

FRESH RAID ON THREE RU HALLS

Shibir leader arrested, cocktail recovered

A RU CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested a Shibir leader, seized cocktail, gunpowder like substance and 'some chemicals' during early yesterday's fresh raids on three Rajshahi University (RU) halls.

The arrestee is Nawab Abdul Latif Hall unit Shibir President Hasmat Ali alias Liton.

Liton was arrested with a cocktail during the raid on Abdul Latif Hall. He was later produced in Rajshahi Metropolitan Magistrate's Court (RMMC) that sent him to jail.

Following BCL allegations that Shibir has gathered huge firearms at the halls, the law enforcers raided the halls at around 11:00pm, police said.

Campus sources said at around 7:00pm on Saturday, Shibir cadres led by Sanowar and Parvez threatened a BCL activist Murad with death in front of Abdul Latif Hall. Hearing the news, the BCL activists

rushed to the spot for retaliation.

Following the incident, several hundred Shibir leaders and activists of Sayed Amir Ali Hall and Shah Makhdom (SM) Hall took position in and around Abdul Latif Hall with firearms.

At one stage, the BCL leaders and activists left the hall premises.

Being informed, the university authorities sought police help and conducted raids on Abdul Latif Hall, Amir Ali Hall and SM Hall.

Police recovered the cocktail from Liton's room, which was being used as an office of Shibir men at Abdul Latif Hall. The team also seized 'gunpowder like' substance, and 'some chemicals' from a Shibir controlled room of the hall by breaking open the door.

The authorities also picked up Shibir cadre Aslam Ibne Habib, a fourth year student of chemistry department, from the room where the cocktail was kept. He was later released after he gave an under-

taking to university Proctor Prof Chowdhury Muhammad Zakaria.

Law enforcers also rounded up at least 30 outsiders from Amir Ali Hall and SM Hall but freed them as all of them came for admission to first year honours courses.

Police also conducted raids on Shibir-controlled messes in Binotpur area adjacent to the university, sources said.

Around 400 police personnel led by the university proctorial body, student adviser and high officials of police, including two deputy commissioners (DC) and four assistant police commissioners (AC), conducted the raids on the halls.

RU BCL leaders later alleged that the law enforcers could not recover lost arms held by Shibir cadres as they fled the halls scaling the boundary walls before the raids.

RU Proctor Prof Chowdhury Zakaria told reporters, "We shall launch more raids on different halls of the university in case of any tension on the campus."



Law enforcers conduct a thorough search on the premises of District and Sessions Judge's Court in Chittagong as security has been beefed up following threats of subversive activities ahead of the Bangabandhu murder case verdict scheduled for November 19.



Victim of police brutality, retired army man Tayebur Rahman undergoing treatment at Magura Sadar Hospital on September 11, inset, accused ASI Lutfur Rahman.

BRUTAL TORTURE ON EX-ARMY MAN

Court's order to attach fugitive cop's property

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Magura

A Magura court yesterday ordered attachment of the property of assistant sub-inspector (ASI) Lutfur Rahman, sued for brutal torture on a retired army man at Babukhali village in Mohammadpur upazila of the district.

Senior Judicial Magistrate Abu Bakar passed the order as ASI Lutfur, also former in-charge of Babukhali police camp, did not surrender to the court even after 62 days of the issuance of arrest warrant against him.

The court had issued warrant of arrest against the ASI and his accomplice constable Murad following a case

filed by the victim's wife Mosammat Halima Khatun on September 14.

ASI Lutfur arrived at their house adjacent to the police camp uncalled for at around 8:30am on September 10 and interfered in a quarrel between her and her husband Tayebur Rahman, a retired army man, the plaintiff said in the petition.

As her husband protested Lutfur's interference, the ASI returned to the camp threatening him of dire consequences.

After a while, Lutfur along with constable Mohammad Murad Hossain went to Tayebur's house again, forcibly took him to the camp and beat him mercilessly, Halima said in the case statement.

They even uprooted nails of his two toes with forceps, leaving him critically injured, she added.

Following agitation of people of Babukhali village, Magura Assistant Superintendent of Police Mihir Kumar Das rushed to Babukhali police camp, assured people of proper action against the responsible police officer and sent the victim to Magura Sadar Hospital.

The victim was later shifted to the Combined Military Hospital in Jessore for better treatment.

ASI Lutfur was suspended and closed to Magura Police Lines on the day of occurrence.

Kishoreganj blockade continues

A CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

People of Bhairab and Kuliarchar upazilas continued their non-stop Kishoreganj blockade programme for the third day yesterday to press the demand for upgrading Bhairab to a full-fledged district and arrest of those who burnt the effigy of President Zillur Rahman in Kishoreganj on November 2.

All-party Action Council and Bhairab District Implementation Committee enforced the blockade programme from Friday morning. Hundreds of agitating people barricaded highways, waterways and rail stations in Bhairab and Kuliarchar in the morning.

Train, bus and launch services between Dhaka and Kishoreganj via Bhairab and Bhairab-Kishoreganj launch service remained suspended. However, Vehicular movement on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway was out of the purview of the blockade.

The protester also disrupted supply of oil from Padma, Megna and Jamuna oil depots and fertiliser and food to Kishoreganj from Bhairab.

They also held a rally in Bhairab town in the morning. Addressing the rally, the speakers said the blockade programme will continue until their demands are met.

On the other hand, people belonging to Kishoreganj Sadar upazila brought out a torch procession in the town on Saturday night demanding retention of "undivided status" of the district.

They also condemned the blockade enforced by the people of Bhairab and Kuliarchar and demanded punishment to those who made remarks against Speaker advocate Abdul Hamid and LGRD Minister Syed Ashrafur Islam.

