

2 RU ambulances, medical centre vandalised

RU CORRESPONDENT

Some 15 unidentified youths, allegedly students of Rajshahi University, vandalised two ambulances and valuables of the university medical centre yesterday on being denied an ambulance to bring a classmate from a hospital.

The valuables include a television, two telephones and furniture of four rooms of the centre.

Arriving at around 12:45pm, the youths demanded an explanation as to why they were not provided with an ambulance when they phoned from Islami Bank Hospital at around 11:00am with the request, said the centre's officials.

The youths afterwards left before RU Vice Chancellor Abdus Sobhan, Pro-Vice Chancellor Muhammad Nurullah, Students' Adviser Golam Sabbir Sattar and Proctor Chowdhury Muhammad Zakari arrived at around 1:30pm.

The centre's chief physician Mirza Wazed Hossain Begue said a person, identifying himself as an RU student, called over phone asking for an ambulance to be sent to the hospital.

"We failed to send the ambulance as both our vehicles were outside on emergency duty," he said.

Claiming that the youths were RU students, Mirza said valuables worth around Tk 50 lakh were destroyed.

RU Proctor Chowdhury said they could not identify those responsible but a probe committee would be formed to investigate into the incident.



Guests at a roundtable, 'Investment for children and government's commitment', organised by the Bangla daily Prothom Alo at its office in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: PROTHOM ALO

Two siblings drown in Narayanganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Two siblings drowned in a pond at Kadamtoli Nayapara in Sadar upazila yesterday afternoon.

The victims are Mohammad Saiful Alam Hridoy, 12, a student of class six and Mohammad Sajib, 8, a student of class two and sons of Bilal Hossain of Painad area of the upazila.

They hailed from Charfashion upazila of Bhola.

Police said two victims--Hridoy and Sajib--came to their maternal grandfather Noor Mohammad's house at Kadamtoli last Friday.

Around 11:00am yesterday, the two boys went to take bath in Muktijoddha pond in the area and went missing.

The bodies were recovered around 1:00pm, said police.



Save Radi

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A deadly disease has put the life of four-year-old Radi in a permanent distress. Once he gets cuts on his body, the blood does not stop streaming out.

Physicians say there is no permanent cure for Haemophilia B that Thaha Yasin Radi is afflicted with, and it requires the patient to be put on lifelong medication and treatment.

Radi was diagnosed with the blood clotting disorder when he was seven months old. To keep him alive to date, his mother Ayesha Aktar has spent about Tk 8 lakh, getting into a huge burden of debt.

Now for Ayesha, who is separated from Radi's father, it has become impossible to carry on the treatment of his son. Every time Radi gets a wound, he is required to have fresh frozen plasma into his body. It costs Tk 1000-1200 each time.

In addition, he needs to take an injection called Factor Nine. Its price varies from Tk 5000 to Tk 20,000, and it is not always available in Bangladesh. Radi will have to undergo this treatment throughout the rest of his life, doctors say.

Left with no alternative, a wretched Ayesha is now seeking help of the people around her to save her only child.

Any assistance can be sent to account number 2844101128904, Pubali Bank Ltd, Mirpur Branch, Dhaka. Radi's family can be contacted at 01735055765.

GOOD GOVERNANCE IN PUBLIC SERVICES Call to use assessment tool 'Community Score Card'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Community Score Card (CSC), a tool that enables citizens to assess the quality of public services, can be an effective means to ensure people's participation in government activities and help establish good governance in the country, speakers said at a meeting yesterday.

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) has introduced the tool in different areas across the country for monitoring social safety-net and primary education and found it as a necessary tool for social mobilisation to ensure social accountability.

"Teachers in many areas are enjoying unauthorised leave, engaged in irregularities, and choosing their workstation by offering bribes to higher authorities, as the government monitoring is very poor", MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam told the meeting. "We have launched the Community Score Card of citizen monitoring as an alternative to government monitoring", she added.

