

DU student held for mugging

DU CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka University (DU) student who is also a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal activist was caught and beaten up severely while he was mugging a female student on the campus yesterday.

Humayun Kabir, a master's student of political science and resident of Muktijoddha Ziaur Rahman Hall, snatched a necklace of Taslima Rahman, a fourth year student of economics, while she was stepping down from third floor of the Arts Building.

"The boy snatched my necklace and ran away when I was getting down along with three of my friends after our class at 4:15pm," Taslima, also wife of Jahangir Alam, assistant professor of sociology department, told this correspondent.

"As I raised an alarm for help and ran after the snatcher, many students came for my help and caught him," she said at the Proctor Office.

The students rescued the necklace and beat Humayun severely, she added.

JCD leaders of different hall units went to the Proctor Office and told the teachers that Humayun was a drug-addict and involved in mugging for a long time.

He was handed over to Ramna police.

Laundry man commits suicide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A laundry man of a Chinese restaurant committed suicide at Uttara in the city yesterday.

Sujit Chowdhury, 22, stabbed himself in his throat with a kitchen knife at around 5:00pm.

Critically injured Sujit was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in the evening, but he died half-an-hour after the admission.

He joined the restaurant as a laundry man on May 1.

Police said Sujit was mentally challenged.

Azad demands release of SCF president

DU CORRESPONDENT

Eminent writer Prof. Humayun Azad yesterday demanded immediate release of Khalequezzaman Lipon, president of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF), and urged the government to stop repression on those who protested the attack on him.

Unknown assailants critically stabbed Azad with butcher's knives in front of the Bangla Academy on February 27 night.

Lipon, also president of Progotishil Chhatra Jote, was arrested during a demonstration on the Dhaka University campus on March 3 when the demonstrators were demanding arrest of the attackers.

Nearly three months has elapsed after the attack, but the culprits have not been brought to book yet, Prof. Azad said in a statement. Rather, those who protested the attack fell victim to repression, he added.

Prof. Azad said a false case has also been filed against Lipon, a member of Dhaka University Parishad Parishad.

"It is not a crime to demand justice for the attack on me," he said, adding that it is against the law to arrest anybody only for this reason.



Awami League presidium member Abdus Samad Azad speaks at a meeting on the occasion of the 24th Homecoming Day of Awami League President Sheikh Hasina. The BCL organised the event in the city yesterday.

President assents to 14th Constitution Amendment Bill

UNB, Dhaka

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday assented to 'The Constitution (14th amendment) Bill 2004', passed on Sunday to introduce 45 women reserved seats in parliament.

The constitutional amendment also raised the retirement age of the Supreme Court judges, chairman

and members of the Public Service Commission and the Comptroller and Auditor General.

It empowered the Chief Election Commissioner to conduct oath of the MPs in absence of Speaker and Deputy Speaker both.

Another major provision made it mandatory to display portraits of the president and the prime minister in government offices and other institutions.

Police falsely implicate tea stall owner in robbery case

Family members allege

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Keraniganj police arrested a tea stall owner in a robbery case on Saturday but his family members alleged that he was falsely implicated because he refused to pay them money.

A team of police went to the tea stall at Ikuria on Saturday and asked its owner Nasir Uddin to report to the police station, saying that the deputy commissioner (DC) was waiting for him for an urgent matter.

When Nasir appeared in the police station, he found no high officials. Rather, he was kept confined to the police station following his refusal to pay money as demanded by a policeman, his family members alleged.

Later, Nasir was shown arrested in the robbery case.

His family came to know that a robbery took place at a house at Beara in Keraniganj on April 8. Police could not arrest any of the accused but Nasir was shown arrested as an accused in the case.

Nasir was also taken on a ten-day remand the next day and he was tortured during the interrogation, his family members said.

Local people also expressed their surprise at and resented the arrest of Nasir.

The duty officer of Keraniganj said Nasir was named in the first information report and he was arrested on the basis of FIR.

He, however, could not say why Nasir was told that the DC was waiting for him.

Training course on arsenic begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A five-day training course on 'Arsenic determination and quality control measures using nuclear and non-nuclear techniques' began in the city yesterday.

Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) has organised the course in collaboration with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), says a press release.

Speakers at the inaugural session expressed their hope that the training course would play a significant role in mitigating the arsenic contamination of water in the country.

BAEC Chairman Prof Dr Khadiza Begum, Dr CS Karim, engineer Kazi Fariduddin, Dr Fariduddin Ahmed, IAEA experts Dr Jan Kuchera and Prof Amares spoke.