

CU proctor resigns

BSS, Chittagong

Chittagong University (CU) Proctor Dr M Anwarul Islam yesterday tendered his resignation to the authorities on personal ground.

Sources said Dr Islam submitted his resignation letter to Vice Chancellor Prof M Badiul Alam.

He was made proctor on January 20 after resignation of his predecessor Prof Dr Mohammad Jashim Uddin on January 4.

Attack on DU teacher condemned

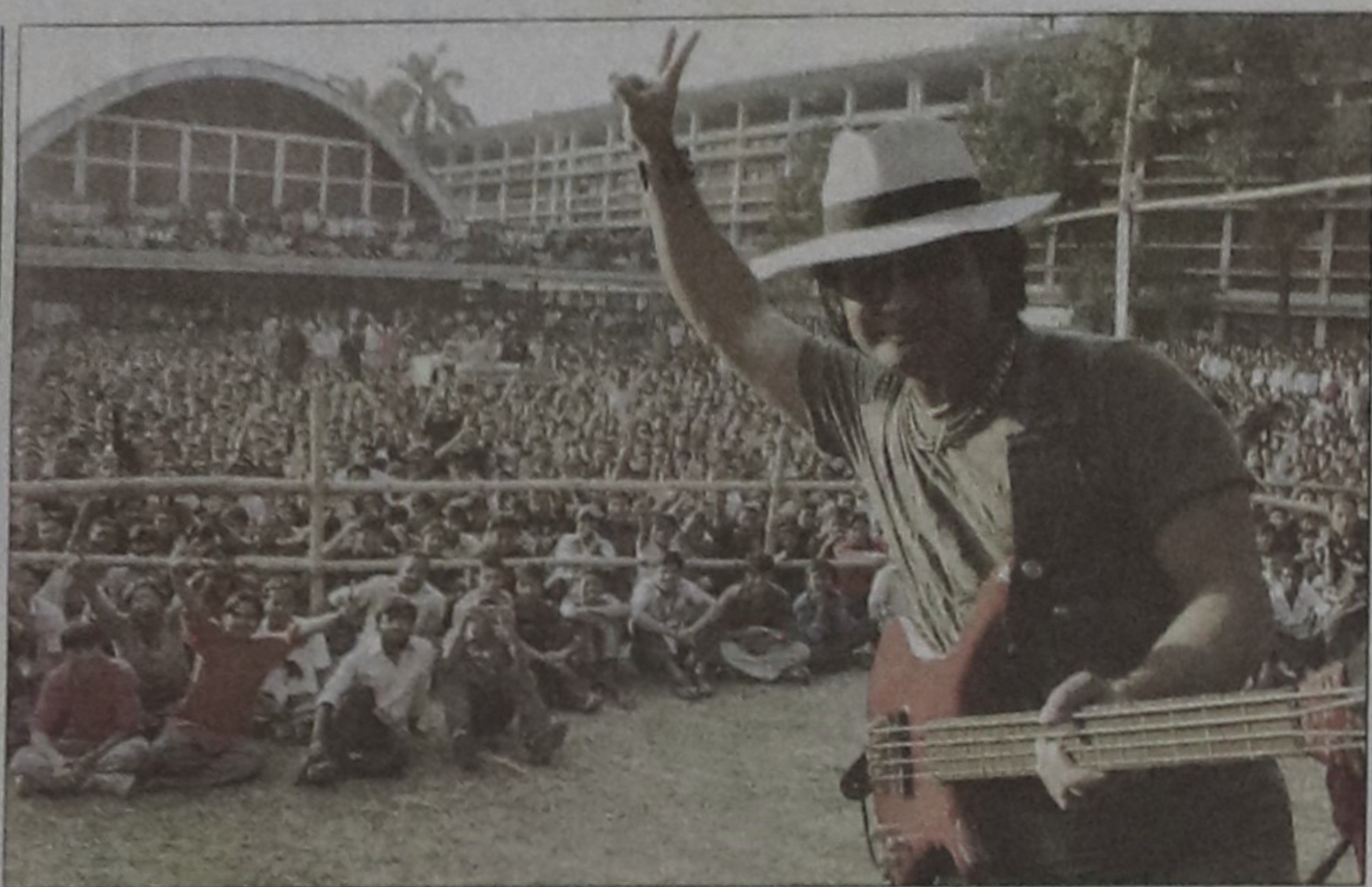
UNB, Dhaka

The Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) yesterday protested the assault on a teacher by a Chhatra League cadre on Friday night.

Dr Mohammad Ilias, resident teacher of Fazlul Haque Hall, came under an attack by Khairul Hasan Jewel, BCL general secretary of Fazlul Haque hall unit.

Duta members at a meeting condemned the attack and demanded exemplary punishment to the unruly BCL cadre.

They demanded steps to ensure security of the teachers and academic atmosphere on the campus.



