

Nursing students demand stipends all through course

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Boycotting the International Nursing Day celebration, students of Dhaka Nursing College staged demonstrations yesterday on the college premises to press home their 4-point demand.

Their demands are continuation of stipends until their four-year course ends, introduction of a one-year internship after the course ends, fixing the stipend at Tk 3,000 for each student and allowing students to wear aprons on top of their uniforms during clinical practice.

To realise their demands, the students have been demonstrating since Thursday boycotting all academic activities.

Earlier, the Directorate of Nursing Service (DNS) decided to discontinue stipends to nursing students even though their courses were not completed.

However, DNS authorities withdrew their decision in the face of the students' demonstrations yesterday.

But the students rejected the verbal assurance of DNS authorities and vowed to observe sit-in from tomorrow for an indefinite period and threatened a fast-unto-death for May 18 if their demands are not met.

"The authorities have just been verbally assuring us but taking no steps to implement those. So we will continue demonstrating until all demands are met," Enamul Hasan, a second year student, told The Daily Star.

The students were given Tk 850 monthly with a yearly raise of Tk 50 during their 48-month-long course.



Youths of Gonojagoron Mancha bring out an anti-hartal procession from Shahbagh intersection in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Ctg people suffer for successive hartals

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Common people, traders and businesspersons of Chittagong city have immensely suffered due to the successive hartals enforced by BNP-led 18-party alliance and Jamat-e-Islami on the last three working days.

Around 12,000 people of the port city, who completely depend on the income from buses and minibuses, are adversely affected by the hartals, said Abul Kalam Azad, president of Chittagong Bus and Minibus Owners' Association.

Azad also said the transportation sector makes a loss of around Tk 1 crore per day due to hartal and now they are not even able to pay their bank loans.

Mahbul Alam, president of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), said, "Business sector of Chittagong incurs a loss of Tk 800 crore on a single hartal day."

Also transporting cost of goods

becomes double after a prolonged hartal as there remains a high demand for transports but few vehicles remain available. So, it affects the consumers directly or indirectly as the businesspersons later have to increase the price to minimise their losses, Mahbulul added.

Syed Sagir Ahmed, a director of CCCI and general secretary of Khatunganj Trade and Industries Association, said hartals affects the whole business sector as it bring the total supply-chain to a standstill. Country's largest wholesale goods market Khatunganj, located in the port city, has to face a loss of Tk 170 crore on every hartal day.

Sagir also mentioned that foreign investment will be discouraged due to this political unrest, as there is no security for running a business steadily in the country.

The shutdowns also made the HSC examinees and their families suffer badly as the exams had to be postponed several times.

FOUR CITY CORPORATION ELECTIONS Aspirants submit forms as deadline ends

STAR REPORT

The submission deadline for applications seeking candidacies for mayor and councillor posts in the upcoming four city corporation elections ended yesterday with a number of ruling and opposition alliance-backed men joining in the contest.

The city corporation elections in Khulna, Rajshahi, Sylhet and Barisal will be held on June 15.

Our Khulna correspondent reports: Six persons sought candidacies for the mayor post, 148 for 31 councillor posts and 48 for 10 reserved seats for female councillors. The mayor aspirants are Awami League city President Talukder Abdul Khaleque; BNP city General Secretary Moniruzzaman Mony, district General Secretary Shafiqul Alam Mona and city Advisory Committee Member Zafarullah Khan Shachu; Jatiya Party (Ershad) district President Shafiqul Islam Modhu; and Bangladesh Muslim League city President Sirajul Islam.

Our Sylhet correspondent adds: Seven persons sought candidacies for the mayor post, 152 for 27 councillor posts and 36 for nine reserved seats. AL city President Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran; BNP city Vice-President Nasim Hossain, Central Committee Member Ariful Haque Chowdhury and city General Secretary Abdul Quaiyum Jalali; Swedhasebak Dal Central Committee Vice-President Shamsuzzaman, Jamaat-e-Islami city Ameer Ehsanul Mahub Zobayer and businessman Salah Uddin Rimon are the mayor aspirants.

Our Rajshahi correspondent adds: Six persons sought candidacies for the mayor post, 176 for 30 councillor posts and 79 for 10 reserved seats. The mayor aspirants are AL city General Secretary AHM Khairuzzaman Liton; BNP Central Committee Member Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul and city General Secretary Shafiqul Haque Milon; Jamaat city acting general secretary Dr Jahangir Hossain (under arrest); Habibur Rahman; and Mir Mozammel Ali.

Our Barisal correspondent adds: Five persons sought candidacies for the mayor post, 145 for 30 councillor posts and 49 for 10 reserved seats. The mayor aspirants are AL city President Shawkat Hossain Hiron; Jubo League district Joint Secretary Mahmudur Rahman Khan Mamun; and BNP city Secretary Kamrul Hasan Shahin, district (south) President Ahsan Habib Kamal and former district secretary Ebaudul Huq Chan.

