

BHASANI UNIVERSITY IN TANGAIL

# 180 students sued on charge of damaging property

General students stage rally protesting action

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Bhasani university authorities on Tuesday night filed a case against 180 students of Food Technology and Nutritional Science (FTNS) under Speedy Trial Act for violent agitation on the day demanding renaming of degree.

Mohammad Jomrud Hossain, acting registrar of Maolana Bhasani University of Science and Technology (MBUST), filed the case with Tangail Sadar police station naming 30 students and 150 unnamed others.

It was alleged in the case that the FTNS students illegally locked the administrative building and confined the Vice-chancellor (VC) and 150 teachers and staff to their offices in the name of agita-

tion to rename degree.

The unruly students also created panic and damaged valuables worth Tk 200,000 including computers and photocopyers there, said the complainant.

On Tuesday 207 students of FTNS department locked the administrative building at about 11:00am and confined the VC and other 150 teachers and staffs demanding BSc (Engineering) degree instead of BSc (Honours) degree.

Later, police and firefighters freed the VC and others at 4:15pm dispersing the agitating students by charging baton and spraying water on them.

At least 15 students of FTNS department were hurt during the baton charge. Police also arrested 10 students of the department from the campus.

After the incident, the uni-

versity authorities in an urgent meeting suspended all activities including classes and examinations of the FTNS department for indefinite period.

The authorities also directed all the 207 students of the department to leave the campus and dormitories by 6:00pm on the day.

Jasim Uddin Sarkar, officer-in-charge of the police station, told this correspondent that the 10 arrested students were sent to jail through a Tangail court yesterday on filing a case under the Speedy Trial Act against them.

This correspondent while visiting the campus yesterday saw a large number of police deployed at different points of the campus.

Several FTNS department students told this correspondent that it was a matter of shame that the university

authorities not only tortured the students brutally with the help of police but also filed case against them under Speedy Trial Act by bringing false allegations.

Contacted Omar Faruque, proctor of MBUST, said the allegations brought against the students are under investigation.

Meantime, the general students of the university yesterday bitterly condemned the police action on the innocent students on the campus and at student messes.

They requested the university authorities for fair investigation into the incidents and demanded release of the arrestees.

The general students staged a protest rally at the Shaheed Minar on the campus yesterday morning and submitted a memorandum to the VC.

# Salinity taking toll on aman

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Aman paddy plants in different areas under Kalapara upazila in the district are turning brownish due to the impact of salinity, much to the worry of farmers.

Farmers of Latachapple, Chakamoia, Dhulashar and Nilganj unions under Kalapara upazila have complained of such problems while the Department of Agriculture Extension identified over 100 acres of aman paddy lands in the upazila.

During a visit to the area on Monday, this correspondent saw that colour of most crop fields is changing.

"I planted Aman paddy on seven acres of land 20 days ago but most of the plants are becoming brown due to bad effect of salty water. I went to local agriculture office for advice to solve the problem but they could not give any fruitful suggestions," said Idris Akon, a farmer of Chaplee village.

Humayun Kabir, another farmer of the same village, said, "Aman paddy on my five acres of land is turning brown. We are frustrated about aman production as salinity increased on our lands."

Ratan Sharif, a farmer of the same area, said, "Salty water from nearby rivers and canals flooded our agriculture

fields in every full moon and new moon as flood control embankment that was damaged during cyclone Sidr is yet to be repaired. We fear losing our aman paddy this year."

Mojibur Rahman, chairman of Chakamoia Union Parishad, said frustration is

spreading among local farmers due to increasing salinity in their aman fields.

"We have identified over 100 acres of aman paddy lands that are already affected as scanty rainfall this year increased salinity on agricultural lands.

If it rains heavily, salinity in the land will be reduced and the problem will be solved," said Niruttam Kumar Sarker, Kalapara upazila agriculture extension officer.

"I informed my higher authority of the matter," he added.



