

Sust VC opponents publish 'white paper'

Continue protest seeking his resignation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A faction of pro-Awami League teachers of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust), who are demanding resignation of the vice chancellor since mid-April, yesterday published a "white paper" listing a set of allegations against him and besieged his office for the fourth consecutive day.

However, some "general" students organised a procession, a human chain, and a signature collection campaign urging the agitating teachers to call off the protest and help keep congenial atmosphere on the campus.

Sust Teachers' Association President Prof Kabir Hossain also called for an end to the teachers' protest.

The white paper stated that VC Prof Aminul Haque Bhuiyan appointed his wife's "brother" as a class II official violating the age limit, and some distant relatives to other posts.

Accusing him of misusing funds, it said the VC used to buy mineral water for drinking at home and bought milk powder, which generated a bill of Tk 84,000 recently.

He also increased the limit of expenditure per voucher to Tk 2,000 from Tk 800, the paper read.

Some other allegations include making foreign trips in violation of rules, frequently visiting colleges associated with Sust, inefficiency and failure to open new departments in his tenure since July 2013, and favouring some teachers.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2



Niha Akter, 10, being treated in Dhaka Medical College Hospital after she was injured and her seven-year-old brother Miraj Rahman killed when a crude bomb exploded inside their Lalbagh house in Old Dhaka yesterday. Unknown miscreants hurled the bomb into their tin-shed house, claimed the victims' father, Yakub Ali, who is being interrogated as police could not confirm his claim.

PHOTO: STAR

Menon criticises govt in parliament

Speaks of forced disappearances, tender manipulation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing dissatisfaction over the government's failure to ensure good governance, Civil Aviation Minister Rashed Khan Menon yesterday told parliament that the country's economic growth would rise by 2.5 percent if corruption could be curbed effectively.

The president of the Workers Party, a key party of the governing alliance, also said violence, killings, forced disappearances, and tender manipulation had tarnished the government's image and was obscuring its achievements.

Speaking on the proposed 2015-16 budget, Menon also criticised the government for its failure to take effective steps against recent incidents of sexual violence against women.

"The country where women don't feel safe to move at night and sexual assaults continue can't be called civilised," he said.

Pointing to the continuous privatisation of the power sector, he said, "We'll have to think how it'll pay off for an independent country to privatise the power sector."

The steps taken by the government for rental and quick rental power plants enacting a special law in the past went against the national interest, he said.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

VANDALISM, ARSON CASES SC to decide June 28 on govt opposition to Fakhrul's bail

Gayeshwar gets bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday fixed June 28 for passing orders on the government petitions against bail of BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir in three cases.

The court also asked Attorney General Mahubey Alam to inform it about the status of investigations of the cases.

It is not possible for the High Court bail orders to be executed as the government petitions against the bail orders are pending before the apex court, AKM Ehsanur Rahman, a lawyer of Fakhrul, told The Daily Star.

The HC on June 18 granted bail to the BNP leader in three separate vandalism and arson cases filed on December

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

UGC approves Tk 2,202.85cr budget

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The University Grants Commission (UGC) yesterday approved a budget of Tk 2,202.85 crore for 2015-2016 fiscal year for country's public universities and itself.

Of the total, Tk 2,178.84 crore will be spent for the 37 public universities while the remaining Tk 24.01 crore for UGC, says a press release.

The budget was approved at the 141th full commission meeting at UGC Bhaban with its Chairman Prof Abdul Mannan in the chair.

The meeting also approved the revised budget of Tk 2053.55 crore for the universities and Tk 21.23 crore for UGC for 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Education Secretary Nazrul Islam Khan, Planning Commission Member Humayun Khalid, and vice-chancellors of different public universities attended the meeting.

AL regime killing BNP

FROM PAGE 3 "Anti-Represion Day".

The former premier said the government was suppressing their movement for a caretaker administration in a "fascist" style.

Meanwhile, BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon yesterday said the government was crippling local government bodies through politicisation by removing the opposition-backed elected representatives for "fabricated" charges.

"The opposition-supported elected public representatives are being removed from local government bodies, including upazilas and municipalities... The ruling party-backed representatives are being installed in those posts," he told journalists at Nayapaltan.

He said as a result of this politicisation, the local government system was breaking down. "They are deliberately crippling the local government institutions."

Don't give too much

FROM PAGE 3

power to punish offenders can be given to judicial magistrates, the pro-BNP lawyer suggested.

Khandker Mahubub also said that without public support, the present government was trying to amend the Mobile Court Act further to increase the power of the administration, as it was dependent on the executive.

The council's members AM Mahubub Uddin Khokon and Sanaullah Mia were also present.

BCC's unpaid bill keeps 2 new water plants idle

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Two new water treatment plants in Barisal city cannot go into operation due to a lack of the electricity connection.

Barisal City Corporation is entrusted with the operation of the plants, constructed in Beltala and Rupatali by Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) with a cost of Tk 50 crore.

Lutfar Rahman, sub-assistant engineer of PHED in Barisal, said the plants with a total capacity of producing 3.2 crore litres of water daily would get water from the river Kirtankhola.

Around 95 percent of the construction work of the water treatment plant in Beltala has completed, while 30 percent of the work of the other plant remains incomplete, he said.

SM Shohidul Alam, executive engineer of PHED in Barisal, said they had a target to start the water treatment plants between June and August.

There may be a delay in the start of

the operation as they cannot get electricity right now for trial of the machineries, he added.

Manirul Alam Swapan, executive engineer of the water supply department at BCC, said they had appealed to Power Development Board for electricity connections a month ago.

It is not possible to give new power connections to BCC until it pays the due electricity bills of Tk 13 crore to PDB, said Hasan Ali Talukdar, superintending engineer of Barisal's West Zone Power Distribution Company run by PDB.

Manirul Alam Swapan said currently they could supply 1.5 crore litres of water to the city dwellers against the total demand of 4.5 crore per day.

BCC Mayor Ahsan Habib Kamal said they were trying to pay the due electricity bills in phases.

He said Tk 12 crore became overdue during the tenure of the last mayor, Shawkat Hossain Hiron, while his tenure owed Tk 1 crore.

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