

False university branch, fake certificates

10 jailed and fined in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A mobile court in Dinajpur has sentenced 10 people to imprisonment and fined them for illegal operation of a university branch falsely using the name of a Dhaka-based private institution and selling fake academic certificates.

Police also seized fake mark sheets, certificates and testimonials of various courses including MA and BA (honours) and office seals from the branch that claims to give certificates of Dhaka-based Darul Ihsan University.

Executive Magistrate Tasnim Jebin Binte Sheikh with the help of Detective Branch (DB) of police raided the 'university branch' at the satellite town of Dinajpur and arrested the 10 people on Friday.

As the law enforcers posing as admission seekers talked to the officials of the branch, the latter assured them of giving BA (honours) and MA degrees by December this year if they receive admission there.

The arrestees during Friday's raid are MA Khaleque, 40, of Hariharpur village,

Kamruzzaman, 40, of Dhakkin Dhorail village, Bakul Hasda, 45, and Ranjit Kuman Bardhan, 40, of Balighata village in Panchbibi upazila of Joypurhat, Irfan Ali, 42, of Kosba village, Nazim Uddin, 40, of Ramnagar village, Nur Bakht Kazi, 60, of Kalitola village, Rotan Sarker, 40, of Kalitola village, Lokman Hakim of Dinajpur Satellite town, and Jagodish Chandra Roy of Abdulpur village of Chirirbandar of Dinajpur.

MA Khaleque, coordinator of the branch, has been jailed for two years and fined Tk 5 lakh, in default he has to suffer six months more in jail, Bakul Hasda and Kamruzzaman, peons, jailed for one year each, Ranjit Kumar Bardhan, peon cum office assistant, jailed for two years and fined Tk 1 lakh in default to suffer three months more in jail, Irfan Ali, teacher, jailed for six months and fined Tk 50,000 in default to suffer three months more in jail, Nazim Uddin, a teacher, jailed for three months and fined Tk 50,000 in default to suffer three months more in jail,

Lokman Hakim, a teacher, jailed for six months and fined Tk 50,000 in default to suffer three months more in jail and Jagodish Chandra Roy jailed for six months and fined Tk 50,000 in default to suffer three months more in.

Rotan Sarker, office assistant, was fined Tk 20,000.

The so-called private university branch had been operating for the last two years illegally at a rented house in Dinajpur satellite town, said Dinajpur DB officer in charge Md Redwanul Rahim, who assisted the mobile court during the raid.

Earlier Dinajpur Deputy Commissioner's office served several notices to the authorities of the 'university branch' but they ignored the notice, he said.

At least 59 students enrolled with the 'university branch' since May 17 this year and they were given the assurance of providing BA (honours) and MA certificates within this year.

There are 15 'listed' teachers at the branch.



PHOTO: STAR

UTTERLY INDIFFERENT, THEY IGNORE LIFE RISK! Part of the two-storey Solaiman Mansion in Gopalganj town collapsed on September 13, causing serious injuries to five people. But a hotel and several shops have still continued their activities in the highly risky structure, turning a deaf ear to the advice by the building owner and police.

Long march held in Sylhet

Alleged move to hand over border lands to India protested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A long march to protest alleged move to hand over Bangladesh lands along Sylhet-Meghalaya and Sylhet-Assam borders to the Indians in the name of joint survey was held in the city yesterday.

The event was organised by affected border people and others under the banner of 'Amra Simantabashi.'

Starting at about 12:00 noon from Sylhet Government Aliya Madrasa ground, several thousand people on over 300 minibuses and a thousand motorbikes concluded their 55-km march at Jafflong Amir Miah High School field of Gowainghat upazila at 2:30 pm.

A rally followed the long march. Jaintapur upazila chairman Zainal

Abedin and Gowainghat upazila chairman Abdul Hakim Chowdhury, former lawmaker M Ilyas Ali and Amar Desh editor Mahmudur Rahman addressed the rally while former lawmaker and district BNP vice-president Dilder Hossain Selim chaired it.

The speakers alleged that in the name of resolving the border trouble, the AL-led government handed over the lands of the bordering people to the Indians.

BNP vice-chairman Shamsher Mobin Chowdhury said the AL-led government had just cheated the people in the name of border survey. "We would not accept it," he said.

Survey officials of Bangladesh and Indians from Meghalaya and Assam carried out a joint border survey and

demarcated adversely possessed lands (APL) at different points recently.

After many hassels and troubles, things were completed. But still the Indian Khasias and others, including BSF, had been barring Bangladeshi nationals from ploughing croplands and fishing in their water bodies on Jaintapur and Gowainghat borders.

Besides, two Bangladeshis were shot dead and at least 20 others injured in clashes during the last two months in the region.

Locals under the forum 'Amra Simantabashi' have been raising protest against the survey alleging handing over of lands to the Indians. However, the forum is mainly dominated by the opposition leaders in the region.



PHOTO: STAR

Copies of fake academic mark sheets and certificates kept by the officials of a so-called 'university branch' at Dinajpur satellite town, run under a false claim to be the outer campus of a Dhaka-based private institution.

Land ports to remain shut for 4-7 days

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Import and export through three major land ports will remain suspended for 4-7 days due to Durga Puja and birth anniversary of Indian Father of the Nation M K Gandhi.

Two of three ports will be closed today while the other on Tuesday.

Activities at Benapole land port in Jessore will remain suspended for six days from today to October 7 but export of hilsa fish will continue during the period,

reports our correspondent.

According to officials, 2 October is the 142nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and four days from 3 October to 6 October government holidays for Durga Puja while 7 October is Friday, the weekly holiday in Bangladesh.

However, Bangladeshis hilsa will be exported to India during the holidays, they said.

Benapole customs cargo superintendent Monzurul Islam said, Indian Petrapole assistant collector of customs sent a letter on Thursday informing the suspension of import and export through the land port because of the two events.

Hili port in Hakimpur upazila of Dinajpur will remain shut for seven days, officials told our correspondent.

The holiday of the port starts today and it will continue till next Saturday.

Officials said the port remained open on Friday last although it was a holiday.

They said all other activities other than import and export will go on as usual.

Nurul Ferdous, officer in-charge of Hili Immigration Department said the port will remain open for the immigrants.

In Chapainawabganj, all import and export activities at Sonamasjid land port in Shibganj upazila will remain suspended for four days from Tuesday because of Durga Puja and Friday, reports our correspondent, quoting port officials.

2 children drown

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Two children drowned in separate places in Goalunda upazila of Rajbari district yesterday and on Friday night.

The deceased are Sajjad, 4, son of Seken Mia of Mohidapur village, and Mim, one and a half-year-old daughter of Miraz Kazi of Daulatdia Natunpara.

Family sources said Sajjad was playing with other children beside a water body adjacent to their house at around 11:00am yesterday. Suddenly, he slipped into the water body and drowned.

Mim fell into a canal adjacent to their house and drowned on Friday night.

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