

Govt ‘lacks capacity’ to bargain with India: BNP

UNB, Dhaka

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday said Bangladesh’s long-pending problems with India could not be resolved as the current government has no bargaining capacity.

“We don’t want to talk against India as we’ve no conflict with that country. The main problem is that now we have such a government in power that has no capacity to talk to India about our problems,” he said.

Speaking at a seminar, Fakhrul further said, “The government has no bargaining capacity to address the problems with India as it always depends on the country to hang on to power. This is the reality.”

Association of Engineers, Bangladesh arranged the programme on the possible adverse impacts on the country due to the Feni River water withdrawal deal with India at a city hotel.

Fakhrul said people have to realise that the longer this government stays in power, the more Bangladesh’s interests will be harmed, and its resources will get depleted.

Stating that Feni River is Bangladesh’s river, not a common one, he said the government is allowing India to withdraw its water.

“The prime minister said how she can deny if anyone seeks water for drinking. That’s fine. But she didn’t say anything about the sufferings of our lakhs of people whose crops and livelihoods are getting destroyed for lack of water from the Teesta River.”

The BNP leader said India has long been refusing to give Bangladesh water from the Teesta while the issue of ensuring the fair share of water of other common rivers also remains unresolved.

Fakhrul said the government did not yet place in parliament the deals the prime minister recently signed with India.

“There was no discussion on the deals in parliament. As per our constitution, any deal signed with another country must be placed in parliament and ratified. But the government never did it,” Fakhrul alleged.

Govt developing infrastructure at edu institutions

Says state minister Shahriar Alam Bss, Rajshahi

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam yesterday said the present government has been working relentlessly for infrastructural development at educational institutions across the country.

The state minister was addressing the triennial conference of Bagha Upazila unit of Bangladesh College Teachers Association (BCTA) at Mozahar Hossain Women’s Degree College playground as chief guest.

“People of the grassroots are enjoying facilities of many of the developments schemes implemented in every nook and corner of rural areas. Social change has become visible everywhere in the rural areas due to the massive infrastructural development,” he added.

Earlier, Shahriar Alam unveiled the foundation stone of academic building of the college, which is being constructed by the department of education engineering.

Chaired by principal of the college Nasim Uddin, the meeting was addressed, among others, by RCTA district unit president Prof Shafiqur Rahman and its general secretary Rajkumar Sarker.



Followers of two Jatiya Party leaders -- Amir Hossain and Makhan Sarker -- engaged in a scuffle at Cumilla Circuit House on Tuesday, following a conflict between two other senior leaders of the party. PHOTO: COLLECTED



Dr Sabur Khan speaks at 18th Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference last Wednesday. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Dr Sabur Khan speaks at Arab Conference

CITY DESK

Dr Sabur Khan, founder and Chairman of Daffodil International University (DIU) and Daffodil Family presented his speech at 18th Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference held on Wednesday (November 13) at Ritz Carlton Hotel in Bahrain, said a press release.

Sabur Khan delivered a presentation on “DIU’s role in introducing innovation and taking key initiatives towards facilitating entrepreneurial ecosystems -- a case study.”

The theme of the panel discussion was “Entrepreneurship in Education”.

Acclaimed academics and professionals from the Middle East and Africa joined the session.

In his presentation, Sabur Khan mentioned that to foster economic growth and entrepreneurship, DIU has opened a separate department.

The conference is a platform for influential voices including heads of nations, technology leaders, political statesmen, financial experts, economic decision makers and celebrities that are shaping industries globally. This conference was inaugurated by King Al Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain.

Rab arrests 6

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write-ups of radical Muslim preacher Mufli Jasim Uddin Rahmani. He eventually got connected with Elias Hawlader alias Khattab, a top militant, who was earlier involved with Harkat-ul-Jihad Bangladesh, according to Rab.

Elias influenced diploma engineering student Shafiqul, generator operator of a mobile company Ekramul and driver Shipon through encrypted messaging apps, Rab claimed.

Another arrestee Waliullah was a teacher of a madrasa in Sutrapur. Through his job, he got connected with a militant named Abdullah, in 2016.

After Abdullah left the country, he got in touch with Mahafuz and Saiful Hujur in 2018, who influenced Waliullah to work for the outfit’s Dhaka south area, the Rab claimed. Rab said Ansar al Islam is responsible for killing bloggers, writers and free thinkers in the country.

