



Brother of slain rice trader Apil Uddin Miah wails in front of the National Press Club in the city yesterday. Local people and traders brought the body of the victim, inset, from Babubazar to the press club to protest the killing. Armed muggers shot and killed the trader at Babubazar around 3:30pm. (Story on Page 1)

**KIBRIA MURDER
HC order on
Babar's petition
tomorrow**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) will order tomorrow on a writ petition filed by detained former BNP state minister Lutfulzaman Babar challenging the government move to take him on remand in connection with former minister SAMS Kibria murder case.

After hearing the petition the HC bench of Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Md Rais Uddin yesterday fixed February 11 (tomorrow).

Rafiqul Islam, assistant superintendent of police (ASP) of the criminal investigation department (CID), on January 28 prayed to a court in Habaiganj for permission to take Babar on a 10-day remand in Kibria murder case. Babar was shown arrested in the case the same day.

The Habiganj court fixed February 11 for hearing the remand prayer.

Babar's wife Tahmina Zaman on February 7 filed a writ petition with the HC on behalf of Babar challenging remand prayer of the CID police.



PHOTO: STAR

Ensure quality education

President renews call to private varsities

UNB, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday said some private universities are lagging behind in providing quality education and asked for ensuring infrastructural facilities for holistic development of the higher education.

"The universities must have quality teachers and the faculties to ensure quality education," he said.

"Quality teachers, better infrastructure facilities and also quality students are very important elements for quality education," said the president, also chancellor of universities, while addressing the 2nd convocation of People's University of Bangladesh at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

Education Adviser to the Prime Minister Prof Dr Alauddin Ahmed and chairman of the University Grants Commission Prof Nazrul Islam attended the convocation as the special guests. Former Vice-chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Dr AK Azad Chowdhury delivered his speech as convocation speaker.

Zillur said university's infrastructure, library and laboratory facilities along with open discussion and student-teacher relations are closely related to the standard of education.

He noted that country's all educational institutions, particularly the universities,

could play a pioneering role in creating skilled, laborious and patriotic manpower imbued with human values.

Terming university as an auspicious centre of higher education, he said apart from imparting education, universities are the domains of practising freethinking and creative activities as well as searching the truth and beauty.

"Various educational activities beyond the textbook continue there for yearlong and all people, including students, researchers and teachers, can be benefited from these activities," he told his audience from the academia.

Congratulating the new graduates, the president advised them to utilise the immense potential of Bangladesh with their wisdom, talent and intelligence.

He hoped that the new graduates would truly contribute to the welfare of the country's mass people being imbued with humanity, patriotism and spirit of the great war of liberation.

Dr Alauddin said according to the country's constitution, education should be uniformed, mass-oriented and universal. But this aim has not been fulfilled till today.

Vice-chancellor of the People's University of Bangladesh Prof Dr Md Aslam Bhuiyan also spoke on the occasion.

Ctg port union activists clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Two union leaders were injured in a clash between two rival groups at Chittagong Port here yesterday.

The injured were identified as Bandar Karmachari Union President Shamsul Hoque Shafi, also president of Bandar Jatiya Sramik League, and Vice President Jamal Uddin Faruq.

The clash began when anti-mayor and pro-mayor port workers started chanting slogans in favour and against the transit through Chittagong port during their rallies in the same area.

Pro-mayor Bandar Karmachari Parishad activists manhandled Shafi and Faruq.

The Parishad activists also forced the anti-mayor Bandar Karmachari Union to leave the area where they were holding a rally. Later, the pro-mayor Bandar Karmachari Parishad held a rally ousting the rivals. Parishad President Mamtaj Uddin and General Secretary Wahidullah Sarkar spoke at the rally.

Witnesses said leaders

and activists of Bandar Karmachari Union formed a human chain in front of Bandar 4 No Gate area opposite to Chittagong Customs House around 12.00pm protesting a move to privatise New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) and demanding separate pay scale for the port employees.

The union comprises of four organisations, including Bandar Islami Sramik Sangha, a faction of Bandar Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, Bandar Jatiya Sramik League and Bandar Sramik League. The union is known as anti-Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury.

A few moment later leaders and activists of pro-mayor Bandar Sramik Union, a faction of Bandar Jatiya Sramik League, and Bandar Sramik League and Bandar Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal under the banner of Bandar Karmachari Parishad, held a rally supporting the government's decision to give transit through Chittagong Port.

Phensidyl seized

UNB, Keraniganj

Four suspected drug peddlers were arrested along with 700 bottles of Indian phensidyl syrup at Bandakpara here early yesterday and arrested four youths in this connection.

The arrested were identified as Monir Hossain, 24, Rubel, 26, Raju, 25 and Mamun, 24.

Acting on a tip-off, police raided a rickshaw garage at about 2:45am and seized the narcotic drugs.

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