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President blasts VCs for nepotism

'Teachers themselves to blame for loss of respect'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President Abdul Hamid yesterday heavily criticised a section of vicechancellors and faculty members for nepotism, taking illegal financial benefits, and not taking



their public university jobs seriously.

He said such activities are to blame for the "gradual shrinking of respect"

for the gradual stiffining of respect for teachers who once were held in high esteem in society.

The president was addressing Dhaka University's 53rd convocation held in the

University's 53rd convocation held in the presence of Convocation Speaker Nobel laureate French economist Prof Jean Tirole at its campus -- three years after the pandemic hit the world.

The event was virtually hosted by

Dhaka College and Eden Mohila College. Hamid, chancellor of all public universities, said transparency and accountability must be ensured in every activity at the universities, and quality and merit should be prioritised during recruitment.

He also spoke about the responsibilities



CELEBRATION IN THE AIR... The graduates of Dhaka University celebrate during the university's 53rd convocation. The programme had been postponed due to the pandemic. The photo was taken in front of Raju Memorial Sculpture yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

FARDIN MURDER 2 weeks gone, no headway yet

Father deplores media trial; Buet students hold demo, demand fair probe

STAR REPORT

Two weeks have passed since Fardin's killing, but the law enforcement agencies are yet to arrest any suspect in this connection.



They also don't have any clue as to the motive for the murder of the Buet student.

Different media, in the meantime, have been publishing reports, based on information provided by some law enforcement sources, linking Fardin's last known location in Narayanganj's Chonpara to a local drug ring.

However, the victim's family and friends have all along denied the claims that Fardin would take drugs.

On November 7, the decomposing body of Fardin Noor Parash, a third-year student of civil engineering, was recovered from the Shitalakkhya in Narayanganj's Siddhirganj, three days after he went missing.

On November 10, Rampura police SEE PAGE 6 COL 4

Govt won't meddle in polls affairs

Obaidul Quader says at Gazipur AL council

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

The government will not interfere in the next general election, said Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader vesterday.

"Which country has caretaker government? Elections will be held in Bangladesh the way it is held in other countries. The Sheikh Hasina-led government will not interfere. I want to declare it on her behalf," said Quader while addressing the maiden council of Gazipur metropolitan unit held at the Rajbari ground.

At the conference, former president of Gazipur Metropolitan Awami League Md Azmat Ullah Khan was declared president and acting general secretary Ataullah Mondal was made general secretary.

Carrying colorful banners and festoons, leaders and activists of different units started to gather at the venue since morning.

"The transition of power has to be done through election ... They [BNP] are dreaming colourful dreams. Let them dream, it does not matter," he said.

Speaking about the presence of the people at the rally, Quader said, "Come to Gazipur, Fakhrul bhai [BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir]. Nowhere in Gazipur Sadar can be reached by car. There was no sea of people in PHOTO ON PAGE 3

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Shariatpur youth 'mauled in DNC's custody'

EMRUL HASAN BAPPI

As with most evenings, Nur Alom Madbar was hanging out at the Ganganagar Bazar in Shariatpur on August 10, when a group of men grabbed him and took him to a side alley.

What transpired next upended the life of the 21-year-old and left him staring at the possibility of a bleak future.

The men, who happened to be from the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC), beat him up and then dragged him to a house, where they mercilessly beat him up further.

They then arrested

Nur Alom, who completed his higher secondary education this year, on the grounds that they have found 52 yaba pills on him.

They filed a case against him with Palong Model Police Station under the Narcotics Control Act. The next day, DNC produced Nur Alom before a Shariatpur court.

But, no drug was recovered from him, he told The Daily Star.

"Due to the narcotics case, I cannot get admitted into the honours course -- I am suffering both mentally and physically," he added.

He is at wits' end over why the DNC men zeroed in on him in that crowded place that night and proclaimed they found vaba pills on him.

"I know Nur Alom and his family members well — I never heard or seen him abusing drugs," said Gotam Das, former ward member of Shaulpara Union Parishad in Shariatpur Sadar Upazila.

Das said he saw the DNC men beating up Nur Alom mercilessly.

When presented before the court in August, Nur Alom said that he was physically and mentally tortured in custody by members of the DNC's raid team.

After recording his statement, Shamsul Alam, a senior judicial

magistrate, directed the superintendent of Shariatpur Sadar Hospital to submit a medical report after examining Nur Alom's body following the Torture and Custodial Death (Prohibition) Act.

On August 22, the magistrate, after scrutinising the medical report that mentioned several injury marks on various parts of Nur Alom's body, directed the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Shariatpur to register his statement as a regular case.

SEE PAGE 6 COL

Wage movement for your rights Says Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Urging everyone to wage a movement to protect their f u n d a m e n t a l rights, eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said the government does not want people to be self-aware.



