

Student politics at KMC banned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Authorities of Khulna Medical College (KMC) have imposed a ban on students' politics on the campus.

The decision came at an emergency meeting of the academic council held on Tuesday evening.

The meeting also decided to reopen two dormitories today (Thursday) and resume classes of the college on Saturday.

Following clashes between two rival factions of Chhatra League on the campus on Monday, Principal KP Sarker closed the college for an indefinite period from 4:00pm that day and asked students to vacate their dormitories by 6:00pm.

The academic council meeting on Tuesday formed a five-member committee headed by gynaecologist Dr Shamsunnahar Lucky to investigate Monday's incident on the campus.

Four other members of the probe committee are Dr Haridas Biswas, Dr Bishwajit Basu, Dr Mrinal Kanti Sarker and Dr Tayeb Ali.

The probe committee has been asked to submit report within seven working days to the college principal, said a press release issued on Tuesday night.

Local leaders and activists of the two main student organisations in Khulna have criticised imposition of ban on politics in KMC while a number of general students of the college and

their guardians have hailed the decision to ban students politics at the institute.

President of Khulna city unit of Chhatra League Shafiqur Rahman Palash termed the decision as most 'undemocratic and unwise'.

He urged the KMC principal to withdraw ban on political activities on the campus and not to curtail fundamental rights of students merely for a 'trivial' matter that occurred on Monday.

Demanding withdrawal of the ban on politics on the KMC campus, acting president of Khulna city unit of Chhatra Dal Sheikh Saadi said, "General students are not supposed to pay for the offences of two rival factions of Chhatra League."

"The principal has taken a right decision by imposing ban on politics here. We are studying in the medical college to become physicians, not politicians. Closure of the college for political reason has done harm to our education," said Shabbir Hossain, a student of the college.

"The government spends huge money to make a physician. Politics in any medical college is not at all desirable as it disturbs our academic life," said another student Asif Ali.

Hailing the decision to ban politics on the KMC campus, Kabir Ahmed, guardian of a student, said, "There should be a permanent rule to keep both teachers and students of medical colleges away from political activities."



OBNOXIOUS: Cattle are kept on the verandas of Sakhipur Islamia High School and Sakhipur Primary School in Bhedarganj upazila under Shariatpur district as a weekly cattle market is arranged on the school field.

BARISAL VETERINARY INSTITUTE 2 more students expelled 'for fuelling chaos'

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Barisal

Two more students of Barisal Veterinary Institute (BVI) under Patuakhali University of Science and Technology (PSTU) were expelled yesterday for one semester on charge of leading agitation on the campus.

The students are Harun-Rashid and Motaieb Hossain of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine Faculty. They led an agitation on September 2 demanding restoration of internship for one year and scrapping of changes in the curriculum by the authorities.

PSTU registrar Dr Nirmal Chandra Das told this correspondent that vice chancellor Dr Syed Shakhawat Hossain

yesterday took action against the two seventh semester students as per decision of the academic council meeting. Before taking the decision, the meeting reviewed the report of the probe committee headed by Prof Nizamuddin Ahmed.

Earlier, the academic council expelled six students for one semester and served showcause notices on 11 students. Besides, associate professor Abdul Matin of Dairy and Poultry Science Department and associate professor Anisur Rahman of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Department were made OSD for 'instigating' chaos on the campus.

Meanwhile, the PSTU authorities yesterday issued a

notice for realising Tk 1000 to 5000 'fine' from each student for withdrawal of their show cause notices.

The 11 accused students are Md Yasir, Md Arafat, Md Shafiullah Hossain, Shafiullah Parvez, Konika Samadder, Mridul Kanti Sharma, Munir Morshed Jewel, Wajed Ali, Arifuzzaman, Ahsanul Haque Rintu and Ferdous Hassan (Jhoni), students of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine Faculty.

Barisal Veterinary Institute was closed sine die on September 2 after the students began an agitation demanding restoration of their internship for one year and scrapping the changes in the curriculum by the authorities. The BVI reopened on November 5.

CID starts quizzing Rasu

A CORRESPONDENT,
Chandpur

CID Police started interrogating self-confessed serial killer Rasu Khan Tuesday, 11 days after the court granted remand for him.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Md Mozammel Haque on November 5 granted four days' remand for Rasu in the case for killing an unidentified woman at Haimchar in Chandpur.

