

UGC for closure of Prime University unit in Kishoreganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Kishoreganj unit of Prime University was run by district Jammāt-e-Islami secretary Musaddek Ali Bhuiyan illegally without any UGC permission.

Examinations were held there at night to give students scope for copying.

The irregularities were detected by a UGC team during investigation.

The UGC probe committee recommended immediate closure of the campus and action against its authorities.

A three-member UGC team led by Prof Dr. Tareq Shamsur Rahman investigated activities of the Kishoreganj unit of the university on June 16. It submitted the prove report to education ministry on Tuesday, sources said here yesterday.

The probe team revealed that authorities of the university's Kishoreganj unit collected Tk 1.53 crore in last three years from students though it had no permission to run academic activities. They paid authorities of Prime University in Dhaka Tk 68.40 lakh.

During the probe the authorities failed to show any document allowing them to run the campus, the sources said.

Kishoreganj Additional Deputy Commissioner (general) Tapan Chandra Banik said, authorities of the unit never asked for any help

from the district administration or police while they reportedly held examinations on their campus.

The ADC said joint forces led by a magistrate visited the campus on June 15 night when examinations of LLB final year and MBA final year were going on.

Sensing presence of a magistrate and joint forces, most of the examinees fled examination halls leaving answer scripts, said ADC Banik.

Joint forces recovered copies and books from examination halls. The magistrate expelled two students on that night, he added.

ADC Tapan Chandra Banik wondered why examinations were held at night.

The Kishoreganj Bar Association at a meeting on June 25 decided not to allow any lawyer with LLB certificate from Kishoreganj unit of Prime University to practise in any court in the town as the campus was run illegally.

The probe committee in its report made a 6-point recommendation to the ministry.

The recommendations include action against persons concerned at Prime University's Dhaka campus who were involved in 'certificate business', action by Kishoreganj district administration against authorities of the university unit for collecting money by giving certificates, transfer students to Prime University's Dhaka campus, action against vice-chancellor of

Prime University in Dhaka and 'unqualified' teachers of its Kishoreganj unit.

The Kishoreganj Campus at Ukilpara in of the town was established by district Jamaat secretary Musaddek Ali Bhuiyan who is also assistant professor at a non-government college in the town.

He was chairman of the Institute of Business and Information Technology (IBIT). As chairman of IBIT, Musaddek made arrangements with Prime University in 2003 to run six courses at its Kishoreganj Campus.

Md. Joyen Uddin, a Rokon (central policy maker) of Jammāt, is director of the campus.

With party in power, Musaddek and Joyen appointed pro-Jamaat teachers at private colleges in the town to work as part time teachers at Prime University's Kishoreganj unit without any permission from the respective authorities, sources said.

There are 450 students in six courses at the institution, including LLB, MBA and BBA. So far, 141 students got LLB, 11 got MBA and 17 got BBA certificate from the unit, sources said.

When contacted yesterday, Musaddek Bhuiyan said, they stopped admission and suspended all classes for the time being at the unit.

ADC Tapan Chandra Banik said, the district administration is expecting a report from Dhaka today (Thursday).

Bangla Bhai aide among 2 held in Natore

UNB, Natore

Police in separate drives conducted different areas of Naldanga upazila arrested two criminals including a close associate of executed Jamaat'ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) second-in-command Bangla Bhai on Tuesday.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided Naldanga bazaar at about 2:30 pm and arrested Afsar Ali, a close associate of Siddiqul Islam Bangla Bhai, police said.

In another drive conducted at Chhatarbhag village in the same upazila at about 3:15 pm, police arrested Sanwar Hossain Tulu, a cadre of former Deputy Minister for Land Ruhul Quddus Dulu.

Police said the arrested criminals are wanted in a number of cases.

AIDING JMB MILITANTS

Hearing of case against 3 former BNP stalwarts not held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Hearing of the case against three former BNP stalwarts for aiding and abetting JMB militants was not held at the Third Court of Rajshahi Additional District and Sessions Judge yesterday.

The BNP leaders are Barrister Aminul Haq, Ruhul Quddus Talukhdar Dulu and Nadim Mostafa.

Statements of the witnesses were scheduled to be recorded yesterday. But the judge did not record statements of witnesses due to death of lawyer Sayed Ali Hasan.

Judge ASSM Jahirul Haq is likely to record statements of witnesses today.

The court recorded statements of two witnesses including the plaintiff and that of a torture victim, Ayub Ali Pramanik, on June 25.

Tk 20cr RHDC budget

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Rangamati Hill District Council (RHDC) yesterday announced a Tk 20 crore budget for 2007-08 financial year.

Chairman of RHDC Dr Manik Lal Dewan declares the budget by giving highest priority on education and communication sectors like previous year.

Of the Tk 20 crore, Tk 1 crore will be earned from own sources and Tk 19 crore will come from government allocation.

Tk 2 crore will be spent on management purpose and rest of the money will be spent on development schemes.

TK 2.78CR SCAM AT AFIL JUTE MILLS

Police refuse to record case against Parwar, two others

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Officer-in-Charge of Khan Jahan Ali police station in Khulna city Mujibul Haque has refused to record as a regular case the FIR filed against city Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer and former lawmaker Mian Golam Parwar, his younger brother Mian Golam Quddus and BNP leader S A Rahman Babul.

The OC however agreed yesterday to record a general diary instead of recording the FIR as a regular case.

