

RANGPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL Organised gang steals drugs, sells in market 12 arrested in last three months

RAFIQUE SARKER, Rangpur

An organised gang in collaboration with some employees steals costly medicines from Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) and sells them to different private clinics, medicine shops and rural medical practitioners.

Kotwali police sources said 12 people were caught red-handed in the last three months while stealing medicines from RMCH.

Acting on a tip-off, law enforcers from Sadar Police Station raided the house of one Abdur Rahim in Dhap area of the town on Friday last and recovered a huge quantity of medicines meant for Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH) from there.

Police arrested Abdur Rahim on charge of keeping government medicines in his possession. After preliminary interrogation, they produced Rahim in a court that sent him to jail.

On the night of March 31, police arrested a RMCH employee named Nuruzzaman on the college campus while he was taking away some medicines. Nuruzzaman was later released on requests from some leaders of Bangladesh

Medical Association (BMA) Rangpur unit and RMCH Director Anisul Karim, police sources said.

One Sabiha Begum of Dhap area was arrested in January while he was stealing 50 bags of intravenous saline from the hospital. A case was lodged with kotwali Police Station in this connection.

Police said Rahim told them that a number of nurses, peons and ward boys of RMCH supply medicines to them. They also sell the stolen medicines to different private clinics, hospitals and rural medical practitioners. Some medicine traders from Midford, Dhaka, also purchase costly medicines from them, police quoting Rahim said.

Rahim said they are so influential that RMCH authorities dare not take action against them.

When contacted, RMCH Director Anisul Karim said a three-member committee is investigating the theft of medicines from RMCH. The committee will submit its report by April 11 and necessary actions will be taken on the basis of the report, he added.



Police seize huge amount of medicine meant for Rangpur Medical College Hospital from the house of Abdur Rahim at Dhap in Rangpur town on Friday.

ACTIVITIES RESUME AT CVASU BCL now threatens to lock VC's house

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Academic and administrative activities at Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) were held peacefully yesterday.

The university reopened on Sunday following a 46-day closure.

The university authorities also decided to take internship board final examination today, campus sources said.

Vice chancellor Dr Nitish Chandra Devnath who was confined to his residence for the last couple of days went to the capital yesterday morning.

"I have come to the capital to join a conference. I will meet the government high ups and discuss current university situation," the VC told this correspondent over phone from Dhaka.

BCL convener of the university unit Kamol Kanti Majumder said they would lock the vice chancellors' residence soon.

"The VC is no more wanted to play any role in the academic and administrative activities," he said.

Meanwhile, an anonymous caller allegedly threatened University Teachers' Association convener Prof Goutam Buddha Das over phone at around 12:30am yesterday.

"You have tarnished the image of Chhatra League and made remarks in the media against

the organisation. It wasn't expected," Prof Goutam said quoting the caller.

However, BCL CVASU convener Kamol denied the allegation of threatening Prof Goutam by anyone of his organisation.

The authorities closed the university sine die on December 14 last year following an indefinite strike enforced by General Students Forum and BCL to realise 21-point demand including resignation of the VC on charge of corruption and nepotism.

The authorities in an emergency syndicate meeting on March 31 decided to reopen the halls on April 3 and resume classes the next day.

But the BCL leaders staying in the hall defying syndicate orders demanded removal of the VC and decided to bar him from all administrative activities.

They put the VC office under lock and key confining him (VC) to his residence.

The university teachers' and officers' associations and employees union also observed work abstention on Monday and Tuesday protesting alleged manhandling of teachers, officials and staff of the university by the agitating students.

Besides, the teachers also gave a three-day ultimatum to the university authorities on Tuesday to release the students who manhandled the teachers and threatened them over phone.



Remains of houses lie mangled as a devastating fire, originated from a short circuit at a plastic factory, gutted 15 houses and damaged goods worth Tk 20 lakh at Tankipara village in Hemayetpur union of Pabna Sadar upazila yesterday.

8 jailed for life for murders in Sylhet, Barisal

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Eight people were jailed for life on Tuesday for murders in Sylhet and Barisal.

A court in Sylhet convicted five people, including four a family, and sentenced them to life term imprisonment for killing a man in 2003.

The lifers are Nizam Uddin and his three sons Jubayer, 30, Jewel, 27, and Jamil, 25, and Sumon, 27, son of Azim Uddin of Khapan village in Balaganj upazila, according to UNB.

The court also fined Tk 30,000 each, in default, to suffer six months more RI.

According to the prosecution, the accused picked up quarrel with one Miron over a trifling matter on November 14, 2003. Later, two rival groups locked in a clash in which Miron was critically injured.

He was rushed to Sylhet Osmani Medical College and Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries next day.

