



PHOTO: STAR

Rajshahi University authorities aided by police seize cocktail, huge jihadi books and rods from Mother Bux Hall yesterday, right, over 200 jihadi books from a Shibir-controlled room of Habibur Rahman Hall on Tuesday.

13 SHIBIR-CONTROLLED ROOMS AT RU HALL SEALED Cocktail, iron rods, more jihadi books seized in fresh raid

A RU CORRESPONDENT

Police along with university authorities yesterday raided several rooms of Islami Chhatra Shibir men at Madar Bux Hall and recovered a cocktail, huge iron rods, stones and sticks. During the raid the law enforcers also found a list of 18 leaders and activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League and seized over 100 books on religion and jihad, police said. Sources said the law enforcers recovered the cocktail from the room of Shibir activists Zafor Hossain and Monwarul Islam during the five-hour raid till 3:30pm. The authorities also sealed 13 rooms

of Shibir men including that of hall unit Shibir president Shakhawat Hossain and secretary Muhammad Toha. However, none was arrested in this connection. Madar Bux Hall provost Dr Belayet Hossain Halder said, "We raided the rooms suspecting that arms and weapons might have been kept in the Shibir men's rooms during the recent campus violence." Earlier on Tuesday, police along with the university authorities raided Habibur Rahman Hall and seized over 200 'jihadi' books from a Shibir-controlled room. Meanwhile, the RU unit BCL yesterday demanded punishment to the

Shibir cadres who allegedly hacked BCL activist Faruque Hossain to death at Shah Makhdoom Hall in the early hours of February 9. To press their demand they formed a human chain in front of the university central library at around 11:30am and held a protest procession on the campus. Our correspondent in Thakurgaon reports: Two Shibir activists were held on Tuesday morning from a mess at Hazipara in the town. The arrestees are Mostafizur Rahman, 24, son of Kasem Ali and student of third year honours at Thakurgaon Government College and hailed from Durba village under Pirganj upazila and

Masud Karim, 19, son of Golam Mostafa and student of HSC second year at Thakurgaon Government College and hailed from Upazdail village under Pirganj upazila of the district. Officer-in-charge of Thakurgaon police station Feroz Khan said sensing that some Shibir activists gathered at Hazipara Shibir mess to create unrest local BCL activists encircled the spot and informed police. On information, police raided the place and arrested the two. Rest of the activists managed to flee, he said. Later police produced the arrestees before the Chief Judicial Magistrate Court and the court sent them to Thakurgaon jail.

Khulna journo stabbed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A journalist was severely stabbed on Tuesday night near Bangabashi School at Khalishpur city. Victim Khalilur Rahman Sumon is a senior crime reporter of Dainik Probaho published from Khulna city. He was stabbed in his neck, abdomen and back while returning home from his workplace. He is now undergoing treatment at the intensive care unit (ICU) of Khulna Medical College and Hospital (KMCH). His condition is still critical, said KMCH superintendent Dr Quazi Hamid Asgar. According to eye-witnesses, a gang of three waylaid him near Khalishpur Bangabashi school and one of them stabbed him with a knife. Sources said, Sumon filed several reports against drug peddlers of Khalishpur and a number of them was published in the Dainik Probaho. Police picked up 40 people during a night-long raid in Khalishpur for questioning in connection with attack on the journalist.

Indefinite transport strike on road to Burimari land port

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Lalmonirhat District Bus and Minibus Workers Union yesterday started an indefinite strike on Lalmonirhat-Burimari land port route yesterday, protesting vandalising of a bus and assault of a bus worker at Barokhata bus stand in Hatibandha upazila of Lalmonirhat. Nilphamar district road transport authority at a meeting on Tuesday decided to take legal action if the district bus owners' association tries to force passenger to follow their 'unjust timetable'. Yesterday's bus strike on Lalmonirhat-Burimari route caused untold suffering to the commuters on the route, reports a correspondent from Lalmonirhat. Lalmonirhat District Bus and Minibus Workers Union sources said the people of Barokhata village vandalised a passenger bus of Seemanto Paribahan and assaulted its worker Kanchon Sarker following a feud over bus fare on Tuesday evening. Injured Kanchon was admitted to Hatibandha Upazila Health Complex. Protesting the incident and demanding arrest of the 'identified' attackers, Lalmonirhat Bus and Minibus Workers Union started an indefinite bus strike on Lalmonirhat-Burimari land port route yesterday. The strike will continue until their demand is met, said union leaders. Several bus workers including Kanchon Sarker, Anwar Hossain and Mohubar Ali alleged that some people try to travel on buses for less fare or without any fare, claiming that they belong to Barokhata village, the native village of a state minister.



