

# UGC suggests checking teachers' consultancy

UNB, Dhaka

University Grants Commission (UGC) has recommended the government for preparing an appropriate guideline discouraging teachers of the public universities to engage in private universities and consultancies.

The higher education watchdog made certain observations and expressed grave concern in its annual report for 2009 submitted to the president recently.

The UGC has recently observed that academic activities in public universities are greatly hampered, as some teachers are engaged in teaching part time at private universities, says the report.

According to the report, many of the teachers are also engaged in consultancy firms "in uncontrolled and unplanned manner".

The UGC in the report stressed the need for a proper guideline and its implementation to limit the practice of consultancy and part time teaching in a tolerable level so that education in public universities is not hampered.

It also laid emphasis on bringing neces-

sary amendments to related laws, especially the University Ordinance 1973, to establish the transparency and accountability of activities of the students, employees, and teachers of the public universities.

"The universities by self-efforts should take the relevant activities in this regard," says the report, suggesting introduction of subjects in the university curricula to help create skilled human resources.

The recommended subjects are nanotechnology, biotechnology, engineering, nuclear engineering, livestock, land and water resources, poverty reduction and economic development, forest resources, fisheries, mine-resources, renewable energy and gas extraction, collection of sea fish, medical science and nursing, leather technology, textile engineering, fashion design, apparel manufacturing, ceramic, pharmaceuticals, auto-mobile engineering, marine architecture, marine biology, social sciences, environmental science, and disaster management.



Former President of Ireland Mary Robinson speaks at a discussion titled "Climate Change: Rights and Justice" at Brac Centre Inn in the city yesterday. On her right are Dr Hasan Mahmud, Prof Ainun Nishat and Dr Asaduzzaman.

## Five get death, six life

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Five people were sentenced to death while six with life sentence, in connection to a murder case, by Sunamganj Additional District and Sessions Judge Abdur Rahim at Jagonnathpur upazila yesterday. The death row inmates are Yousuf Ali, his brother Afiz Ali, Montaj ali, Fazlu Miah and Giasuddin.

Those awarded life term are Asaddor Ali, Afsar Miah Intaj Ali, Terab Ali, Siddique Miah and Akol Miah.

The judge also fined each Tk 50,000. Two other accused, Mokbul Ali and Dhan Miah, died during trial.

The prosecution case says one Rustom Ali was killed in the hands of rivals during a clash leading from a longstanding land related enmity at Huliarpura village on October 11 of 1996.

## Menon blames BNP-Jamaat for price hike

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pointing finger to BNP-Jamaat for price hike, lawmaker Rashed Khan Menon yesterday blamed food-politics as vital factor for price spiral.

Most of the hoards and wholesalers are supporters of BNP-Jamaat. They manoeuvre the price of rice, he said adding, "If they do not manipulate markets how the price of rice increases even in pick-season."

Menon was saying this in reply to the queries of newsmen at a press conference, organised by Workers Party.

Menon said the position of worker party's lawmakers is still strong in the grand alliance. "We will observe the programmes to include people in the activities of grand alliance", he added.

## 'Build dividers on highways'

UNB, Dhaka

The home ministry yesterday requested the communications ministry to construct road dividers on the highways to curb accidents.

Home Minister Sahara Khatun told journalists after a meeting at her ministry on highway traffic management to reduce risks of accident.

The ministry also requested all concerned to cover upper half of headlights in black of long distance vehicles, including buses and trucks, as part of the measure.

A number of decisions were taken at the meeting to reduce accident as well as traffic jam on highways, said Sahara.

Restrictions are likely to be imposed strictly on slow-moving improvised vehicles like Nasimon, Karimon, Bhatbhati, and cycle-rickshaws.

Chaired by the home minister, the meeting also decided to evict markets built illegally over or in the vicinity of highways.

More than two persons, including the motorcyclist, would not be allowed to ride a motorbike as well as without wearing helmets on the highways.

State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku, Home Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikder, IGP Hasan Mahmood Khandker, and senior officers of Highway police were present at the meeting.

# Climate fund must be compensatory: Experts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The global climate fund for Bangladesh must be in the form of compensation for climate damage done by the developed world, environmentalists told a roundtable yesterday.

"The developed countries should compensate Bangladesh with debt cancellation for the climate damage," said Dr Hasan Mahmud, state minister for environment and forests.

The 30-billion "fast start" climate cash should have been released a year back but its process is still going very slow, he said. "That is an example of climate injustice."

Dr Mahmud was speaking at the roundtable "Climate Change: Rights and Justice" organised by Brac University at Brac Centre in the city.

Bangladesh is one of the countries worst affected by climate change though she has not contributed to the

cause. The per capita carbon emission every year in Bangladesh is only 0.2 tonne against 15 to 20 tonnes in the developed countries.

The state minister said an estimated 30 million Bangladeshis will be displaced by the year 2050 due to climate impacts.

Bangladesh hopes to achieve the quality of life as that of the developed world with clean energy and technology that require extra money, he added.

Mary Robinson, ex-president of Ireland and internationally acclaimed human rights activist, said economic development of a vulnerable country is a human right in the climate justice discourse.

