



PHOTO: STAR

Children of Jubo Mohila League activists arrested during hartal hours on January 31 demanded release of their mothers at a press conference at the National Press Club yesterday.

Govt influencing judiciary not to grant bails

Family members of arrestees allege

UNB, Dhaka

Family members of nine arrested Jubo Mohila League activists yesterday accused the government of influencing the judiciary not to

grant bails to those picked up during the hartal on January 31.

The accusation came during a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club in the morning, where Russell Kamali Bidyut, husband of Dhaka

north Jubo Mohila League General Secretary Sabina Akhter Tuhin, read out a written statement.

Other family members of the arrested Jubo Mohila League activists, who were present at the press conference, included Shanaz Akhter's husband M Asaduzzaman, her sister Afroza Akhter, Lutfa's father M Abdus Samad and Parul Akhter's father Abdul Monu Miah. The arrested Jubo Mohila League activists are Sabina Akhter Tuhin, Shahnaz Akhter, Khadija Parvin, Chayan Akhter, Umme Kulsum Sumi, Shilpi Akhter, Zulekha Begum, Moni Mukta and Parul Akhter.

"It is quite normal for the government to influence the judiciary as the case against the Jubo Mohila League activists was filed on political consideration," said Russell Kamali Bidyut.

He alleged that the male police personnel suddenly attacked a Jubo Mohila League procession at Green Road without any provocation on January 31 and arrested the nine activists.

"It was inhuman that the male police beat the Jubo Mohila League workers mercilessly... this was a violation of articles 37 and 39 of the constitution."

Bidyut alleged that sub-inspector Ful Miah misbehaved with him and used abusive words when he, along with his son Andolon, went to Dhanmondi Police Station to meet his wife Tuhin.

The relatives of the arrested Jubo Mohila League activists demanded their immediate and unconditional release on humanitarian grounds.

CITY BEAUTIFICATION

BSEHR introduces HR Award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) has introduced 'Human Rights Award' for the organisations involved in beautification of Dhaka city.

The prize will be awarded to the best organisation on the Independence Day every year from next year.

The government has appointed different companies, business institutions and private organisations to plant trees and flower plants on the road islands, medians and roundabouts and to maintain those.

Cargo boat with salt worth Tk 35 lakh capsizes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A cargo boat laden with 560 metric tons of crude salt worth over Tk 35 lakh capsized in Kazibacha river near Batiaghata upazila in the district on Wednesday.

The boat, capsized due to major mechanical fault, could not be salvaged till 5:30pm yesterday, sources said.

The cargo boat ML Julia left Chittagong Majhirhat for Titas Salt Industry at Phultala in Khulna on January 25.

Husband throws acid on wife for filing dowry case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A victim of acid burn was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on Thursday.

Ayesha Parveen, 25, sustained the injuries when her husband allegedly threw acid on her for filing a case against him and his family members.

Shameem Hossain, 28, a medical agent, had been demanding dowry from Ayesha since their marriage in 2001.

She already gave her husband Tk 70,000 as dowry in two installments, but that could not satisfy him.

Shameem's family also continued psychological repression on Ayesha for her failure to meet their demands that created conflicts between the spouses.

"My husband used to beat me every now and then", said Ayesha, a nurse of Pabna Bangla Clinic, while talking to The Daily Star.

Being unable to endure the tortures by her husband and in-laws, Ayesha filed a case accusing her husband, father-in-law Nimamuddin, mother-in-law Rahima Khatun, and brother-in-law Shajahan with the Special Tribunal for Prevention of Women and Children Repression in Pabna on November 28 last year.

Since then Ayesha was living separately.

But her husband, along with four cadres in two motorbikes, attacked Ayesha on her way back from the hospital, and threw acid on her left hand, neck and breast at about 8:00pm on January 26 and fled the scene immediately.

She was rushed to Pabna Sadar Hospital where the on-duty doctors referred her to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) next morning.

After initial treatment, doctors at RMCH referred her to One Stop Crisis

Oli Ahad donates Swadhinata Award money to Bangla Academy

BSS, Dhaka

Language Movement veteran, politician and writer Oli Ahad has donated the total amount of his Muktiuddha and Swadhinata Award-2004 to Bangla Academy.

His wife Prof Rashida Begum, daughter Barrister Farhana Rumin and organising secretary of Democratic League Munshi Abdul Majid handed over the cheque for Tk one lakh to Director General of Bangla Academy Prof Monsur Musa yesterday, an academy press release said.

Director of the academy Muhammad Nurul Huda and other officials were present.

Oli Ahad in a letter to the academy said he would be happy if the amount is spent on research on the Ekushey February.

The academy will earmark the money for its Research, Development and Preservation Fund, which was set up last year, the release added.