

## IRREGULARITIES IN BSMMU

## Bid to suppress probe committee report

## STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Vice-Chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) Prof Mohammad Tahir at an emergency syndicate meeting yesterday formed a new committee to probe the irregularities in recruitment and procurement, instead of placing the report of a probe committee formed earlier in this regard.

The first committee formed on May 6 at the instruction of the chief adviser to probe the last nine years' corruption in the university submitted the report to the VC on Saturday.

Senior teachers of the BSMMU said the VC formed the new committee in a bid to suppress the report as it found the involvement of the VC, who was the Pro-VC during the BNP-led alliance

government, and some other high-ups of the administration in the corruption.

One of the syndicate members raised objection to the discussion on the probe report at the syndicate meeting as the VC did not place it, meeting sources said. Rather, he formed a five-member committee headed by Shahjahan Biswas, director general of the Directorate General of Health Services.

When contacted, the VC said he formed the new committee as per the recommendations of the first probe committee.

"Deputy Controller of Examinations Iftekhar Alam will be the member secretary of the new committee and BSMMU Treasurer Mobin Khan, Principal of Dhaka Medical College MA Faiz and Prof

Sajal Banerjee of the department of Cardiology of BSMMU will be the members. A procurement expert from the health ministry will also be inducted into the committee," he said.

He also said that the report of the first committee would be given to the new one and justice will be served.

A member of the first probe committee said this syndicate has no right to take any decision on the probe report as a number of syndicate members are no longer members.

"As the first probe committee was formed at the direction of the higher authorities, we urge them to take necessary steps regarding the probe report in accordance with the law," he said, preferring anonymity.

## Theft case against Huda adjourned

## COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned the proceedings of a theft case against detained former communications minister barrister Nazmul Huda and two others, as the jail authorities could not produce him before the court.

Meanwhile, proceedings of a graft case against detained former deputy minister for land Ruhul Kuddus Talukder Dulal and his wife were adjourned yesterday.

First Class Magistrate Delwara Begum fixed the date of next hearing of the theft case against Huda on August 9 and directed the jail authorities to produce him before the court on the scheduled date.

Police Inspector Syed Nazrul Islam, the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted charge sheet against Huda and two others to a first class magistrate's court in Dhaka on May 17 showing 17 people as prosecution witnesses.

Mohammad Salahuddin of Nurpur in Dohar upazila filed the case on March 6 of this year. The plaintiff alleged that following Nazmul Huda's instructions the two other accused beat him up severely and took away Tk 17, 700 from his possession on October 28, 2006.

## DULU CASE

Metropolitan Sessions Judge (in charge) AKM Enamul Haq fixed August 7 for hearing of the graft case against former deputy minister for land Dulal and his wife Sabina Yasmin.

The court directed Rajshahi Central Jail authorities to produce Dulal before the court on the scheduled date while his wife was absent from the court.

ACC Assistant Director Nurjahan Ahmed yesterday submitted the charge sheet against Dulal and his wife Sabina to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) court, showing 65 people as prosecution witnesses.

Earlier, the High Court granted ad interim bail to Dulal's wife Sabina until submission of the police report.

The case was filed against them with Adabar Police Station on April 19 for concealing information about Tk 3, 05, 55,246 in their wealth statements.

## BM BAKER CASE

Detailed Sonali Bank CBA leader BM Baker Hossain was shown arrested yesterday in a tax evasion case filed with the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court on July 30.

The judge granted the petition submitted by the defence lawyers showing him arrested in the case.

The case was filed against Baker for evading income tax of Tk 15,06,497 from 2000 to 2007.

The court issued arrest warrant against Baker after Tasmia Delwara, assistant tax commissioner of the NBR, filed the case.

## CONCERN OVER PRICE HIKE OF ESSENTIALS, LAW, ORDER SITUATION

Samajik Protirodh Committee yesterday expressed grave concern over the deterioration of law and order situation and soaring price hike of essentials, says a press release.

The Committee in a statement yesterday said that the killings of Advocate Sayma, Nawshin, a promising student and NSI and Bangladesh Bank officials prove that the law and order situation has deteriorated.

The soaring price hike issue is getting complex with the current situation of flood across the country, the statement added.

The Committee demanded speedy trial and exemplary punishment to the persons responsible.

The statement also urged the government to take necessary initiatives to check the price hike.

Signatories to the statement include Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Ain O Salish Kendra, Steps Towards Development, Women for Women, Manusher Jonno Foundation, Concern Bangladesh, Nagorik Udyog, ADD Bangladesh, Prip Trust, Brac, Karmojibi Nari and Bangladesh Mahila Samity.

Contributions can be sent to Md Omar Faruque, Savings Account No. 13786, Janata Bank Gunabati Branch, Comilla.

## Appeal for help

 Md. Omar Faruque, a physically challenged youth, has appealed for financial assistance for his treatment, says a press release.

Nineteen-year-old Faruque, a resident of Chodogram in Comilla, has been suffering from disabilities since his childhood. When he was three months old, he had a fever. His legs started to lose strength and got emaciated.

But his parents are so poor that they could not afford his treatment.

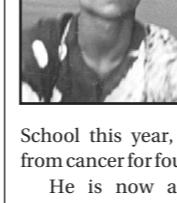
Recently, a specialist doctor examined Faruque. The doctor told him that he might regain strength in his legs through an operation, which involves about Tk 5 lakh.