Construction worker dies from electrocution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A construction worker died after being electrocuted in an under construction five-storey building at Shekhertek in the capital's Adabar yesterday.

Iron rods which the victim, Mohammad Suzon, 16, hailing from Shibchar upazila of Madaripur district, was carrying came in contact with live wires on the second floor around 1:00pm, said police.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, added police.

Adabar Police Station Officer-in-Charge Shamimur-Rashid said police were looking into the matter.

Repair roads immediately Quader instructs RHD engineers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Communications Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday instructed the engineers of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) to give top priority to repairing roads across the country ahead of the rainy season and Eid-ul-Fitr vacation.

"Whenever there is any crack or hole on any road, repair that immediately. I don't want to see any excuse in this regard," Quader told the engineers at a review meeting of different projects of his ministry held at Sarak Bhaban in the capital.

Quader warned that the contractors involved in development projects and maintenance works under the ministry would be black-listed if there was delay in completion of the works without logical ground.

He issued the warning as the RHD engineers alleged that many contractors had been delaying their works intentionally.

"Engineers involved in the projects will also be made accountable for the delay," said the communications minister.

Later, briefing journalists, Quader said the policy regarding import of 6,000 taxicabs was being relaxed.

Taxicabs could not be imported for years due to a complicated policy which most of the companies failed to comply with.

A policy is being formulated regarding import of 5,000 new CNG-run auto-rickshaws for Dhaka and Chittagong cities, Quader also informed.



Participants at a Teachers' Meet programme organised by consumer health care company GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in the capital on May 10, to raise awareness among teachers about health and nutritional necessities of students.

PHOTO: COURTESY

NOTICE OF CAUTION

This is to notify all concerned that, it has come to my knowledge that a number of dishonest land brokers and fraudsters are approaching various renowned individuals and institutions with fake sale proposals of my wholly owned land located at Plot No. NW(J) 5, Road No. 51, Gulshan Model Town (on Kemal Ataturk Avenue) measuring 1 bigha 6 katha and 14 chatak. This is to reaffirm that I neither intend to sell the said property nor have appointed any individual/institution in that regard. The said property is currently being used (under an expired and terminated tenancy agreement) by Sabbir Ahmed Chowdhury, who is running restaurant business on the said plot under the trade name **Saffron**, and Civil Appeal Nos. 212 and 213 of 2010 are pending before the Appellate Divisions of the Honorable Supreme Court of Bangladesh with regards to the said tenancy agreement and eviction of Sabbir Ahmed Chowdhury from the said property.

In this connection, some brokers/fraudsters are signing agreements with established individuals/institutions and conducting fraudulent financial transactions. They are using same or similar name, forged documents, signature and national identity card and impersonating me in order to execute such transactions. It is notable here that, several times I have published cautionary notices in various renowned newspapers to restrain individuals and institutions from dealing with these fraudsters, filed G.D at concerned Police Station and informed the concerned authorities.

Under the given circumstances, any transaction undertaken with any such land brokers/fraudsters shall be illegal, fraudulent and non-enforceable in the eyes of law. Hence, this repeat notice of caution is published for all concerned person to refrain from undertaking transactions with such individuals with regards to the said property.

Iftekhar Ahmed Khan
Constituted Attorney of Intekhab Ahmed Khan
(Power of Attorney No. 26, Dated 6 January 1999)

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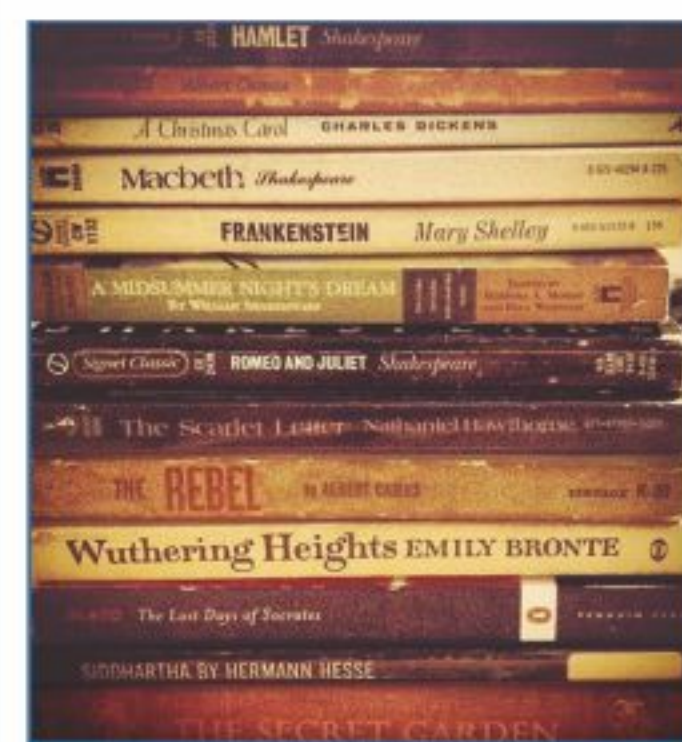
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