

25 Jamaat-Shibir men held from 'secrete meet' in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Some 25 Jamaat-Shibir men, including Chittagong city unit Shura member of Jamaat Mafizul Islam, were arrested while holding a secrete meeting in a city restaurant yesterday afternoon.

Police arrested the Jamaat-Shibir men around 4:45pm when they were holding the meeting at a posh hotel Tava, a few hundred yards off Khulshi Police Station on Zakir Hossain Road.

They were holding the meeting in the name of freshers' reception of DNA Coaching Centre, whose existence is yet to be known, said police.

Police got evidence of the arrested Jamaat-Shibir men's involvement in the Sunday's rampage that left over 100 vehicles and shops damaged on Port Connecting Road near Halishahar K-block and Agrabad Access Road near District Police Line.

Officer in-Charge of Khulshi Police

Station Iftekhar Hossain said on information that the Jamaat-Shibir men are holding a secret meeting for planning destructive activities at the restaurant, they raided it and detained 25.

"Searching their mobile phone sets we found messages regarding Sunday's gathering and vandalism," said Iftekhar Hasan.

"The messages in the mobile phone set of Nasiruddin we found that he sent messages to different persons asking them to gather at Singapore Market on Agrabad Access Road for protest procession on Sunday that led the massive destruction."

"The messages of Nasiruddin, a Fine Arts final year student of Chittagong University, also read that he invited Shibir-men to gather in Badnashah Mazar areas with eight to ten stones in pockets with able manpower and some other activities and sharing of message regarding movement of Shibir," said the

OC.

Around two-hour raid that started around 10:00pm to nab outsiders or anyone having suspected link with Sunday's rampage or agitation for release of detained Jamaat leaders.

However, none could be arrested or nothing could be recovered from the raid, said police.

Most of the Shibir men are students of the Chittagong University for Veterinary and Animal Science, Chittagong University, Premier University and Dhaka Coaching, said police.

Earlier 143 people were held in connection with Sunday's rampage. Two cases were filed against 119 of them with Halishahar and Double Mooring police stations.

Meanwhile, ten platoons of police led by Officer-in-Charge Mohiuddin Salim of Hathazari Police Station raided all the six dormitories of Chittagong University on Monday night.



Dhaka City Corporation recently receives 100 vehicles including compactor, arm roll container carrier and container carrier from Japan government as environment and climate change grant. Three compactors have started functioning on trial basis in three words of the city. The picture was taken from Paltan yesterday.

FIRST LIVER TRANSPLANT SURGERY IN COUNTRY

A healthy Irshad returns home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Irshad Ahmed, the first to undergo liver transplant surgery in the country, was released from the capital's Birdem hospital yesterday.

Irshad's health has much improved and he will be able to join his work in a month, said doctors yesterday during a programme at the hospital's auditorium on his release.

Irshad's transplant was conducted at Birdem on June 3 this year.

He must get into a routine over the next few months for check-up at the hospital once a week, they added.

Irshad Ahmed, 42, was suffering from cryptogenic liver cirrhosis and had been taking treatments in home and abroad since 2007.

Finally, Prof Mohammad Ali, departmental head of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery of Birdem Hospital agreed to conduct the liver transplant operation.

Prof Ali and his 24-member team conducted the 17-hour surgery on the patient and the donor -- his uncle Khaled Abdullah, 29.

Khaled returned home two weeks after the operation.

Irshad, an employee of Agrani Commerce and Finance Bank, expressed his gratitude to the doctors involved in the life-saving surgery.

Irshad said he never imagined of living a healthy life again. With wife and three daughters he lives in the city's Shantinagar.

Prof Ali, the leader of the milestone operation, said Birdem fulfilled the dream of its founder, Dr Ibrahim.

Citing the limitation of the hospital's resources, he said they had to borrow instruments and manpower from four other institutions to conduct the surgery.

"Five other patients are waiting for liver transplant here," he said. "But as our unit for conducting such operation is yet to be developed, we cannot go for full-

fledged liver transplant."

