

BIJOY EKATTOR HALL AT DU BCL men forces two to change rooms

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leaders have grabbed two rooms of Bijoy Ekattor Hall at Dhaka University illegally and relocated their residents to another room.

BCL leaders Omar Faruk, Salman Farsi, and some other leaders occupied room no. 4003 and 4004 on Monday night and sent the residents to room no. 3001.

Faruk, a third year student of Islamic history and culture, and Salman, a third year student of public administration, are candidates of president and secretary posts of the upcoming hall committee.

The BCL leaders said it was wrong not to take permission of the authority but they would apply to the hall administration so that it allotted them the rooms.

Provost Dr AJM Shafiqul Alam Bhuiyan said proper action would be taken after investigation.

"I have heard the matter but no one gave me a written allegation. Grabbing others' rooms is an initial step to break the rule of the hall. Political activities are allowed in the hall but leaders must not compel anyone to be involved in political activities. We will not tolerate such incidents," he said.

The two rooms were allotted to the general students on the basis of the merit list, said some residents. One student said unlike other halls, there was no political pressure in Bijoy Ekattor.

Sheikh Enan, the hall BCL president, claimed that they did not force anyone out of the room; it was based on consensus.



Roads and Highways Department has started clearing the Dhaka-Aricha highway, which leads to the National Memorial from the capital, ahead of Victory Day on December 16. The photo was taken at Savar Bus Stand yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Facebook interested to sit with govt

Says Tarana Halim
STAR REPORT

The Facebook authorities have showed interest to sit with Bangladesh govt next week over issues related to cyber security, reports BSS.

"Facebook Public Policy Director for India and South Asia Akhi Das, in a reply to my letter expressed their readiness to sit with us... hopefully, we will sit on December 6 or 7 in Dhaka," Tarana Halim, state minister for post and telecommunications, told the government news agency last night.

She said she sent the letter to the Facebook authorities to reach a deal to ensure cyber security over violence against women, instigation of religious intolerance, and fomenting of political unrest.

Earlier, Facebook turned down all requests of the government for information about users in the first half of this year. Facebook's "Global Government Requests Report", showed that the government made three requests about as many users/accounts between January and June this year.

In Bangladesh, over 30 million people are active on the popular social networking site and their number is increasing regularly, according to BSS.

On November 18, the government blocked public access to the social networking site temporarily following the Supreme Court's rejection of review petitions by condemned war criminals Salauddin Quader Chowdhury and Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed.

NEWS IN brief

Fire guts Ashulia plastic factory

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Fire gutted valuables, including machineries, of a plastic factory at Ariarmor of Gazirchot area in Ashulia, on the outskirts of the capital, yesterday morning.

Fire fighters doused the blaze, which started around 10:30am at High Tec Plastic Ltd, in one and a half hours.

Quoting the factory owner, fire service officials said the damage caused by the fire could be around worth Tk 1 crore.

Egyptian envoy new dean of Diplomatic Corp

CITY DESK

Egyptian Ambassador in Dhaka Mahmoud Ezzat has taken charge as the dean of the Diplomatic Corp, says a press release.

Prior to his forthcoming departure, Doyen of the Corp Robert W Gibson, the British high commissioner, handed over his duties to Mahmoud Ezzat.

Gibson began his tour of duty in September 2011 and will leave Bangladesh later this month, says the release of the British High Commission.

IIM team to visit Dhaka

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

A team of the Indian Institute of Management, an internationally renowned business school, will visit Dhaka this week, said a press release yesterday.

IIM recently has offered Bangladeshi students to pursue MBA under its flagship post graduate programme and the Indian High Commission will arrange an interactive session for Bangladeshi students, teachers and applicants with the visiting team.

The session will be held at 11:00am on Saturday at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (House-35, Road-24, Gulshan-1).

Gary Huang attends Rotary Club of Dhaka Royal's meeting

CITY DESK

Former Rotary International President Gary CK Huang attended a meeting of Rotary Club of Dhaka Royal on Saturday.