He was speaking at a press conference organised by Gono Forum at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. "We need to ensure transparent

elections. If we abuse money, power and other influences to deprive people of their democratic right, then this will create a terrible situation in the country," said Dr Kamal, also Gono Forum president. He said the people must make sure they

elect those who will protect their rights.

"If we don't raise awareness in each

"If we don't raise awareness in each and every home, if we don't actively take to the streets, we will be deprived of our constitutional rights," he said.

"The citizens are the masters of the state, and if the citizens are deprived of their rights, then democracy will be diminished.

"Democracy cannot be established by

"Democracy cannot be established by depriving the citizens. The government does not want the people to become aware of their fundamental rights."

The press conference titled "50 years of the constitution and citizens' thoughts" also featured Gonoshasthaya Kendra Founder Zafrullah Chowdhury, eminent jurist Shahdeen Malik and managing editor of daily Samakal Abu Sayeed Khan.

'A level playing field is ready'

EC Ahsan Habib Khan urges all parties to join polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election Commissioner Ahsan Habib Khan yesterday said "a level playing field for the election is ready and all the players should come and play".

Speaking at a voter registration centre in

Chapainawabganj municipality, he urged all political parties to take part in the upcoming national election.

Ahsan said, "Those signing up to become voters

are performing their duties as per the constitution. I have seen their passion to become voters so that

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3

Duronto was not murdered, he died in accident: PBI

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League leader Duronto Biplob, whose body was found in the Buriganga on November 12, was not murdered, claimed Police Bureau of Investigation.

He died after a launch

rammed a boat he was travelling in, it said. Shafin Mahmud, superintendent of police of Dhaka district's PBI, told this to the media. He said they found this during their shadow investigation.

SEE PAGE 6 COL 5

Timekeepers vote to scrap leap second

AFP, Paris

Scientists and government representatives meeting at

a conference
in France
voted on
Friday to
scrap leap
seconds
b

2035, the organisation responsible for global timekeeping said.

Similar to leap years, leap seconds have been periodically added to clocks over the last half century to make up for the difference between exact atomic time and the Earth's slower rotation.

While leap seconds pass by unnoticed for most people, they can cause problems for a range of systems that require an exact, uninterrupted flow SEE PAGE 6 COL 6



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky welcoming British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak prior to their meeting in Kyiv. Sunak vowed his country would stand by Kyiv "until Ukraine has won".

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সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, অধ্যাপক ডা: আলী জাহীর আল-আমীন, ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, ইমপালস হেলখ সার্ভিসেস এন্ড রিচার্স সেন্টার লি:,৩০৪/ই, তেজগাঁও ১/এ, শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা ভর্তিকৃত রোগী মিসেস মোমেনা হক মুন-৩৮ বংসর (Patient ID - 2003000192 Date: 11.03,2020) এর চিকিৎসা প্রদানে ভূল অপারেশন, বাম প্যারোটিড গ্ল্যান্ড এর পরিবর্তে ডান প্যারোটিড গ্ল্যান্ড অপারেশন, রোগীর মুখের আকৃতি বাকা হয়ে যাওয়ায় ও রোগীর অভিভাবককে মিখ্যা তথ্য প্রদানের বিষয় উল্লেখ করিয়া রোগীর স্বামী জনাব জিয়াউর রহমান ভূইয়া অত্র কাউসিলে অভিযোগ দাখিল করেন। উক্ত অভিযোগের প্রেক্ষিতে কাউসিল কর্তৃক গঠিত তদন্তে প্রতিয়মান হয় যে, চিকিৎসা কার্যে

চিকিৎসকের যথেষ্ট অদক্ষতা, অবহেলা ও গাফিলতি ছিল তাহা প্রমানিত হইয়াছে। এমতাবস্থায় বিএমএনডিসি এর Code of Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics এর অনুচ্ছেদ 5.3.3 এবং বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউদিল আইন, ২০১০(৬১নং আইন) এর ২৩(১) ধারায় ক্ষমতাবলে বিএমএনডিসি হইতে প্রদন্ত অধ্যাপক ডাঃ আলী জাহীর আল-আমীন এর রেজিষ্ট্রেশন (A-12688, Date of Registration: 28th November, 1984) ১ (এক) বৎসরের জন্য স্থগিত করা হইল। অত্র স্থগিত আদেশ ২০/১১/২০২ইং তারিখ হইতে কার্যকর হইবে। উল্লেখিত সময়ে বাংলাদেশ মেডিকেল এন্ড ডেন্টাল কাউদ্গিল আইন, ২০১০ (৬১ নং আইন) এর ধারা ২২(১) অনুযায়ী তিনি কোথাও কোনরূপ চিকিৎসা সেবা প্রদান করিতে পারিবেন না। এমনকি উক্ত সময়ে তিনি নিজেকে চিকিৎসক হিসাবে পরিচয় দিতে পারিবেন না।