PHOTO: STAR

Passenger buses lie idle at Lalmonirhat bus terminal as district bus workers' union started an indefinite strike on Lalmonirhat-Burimari route yesterday.

Lalmonirhat bus and minibus sramik union president Aminul Islam said bus workers decided to go for an indefinite bus strike yesterday as they have been facing misbehaviour of local people at Barokhata bus stand for long. Local people, on the other hand, alleged that some bus drivers and workers do not stop at Barokhata bus stand while a section of bus workers always demand higher amounts of fare, violating fare chart. Our Nilphamar Correspondent adds: A meeting of the district road transport authority (RTA) held at the deputy commissioner's office on Tuesday afternoon decided that legal action will be taken if the district bus owners' association tries to

force passenger buses from and to the district to follow their 'unjust timetable'. Earlier on the day, Citizens' Rights Preservation Committee brought out a big procession in the town demanding cancellation of the bus owners association's decision to impose restriction on the movement of Dhaka-bound buses from the district. The bus owners association recently directed the authorities of Dhaka-bound day and night coaches to leave their counters and start journey from the district within 7:30am and night coaches within 9:00pm every day. They also directed the district-bound day and night coaches from Dhaka to reach the district within 7:00pm and 4:00am respectively.

Men of the bus owners association recently detained several Dhaka-bound buses at Saidpur bus terminal and allegedly misbehaved with the passengers as the buses did not follow the so-called timetable. The district administration and police had to interfere to free the buses and passengers. In conformity with the desire of a large number of passengers in the district, leaders of Citizens' Rights Preservation Committee demanded that Dhaka-bound coaches be allowed to start from the district every hour. They also demanded allowing government-owned BRTC buses to ply all long routes including Chittagong, Comilla, Mymensing and other important places of the country.

Kachua AC-Land sues 7 more in fresh case

BCL leader expelled for attack

A CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

The injured Assistant Commissioner (AC-Land) of Kachua upazila filed another case against seven people, including upazila Chhatra League Joint Secretary Emran Hossain, on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Kachua upazila BCL yesterday expelled Emran Hossain from the unit for his involvement in the attack on AC-Land Mostafizur Rahman at his office Monday evening. The decision was taken at an emergency meeting held at the local press club with BCL upazila unit President Ahsan Habib Pranjal in the chair.

Mostafiz filed the second case with Kachua Police Station under Section 7 of the Building Construction Act 1970. The other accused are Abdur Rob, Abdur Rahim, Sirajul Haq, Shawkat Ali, Siddiqur Rahman and Emran's father Abdus Sattar. BCL activists seriously injured the assistant commissioner at his office, hitting him on the head with an iron rod as he prevented them from building a house on a government land near Sonali Bank at Kachua municipal market on Monday. They also damaged a computer and files and necessary papers at the AC-land office during the attack. The AC-land

was admitted to the upazila health complex. Following a case filed by the AC-land against 25 to 30 BCL men on Monday night, Kachua police on Tuesday arrested a Chhatra League leader and a Jubo League activist in connection with the attack. The arrestee are Nasir Uddin Shishir, 20, general secretary of BCL Kachua Bangabandhu Degree College unit, and Nasir Ullah, 28, an activist of Jubo League Kachua pourasava (municipality) unit. Mostafizur Rahman was yesterday referred to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) for better treatment.

28 ruling party men sued in C'nawabganj

UNB, C'nawabganj

Twenty-eight activists of Jubo League and Chhatra League were sued on Monday for launching attack on a procession of opposition BNP in the district town. Nurul Huda, general secretary of No 4 ward BNP filed the case with the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court. Taking the case into cognizance, the court asked the OC of the Sadar police station to take necessary steps after investigation. The plaintiff alleged that Jubo League and BCL activists attacked the BNP activists as they brought out a protest procession in the town on February 18. The procession was taken out as part of party's central programme protesting renaming of Zia International Airport. During the attack, former lawmaker Harunur Rashid took shelter inside Nawabganj town club where the attackers also hurled a cocktail targeting him. The cocktail, however, did not explode, said the plaintiff. Town AL organising secretary Toufiqueur Rahman Bedana, Jubo League leader Ajimul Hasan Rimon, Ejabul Haque Buli, among others, were sued.

MP, Kahalu AL chief at odds over rice for Food for Work

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

Leaders and workers of Kahalu upazila Awami League yesterday brought corruption charge against a woman lawmaker and surrounded her at the upazila headquarters. They also staged a demonstration against the lawmaker, alleging that she is taking Tk 5,000 against allocation of each tonnes of rice under "Food for Work" programme in the upazila. The lawmaker, Khadiza Khatun Shefali, faced the unpleasant situation on her arrival at upazila parishad office at around 4:00pm in connection with the programme. In the face of agitation, she left the place under police

escort and went to the local police station. When contacted, lawmaker Shefali alleged that local AL men brought out a procession at the instigation of upazila AL President Helal Uddin Kabiraj. "As I refused to give him (Kabiraj) the rice allocated by the government under "Food for Work" programme, he brought a false graft charge against me," the woman lawmaker said. Helal Uddin Kabiraj could not be contacted for his version despite several attempts on cellphone. Following the incident, Kahalu police filed a general diary (GD) against Helal Uddin Kabiraj and some other AL men.

