

Pro-AI panel sweeps Cuta election

CU CORRESPONDENT

Pro-Awami League yellow panel of Chittagong University swept all the eleven posts in CU Teachers' Association (Cuta) election held at Social Science auditorium on the campus yesterday. In president post, the yellow panel candidate Prof MD Ali Ashraf beat his nearest opponent of pro-BNP-Jamaat white panel candidate Prof Mohammad Ali Chowdhury by 72 votes, said Chief Election Commissioner Prof MA Gafur.

Ashraf bagged 307 votes while Ali 235 votes. Prof Gazi Salehuddin, rebel candidate of the yellow panel, bagged 125 votes.

In general secretary post, Prof Sekandar Chowdhury won defeating the white panel candidate Prof SM Nosrul Quodir by 17 votes.

Sekandar got 292 votes while Quodir polled 275 votes.

Yellow panel candidate Prof Abul Monsur bagged 361 votes while his nearest opponent white panel candidate Prof Rafiqul Islam bagged 222 votes for vice president post, the CEC added.

In treasurer post, Prof Sukanta Bhattacharjee bagged 391 votes while his opponent Prof Md Yunus got 261 votes.

Prof Rezaul Karim got 311 votes, while white panel candidate Prof Jahedur Rahman Chowdhury polled 238 votes in joint secretary post.

A total of 692 voters, out of 793, cast their votes yesterday, Prof Gafur said.

SECONDARY LEVEL EDUCATION
Dropout rate decreases

Claims Banbeis report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

As in the past six years, the dropout rate in secondary level education fell in 2011, this time by 1.98 percentage points to 53.28 percent, a latest government report revealed yesterday.

The "Bangladesh Education Statistics 2011" report said although the dropout rate among girls was higher than boys, its decline rate among girls was higher than their male counterparts.

About 46.73 percent of boys dropped out in 2011, while it was 56.43 percent among girls, it said.

The report was launched by Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (Banbeis) at its office in the capital yesterday.

"The dropout rate has declined significantly but it happened slowly," Banbeis

Director Ahsan Abdullah told the launching programme.

The director said qwami madrasas were not included in the survey.

Back in 2005, dropout rate was as high as 80.02 percent. For a stable decline over following the years, it fell to 55.26 in 2010.

The net enrolment rate in secondary level is 56.50 percent.

The Banbeis director said the net enrolment rate in primary level had increased tremendously to 94.83 percent though the dropout rate was still high, 39.80 percent, in 2011, he said.

The total number of students, from primary schools to universities, in Bangladesh is 3.06 crore and total number of institutions stands at 1,14,114 as of 2011. Over 50 percent of the students are women, while over 33 percent of the 8,67,764 teachers are female.

Yaba smuggling on rise: DNC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Smuggling and usage of contraband Yaba tablets, among illegal drugs, are alarmingly increasing in the country, said Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) yesterday.

More than one lakh people are engaged in smuggling and trading of the illegal drugs while more than 50,000 people are arrested each year in connection with drugs related cases, DNC officials said yesterday at a press briefing held at the DNC head office in the capital.

Amir Hossain, additional director general of DNC, said the numbers of addicts and drugs related cases are increasing day by day.

The press conference was held ahead of DNC's 23rd founding anniversary to create awareness of the country's drugs situation.

DNC will celebrate their anniversary on January 2 next year.

"Recently the most vulnerable and risky item in Bangladesh is the Yaba tablet, which is smuggled into the country from Myanmar," said Amir Hossain.

He, however, observed that usage and smuggling of Phensedyl and Heroin have decreased.

A total of 50,204 people were arrested in the last 11 months till November and a total of 40,503 cases were filed in this connection, he added.

Mohammad Omar Faruq, director (operations) of DNC, spoke among others.

CTG PRESS CLUB
Abbas president, Mohsin general secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Ali Abbas and Mohsin Chowdhury have been elected president and general secretary of Chittagong Press Club.

The 15-member committee was announced yesterday night after counting the votes.

Ali Abbas defeated Jasim Uddin Chowdhury Sabuj getting 64 votes, while Sabuj got 48 votes.

Getting 86 votes, Mohsin Chowdhury defeated his competitor Ejaj Yusufi in general secretary post. Yusufi got 60 votes.

Rashed Rauf was elected senior vice-president, Kaji Abul Mansur vice-president, Kaji Mohsin joint secretary and Suklal Das treasurer.

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