Titled "Social Accountability in Primary

Education and Social Safety-net Services", the meeting was organised by MJF at the capital's Brac Centre Inn.

Speaking as chief guest, Hossain Zillur Rahman, former adviser to a caretaker government, stressed the practice of social accountability at root level to ensure good governance.

Social accountability enables a collective social power to solve problem at root levels, he said.

Manusher Jonno Foundation has introduced the tool for monitoring social safety-net and primary education

"We might be able to solve 50 percent of the root level problems if we are in a practice of promoting social accountability, and we don't have to long for government's help to solve every problem".

Ashraf Hossain, director general of Directorate of Women Affairs; Golam Mostafa, chairman of Kumira Union Parishad, Satkhira, and Naimur Rahman, chief operating officer of Affiliated Network for Social Accountability South Asia Region (ANSA-SA), also spoke among others.

ANSA-SA provides financial and technical assistance for the CSC project.

Obituary

METRO DESK



Rahima Asafzah, a noted social worker, passed away at Apollo

Hospitals in the capital on May 22.

She left behind her husband, only daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren, a host of relatives, friends and well-wishers to mourn her death.

Her quikhani will be held today at her residence House No. 17, Sector 6, Essa Khan Avenue, Uttara Model Town after Asr prayers, said a press release.

Her friends, relatives and well-wishers have been requested to attend the programme.

Rahima served as past district chairman and national representative of Inner Wheel District-328, past executive committee member of WVA, past president of ABC and member of Bangladesh Federation of University of Women.

Decentralise admins Says Akbar Ali Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Akbar Ali Khan, former adviser to a caretaker government, yesterday said that administrations must be decentralised for the betterment of the poor.

"As our government makes a common budget for the whole country, they cannot consider inclusive development of the poor. So, if they intend to develop the condition of the poor people, they should decentralise the administrations," he said.

He made the remarks at a roundtable on "The investment for the children and the government's commitment" organised by Bangla daily Prothom Alo at its office.

Khan said the government should identify chief problems and needs of children and take initiatives to solve those strategically. Otherwise, children's development is impossible without a separate budget for them.

Noted economist Dr Quazi Khaliuzzaman Ahmed said expenditure for the children should be considered an investment for the country's future rather than as cost of the government.

He emphasized the need for education, sports and entertainment facilities for children's mental and physical growth.

Stolen cloth worth Tk 28 lakh recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday recovered Tk 28 lakh worth of imported fabrics and threads, which were stolen on the same day, from Barrister College Road in the port city.

They also arrested six persons and seized a covered van and a microbus in this connection.

The arrestees are Md Delwar, Belal, Jakir, Swapon, and drivers of the vehicles Sujauddoula and Jasim Uddin.

According to Maj Md Rakibul Amin, deputy director of Rab-7, on information Rab conducted a drive at a residential building named Shagotom House on the road under Bandar Police Station and recovered the items.

Partners Md Humayun and Ziaul Hauque Suman rented the building's ground floor to use as a nursing centre, which is actually a front to keep stolen goods, he added.

They made three trips yesterday morning to take away around 50 thousand of metres of fabric and thread from JMS Garments Limited,

which is situated at section 6 of Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ), Rakibul said quoting drivers Jasim Uddin and Sujauddoula.

Rafiqul Islam, one of the owners of Shah Amanat Enterprise, a company that supplies labourers to different factories in the CEPZ area, rented them the vehicles for carrying the goods.

Rafiqul, Humayun and Suman are all involved in this, Rakibul said.

Lt Col Anwar Latif, commanding officer of Rab-7, said security force and customs authority of CEPZ and JMS garments had no records of any entry and exit of the two vehicles, which indicates that a section of BEPZA and JMS staff were involved in the smuggling.

He said the gang has been very active in smuggling garment goods in the local market. Higher ups of BEPZA and JMS might be connected, he added.

