



A billboard was left right in the middle of the road in Signboard area after the Dhaka-Chittagong highway was increased to four lanes with locals accusing it of being a cause of accidents regularly at night. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

BCL BEATING OF RU CULTURAL ACTIVIST Slew of protests demand arrest, expulsion

RU CORRESPONDENT

Teachers, students and political and cultural organisations yesterday staged protests demanding expulsion and arrest of a Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader of Rajshahi University (RU) unit who beat a cultural activist unconscious and left him with a fractured right shinbone.

With his leg plastered, Basudev Roy, a former president of RU Kendrio Sangskritik Jote doing his master's degree in psychology, needs around one month to recover as per Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Basudev told The Daily Star that a window he opened in Silsila Restaurant on the campus on Tuesday evening bumped the BCL RU assistant secretary, Saddam Hossain Sajib, sitting outside on the head.

Also a Teacher-Student Cultural Centre (TSCC) governing body member, Basudev added that Saddam beat him even after he apologised.

The accused third year law student on Tuesday admitted beating Basudev, but said it was after the latter slapped him.

Some 100 activists of the jote brought out a procession around 10:30am, staged a two-hour sit-in in front of the administrative building, lodged a complaint at the proctor's office and handed over to Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof Muhammad Mizanuddin a memorandum, which also demanded ensuring security.

At the sit-in, joined by teachers, Sammito Sangskritik Jote and Bangladesh Group Theatre, Rajshahi, the jote threatened "tougher programmes" if the arrest was not

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Carry out new child labour census

Manusher Jonno Foundation urges government marking World Day Against Child Labour

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Against the backdrop of outdated information on the number of child labourers in the country, speakers yesterday urged the government to conduct a census on child labourers as an exact estimation will help address the problem fruitfully.

"According to a census, conducted in 2003, there were around 32 lakh child

labourers of whom 13 lakh were engaged in risky jobs. On the other hand, the government aims to eradicate hazardous child labour by 2016. How could we achieve the goal if we do not know the updated statistics?" said Director (Governance) of Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) Tofael Ahmed.

He made the remark at a human chain, organised before the National

Museum at the capital's Shahbagh by MJF, marking World Day Against Child Labour, which is observed on June 12. Around 500 children participated in the programme with posters saying "child is meant to learn, not to earn" in line with this year's theme "No To Child Labour - Yes To Quality Education".

A discussion was also held at the

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Manusher Jonno Foundation forms a human chain in front of Public Library in the capital's Shahbagh yesterday marking World Day Against Child Labour to be observed tomorrow.

PHOTO: STAR

Remove billboards felicitating yourself first

Quader tells Ctg Mayor Nasir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday urged the new Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) mayor to first remove the billboards, which were installed in the port city to congratulate him, before pulling down other illegal hoardings.

At a meeting with the representatives of CNG-run

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SAHR welcomes Indo-Bangla land deal

CITY DESK

South Asians for Human Rights (SAHR), a democratic regional network of human rights defenders, welcomes the Land Boundary Agreement which was ratified on June 7 to address the statelessness of thousands of persons living in border enclaves between Bangladesh and India, said a SAHR statement yesterday.

As per the pact, among 162 enclaves, 111 will be transferred to Bangladesh and 51 to India which would allow the estimated 50,000 people living in the enclaves to choose their nationality ending decades of statelessness.

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