3 held for cheating job seekers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Police on Tuesday arrested three members of a fraud team on charge of taking Tk 1.5 lakh from a person assuring him the job of a police constable. The arrestees are Abdur Rahim, 30, of Khamar Moniram village under Sundarganj upazila in Gaibandha district, his nephew Liton Mia, 26, of Tambalpur village, and their accomplice Abu Taleb, 28, of Tewana Moniram village under Pirgachha upazila in Rangpur district. At a press conference arranged by Manikganj Police Superintendent Sheikh Muhammad Maruf Hasan at his office yesterday, they confessed to their involvement in the malpractice. Liton Mia, a fire-fighter working at Manikganj unit of Fire Service and Civil Defence, went to meet Manikganj Superintendent of Police Sheikh Muhammad Maruf Hasan with Mamun Hossain, an applicant for constable post on Tuesday. Mamun is the son of Kalim Uddin of Janna village under Satoria upazila in Manikganj. As Liton showed a visiting

card of a government high official, the SP asked him a few questions that he failed to answer correctly. Questioned further, Liton said he took Tk 1.5 lakh from Mamun Hossain for 'giving' him the job of a police constable. Liton said he gave the sum to his uncle Abdur Rahim to his Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban premises in presence of the applicant. Asked by police, Liton made a call to Abdur Rahim to come to Manikganj, offering a new applicant who will give Tk 2 lakh. When Abdur Rahim came to Manikganj at night, plainclothes policemen arrested him. Abdur Rahim told journalists at the SP office that an assistant private secretary of a lawmaker from Tangail asked him to place a candidate who will give Tk 2.5 lakh in exchange of employment at the Sangsad Bhaban as broom man. The arrestees also gave important information to police about cheating people in the name of recruitment for government jobs including police, BDR, army, the SP said.

Outlaws arrested, arms recovered

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two outlaws were held in Naogaon and Pabna on Tuesday and Monday while wife of an operative was arrested and arms recovered in Kushtia on Tuesday. Police arrested a fugitive leader of outlawed Purbo Banglar Community Party (BPCP, Lal Pataka) from Raninagar rail station area under Raninagar upazila in Naogaon on Tuesday night. Arrestee Nurul Islam, 42, is son of late Amzad Mandal of village Rajapur under Raninagar upazila. He is a

charge-sheeted accused in several sensational murder cases and a number of other criminal and extortion cases. He was involved in killing of Amzad Hossain Master, general secretary of Raninagar upazila unit Awami League and committed twin murders at Soriya Mosque in the upazila, police said. According to BSS, a police team led by sub-inspector Hayat Ali raided Raninagar rail station area and arrested Nurul Islam at about 8:30pm. In Pabna, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on Monday night arrested a hardened outlaw and recovered three

firearms and bullets from him at village Haripur in Aitaikula. Arrestee Ismail Sardar, 37, is son of Esken Sardar of the village. Acting on a tip-off, a team of Rab-12, Pabna raided the village at about 10:00pm and caught Ismail near Ratanpur Primary School after a brief chase. The elite force later recovered two shutter guns, a .22 revolver and three bullets from his possession, reports our correspondent. ASP of Rab, Pabna Akhterul Alam said the arrestee is the leader of a faction of an outlawed party

and accused in several cases including four for murder. Our correspondent in Kushtia reports: Police in a raid on Tuesday night arrested wife of an outlawed party leader and recovered firearms and ammunition from her Majampur residence. The arrestee was identified as Kona Choudhury, 35, wife of Bipul Choudhury. On secret information, Kushtia police raided the house of Bipul, an absconding leader of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (BPCP-ML) at about 11:30pm and arrested Kona. Police recovered a foreign made revolver and two bullets from the house. After primary interrogation at Kushtia police station, Kona was produced before the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court yesterday and the court granted a 3-day remand. Police said they arrested Kona as per the statement of Lipi alias Mita, wife of outlaw Sahin alias Mukti. Police raided the house of Mita in the town to search for firearms on Monday and arrested her. Mukti, a regional leader of BPCP, was killed by his rivals on February 11.



PHOTO: STAR

Teachers and students of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology form a human chain on the campus yesterday seeking financial help to save university student Liton, now suffering from blood cancer