

DRIVE AGAINST ILLEGAL CLINICS LAUNCHED

Huge stolen govt medicines seized in Rajshahi

STAR REPORT

Joint forces yesterday seized huge quantity of stolen government medicines and medical equipment of two upazila health complexes, while another team of the forces launched drive against illegal clinics and realised Tk 85 thousand in fine.

Our staff correspondent in Rajshahi reports: Joint forces yesterday seized huge quantity of stolen public medicines and medical equipment of Tanore and Charchhat upazila health complexes.

The seized items include 56 boxes of 100ml saline, 12 boxes of 50ml saline, 20,000 pieces of disposable syringe, 18 boxes of Ampicillin BP and 300 pieces of Penicillin capsules.

The joint forces arrested Tanore Upazila Health Officer Dr Mofizul Islam, Residential Medical Officer Dr Rezaul Islam and three other

staffs in connection with irregularities.

Other arrestees are - Storekeeper Dulal Chandra and Cashier Azizul Haq of Tanore and Storekeeper Abdul Momin of Charchhat health complexes.

A team of joint forces along with the District Civil Surgeon Golam Mortuza visited Tanore Health Complex and seized the medicines and medical equipment worth Tk 70,000 from an abandoned residential quarter.

The seized medicines and equipment were not shown in official stock register, said the police.

Another team of joint forces raided Charchhat Health Complex and found major differences between the stock register of medicines and real stock.

Concerned authorities instructed the upazila health officer for taking departmental action against Senior Staff Nurse

Humayra Nazma for the irregularities.

Meanwhile our Rajshahi University correspondent reports: Army led joint forces launched drive against illegal clinics, diagnostic centres and private hospitals in Rajshahi city yesterday and realised Tk 85 thousand in fines for providing medical services without proper documents.

The team led by a first class magistrate raided six illegal clinics and diagnostic centres at city's Laxmipur areas.

The team fined City Diagnostic Centre Tk 40 thousand, Shapla Diagnostic Centre Tk 10 thousand, Care Nursing Centre Tk 10 thousand, Care Diagnostic Centre Tk 20 thousand, Desh Diagnostic Centre Tk 3 thousand and Zaman Pathology Centre Tk 2 thousand.

The forces also launched drive against Modern and North Bengal Cityscan Diagnostic Centre yesterday, sources said.

JP leader Sheth sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A court yesterday sent Jatiya Party (Ershad) city unit President and Central Vice Chairman Solaiman Sheth to jail after he appeared before the court to surrender in a murder case of the year 2004.

The court of Metropolitan Sessions Judge AKM Anwar Hossain also sent Farajul Islam, a personal staff of Sheth, to jail while it granted bail to 17 accused and rescinded bail of another two, sources said.

They said Sheth turned up at the court at around 10:00am to surrender in the murder case of Mohammad Alamgir that took place at city's Mohammad Nagar area under Bayezid Bostami Police Station on January 25, 2004. He was a charge sheeted accused in the case along with 22 others including two Ansar members, Mozammel Haq and Altaf Hossain.

Centring a land dispute on that day, the armed criminal gang of Sheth attacked the inhabitants of Mohammad Nagar and shot Alamgir dead and injured few others. A case was later filed with the Bayezid PS but the proceedings were halted allegedly under influence of power by Sheth, who was bail until recently.

After the caretaker government was sworn in, the police started afresh the proceedings and on February 16 this year they submitted the charge sheet before the court accusing 23 people.

Sheth, who emerged as a political character recently, is widely known in the port city as a notorious 'Land Grabber' besides having a track record in other criminal activities. He also maintained a criminal gang to help materialise his ill-plans.

They alleged he had encroached over the year hundreds of acres of both khas and public land worth over several crores of taka, at many city areas in Bayezid Bostami PS and few other places.

Sheth was an accused in many criminal cases, including murder, hill cutting and land grabbing.

There are allegations that Sheth by using his influence and cadre gang also captured enemy or feuding properties owned by Hindu religious community in different parts of the city.

After publication of the news of Alamgir murder in January 2004, Sheth along with some cadres came to the Chittagong bureau office of Bhorer Kagoj, hurled abusive words and threatened the young reporter, who covered the story.

ATTACK ON WITNESS TO AUG 17 BOMBING

Another accused held in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Satkhira pourasava ward commissioner Shahidul Islam was arrested yesterday for his alleged involvement in the attempt to kill Rawshan Ali, a witness to the August 17 JMB serial bombing in the town in 2005.

Rawshan Ali, hacked by some miscreants at Daulatpur in Satkhira Sadar upazila last Friday night, is now fighting for life at Khulna Sadar Hospital. The attack could be retaliatory to arrest of JMB cadres after the serial blasts, police said.

Shahidul was picked up from Puccapool intersection in the town, police said. Police earlier arrested Abdul Aziz, son of Yusuf Gazi of Bakal Islampur village in connection with the attack.

After Friday's attack on Rawshan, a case was filed with Sadar thana accusing seven people including Shahidul Islam.

