

'Vote down war criminals'

DU CORRESPONDENT

Pro-liberation Students' Union for Better Bangladesh yesterday called upon people to vote down war criminals, corrupts and inefficient candidates in the upcoming parliamentary elections to establish the rule of law in the country.

The organisation formed by the students of different public

and private universities made the call from a human chain at Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) intersection on Dhaka University (DU) campus.

Taking a long banner that inscribed vote down war criminals and inefficient candidates in the poll, over a hundred students from different public and private universities organised the programme at around 4:30pm.

Students also urged voters to

cast their 'No-vote' if they do not find any eligible candidate.

"It is proved that the rule of law can not be established in the country by the inefficient political figures and war criminals. So, we urge all voters to cast their valuable votes considering candidates, not their political parties or symbols", M Mahmud Ali Shah, convener of the organisation, said.

ELECTION MANIFESTOS BY PARTIES Movement to materialise pledges launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A programme titled 'Election manifesto implementation movement' was launched at a conference in the city yesterday with a view to materialising the election pledges made by the political parties in their manifestos during the election campaign.

The programme announced at a conference titled 'Election manifesto: Expectation and reality' at the VIP Lounge of the Dhaka Reporters Unity jointly organised by Participatory Research and Development for Society (PRDS) and PROGGA.

Speakers at the conference said objective of the programme is to conduct research and prioritise the achievable pledges on the basis of importance for implementation, creating pressure on the newly elected government. It will also monitor progress and disseminate information in this regard each year to create awareness among the people.

A survey by PRDS conducted on 192 people in the areas under four police stations in Dhaka and a village in Mymensingh in 2008 was also presented at the conference on the general perception of the manifestos of two major

political parties.

While presenting the survey PRDS Executive Director GM Suhrwardi said only 27 per cent people have read one or more manifestos fully or partially.

The survey said 73 per cent of the people believe that the party in power would totally forget its pledges or a very small part of the pledges would be implemented.

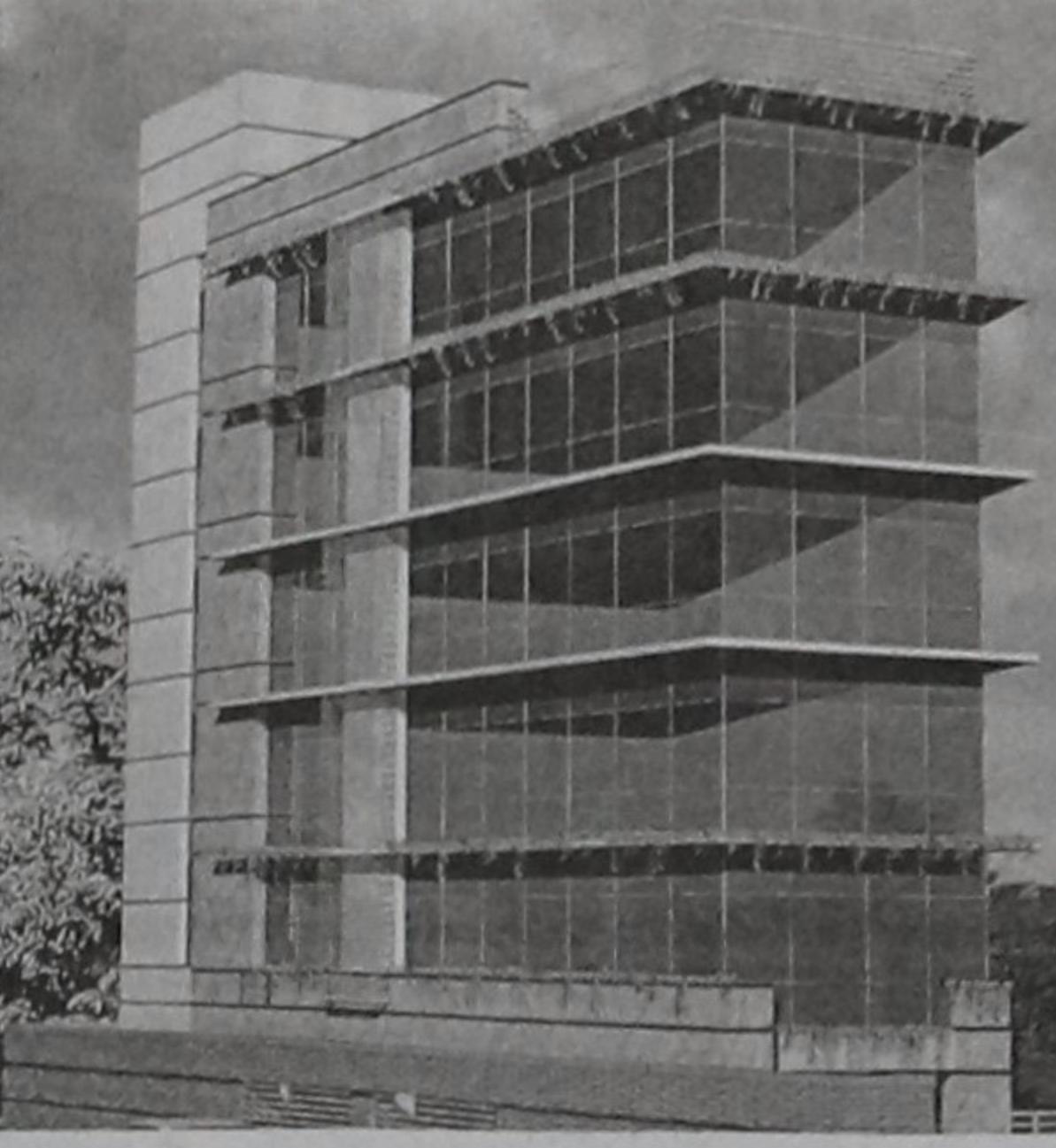
Eminent economist MM Akash as the chief speaker said issues like terrorism and corruption, price hike and emergence of militancy will be determining factors in this year's election.

