

Barisal University gets VC, starts classes this year

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Classes of Barisal University (BU), the only general public university to be set up in Barisal division, will start from the next academic session after admission of students following publication of results of the ongoing HSC examinations.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation of BU, the country's 33rd public university, at Karnakati village on the eastern bank of Kirtankhola River in Barisal Sadar upazila on February 22 this

year.

Three to five years will be needed to complete construction of its infrastructure on a 50-acre campus at Karnakathi village at a cost of Tk 90 crore.

Admission of students under six disciplines and their classes from the upcoming academic session will be run on the rented campus at higher secondary wing of Barisal Zila School, said Prof Dr Harun-or-Rashid, who has been appointed the first vice chancellor of the university.

Prof Harun has been working as director of

'Barisal University Implementation Project' since February 18 last year.

Hailing from Bil-Bilas village in Baufal upazila of Patuakhali district, Prof Harun-or-Rashid served as teacher at different universities of Japan, Germany and Australia.

His 106 articles on soil, water and environmental sciences have been published in national and international research journals.

He is also associated with different national and international public and private research organisations and ministries.

BNP factions clash in Bogra, 6 hurt

UNB, Bogra

At least six BNP activists were injured in a factional clash over forming ward committees at Mazira Bandar in Shajahanpur upazila Sunday noon.

Police said there was a long-standing conflict between Mazira union BNP President Azizur Rahman Bidyut and General Secretary Jahurul Islam over forming ward committees in the union.

On Sunday noon, Mazira union BNP leaders sat in a meeting at their party office to form the ward committees. At one stage, Azizur Rahman submitted a list of ward committees that angered Jahurul Islam.

Following an altercation between the two leaders over the issue, their supporters equipped with sticks attacked each other, leaving six people from both sides injured.

Punish law enforcers who maimed Limon

Locals demand in human chain

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

People of Noikathi and Satoria unions under Rajapur upazila of Jhalakathi district organised a human chain and rally yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the culprits who shot and maimed HSC examinee Limon Hossain on March 23.

At the programme organised by Rajapur and Kathalia branches of Nagorik Adhikar Dal (NAD), a non-government organisation working on human rights, from Noikathi bus stand to Satoria bridge area for one hour from 10:30am, speaker also demanded steps for Limon's proper treatment and rehabilitation.

Meanwhile, police is yet to record Limon's mother Henoara Begum's case against six members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) on charge of maiming Limon although nine days have passed after a Jhalakathi court issued an order to register the case.

Hundreds of local people including

Limon's family members, relatives, neighbours, teachers, classmates and people from different walks participated in yesterday's programme.

Henoara Begum, Limon's mother, Mukta Begum, sister, Prof Pavel Ahmed, teacher of the college where Limon studied, Abul Kalam Azad and Bithika Hazra of NAD, the victim's classmates and local elites addressed the programme.

The speakers condemned the incident of human rights violation by the law enforcers and procrastination in registering the case filed by Limon's mother against Rab personnel for maiming Limon.

They demanded immediate steps to register the case, its fair investigation, arrest and exemplary punishment of the accused Rab personnel and proper treatment and rehabilitation of Limon.

Limon's mother Henoara Begum filed the case with Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court in Jhalakathi

against six Rab men on April 10 in connection with the March 23 shooting incident that maimed her son Limon. The court directed the OC of Rajapur police station to record a regular case on the same day.

But the case was not recorded and the OC went on leave for three days from April 12.

Henoara Begum said the policemen at Rajapur Police Station told her yesterday that it will need some more time to register her case.

"OC Tofazzal Hossain of the police station joined after enjoying leave on Sunday. He is busy with other emergency work. Case of Limon will be registered as early as possible," said Sub-inspector Halim, second officer of the police station.

"If the case filed by Henoara is not recorded by Tuesday, we will go to the court for further action," said advocate Nashimul Hassan, counsel for the complainant.



PHOTO: STAR

Locals form a human chain at Noikathi Bazar in Rajapur upazila of Jhalakathi district yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the culprits who shot and maimed Limon Hossain, a student of Kathalia PGS College, on March 23.

FEB 23 ARSON ATTACK ON AGRANI SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

Show cause notices served on 11 Ruet students

RU CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) yesterday issued show cause notices to 11 students of the university on charges of vandalising and setting fire to Agrani School and College (ASC) during a clash between the students of Ruet and ASC on February 23.

The decision was taken at an emergency syndicate meeting on Sunday night with Ruet Vice Chancellor

Prof Sirajul Karim Chowdhury in the chair.

Show cause notices were served on Rezaul Karim, Shariful Islam and Muhammad Jony of civil engineering department, Faysal Ahmed of computer science department, Muhammad Rose of Industrial product engineering department, Nadir Hossain, Nayan, Munna, Shamim Ahmed, Nabin and Pavel Ahmed of mechanical department.

Ruet authorities sus-

pected the classes for an indefinite period and asked its students to vacate the halls following the clash that left at least 25 people injured.

Seeing Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) ASC unit president Hasan sitting at Ruet Shaheed Minar wearing shoes on February 23, some students of the university protested it and had an altercation with Hasan.

At one stage, several hundred Ruet students locked in a clash with ASC

students, leaving at least 25 students from both sides injured. Ruet students also vandalised furniture and classrooms of ASC and set fire to the institution. On information, Rajshahi Fire service personnel rushed to the spot brought the fire there under control.

Following the incident, the university authorities formed a five member committee to investigate the incident.



PHOTO: STAR

Some of the 166 parrots that police seized from the possession of a bird trader at a coach at Lalmonirhat bus terminal on Sunday night.

166 parrots seized, bird trader jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

A bird trader held with wild birds was sentenced to jail for six months in Sadar upazila on Sunday night.