He now appeals to generous people to extend a helping hand for his treatment so that he could live a meaningful life.

Contributions can be sent to Md. Omar Faruque, Savings Account No. 13786, Janata Bank Gunabati Branch, Comilla.

## Sayeed Hossain Roney

## STAFF CORRESPONDENT

 Sayeed Hossain Roney, 19, who was supposed to sit for the Secondary School Certificate Examination from Bawany School this year, has been suffering from cancer for four and a half months.

He is now admitted to Labaid Cardiac Hospital in the city and under the treatment of Oncologist Prof Syed Muhammad Akram.

Roney's father Abdul Hannan, a timekeeper of Latif Bawany Jute Mills in Demra, has already spent Tk 2.50 lakh for the treatment of his son.

He is now unable to bear the expenditure of his treatment.

He has therefore made fervent appeal to well-off section of the society to extend financial assistance to save the life of his son.

Contributions can be sent to Abdul Hannan, Account No 13536/65, Sonali Bank, Latif Bawany Branch, Demra, Dhaka.

On the stay of the HC order until August 14, Rafeque said, "It makes no sense."

He mentioned that August 16 is fixed for hearing on charge farming in the extortion case against Hasina in the trial court. "What is the use of staying the High Court order till August 14? I don't understand this despite my 47 years' experience in legal practice."

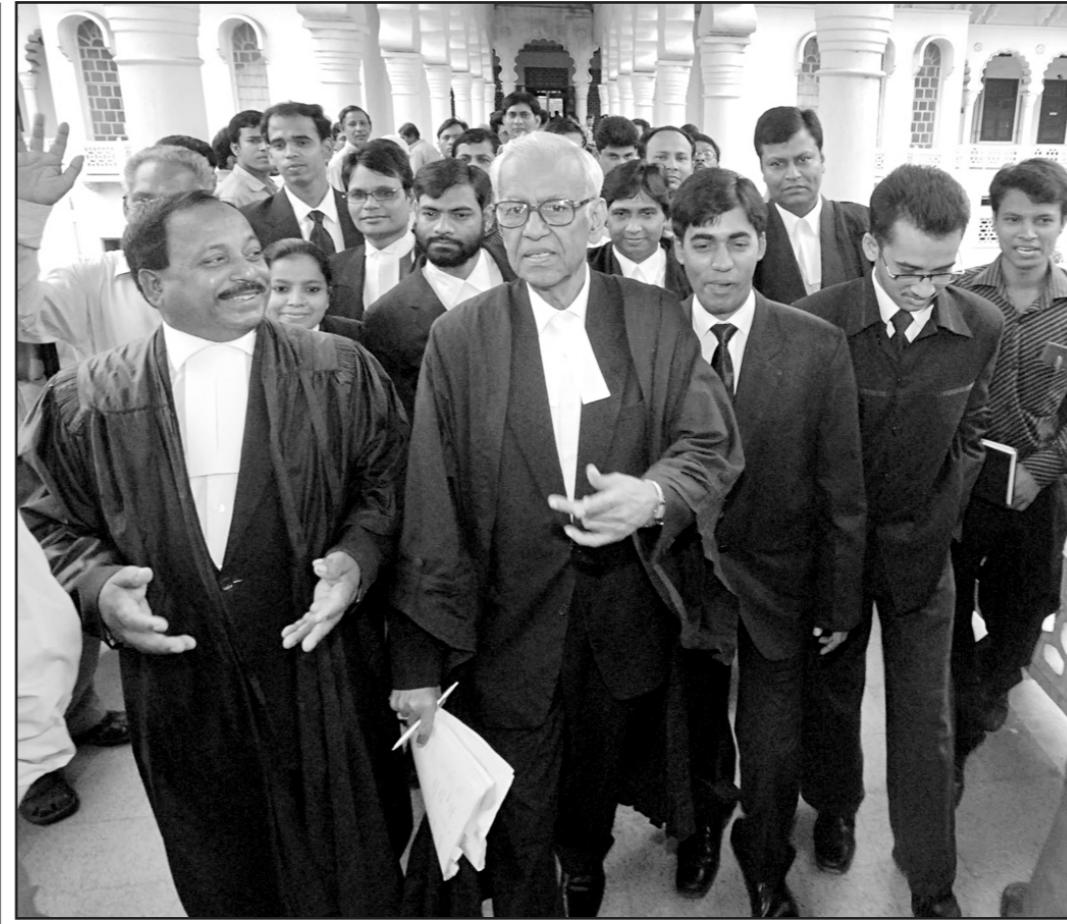


PHOTO STAR

Lawyers for Awami League President Sheikh Hasina come out of the Supreme Court yesterday after the court stayed the High Court order granting bail to her in an extortion case.

## Arsenic-contaminated irrigation water produces toxic crops

## Study reveals

## DU CORRESPONDENT

Crops produced by arsenic-contaminated irrigation water accumulate toxic element, and when these contaminated foods are taken, human body becomes sick, said a study yesterday.

The study titled 'Arsenic poisoning in the food chain and its remedial possibilities' was presented as second dean lecture by Prof S M Imamul Haq of Dhaka University at the Teachers Students Centre auditorium.

The study also showed that rice and other food grains like arum, green papaya, bean, potato, bitter gourd, aubergine and chilli cooked in contaminated water also contain substantial amount of arsenic.

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