He also thanked Dutch Bangla Foundation for donating Tk 9.70 crore for the development of Liver Transplantation Unit.

Since a person can live with 700 grams of liver, the right lobe of the donor's liver was taken and transplanted into the recipient. The liver of the donor will grow to its former size within six to twelve weeks, said Prof Ali.

A successful liver transplant increases 85 percent chances of living for a year, 69 percent chances for five years and 61 percent for ten years, the experts said.

Meanwhile, congratulating the surgery team Health Minister Prof AFM Ruhul Haque sent them a letter of appreciation that also reads liver transplant patients would get treatment at half the cost charged abroad.

In developed countries, liver transplant from a living donor started in the 1980s. It is still a highly expensive operation and it takes about Tk 1 crore in India.



Barrister Rafiq-ul Huq presents a bouquet to Irshad Ahmed at Birdem Hospital in the city yesterday.

Call to form regional forum to reduce disaster risks

Suggest water experts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Water experts at a seminar yesterday suggested forming a regional forum of the co-riparian countries aimed at better management of the river basins to reduce disaster risks and help alleviate rural poverty.

Lack of integrated river basin management in the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna river system is causing huge riverbank erosion, loss of land and poverty, the expert said adding that strong political commitment among the countries is now imperative to this end.

To deal with these issues, a regional forum should be formed with representatives from the co-riparian countries-- India, Nepal, Bhutan, China and Bangladesh, they said.

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) organised the seminar on "Watershed management for rural development and poverty alleviation in CIRDAP member countries" at its auditorium in the city marking its 31st founding anniversary.

CIRDAP could come forward and take such an initiative to resolve water-related problems in the region, said MA Quasem, chairman of the national disaster management advisory council.

"Monsoon flood and flash flood are annual hazards in Bangladesh," he said in his keynote paper adding that such hazards cause huge damage to agriculture and livestock sectors.

During the dry season, water availability is around 90 billion cubic metres though the demand is about 147 billion cubic metres, he said, adding: "This leads to drought-like situations in large parts of the country."

Due to inadequate surface water, ground water is extensively used for irrigation that deteriorates water quality, said Quasem, also member of national water resources council.

Extraction of surface water upstream causes reduction of flow in the rivers downstream during the dry season, he said.

He said 9,000 hectares of land is lost due to about 1,200km of riverbank erosion in the trans-boundary river system annually.

"Bangladesh also receives pollution from across the border through trans-boundary rivers," Quasem said and suggested regional programmes to conserve natural resources-- water, forest and soil.

Dr SI Khan, who teaches disaster management at BRAC University, said earthen or rock structures in appropriate manners in the river basins could also check soil erosion, store the excess runoff to properly channel it.

Expressing concern over five metres depletion of underground water in many parts of the country during dry season, he said there will be shortage of drinking water if the underground water table depletes by 8 metres.

Eight Jamaat men get bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted anticipatory bail for four months to eight Jamaat-Islami leaders and activists including the party's acting secretary general ATM Azharul Islam in a case.

The case was filed against them on charge of obstructing policemen in discharge of their duty.

An HC bench of Justice Afzal Hossain Ahmed and Justice Muhammad Abdul Hafiz also issued a rule upon the government to explain within three weeks why the accused should not be granted regular bail in the case.

The bench passed the order upon a petition filed by the accused on Sunday.

The Jamaat men who got the bail include the party's publicity secretary Tasnim Alam, two assistant secretary generals Shafiqur Rahman and advocate Jasim Uddin Sarker, and Dhaka city unit leader Nurul Islam Bulbul.

The accused appeared before the court seeking bail in the case yesterday.

Shahbagh police filed the case on June 29 against the Jamaat men on charge of obstructing police during the arrest of Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami near the National Press Club in connection with a case against him.

KHALEDA'S HOUSE HC resumes hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court (HC) bench yesterday resumed the hearing after a 25-day break on the writ petition filed by BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia challenging the legality of a government notice on her cantonment residence.

