#### CCC MAYORAL ELECTION

# Manjur keeps on mustering support

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

BNP-backed and Chattagram Unnayan Andolon mayoral candidate Mohammad Manjur Alam Manju yesterday attended several meetings to seek votes for the June 17 election to the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC).

Manju participated at an

Manjur in his speech sought

Wahidul Alam, BNP city unit General Secretary Shahadat Hossain and Vice-president Abu Sufian, among others, spoke at the programme.



Earlier, Manjur visited

Nandan Kanan Buddhist

Monastery -- the main Buddhist

temple of the city -- in the morn-

Awami League-backed mayoral candidate ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury speaks at a press conference in the port city yesterday. Nagorik Committee organised the press conference.

indoor representatives' rally of the Chittagong city BNP and its front organisations at a local community centre in the after-

BNP leaders and activists from 41 ward units and different thana units attended the meeting chaired by its city unit President Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury.

Khasru said the BNP is participating in the CCC election as part of its ongoing movement against the govern-

Terming the election "very important" for the politics of the BNP, he urged the grass-roots level activists of the party to work together to ensure a win for the BNP-backedmayoralcandidate.

cooperation from all the party leaders and activists. He said, "I have already come to your party. Please don't throw me away."

of Buddha Purnima. He held a meeting with the Former lawmaker Syed leaders and activists of the local Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) at the Mehedibag residence of Khasru seeking their supports in the election.

> Later, Manju attended two meetings of Chattagram Unnayan Andolan at Bahodderhat Baroiyapara and at Chandgaon wards in the evening.

> Meanwhile, Nagorik Committee and Awami League local units held meetings at different wards of the city until late yesterday afternoon when AL-backed mayoral candidate ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury returned home after attending a meeting with Prime Minister and party chief Sheikh Hasina in Dhaka.

Nagorik Committee leaders participated in a view exchange meeting with the tailors' association leaders at the main election office of the committee at Nandankanon around 5:00pm.



PHOTO: STAR

BNP-backed and Chattagram Unnayan Andolon mayoral candidate Mohammad Manjur Alam Manju addresses a meeting in the port city yesterday. BNP and its associate organisations organised the meeting.



Classmates of Khandaker Khanjahan Samrat, who was killed in a road accident, burst into tears after his body was brought to Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday. Samrat was a fresher of the mechanical engineering department of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet). (Story on Page 1)

# 'None to be victim of discrimination for religion'

BSS, Dhaka

Industries Minister Dilip Barua yesterday said that none will be victim of discrimination due to religious faith during the tenure of the present government.

"Though Bangladesh achieved independence under the leadership of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman due to his non-violent and non-communal politics as well as democratic spirit, later that spirit was not nurtured," he said, while addressing as the chief guest discussion arranged on the occasion of Buddha Purnima.

Dilip Barua mentioned that a huge number of minority people were tortured due to religious faith during the rule of the BNP-led four-party alliance government.

Bangladesh Bouddha Krishti Prachar Sangha organised the discussion at Sabujbagh Dharmarajik Bouddha Bihar in the city.

President of Bouddha Krishti Prachar Sangha Bishuddhananda Mohathero inaugurated the programme.

With Sanghanayak S Dharmapal in the chair, the discussion was addressed by Sri Lankan High Commissioner to Bangladesh Sharat Wadegara, Thai Ambassador Tasanawadee Maiancharoen, Prof Dr Bikiran Prasad Barua, Dr Dilip Barua, Dr Suman Kanti Barua, Anupam Barua and Dr Pranab Kumar Barua.

Dilip Barua said the main philosophy of Buddhism is to become enlightened by purifying the soul through work. "The message of Buddhism will have to be practised in personal and social life side by side with listening," he said.

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The industries minister called upon the Buddhist community to practise knowledge shunning bad thoughts and superstitions.

He said the people of all faiths in the country

have been performing their religions freely during the tenure of the present government led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Terming Bangladesh as a unique example of communal harmony, he urged all irrespective of caste, creed and religion to work unitedly to build Digital Bangladesh.

Earlier, President of Bouddha Krishti Prachar Sangha Bishuddhananda Mohathero opened the Buddha Purnima celebration programmes at Dharmarajik Bouddha Bihar by hoisting the national and religious flags. Later, a colorful rally was brought out under the auspices of Buddha Purnima Udjapan Parishad.

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## Schoolboy drowns in canal

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A schoolboy yesterday drowned in a canal near Kamrangirchar while he was taking bath along with his friends. The boy was identified as Md Rabbi, 6, a student of class one

of a local school at Shaheed Nagar.

Locals said Rabbi suddenly drowned while he was taking bath along with his friends in the canal near Kamrangirchar embankment. Later some locals dived and rescued the boy from the canal and rushed him to the Dhaka Medical College and Hospital.

Victim's mother Rawshan Ara Begum said Rabbi's he went out of the house to play with his friends as his school was closed yesterday.



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