KA Millad, director operation of JMS, said last month at least 16 thousand zippers were stolen from their factory. He said they could not find the goods yet.



(Sitting from left) Musician Ayyub Bacchu, singer Samina Chowdhuri, United Nations Population Fund Country Representative Arthur Erken, actor Mosharraf Karim and actress Moushumi with winners of an online photo contest organised by UNFPA-Bangladesh to celebrate the virtues of 'Safe Motherhood' at the award presentation at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in the capital on May 22.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Discharge plea for Mojaheed

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of the formal charge, where the prosecution provided a report of the daily Sangram.

The Sangram report cited that Motiur Rahman Nizami, the then president of Nikhil Pakistan Islami Chhatra Sangha, was the chief of Al Badr Bahini (a collaborator force) formed with the members of Chhatra Sangha until September of 1971.

Mojaheed, at the time president of East Pakistan Chhatra Sangha, took over the position of Al Badr force commander, in October 1971, the report stated.

"Neither Nizami nor Mojaheed was ever com-

mander of Al Badr force," replied Nazrul Islam.

Abdur Razzaq, chief defence counsel of the detained Jamaat leaders, took to the podium and said there was insufficient evidence to support the prosecution's claim.

At that point, Judge M Shahinur Islam asked the prosecution whether they have any other evidence in this regard.

Prosecutor Muklesur Rahman Badal placed a photo of Daily Azad published on December 11, 1971, that showed Mojaheed delivering a speech at a meeting of the Al Badr force.

"If a newspaper tells me that I led a force, does it

mean that it is true?" replied the defence chief,

adding that they would reply to the matter when the case was in its trial stage.

"If it is a matter of the trial stage, then should we frame charges [against Mujahid?]" was Justice Obaidul Hassan's reply.

Mojaheed is among four BNP and Jamaat leaders facing crimes against humanity charges in Tribunal-2. The tribunal also issued an arrest warrant against expelled Jamaat member Abdul Kalam Azad in connection with crimes against humanity. He is now at large.



Seminar

United Nations Information Centre in Dhaka, the Universal Peace Federation and the Women's Federation for World Peace will organise a seminar; Venue: Sundarban Hotel, Sonargaon Road; Time: 5:00pm.

Citizens' rally

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon will arrange a citizens' rally; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Book launching

Shahitya Prakash will organise a book launching ceremony; Venue: Muktijuddho Jadughar; Time: 4:30pm.

Human chain

Sushil Forum will form a human

7 dredgers, vessel with sand seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Coast Guard in a drive early yesterday seized seven dredgers and one sand carrying vessel from Bakalia Char in Karnaphuli river near Chittagong Port for extracting sands illegally.

The seized vessels were -- dredger TMSG and vessel Gangchil, owned by Pacific Marine Services; MV Shah Amanat-2, MV Buriganga and MV Bismillah, of Mohammad Mohiuddin; and MV Gausia, MV Karnaphuli and MV Allahar Malik of Mohammad Zakaria, said Lt Commander Jashimuzzaman, staff officer (operation) of the Coast Guard.

Acting on a tip-off, two Coast Guard teams of the Chittagong base and port units, and officials of the port authority conducted the drive from 12:30am to 3:00am and seized the vessels, he said.

"We seized the vessels on charges of extracting sands from the riverbed without authorisation and transporting sands in the night which is prohibited. We will take legal measures against them," said the official.



Chittagong Grammar School Admission going on for College level

Admissions for AS Level, 2012-2013 at Chittagong Grammar School starts from 27th May 2012. All those students interested are requested to apply at CGS Upper 321/11, Sarson Road, Chittagong with a copy of their last school report or a copy of their forecast grades.

Students applying will be given a provisional admission pending results. Minimum entry requirements in 'O' Level 'B' grade in all subjects except in Maths & Pure Maths where it is 'A' grade.

Management

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Chittagong Grammar School