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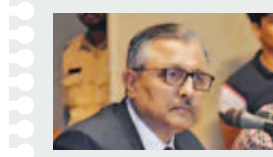
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Political activities banned at Buet

19 accused of Abrar killing suspended from university; students vow to continue demo until all demands are met; 2 more accused held



Buet authorities will soon open an online portal where students can share their experiences of ragging, torture and harassment. The university's Directorate of Students' Welfare will monitor the complaints.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Buet authorities yesterday banned all political activities on the campus and suspended 19 students, including BCL leaders, accused in Abrar Fahad killing case.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Saiful Islam made the announcement in face of the student agitation sparked by the brutal murder last week.

During a meeting between the university authorities and the protesters, the VC also said they were working to open a website, in which students would be able to post their complaints about ragging and other forms of torture on the campus.

The university's Directorate of Students' Welfare would directly receive the complaints through the website, he said.

Coming out of the meeting, the students, however, said they would continue their

demonstration until the authorities fulfilled all the demands that fall under their jurisdiction.

They warned that they will not allow the authorities to hold first year admission tests slated for October 14 as well as all terminal examinations if the demand were not met.

Abrar, a second-year student of the university's electrical and electronic engineering department, died after he was beaten by a group of Chhatra League leaders at Sher-e-Bangla Hall sometime between 7:00pm Sunday and 2:30am on Monday.

Doctors said Abrar died of "internal bleeding and excessive pain".

The incident triggered a firestorm of protests on campuses across the country. Many took to the social media to demand justice for Abrar.

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Buet students bring out a procession on the campus yesterday, demanding justice for fellow student Abrar Fahad. *Inset*, protesters chant slogans during a demonstration.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

HRW deplors Abrar killing

Urges govt to ensure impartial probe

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Buet student Abrar Fahad's killing reflects a deeper failing by the Bangladesh government to bring those responsible for politically motivated abuses to justice, says Human Rights Watch.

"A government that ignores torture, enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings by security forces, and arbitrary arrests over dissent begets a culture where students can run a "torture cell" on a university campus," said Brad Adams, Asia director of HRW, in a statement yesterday.

Bangladesh authorities should ensure a thorough, impartial, and transparent investigation into Abrar murder, and hold all those responsible to account, he said.

On October 6, Abrar, 21, was summoned from his dorm room at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) to Room 2011, known among students as the "torture cell" run by activists of Chhatra League, pro-ruling Awami League student body. A few hours later, he was found dead.

The BCL assistant secretary at the university told the media that the group interrogated Fahad about his involvement with Chhatra Shibir, pro-Jamaat-e-Islami student body. They claimed to have found "evidence" of Fahad's ties to Shibir after looking through his Facebook account and confiscating his cell phone.

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Rab arrests DNCC councillor Mizan

About Tk 8cr in cheques, FDR, illegal pistol seized from his residence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab recovered Tk 1 crore in fixed deposit receipts and Tk 6.77 crore in cheques from Ward Councillor Habibur Rahman Mizan's flat in the capital's Muhammadpur yesterday evening, hours after he was arrested in Sreemangal.

The Awami League leader and councillor of ward-32 of Dhaka North City Corporation was arrested in the morning at his friend's house in Sreemangal.

Rab officers found an unlicensed pistol, four bullets and Tk 2 lakh in his possession, said Executive Magistrate Sarwar Alam.

Sensing that the law enforcers would be coming after him, Mizan was about to flee the country through Sylhet, he said.

Rab started searching his flat along with him on Aurangzeb Road around 3:30pm and continued for nearly four hours.

Officers are also looking for a stash of Tk 68 lakh Mizan had withdrawn from a bank on Thursday.

"He reportedly owns property in Texas, USA. We are verifying the information" Sarwar told reporters after searching Mizan's flat.

Mizan had no business or job in the last 15 years. His only legitimate source of income is a monthly allowance of TK 36,000, he has been receiving as a councillor, Sarwar said.

Officers are also checking whether he is involved in the Freedom Party and is an accused in a case filed over an attempted murder of Sheikh Hasina, he said.

Besides, there are numerous allegations of extortion and drug dealing against him.

For now, he would be accused in separate cases of money laundering and arms possession, Sarwar told reporters.

Rab handed him to Muhammadpur Police Station last night.

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4 Ansar al Islam men arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police have arrested four suspected members of banned militant outfit Ansar al Islam from the capital's Jatrabari area.

Shahin alias Omar, Saiful Islam, Hanifuzzaman alis Biplob and Al Mamun were arrested on Thursday night. Three machetes were seized from them, said police.

According to law enforcers, the four recently left their homes and received training in Bandarban hills in using machetes and achieving physical fitness.

Monirul Islam, chief of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said the arrestees are "active members of Ansar al Islam".

"The four along with some other operatives from different districts received one month's training in Bandarban followed by a week-long training in the Sundarbans area.

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JUBO LEAGUE PRESIDIUM MEETING

Call for change in leadership

Office secretary Anisur expelled over graft allegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jubo League presidium yesterday called for a change in the leadership, alleging that many of its leaders had been using the organisation for their personal gains.

The demand came at a presidium meeting held at the organisation's central office in the capital's Bangabandhu Avenue.

"Most of the presidium members at the meeting said many leaders are considering Jubo League as their ancestral property," a presidium member of the organisation told The Daily Star after the meeting.

The meeting also discussed bringing fresh blood in Jubo League leadership through the upcoming central council scheduled to be held on November 23, he said.

The last council of Jubo League was held in 2012.

During the meeting, the ruling party-backed organisation also expelled its central office Secretary Kazi Anisur Rahman over corruption allegation, said ABM Amjad Hossain, another presidium member of Jubo League.

Anisur went into hiding after the ongoing crackdown on illegal casinos began on September 18, organisation sources said.

On October 6, Jubo League expelled its Dhaka South Jubo League President Ismail Hossain Chowdhury Samrat, one of the casino kingpins, and his close aide Enamul Haque Arman, vice president of the unit, for their alleged involvement in anti-social activities and breaching discipline of the organisation.

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Ethiopia PM wins Nobel Peace Prize

Awarded for ending Eritrea standoff

AFP, Oslo

Hailed as a visionary and reformer, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed yesterday won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to resolve the long-running conflict with neighbouring foe Eritrea.

Abiy was honoured "for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea," the Nobel Committee said.

The award is seen as a welcome boost for Africa's youngest leader as he faces worrying inter-community

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In Loving Memory of
Rear Admiral M. H. Khan
Former Chief of the Naval Staff
Bangladesh Navy.

On his 1st Death Anniversary
He breathed his last on 13th October 2018

We request all Colleagues, well wisher, friends and relatives to pray for the salvation and eternal peace for his departed soul.

May Almighty Allah grant him Jannah.

Begum M. H. Khan
Son Maruf & Grandsons Musavvir & Muazzam.