from factious ones.

A total of 107 political parties applied to the commission for registration and after scrutinising their documents, the EC gave registration to these 39 political parties, EC Joint Secretary Nurul Islam Khan told reporters at the Commission office.

He said no further political party would be given registration before the ensuing polls.

He said 13 political parties that were found ineligible for registration have applied to the EC for reconsidering their registration. "But the EC will not give registration to any political party before the election," he said.

The 39 registered political

parties are Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Jatiya Party (JP), Samyabadi Dal (ML), Krishak Sramik Janata League, Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB), Bangladesh Awami League, Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), Gonotontrik Party, National Awami Party-NAP, Workers Party, Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh, Jatiya Party, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD-Inu), Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD), Zaker Party, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal, Bangladesh Jatiya Party-BJP, Bangladesh Torikat Federation, Bangladesh Khelafat Andolon, Bangladesh Muslim League, National People's Party, Jomiat-e-Ulma-e-Islam Bangladesh, Gono Forum, Gono Front, Progressive Democratic Party (PDP), Bangladesh National Awami Party-Bangladesh NAP, Bangladesh Jatiya Party, Oikyaabaddha Nagorik Andolon, Islami Front Bangladesh, Bangladesh Kalyan Party, Islami Oikya Jote, Bangladesh Khelafat Mojilish, Islami Andolon Bangladesh, Bangladesh Islami Front, Jatiya Gonotontrik Party, Bangladesh Biblobi Workers' Party, Khelafat Majilish and Freedom Party.

against 14 organisations to settle the disputes raised by different political parties before enlisting their names as election observers.

The EC has completed hearing on objections against 21 organisations.

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) ATM Shamsul Huda, election commissioners M Sohul Hussain and Brig General (Retd) M Shakhawat Hossain were present at the hearing in the EC conference room.

Earlier, 319 observer organisations applied for their enlistment, but after scrutinising documents and previous records, initially the EC selected 138.

Different organisations, including political parties, raised objections against 25 organisations.

The organisations against which the EC held hearing are Association of Muslim Welfare in Bangladesh, Hilful Fuzul Samaj Kalyan Sangstha, National Youth Forum of Bangladesh, Jugayan Samajik Unnayan Sangstha, Unit for Social Advancement, Development Organisations for the Poor, Adhikar, Fema, Coast Trust, Broti, Institute of Environment and Development (IED), Solidarity and Abadpukur Palli Samaj Unnayan Sangstha.

Dhaka signs plan with Beijing for sharing flood forecasting info

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh and China have signed an implementation plan to share flood forecasting information which will help enhance Dhaka's capacity to make forecast about flood and reduce loss of life and property.

The plan was signed during a visit to Beijing by Water Resources Secretary Dr Mohammad Ayub Mia at the head of a four-member delegation from November 19 to 23, says a press release.

As per the agreement, Bangladesh will receive prior information and data about Yalujiang and Brahmaputra rivers during rainy season.

The agreement was an outcome of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) that the two countries signed during the visit of Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed to China in September last.

ID REGISTRATION AUTHORITY Moazzem made member

UNB, Dhaka

Brigadier Gen Md Moazzem Hossain has been appointed a member of National Identity Registration Authority.

Gen Moazzem has been serving as director, public works and chief engineer (army) at the Army Headquarters at present, said a handout yesterday.

JNU viva voce starts December 17

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Viva voce of the successful candidates of first year honours courses for 2008-2009 academic year under 'Ka' unit (science faculty) and 'Ga' unit (commerce faculty) of Jagannath University will start from December 17, says a press release.

Viva voce of the students placed 1 to 1000 in the 'Ka' unit admission test will be held at science faculty Dean's office at 10:00am on December 17 while students placed from 1001 to 1500 will be interviewed on December 18, 1501 to 2000 on December 20, 2001 to 2500 on December 21, 2501 to 3000 on December 22 and 3001 to 3437 on December 23.

Meanwhile, students who were ranked from 1 to 300 in the 'Ga' unit admission test will be interviewed at commerce faculty Dean's office at 9:30am on December 17 while students placed from 301 to 600 and 601 to 800 will face the viva voce on December 18 and December 20 respectively.

The students have been asked to attend the viva voce with original admit cards, mark or grade sheets, testimonials and six copies of passport-size photograph.

Candidates passing the viva voce will need to collect the admission forms from the

respective departments and complete their admission process within three days of their selection.

Country's first election news portal launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Country's first election news portal www.electionbd.com was launched yesterday to circulate area-based election updates and histories of previous elections.

ETECH SYSTEMS, an indigenous soft ware organisation, introduced the news portal keeping the 9th national parliament election ahead.

