

PSTU DISCIPLINARY BODY SHOWS LENIENCY

BCL men now have to pay fine only

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Disciplinary committee of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) has cancelled its earlier decision to expel 20 students, also activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), who were punished for involvement in anti-disciplinary activities on the campus.

However, the students, except one, will have to pay different amounts of fine, said a press release signed by PSTU Deputy Registrar Naser Saleh on Saturday evening.

"We pardoned them considering their future. Besides, their guardians and local elites requested for it," PSTU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Shakhawat Hussain said.

The PSTU disciplinary committee took the decision in its 9th meeting presided over by the vice chancellor, also chairman of the committee, on Friday.

Earlier on May 13, PSTU authorities expelled 20 students for different periods and fined them at the same time for their involvement in anti-disciplinary activities on the campus.

Seven other students were fined for the same allegations.

Monjur Rahman Joni (4th semester), Madhob Chandra Shil (7th semester), all of Agriculture faculty, Mazharul Islam Shakil (7th semester) of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) faculty and Khalid Mahmud Khan (7th semester) of Business Administration and Management (BAM) faculty will have to pay Tk 5,000 as fine as per earlier decision, said the press release.

Besides, they will have to pay additional fine of Tk 2,000 for failing to reply to show cause notice issued by the PSTU authority.

Niaz Morshed Shaon (6th semester) and Arifur Rahman Peyel (3rd semester) will have to pay fine of Tk 5,000 each.

All the above six students, belonging to agriculture faculty, were earlier expelled for two semesters.

Eight students -- Moniruzzaman Himu (7th semester), Kawsar Hossain Tarun (7th semester), Mohsin Ul Sayeed Tusher (7th semester), Belal Hossain Rajib (4th semester), all of agriculture faculty, Shuvo, (7th semester), Akbar Ali Joni (4th semester), Ali Marjan (3rd semester) all of BAM faculty, Sudhan Chandra Shil, (7th semester) of CSE faculty and Belal Hossain Rajib (4th semester) of agriculture faculty -- will now have to pay Tk 3,000 instead of Tk 5,000 that was ordered earlier.

They have been fined more Tk 2,000 each as they failed to reply of show cause notice in time.

Fine has been reduced from Tk 5,000 to 3,000 for Tanjilur Rahman Khan, (7th semester), Rakibul Islam Roni (7th semester), Ramesh Cannda Das (6th semester), Abu Sayeed Md

Hasan (4th semester), all of agriculture faculty, and Sanjib Sarker Pintu (6th semester) of BAM faculty.

Sohag Mir (4th semester) of BBA was pardoned from both expulsion and fine.

The 14 students were expelled for one semester.

Fine has been reduced from Tk 5,000 to 3,000 for Saiful Islam Roni (3rd semester), Akbar Ali (4th semester), Javed Bin Ali Sujon (4th semester), Shuvo Saha (4th semester) of BAM faculty and Shaikh Sabbir Ahmed (4th semester) of agriculture faculty.

Bishajit Das Hero (6th semester) of BAM faculty has been pardoned.

The six students were earlier fined Tk 5,000 each.

On May 13, all the punished students submitted prayer, seeking pardon to the vice chancellor through the registrar.

The vice chancellor formed a seven-member committee headed by PSTU students' affairs advisor Dr Rabiul

Haque. The committee on May 24 received statement from all expelled students who made written promise to the committee not to engage in anti-disciplinary activities on the campus.

Consequently, the committee recommended to the vice chancellor to pardon them.

The students were involved in the clash between Jewel group and Shakil group of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) on PSTU campus on February 9 when 25 people were injured and at least 20 rooms of Sher-e-Bangla Hall and M Keramat Ali Hall were ransacked.

Early on February 8, BCL activists attacked Shibir men and ransacked at least eight rooms at Sher-e-Bangla Hall and M Keramat Ali Hall, apparently in reaction to Shibir's attack on BCL men at Rajshahi University.