Aman plants at a field in Chapri village under Kalapara upazila of Patuakhali district has discoloured due to adverse effect of salinity caused by tidal surge as the area saw poor rainfall this season.

# A stitch in time saves nine ...

But officials rarely follow the proverb

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

A 10metre stretch of the embankment along the Dinajpur canal at Khanabari in Jaldhaka upazila has collapsed. If water from the Teesta is released at full force, a large area of cropland will be submerged.

Bangladesh Water Development Board (WDB) officials blame their inactivity

on the shortage of funds but locals allege that a section of WDB officials are deliberately letting the situation worsen for drawing extra funds to misappropriate a portion of it.

If the damage is not dealt with soon, repairs will keep becoming costlier as the damage worsens with time.

The main canal of Teesta irrigation project, connected directly with Teesta River at

Dalia, divides into two branch canals at Dundibari point of the district. One of them is the Dinajpur canal covering irrigation of Nilphamari and parts of Dinajpur.

The embankments along the Dinajpur canal from Dundibari of Jaldhaka to Chander Hat of Sadar upazila was found damaged at 20 points.

Locals say that vehicles of high officials of BWDB fre-

quently run on the observation road beside the canal but no one has visited the site physically till now.

Most severely damaged points on the embankments stretching from 5-15 metres have developed cracks and are evident at villages Ramnagar, Purbo Harish Chandra pat, Paschim Harish Chandra pat, Dakkhin Deshibai, Uttar Deshibai, Dhantala, Kathali and Dundibari. The cracks



Farmers thrash harvested paddy beside a field in Godagari upazila of Rajshahi district as pariija (locally known as noyon moni) variety of aus paddy has ripened in the Barind area. The photo was taken a few days ago.

## To register a note of protest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Twenty-four leaders and activists of the 31-member convening committee of Rajshahi district Jubo Dal have resigned en masse expressing their no-confidence in the unit's convenor.

This correspondent on Tuesday night got a copy of the resignation letter which was sent to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia on August 18.

The signatories to the letter include joint convenors Abdul Hannan Wakil, Zamilur Rahman and Moyeen Uddin Sarker.

Jubo Dal central unit formed the district convening committee with Khondaker Mizanur Rahman Khokon as its convenor in August.

In the letter, the aggrieved leaders and activists stated that Khokon was made convenor without any discussion with them. They accused Khokon of playing anti-party role during the army-led caretaker government.

Denying the allegation, Khokon said he is not aware of en masse resignation of 24 leaders and activists of the district convening committee.

## IDENTITY OF RANGPUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

# Landlords of dormitories ignore police order

RAFIQUE SARKER, Rangpur

Despite four notices issued by law enforcers during the last six months, landlords of about five hundred private dormitories in Rangpur town have failed to give identity of the college students living there.

Six months ago, a notice was issued to the landlords of about 1,500 private dormitories in Rangpur and its outskirts asking them to fill up a form giving details about the students living there, police and intelligence agency sources said.

Owners of 1,000 private dormitories followed the notice while 500 others failed to submit the students' details despite issuance of three more notices with the last one crossing deadline on September 14, said Rangpur Superintendent of Police (SP) Saleh Mohammad Tanvir.

"We are seriously looking for causes as to why the owners of these private dormitories have not submitted the forms. We will take action against them if required," he said.

Bozlar Rahman, owner of Rakib Chhatrabash at

Khalifatari, said, after the initial notice was given, he and many other private dormitory owners held a meeting where they decided not to follow the notice.

He further said there is no law that gives the police the right to collect personal information about the tenants.

"We heard about the notice but we never received any form. However, we students feel giving out our personal details to the police can risk our privacy. Besides, the police have no right to take such information as there is no allegation against us," Lablu Miah, a student of Rakib Chhatrabash, said.

Of the 500 private dormitories, the Special Branch (SB) of Police of Rangpur identified 25 at Khalifatari, Darshana, Modern Point and Radhabollov as the most suspicious.

