

# No rule of law during military-backed CG

Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafilee Ahmed yesterday said there was no rule of law and independence of the judiciary during the regime of the military-backed caretaker government as the joint forces had indirectly interfered in the judicial functions.

The highest court in different verdicts had given validity to some emergency rules that had suspended the fundamental rights of people and, therefore, the lawyers did not accord farewell to the then chief justice, he added.

The minister said this as the chief guest at the launching ceremony of a book titled 'Note from a Prison: Bangladesh' written by Awami League lawmaker Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir.

Bangladesh Chorchha organised the function at Bilia auditorium in the city with its

Chairperson Prof BK Jahangir in the chair. Senior lawyer Barrister Rafique-UI Huq, businessman Salman F Rahman, Editor of the New Age Nurul Kabir and Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir also spoke.

Shafilee said the men of the joint forces stayed at "kangaroo courts" (special courts in Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban area) when the cases against high-profile politicians and businessmen were running during the emergency period.

The judges and staffs of those courts had discharged functions as per their directives, he said, adding that the same situation was seen later at the Supreme Court.

The minister called on all to be careful so that the constitution of the country is not suspended by any unconstitutional means.

Rafique-UI Huq said that the entire government of the emergency period was illegal.

# Controversial forest officer transferred from Kelenga

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A controversial beat officer of Kelenga forest office in Srimangal has been transferred from Kelenga, forest department sources said.

The beat officer, Mostafizur Rahman, was allegedly involved in plundering of the Rema-Kelenga forest in connivance with local hoodlums.

The forest department formed an enquiry team and investigated the matter following publication of two reports in The Daily Star in November and December on the state of Rema-Kelenga forest.

A member of the inquiry team and a top forest official told The Daily Star that although they did not find any gross misconduct on the part of Mostafizur Rahman, he was transferred as a measure of "precaution".

"Mostafizur Rahman was transferred as a precautionary step as he came to limelight and became controversial," the top official said.

Forest department sources, however, said that removing one official from Rema-Kelenga would do little to protect the largest rainforest of the country.

An official said that the setup of forest office in Kelenga must immediately be reinforced with energetic young officers.

"There are only four people to protect a forest that covers 1,795 hectares of land and most of these officers and guards are nearing the retirement age," he said.



Noted conservationist Dr Ainun Nishat speaks at a roundtable on 'Post-Copenhagen: Immediate Task for Bangladesh' organised by The Daily Star at the newspaper's office in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offers munajat after laying the foundation of five flyovers in Chittagong city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

# DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS Step up monitoring for proper implementation

Panellists tell BBC Sanglap

DU CORRESPONDENT

Panellists at a BBC dialogue yesterday called on the government to strengthen the monitoring system for proper implementation of social development programmes.

They also stressed the need for ensuring political stability for implementation of the programmes on time.

The panellists made the call at the BBC Bangladesh Sanglap titled 'Social Development' on the Bangla Academy premises in the city.

Rasheda K Chowdhury, former adviser to a caretaker government, said the position of Bangladesh in some indices of human development is good. But the progress in some other cases is slow too.

In terms of number, signifi-

cant progress has been marked in education and health sectors. But, in case of quality, the achievement is not mentionable, she said, adding that good governance is essential for development.

Noted economist Prof Anu Muhammad said there is no notable progress in social development in the country, adding: "People deserve more progress in the development sector."

Abdul Moyeen Khan, member of BNP standing committee, said the country has little resources but large population. Besides, it faces frequent political instabilities.

Chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Undertakings Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir said the process of social development was not delayed, but a little bit slow.

If the government's recent policies taken up for social development is implemented properly, the human development index will rise, he added.

Replying to a query, the panellists said involvement of woman in decision-making levels should be encouraged to achieve the expected social development.

Regarding the role of non-government organisations (NGOs) in social development, three panellists laid emphasis on monitoring whether the NGOs are working properly.

Both Moyeen and Rasheda said a regulatory framework should be established for monitoring social development activities. But they said the NGOs are not being controlled in the name of monitoring.

# Institute for free driving training for unemployed youths launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An institute to provide free driving training to the SSC-passed unemployed youths to become skilled manpower was jointly launched by Nirapod Sarak Chai (NISCHA) and National Trading Company (NTC).

Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed, chairman of Bishwa Sahitya Kendra, formally inaugurated the institute to produce educated drivers with an aim to reduce road accidents that claim thousands of lives a year.

The launching ceremony of 'NISCHA-NTC Driving and Mechanical Training Institute' was held at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

Speaking as the chief guest, Prof Sayeed said: "Without educated drivers, it will not be possible to stop growing number of road accidents that kill thousands of lives."

A learned driver can drive carefully and will follow the traffic rules, which are frequently violated by untrained and illiterate drivers, he added.

Deputy General Manager of NTC Asaduzzaman and NISCHA Chairman Ilias Kanchan also spoke.

# 4 JCD leaders hurt in clashes over new committee

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders were injured in two separate factional clashes on Dhaka University (DU) yesterday centering dispute over the new JCD central committee.

The clash erupted when the post-deprived leaders backed by JCD General Secretary Amirul Islam Alim chased supporters of JCD President Sultan Salauddin Tuku out of the campus at around 11:00am, campus sources said.

The post-deprive leaders and their followers also burned effigy of Tuku and declared the Tuku-led committee members unwanted on the campus.

The supporters of Alim again swooped on the newly elected leaders when they returned to the campus and went to the Madhu's Canteen at about 12:00noon, leaving three badly injured.

The injured leaders - Entertainment Secretary Ruhul Islam Monir, Assistant

# BCL factions clash at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

At least four handmade bombs exploded and several rounds of bullets were fired inside Sergeant Zahurul Haq Hall compound at Dhaka University on Friday night during a clash between two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).

Four rooms, including the rooms of hall unit BCL President Reazuddin Suman and General Secretary Samsul Kabir Rahat were also vandalised during the clash.

The clash ensued when junior activists two groups locked horns over playing badminton on the campus at around 11:00pm.

Later, members of both the groups got reorganised and got engaged in the clash.

The situation came under control at around midnight following intervention of police and hall authorities.

A huge number of policemen have been deployed at the hall gate.

In a separate incident yesterday noon, BCL activist Shaon of Ziaur Rahman Hall was beaten by a group of BCL activists of Jasim Uddin hall over a trifling matter.

# Two shot, robbed of cellphone

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A gang of hooligans shot two people in the garage of a six-storied building while trying to snatch cellphone sets from them at Mohammadia Housing Society in city's Mohammadpur area yesterday.

Locals chased and caught one of the criminals Adil, 18, and handed him over to Rapid Action Battalion (Rab).

The injured were identified as Jasim Uddin, 40, security guard of the building on Road No. 6, and Mamun, 27, a car driver of a guest who came to the second floor of the building.

Jasim, who received bullet in his right hand, and Mamun, who received bullet at his abdomen, were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Injured Jasim said the attackers came to the gate of the garage in guise of guests and all on a sudden opened fire.

They snatched the cellphone sets and tried to make away firing several blankshots.

Hearing the gunshots, locals started chasing the gang and caught Adil, he said.

The building owner Al Mamun said few days ago he received a threat from an Indian cellphone number.



Members of a faction of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal burn an effigy of JCD President Sultan Salauddin Tuku on the Dhaka University campus yesterday protesting the new committee of the associate body of BNP.

# Shibir men harass RU proctor, asst proctor

ARU CORRESPONDENT

Islami Chhatra Shibir of Rajshahi University (RU) unit yesterday kept the proctor and his deputy confined for half an hour as they were trying to halt a showdown by Shibir men on the campus.

Witnesses said Shibir men also hurled abuse at Proctor Prof Chowdhury Zakaria and Assistant Proctor Mustak Ahmed during the confinement in front of Deans' Complex around 12:30pm.

Hundreds of Shibir men along with outsiders, led by its

President Shamsul Alam Golap, Suhrawardy Hall unit President Sabbir Ahmed Tafsir and Bangabandhu Hall unit President Shahnewaz, were staging a showdown at 12:00 noon, defying restriction imposed by the authorities.

Hearing the news, the proctorial body led by Prof Zakaria requested the Shibir leaders not to hold any showdown, but they denied the request.