The meeting, held in Raowa Auditorium in the capital, was presided over by the club President Shereen Anis.

Rotary Governor SAM Showket Hossain, former governor Mir Anisuzzaman, Ghulam Mustafa, Governor-elect Md Ayub, and Governor Nominee FH Arif were present among others.

Later, Gary CK Huang handed over computers to schools and joined a Polio immunisation programme at Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

Several hundred boat people go traceless

UNHCR reports on Bangladeshis, Rohingyas trafficked through Bay of Bengal

STAR REPORT

At least 1,000 people believed to be Rohingyas and Bangladeshis boarded boats of human traffickers from the Bay of Bengal between July and September this year, says a UNHCR periodic report released last week.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has confirmed the arrival of about 100 such people in Malaysia but it has no information about the whereabouts of the rest.

Publishing its third quarter (July-September) of 2015 report on "Mixed Maritime Movements in South-East Asia," it says it is difficult to independently verify the information.

By this time, dozens of persons of concern to UNHCR reportedly crossed overland from Thailand into Malaysia undetected, the UN agency adds.

Following the crackdown on smugglers' jungle camps in the first half of 2015, smugglers were said to be leasing houses in southern Thailand to keep groups of 15-20 people until their passage to Malaysia could be arranged, it says.

The information is compiled from various sources, including governments, implementing partners, media reports, and hundreds of direct interviews with persons of concern who have undertaken mixed maritime journeys in South-East Asia.

Earlier, UNHCR estimated that some 31,000 Rohingyas and Bangladeshis departed from the Bay of Bengal on traffickers' boats between January and June.

At least 370 boat people were estimated to have died in these waters since 2015.

The UNHCR report traces the events of May 2015 when such maritime movements and government responses were thrust into the spotlight following the discovery of mass graves of people who died from abuse or deprivation in smugglers' camps along the Thailand-Malaysia border.

The boat movements had temporarily stopped due to the monsoon rains, which have caused severe flooding in many areas across Myanmar.

But the maritime departures are expected to resume once the weather improves in the coming weeks.



In line with Nestlé's worldwide initiative of creating shared value, Nestlé Bangladesh Limited Managing Director Stéphane Nordé inaugurates a clean drinking water facility donated by the company at Piruzali Adarsha High School in Sadar upazila of Gazipur on Saturday, allowing the students regular access to drinking water. Corporate Affairs Director Naquib Khan and Corporate Affairs Senior Manager Mirza Golam Hossain were, among others, present at the inaugural ceremony, organised by the school management.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Two get life term for raping RMG worker

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday sentenced two men to life imprisonment for kidnapping and raping a garment worker in 2002.

It also fined Sumon Sarker, of Dewbogh area, and Haradhan Chandra Paul, of Ukil Para area, Tk 1 lakh each, in default they will have to suffer one more year in jail.

The two picked up the woman from Chasara area in Narayanganj town and raped her in an abandoned house in Dewbogh area on October 29, 2002.

The Daily Star
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CELEBRATING LIFE

District Festivals

CONCERT, PHOTO EXHIBITION

This event is free for all. Registration is a prerequisite. visit: www.imdhaka.com/celebratinglifebd

We will be at

CHITTAGONG

Photography Exhibition
3-5 December 2015, 10 AM to 8 PM
Venue: Haatkholo Gallery
6 Surson Road, Chittagong

Concert
3 December 2015, 6 PM to 8 PM
Venue: Theater Institute, Chittagong
Performance by **Rezwana Choudhury Bannya**
Band Show by **Tirondaj**

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Labiba Tuz Zaimah
Feni Girls' Cadet College, Feni

Jaid Monwar Chowdhury
Sunnydale, Dhaka

Khondoker Md. Ibtihal
K. B. High School, Mymensingh

Farsad Abdur Rashid
Sunbeams, Dhaka

Mubtasim Hossain
Shahan International School, Rangpur

Nafisa Naznin
Anandaniketan, Sylhet

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Season 4

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