Cuet alumni in Australia hold event in Sydney

CITY DESK

“CUETians in Australia”, an alumni association of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (Cuet), organised a daylong event in Sydney’s Carss Bush Park on November 3, said a press release.

The event was open for all former students of Cuet and their family members. More than 180 attendees, many from Melbourne, Canberra and other adjacent cities, took part in the programme.

A host of recreational activities and outdoor games were arranged for attendees. Members collected funds for community development and engagement activities, and a scholarship programme was introduced for talented but financially



Cuet alumni in Australia organised a daylong community event in Sydney’s Carss Bush Park on November 3. PHOTO: COLLECTED

strained students studying at Cuet.

The event provided an opportunity for everyone to meet old friends and get to know each other’s family. Participants thanked the organising committee, volunteers and photographers for their efforts to make the programme successful.

Academic activities resume at Kuet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

After a closure of 15 days, academic activities are set to resume today at Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (Kuet).

The decision was taken at the university’s 66th syndicate meeting on November 14.

A letter signed by Registrar GM Shahidul Alam said post-graduate programme will start from today, while graduate activities from November 24. All dormitories will opened on November 22.

The authorities will conduct an inspection drive during students’ entry to residential halls. For that reason, students have been asked to carry identity cards.

On November 1, Kuet was closed indefinitely after students of two dormitories -- Amar Ekushey Hall and Fazlul Haque Hall -- clashed over a football match. Six students were injured in the incident.

Jatisangha Park in dismal

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Town Planner Subhash Barua said the pool was constructed in an unplanned way. “When CCC initiates any project, the authorities do not seek advice from town planners,” alleged Barua, also vice-president of Forum for Planned Chattogram.

The authorities have to take immediate measures to save the park, he stressed.

CUSTODY DISPUTE

Wishing anonymity, a CCC councillor said Jatisangha Park was leased out to a private firm for its development in 2016 but Public Works Department (PWD) filed a case against it, claiming ownership of the park.

The company started filling the park with earth but the work was stopped in the middle due to the case, he said. Since then, the park has been in this dismal state.

Md Shahjahan, executive engineer of PWD, said the case is still pending with a Chattogram court.

He said Panchlaish Residential Area Welfare Association also filed a petition with the High Court against CCC’s move to lease out the park to a private organisation.

“We have submitted a proposal to the planning ministry to develop the park but the planning commission did not allow us to do so as two cases were pending with the court over the issue,” he said.

Contacted, Abu Syed Selim, general secretary of the welfare association, said they filed the petition as they are against any initiative to use the park as a commercial space.

“We also want the park to be developed but it should remain free for all to visit and a non-commercial recreational spot,” he added.

Asked, Md Shamsuddoha, chief executive officer of CCC, said the tug-of-war between CCC and PWD will end soon, as they have talked with PWD high officials regarding the issue.

“We have designed a plan to renovate the park,” he said, adding, “We will sit with PWD officials and other experts to discuss it.”

About the demand of Panchlaish welfare association, Shamsuddoha said CCC will also meet with them to hear their opinions.

Bus helper held

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from where she was taken to the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopedic Rehabilitation (Nitor).

Krishna, who had joined the BIWTC in 1990, lived with her family in the city’s Maniknagar area.

On September 1, the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) arrested bus driver Morshed from Kazipara area in Dhaka.

Morshed had given confessional statement before a Dhaka court. He said he did not have the driving licence for heavy vehicles. He, however, could not produce any licence, according to officials. Morshed used to drive a car, the PBI official said, quoting the arrestee.

Protect your own interest

FROM PAGE 3

days, drying it out eventually,” said Rafiqul, who along with an 11-member team visited the river recently.

He demanded that the government negotiate with India to remove those pumps and sign Teesta water-sharing treaty before implementation of the Feni agreement.

On October 5, Bangladesh signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with India allowing the country to take 1.82 cusec water from Feni river for drinking purposes of the people of Sabroom town in Tripura, located near the river.

Sabrina Manzur Tannie passes away

CITY DESK



Sabrina Manzur Tannie passed away in Toronto, Canada on Tuesday night, after a long battle with cancer. She was 34.

