

Four 'errant' DU teachers face syndicate action

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka University syndicate has taken an array of measures against four professors facing allegations of misconduct, embezzlement, and plagiarism.

Obaidul Islam, a professor of physics, was sent into an unspecified period of leave for allegedly misbehaving with his department chairman, Dean of Social Sciences Faculty Prof Farid Uddin Ahmed told The Daily Star yesterday.

At its meeting on Sunday night, the syndicate also decided to serve a notice on GM Chowdhury, former director of the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), asking him to clarify his stand against the allegations of embezzling money from the institute's library development fund.

He also faces accusations of illegally allowing some private colleges to use the DU logo on their certificates to give the false impression that those institutions are affiliated with DU, said a syndicate member wishing anonymity.

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The Atrai river, which was once known as a rushing river, is now almost dead with water only coming up to knees due to poor maintenance and not receiving water from the source rivers Tista and Boral. The photo was taken at Buridah Char in Naogaon on Sunday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

PM advises tourists to learn about tidal waves

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday advised tourists and students to learn about high and low tides before stepping into the Bay of Bengal.

She also advised parents and guardians to be aware about their near and dear ones' holidays near the sea.

The pm's advice came at the weekly cabinet meeting at Bangladesh Secretariat following death of four university students in the sea waters of St Martin's Island.

Two other students are still missing. All of the students were from Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology in the capital.

Cabinet sources said the prime minister directed the authorities concerned to formulate a policy to appoint manpower in the country's public hospitals. She expressed unhappiness for not appointing manpower in Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital.

She also expressed dissatisfaction over frequent strikes by doctors at different hospitals which hamper health services badly.

KHALEDA'S GRAFT CASES

Hearing deferred till May 21

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday deferred till May 21 the hearing of Zia Orphanage Trust and Zia Charitable Trust corruption cases filed against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and eight others.

Judge Bashudev Roy of the Special Judge Court-3 passed the order after Khaleda's lawyer submitted two separate petitions seeking an adjournment of the hearing.

Md Harunur Rashid, deputy director of the Anti Corruption Commission and also the complainant of

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Factory served food makes 250 sick

STAR REPORT

Around 250 workers of Best Wool Sweaters Ltd in Jarun area of Konabari in Gazipur city fall sick after eating tiffin yesterday evening.

Rabiul Alam, Konabari police camp in-charge, said the factory authorities served a banana, a boiled egg, a biscuit and one piece of bread to 2,000 workers each around 7:00pm like other days, our staff correspondent reports.

Out of them, 250 mostly females started feeling vomiting and pain in the stomach, he added.

Later, they were taken to different local clinics, including Konabari Clinic and Sharif Clinic.

Around 225 workers were released after treatment till 1:30am today, Rabiul said.

According to our Gazipur correspondent, Dr AKM Sharif of Sharif Clinic said the boiled eggs the workers ate became stale due to scorching heat.

The factory General Manager Dr AKM Sharif said any complaint over the food items served to the workers did not

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RECRUITMENT SCAM IN BR

Golam Kibria wanted to change tabulation sheet

Allege prosecution witnesses; defence accuses them of tampering with the original one

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg

Two college teachers yesterday testified over the alleged recruitment irregularities in Bangladesh Railway that after they submitted the answer scripts and tabulation sheets of the recruitment test for the post of assistant chemist in 2011, BR authorities wanted them to approve another set of tabulation sheets.

But Dr Md Hazarat Ali, head of Chittagong College's chemistry department, and Jahangir Alam, an assistant professor there, refused to approve the new

tabulation sheets without the answer scripts, the two told a Chittagong court as prosecution witnesses.

According to them, after they had submitted the answer scripts and tabulation sheets, Golam Kibria, suspended senior welfare officer of BR (east zone), sent a second set of tabulation sheets for approval, claiming that they had lost the first set.

But the teachers wanted the answer sheets again, saying they could not approve

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WAR CRIMES TRIAL

BSMMU files report on Qaisar's health

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) submitted a report on the health condition of war crimes accused Syed Mohammad Qaisar to the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday.