A mobile court led by executive magistrate Masudur Rahman Molla handed down the verdict in presence of police, livestock

officials and journalists at the DC office.

Bird trader Atoyar Rahman, of Dangapara village under Dupchachia upazila in Bogra district, was sent to Lalmonirhat jail after the sentence.

Police said Atoyar was arrested from a night coach of DR Enterprise at

Lalmonirhat Bus Terminal at around 10:00pm with 166 parrots while he was taking those to Dhaka from Burimari border.

Quoting Atoyar police said the convicts purchased the parrots from bird hunters of Burimari border area at Tk 80 to 100 each to sell each at Tk 200 to 300 in the

capital city.

Bird hunters from Kushtia and Jessore often come to this border area to trap parrots from maize fields where the birds gather to eat maize.

The mobile court later handed over the parrots to the district livestock officer (DLO) for steps as per law.

Engr sued for corruption

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

A corruption case was filed against Executive Engineer of Rangpur Water Development Board (WDB) Shahidul Islam on Sunday.

Contractor Shahadat Hossain brought an allegation of bribery against the executive engineer four days after Shahidul had lodged an attempt to murder case with the same police station against Apple, Firoz Kowsar Mamun and Jadu.

Shahadat in his case alleged that the executive engineer took Tk 30,000 in bribe from him to pay the bill of a construction work under the department.

He claimed that he had an audio record of the conversation between him and the executive engineer regarding the bribe. The officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station on Sunday recorded the case.

A police officer at Kotwali police station on condition

of anonymity told this correspondent that an influential Awami League leader of the district unit forced police to accept the case against the executive engineer.

Contacted, Shahidul Islam alleged that Apple, Mamun and Jadu attacked him four days ago when he was returning home from the office.

"I was narrowly saved but they damaged my jeep," he said.

He said, they attacked him as he refused to treat their illegal request to make payment of a construction work before its completion.

"I have lodged a case with Rangpur Kotwali Police Station in this connection," he said.

Officer-in-charge of the police station Haider Ali Mollah said police have taken the allegations seriously. The charges against the executive engineer would be investigated by Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), he added.

One killed, 8 hurt in clash over land

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

A boy was killed and eight others were injured in a clash between two families over a disputed land at Niz-Hogla village under Purbadhala upazila yesterday.

The deceased, Samsuzzaman, 18, was son of Ayub Ali of Niz-Hogla village. He sat in the last SSC examination and was waiting for result, family and police sources said.

There had been a long-standing dispute between Ayub Ali and his younger brother Hafez Sirajul Islam, police and locals said. There ensued a hot exchange of

words between the two in the morning. At one stage, members of both the families attacked each others with lethal weapons resulting in instantaneous death of Shamsuzzaman on the spot and injuries to eight others.

Critically injured Ayub and Siraj were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College and Hospital for treatment while others took treatment at the local health complex.

A murder case was filed with Purbadhala police station in this regard. But none was arrested till filing of the report yesterday afternoon.

SNIPPETS

Two commit suicide

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A girl and a housewife committed suicide here yesterday and the day after. The victims were identified as Kakoli Bala Mondal, 11, daughter of Meghnath Mondal of Khajra village in Assassuni upazila and Rehana Begum, 36, wife of Abdur Rashid Sheikh of Ziala village in Tala upazila. Quoting locals police said, following a family feud, Kakoli took poison at her house at about 6:00 am yesterday. Locals took her to a local clinic where the doctor on duty declared her dead. In the other incident, Rehana, mother of three children, took poison at her house at about 10:00 am on the day after following a family feud. She died on way to Tala upazila health complex. Police recovered the bodies and sent those to Satkhira morgue for autopsy.

Stalker jailed for 6 months

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

A mobile court here yesterday sentenced a young man to six months' imprisonment for stalking a schoolgirl. The convict, Sohan Hossain, 28, is son of Sahabuddin Ali of Kumarkhali upazila. Court and victim's family sources said, Sohan had been stalking Jhumi Khatun, a student of class six of Kumarkhali Girls' High school for a long time. Sohan was stalking the girl on her way home from a Boisakhali fair at Kumarkhali bazaar at about 4:30 pm on Saturday. Her mother filed a case with Kumarkhali police station on the same night. Accordingly, police arrested Sohan and produced him before a court yesterday. After examining records, the upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) of Kumarkhali, Manikhar Rahman pronounced the verdict in the afternoon.

Four brick kilns fined

UNB, Magura

A mobile court, in a drive conducted here on Sunday, fined four brick kiln owners Tk 1.50 lakh for violating official rules of burning bricks. Brick kiln owners Tipu Molla, Aiyub Biswas and Ahsan Molla were fined Tk 40,000 each while Shaheb Ali was fined Tk 30,000 for manufacturing bricks without license and using firewood in the kiln. If they fail to pay the fine then they will have to suffer six months' imprisonment. The court also ordered to shut down the brick kilns. The mobile court led by executive magistrate and upazila nirbahi officer M Mokhesur Rahman conducted the drive in Paturia area of Sadar upazila.

Fugitive killer held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Police here yesterday arrested a fugitive convict who was awarded death sentence for abducting and killing a child in 2003. Acting on a tip-off, Mirzapur police arrested Mohammad Bakul from Jirani in Savar area. Contacted, the officer-in-charge (OC) of the respective police station, Habibullah Sarkar said Bakul, son of Mofiz Uddin of Trimohini village, Mirzapur, abducted seven-year-old Mamun from the same village on December 12, 2003. Later, he strangled him after failing to realise ransom money from the victim's parents. Police recovered Mamun's body from Bakul's bedroom. Victim's uncle Anwar Hossain filed a case with Mirzapur police station in this regard. Later, a Speedy Trial Tribunal in Dhaka delivered the death sentence to Bakul in absentia.