

HC quashes 3 cases against Mohiuddin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday quashed three corruption cases against former Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury filed in 2003.

The now defunct Bureau of Anti Corruption (BAC) had filed the cases against Mohiuddin and the owner of Nupur Cinema Hall in Chittagong on charges of misappropriating Tk 9 lakh in different fiscal years from 1994 to 2001 by reducing holding tax of the cinema hall to Tk 5.5 lakh from Tk 17.55 lakh.

BAC's investigation officer pressed corruption charges against Mohiuddin on November 12 of 2003 and the Chittagong Divisional Special judge took the charges into cognisance on November 30 in the same year.

The Chittagong court, however, granted bail to Mohiuddin. Mohiuddin filed three separate petitions in 2004 with the HC seeking proceedings of cases to be quashed.

The HC on September 18 of 2004 stayed the proceedings of the cases and issued a rule asking the government to explain why they should not be quashed.

After holding hearing on the rule, the bench of Justice Borhanuddin and Justice Mahmudul Hoque gave the verdict.

Mohiuddin's counsel Hari Sadhan Dev Brahma told The Daily Star that his client is accused in total 22 cases and eight of them have been scrapped.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attends an Iftar party hosted by Bangladesh Armed Forces at Senakunja in Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

Two injured in RU BCL infighting

RU CORRESPONDENT

Two rival activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) were injured in a factional clash at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Hall of Rajshahi University early yesterday.

The injured, Mehedi Hasan of library management and information science department and Tushar Ahmed of applied chemistry department, were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

The clash ensued from an earlier attack on Tushar, made by the faction of Harun-ur Rashid, a student of social work department.

Around 3:30am yesterday, Tushar led some 5-7 students to Harun's room and attacked Mehedi, a supporter of Harun, with sharp weapons and sticks.

In retaliation, Harun along with 10-12 others attacked Tushar, leaving him seriously injured.

The authorities calmed the situation with the help of law enforcers around 4:30am.

Prof Narayan Roy, provost of the hall, said additional police were deployed on the campus.

The law enforcers also raided two rooms of Chhatra League workers and seized about 100 pieces of sharp weapons and other equipment including machetes, hammers, iron rods, knives and hockey sticks.

Proctor Chowdhury Mohammad Zakaria said the authorities would file a case against BCL men responsible for the incident.

No case, however, was registered at Motihar Police Station till filing of this report at 5:00pm yesterday.

RESTORATION OF RU AMBULANCE SERVICE Students submit memorandum to VC

RU CORRESPONDENT

Following The Daily Star's August 4 report "Both RU ambulances out of order", some 100 students of Bangabandhu Hall of Rajshahi University yesterday submitted a memorandum to the vice-chancellor demanding restoration of ambulance services.

The memorandum, containing signatures of over 200 students, was handed over to VC Prof Abdus Sobhan at his residence around 10:00am.

After receiving the memorandum, Prof Sobhan assured to restore the ambulance service within 24 hours, said the students.

The Daily Star could not contact the VC

for comment.

The ambulances of Rajshahi University Medical Center (RUMC) were allegedly vandalised by some unidentified RU students on May 24 when the centre authorities refused to bring a student to the centre from a hospital.

The university authorities do not seem to have any plan to put the ambulances back to service immediately, said the students earlier.

Many of RU's 30,000 students, teachers and staff who regularly seek treatment at RUMC say the problem arises when RUMC doctors refer patients of complicated cases to other places for further treatment.

Pro-AL panel sweeps CU dean election

CU CORRESPONDENT

The pro-Awami League teachers' yellow panel swept the dean election of Chittagong University (CU) against the BNP-Jamaat backed teachers' white panel yesterday.

Out of seven faculties, the yellow panel won six-- arts, business administration, social science, biological science, engineering, and law faculty while the lone white panel candidate won in science faculty.

The winning party candidates are -- Prof Dr Imran Hossain, arts faculty; Prof Dr Md Abu Taher, business faculty; Prof Dr Hossain Kabir, social science faculty; Prof Dr Khan Touhid Osman, biological science faculty; Prof Dr Shankar Lal Shaha, engineering faculty and Prof Dr Abdullah Al Faruk, law faculty.

The white panel candidate Prof Dr Abdul Karim won in science faculty.

The candidates have been elected for a two-year term, said the CU registrar.

Digitisation programmes achieve 76pc targets: UNDP

BSS, Dhaka

The programmes to support implementation of Digital Bangladesh launched by the UNDP-funded Access to Information (A2I) Project have achieved 76 percent success so far in reaching output targets.

A draft assessment report titled "Bangladesh: Access to Information (A2I) Evaluation", prepared by a consultant group of UNDP, has revealed it.

The report said a notable outcome of the project had been the development of multimedia classroom model and its delivery in some 500 schools.

The consultant group submitted the report to UNDP in October last year. The report has been made available online recently.

