

Butterfly fair at JU Dec 7

JU CORRESPONDENT

A daylong butterfly fair will be held in Zahir Raihan auditorium of Jahangirnagar University on December 7.

The fair with the theme "Urley Akashey projapoti, Prokiti Paye Noton Goti" (butterflies flying give nature a new life), has been organised by the zoology department of JU for the third time.

Dr Mohammad Monwar Hossain, associate professor of the zoology department and the fair organiser, announced the fair at a press conference on the campus yesterday.

About 275 species of live butterflies will be exhibited in the auditorium and the botanical garden on the campus.

Among the 275 species, 61 are said to be newly discovered in Bangladesh and many more species remain undiscovered in the country, said sources.

The fair will include a children's art competition on nature and butterflies, photography competition on butterflies, butterfly photo exhibition, live butterfly display and documentation on butterflies.

JU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Anwar Hossain is expected to inaugurate the fair.



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SHOTS OF JAMAAT'S HARTAL



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1) A truck set on fire by the activists of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami and Islami Chhatra Shibir at Shahartali in Chhillimpur, Bogra yesterday. 2) Hartal supporters vandalising a bus at the capital's Jatrabari. 3) A CNG-run auto-rickshaw damaged by hartal supporters in Chittagong city. 4) Anti-hartal activists wielding sharp weapons in Chittagong. 5) Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) men fitted with riot gears on guard near the capital's Wireless Gate in Moghbazar where Jamaat headquarters are situated.



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PHOTO: STAR, FOCUS BANGLA, AND BANGLAR CHOKH



Anniversary of Suhrawardy's death today

UNB, Dhaka

The 49th death anniversary of Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy, one of the greatest leaders of undivided India, will be observed today.

Different organisations have taken up programmes to pay homage to the great leader marking the day.

President Zillur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave separate messages on the occasion.

In a message, the president said people of this region always remember the contributions of Suhrawardy to establishing democracy and its development.

He hoped that the life and works of the great leader would inspire the new generation with democratic thoughts.

In another message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said Suhrawardy was vocal for the socio-economic development as well as for protecting political interests of the Muslims of the sub-continent.

She said the philosophy of the great leader would inspire people in resolving political crisis and help establishing democracy.

US official Blake due Saturday

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Robert O Blake will arrive in Dhaka on Saturday on a four-day official visit to discuss bilateral and regional issues on labour, development, governance, and trade.

He will meet Bangladeshi officials, civil society leaders, and private sector representatives, said a media note issued in Washington DC last night.

Blake will address also the South Asia Women's Entrepreneurship Symposium in Dhaka, which supports the New Silk Road vision of enhancing regional economic integration and advancing economic growth, peace, and stability by empowering women through entrepreneurship and trade.

He will also record an episode of the television programme, "A Conversation with Bangladesh."

On December 11, the US official will leave for Bhutan.

Chance to seal series today

FROM PAGE 1

Bangladesh's 2-0 lead came off the back of two utterly comprehensive victories in the first two ODIs in Khulna, the second of which the home side won by 160 runs, their largest victory margin. That leaves West Indies, who were thought overwhelmingly superior before the series started and still are the better side on paper, needing to win three out of the last three matches in the capital to win the series.

The first two matches brought into stark relief the West Indian frailty against spin and their dependence on a few top order players. Bangladesh successfully exploited these chinks to leave Khulna needing to win just one more match to pull off a series win that will be a huge boost after the recent 2-0 loss in the Test series against the same opponents.

The home team's success so far has been due to their

teamwork and the ability to silence explosive West Indies opener Chris Gayle and the lynchpin of their middle order Marlon Samuels. Gayle can lay to waste any bowling attack while Samuels has the class and technical know-how to outmanoeuvre Bangladesh's arsenal of spinners led by newcomer Shohag Gazi and veteran Abdur Razzak, something none of his middle order colleagues seem able to do.

If Bangladesh can dismiss the duo early, then a repeat of their bowling and batting displays in Khulna will make them favourites to take the series today. If not, then the West Indies - with other big hitters in Kieron Pollard and Dwayne Smith who need a platform to strut their wares - will draw strength from the performance of their two best players and put the home side under more pressure than they have so far in this series.

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

No mala fide intention against Sayedee

Prosecution tells tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday refuted the defence's claim that the war crimes case against Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee was filed with mala fide intention.

Prosecutor Syed Haidar Ali told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that there was no mala fide intention because Sayedee was facing charges, which are triable under International Crimes (Tribunal) Act 1973.

The tribunal yesterday closed the argument of the defence counsels, as no-one of them did appear in court and asked the prosecution to place its counter arguments.

Justice Md Nizamul Huq, head of the three-member tribunal, said the defence argument was closed and prosecution would give reply on legal points.

However, after completion of the prosecution's counter arguments, the defence could submit its prayer, which might be considered at that time, he said.

Yesterday was fixed for Sayedee's counsels to place their arguments but none of them showed up. Sayedee, however, attended the proceedings.

Finding no defence counsel at the courtroom, Nizamul Huq said the tribunal would now hear the counter arguments of the prosecution.

