

Drunk AL leader opens fire in Barisal Club

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police early yesterday arrested a local Awami League leader and businessman for arbitrarily opening fire on the staff of Barisal Club in the divisional city on Sunday night.

Shafikul Alam Gulzar, 55, a member of the district AL, was sent to jail after his arrest at Athena, one of the two posh hotels and bars owned by him, said Kotwali police.

"He entered the club around 10:00pm and ordered some drink. As it was taking a while to serve him, he took out his revolver and chased us," said the club's supervisor, Md Idris. "We ran in panic while he fired about four shots. The bullets could hit us," he said.

Police arrived later that night at Barisal Club and took Gulzar, who was drunk, to Athena before arresting him there. Two cases were filed against him—one by Barisal Club for attempted murder, and the other by police for abusing his licensed gun. Gulzar was elected a councillor of Barisal city thrice. He joined the AL after it was voted to power in 2008. Before that, he was treasurer of the district BNP.

Pro-VCs fall ill

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demanding execution of the chancellor's directives for organising the VC panel poll.

The confinement, however, was condemned by a group of teachers and Bangladesh Chhatra League activists who brought out a candlelight procession on the campus last evening.

They also urged a stop to the demonstration of the agitating teachers.

Meanwhile, a section of students yesterday continued their protest against allowing MPhil and PhD researchers to contest and cast votes in the JU Central Students Union (Jucus) election slated for January 2.

Defence's

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However, the first information reports and initial charge sheets give a sense that these are ordinary cases with ordinary people like labourers, truck drivers and owners and staff of two trawlers named as accused, he said.

Even the then Chittagong Metropolitan Police commissioner had, as per the plaintiff's statement as a witness and after the haul, instructed that no case be filed, Kamal added.

The plaintiff, Ahadur Rahman, was the then officer-in-charge of Karnaphuli Police Station.

The arms and ammunition, manufactured in China, were meant to be smuggled to India for ULFA, said Kamal, adding that no ordinary person can dare to smuggle such a huge quantity of arms.

The cases were filed a day after seven truckloads of arms and ammunition were seized at a jetty of Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Ltd in Chittagong city on April 2, 2004. The court will resume proceedings today.

Dhaka int'l book fair starts Dec 12

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka International Book Fair has been failing to make it a success due to lack of new books, said National Book Centre (N B C) Director Asim Saha yesterday.

The book fair with at least 250 stalls will be held at the Suhrawardy Udyan from December 12 to 22, Asim Saha told reporters at a views-exchange meeting at a



With temperature dropping considerably during the night, people of the low income bracket search for suitable warm clothing to counter the slow but sure approach of winter at a makeshift shop on a footpath in the capital's Gulshan yesterday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

UP chairmen

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on the highway.

They are Mosharaf Hossain, Md Faruk, Abdul Halim, Saidul Islam, Md Rasel, Saiful Islam and Shariful Islam. Name of the last arrestee could not

be confirmed till filing of the report.

SM Bodiuzaaman, officer-in-charge of Sitakunda Police Station, said police arrested the activists on an overnight drive in the upazila's Kumira.

SC stays illegality

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The Daily Star there is no legal bar to his client's discharging duties as a lawmaker following the SC order.

Following a writ petition, the HC on November 21 declared Salam's Jatiya Sangsad membership illegal over allegedly being a loan defaulter.

Body recovered

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inscribed on the key).

The hotel staff collected the key and opened Helal's room around midnight and discovered the body, but informed police of the matter the next morning, he added.

Quoting hotel staff, police said an hour after Helal booked the room, a man, who Helal introduced as Mozammel, met with him in his room but did not stay.

Police suspect Helal was strangled. The body was sent for an autopsy.

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"Signing deals like the Rampal Power Plant with India and the Tica with the US proves that the government is ready to go any

length to appease India and US, so that they can continue to be in power," said Zonayed Saki.

Coordinator of GBM Saiful Huq said although Sheikh Hasina professed to be pro-liberation, she had actually capitulated to the

US, which was against Bangladesh's independence in 1971.

Genosanghati Andolon, Jatiya Mukti Council, and Jatiya Ganatantrik Ganamancha also held separate rallies to protest the agreement.

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Two held with Yaba tablets in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion on Sunday arrested two persons along with 1,600 Yaba tablets worth Tk 18,000 in the capital's Jatrabari and

Demra.

The Rab team led by Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police Kudrat, raided Dholpara area in Jatrabari around 3:30pm and held one

Shahnaz Akhter Sumi with 320 Yaba tablets. Following her information, another Helal Uddin, 40, was arrested in Demra with 1,280 pieces of Yaba.

AL's ploy to win US backing

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agreement amidst all the chaos over the election, hoping that the people would miss what was being done.

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HC rejects writ petition

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He also urged the court to direct the authorities concerned of the media to stop publishing the contents of the conversation.

The HC passed yesterday's order saying the petitioner has no jurisdiction to move such a petition before it, since he is not an 'aggrieved person' in this regard.

No political leaders gave rejoinders to the media to protest recording and publishing

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The HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice ABM Altaf Hossain passed the order.

On October 26, Hasina phoned Khaleda and invited her to Gono Bhaban, the official residence of the premier, for a dialogue over the polls-time government.

Later, different television and print media published the conversation between the two political leaders.

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CLOSING DATE: 31ST DECEMBER 2013

Five held

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10:45am. In separate drives conducted in Demra and Jatrabari, a Rab-10 team, led by Maj Tawfique, disguised as customers caught three drug dealers and recovered a total of 1,220 Yaba pills from their possession.

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Zonta International

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The organisation's six clubs in the country will hold seminars and discussions, among other programmes, in the 16 days, she said.

More than 300 members of the Bangladesh chapter, along with 30,000 international members, will be involved in the campaign, said Rahman.

Dilruba Ahmed, director of Zonta International, said the organisation works to

empower women through ensuring their education, economic and political rights.

In a message for the worldwide campaign, Zonta International President Lynn McKenzie said, "We can't and mustn't ignore the fact: violence against women and girls is still pervasive in all kinds of countries and societies. It's in our back yard. Zonta International has been committed to its prevention and eradication for many years."

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ATTACK ON SAVAR FIRE STATION

Two cases filed against RMG workers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Two cases were filed against several thousand unnamed workers of AL-Muslim Group early yesterday for attacking Savar Fire Service Station and clashing with law enforcers which left 60 people, including fire fighters and policemen, hurt on Sunday morning.

One of the cases was filed by Station Master Khan Khalil Rahman while the other by Sub-Inspector Abul Kasem of Savar model police.