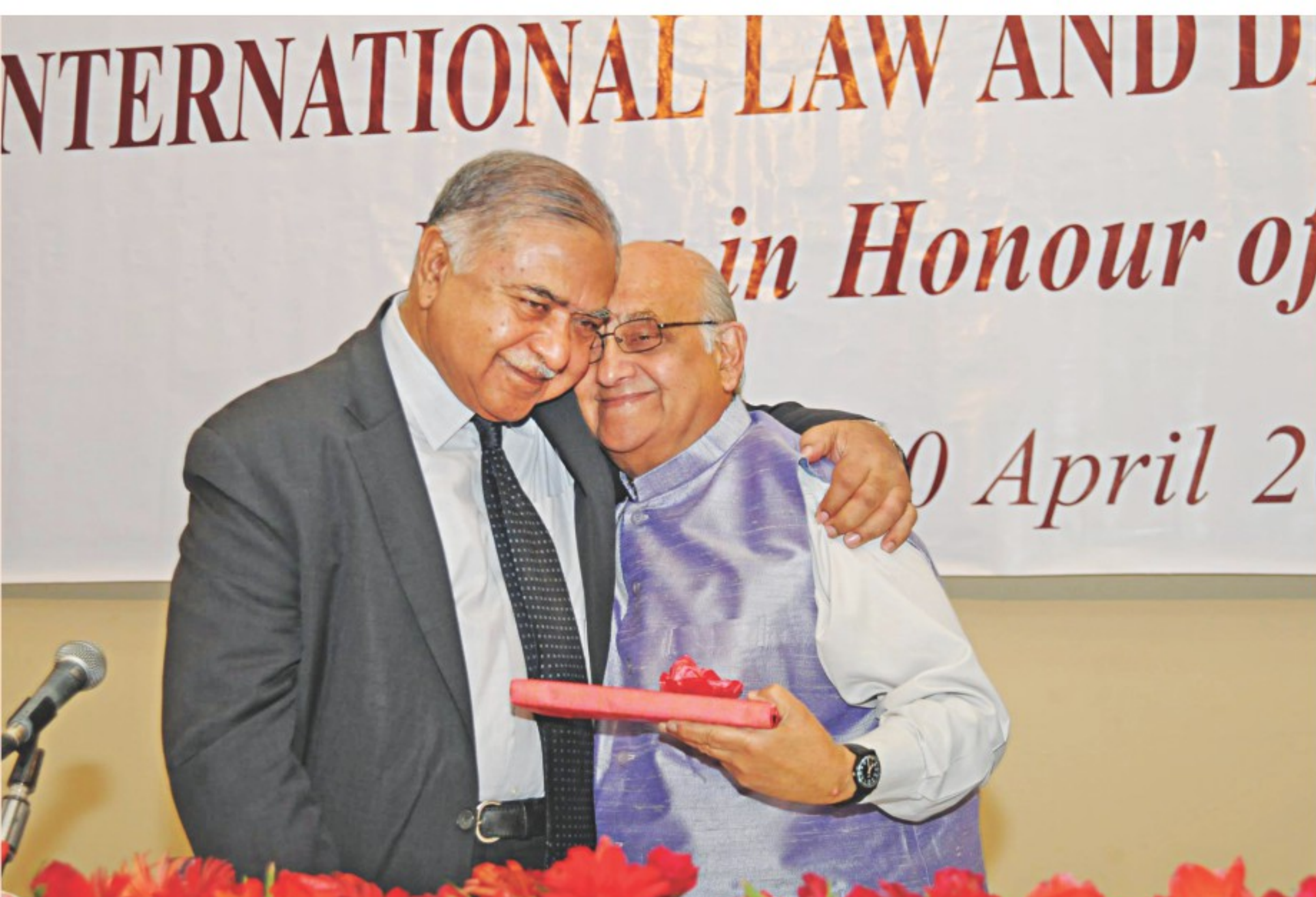
The tribunal registrar, AKM Nasiruddin Mahmud, said his office received the report and already transferred it to the tribunal-2 where Qaisar is standing trial.

On March 30, the tribunal-2 asked the BSMMU vice chancellor to form a medical board and file a report on Qaisar's health in 15 days. The order came after the prosecution prayed for cancellation of Qaisar's bail, arguing that he had violated the bail conditions.

The court is expected to pass the next order after inspecting the report.

Qaisar, a state minister in HM Ershad's regime and alleged founder of Qaisar Bahini, which collaborated with

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Veteran lawyer Dr Kamal Hossain, left, and his longtime friend economist Rehman Sobhan share a warm hug at the launching ceremony of a book on the jurist on the occasion of his 77th birth anniversary at the capital's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel on Sunday.

PHOTO: PROTHOM ALO

Dr Kamal contributed to int'l law

Eminent persons tell book launch on his 77th birth anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Kamal Hossain is a proficient lawyer not only in the country but also in the international arena, who played an important role in the development of international law apart from being involved in the framing of Bangladesh's constitution, speakers told a book launch on Sunday.

