

OMS OF RICE IN KHULNA

Dealer appointment questioned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Twenty-five dealers have been appointed allegedly on political consideration for Open Market Sale (OMS) of rice at 31 wards of Khulna City Corporation.

Khulna District Food Controller Mohammad Monirul Islam said the dealers were appointed outside of the 186 traders who had submitted applications to the authorities concerned.

President of Khulna Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) Shaharuzzaman Martuza, however, said most of the 186 applicants are genuine rice traders while none of the 25 appointed dealers had ever been involved in this business.

At least five dealers are required for five outlets at each of the 31 wards, he said.

Of the 25 dealers only five are learnt to have lifted their quotas of rice from CSD

godown last Wednesday at the rate of Tk20 per kg.

It was alleged that the dealers lifted rice under the fake shop names -- Barkat Store at Labonchora, Messrs Chand Mia Store on the Natun Bazar, Rumania Store on the Rupsha Stand Road, Molla Enterprise in Nirala Residential area and Paradise & Company at Gallamari.

Locals said they had seen no such Open Market Sale (OMS) centres in those areas.

None of the dealers have sold any rice at fair price outlets, said an official of district food controller's office seeking anonymity.

The OMS programme has completely failed to create any positive impact on the market in reining in prices of rice in Khulna city, said locals.

The coarse variety of rice was selling on Thursday in between Tk 29 and 30 a kg at the local markets while prices of the fine variety fluctuated between Tk38 and Tk42 a kg.

JOURNO ASSAULT

9 BCL men suspended

A CORRESPONDENT, RU

Rajshahi University unit Chhatra League yesterday suspended nine of its activists for Thursday's attack on journalists on the campus.

They are Jewel of Mass Communication and Journalism department, Rocky of Geography and Environmental Science, Minnath of Public Administration, Rony of Islamic History and Culture, Delwar Hossain and Bill of Anthropology, Masud and Nayan of Management and Monir of Applied Physics and Electronics Engineering departments.

On February 11, unruly Chhatra League cadres severely beat up 11 journalists when Prothom Alo photojournalist Azaharuddin and Channel i cameraman Moin Hossain were shooting to capture the moments of Chhatra League attack on a suspected Shibir activist.

Following the incident, university correspondents issued Chhatra League a 24-hour ultimatum to punish the culprits.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

Meanwhile, RU Vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan at a press conference yesterday censured the law enforcers for their role during the Shibir-Chhatra League clashes on the campus on February 9.

Replying to a question on the role of the university authorities Prof Sobhan said the university authorities did everything to bring the situation under control.

133 more picked up

FROM PAGE 1 Babul Akhter of Hathazari circle. "We recovered over 50 books on jihad and a huge number of batons from their possession," Akhtersaid.

The Court of Judicial Magistrate Akhter Hossain sanctioned bail to Shibir cadre Masud Shahriar and sent the rest to jail.

In another development, a Chittagong court ordered two days' remand for 86 Jamaat-Shibir men in a case filed for attacking police, barring them from duties, and involving in destructive activities on Friday.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Home Shamsul Haque Tuku, who arrived in Chittagong Friday night for the wedding ceremony of his son, held a meeting with the Chittagong Metropolitan Police.

He said Shibir killed students in Rajshahi and Chittagong universities in an organised way to create unrest in the country.

Tuku asked the police to investigate the cases filed against the Jamaat and Shibir men and continue the drives against them.

In Nilphamari, district Jamaat Ameer Muzammel Haque along with 20 others was arrested yesterday, writes our correspondent from Nilphamari, where at least 60 people including 10 policemen were injured in a series of clashes between BCL and Shibir yesterday.

Witnesses say the clash ensued when Shibir attacked a protest procession of BCL in Ukilpara.

During the attack, at least 30 BCL men including its district general secretary Wadud Rahman were injured.

In Rajshahi city, 18 more Shibir men were arrested, while six others were held in Panchagarh early yesterday, reports our staff correspondent in Rajshahi.

Of them, 12 were produced before a Rajshahi court in connection with the killing at Rajshahi University on February 2.

Police recovered two bombs and a sharp weapon on the premises of Sher-e-Bangla Hall of the university.

In Kushtia, police arrested a Shibir activist at a students' mess in Talipara in Kushtia early in the morning, reports our Kushtia correspondent.

The police say they raided

Firoza Villa, a Shibir-controlled student's mess, around 3:30am and arrested the man and seized some books on jihad.