Most students living there left the houses as soon as their owners got the notice, SB sources said, adding that names of several private dormitories were changed and new students were shifted there.

During a visit to Khalifatari,

this correspondent found that Retina Chhatrabash changed its name to Dhanshri Chhatrabash. Locals said around 100 students of Carmichael College and Rangpur College, who are also cadres of Islami Chhatra Shibir, lived at the private dormitory but they have left after the notice for filling the form was given.

The house owner however could not be traced to clarify as to why he changed the name.

"The residents' information will help to track any Islamist militants who may have disguised as students to live in these dormitories, and also to find the real addresses of the student leaders who lead violence at the educational institutions," an SB official said.

Islami Chhatra Shibir cadres from other areas of the country have reportedly taken shelter at the private dormitories in Rangpur with the aim to create a chaotic situation ahead of the war crime trial and so, information on the students' whereabouts could be helpful to avert any unwanted act by them, he said.

# Befitting blow to a rapist

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

A housewife fended off a rape attempt by inflicting a mortal blow on the alleged perpetrator with a spade at her Subarnashara village home in Kaliganj upazila of Jhenidah district.

Ripon Hossain, 25, son of Aktar Hossain of the same village, entered the bamboo hut where Sakhina was sleeping with her two children in the early hours of yesterday.

"According to our initial report, when Ripon Hossain entered the hut, Sakhina woke up. As the intruder tried to molest her, Sakhina grabbed a spade by the bed and hit him on the head," said Kaliganj police station Officer-in-Charge Faruk Hossain.

Hearing hue and cry, locals rushed to the spot and sent critically wounded Ripon to Kaliganj hospital from where he was referred

to Jessore Sadar Hospital as his condition deteriorated. He died on the way.

On that night, Sakhina's husband Mohammad Ripon was at Bhatoi Bazaar in Shaikupa upazila in search of work as a labourer.

Kaliganj police arrested Sakhina at her house yesterday morning after the alleged perpetrator's elder brother Badsha Mia filed a murder case with the same police station accusing Sakhina.

"Sakhina will now have to prove herself innocent at the court," said Faruk Hossain.

"I hit Ripon Hossain to save myself, not to kill him. Earlier on several occasions, he teased me and made indecent comments," Sakhina told the journalists at the police station.

Police sent Ripon's body to Jhenidah Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.



PHOTO: STAR

This breach in the embankment of Dinajpur main canal in Nilphamari district, meant for irrigation with the water of Teesta River, has remained without any repair for the last two months, thanks to the indifference of authorities.

**ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন**

**পৌরকরের রিবেট ও ট্রেড লাইসেন্স নবায়নে সারচার্জ সংক্রান্ত জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশনের সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের (বাড়ি-ঘরের মালিক ও ব্যবসায়ী) অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, চলতি আর্থিক বছর অর্থাৎ (২০১০-২০১১) পৌরকরের বিল বহি ইতোমধ্যে জারি করা হয়েছে। ঠিকানা পরিবর্তন বা অন্য কোন কারণে যদি কেহ বিল বহি না পেয়ে থাকেন তবে তাকে সংশ্লিষ্ট অঞ্চলের কর কর্মকর্তার সহিত সরাসরি যোগাযোগ করে বিল বহি সংগ্রহ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

২। আগামী ৩০ সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০১০ খ্রিঃ তারিখের মধ্যে বকেয়াসহ হালসনের ৪ (চার) কিস্তির পৌরকর একত্রে পরিশোধ করে চলতি আর্থিক বছরের ৪ (চার) কিস্তি পৌরকরের উপর ১০% রিবেট এবং সারচার্জ ব্যতিত ট্রেড লাইসেন্স নবায়নের সুযোগ গ্রহণ করার জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

মোঃ সামসুজ্জামান  
সচিব  
ঢাকা সিটি কর্পোরেশন।

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