Death anniversary

METRO DESK

The sixth death anniversary of Shahrar Hassan Shohan, son of Sk Shawkat Ali, a businessman of Khulna, was observed yesterday, said a press release.

A doa mahfil was held at his residence at Diyara in Khulna.

On this day in 2006, Shohan was killed in a road accident on Dhaka-Khulna highway at Mujgunni in Khulna city at the age of 18.

He left behind his parents, three brothers, two sisters, a host of relatives and friends to mourn his death.

His relatives and friends are requested to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.



Bangladesh Garments Oikya Parishad forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday demanding that garment factory owners pay workers their salaries and bonuses before Eid-ul-Fitr. PHOTO: STAR

Gulistan-Jatrabari flyover to be completed next March

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for LGRD and Cooperatives Jahangir Kabir Nanak said construction work of Mayor Hanif Flyover would be completed by March next year to ease traffic jam in the capital.

"We are really sorry for the people's sufferings as we are already late (in constructing the flyover) ... but the construction of the Mayor Hanif Flyover will definitely be completed by the next Independence Day (March 26, 2013)," he told a meeting at his secretariat office yesterday.

The minister said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will open the flyover.

He asked all concerned to complete shifting of utility services by August 20, which was earlier scheduled for June 15 this year.

The state minister ordered cancellation of holidays of the officials concerned as he reviewed the progress of the project.

He said no dillydally would be tolerated further as the government is committed to ease traffic congestion in the area.

"It would be really unfortunate if we have to

take tough decision against the negligence of anyone's duty," the minister told BSS, adding, "If they fail to complete the flyover's construction work, the government will look alternatives to do it within the stipulated time."

Nanak said the removal of utility service lines of Titas Gas and DPDC are major barriers to rapid completion of the project right now. He added that the two-kilometre lines of the 10km under construction Gulistan-Jatrabari flyover would be properly removed by August 20 while the main structure of it is expected to be completed by January-February next year.

"Fifty two percent work of the flyover has already been completed...we expect the project to be completed ahead of June next year," said director of the flyover project and superintendent engineer of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) M Ashiqur Rahman yesterday.

Belhasa Accom and Associates Ltd, an associate company of the Orion Group, is implementing the project at a cost of Tk 2,053 crore on Build- Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) basis, first of its kind in Bangladesh.

Govt to distribute dustbins in Dhaka

UNB, Dhaka

The government will distribute bins among the residents of the capital's Gulshan and Baridhara areas tomorrow to manage household wastes to build a clean Dhaka city.

The Department of Environment (DoE) under the environment and forests ministry will distribute the dustbins under the 3R (waste reduce, reuse and recycle) Pilot Project.

Former President and Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad and Environment and Forests Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud will be present at the bins distribution ceremony at House No 4, Gulshan-1, at 10:00am.

Official sources said a total of 180,000 bins will be distributed in Dhaka city and 75,000 in Chittagong city under the pilot project. Earlier, a number of bins were distributed in Dhanmondi area of the capital.

Resurvey of Govt Bangla College land demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a press conference yesterday demanded resurvey of the land of Govt Bangla College, alleging that Awami League lawmaker Aslamul Haque was trying to grab the land of the college and its adjoining land owned by scientist Dr Aminul Islam.

They complained that the lawmaker was also trying to influence the report of the investigation committee formed upon an order by the High Court to investigate the land grabbing allegations against Aslamul Haque.

The families of Principal Abul Kashem, founder of the college, and scientist Dr Aminul Islam organised the conference at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

On May 16, the HC ordered the investigation following a writ petition filed by Advocate Manzill Murshid on behalf of Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh.

Murshid filed the petition on the basis of a May 5 report of a Bangla daily, saying the possession of four bighas of land of the college is under possession of AL lawmaker Aslamul Haque.

MA Mazid, a son-in-law of Aminul Islam, said Aslamul Haque set up a signboard on the lands of the college and the scientist, wiping out their signboards.

Bring back Bangabandhu's killers: BCL

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The ruling Awami League's student wing, Bangladesh Chhatra League, in a memorandum yesterday urged Foreign Minister Dipu Moni to bring back and ensure punishment to the absconding killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Out of the 12 condemned for the crime, five were hanged on January 27, 2010. They are Syed Farooq Rahman, Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan, Bazlul Huda, AKM Mohiuddin Ahmed and Mohiuddin Ahmed.

The absconding are Khandaker Abdul Rashid, Shariful Haque Dalim, SHMB Nur Chowdhury, AM Rashed Chowdhury, Abdul Mazed and Risaldar Mosleuddin Khan.

The remaining convict, Abdul Aziz Pasha, died in Zimbabwe in June 2001.



A speaker addresses a programme jointly organised by KSF Co-operative and Meena Bazar styled "Farmers' Day-A day when organic producers meet the green consumers" on Thursday. The programme was organised to get organic vegetable producers and KSF Co-operative members acquainted with the process of bringing organic vegetables from the production site to customers. PHOTO: MeENA BaZAR