CID Sub-Inspector Md Jamirul Islam, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, said a high official of CID Comilla region will also interrogate Rasu.

Rasu raped and killed the woman in a beel on the east side of Chowdhury Hat under Haimchar upazila one and a half years ago.

In his statement under Section 164 on October 11, Rasu confessed to the killing but could not say the name of the woman.

Chumki's husband, another top outlaw arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Kushtia

Two outlaws, one of them a regional leader, were arrested with arms and ammunition in Kushtia and Rajbari early yesterday.

The arrestees were identified as Rimon Reza, 36, and Bipul Kumar Biswas, 24.

Of them, Rimon is a top cadre of outlawed Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF) in Kushtia while Bipul is a regional leader of outlawed Lal Pataka, a faction of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP-ML).

On a tip-off that some criminals were holding a secret meeting in Bakapol area

in Kushtia, a police team from Bheramara police station raided their den at about 3:30 am and arrested Rimon.

Police recovered one light gun (LG) and two bullets from his possession.

His accomplices, however, managed to escape, police said.

Rimon, son of one Shamsul of Chourhas area in Kushtia town is husband of suspected woman cadre of GMF Boishakhi Rahman Chumki arrested on November 4.

Chumki, who confessed to her links with GMF and killing of Bheramara Awami League (AL) leader Meherul on August

15, is now in Kushtia jail. Rimon was being quizzed at Bheramara police station at the time of filing this report at about 3:00 pm.

Rimon went into hiding after his wife was arrested. Rimon was involved with various criminal activities including robbery, abduction, police said.

Police said, Rimon's wife Chumki admitted that her husband was a cadre of GMF.

According to Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-12 and district police, Rimon is a top listed criminal.

In Rajbari, a team from Pangsha police station raided

the house of Bipul at Hatbongram village in Pangsha upazila in the district at about 3:00 pm.

Sensing police presence, Bipul tried to flee but police arrested him at gunpoint.

Later, police recovered one shutter gun and three bullets from his possession.

Police said, Bipul was leading Lal Pataka in Pangsha and Baliakandi upazilas in Rajbari.

He is an accused in five cases including two for abduction and three for robberies filed with Pangsha and Baliakandi police stations, they said.

Build embankments first, Sidr victims in Sharankhola demand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Victims of cyclone Sidr in Southkhali union under Sharankhola upazila in greater Khulna have demanded construction of sustainable embankments and arrangement for their returning to houses that were destroyed during the natural calamity.

The government should allocate sufficient fund to construct and reconstruct sustainable embankments first to save the people from natural disaster like cyclone and tidal surges in future, speakers said at a condolence meeting at Southkhali Primary School ground on Sunday.

A large number of people including relatives of those killed by the cyclone and tidal surge gathered at the meeting marking the second anniversary of Sidr that battered southern districts on the night of November 15 in 2007.

According to unofficial sources, Sidr claimed over a thousand lives in Southkhali union under Sharankhola

upazila while thousands of families in the area near the Baleswar River were rendered homeless by tidal surges.

Speakers at the condolence meeting demanded erection of a memorial at Southkhali union.

Construction of sustainable embankments is very much needed to save people near Baleswar River from tidal surges.

Many Sidr-hit people are still living miserable life under the open sky and in makeshift camps amid acute scarcity of food and safe drinking water.

A large number of people have already left native villages in search of jobs, said Alamgir Hossain of Rayenda under Sharankhola upazila, who lost his house during the Sidr.

"Some NGOs traded on our miseries instead of doing anything to mitigate our sufferings," said Tajinur Begum who lost her minor son during the Sidr.

Farida Begum, who lost her daughter, also echoed the same.

Eager to get coverage in the media, people of a few NGOs visited some affected areas and talked to victims but they did not take any positive move to redress sufferings of the affected people, said Anwar Hossain Panchayet, former chairman of Southkhali union.

A few NGOs misappropriated funds allocated for implementation of rehabilitation projects, he alleged.

Sharankhola Upazila Chairman Kamaluddin Akand was present as chief guest at the meeting presided over by acting chairman of Southkhali union Harun-ar-Rashid.