Additional police have been deployed on the PSTU campus to avoid any unwanted incident.

TWO UPAZILAS OF PATUAKHALI

300 posts of officials, staff vacant for long

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A staggering 300 posts of officials and staff including upazila nirbahi officers (UNO) of Baufal and Dumki upazilas are lying vacant for long in Patuakhali district seriously affecting the administrative activities in different sectors.

Posts of cooperative officer, fisheries officer, primary education officer, women affairs officer, accounts officer and 40 third and fourth class employees in Patuakhali Sadar upazila are vacant.

In Mirzaganj upazila, the posts of upazila engineer, assistant commissioner (Land), fisheries officer, primary education officer, public health officer and 50 third and fourth class employees are vacant.

In Baufal, posts of the UNO, upazila engineer, election officer, BRDB (Bangladesh Rural Development Board) officer, family planning officer, fisheries officer, land registration officer, women affairs officer and 40

3rd and 4th class employees are lying vacant for long.

Forty posts including Ansar-VDP officer and assistant commissioner (Land) in Galachipa upazila, 90 posts including upazila engineer, assistant commissioner (Land), fisheries officer, primary education officer, public health officer, Ansar-VDP officer, women affairs officer in Dashmina upazila, 41 posts including the UNO, assistant commissioner (Land), secondary education officer, fisheries officer and social welfare officer in Dumki upazila are vacant.

In Kalapara, over 25 posts in different sectors are vacant.

Two UNOs of nearby upazilas are performing additional duty as acting UNOs for Dumki and Baufal upazilas.

When contacted, Patuakhali Deputy Commissioner Md Reaz Ahmed said, "We have already sent several letters to the authorities concerned asking for necessary steps to fill all the vacant posts."



Immediate past mayor, also a candidate in the coming election, ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury spends a happy time with voters during his mass contact programme at Jhotala Wireless Colony in the city, right BNP chief whip Zainal Abedin Farroque and Chittagong city BNP president Amir Khasru Mahmud introduce Chittagong City Corporation mayoral candidate M Manjur Alam at a discussion on the 29th anniversary of death of party founder and late president Ziaur Rahman yesterday.

JUNE 17 CTG CITY CORPORATION ELECTION

Rivals befriend Mohiuddin, BNP men reassure Manjur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The long-standing gap between Awami League-backed mayoral candidate ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury and his intra-party rivals is being bridged after Thursday's meeting with the party chief in Dhaka.

It has been learned that many of them have already extended their support to Mohiuddin for the June 17 Chittagong City Corporation poll.

Besides, mayoral candidate M Solaiman Farid, backed by Islamic Front Bangladesh, withdrew from the race yesterday.

AL city unit member AJM Nasir Uddin Chowdhury, with whom Mohiuddin had long-drawn conflicts, has also decided to extend his support for Mohiuddin.

AL Chittagong (North) district president Mosharraf Hossain, MP and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JCD) executive president Mainuddin Khan Badal, MP also met Mohiuddin at the Nagorik Committee office Saturday evening to lend support to him.

Relations between Mohiuddin and Mosharraf were strained in the past on various issues. On the other hand, Mohiuddin opposed Badal's nomination from Chandgaon constituency as an AL-led alliance candidate in last parliamentary polls.

Earlier on Friday, AL (South) district

unit president Akhteruzzaman Chowdhury Babu, MP went to the Nagorik Committee office to meet Mohiuddin and expressed his support for him.

Mohiuddin yesterday started his electioneering from Mohra ward around 9:30am and went to Pahartali ward. He joined a view exchange meeting at a local community centre at Katgar in Patenga ward and went to Dewan Bazar in the afternoon.

He was visiting Kattali and Faillatali Bazar areas in the evening till filing of this report.

Meanwhile, BNP-backed and Chattagram Unnayan Andolan candidate Mohammad Manjur Alam Manju continued electioneering with the 29th death anniversary of BNP founding president Ziaur Rahman yesterday.