Band singer Shafin Ahmed performs on the TSC premises at Dhaka University yesterday. Dhaka University Debating Society organised the cultural programme on the occasion of Valentine's Day.

Change in mindset must to deliver better public service

Speakers tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Top bureaucrats and experts at a seminar yesterday said top-level civil servants must bring a change to their mindset to deliver better public service.

Speaking as the chief guest,

Adviser to Prime Minister on Administrative Affairs HT Imam said public servants have to bring a change to their mindset to respond to the public demands and be judicious, transparent and accountable.

Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) jointly organised the seminar on 'Improving public services through total quality management (TQM)' at a city hotel.

Speedy disposal of files and a helping attitude of the public servants are two of the TQM goals, said AKM Enamul Haque, deputy project director of Enhancing Capacity of Public Service Training in Bangladesh (ECPUST) at BPATC.

ECPUST Project Director Zishan Ara Arafunnesa said only well-trained public servants can deliver quality service, adding that self-serving public service should be now a matter of the past.

Introduction of different training courses for public servants at BPATC is a goal of TQM which is a Tk 90-million three-year programme for the continuous improvement of public service through a method of action, planning, implementation and evaluation.

The programme, funded by JICA with Tk 81 million and the rest by the government, is now passing its second year.

Public servants have to take a proactive leadership to satisfy the clients and focus on the process of service delivery, said Prof Dennis S Tachiki, ECPUST deputy project team leader.

Mindset has to be changed at top management level of the civil bureaucracy, he added.

Speaking as the special guest, Japanese Ambassador in Dhaka Masayuki Inoue said public servants in Bangladesh work under various 'attacks' from the political governments and the media.

Establishment Secretary ASM Ali Kabir and Upazila Education Officer of Dhamrai Joshna Khatun also spoke at the seminar chaired by BPATC Rector Md Abdus Salam Khan.

A number of secretaries and director generals of various ministries and government departments participated in the programme.

Website launched to promote Dhaka to tourists abroad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In celebration of 400 years of Dhaka city, The Bangladesh Monitor, a travel magazine, has launched a new website to promote Dhaka to tourists worldwide.

The website www.dhakacity.com.bd will feature information on how to arrive in Dhaka from various international destinations, places to visit, brief histories of the places, links to airlines, information on leading tour operators, hotels, restaurants, prime shopping locations, diplomatic missions, banks and taxicab services.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister GM Quader formally launched the website at Hotel Sheraton in the city yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion he said visa processing would be made easier to attract more foreign tourists.

"The government is considering arrival visa for tourists from around 25 countries in order to promote Bangladesh as a tourist destination," he said.

"Bangladesh has immense possibilities in tourism sector, but it was never explored properly. The country recently saw tremendous rise of domestic tourists but the number of foreign tourists is still very limited. Image crisis of the country is mainly to be blamed for this, and this has to be changed," he added.

"Though Dhaka city is 400 years old, its rich heritage is not quite known to outside

world. Dhaka is still known as the least liveable city in the world. The aim of the website is to change that negative image," said Kazi Wahidul Alam, editor of The Bangladesh Monitor.

"To attract tourists, a quiz competition will be held in every three months. Winners of the competition will be awarded with trips to the destination of their choice including accommodations and other facilities," he added.

Alam said Emirates Airlines is the premier partner of the website. AKM Bari, general secretary of the Association of Travel Agents of Bangladesh, and Area Manager of Emirates Airlines Hanif Zakaria were also present on the occasion.

Int'l confce on climate change adaptation

Feb 22-24

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 3rd International Conference of Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change will be held at Hotel Sheraton in the city on February 22-24, says a press release.

Climate change experts from around the world will attend the conference to identify ways poor communities can adapt to this end. The conference will show that many options for reducing vulnerability to climate change do exist.

Over 100 scientists, development workers, disaster specialists and policymakers will participate at this conference and will share information on impacts of climate change and ways to adapt them in sectors as diverse as water, agriculture, biodiversity, human health, infrastructure, coastal zones and cities.

International Institute for Environment and Development and Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies and the Ring Alliance of Policy Research Organisation jointly organised this conference.

"Adaptation can help build resilience to change but the challenge is knowing what strategies will work and to implement them in diverse settings around the world," said senior fellow in the climate change group at the International Institute for Environment and Development Dr Saleemul Huq.

Current nets worth Tk 2.3 lakh seized in Bagerhat

UNB, Bagerhat

Bangladesh Coast Guard members seized banned current nets worth Tk 2.32 lakh during their ongoing drive from Pashur River in Mongla upazila early Friday.

A team of Mongla West Zone Coast Guard conducted the drive after midnight and seized 2,250 metres of fishing nets.

The drive would continue throughout the month, Coast Guard sources said.



A six-day Italian food festival began at Hotel Sarina in Dhaka yesterday. More than 50 varieties of authentic Italian foods will be served during the festival.

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