

Medicines hoarded for sale at PMCH

Nurse withdrawn, probe team formed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Authorities of Pabna Medical College Hospital yesterday found huge 'out of list' medicines, stored allegedly for illegal sale, at the operation theatre (OT) of the hospital.

Authority formed a three-member inquiry body to investigate the matter and withdrew senior staff nurse Rokhsana Begum from her duty at the OT for her alleged involvement with illegal storing of the medicines, hospital

sources said.

During official inquiry at the OT, the team found an almiraah loaded with valuable medicines that had been under the supervision of Rokhsana Begum.

"The huge medicines stored at the OT are not in the hospital list. It seems that the medicines were kept for selling to others. Nurse Rokhsana has been withdrawn from her duty," said Dr Monwarul Aziz, assistant director of Pabna Medical College Hospital.

"A three-member inquiry committee headed by Dr

Shanewaz has been formed to investigate the matter. The team is making list of the illegally stored medicines. If the nurse is found guilty we will take departmental step," Dr Monwarul said.

Asked about the matter, Rokhsana Begum told this correspondent, "The operation theatre has been running for over two years. In most cases a few medicines are found excess after surgical work and I preserve it to meet urgent requirement at the OT, especially for poor

patients."

"I have no ill motive here. I never sell this medicine in the market," she added.

Hospital sources seeking anonymity said that on-duty nurses often compel the attendants of the patients to buy huge amount of medicines during surgeries although there is enough medicine in the hospital store for every surgery.

A strong syndicate sell huge amounts of medicine from the OT in the black market, they added.

25 rescued while being trafficked to India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Detective Branch (DB) of police yesterday rescued 25 people, including 10 women and four children, from Katakali intersection on Bagerhat-Khulna Road while they were being trafficked to India.

They also arrested one of the traffickers named Paritosh Sarkar, 56, of Sarkardanga village under Sadar upazila.

Acting on a tip-off, detectives conducted a drive in the area and rescued the victims when they were waiting for a bus, said DB official Mohammad Jalal Uddin.

The arrestee was yesterday produced in a court that sent him to jail.

Jubo Dal activist shot dead

UNB, Benapole

A local Jubo Dal activist was shot dead by unknown criminals at Gatipara village under Benapole police station on Tuesday night.

The deceased was identified as Liakat Ali, 35, son of Abul Hossain.

Police said a gang of criminals stormed into the house of Liakat, opened fire on him and fled the scene. Critically injured Liakat was rushed to Jessore Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries soon after admission.

BNP Jessore district Organising Secretary Delwar Hossain said Liakat was an activist of Jubo Dal Sharsha upazila unit.

A case was filed with the police station concerned yesterday. None was arrested in connection with the murder as of 5:00pm yesterday.

The Daily Star - রবি ENGLISH FAIR School kids learn amid fun and games

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole Jessore

English language fair under English in Schools programme, a joint initiative of The Daily Star and mobile operator Robi, was held at a school in Monirampur upazila of Jessore district yesterday.

Adcom Ltd is the creative and event partner of the fair.

Over 100 students of Monirampur Government Girls' High School joined the fair held at the school auditorium. Bimolendo Adhikari, headmaster of the school, inaugurated the programme at around 9:00 am.

"Our students' English learning process sees obstacles due to various reasons and so, they often speak incorrect English. But we found that proper motivation helps them to improve dramatically," said headmaster



Bimolendo Adhikari in his inaugural speech.

He hailed The Daily Star and Robi for organising such a fair for the school students.

The programme began with the screening of globally renowned movie The Lion King, followed by students' participation in spot quiz, vocabulary test, one-word question and quick questions -- all based on the movie. Selected students took part in extempore speech on different topics and role-play.

Students of the school took part in joyful interactions and entertained the audience by reciting poems, telling jokes and

singing songs.

Fifteen students won different competitions. Headmaster Bimolendo Adhikari distributed prizes among the winners at the end of the programme.

Aiming to promote English language learning among school students across the country, The Daily Star in cooperation with Robi undertook English in Schools programme in 2009.

Under the initiative, each of one thousand schools selected from 64 districts of the country receives three complimentary copies of The Daily Star five days a week.

The ongoing English language fairs at different schools are being held in coordination with the education ministry as part of the three-year-long programme.

Village women build wooden bridge on self-help basis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A group of women of Shiali village in Patuakhali Sadar upazila have built a wooden bridge on a canal flowing through the village in a day, thanks to their labour of love to solve a long time problem in the area.

Sixty-four women belonging to local association 'Shialli Nari Polly Samaj' started the work on voluntary basis on Monday morning and competed construction of the 50-foot-long wooden bridge across Shali canal the same day. Some male members of their family helped in their effort.

In absence of a bridge, over 1000 people underwent sufferings as they had to cross the canal to go to Patuakhali district town and other places.

"Earlier we urged the solvent people in the area to help build the bridge but to no effect. Finding no alternative we planned to build a wooden bridge across the canal. Finally we completed the task through daylong work," said Shahida Begum, 42, leader of the group.

Forkan Sikder, vice chairman of Patuakhali Sadar



PHOTO: STAR

Local women render voluntary service to build a 50-foot-long wooden bridge across this canal at Shiali village in Badarpur union under Patuakhali district. They completed the task through daylong work on Monday.

upazila parishad, inaugurated the work in presence of some officials of NGO Brac at about 9:30am.

Forkan Sikder donated Tk5,000 for the purpose.

Under 'women's empowerment programme', Brac organised the women in the

village through 'Polly Samaj' that now comprises 64 members.

"We encouraged them to get organised and build up their capacities in social works by providing training. They themselves manage money for the purpose," said Md Mohsin

Uddin, Patuakhali district manager of Brac.

"We meet every two months and take plan of works that are needed for the society. We also work for preventing child marriage and ill-treatment for dowry etc," Shahida said.

36-Hr ROAD-WATERWAY BLOCKADE 5 vehicles torched in Khagrachhari on first day

STAR NATIONAL DESK

At least five vehicles were torched in Khagrachhari yesterday, the first day of 36-hour roads and waterways blockade programme enforced by Democratic Youth Forum.

The forum, a youth organisation of United Peoples' Democratic Front (UPDF), observed the programme in Khagrachhari and Rangamati districts demanding stoppage of the hearing of CHT Land Dispute Resolution Commission.

They also demanded withdrawal of the land commission Chairman retired Justice Khademul Islam.

Meanwhile, the forum yesterday observed a 12-hour blockade in Bandarban to meet the same demands.

In Khagrachhari, Abdus Salam, acting superintendent of police, said criminal set fire to a pick-up van and a mini truck in Pislata area of Manikchhari upazila at around 4:30am, reports our correspondent.

Picketers torched two motorcycles and a Jeep in other upazilas of the district.

The supporters of the forum burnt tyres at different places in the district town during the blockade that began at 6:00am.

Additional police have been deployed in the areas to avert any untoward incident, said Salam.

Transport movement remained suspended while no long-route buses left or entered the two districts.

Despite the protest, the commission held its hearing in 33 land dispute cases.

According to our Rangamati correspondent, the blockade programme passed off peacefully yesterday.

All types of vehicles went off the roads and business establishments remained closed. Water vessels also remained suspended on the first day of the 36-hour programme.

Functions in the District Judge's Court and banks were almost halted during the shutdown.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Bangladesh Gram Police bring out a procession in Bogra town yesterday demanding nationalisation of their jobs and establishment of a training academy for them. Similar programmes were also organised in different districts across the country.

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