Marking his 77th birth anniversary and 55 years in law profession, the book "International Law and Developing Countries: Essays in Honour of Kamal Hossain" was unveiled at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the capital. The book contains highlighted portions of different international cases conducted by the eminent jurist.

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DEATH AFTER EATING WATERMELON IEDCR collects samples from Kushtia village

Sales dip in district

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Six experts of the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) yesterday collected samples from Kushtia yesterday to examine the causes of death of a girl and sickness of 26 other persons after eating watermelon.

Dr Waliur Rahman who led the IEDCR team of Dhaka told reporters that they will examine the samples in the capital to find out the real causes of the death.

Smrity, 9, daughter of Askar Ali, died and 26 others people fell sick after eating the watermelon at Kalua village in Kumarkhali upazila of the district on Sunday.

Twelve persons were still undergoing treatment at Kushtia Medical College Hospital. Police arrested vendor Rezaul Karim after the incident.

Physicians at the Kushtia medical earlier suspected that the watermelon they consumed might have "ripened with chemicals."

Meanwhile, sales of watermelon have been fallen significantly in different markets in the district since the incident occurred on Sunday.

Mustafizur Rahman, a fruit vendor in the town, said he sold only five watermelons yesterday while it was 25-30 on other days. "I came to the municipality market in the town to buy watermelon but I did not purchase it reading the death news in the local newspapers, said Hafiz Al Helal of Haripur.

GRAFT ALLEGATION ACC seeks MP Hawlader's affidavit from EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission has sought affidavit of Jatiya Party presidium member and lawmaker ABM Ruhul Amin Hawlader from the Election Commission that was submitted to it before the January 5 national election.

The affidavit is necessary to probe into the allegation of illegal wealth accumulation by Hawlader, the ACC said in a letter received by the EC yesterday, Farhad Hossain, senior assistant secretary of the EC Secretariat, told The Daily Star. The ACC on April 9 launched a probe into the allegation that Hawlader's business firm, KR Fashion, has a large quantity of land at Kuakata in Patuakhali. But, the land was not mentioned in the affidavit he submitted to the EC.

25 houses of RMG workers gutted in Ashulia

Fire breaks out in lorry in Ctg

CITY DESK

Separate fire incidents took place in Dhaka and Chittagong yesterday, gutting valuables and houses.

Our Savar correspondent reports, a fire in Chitroshail of Ashulia, on the outskirts of the capital, gutted at least 25 houses of readymade garment workers yesterday.

DEPZ Fire Service Station Officer Sabbir Ahmed said the fire might have originated from an electric short circuit.

Meanwhile, a fire originating from another electric short circuit broke out at a printing factory in Unique area around 10:00am, said the fire service.

Abdul Hamid, the fire service senior station officer, said the loss could not be estimated immediately.

Our staff correspondent from Chittagong adds, a fire broke out in the cabin of a lorry in the city in the early hours.

The vehicle was parked near a toll plaza in Halishahar Munshi Para area, said Abdur Razzaq, senior officer at Bandar Fire Station. Asaduzzaman, sub-inspector of Bandar

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College student found dead at coaching centre in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A dental college student was found dead at a coaching centre in the capital's Siddheshwari yesterday afternoon after she had gone missing on Saturday.

Zakia Islam Irene, 20, was a second year student at Saphena Women's Dental College in Malibagh.

Her body was found hanging from the ceiling fan with a scarf at ECCP Coaching Centre, said Moshir Rahman, officer-in-charge of Ramna Police Station.

Irene was not enrolled to the coaching centre, located on the ground floor of a building on Khandakar Road, added the OC.

The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Bangladesh rejects terrorism, violence

Foreign minister tells workshop

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali yesterday said Bangladesh have time and again rejected terrorism, extremism, violence and intolerance as a nation.

The spirit of the vibrant, progressive, tolerant and peace-loving people has remained Bangladesh's "biggest asset" to fight against terrorism, extremism and non-state actors, he said.

The minister was speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural session of a two-day workshop on "Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540" at the foreign ministry.

Mahmood said the government is deeply committed to the full implementation of UNSCR 1540 as Bangladesh unequivocally supports all international efforts at promoting a more peaceful and safer world.

He emphasised international cooperation and collaboration to root out terrorism from South Asian region and the world.

Principal Staff Officer of Armed Forces Division Maj Gen Abu Belal Muhammad

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Bangladesh Photo Journalist Association forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday protesting the attack on on-duty photojournalists at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital by the interns on Sunday.

PHOTO: STAR