



Ministry to suspend judge for 'possessing' Phensedyl

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs yesterday decided to suspend a senior assistant judge of Bhola District Judge's Court after he was arrested for allegedly having 342 bottles of Phensedyl in his possession.

The ministry decided to file a departmental case against Judge Javed Imam and close him to the law and justice department. A proposal regarding the suspension decision was sent to the Supreme Court for its opinion, said a press release from the ministry. Meanwhile, a Dhaka court rejected a bail petition of Javed and ordered to send him to jail after police produced him before it.

In the forwarding report, police said Javed drove a microbus from Jessore to Dhaka on December 1 carrying the Phensedyl bottles in a sack and a loaded licensed pistol.

On information, police arrested him in front of the capital's Eden Women's College around 7:20pm. Police prayed to confine the judge in jail until further investigation was completed.

COP ACTION ON WORKERS

As garment workers' unrest continued over the 111 deaths in a fire at Tazreen Fashions factory on November 24, a few unruly workers attacked some factories and industrial police in Jamgara of Ashulia yesterday. Without differentiating between the attackers and the innocent, police indiscriminately charged truncheon on every worker they found on the streets, leading to chaos and some injuries.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



No Jamaat rally today: MKA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Home Minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir yesterday said Jamaat-e-Islami will not be allowed to hold its rally today in the capital as the party did not get permission from police. "As far as I know, they [Jamaat] did not apply to Dhaka Metropolitan Police for permission," Alamgir told journalists after a meeting at the secretariat.

He added that the party will not be allowed to hold rallies anywhere in the country.

Masudur Rahman, deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Detective Police, told The Daily Star that due to security concern, police did not give permission to Jamaat for holding the rally.

Meanwhile, Jamaat claimed that they applied to DMP for permission and sent a copy of the application to The Daily Star.

"We applied on November 29 to DMP commissioner seeking permission for the rally, but we are yet to get permission," Motiur Rahman Akanda, assistant publicity secretary of Jamaat, told The Daily Star.

UNB adds: the home minister also said whoever threatens a citizen of the country, including the prime minister, will be brought to book.

Power at subsidised rate to go: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday hinted that the government would not provide power at a subsidised rate in the future as she said people should at least pay its production cost.

"Now we are providing electricity at a subsidised price...you are getting it at a lower than production price," she said while inaugurating the Powerpac-Mutiara 100-megawatt quick rental power plant at Chargaigalia.

Powerpac Holdings Ltd, a concern of Sikder Group which set up the plant, would run it on build, own and operate (BOO) basis.

Suggesting that people should pay the production cost of electricity at least, Hasina questioned, "Why should the government always pay the price for electricity?"

The prime minister also urged people to maintain austerity in using electricity to

avoid higher bill and its wastage.

"At the beginning of the government, we had taken short-, mid- and long-term programmes by giving topmost priority to rebuilding the shattered power system," she said.

The government has given priority to setting up rental and quick rental power plants alongside overhauling of the old power plants, she added.

The prime minister said 3650 MW of electricity has already been added to the national grid from 52 power plants in the last four years thanks to joint efforts of the public and private sectors.

She also laid emphasis on setting up solar panels on schools, madrasa and other organisations to generate electricity.

The prime minister's Energy Adviser Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and State Minister for Energy, Power and Mineral Resources M Enamul Haque, among others, spoke on the occasion.

2 workers hurt in fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two workers were injured in a fire at a warehouse of LP Gas at Sheikhdi in the capital's Jatrabari yesterday.

The injured Jahirul Islam, 30, and Oli Ahmed, 35, residents of Shanir Akhra, supplied gas cylinders on rickshaws to different houses and restaurants.

They were undergoing treatment in the Burn Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Jahirul told reporters at the Burn Unit that he and Oli went to the warehouse of Suktara Enterprise around 6:30am.

Jahirul said he was smoking cigarette while they were entering the warehouse on the ground floor of an under-construction two-storey building.

When they opened the door the fire broke out, burning their bodies badly.

Fire fighters said gas might have leaked from the cylinders and caught the fire, originated from the burning cigarette, spreading across the warehouse.



Discussion

Aparajeyo Bangladesh will hold a discussion on people's expectation and achievements; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 11:00am.

Roundtable

Sushil Forum will organise a roundtable on necessity of caretaker government; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:30am.

Discussion

Asian Journalist Human Rights and Cultural Foundation will hold a discussion on "Importance of training in journalism"; Venue: Shawkat Osman Auditorium, Public



Guests at a reception organised in the capital's Radisson Hotel on Saturday in honour of Aileen Margaret Najduch, assistant deputy minister, Manitoba Education School Program Division, Canada; Darryl Jules Gervais, director, Manitoba Education Schools Program Division; and Brenda Lynn Gervais. The three are visiting the Canadian International School for accreditation by the Ministry of Manitoba Education.

BRAC DOCTOR MURDER Clinic caretaker confesses crime

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Mohammad Faysal, a caretaker of the capital's Amtola Brac Clinic where a female doctor was found dead on Friday, yesterday confessed that he killed the doctor after failing to rape her.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Hasibul Haque recorded Faysal's confessional statement and later sent him to jail.

The victim, Dr Sajia Afrin Eva, 28, was found killed at her clinic office. Her father filed a murder case with Dakshin Khan Police Station in this regard.

Faysal, the prime accused in the case, confessed that he entered Eva's duty room at 12:30am on Friday and tried to rape her, failing which he strangled her.

Golam Sarwar, sub-inspector of Dakshin Khan Police Station, produced Faysal before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Bikash Kumar Saha, who assigned Hasibul for recording Faysal's confessional statement.

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