Pickpocket Rawshan Ali of Bakal Islampur village in Sadar upazila was the lone eyewitness to the August 17 serial blasts in Satkhira town.

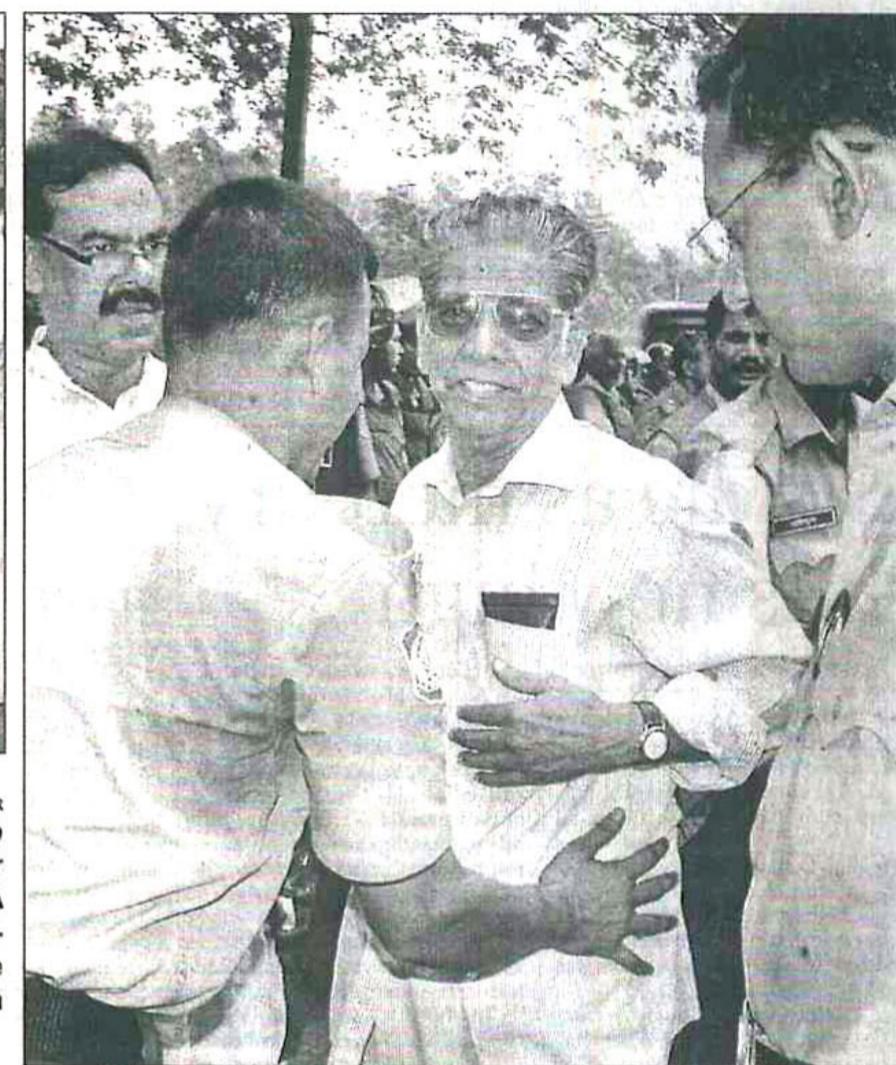


PHOTO: STAR
President Iajuddin Ahmed, top left, and Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed, top right, place wreaths at the grave of BNP founder and late president Ziaur Rahman in the city yesterday to mark his 26th death anniversary. (Bottom) A policeman checks the approved list of names of 150 BNP leaders before allowing BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan into the complex of the grave. (Right) A policeman searches senior BNP leader and former information minister M Shamsul Islam when he arrives at the complex.

Saarc lawmakers meet in Simla on Saturday

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA from New Delhi

Twenty three MPs from Pakistan, including Leader of Opposition Maulana Fazlur Rehman, PPP's Sher Bano Sherry Rehman, MQM's Farooq Sattar and MMA's Liaqat Baloch are expected to attend the conclave.

From Bangladesh, 12 former MPs, including three former ministers M Shamsul Islam, Osman Faruque and Abdul Moyeen Khan are expected to attend the meet.

The conference is also expected to discuss the problems journalists are facing across the region.

UNO arrested in Habiganj

UNB, Habiganj

Joint forces arrested Sadar Upazila Officer (UNO) AKM Lutfur Rahman yesterday on charge of misappropriating rice of test relief.

Acting on a tip-off, the members of joint forces caught the UNO red-handed in his office at about 1:45pm while taking Tk 12,000 from Gupaya Union Parishad member Sona Miah. The money came from the illegal sale of test relief rice.

The UNO another amount of Tk 20,000 earlier.

The UNO was being interrogated at the Deputy Commissioner's office till filing of the report at about 4:30pm.



Chevening Fellows pose with British High Commissioner Anwar Choudhury and other guests at a reception ceremony at the envoy's residence in the city on Tuesday.