BREAKING NEXUS OF THE CORRUPT Five engrs, contractor, UP chairman sued in 2 dists

STAR NATIONAL DESK

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has filed two separate cases in Moulvibazar and Barisal districts against five engineers, a contractor and a UP chairman on charge of misappropriating public fund worth about Tk 16 lakh.

ACC Assistant Director Sajal Kumar Chakravarty on Tuesday night filed a case with Kulara Police Station in Moulvibazar district against three engineers of Power Development Board (PDB) and a contractor for misappropriating over Tk 8 lakh, reports our Moulvibazar correspondent.

Dhaka-based firm Zaman Construction was appointed through tender procedure to construct the office building and boundary wall of the PDB office in Kulara upazila in 2006. The bidding cost was Tk 11 lakh 62 thousand 886.

But Tk 3 lakh 37 thousand 792 was spent in the work and Shamsuzzaman,

proprietor of Zaman Construction, with the connivance of three PDB engineers misappropriated rest Tk 8 lakh 25 thousand and 94 through submitting false bills and vouchers, goes the ACC case statement.

The accused PDB officials are Ratan Kumar Biswas, former executive engineer of PDB Moulvibazar office, Irfanul Haque, former resident engineer of PDB Kulara office and Jamshed Alam, former sub-assistant engineer of the same office.

Earlier following an allegation filed with the ACC head office in Dhaka, the ACC conducted an investigation and found the allegation true.

Our Barisal correspondent reports: Tayeb Hossain, upazila engineer, Rafiqul Islam, sub-assistant engineer of LGED, and Amir Hossain Akon, chairman of Bhasanchar union parishad under Mehendiganj upazila of Barisal district have been made accused in the ACC case for misappropriating Tk 7.96 lakh.

Abdur Rahim Joardar, assistant direc-

tor of Barisal ACC office, filed the case with Mehendiganj Police Station on Tuesday night.

According to the case, the local UP chairman applied to LGED for immediate dismantling of a 38 metre-long iron bridge across Bagmara canal, constructed by upazila LGED costing about Tk 18 lakh in 2001-02, to save its materials from erosion in 2007, said the officer-in-charge (OC) of Mehendiganj Police Station.

Without visiting the spot and calculating the weight and market value of the materials, the LGED officials asked the UP chairman to dismantle the bridge and sale the materials as scrap, goes the case statement.

The higher authorities of LGED asked the Barisal ACC to investigate the matter and after primary investigation the complainant lodged the case for misappropriating 3467 iron scraps worth Tk 7 lakh 96 thousand and 977, the OC said.

Hearing today on prayer for Tajalli's remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

The teacher, arrested on Saturday on charge of casting aspersion on the religious sentiment and knowledge of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in a question paper, was produced in a court here yesterday with a prayer for seven days' remand.

Sub-Inspector Arif Iqbal, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, produced Tajalli Bin Azad of City Government Girls' High School in the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate Muhammad Abu Hannan in the afternoon.

The remand hearing could not be held since there was no defence lawyer. Police said the hearing on remand prayer will be held today.

During preliminary interrogation, Tajalli told police that he voted for a Jamaat candidate in the last parliamentary elections, said SI Abdul Baten Khan of Double Mooring Police Station.

'Jatka' seized in Khulna, Barisal

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Rab seized huge quantities of 'jatka' (Hilsa fry upto 9 inches) from a river in Khulna on Saturday and a bus stand in Barisal the day before.

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) personnel seized around 250 maunds of 'jatka' from two trawlers in the Bhairab river Saturday morning, according to UNB.

Acting on a tip-off, a special team of Rab-6 raided the trawlers at ghat no-5 of the river at about 7am and seized the hilsa fries worth Tk 20 lakh.

BSS adds from Barisal: Members of the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) seized a huge quantity of 'jatka' Friday night at the city's Ruptoli bus stand.

Rab sources said, acting on a tip-off, a team of the Rab intercepted a number of buses at the city's Ruptoli bus stand and seized the jatka while being transported to Dhaka from Patuakhali for sale.



Buses lie stranded at the central terminal in Naogaon on the second day of the transport strike in the district yesterday, inset, workers put up barricade on the road by burning tyre near the terminal on Saturday.

People suffer as buses remain off the roads

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chawabganj

Bus owners and workers of Naogaon continued their indefinite strike for the second day yesterday, disrupting road communications between the district and rest of the country.

Naogaon Bus Owners' Association and Motor Sramik Union jointly enforced the strike Saturday morning demanding ban on auto-tempo service on all routes in the district, causing immense sufferings to the passengers.

District police administration had stopped tempo service from November 9. Following a meeting with Tempo Workers Association at Circuit House on Friday, law-maker of Naogaon-6 Mohammad Israfil requested the police official to allow tempo service on all routes.

As the three-wheeler auto-tempo started plying the roads in the district town on

Saturday, bus owners and workers damaged some tempos and enforced an indefinite bus strike demanding ban on tempo service on all routes in the district.

Tempo owners and workers also began an indefinite strike protesting attack on their vehicles by the bus workers. Local administration held a meeting with the leaders of Tempo Owners Association and Bus Owners Association to resolve the issue at the conference room of the DC's office Saturday afternoon.

In the meeting, leaders of the Tempo Owners Association assured the local administration of withdrawing the strike. But bus owners and workers said they would continue their strike until the demand for banning auto-tempo service on all routes in the district was met. They also took out a procession in the town and burnt tyres at local bus terminal in the evening.



Teachers and students of Barguna Government College demonstrate on the premises of the deputy commissioner's office yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the killers of Munmun, a third year honours student of the college.