She was diagnosed with colon cancer in July 2017 and had been undergoing treatment in Canada. As her condition deteriorated, she was admitted to Sunnybrook Hospital on November 2, where she breathed her last at 9:15pm local time.

She is survived by her parents, brother, and a host of relatives.

Onion price rising

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Abu Sufian and BNP Chattogram city unit general secretary Abul Hashem Bakkar also spoke, among others, with Ichhak Chowdhury, president of Chattogram north district unit Jatiyatibadi Krishak Dal, in the chair.

It was announced from the council that the new committee would be declared after discussion with the central leaders of Krishak Dal in consultation with the councillors.

Shanti Parishad elects

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leaders did not attend the council due to irregularities and violation of the platform’s constitution.

“They violated the organisation’s constitution by not issuing any official notice at least 21 days prior to the council and by not presenting the annual financial report officially,” he alleged.

Newly-elected president Paltu denied the allegation. “MA Kashem did not attend the council as he realised he would not be re-elected,” he said. Kashem had been holding the post of general secretary since 2010.

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Dialysis services at upazilas

FROM PAGE 3

Prof AK Azad Khan, president of Diabetic Association of Bangladesh, highlighted the necessity of preventing and controlling diabetes through maintaining disciplined lifestyle and healthy diet.

Maj Gen (Retd) Dr ASM Matiur Rahman, former adviser to a caretaker government; Prof Magdi Yaqoob, academic director of Nephrology at Royal London Hospital in the UK; and Maj Gen (Retd) Prof Ziauddin Ahmed spoke in the session, among others.

On the first day of the conference, researchers and physicians from home and abroad presented papers in four scientific sessions.

Throughout the four-day conference, delegates will receive academic and hands-on training on the state-of-the-art methods of kidney diseases treatment.

Primary and Ebtedayee

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on November 19, and Mathematics on November 24.

PECE examinees will take Science on November 20 and Religion the next day; while madrasa students will take Arabic on November 20 and Quran Majid and Tajweed on November 21.

Exams will start at 10:30am and end at 1pm every day. Children with special needs will be given extra 30 minutes.

PECE was introduced in 2009 and its madrasa equivalent Ebtedayee was introduced in 2010.



Deputy Minister for Education, Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury, speaks at Eastern University’s sixth convocation yesterday. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Eastern University holds 6th convocation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

All universities must maintain quality in imparting education, said Deputy Minister for Education Dr Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury yesterday.

He was speaking at the sixth convocation of Eastern University. The minister also asked students to be good citizens.

The convocation ceremony was held on the university’s permanent campus at Ashulia. The deputy minister presided over the ceremony on behalf of President Abdul Hamid, chancellor of the university.

JoAnne Wagner, charge d’affaires of US embassy in Dhaka, was present as the convocation speaker.

Prof Shahid Akhter Hossain, vice chancellor; Prof Kazi Shahidullah, chairman of University Grants Commission; Liaquat Hossain Moghul, chairman of the university’s board of trustees, and Prof Tahmina Ahmed, dean of arts faculty, were also present at the programme.

A total of 2,972 students were awarded certificates in the ceremony.

4th Death Anniversary
Four long years have passed by
And not a day goes without remembering you;
As more days pass by
More strongly we feel how blessed we were-
to have you in our lives;
We cherish the wonderful memories you left with us
While you smile upon us from heaven
----- From family members

Md. Nazrul Islam
Professor
Department of Psychology
Dhaka University
Date of death: 17th November 2015

Road crash

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auto-rickshaw in Charpara area around 10am.

Hearing the screams, locals rushed to the spot and took Payel to a local hospital. The doctors referred him to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where he died around 12:30pm.

Police sent the body for autopsy. They seized the auto-rickshaw but its driver managed to flee the scene. A case was lodged.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Mohd Moksed Ali

Al-Hajj Mozammel Huq

With fond & loving memories we remember
Late Mohd Moksed Ali of Tangail and Late
Al-Hajj Mozammel Huq of Narsingdi to-day on
their 21th & 14th death anniversary respectively.
They are related to each other as “BEAI”. We
miss them in every step of our life.
Family, Relatives, Friends & Well-wishers are kindly
requested to remember them in their prayers.
On the occasion of their death anniversary to-day
Sunday November 17, 2019, Qur’an Khatam, Doa
Mahfil and feeding the poor has been organized.
Members of the Bereaved Family