

SEXUAL ABUSE

Removal of RU teacher demanded

RU CORRESPONDENT

Several hundred students of the Department of Botany of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday staged a two-hour sit-in in front of the Administration Building demanding immediate removal of a professor for his alleged sexual harassment of a female student of the department.

Progotishil Chhatra Jote (PCJ) and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of RU unit also staged separate demonstrations on campus for the same demand.

It has been alleged that Botany department teacher Prof Nurul Amin sexually abused a fourth-year female student inside the department laboratory on April 7.

The victim also lodged a written complaint against the teacher to the department chairman Prof Shah Alam.

At a rally, students of the department said if Amin is not removed from the department, students will boycott all scheduled classes and examinations for an indefinite period.

They will form a human chain today in front of the central library premises.

Meantime, RU authorities formed a seven-member probe committee headed by science faculty dean Prof Abul Hashem and asked a report in seven days.

Ruling alliance grabs huge wealth thru' corrupt means

Says Hasina

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the BNP-Jamaat ruling coalition has amassed huge wealth through corrupt means and thrown the country on the verge of ruination by destroying the agriculture

sector and the economy as well.

"They have totally destroyed the economy. They have turned the country into a food-deficit one from a food surplus one while its corruption and politicisation created an intolerable situation," she said.

Hasina, also president of opposition

Awami League, was addressing at her Dhanmondi residence when leaders of her party's front organisation Bangladesh Krishak League (BKL) met her in observance of its 34th founding anniversary.

She bitterly criticised the government for Kansat massacre and came down heavily on it for police brutality on journalists in Chittagong during international cricket match.

"The government fails to provide power supply, but kills people when they want uninterrupted power supply. Earlier they killed 18 farmers as they demanded fertiliser supply," she said.

She called upon the farmers and her party's wing to create awareness against government's destructive attitude against public interests.

Hasina also urged them to be united and make the ongoing agitation programmes initiated by her party to, what she said, free the nation from continuous suffocating situation.

BKL President Mirza Abdul Jalil, General Secretary Motahar Hossain Mollah, Dr Abdul Razzak MP and Alhaj Rashed Moshraf were present during the occasion.

Earlier, the BKL leaders placed wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Dhanmondi Bangabandhu Bhaban.



A female picket hurls brickbats at police during the opposition's sit-in at Dhanmondi in the city yesterday while a party man tries to restrain her.

PHOTO: STAR

'Uphold HR of indigenous people with disability'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a workshop yesterday called for upholding human rights of indigenous people with disability by bringing them into the mainstream of national life.

They said although there is no legal bar, physically challenged indigenous people are not given employment at the decision-making level of the government.

The workshop titled 'Marginalised indigenous women and children' was organised by Action on Disability and Development (ADD) to promote human rights of the disabled people at Biam auditorium in the city.

Speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session, Khan Mohammad Ibrahim Hossain, secretary to the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Affairs, said the persons with disability could be turned into manpower if they are properly trained.

Presiding over the workshop, Mosharraf Hossain, country representative of ADD, said disability is a social problem but it has to be addressed politically to overcome their difficulties.

The speakers said participation in the administration is the civil and political rights of indigenous disabled people.

They asked for inclusion of eligible indigenous disabled people in the development committee of hill tracts to

address their problems.

The speakers also called for special measures for indigenous disabled women and children who are the most vulnerable and underprivileged section of the society.

Executive Director of Shade Philip Gaine, indigenous disabled leader Anil Hemron and ADD Advocacy Officer Adan Islam also spoke on the occasion.

Over 80 indigenous disabled from

both plain and hilly areas including Rangamati and Bandarban took part in the discussion after the inaugural session of the workshop.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of botany department at Dhaka University take out a colourful procession on the campus yesterday to celebrate golden jubilee of their department.