The poorest, who are not responsible for carbon emission into the atmosphere, will be the worst hit by the devastations of the climate change,

but the climate change discourse has so far not been people-centred, she said.

Prof Ainun Nishat, an environmentalist and vice-chancellor of Brac University, said the developed world, the major historical emitters, is obligated to provide the developing and vulnerable countries like Bangladesh with required fund, clean energy, and technology.

The least developed countries and small island countries need equal right to emit carbon to bring about equal economic development in proportion with the developed world to get out of poverty cycle, he said.

A host of environmentalists, development researchers and NGO leaders attended the discussion moderated by Brac director Babar Kabir and chaired by Brac executive director Dr Mahbub Hossain.

## 5-day Chinese spring festival from Feb 11

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Embassy of China in Dhaka will organise gala events for five days beginning February 11 to celebrate the Chinese Traditional Spring Festival, the most important festival to Chinese people.

In observance of the Chinese New Year, the embassy will celebrate its Spring Festival Gala-Happy Spring Festival 2011 and Spring Festival Fair.

Addressing a press conference at the Chinese embassy here yesterday afternoon, Cultural Counsellor Qian Kaifu said a 35-member famous Chinese Acrobatic Art Troupe would visit and perform in Bangladesh.

Zhang Lei, chief of Political Section of the Chinese Embassy in Dhaka also spoke.



PHOTO: BNP

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia presides over a meeting with senior lawyers at her Gulshan office in the city yesterday.

## DISASTER MITIGATION UNDP to fund Tk 14cr for 4 yrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will provide Bangladesh around Tk 14 crore for the next four years to help the government quickly and effectively respond to any disaster and recover from it, says a media release.

In this regard, UNDP has launched Early Recovery Facility (ERF) to mobilise resources to plan and implement interventions.

Stefan Priesner, acting resident representative of UNDP, Bangladesh, said, "The concept of early recovery means building back better from the day the disaster strikes."

## SCBA ELECTION Khaleda holds meeting to select panel

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia held a meeting with the party's senior leaders and lawyers yesterday night to set a panel of pro-BNP lawyers to contest in the upcoming Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) election.

The meeting, which started at Khaleda's Gulshan office at 9:00pm, was to finalise the pro-BNP lawyers panel for contesting the SCBA poll, likely to be held in March, according to a source close to the meeting.

The meeting was continuing till filing this report at 9:45pm.

TH Khan, Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar, Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia, Barrister Shahjahan Omar, Adv Joynal Abdin, SCBA president Khandaker Mahub Hossain and general secretary Badrudozza Badal, and Dhaka Bar Association president Sanaullah Mia, among others, were present.

## Navy's annual exercise ends

METRO DESK

Bangladesh Navy successfully launched missile from the frigate BNS Bangabandhu in the Bay of Bengal yesterday, the concluding day of its annual exercise Sea Thunder 2011.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith witnessed the missile firing and other exercises as the chief guest from the navy ship, says a press release.

Muhith lauded the force's operational activities like anti-piracy and anti-smuggling operations, protection of sea resources, and security of the national establishments.

Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral ZU Ahmed received the minister on his arrival at New Mooring Naval Jetty, Chittagong.

## GULSHAN DOUBLE MURDER HC asks police to arrest Rubel, Mithun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the police to immediately arrest Rubel and Mithun, two principal accused of a sensational double murder at Gulshan in Dhaka, as they allegedly obtained bail from this court by practicing fraud.

Rubel and Mithun allegedly shot dead Sadequr Rahman, general secretary of Bangladesh Nursery Owners' Association, and his wife Romana Nargis, on March 24 last year, as they refused to let their daughter go with Rubel.

In response to a prayer moved by a Supreme Court lawyer, the HC bench of Justice Moeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Abdul Hakim yesterday cancelled its earlier order that on January 23 granted bail to Mithun and Rubel in this case.


The accused earlier got bail from the HC in this case by submitting a false statement of first information report to it through their lawyers, and then got released from jail, Advocate Manzill Mushrhid, who moved the prayer, told the HC bench yesterday.

The bench ordered Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner and Speedy Trial Tribunal-3 of Dhaka to ensure the arrest of the two accused.

It directed Advocates Munirul Islam and Monir Hossain, lawyers for the accused, to explain their conducts over getting the bail within a week to this court.

It also directed the chief metropolitan magistrate and the speedy trial tribunal-3 of Dhaka to investigate the incident of alleged forgery and submit a report within a week after receiving this order to this court.

**Mr. M Nayeem Hossain, Chairman**  
UNITAS Group of Companies Limited




Mr. M. Nayeem Hossain has assumed duty as the Chairman of UNITAS Group of Companies Limited, a fast growing conglomerate within the country and expanding its strong regional presence across Asia.

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Mr. Hossain, being the founder and current President of Bangladesh Supply Chain Council, is representing in Supply Chain Asia as the Country Representative for Bangladesh. He is the longest serving President of the Alumni Association of North South University and also engaged in various other social activities.

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Humbled Directors, Officials and Staffs

  
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