Sayedee told the tribunal that his counsels failed to appear in court amid Hartal as they did not have any protection and requested adjournment of the day's proceedings.

Pointing to the people present at the tribunal, Nizamul Huq said many of them

did not have protection either.

Sayedee then requested the tribunal chief to send him back to jail, saying that he had no knowledge on legal matters and no counsels at that time. The tribunal, however, rejected his plea and asked for prosecution's counter arguments.

Meanwhile, Prosecutor Haidar Ali yesterday reiterated that the prosecution witnesses were intimidated by the defence and it was proved by Ganesh Chandra Saha, who gave a statement to the investigator of the case as a prosecution witness but later appeared in the tribunal as a defence witness.

Justice Nizamul Huq then asked the prosecutor if Ganesh's statement to the investigation officer bore any value after he gave his deposition in favour of Sayedee. The tribunal also asked for satisfactory arguments from the prosecution.

Haidar Ali then replied that the statement had value because it was a document. He also said the statement could be of help to both the defence and the prosecution.

On a different note, the tribunal chief told the prosecutor at the last moment of yesterday's second session that he would not get any benefit from the failures of the defence witnesses. Rather he has to prove the authenticity of the testimony of the prosecution witnesses, he said.

Haidar Ali will give his reply today. The proceeding of the case was adjourned until today.

Sayedee, a top leader of religion-based political party Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, is facing 20 specific charges of crimes against humanity he allegedly committed during the country's Liberation War in 1971.

Jamaat strikes, flees

FROM PAGE 1

At least 22 people, mostly passengers of vehicles, were injured as Jamaat-men vandalised 64 vehicles elsewhere in the country yesterday. Five vehicles were also torched.

The pro-hartal activists torched a food-delivery van of police and attacked a police constable in Brahmanbaria.

Around 18 activists of Jamaat and pro-Jamaat student body Islami Chhatra Shibir were injured in the capital after being beaten up by ruling party supporters and locals when they were trying to vandalise and set fire to vehicles at Mirpur-11 and Mughdapara.

Obstructed from holding rallies on Monday, Jamaat-e-Islami had called the hartal. Terming the hartal successful, Jamaat yesterday declared countrywide

agitation programme for today and a prayer programme on Friday.

Meanwhile, Shibir called a down-to-dusk hartal in Dinajpur today protesting the death of its union-level leader Monday night following a clash between police and activists of Jamaat-Shibir.

At Khilgaon in the capital, five to six Shibir men suddenly attacked police and tried to snatch rifles from two policemen. Failing, they hurled brick chips and ran away.

Movement of traffic in the capital was small until yesterday noon. Most shops, business houses and educational institutions were closed. Most of the primary and secondary schools in the city and elsewhere in the country suspended their annual exams. Office-goers had diffi-

culty finding transport to work.

Although no bus on long-distance routes left the capital's three bus terminals, the shutdown did not affect movement of trains and launches, and domestic and international flights.

But passengers who reached Dhaka in the early hours of yesterday faced difficulties going to their respective destinations.

A huge contingent of law enforcers was seen patrolling key areas and intersections in the capital since early morning.

There were reports of violence at Pallabi, Khilkhet, Karwan Bazar, Khilgaon, Sheorapara, near Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Mirpur, Jatrabari and Savar areas in Dhaka.

In Mirpur-11, at least 12 alleged Jamaat-Shibir men and one transport worker

were injured in a clash between them and pro-ruling party men and locals.

Witnesses said the clash erupted when more than 50 Jamaat-Shibir activists reached Mirpur-11 in procession around 3:00pm. They had vandalised over a dozen buses and tried to set two buses on fire on their way from Kalshi Road in Mirpur.

At least six suspected Jamaat-Shibir activists were injured during a clash with Awami League men and locals when they tried to vandalise vehicles at Mughdapara in the city around 1:00pm.

Police detained 238 pro-hartal activists across the country including 69 in Dhaka in connection with vandalism and setting fire to vehicles, said a statement from police headquarters.



A section of land grabbers illegally encroach upon a portion of the bank of the Buriganga river at Kamrangirchar in Dhaka to set up rickshaw-van garages. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

Muhith hopes war crimes trials' end this month

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Finance Minister AMA Muhith has expressed hope that trial of the war criminals would be completed within December, although it has been late.

He was addressing as chief guest at the council of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) unit of pro-AL student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday.

Student politics has a bright history in the subcontinent as well as in Bangladesh, Muhith said.

But it has lost its glorious spirit, and now has become rotten, he added.

Student leaders used to get involved in the welfare of the common students in the past, he said adding that they are now engaged in tender manipulating and making money as student unions remain ineffective.

BCL central committee President Badiuzzaman Sohag inaugurated the council. Sust BCL unit Convener Shamsuzzaman Chowdhury chaired the programme.

RISING Stars

This week Orin goes all Master Chef and fails. With disastrous results. We say goodbye to a legend and take a look at the new in thing when it comes to reading. Plus, a treat for zombie fans in centre.

SEE THIS WEEK'S RISING STARS.