

JU students refuse to bear with stalemate

Rally on campus demanding end to crisis by tomorrow

JU CORRESPONDENT

Frustrated and angry for the continued disruption of academic activities at Jahangirnagar University, general students rallied on the campus yesterday, asking the teachers and the vice chancellor to sort out their problem by tomorrow to restore academic atmosphere.

Over a hundred students gathered in front of the administrative building and said they had lost four months from their academic year due to the last six months of the teachers' movement demanding Vice Chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain's resignation.

The students threatened to announce tough protest programmes on Saturday.

Following their rally, around 300 teachers, officials, and employees held an anti-VC human chain in front of his official residence.

Meanwhile, Officers Association and Employees Union yesterday expressed solidarity with JU Teachers Association's (Juta) demand for the VC's resignation.

To reinforce Juta's movement, a new platform of teachers, students, officers and employees titled "Shikkhak-Shikkharthi-Karmokarta-Karmochari" was formed with JU President Prof Ajit Kumar Majumdar as convener.

Separately, Juta General Secretary Prof Shariff Uddin said their indefinite strike, which started on November 2, exempted all activities related to the admission tests slated for December 17-29, emergency administrative works, and JU transport service.

Meanwhile, Shadharon Shikkhak Forum continued to confine Prof Anwar to his house for the third straight day yesterday. Accusing the VC of failing to run the university, a section of teachers under the forum has been demanding his resignation since April, a year after his takeover in May 2012.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Demanding restoration of academic atmosphere at Jahangirnagar University by tomorrow, general students stage a protest in front of the administrative building yesterday.

BNP to hold rally marking Nov 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP will observe today as "National Revolution and Solidarity Day" to mark the "civil-military uprising" that led to the release of party founder Ziaur Rahman from captivity in 1975.

On the occasion, the party will hold a rally at 2:00pm at the capital's Suhrawardy Uddyan where senior leaders will give speeches, BNP Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi told The Daily Star. He did not confirm whether party Chairperson Khaleda Zia will address the programme.

In a message, Khaleda Zia will address the programme.

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Political parties' help sought to save children from violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two international child rights organisations working in Bangladesh have urged all political parties and movements to do their utmost to help protect children from any violence regarding upcoming elections respecting their rights.

Save the Children and Plan International Bangladesh in a joint statement yesterday said it is unacceptable that children are being killed or injured as a result of violent protests that have marked recent weeks. "Children must not suffer because they are

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Bangladesh delegation to visit Belarusian nuke power plant

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Bangladeshi delegation will visit the under-construction Belarusian Nuclear Power Plant in Belarus in mid-November.

During the visit, the delegation comprising experts and officials from the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and the Ministry of Science and Technology will get acquainted with construction and installation works done during the preparatory phase in setting up a nuclear power plant, said a press release.

United Engineering Company NIAEP-ASE representatives will accompany the Bangladeshi delegation.

Aside from gaining knowledge, the Bangladeshi delegation will negotiate the third contract with their Russian counterpart on construction and installation works to be performed during the preparatory phase of Rooppur power plant.

COP MURDER IN CTG 2nd arrest made

Knife 'used' in attack recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police yesterday arrested another accused in a case filed over the murder of a constable who, along with three off duty colleagues, was hacked by muggers at the base of Chittagong city's Batali Hill on November 3.

The four policemen had confronted the muggers with their bare hands while the latter were robbing two pedestrians.

Following a tip-off, Mintu Das, 19, son of Dulal Das, of Chittagong's Anwara upazila, was arrested in the city's DC Hill area.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (Detective Branch) of Chittagong Metropolitan Police Babul Akhter said a knife allegedly used in the attack was recovered from the city's Bagmoniram area following preliminary interrogation.

On Tuesday, one Mohammad Sohel was arrested.

Some 11 of the area's alleged criminals and seven to eight unidentified others were accused in the case filed with Khulshi Police Station.

Meanwhile, the three injured, Shahabuddin, Ariful Islam, and Salahuddin are recovering in hospitals.

'Retreat ceremony' launched at Benapole-Petrapole border

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Aimed at developing reciprocal relations, Bangladesh and India launched a joint "retreat ceremony" at Benapole-Petrapole border yesterday.

During the ceremony, to be observed at sunrise and just before sunset each day, Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and Border Security Force will hold parades and hoist and lower the national flags simultaneously.

The Wagah border between India and Pakistan is famous for the choreographed routine, a spectacle viewed by thousands. BGB sources said the ceremony would be also be introduced at other immigration check posts.

