

Eleven cocktails explode at DU

BCL beats up JCD man

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader was beaten up by Bangladesh Chhatra League activists near Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) at Dhaka University yesterday.

The injured, Rakibul Islam Royal, JCD vice president of Shahidullah Hall unit of DU, is undergoing treatment in Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Following the attack, the JCD activists reportedly exploded 11 Molotov cocktails from 9:00am to 12:00noon on Curzon Hall, Zahurul Haque Hall, university central library, and arts building premises.

Shahidul Islam, patrol inspector of Shahbagh Police Station, said a group of BCL men belonging to the hall unit beat up Royal with sticks near TSC around 8:30am.

Earlier, the BCL activists caught Fazlur Rahman Khokon, office secretary of DU JCD unit, in front of Modhur Canteen and handed him over to Shahbagh police.

The Chhatra Dal activists yesterday entered the campus and tried to hold programmes.

Activists of DU unit BCL took position at different key points to prevent JCD activists from entering the campus.

They also brought out several processions on the campus.



BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia holds a meeting with leaders of the 18-party opposition alliance in BNP's Gulshan office in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: BNP

DEMAND FOR DEPT HEAD REMOVAL Sust BBA students start fast-unto-death

SUST CORRESPONDENT

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) students at Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (Sust) in Sylhet began fast-unto-death on the campus yesterday noon.

They have been continuing their movements demanding removal of their departmental head, Prof Nazrul Islam, as some allegations were brought against him.

Following the situation, no classes and examinations were held as all classrooms and offices have been closed since January 22.

Requesting them to break the fast, Vice Chancellor Prof Saleh Uddin said he himself cannot make the decision to remove him, "There are some official procedures especially there is a syndicate body to do so."

The students vowed to continue the hunger strike until their demand is met.

"I shall call a syndicate meeting within seven days," said Prof Saleh.

The allegations, including irregularities and misbehaviour with students, were brought against Prof Nazrul.

Go tough

FROM PAGE 1
months when the verdicts in war crimes cases against top Jamaat leaders will be pronounced.

The prime minister was talking to top police officials after the weekly cabinet meeting.

One of the senior ministers told The Daily Star that the Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front Islami Chhatra Shibir have decided to resort to "combat operation" and would carry out "armed attack" soon to destabilise law and order.

Yesterday, hundreds of Jamaat-Shibir activists went on the rampage in four districts including the capital demanding release of Jamaat leaders now facing charges of crimes against humanity at the interna-

tional crimes tribunals.

Meanwhile, the government high command expressed surprise and resentment over the poor security measures in and around Bangladesh Secretariat as the Shibirmen went berserk in the area when the prime minister was in the cabinet meeting.

Expressing disappointment over the role of law enforcement agencies, another senior minister said proper security measures were not in place around the secretariat. He thought the security should have been better.

Asked about government's stance, Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury said law would take its own course against any violence

created by the Jamaat-Shibir men and the government as usual would remain tough.

Whatever the Jamaat-Shibir might do to foil the war crimes trial, it will be completed, she mentioned.

The cabinet meeting over, the prime minister called Communications Minister Obaidul Quader to discuss the Padma bridge issue.

The minister this morning will sign a 100 crore rupee treaty with an Indian organisation for protection of Padma river banks.

Contacted, Quader said the work on the protection of the river banks would start soon. Several options are under consideration for building the main bridge, he added.

ATTEMPTED RAPE CHARGE CU teacher suspended

CU CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Chittagong University yesterday suspended Associate Professor Chandan Poddar of statistics department on account of being accused of attempted rape.

According to a special rule in the CU ordinance he will not be allowed to participate in any academic activity till the court proceedings end, said CU Registrar Md Sofiul Alam.

CU vice chancellor exercised his special power provided by the ordinance, he added.

Proctor Khan Md Towhid Osman said, "We have heard about the decision from the vice chancellor's office around 11:00am. The suspension will remain valid till he [Poddar] gets released in the case."

On Friday, an attempted rape case was filed against Poddar with Khulshi Police Station by his domestic help.

Since then, CU students had been staging demonstrations demanding the accused teacher's dismissal.

SAND TRADING Jubo League, BCL gunfight hurts 10

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

At least 10 people, including four with bullet wounds, were injured in a gunfight between BCL and Jubo League over sand trading at Dhakeshwari Bhuiyanpara in the city yesterday.

The four bullet-hit injured -- Khokon Mollah, Mohammad Ali, Monir and Kamal -- were admitted to a local hospital.

Locals said Amir Hossain and Selim alias Tunda Selim, leaders of Narayanganj's Bangladesh Chhatra League unit, had previous enmity with Jubo League leaders -- Mohsin Mia and Nasir -- regarding sand trading.

Ruhul Amin Mollah, councillor of ward

no-8, was conducting a conciliatory meeting with members of the two groups at his office in Godanail Bhuiyargh area. While the meeting was in progress, unruly opposition activists attacked Mohsin's house, which brought the meeting to a halt.

Later, activists of both groups armed with guns and revolvers clashed leaving the 10 injured, which included the councillor's younger brother, Khokon Mollah.

Locals rescued the injured and rushed them to the hospital.

Meanwhile, protesting firing on the ward councillor, locals barricaded the Narayanganj-Adamzi-Demra road for an hour.

Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed at Amit Kumar Shil's solo photography exhibition titled "Potters in the Cycle of Life" at Bangladesh National Museum in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



10-TRUCK ARMS HAUL Ex-magistrate cross-examined

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A former Chittagong metropolitan magistrate yesterday said he was not under duress while recording confessional statements of three accused, none of whom were injured at that time, in the 10-truck arms haul cases.

The three are Akbar Hossain Khan, a National Security Intelligence (NSI) field officer;

Wing Commander (ret'd) Shahabuddin, a former NSI director; and Md Hafizur Rahman, an alleged smuggler.

Mohammad Mahabubur Rahman, a prosecution witness, also said the recordings were made following due law after court hours, on May 2 and June 13 of 2009 and February 6 of 2010 respectively.

Mahabubur yesterday was being cross-examined by defence lawyers before Chittagong Metropolitan Special Tribunal-1 Judge SM Mojibur Rahman, said court sources. The court adjourned its proceedings till today.

Lablu, Akon CRAB president, general secy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Akhteruzzaman Lablu of the daily Bhorer Kagoj and Abu Saleh Akon of the Naya Diganta have been reelected the president and general secretary of Crime Reporters' Association of Bangladesh (CRAB).

The election was held at the CRAB in the capital's Segunbagicha on Sunday.

The other office bearers are Manjurul Bari Nayan (vice-president), of the Bhorer Dak; Sarwar Alam (joint secretary) of the Jugantor; Arif Newaz Farayez (organising secretary) of The Independent; Maniruzzaman Uzzal (finance secretary) of the Dhaka Tribune; Ahmed Labo (publicity secretary) of the Janakantha; Kazi Zamsed Nazim (cultural secretary) of the Prime Khobor.

The executive members are Sohail Mahmud of Mohona TV, Alauddin Arif of the Amar Desh and Shahin Alam of the Arthoniti Protidin.



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