A Barisal court on Tuesday sentenced three men to life term imprisonment for murdering a man.

The convicts are Majnu Howladar, Akhtar Hossain Howladar and Nurul Islam Howladar. Of them, Nurul was tried in absentia.

They were also fined Tk 10,000 each, in default, to suffer one year RI more.

According to the prosecution story, Rafikul Islam, 35, was abducted from a tea stall near his house at Lakadi village in Babuganj upazila on the night of May 2, 2003 by the accused following a land dispute.

His body bearing torture marks was recovered from a ditch near the house the next day.

Abdul Kader Howladar, father of the victim, lodged a case with Babuganj police.

Two to die, another gets life for killing girl

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A court here on Tuesday awarded death penalty to two people and life-term imprisonment to another person for killing five-year-old girl Rozina in the city in December, 2000.

Chittagong Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal Judge Shafiqul Karim pronounced the verdict in a crowded courtroom in the afternoon.

The condemned convicts are Jasim Uddin alias Iqbal and his so-called wife Parvin Akter while one Dulal to suffer life-term imprisonment. However, all the three convicts are absconding.

According to prosecution, Rozina, a five-year-old daughter of one Abdul Mannan of Uttar (north) Barma Colony under the city's Bayezid police station went missing on December 08, 2000.

Later, her body was found in a sack kept inside a cupboard while searching the house of neighbouring tenant Jasim Uddin alias Iqbal.

Victim's mother Safura Begum filed a case with Bayezid police station in this connection.

After a lengthy investigation police submitted charge-sheet against Jasim Uddin, his so-called wife Parvin Akter and one Dulal on November 30, 2007.

Jubo League men attack municipal office, beat up councillor, staff

A CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Aids of a Jubo League leader attacked Ghorashal municipality office, assaulted a female councillor, employees and looted Tk 30,000 yesterday, allegedly for delay in payment of bill.

Witnesses said at least 15 Jubo League activists led by one Hossain went to the place around noon and beat up ward councillor Suraiya Mofiz, accountant Shahidul Islam and office staff Akter Faruk and Gulzar Hossain Swapon.

Hossain is reportedly an aide to Javed Hossain, general secretary of Jubo League's Palash upazila unit and a construction contractor.

The gang destroyed documents, ransacked furniture and took away Tk 30,000 by breaking a steel almirah.

Moniruzzaman, secretary of the municipality, said Upazila Nirbahi Officer Shailla Yasmin of Palash administers the municipality, which currently has no elected mayor.

He said payment of some development bills to SJS Enterprise of Javed have been delayed, as the UNO has to



Transport workers demonstrate at Narayanganj District Central Bus Terminal and block plying of buses and trains on Dhaka-Narayanganj route yesterday protesting beating of a worker by Rapid Action Battalion.

Transport workers block road, rail to protest Rab action

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Transport workers blocked rail and roads in Narayanganj for about three hours after Rab personnel allegedly beat up a bus driver at Narayanganj bus terminal here yesterday morning.

The sudden blockade caused immense sufferings to school and college going students and more than one lakh people who attend their offices in Dhaka everyday from the district in buses and trains.

Witnesses and other sources said a patrol team of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-11 beat up the driver, Jahangir, of a Bandhan Paribhan bus as the vehicle hit a Rab motorcycle at Narayanganj bus terminal at around 8:00am.

Immediately after the incident, transport workers took out a procession and blocked roads at rail gates 1 and 2, Chashara roundabout and in Panchabati area of Fatullah, parking buses and others vehicles haphazardly.

The agitated transport workers also

blocked the movement of train soon after it started for Dhaka at around 9:00am.

They, however, withdrew the blockade at around 11:00am after Rab officials assured the transport workers' leaders of proper investigation into the incident and taking punitive measures if any Rab member is found guilty.

Locals alleged they face trouble everyday as bus drivers haphazardly park their vehicles in and around the central bus terminal.

Injured Ghorashal municipality accountant Shahidul Islam being treated at Palash upazila health complex.

PHOTO: STAR

perform an additional duty. Javed's cohorts had rebuked accountant Shahidul over the delay, he said.

The UNO said appropriate steps would be taken against the attackers.

In Natore, at least 10 people were injured, one with bullet, during a factional

clash of Awami League at Royna in Boraigram upazila on Tuesday night.

Bullet-hit Raihan, a Jubo League activist, was rushed to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital, reports a correspondent.

Police said the clash ensued between two rival groups -- one led by Mahbulul Haq Bachchu and another by Yakub Ali Hira -- at about 10:00pm following a previous enmity.

Raihan sustained bullet injury as both the groups traded fire during the clash. Nine others were also injured in chase and counter-chase.

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