As the proctor tried to halt the showdown, Shibir men chanted slogans against the RU authorities. They also hurled abuse at the proctor and his deputy and kept them

in confinement for half an hour, sources said.

Later, the Shibir men left the spot hurriedly before the arrival of law enforcers.

Golap claimed that the authorities halted their showdown showing it a violation of the university rules, but nothing happened when Chhatra League staged a showdown on the campus the same day.

Meanwhile, several hundred BCL leaders and activists staged a separate showdown on the campus, defying the restriction just one hour before the Shibir showdown.

# RMG worker injured in rooftop fall

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A female garments worker sustained critical injuries yesterday after falling from the rooftop of her workplace at Hazipara in the city's Rampura area.

The injured was identified as Ruma Akhter, 22, a worker of Solar Garments, a six-storied building.

She was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.

Abdul Wadud, commercial officer of the garments, told The Daily Star, "We do not know why or when she went to the roof. It is not possible to fall down accidentally because the roof is surrounded by boundary wall."

# Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 5th death anniversary of Md Sujaud Daula, a former Member of Parliament and former chairman of Eastern Mercantile Bank (now Pubali Bank), says a press release.

On the occasion, milad mahfil and Qurankhwani will be held at his residence and at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals' Graveyard after Maghrib prayers today.

Relatives and well-wishers are requested to attend the milad mahfil.

# Bangabandhu murder convict Shahriar falls ill

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangabandhu murder convict Lt Col (ret'd) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan, now detained in a condemned cell of Dhaka Central Jail, fell ill yesterday.

Jail sources said Shahriar fell sick at about 10:00am as his blood pressure started fluctuating.

Taking permission from the home ministry, the jail authorities called in two doctors of neurology department of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University who examined Shahriar in his cell.

On receiving information, Shahriar's wife Mashuara Khan contacted the jail authorities last night.

The jail authorities informed her that the condition of Shahriar is now stable and he is out of danger, Mashuara told The Daily Star.

## WEATHER

### Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Prevailing mild cold wave may sweep over Rajshahi division and the regions of Jessore and Chuadanga, Met Office said.

Night temperature may also fall slightly over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:24pm today and rises at 6:42am tomorrow.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 27.0 degree Celsius was recorded at Sylhet and the lowest of 8.5 degrees at Chuadanga.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	23.1	12.3	97	81
Chittagong	22.0	14.3	90	75
Rajshahi	23.2	10.0	87	74
Khulna	24.2	12.0	84	79
Barisal	23.1	11.0	91	88
Sylhet	27.0	11.1	76	63

## DHAKA TODAY

### Lecture

Asiatic Society of Bangladesh organises its Foundation Day Lecture by Gowher Rizvi, adviser to the prime minister. Venue: Society auditorium. Time: 3:30pm.

### Roundtable

The Energy and Power in association with GTZ will organise a roundtable on 'Solar photovoltaic water pumping'. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 3:00pm.

# looking for different advertising brains.

### Account Manager

Minimum BBA / MBA in Marketing/ Management, 3-4 years of advertising agency / brand marketing communication experience, proficient in English and Bengali, computer savvy, brilliant in presentations, sound knowledge of advertising trends and brand strategy development, leadership & mentoring skills, ability to handle long hours & impossible deadlines and cherishes challenges.

### Account Executive

Minimum BBA in Marketing/Management, 1 year of advertising agency / brand marketing communication experience, proficient in English and Bengali, computer savvy, aware of advertising trends, ensuring excellence in client relationships, ability to handle long hours & impossible deadlines and wants to build career in advertising. Outstanding freshers can apply.

**macomm**  
changing PERCEPTIONS

MACOMM is an equal opportunity employer. For the mentioned positions, we offer attractive pay packages and benefits competitive to advertising industry standards. Other benefits include Festival Bonus, Special Service Term Bonus, Employee Medical Allowance, Child Medical Allowance, and Child Maternity Allowance. The interested applicants need to send their detailed CV, passport size photograph and cover letter to [career@macommdbd.com](mailto:career@macommdbd.com) by **January 15, 2010**. Please mention the name of the position you are applying for. Any direct solicitation or persuasion will automatically terminate the application.