Manager of privately owned Afil Jute Mills in ATRA industrial belt lodged the FIR Tuesday night with

Khan Jahan Ali police station accusing the three persons for their failure to pay outstanding electricity bills amounting to Tk 2.78 crore lakh.

This huge amount of electricity bills remained unpaid as the jute mill was allegedly grabbed by the three persons during the rule of four-party alliance government, Ali Asgar alleged in the FIR lodged by him as complainant.

When asked, Jamaat Ameer Mian Golam Parwar denied the allegation. He blamed a group of vested quarters for 'conspiring against him to tarnish his political image'.

Ali Asgar, when contacted, alleged that Golam Parwar and the two other accused persons misappropriated Tk 2.78 crore withdrawn from the fund of the mill for payment of electricity bills.

The jute mill was in grip of Jamaat leader, his younger brother and the BNP leader from 2003 to 2006. They grabbed the jute mill unlawfully, Ali Asgar alleged.

The present owner of the jute mill is Akram Hossain who joined Awami League from Jatiya Party in October last year.

The OC said that the FIR would be recorded after investigation into the allegation.

Tk 50 lakh spares seized at Benapole

A CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Customs officials yesterday seized illegally imported motor parts worth Tk 50 lakh at Benapole port, Customs sources said.

A Customs team led by assistant commissioner Dr Shawkat Ali seized the consignment of motor parts on charges of importing it under false declaration.

Prapti Automobiles, a Dhaka-based importing agency, ordered 201 cases of motor parts from Calcutta-based G&N Export agency on June 16.

Clearing and Forwarding (C & F) agent Bakul & Brothers submitted documents at the Customs office to offload the consignment.

A case was filed in this connection.

39 tonnes of rotten wheat seized in Tangail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police seized 450 sacks (39 tons) of rotten wheat from Kachudanga at Sadar upazila in Tangail yesterday.

They also arrested one Nazrul Islam from the spot.

Acting on a tip-off, police went to abandoned airport at Kachudanga under Tangail sadar upazila at around 1:00 pm and seized the rotten wheat from there.

Ashraf Hossain, officer-in-charge (OC) of Tangail police station told The Daily Star that arrested Nazrul's cousin Mohammad Masud and his business partner Apel Mahmud has brought this rotten wheat from Chittagong.

A case was filed with Tangail police station in this regard.



PHOTO: STAR

The Kishoreganj unit of Prime University.

A big surprise for remote hill people

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

It was a big surprise for indigenous people in Maratila in remote hills in Panchhari upazila. For the first time, they got government help yesterday. Indigenous men and women were all smiles while receiving goats, cows and pigs at doorsteps, given by Khagrachhari Hill District Council Chairman Monindra Lal Tripura.

People of Maratila always depend on the mercy of God as they are virtually detached from the rest of the district and deprived of all facilities.

Monindra Lal Tripura was the first person to visit the village on behalf of any government, village elders told this correspondent.

Monindra distributed 20 cows, 100 goats and 50 pigs among poor indigenous people there.

He also released fish fries in six ponds, re-excavated by Khagrachhari District Council for people of the area.

District Council member Animesh Chakma Rinku and Chief Executive Engineer Jibon Chakma accompanied Monindra.

FWP rice seized, 3 held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Police arrested three people including a union parishad (UP) member with 63 sacks of rice meant for food for work programme from Jatpur bazar in Tala upazila yesterday.

The arrested persons are UP member Abdul Halim of Bidyanandakati union of Keshabpur upazila in Jessore, Iqbal Hossain son of Bidyanandakati up chairman Rabeya Khatun and secretary of the union parishad.

Quoting local people police said, 63 sacks of rice meant for food for work programme was sold to Mashiar Rahman, a rice trader at Jatpur Bazar. Getting information police raided the shop and recovered all 63 sacks of rice.

A case was filed with Tala thana in this connection.

On contact, Tala thana officer-in-charge Abdur Razzak confirmed the incident.



PHOTO: STAR

Children wading to school at Nandita village in Shuijanagar in Pabna as areas near the school compound are flooded.

Balu murder case not tried in 3 years



Humayun Kabir Balu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The third death anniversary of journalist Humayun Kabir Balu was observed here yesterday.

Khulna Press Club, Khulna Union of Journalists (KUJ) and Rafiquzzaman Smriti Parishad organized separate programmes in this connection.

The programmes included discussion meeting, Milad Mehfil and laying of wreaths at his portrait.

Speakers of the discussion meeting at the KUJ office demanded immediate arrest of

killers and masterminds behind murder of Humayun Kabir Balu. They expressed their dissatisfaction at police failure to complete investigation of the murder three after after the incident.

Presided over by KUJ president Mamun Reza, the meeting was addressed by, among others, Khulna Press Club president Makbul Hossain Mintoo and journalists Sheikh Abu Hasan, AK Hiru, Shahab Ali, Ahmed Ali Khan, Shubir Roy, SM Zahid Hossain and SM Habib.

Humayun Kabir Balu, editor of

Dainik Janmabhum, was killed in a bomb attack allegedly by extremists in front of his Khulna city office on June 27, 2004.

The case was sent to the Khulna Speedy Trial Tribunal after charge sheet was submitted to CMM court on April 25, 2005.

Judge of Speedy Trial Tribunal on January 22 last year ordered extended investigation of the murder as the charge sheet submitted earlier was found 'weak for trial'.

3.5X2

4X3

8.5X4