The police held three Shibir men in Noakhali, where Jamaat-Shibir brought out a procession to protest against the arrests across the country.

Members of Bangladesh Chhatra League chased and dispersed the procession in Maizdee and beat up some of them. They were admitted to Noakhali General Hospital from where police detained the three apprehending a law and order slide, writes our Noakhali correspondent.

Police arrested seven Shibir activists at Jamilnagar of Bogra yesterday, adds our Bogra correspondent.

Officer in-Charge of Sadar police AKM Khalekuzzaman said a case has been filed against them on charge of committing crime.

Meanwhile in Gaibandha, police Friday night arrested 11 Jamaat-Shibir activists in Sadar and Palashbari upazilas, the district correspondent reports.

Police raided district Jamaat office Darul Aman Trust and recovered posters, leaflets and huge brick chips preserved as protective measures against BCL activists.

In Jessore, police arrested 36 Shibir men conducting separate raids in different areas of the town, our Jessore correspondent says.

Police also dispersed a protest procession brought out by Shibir against the countryside crackdown on Shibir men. During the drive, the law enforcers also recovered iron rods and four bombs.

Meanwhile, the 29 Shibir men who were arrested at Jamaat office Friday night were sent to jail after they were hauled before a court in connection with rampage on MM College campus.

**BCL memorandum** The BCL Chittagong University unit submitted a memorandum to Vice-chancellor Prof Dr Abu Yusuf yesterday to press home their seven-point demand.

The demands included arrest and exemplary punishment of Shibir cadres who killed BCL activist Mohiuddin, banning Shibir politics permanently, and removal of the policemen recruited during the BNP-Jamaat rule.

**CU Probe body** CU authorities in a meeting

Friday night formed a three-member committee to investigate the murder of political science student AAM Mohiuddin.

The committee headed by Prof Dr Af Imam Ali of sociology department was also asked to submit a probe report in seven days.

**300 sued for assaulting cops** Sylhet Kotwali police Friday night started a case against 300 people including former law-maker Jamaat's Moulana Farid Uddin Chowdhury, central Assistant secretary Shafiqur Rahman and Sylhet city Ameer Ehsanul Mahub Zobery in connection with chasing the police and clash between police and Jamaat-Shibir Friday afternoon.

Saarc summit

FROM PAGE 16 invitation letter from Prime Minister Jigme Yoser Thinley this afternoon, official sources said.

The summit venue has been changed to the Bhutanese capital after the Maldives' refusal to host the event citing the impact of global recession.

This is the first time that Thimphu is hosting a Saarc summit since inception of the grouping in Dhaka in 1985.

Officials said Wangchuk would inform Hasina about the main item on the agenda of the summit-climate change.

Wangchuk, himself a former premier of the landlocked country at the eastern end of the Himalayas, is also expected to meet Commerce Minister Faruk Khan today and Foreign Minister Dipu Moni on Tuesday.

He is due to leave Dhaka on February 17.

Foreign ministers of the member countries will meet in Thimphu on April 26-27, foreign secretaries on April 24-25 and senior officials on April 22-23.

Besides, there will be a series of preparatory meetings among the member states including Bangladesh, foreign ministry sources said.

Khaleda pulls

FROM PAGE 1 bilateral relationship will strengthen in the future.

"President Gul said Bangladesh and Turkey had established a rapport during the regime of late president Ziaur Rahman and that is why a road in Ankara was named after him," Shamsar Mobin Chowdhury, vice-chairman of BNP and former foreign secretary, said after the meeting.

"He [Gul] said opportunities to enhance relations between the two countries were also created during Khaleda Zia's tenures," Shamsar Mobin said.

Abdullah Gul also said Turkey has decided to offer a huge number of scholarships to Bangladeshi students and set up direct air link with Bangladesh soon to help bring the countries closer.

In response Khaleda said political, economic, cultural and educational relations between Bangladesh and Turkey were strong during her tenures and she expected that the same would continue.

Khandaker Mosharrar Hossain, M Morshed Khan, Reaz Rahman and Shamsar Mobin Chowdhury accompanied Khaleda in her 45-minute meeting with the Turkish president while with Gul Turkish high officials including the foreign minister were.

Tarique's cases

FROM PAGE 16 the matter into direct cognisance.

According to the complaint, Hasina at a public rally on November 3, 2006, said the son of the four-party alliance chief [Khaleda Zia] drives a car worth Tk 2 crore, wears a suit worth Tk 1 lakh and squanders hefty sums gambling abroad.