Inaugurating the ceremony with his Indian counterpart Sushil Kumar Sambhajirao Shinde, Home Minister

Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir said the ceremony would help reduce border crimes and smuggling to a great extent, reports our Benapole correspondent.

On bringing BNP Senior Vice Chairman Tarique Rahman back, Muhiuddin said, "We wrote to the British government to send Tarique Zia back to Bangladesh. After his return, action will be taken as per law."

A home ministry source on Tuesday said Tarique would be produced before a court which had earlier issued an arrest warrant for him in connection with a money laundering case.

Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case against Tarique and his close friend and business partner Giasuddin Al Mamun on October 26, 2009 over Tk 20.41 crore siphoned out to Singapore between 2003 and 2007.

INDO-BANGLA BOUNDARY DEAL Foreign ministers likely to discuss in New Delhi next week

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India yesterday said the Land Boundary Agreement was expected to figure in talks between Foreign Minister Dipu Moni and her Indian counterpart Salman Khurshid in New Delhi next week.

India also reiterated that the government was committed to bringing a bill to ratify the LBA with Bangladesh in the next session of parliament expected to begin later this month.

Asked about the issues which will figure between Khurshid and Dipu Moni during a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the Asia-Europe Meeting, Syed Akbaruddin, spokesperson of Indian External Affairs Ministry, told reporters, "The Land Boundary Agreement is expected to figure and the government was committed to bringing a bill in this regard in the next session of parliament."

Dipu Moni is set to fly to New Delhi on November 10 on

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Home Minister Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir and his Indian counterpart Sushil Kumar Sambhajirao Shinde shake hands as they inaugurate a joint "retreat ceremony" at Benapole-Petrapole border yesterday. The ceremony, to be observed twice every day, aims at bolstering reciprocal relations between Border Guard Bangladesh and India's Border Security Force.

PHOTO: STAR

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ASSET DEVELOPMENTS

Changing seedbed timing may raise rice production

Says small-scale CEGIS, SEN research

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rice production can be increased by shifting the timing of the seedbed in order to ensure the availability of optimum water, states a small-scale research disclosed yesterday.

The researchers cultivated Boro and Aman, which are kept in the seedbeds for 15 days on an average, in drought-prone Nachole of Rajshahi and salinity and flood-prone Gopalpur of Gopalganj.

In Nachole, the transplant of the seedlings to the field from the seedbed was delayed by 10 days than the usual practice while in Gopalpur the transplant was made 10 days in advance.

However, it would not be wise to reach a conclusion as Bangladesh has many agro-ecological zones while in many areas crops are cultivated back-to-back, said discussants at a workshop where the findings were disclosed.

The workshop, "Assessing the economic impact of climate change on agriculture, water resource and food security and adaptation measures using seasonal and medium range of forecasts", was organised in the capital's Brac Centre Inn.

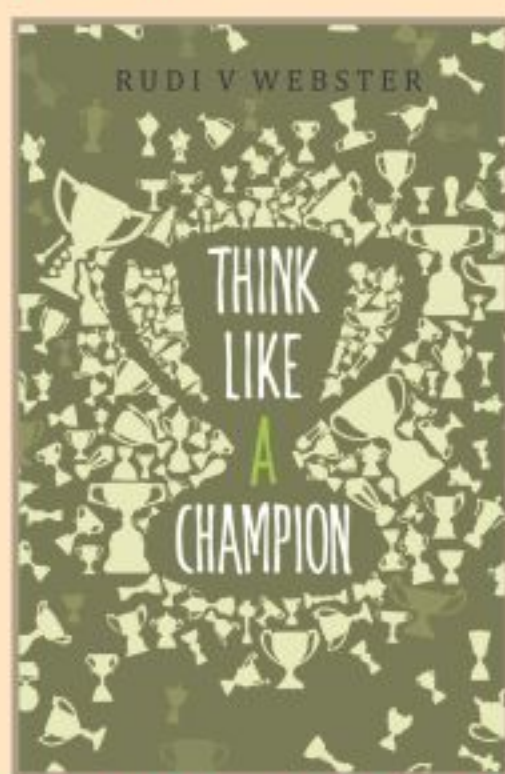
The research was conducted in Bangladesh and Nepal jointly by the Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), a public trust under Bangladesh's Ministry of Water Resources, and Small Earth Nepal (SEN).

The aim was to formulate an adaptation strategy to ensure food security amidst climate change, said the discussants, adding that changing rainfall patterns due to climate change was affecting crop yields in both countries.

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