

Five-day cartoon festival launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With 140 caricatures, cartoons and animation displays, Bangladesh Cartoonist Association yesterday launched a cartoon festival at Drik Gallery in the capital.

Three animation studios and 35 cartoonists are participating in the five-day festival that was inaugurated by programme sponsor BB Saha Roy, managing director and CEO of Elite Paint and Chemical Industries.

“Cartoon is a medium of protest through humour,” noted Roy while inaugurating the event as chief guest.

The inauguration was also participated by the association’s advisors Ahsan Habib, Shishir Bhattacharjee and Sharier Khan as special guests.

In the event, the association also presented a crest to senior cartoonist and artist Nazrul Islam for his lifetime contribution to cartoons in Bangladesh.

Nazrul was active in the post liberation publications.

Shishir Bhattacharjee noted that founding the cartoonists association was a necessary act as it could now come forward to stand by any cartoonist facing any repression or threat. “The youth will now feel safer to make cartoons,” he said.



Visitors go through exhibits at a five-day cartoon festival organised by Bangladesh Cartoonist Association at Drik Gallery in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Law enforcers harassing students: Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday said law enforcers are harassing general students in the name of arresting them as Islami Chhatra Shibir activists in the capital.

Fakhru while addressing a press conference at the party’s Nayapaltan central office alleged that the police are picking up “innocent” students declaring them as Shibir men from student messes in different areas. The students living in the messes came in Dhaka for studying at different educational institutes.

The ruling Awami League “cadres” as well as the police were also extorting money from some of the students, who had been arrested, for freeing them, Fakhru said.

The police were even torturing a group of the general students, he added.

Fakhru also claimed that the government was deliberately leading the country towards a conflict.

15 govt officers to get training in India

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A team of 15 Bangladeshi officers will go to India to participate in a five-day training programme on chemical analysis of drugs.

The training will be held at the Central Revenues Control Laboratory in New Delhi from November 19-23, said a press release.

Earlier, 30 Bangladeshi officers of the Department of Narcotics Control took part in such training.

ATTACKS ON POLICE

AL demands Jamaat-Shibir men's speedy trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League yesterday staged demonstrations at 118 wards and unions in Dhaka protesting the recent attacks on police by Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir, and demanded the attackers’ arrest and punishment under the speedy trial act.

The main opposition BNP and Jamaat-Shibir have been conspiring to foil the war crimes trial by destabilising law and order situation, the AL leaders told the programmes.

Dhaka city AL General Secretary Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya Bir Bikram said they would remain on streets until the war crimes trial was completed. The AL will also build resistance against any evil motive by the anti-liberation war forces, he told The Daily Star.

Throughout December, the AL will intensify its programmes to forge greater unity among the pro-liberation war forces in favour of the war crimes trial, he added.

On November 19, the AL will hold protest rallies at all 24 thanas in Dhaka

city, while constituency-wise protest programmes will start on November 22 from Mirpur.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) and Bangladesh Awami Jubo League also held protest rallies at some places in the capital to condemn the Jamaat-Shibir’s recent mayhem.

JSD General Secretary Sharif Nurul Ambia said if BNP did not break off relations with Jamaat and stop patronising them, people would trash them [BNP] like Jamaat.

At a rally in Hazaribagh, Bangladesh Islami Oikya Jote Chairman Misbaur Rahman Chowdhury said Jamaat-Shibir, by attacking police and vandalising public property, was tarnishing Islam’s image. Jamaat has been trying to foil the war crimes trial through creating anarchy, he added.

In a joint statement, Sammilita Ainjibi Shamannay Parishad demanded the government quashes the ill attempt of Jamaat-Shibir in an iron hand.

In protest of the Jammatt violence, Khulna district Workers’ Party of Bangladesh will hold a rally on November 20.

Boy killed in Kamrangirchar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A boy was killed allegedly by his friend in the capital’s Kamrangirchar yesterday.

The victim was Manik, 15, of Hasan Nagar in Kamrangirchar.

Manik’s father Shah Alam told journalists at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) that they found Manik stabbed near a tea stall in Tanari Pukur par area of Kampanighat around 4:30pm.

Later, Manik was rushed to the DMCH where doctors declared him dead, he said.

Quoting locals, police said the victim was stabbed by his friend Shakil, 15, following an altercation.

Locals caught the alleged offender and handed him over to Kamrangirchar police.

Fire breaks out in Kuwait embassy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A fire broke out in Kuwait embassy in Dhaka in Gulshan-2 area yesterday.

Kuwait Ambassador to Bangladesh Ali Ahmad Ebraheem Al-Dafairi and other officials were present in the embassy when the fire broke out around 12:05pm, fire officials said.

Nobody was injured in the incident, they said adding that some documents and electronic goods were damaged in the fire originated from a room on the 3rd floor of the consulate office.

Masudur Rahaman, deputy assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence, said four units of fire fighters from Baridhara and Tejgaon Fire Stations went to the spot, and doused the flame after 30 minutes efforts.

According to a primary assessment, four computers, a photocopier, an air conditioner, some documents were damaged in the fire, he said.

Fire services officials suspect that the fire was originated from an electric short-circuit in the photocopier.

The fire service department has formed a three-member committee to investigate the incident.

The committee will submit its report by the next Sunday.



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