

BEGUM ROKEYA UNIVERSITY

Teachers, students intensify agitation for VC's removal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur

Teachers and students of Begum Rokeya University in Rangpur have intensified their joint agitation demanding resignation of the vice chancellor within Saturday.

Hundreds of teachers and students observed a token mass hunger strike and formed a human chain under the banner of 'Durniti Birodhi Mancha,' a joint platform of teachers and students of the university, in front of the administrative

building from 10:00am to 12:00am yesterday.

They burnt the effigy of the VC at the spot.

Dr Hafizur Rahman Selim, president of Sochetan Shikhhak Samaj, teachers Dr Motiur Rahman, Dr Tuhin Wadud and Omar Faruk, students Shamiul Wakil Moon and Ariful Islam Arif spoke at the programme, among others.

They warned of a hunger strike unto death if the VC does not resign from his post within Saturday.

Meanwhile, Dr Muhammad Abdul Jalil

Miah, vice chancellor of Begum Rokeya University, went to Dhaka on Tuesday night following a call by the education minister, university sources said.

Earlier on Tuesday, teachers and students of the university staged a sit-in in front of the administrative building from 9:00am to 3:00pm demanding the VC's resignation.

Four crude bombs were blasted during the sit-in programme, creating a tense situation at the campus.

To press for their demand to open all the dormitories, set up a permanent hospital at the campus, make the university library functional, and arrange more buses to ease transport, students of the university started boycotting their classes and examinations on Saturday.

The teachers of the university under the banner of 'Sochetan Shikhhak Samaj' also went on an indefinite strike on Sunday demanding resignation of the VC.

Meanwhile, some leaders of ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance arranged a meeting with the students and teachers of the university at its academic building in presence of the VC and other officials on Tuesday but the four-hour-long meeting ended at 8:30pm without any result.

A large number of policemen have been deployed at the university campus to avert any unwanted situation there, said Altaf Hossain, officer in charge of Rangpur Kotwali Police Station.



PHOTO: STAR

Students of Begum Rokeya University in Rangpur burn the effigy of Vice Chancellor Abdul Jalil Miah on the campus yesterday as the learners along with their teachers have continued agitation to press for their demands including his resignation by Saturday.

SEVERE COLD SPELL SWEEPS COUNTRY



1) Three elderly people take shelter under a single shawl at Kulaghat village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila, 2) buses wait for their turn while passengers loiter on the road as ferry service on Kashiani-Kalna route in Narail district remained suspended for over seven hours till 9:30am yesterday due to dense fog, 3) a homeless person lies on the pavement, wrapping himself up with a coarse jute cloth while people throng makeshift shops to buy warm clothes, mostly second hand ones, at Kachari Bazar in Rangpur city, 4) mothers with their kids stay on the floor of the children's ward at Pabna Medical College Hospital as the 38-bed ward now has to accommodate over a hundred patients due to sudden increase of cold related diseases, and 5) a farmer gets his cows covered in gunnysacks while ploughing his field at Khamarkantabar in Dinajpur Sadar upazila.



Two housewives murdered, another tortured

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Two housewives have been killed in Barisal and Khulna districts while another severely tortured in Narail.

A mother of a baby girl was beaten to death allegedly by her in-laws for dowry at Baushia village in Hizla upazila of Barisal early Monday.

The deceased was identified as Maksuda Begum, 22, wife of Monir Hossain Rari and daughter of late Kader Gazi of Baherchar village. Police arrested Monir and his father Shafi Rari in this connection, reports our correspondent.

Md Nurul Islam, officer in-charge at Hizla police station, said Monir and his family members started to torture Maksuda for Tk 50,000 after three years of their marriage.

On the fateful day, Maksuda became unconscious after she was beaten up by her in-laws mercilessly following an altercation over the issue. Hearing the hue and cry, neighbours rushed in and sent her to the upazila health complex where the doctors declared her dead.

On information, police recovered the body and sent it to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College and Hospital morgue for autopsy. A murder case was filed, said the OC.

Away in Khulna, a housewife was found murdered at Naihati village in Rupsha upazila on Monday morning, reports a correspondent.