Among others, Organising Secretary of Sharankhola upazila Awami League Rafiqul Islam Kalam, Prof Alamgir Hossain of Sharankhola College, BNP leader Shahjahan Howlader, Sharankhola Press Club President Babul Das addressed.

The condolence meeting was followed by a milad mahfil and offering of Fateha at the graves of Sidr victims.



PHOTO: STAR

Rendered homeless by cyclone Sidr on November 15 in 2007, a large number of people are still living subhuman life in makeshift structures in different areas of Bagerhat district. The photo was taken from Rayenda Madhyapara in Sharankhola upazila.

Robber hurt in gunfight with Rab

UNB, Narsingdi

A robber was injured in a gunfight between his cohorts and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members at Shalidha helipad in the district town early yesterday.

The injured robber was identified as Abdul Gani, 26, hailed from Sadar upazila.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-11 raided the area while Gani along with his gang was preparing to commit a robbery at about 1:30am.

Sensing presence of the Rab team, the robbers opened fire on them, forcing the elite force to retaliate that triggered a gunfight.

Gani sustained bullet injuries during the gunfight. He was later admitted to Sadar hospital.

After the gunfight, Rab recovered a shutter gun, two bullets and a sharp knife from the robber's possession.

Boy drowns in Sunamganj

UNB, Sunamganj

A 7-year-old boy while collecting water lilies drowned in a water body at Mohammadpur village in Sadar upazila on Tuesday.

Victim Sakib Ahmed was son of Bulbul Ahmed, a rickshaw-maker of the same area.

Locals said, Sakib went to collect water lilies along with his friends but he drowned in the canal at about 2:00pm.

His friends, however, managed to swim ashore.

The body of the ill-fated boy was recovered two hours after the incident.



PHOTO: STAR

Three front organisations of United People's Democratic Front bring out a procession in Khagrachhari town yesterday protesting recent attack on their peaceful procession at Gilachhari in Rangamati district.

UPDF bodies protest attack on procession Call to punish culprit for rape attempt

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Khagrachhari

Three front organisations of United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) yesterday held a protest rally and demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the security men who allegedly attacked indigenous people on Tuesday at Gilachhari of Rangamati district.

The rally was held at Muktomancho under Sadar upazila in Khagrachhari district. It was presided over by Democratic Youth Forum (DYF) district unit secretary

Samir Chakma.

The leaders of the three wings of the anti-peace body alleged that the indigenous people were holding a peaceful procession on November 17 protesting the alleged attempt to rape an indigenous girl by a security man. Four people were injured in the attack 'without provocation,' they said.

They termed the attack as a kind of repression on hill people, saying the indigenous people are often subjected to harassment for no reason. They demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punish-

ment to the culprit for the rape attempt.

Among others, Hill Women's Federation district unit vice president Chandoni Chakma, Pahari Chhatra Parishad (PCP) president Ratan Chakma, its district unit general secretary Aprushi Marma spoke at the rally.

Earlier, the front organisations of UPDF blocked Mohalchhari-Rangamati Road protesting alleged attempt to rape Jubili Chakma, 18, at Gilachhari under Rangamati district on November 8.

Moulvibazar tense as rivals call BNP confce at same venue

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Tension is mounting between two factions of Moulvibazar BNP as both have called district unit conference at the same venue at the same time.

District Convener M Naser Rahman-led faction has called conference on Moulvibazar Central Shaheed Minar premises at 11:00am on November 21 while Senior Joint Convener Khaleda Rabbani group will hold conference at the same venue at the same time on November 21 and 22.

Khaleda Rabbani told this correspondent that Naser Rahman has formed seven upazila and five municipal committees without holding council of those units. He has no right to call district BNP conference without discussing it with members of the convening committee, she said.

"We have fixed November 21 and 22 for district unit conference after discussing the matter at the meeting of the convening committee where seven out of nine joint conveners and most of the committee members were present," claimed

Khaleda Rabbani.

District Joint Convener Dr MA Ahad, who belongs to Naser faction, said the district convener has already completed conference of seven upazila and five municipal units according to the party constitution. If any person calls conference without consent of the district convener it will be unconstitutional, he said.

Meanwhile, several senior leaders of the district units said the central committee should take immediate steps to resolve the conflict between the two groups.