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DUCSU ELECTION 2019

Breaches of polls code unchallenged

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka University authorities have apparently been turning a blind eye to the violation of electoral code of conduct by the candidates and their supporters during the campaign for the upcoming Ducusu election.

Though candidates from almost all the panels have breached the code to different extents, pro-Awami League student body Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) violated it yesterday for the fourth straight day, since the electioneering began on March 3. But, no action was taken yet by the authorities in this regard.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of BNP, also conducted campaigns defying the code for the last two days while the candidates from the joint panel of left-leaning organisations and the quota reformist panel too violated it yesterday.

Contacted, Assistant Returning Officer of the election Prof Abdul Bashir said they would take action if anyone filed a written complaint with proofs.

When asked whether they would take any action voluntarily, he referred to the university proctor to ask the question.

Talking to The Daily Star, Proctor Prof AKM Golam Rabbani said they would not take any action before receiving any written complaint containing proof.

"If anyone does not get any problem with the violation, why would we interrupt other's campaigning?" the proctor questioned.

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Violating the Ducusu electoral code of conduct, supporters of a member candidate from the Chhatra League panel bring out a procession with motorbikes on the Dhaka University campus yesterday. Such breaching of the electoral code by candidates has been going on for several days, but the authorities seem not to care much. Elections to Ducusu and hall unions will be held on Monday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



Quader's heart functioning without support

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader's heart is now functioning without a support, doctors said.

Doctors have removed connection of an intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP) device attached to his body as his condition improved.

His heart is now functioning without artificial support, said Dr Abu Nasar Rizvi, professor at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU).

Now accompanying Quader, Rizvi came up with the updates quoting Dr Philip Koh Soon, head of the five-member medical board formed for Quader's

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In JS, out of party

Gonoforum expels Sultan Mansur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Gonoforum yesterday expelled Sultan

Mohammad Mansur from the party, hours after he took oath as a member of parliament, violating a party decision.

Mostafa Mohsin Montu, secretary general of the Gonoforum, a component of Jatiya Oikyafront, made the announcement at a press conference at its Arambagh central office in the capital.

He said Sultan became a party to "immoral and anti-people activities" and "worked against parliamentary norms".

By taking oath, Sultan committed "un-ethical and anti-people acts and worked against parliamentary norms", he added.

A letter, signed by Montu, has been sent to Sultan in this regard.

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Blow for Thai democracy

Court bans major political party linked to Shinawatra clan before March 24 general election

REUTERS, Bangkok

A Thai court yesterday ordered the dissolution of a major political party for nominating the king's sister as its candidate for prime minister in a March 24 election, the first since the military seized power in a 2014 coup.

Banning the Thai Raksa Chart party just over two weeks before the general election struck a blow to opposition parties' chances of defeating parties allied to the military junta that has ruled for nearly five years.

"The court has ordered that the party be dissolved," Judge Taweekiet Meenakanit said in the Constitutional Court ruling, which also banned the party's executive board members from politics for 10 years.

Thai Raksa Chart is one of several parties loyal to ousted former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra in an election that broadly pits his supporters against establishment parties, including one that has junta leader Prayuth Chan-ocha as its prime ministerial candidate.

Opposition parties say Prayuth's candidacy, combined with electoral laws allowing the junta to appoint the 250-seat upper house Senate, could result in an elected government that extends military influence.

Police had deployed more than 1,000 officers in and around the court and cordoned off the surrounding area ahead of the ruling.

Party leader Preechapol Pongpanich, who was visibly emotional, told

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Six of a family missing as boat sinks in Buriganga

UNB, Keraniganj

Six members of a family went missing when a boat capsized in the Buriganga river after being hit by a launch in the city's Sadarghat area last night.

The boat sank near the Sadarghat Launch Terminal around 10:00pm as the launch, MV Suravi-7 hit it, said Abdur Razzak, officer-in-charge of Sadarghat River Police Station.

Those who went missing are Shahida, 28, her two daughters – Meem, 8, and Mahi 6, her niece Jamshida, 20, Jamshida's husband Delwar, 35, and their daughter, aged three months.

They were residing in Kamrangirchar area of the city and going to the launch terminal to go to their home in Shariatpur district.

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Famous Einstein puzzle solved



AFP, Jerusalem

An Albert Einstein "puzzle" has been solved thanks to a missing manuscript page emerging in a trove of his writings newly acquired by Jerusalem's Hebrew University, officials announced Wednesday.

The handwritten page, part of an appendix to a 1930 paper on the Nobel winner's efforts towards a unified field theory, was discovered among the 110-page trove the university's Albert Einstein archives received some two weeks ago.

Hebrew University unveiled the collection to coincide what would have been Einstein's 140th birthday on March 14.

Most of the documents constitute handwritten mathematical calculations behind Einstein's

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MISSILE-SITE ACTIVITY Trump warns N Korea's Kim

AGENCIES

President Donald Trump said Wednesday he'd be "very, very disappointed" with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un if reports that work is underway to rebuild a long-range rocket site are confirmed.

Speaking to reporters, Trump said "it's too early to see" if the information about work at the North Korean site is true. Warning

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PRAYER TIMING MARCH 8

Fazr Juma Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 5-15 12-30 4-30 6-05 7-30

JAMAAT 5-50 1-15 4-45 6-10 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



BLUE BEAUTY

A Black-naped Monarch, also known as a Black-naped Blue Flycatcher, foraging for food in the Gandagram Bamboo forest. These strikingly blue passerine birds are slim and lithe. They generally feed on insects and are found mostly in southern and south-eastern Asia. The photo was taken in Bogura's Shajahan upazila.

PHOTO:
ALI ASHRAF BHUIYAN

GRENADE ATTACK AT BUS STAND One dead, 32 injured in J&K

Suspect from Pakistan-based militant group arrested

AGENCIES

A teenager was killed and 32 others injured in a grenade attack by suspected terrorists in the crowded general bus stand area in the heart of Jammu city yesterday, officials said.

The person who threw the grenade has been arrested, police said, adding he is an operative of Pakistan-based militant group Hizbul Mujahideen.

The suspect had reached Jammu from Kulgam yesterday morning. Police said they identified him using CCTV footage.

This is the third grenade attack by terrorists at the bus stand since May last year, viewed by security agencies as an attempt to disturb communal harmony and peace in the city.

Mohammad Sharik, 17, a resident of Haridwar in Uttarakhand, who was among 33 people brought to the hospital, succumbed to splinter injuries in the chest, the officials said.

The condition of four more injured people was "critical" and two of them had to be operated upon by doctors, they said.

The injured included 11 residents of Kashmir, two from Bihar and one each from Chhattisgarh and Haryana, the officials said.

A senior police officer, Manish Kumar Sinha, told reporters that the grenade probably rolled under a parked bus

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