The bench of Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana and Justice Sheikh Hasan Arif had adjourned the hearing on June 9 on the matter till July 6.

The bench fixed today for further hearing. Advocate TH Khan yesterday placed arguments before the bench.

On May 27 last year, the HC stayed the government notice on May 27 last year that asked Khaleda to vacate the cantonment house and issued a rule upon the government to explain why its notice should not be declared illegal.

DBL to offer scholarship for 5 students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Bank Ltd (DBL) will offer scholarship to five students of five departments under the social science faculty of Dhaka University for their excellent result in honours exam.

The students, who secured first position in BSS (Hons) examination under Economics, Public Administration, Social Science, Mass Communication and Journalism and Political Science departments, will get a monthly stipend for one year.

Chairman of the DBL Reshadur Rahman on Monday handed over a cheque of Tk 3.5 lakhs to the university Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique to fund the scholarship, said a press release.

DBL Managing Director Khondker Fazle Rashid and heads of different departments of DBL were present at the function.

Rein in law enforcers ASK urges home minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ain o Salish Kendro (ASK) yesterday asked the home minister to rein in the law enforcement agencies so that no extra judicial killings happen in the country.

In a news statement, the ASK said law enforcers have killed 61 people over the last six months including three in the last week.

The statement alleged that the lawmen demanded bribe from those three. When the demand was not met, the killings were carried out.

Moreover, incidents like 'disappearing' also occur recently, said the statement.

"In the face of such reality, we want to draw the attention of home minister," it said, adding that there is seemingly a war between the law enforcers and the common people.

This is not a police state. Time has come to administer the law enforcement agencies, said the ASK.

HC grants bail to 13 JCD leaders, workers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted four-month anticipatory bail to 13 leaders and workers of Jatiyataabadi Chhatra Dal in a criminal case.

Mamunur Rashid, a leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League a pro-Awami League student body, filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station on June 24 against the JCD activists on charges of beating and injuring BCL leaders in Madhur Canteen area on Dhaka University campus on June 21.

An HC bench of Justice Afzal Hossain Ahmed and Justice Muhammad Abdul Hafiz granted them bail after hearing a petition filed by the accused JCD men.

The bench also issued a rule upon the government to explain within three weeks why the petitioners should not be granted regular bail.

The JCD men who got bail include Abdul Matin, DU unit Convener of JCD, and its Senior Joint Convener Obaidul Haque Nasir.

Advocate Khandaker Mahub Hossain appeared for the petitioners.

Plant more trees

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique yesterday stressed the need for planting more trees to maintain ecological balance and prevent environmental degradation.

Prof Arefin made the call while inaugurating a tree plantation programme organised by the Arboriculture Office and Tree Plantation and Beautification Committee of Dhaka University (DU) in front of Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban on the campus, says a press release.

He also called upon all to transform the tree plantation programme into a social movement through creating mass awareness across the country.

Speaking as the chief guest he said people should also take care of trees after planting so the trees could survive and grow.

Presided over by curator of Arboriculture Office Prof Dr Syed Hadiuzzaman, the inaugural session was also addressed by Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Harun-or-Rashid and Treasurer Prof Dr Mizanur Rahman.

A total of 1,000 saplings of wood, fruit and medicinal trees will be planted under the programme.

Still dribbling with your brain?
Win 3 Netbooks by proving that you are a football genius!

Citycell FOOTBALL FEVER

Powered by: MOBILE ESPN

1st prize

2nd prize

3rd prize

4th prize

5th prize

Contest Rules and Regulations:

- Type REG and send to 1412 to participate in the SMS contest. In return you will receive 1st question.
- Type 'Y' if your answer is YES; or 'N' if your answer is NO and send to 1412. Subsequently you will get next question.
- Winners will be selected based on highest point.
- Type 'POINT' and send to 1412 to know your position and point.
- Contest ends on 12 July, 2010, 23:59:59 hrs.

*SMS charges applicable * Conditions Apply

Partner: true

Helpline: 121, 011 99 121 121 | www.citycell.com