

Two slaps and off they go!

Rajshahi Govt College spares BCL members of punishment after attack on students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Rajshahi Government College authorities have pardoned members of Chhatra League (BCL) involved in Wednesday night's attack on the college's resident students.

During a meeting held yesterday, students, teachers, and journalist leaders agreed to the decision in presence of the college's BCL leaders, despite initial demands from students to expel the BCL members and take legal action against the attackers.

On Wednesday night, two BCL men from outside, supported by around 10 members of the college unit BCL, stormed two blocks of the college's Muslim Hostel and beat up 25 students.

The assaulted students included two online journalists who told newspaper that BCL men took this measure as students were not joining Chhatra League events.

Students told the meeting that BCL men turned the college into a "torture cell" and are using violence to force students to attend their events.

The attackers also hurled abuses at the college principal and hostel superintendent when they went to the building to investigate the incident in the early hours of yesterday.

Yesterday morning, when the assaulted students called for a protest, the college authorities invited them to a meeting held in the teachers' conference room.

The students told the meeting that BCL men turned the college into a "torture cell" and are using violence to force students to attend their events.

Even members of the reporters' unity and rover scouts are not spared from their torture, students alleged, adding that a similar attack occurred a week ago.

The involved BCL men include two outsiders --

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2 KILLED IN CTG WALL COLLAPSE Demolition went on without safety measures



STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

When a building needs to be demolished, some basic safety measures are a must. If they are in place, tragedies like Wednesday's incident, in which a building's wall crushed two people to death, are unlikely to take place.

As one might suspect, this tragedy has taken place because authorities took no such measures. For example, there was no safety net or fence to catch the debris from above.

Rownak Chakrabarty and Jasim Uddin, who were working as contractor and subcontractor, were killed during the demolition work of the old building in the port city's Jamal Khan area.

Earlier, locals and eyewitnesses said during the demolition of the two-storey building, a part of the structure's wall collapsed, as work was underway without a safety net.

Shahidul Islam, senior station officer of Chattogram's Chandanpura fire station, told The Daily Star, "The demolition work was underway without any announcement and safety

measures."

During a recent visit to the area, this correspondent found that many educational institutions -- including Khashtagir Girls High School, Shah Waliullah Institute, AG Church School and Ideal School -- are located there.

Many residents, including students and guardians, visit the area every day. Besides, many young people hang out at the quite popular Jamal Khan area.

The building is almost 30 years old. Businessman Ratan Bhattacharya bought it about 15 years ago and used it as a warehouse.

This newspaper could not reach the owner despite repeated efforts.

Kazi Hasan Bin Shams, chief engineer of Chattogram Development Authority, told this newspaper that as per law, authorities have to arrange a safety fence before demolishing old buildings.

Secondly, they should make a public announcement for people to avoid moving in the area, he said.

An unnatural death case has been filed with Kotwali Police Station, said Officer-in-Charge Zahidul Kabir.

As per law, authorities have to arrange a safety fence before demolishing old buildings. Secondly, they should make a public announcement for people to avoid moving in the area.

KAZI HASAN BIN SHAMS Chief engineer of CDA

Constable dies in road accident

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A police constable died after a truck hit his motorcycle at Satkhira's Kalaroa upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Emon Hossain, 30, a constable of Rangamati Sadar Police Outpost, said Kalaroa Police Station Officer-in-Charge Nasiruddin Mridha.

Quoting eyewitnesses and locals, Nasiruddin said Emon was going towards Signal Bazar from Shankarpur village on his motorcycle when the front wheel of a truck, coming from the opposite direction, exploded.

As a result, the truck driver lost control of the

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ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY VC leaves campus amid protests His PS relieved of duty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Islamic University Vice Chancellor Prof Shaikh Abdus Salam left campus for Dhaka yesterday morning, while a group of jobseekers, mostly former Chhatra League leaders, has kept his office padlocked since Monday.

The jobseekers have been staging demonstrations demanding Salam's resignation since several audio conversations, reportedly between the VC and a jobseeker, went viral on social media.

"I had a plan to visit Dhaka. My daughter will return from abroad. Again, I have some work at the University Grants Commission," Salam told The Daily Star over phone. "There is no relation with anything else."

"I will talk with UGC regarding university-related issues, and the present condition of the campus might come up casually," he said.

Salam has taken leave till March 4 and will probably return to the campus on March 3 or 4, he added.

Meanwhile, HM Ali Hasan, acting registrar of the university located in Kushtia, yesterday said authorities have relieved Ayub Ali from the post of personal secretary at the VC's office. He did not give any reason.

Several months back, a group of former and current BCL leaders launched a movement against Ayub. They alleged he misbehaves with people who go for work at the office. During this time, his office was vandalised.

On February 16 and 17, three audio clips of the VC's reported conversation surfaced on Facebook, which led to a commotion on campus. On Wednesday morning, the clips were played on loudspeaker in front of the university's administrative building.

'DIAZ MURDER' After 6 years' probe, CID says case has 'factual error'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

After investigating the case for six years, Criminal Investigation Department (CID), in its final report submitted yesterday, said the murder case of Chhatra League central leader Diaz Irfan Chowdhury has "factual error".

Assistant Superintendent of Police Abdus Salam Mia of CID Chattogram, also investigation officer of the case, placed the report to the GRO section of the court, said court sources.

Confirming the matter, Chattogram CID Special Superintendent of Police Shawnewaz Khaled told The Daily Star, "After investigation, the IO mentioned it in the final report of the case statement." SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



HARMING 50 PALM TREES Involvement of AL leader found

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a primary investigation, police have found involvement of local Awami League leader Shahriar Ali Paramanik alias Shahriar Alam in damaging around 50 palm trees on Baigachha Road in Rajshahi's Bagmara upazila through injecting insecticide.

Bagmara Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Aminul Islam said this before a High Court bench during hearing of a suomoto (voluntary) rule yesterday.

OC Aminul, who appeared before the bench of Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman and Justice AKM Rabiul Hassan yesterday, in compliance with its February 12 order, said a team of police visited the spot and collected the samples.

The OC said the probe report will be submitted to the court concerned in Rajshahi by March 30.

At the same time, daily Prothom Alo's Bagmara reporter appeared before the bench in compliance with its February 12 order, described the event of making a report over the incident.

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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার (Government of Bangladesh) tender notice for supply of various spare parts of HRSG. Includes details of the tender, contact information, and a list of items to be supplied.

North-West Power Generation Company Ltd. e-Tender Notice for supply of various spare parts of HRSG. Includes company details, tender information, and a list of items to be supplied.

Chandpur Govt. Mohila College e-Re-Tender Notice 01/2022-2023. Details the tender for campus networking and provides contact information for the college.

বরিশাল সিটি কর্পোরেশন (Barisal City Corporation) দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (Tender Notice). Lists various construction and supply items with their respective quantities and prices.