The deceased, Khairun

Begum, 35, was wife of Abdul Gafur of the village. She is survived by her two sons and two daughters.

Ashraf Hossain, officer in-charge at Rupsha police station, said on information, they recovered Khairun's body from a banana orchard, a few yards away from her house, at around 10:00am.

The body was sent to Khulna Medical College and Hospital morgue for autopsy.

The woman might have been killed by her relatives over a piece of disputed land, said the OC.

In Narail, a woman who was seriously injured by her in-laws on December 26, is fighting for life at Lohagara upazila health complex, reports our correspondent.

The victim was identified as Sanjida Akter Rima, 26, wife of Billal Mollah of Talbaria village.

Rima said she worked at the paddy field of her husband as Billal went to Dhaka for earning livelihood.

"Her father-in-law Marjan Mollah and brother-in-law Mostafij Mollah attacked me with iron rod, leaving me seriously injured following an altercation over harvesting paddy at the field on December 26", said the victim.

On information, police rescued Rima from the spot and sent her to the health complex, said Akram Hossain, officer in-charge at Lohagara police station.

Rima's mother filed a case in this connection, said the OC.

Smuggled low quality tea floods Jessore markets

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Low quality tea smuggled from India is flooding the markets of the district.

The locally produced tea brands are being elbowed out gradually due to the aggression of the Indian tea, traders said.

A syndicate of Indian smugglers in collusion with its local accomplices are bringing in the low quality tea from the neighbouring country, they said.

Smuggling of the inferior quality tea by the syndicate goes on unhindered through different border points, threatening local tea industry.

According to experts, such inferior quality tea which is being marketed without examining its standard, is also unsafe for public health.

To earn more profit, tea stall owners are using the tea which is cheaper than the local brands, endangering health of the consumers, locals said.

The low quality tea, often found date-expired, is also available in the markets of Khulna, Jhenidah and Kushtia districts.

Sources linked to tea trading said that poor Indian tea intruded into local markets, mainly due to lack of monitoring by the Bangladesh Tea Board.

The inferior quality tea is destroying the market of the export-oriented Bangladeshi tea, they said.

Bangladesh Standard Testing Institute, which is responsible for monitoring standard of such products, also seems indifferent to the matter.

The Indian tea is coming to Bangladesh through road and rail routes.

During a recent visit, this correspondent found that Bangladesh Tea Board-approved different brands of tea like Vanston CD, Rajghat CD, Balishira, Amrail, Mirzapore, Rashidpur, Uttarbagh, Malnichira etc. have high demand in the local markets.

The local brands of tea are selling at prices ranging from Tk 160 to Tk 250 per kilogram.

The smuggled Indian tea is selling at Tk 180 to Tk 200 per kilogram.

Local tea traders said if they were given license, the low quality Indian tea could not capture the bordering markets in Bangladesh.




Bulletin
To Bricks plant investors

With the fully support of the head office—CHINA HUAYAO ZHONGYANG KILN CO.,LTD, for the development status of Bangladesh bricks manufacturing and our summarized experience these years, lack of management and operation knowledge is the essential root cause for most of machine making bricks factory not matching designed capacity and quantity.

As one of the main service providers of bricks making plant, CHINA HUAYAO ZHONGYANG KILN CO.,LTD plan to launch on-job training program in our own latest modern bricks factory in China free of cost.

Free cost includes:

- On-job training of tunnel kiln and bricks factory management
- Simple Chinese-speaking class
- Domestic transportation, lodging and Three meals each day of Halal food
- Necessary daily living expense

Persons meet the following criteria can enroll for interview, the qualifiers shall be our first batch of 10 trainees.

- Employees of companies plan to invest in tunnel kiln bricks making plant recently.
- Have electrical, mechanical, ceramic, or thermal educational background or related work experience.
- Media level of listening, speaking, reading and writing in English.
- Each company can send one employee.

Interested participants can get registration by contacting the following:
Britic Wall Material Co. Ltd, Tel: 9854108 Email: zhaofor@163.com/ britic_wang@163.com

The first phase of the training program will be held in mid-March 2013 to the end of mid-September 2013




smartphone Expo

date : 11~13 January, 2013
venue : Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC)

entry free

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