

**Ex-leaders of BFUI, DUJ call for forming 9th wage board**

BSS, Dhaka

Former presidents and general secretaries of a faction of Bangladesh Federation of Journalists (BFUI) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) yesterday expressed solidarity with the ongoing agitation of the journalists demanding formation of the ninth wage board.

They called upon the government to implement the just demand of the journalists by forming the wage board immediately, said a BFUI release signed by its joint secretary general Amiya Chakrabarty.

The former leaders, including Kamal Lohani, M Shahjahan Miah, Abdul Iqbal Bhuiyan, Azizul Islam Bhuiyan, Akram Hossain Khan, Shuvo Rahman, Qazi Rafiq, Abu Zafar Surzo and Qaddus Afrad, made the call in a joint facilities front.



**Executive Magistrate Syed Morad Ali of the deputy commissioner's (DC's) office in Chittagong penalises a driver for failing to show all valid papers and defying traffic rules in the city's Tiger Pass area yesterday. The mobile court, accompanied by Ansar battalion personnel, fined 15 vehicles a total of Tk 4,500 as part of a campaign to bring discipline in vehicular movement in the port city.**

**Nagorik Samaj calls for arrest of Sagar's killers**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twelve distinguished personalities yesterday expressed their deep shock and concern over the brutal killing of a teenage boy in Gouripur of Mymensingh on Monday.

Under the banner of Nagorik Samaj, they issued a statement demanding the arrest of the culprits and exemplary punishment for them.

Sagor Mia, 18, was taken to a concrete pole and beaten to death. He allegedly tried to steal a water pump from a hatchery in Char Sreemampur village. Later in the day, Sagor's body was dumped into nearby bushes, from where police recovered it the next day. Citing the killing of Sylhet teenage boy Samiul Islam Rajon in 2015, the eminent persons expressed concern at the brutal murders in recent time.

Signatories of the statement are journalist Kamal Lohani, former caretaker government adviser Sultana Kamal, rights activist Khushi Kabir, Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh Dr Ittefakurrazzaman, Supreme Court lawyers Sara Hossain, Subrata Chowdhury, and Tabarak Hossain, Executive Director of Association for Land Reform and Development Shamsul Huda, economist Prof Abul Barakat, lawyer Nara Dasgupta, rights activist Kajal Deb Nath, and BLAST Director SM Rezaul Karim.

**President urges DU to uphold its image**

BSS, Dhaka

President Abdul Hamid yesterday asked the Dhaka University authority to uphold its image and dignity.

"Abide by the rules and regulations at all levels in running the university," the president, also the chancellor, also the president of the university, said while the newly appointed DU Vice-Chancellor Dr. Akhtaruzzaman called on him at Bangabhaban in the capital yesterday.

President's Press Secretary Joyal Abedin briefed reporters after the meeting.

Abdul Hamid, also chancellor of the university, termed DU the country's "pride and joy" and with academic excellence and directed the DU authorities to give special emphasis on its environmental issues.

He stressed the need for taking an integrated initiative to maintain the custom and dignity of the university.

The DU VC apprised the president of overall activities of the university and sought cooperation in discharging his duties.

**BID TO CHECK LANDSLIDES**

# Hill-slope training urgent: Experts

UNR, Dhaka

Speakers at a seminar yesterday said hill-slope training works are needed to prevent human-induced landslides in case of taking any development projects in the country's hilly areas.

"If we can take river-training works, why don't we take hill-training works? There's no need for adaptation programme to face landslides, rather it can be mitigated or completely prevented," said Dr M Shahidul Islam, professor at Geography and Environment Department of Dhaka University.

Society for Environment and Human Development (SEHD), a non-government organisation, arranged the seminar titled 'Manmade Disaster: Hills, Coasts and Rohingya Crisis and Forests at the CBBB auditorium in the capital.

Making a presentation over hill-cutting, Shahidul Islam said four types of people - hill owners, businessmen, labourers and civil staff - are involved in the hill-cutting.

He stressed the need for the formation of a national-level hill management committee and enlisting the country's all hills in a database to protect hills.

Noted economist Prof Wahiduddin Mahmud said there is no scope in Bangladesh to keep away an environment pollutant industry from the locality as the amount of unused land against population size is very low in the country.

He said no industry and accommodation can be developed without damaging the environment in Bangladesh.

About Rohingya crisis, he said it is a manmade disaster, which will remain a landmark in history as some one lakh Rohingya people have been displaced from

**'Forcibly displaced'**

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said for the last three to four years, Bangladesh tried to resolve the Rohingya issue bilaterally, but the initiative failed. "Now we are trying to make it multilateral."

Bangladesh has sheltered more than 480,000 Rohingyas who fled persecution in Myanmar's Rakhine state since August 25.

International concern is growing over the fate of the Rohingyas, with the United Nations denouncing the Myanmar's brutal military campaign as a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing."

The campaign includes killings, rape and torching of Rohingya villages, according to the UN.

**Section 57 shrinks press freedom**

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It is a significant innovation of the Human Rights Council which is based on equal treatment for all countries, according to Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

"It provides an opportunity for all states to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and to overcome challenges to the enjoyment of human rights."

During the second UPR cycle in 2012-2016, Bangladesh accepted 164 out of 196 recommendations without condition. It accepted 27 recommendations partially and rejected five others. Of the rejected recommendations, three were on repealing death sentence and two were on accepting same-sex relationship, according to the forum members.

**PM should visit India, China, Russia**

FROM PAGE 3

the three countries do not exercise their power to veto against any resolution over the issue at the United Nations Security Council that is scheduled to meet today (Thursday), Fakhrul said.

Calling upon the government to resolve the Rohingya crisis putting aside narrow political interest, Fakhrul again stressed the need for forging national unity to resolve the crisis. "We don't want any division or rivalry. Rather, we want national unity to reach a permanent solution to the Rohingya crisis."

Fakhrul and many senior leaders of the party were visiting Cox's Bazar to expedite the distribution process of relief materials that his party has sent for Rohingyas.

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