WEATHER TODAY

Rise in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowsers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Sylhet, Barisal, Chittagong and Khulna divisions in next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions and the regions of Chandpur, Barisal and Pataukhali and it may continue and become severe at places over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions, Met Office said.

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country. Highest temperature 40.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Ishwardi and lowest 23.6 degree Celsius at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:42pm today and rises at 5:11am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in celsius	Humidity in percentage		
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	37.4	28.7	74	76
Chittagong	34.0	27.5	80	80
Rajshahi	39.8	26.6	61	38
Khulna	37.5	28.5	76	50
Barisal	35.5	27.5	81	64
Sylhet	33.2	23.6	88	77
Cox's Bazar	34.4	27.7	69	70

Dag Hammarskjold Medal for families of dead peacekeepers

UNB, Dhaka

The families of 47 Bangladeshi peacekeepers, who died while working in UN peacekeeping missions, were given the United Nations' Dag Hammarskjold Medal yesterday.

Adjudant General of Bangladesh Army Major General M Matur Rahman handed over the medals to the families at the auditorium of the Armed Forces Medical Institute.

Senior army officials were present on the occasion, said an ISPR press release.

They were speaking at a seminar organised by Social Science Research Association at the Planning Commission auditorium in the city.

Chairman of Petro Bangla Dr SK Abdur Rashid in his paper pointed out that inter-faction feuds among the civil servants alongside political pressure on the public servants damage their professionalism.

The reception was held at the British high commissioner's residence in the city.

Chevening Fellowships are awarded globally by the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office to support 'Partners in Leadership' in areas connected to UK International Initiatives.

Speaking at the reception, the British high commissioner explained the growing importance of the UK's relationship with Bangladesh and the role of educational links.

He said, "There is tremendous potential and talent in this country, but this needs to be developed into strong and visionary leadership that can deliver. The UK Chevening scheme aims to assist in this. Through awarding Chevening Fellowships, we are seeking to help equip leaders in many fields: law, governance, economy, development -- leadership isn't just about politics and government."

This year, five Fellows received certificates following completion of courses in 'Government Relations with NGOs and Civil Society', 'Democracy, the Rule of Law and Security', 'Public Sector Reform', 'Economic Governance and Reform' and 'Islam and Governance'.

The Fellows are successful mid-career and senior professionals in positions of leadership, authority and influence, active in the subject area of their Fellowships. These Fellowships offer intensive professional development through a 12-week subject-immersion course in UK universities, with a challenging programme of academic, practical, and policy study and debate. They provide an opportunity to engage internationally with experts in their respective fields, sharing in the latest research and thinking on issues and applying this in ways that benefit both them personally and Bangladesh.

CMP Traffic also held 36 drivers of CNG-run autorickshaws for having no driving license and required fitness certificates and filed cases against 257 CNG-run autorickshaws.

Officials in the department said they will continue the drive in different busy intersections and points of the city like Bohaddarhat, Sholoshahar, Chowmuhani, Tygerpass, GEC and Dewanhat everyday.

PUBLIC SERVICE
'Political recruitment defames bureaucracy'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday said political and dishonest recruitment of public servants and quota system are primarily responsible for recent defamation of bureaucracy as an institution.

They also said the lost image of public service could be revived through change in attitude of the bureaucrats, mainly through imparting proper training, as well as ensuring transparent recruitment process of the public service.

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SMS service launched to locate containers at New Mooring Terminal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

To help the port users locate containers within seconds, an SMS (Short Message Service) system was launched at the New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) of Chittagong port yesterday.

Saif Powertec Ltd - the private port management company that earlier introduced the same service at Chittagong Container Terminal (CCT), launched the service at NCT where it started container handling on May 16.

To locate a container at NCT one would have to type 'Saif-space: container number' and then send the message to 7464 (for GrameenPhone subscribers) or to 7890 (for Airtel, Banglalink, CityCell and TeleTalk subscribers). The service would provide the location within 30 seconds, said a press release.

Managing Director of Saif Powertec TM Ruhul Amin said with the introduction of the SMS service, users need not go to the port to find a container, a process which earlier took one or two days and cost Tk 1500 to 2000.

The huge interest shown by the business community in the SMS at CCT encouraged Saif Powertec to expand the service to the NCT, said the managing director adding that the company had plans to introduce more technology-based services in the port in future.

Saif Powertec took the charge of container handling at the CCT on March 5 and introduced the SMS service there on May 3 through software installation at a cost of Tk 1.5 crore, sources said.

Some 15000 containers of CCT yard were brought under the network of the software to tell instantly about the location of a container on its arrival at the yard, they said.

Members of Dhaka Club have been requested to offer prayers for the departed soul.

Zainal Abedin Talukdar

Mohammad Zainal Abedin Talukdar, father of Mohiuddin Ibnu Siraj, ex-football player of Abahani Limited, passed away due to old age complications on Tuesday at his residence in Sirajganj at the age of 72, says a press release.

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