Besides, she said, Hawa Bhaban, Khaleda Zia's then political office in Banani, was involved with a syndicate running businesses worth crores of taka.

As per the charges against Obaidul Quader, the AL leader at a press briefing on November 4, 2006 said the New York Stock Exchange had awarded Tarique a medal. He said he wonders how much money one needs to get such a medal, and that people want to know the source of that money.

In the complaint against Jalil, he was quoted as telling newsmen on November 16, 2006 that Apu, APS to Tarique, had met the inspector general of police and persuaded him to give 15 BNP men posting as officers-in-charge of police stations in Gopalganj, Faridpur, Shariatpur and Madaripur districts.

The chief conservator believes the forest department will be able to protect the Bhawal forest despite the government's latest move.

Dhaka seeks help

FROM PAGE 1 When she informed the Turkish president of the prevailing investment-friendly environment in the country, Gul expressed the desire to invest in various sectors in Bangladesh.

Sheikh Hasina also sought Turkish cooperation to set up more power plants in the country to address power crisis in Bangladesh and in the country's shipbuilding, agriculture and electricity sectors.

The prime minister called upon the Turkish authorities to import the international standard pharmaceuticals, leather and leather goods and apparels from Bangladesh.

Emphasising the need for increasing people-to-people contact and business cooperation between the two brotherly Muslim countries, Sheikh Hasina said Turkish aircraft could make stopovers in the international airports of Bangladesh for the benefit of the two countries.

Both the Turkish president and the Bangladesh premier underscored the need for expediting activities and inter-country relationship in the United Nations, NAM, OIC and other international and regional forums to this end.

About the existing bilateral relations between the two countries, Sheikh Hasina said both the countries are enjoying excellent relations based on historic and cultural ties.

The two leaders recalled the contribution of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to achieving independence of Bangladesh and of Kemal Ataturk to building today's modern Turkey.

The prime minister greeted the Turkish president for his visit to Bangladesh, the first by a head of state since her government assumed office following her party's landslide victory in the December 29 election of 2008.

During the 40-minute meeting followed by lunch, the Turkish president highly praised the strong role and visionary leadership of Sheikh Hasina in different international forums, especially in the climate change conferences in establishing a safe globe for the civilisation.

Abdullah Gul termed Sheikh Hasina's role in the last Copenhagen Climate Change Summit as "excellent" and said that her (Sheikh Hasina) prudent leadership in the conference would immensely benefit the most vulnerable countries (MVCs) of the global warming.

In reply, Sheikh Hasina thanked the Turkish president for his appreciation and renewed her call for combined international efforts to protect people of the MVCs to face grim challenges of climate change caused by global warming.

Abdullah Gul congratulated Hasina as people of Bangladesh have got their democracy back under her able and prudent leadership. She thanked the Turkish government and other European countries for their supports and cooperation in holding the December 29 general election in a free, fair, neutral and acceptable manner.

In this context, she said her government is now giving maximum efforts to expedite socio-economic development of the country's people.

Sheikh Hasina thanked the Turkish president for his stand saying that Turkey is a development partner of Bangladesh since its independence in 1971 under the leadership of Father of the

Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Terming poverty and illiteracy as two of the biggest enemies of Bangladesh and South Asian countries to achieve development, she said her government is working relentlessly to improve fate of the people through poverty eradication and ensuring cent percent literacy.

The Bangladesh Prime Minister further said her government is giving priority to agriculture, education and health sectors to build up an educated, prosperous and healthy nation.

The Turkish president and the Bangladesh Premier also discussed the much-expected Padma Bridge and modernisation of Chittagong and Mongla sea ports.

Saying that her government has a plan to build a deep sea port in Chittagong, the prime minister observed that by using the sea port, neighbouring countries including India, Nepal and Bhutan will be highly benefited.

The Alliance of Civilisation Meets held in April, 2009 in Turkey and Bangladesh-Turkey Military Grant, agreement and the bilateral trade and commerce between the two countries during the world economic recession also came up for discussion.

Both the leaders expressed satisfaction over the volume of bilateral trade between the two countries during the global economic meltdown.

Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, Commerce Minister Faruk Khan, Ambassador-at-Large M Ziauddin, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister MA Karim, Prime Minister's Office Secretary Mollah Waheeduzzaman and Press Secretary to the Prime Minister Abul Kalam Azad were present on the occasion.

Fire at Ctg