He sought votes to help build Chittagong as one of the most beautiful and developed cities without waterlogging, landslides and different public anomalies.

As Manju attended the death anniversary programme organised by BNP Chittagong (south) district unit at a community centre, all leaders and activists assured to work unitedly for him.

Leaders and activists of BNP and its front organisations in Chittagong also vowed to stand guard at the polling centres and Election Commission office against

any possible rigging or manipulation.

BNP Standing Committee member Goyeshwar Chandra Roy attended the programme as chief guest. He said BNP has nominated Manju in the greater interest of Chittagong.

"We have only one mayoral candidate and we have to work from our respective position to ensure his win. Working for BNP-backed candidate would mean showing respect and honour to late president Ziaur Rahman and his political ideology," he added.

Amir Khasru Mahmud at the programme urged all to remain alert against casting of false votes and manipulation of poll results.

Among others, former chip whip Syed Wahidul Alam, BNP Chittagong city unit vice-presidents Dostagir Chowdhury and Abu Sufian addressed the ceremony chaired by BNP Chittagong (south) district unit President Jafrul Islam Chowdhury.

Earlier, Manjur Alam Manju accompanied by BNP Chief Whip Zainul Abidin Farroque visited the first mazar of Ziaur Rahman at Pahartali in Raozan and offered prayers.

He also visited Catholic Church at Patharghata where he met the religious leaders and people of the Christian community. He also met Muslim religious leaders and devotees at Baluadighi Khanka Sharif and sought votes.



Hundreds of students pledge to resist the menace of stalking on the premises of Harimohon Government High School in Chapainawabganj town yesterday. Rajshahi Divisional Commissioner Hafizur Rahman Bhuiyan conducted the oath taking.



PHOTO: STAR

4 students taken to task for stalking

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

The authorities of Lalmonirhat Government College yesterday punished the four students who stalked a teacher of the college on May 22.

They were forced to walk 200 metres from teachers' common room to college gate grabbing their own ears in presence of teachers, students, guardians and some BCL leaders.

Later, the four -- Nahid Morshed, Sakib Raihan, Shafiqul Islam and Zahid Hasan -- went to the teachers of the college and begged pardon.

The students have been

exempted from departmental action. But they have to face the case filed against them with Lalmonirhat Sadar Police Station, said College Principal MABari.

The four students stalked Hosne Lotifa, lecturer of political science department, at the college on May 22. They also assaulted Zakir Hossain, assistant professor of physics department, as he protested the incident.

They also confined Prof Zakir to a room. On information, police went to the college and rescued him.

Teachers of the college observed work abstention on May 23, 24 protesting the incidents and demanding safety of the teachers.

Khalishpur OC closed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The officer-in-charge (OC) of Khalishpur police station was closed yesterday.

OC Abu Mokaddem Ali joined KMP headquarters at 10:00 am following an order by police commissioner Helaluddin Badri.