Journalist Mozammel Hossain Manju said none of the two major political parties mentioned about their responsibility if they go to the opposition.

Both BNP and Awami League in their 2001 election manifestos included the declaration of making the state-owned television and radio autonomous but none of them included this issue in this year's manifestos, which is a matter of regret, said journalist Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul.

PROGGA Chairman Taifur Rahman moderated the programme. The Daily Sangbad was the media partner of this programme.

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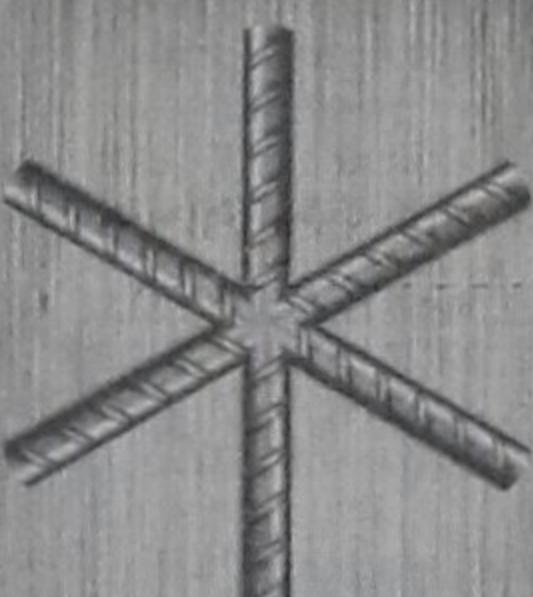
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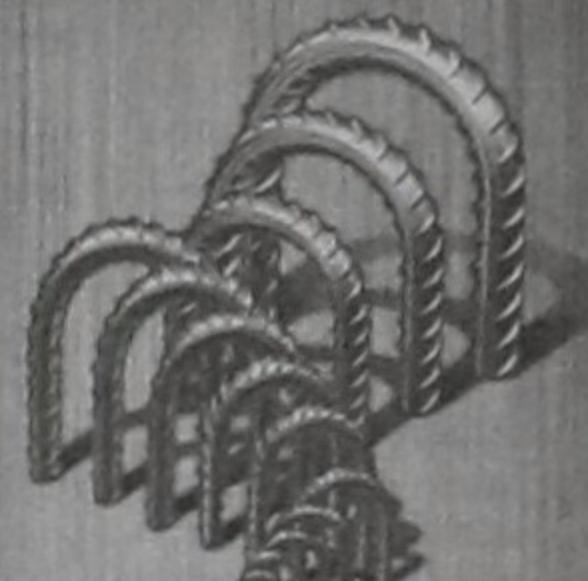
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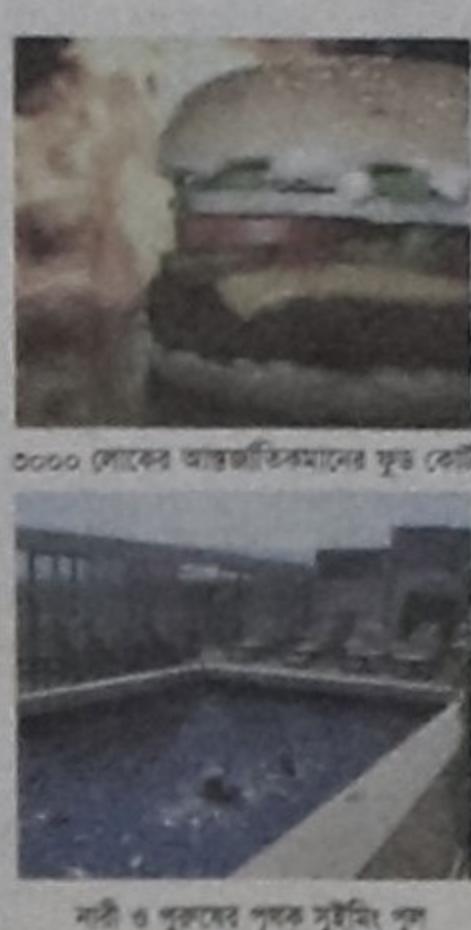
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