At the launching programme of the website at Dhaka Reporters Unity, Chief Executive Officer of ETECH SYSTEMS Firoz Mahmood said name, address, family history, service, development work, pledges and other personal details of each candidate will be available in the website.

All election documents, including the details of the candidates from 1970, will be included in the website, he added.

He said election documents from February 1991 to October 2001 have been included while the documents of 1970 election will be available soon.

Managing Director of Airtel Dr SM Azizul Ansar and Director of ETECH SYSTEM Nur Mohammad Abdul Mukit also spoke.

UN team holds meeting with EC

BSS, Dhaka

A six-member delegation of the United Nations (UN) held a meeting with the Election Commission (EC) at the EC secretariat in the city yesterday.

Former UN Secretary General Francis Bandrel led the delegation. Other members include the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of Nepal Bojraj Pakhrel, former deputy director of election wing of the UN Aresely Santana, and UN representative to Bangladesh Reneta Log Desalien.

The Chief Election Commissioner Dr ATM Shamsul Huda, Election Commissioners Muhammad Sahul Hossain and Brig General (Retd) M Shakhawat Hossain were present.

Various issues including the election process, preparations of the EC for holding the polls and transition to democracy in Bangladesh were discussed at the meeting.

4 Hijbul Mahdi leaders held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested four leaders of Hijbul Mahdi from the National Press Club area yesterday for issuing anti-Islamic statement.

The four arrestees are Lutfar Rahman Faruk, Abul Hossain Majumder, Alal Uddin and Golam Uddin.

Police said they were arrested for making anti-Islamic statement at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday.

Earlier, Lutfar was arrested in July last year from his Sutrapur residence on similar charges, police said.

The four are being interrogated at the Shahbagh Police Station. But no case was filed against them until 9:20pm.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Md Shajahan, accounts officer of Khulna office of Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Limited (BTCL) passed away due to a cardiac arrest at a city hospital in the city on November 17 at the age of 55, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, two sons and a host of relatives to mourn his death.

He was buried at Banani graveyard.

Officials of the BTCL expressed deep shock at his death and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Comrade Leela Dutt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Comrade Leela Dutt of Communist Party Bangladesh passed away due to old-age complications on November 21, says a press release.

Comrade Leela Dutt joined politics at the age of only 15 and joined different movements.

CPB leaders paid tribute by placing wreaths at her coffin.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 3rd death anniversary of Zia Ansari, a media personality and former programme producer at Bangladesh Television (BTV), says a press release.

He joined BTV in 1967. After his retirement from BTV in 1999, he also worked with ATN Bangla, ITV and Channel One.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

DHAKA TODAY Citizen dialogue, Workshop, Seminar, Dialogue, Lecture, DUJA seminar

WEATHER TODAY No change in temperature likely UNB, Dhaka

Many LDP aspirants eye BNP blessing

FROM PAGE 16 Besides, a large number of BNP reformist leaders may not be able to contest in the next parliamentary election, the

sources said. Some called upon all concerned to support the BNP and to demand their participation in the election.

"We demanded 30 seats from the grand electoral alliance but will probably get 15 to 18 seats. The rest of our eligible candidates may remain with the grand alliance or not; I can't say for sure," LDP President Member

barrister Ziaur Rahman Khan told The Daily Star.

He added they had left BNP and formed LDP due to some corrupt and dishonest leaders, who are now either convicted or in jail. "All of our leaders have a soft corner for BNP. Besides, several top and mid-level BNP leaders are contacting us," he said.

He however said no concrete decision has yet been made.

He thinks BNP chief Khaleda Zia is an "uncompromising" leader who is the main barrier to making the electoral alliance between BNP and LDP. "Khaleda Zia is an uncompromising leader, who doesn't negotiate with

dissidents. Due to her strict ideology, BNP is now in a worst situation," he observed.

"Some BNP leaders ensured us that they would be able to persuade Khaleda Zia as they get additional time due to election reschedule," said another top LDP leader.

However, LDP President Oli Ahmad said his leaders are now working unitedly and they have 45 former ministers and lawmakers who have popularity and acceptability in their respective constituencies. These former ministers and MPs can easily be elected under the grand or any other alliance, he hopes.

Asked about his possibility of joining BNP, Oli said: "Ban-

gladesh is a land of rumours. Whatever situation may arise, we'll take a decision through our presidium meeting."

"The grand alliance or other electoral alliance will be directly and indirectly benefited in 80 seats. We have eligible candidates in 40 seats where BNP candidates were elected in 2001. The four-party alliance can easily be defeated in those 40 seats if LDP gives candidates under grand alliance or any other electoral alliance," he said.

Many LDP leaders say they joined the grand alliance to save themselves from BNP cadres, who attacked rebel BNP leaders and set fire to their houses.