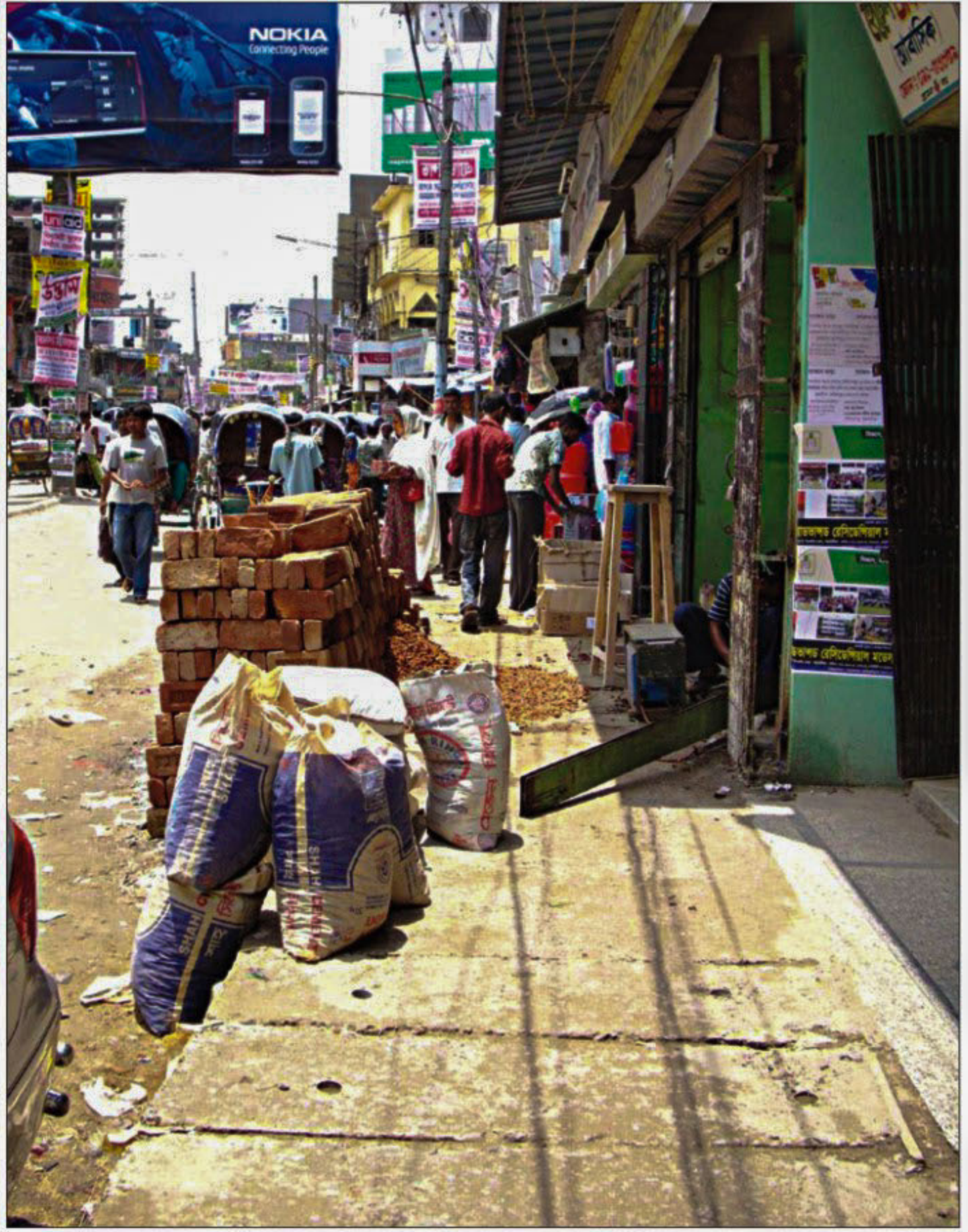
A source at KMP headquarters told this correspondent that OC Abu Mokaddem was closed on charge of 'inefficiency and corrupt practices'.

But insiders at Khalishpur police station said Mokaddem had been closed for suppressing the statement of dying freedom fighter and BNP activist Altaf Hossain.

Altaf was hacked to death on Wednesday midnight at Khalishpur industrial town. He made a statement to police while under treatment at Khulna Medical College and Hospital (KMCH) disclosing the names of the attackers, they said.

Altaf's wife Jahanara Begum lodged an FIR with Khalishpur police station on Thursday afternoon accusing nine people of murder.

The nine FIR-named accused include cultural secretary of Khalishpur upazila Awami League Kazi Fazlur Rahman alias Mahabbat and his younger brother Ataur Rahman.



Construction materials are kept on a sidewalk in Mymensingh town, causing trouble to the pedestrians. The authorities concerned are indifferent to the nuisance.