

## JU DORMITORIES

# Illegal occupation to blame for seat crisis

MUNTAKIM SAAD and SHEIKH TAJUL ISLAM TAJ

Many Chhatra League leaders and activists of Jahangirnagar University and non students have been staying in dormitories illegally, leading to an acute seat crisis.

This was found at a time when JU directed the illegal occupants to vacate seats amid protests over a rape on the campus on Saturday.

According to the administration sources, more than 1,000 ex-students and those admitted under dependent quota are occupying seats illegally in male dorms. Protestors, however, claimed the number is almost double.

JU's 10 male dormitories can house 6,626 students and nine female halls 5,736, said the registrar's office.

A group of BCL men were primarily found involved in the rape of a 19-year-old woman on Saturday. A BCL leader, who was residing at Mir Mosharrar Hossain Hall illegally, invited an outsider to stay at the hall. The two are the prime accused in the case.

On Sunday, JU syndicate declared that illegal occupants and students under dependent quota must vacate their seats within five working days.

The university issued a similar notice last year, which did not work, said teachers.

Academic activities for students of 46 to 52 batches are ongoing. However, many ex-students from 41 to 45 batches are staying in the dorms illegally.

JU BCL President Aktaruzzaman Sohel is a student of public health and informatics from the 42nd batch (2012-13 session) while General Secretary Habibur Rahman Liton is a student of philosophy from the 43rd batch (2013-14 session).

According to JU ordinance, honours courses have to be completed within six consecutive academic years. The Master's ordinance stipulates a student who fails to appear at exam or fails to pass, shall cease to be a regular student and shall not be readmitted to the course in another academic session. They may be allowed to sit for the exam within the next three years as irregular candidates following the department chairperson's approval.

Visiting two halls yesterday, this newspaper found that many rooms were occupied by first-year students double their capacities.

Sohel, a resident of Mowlana Bhashani Hall, said, "My Master's course has not been finished. I would take a special exam."

Dr Mahfuza Mubarak, chairman of the public health department, said Sohel had informed her a few days back that he would apply to sit for Master's exam under special

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PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Taltala canal used to be a major waterbody flowing through Khulna city. Due to encroachment and pollution, the waterbody has lost most of its natural flow. What's more alarming is that the Khulna City Corporation recently initiated a project to construct roads on both banks and turn the canal into a 17 feet concrete drain.

# Final nail in Taltala canal's coffin

KCC reducing once 60ft waterbody to a concrete drain

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

The two-kilometre-long Taltala canal once used to be a vital waterbody flowing through Khulna city.

Over time, the 60 feet wide canal has shrunk and lost much of its natural flow and navigability due to encroachment and waste dumping.

To put the final nail in its coffin, the city corporation recently initiated a project to construct 15-20 feet wide concrete roads on both

banks and turn the canal into a 17 feet concrete drain.

According to the KCC, the Tk 823 crore "Drainage System Development (Phase I)" project involving seven canals in the city, including Taltala canal, will solve the city's waterlogging problem.

Also, it deems the roads on the banks of Taltala canal will serve public needs.

The excavation of Taltala canal and construction of roads on its banks will be done at an estimated

cost of Tk 4.62 crore.

The KCC earlier dug the canal in 2015 and constructed 6-7 feet wide brick roads on its banks.

The canal originates near Karimnagar residential area on Sonadanga-Mujgunni highway and flows through the city to merge with Mayur river.

Citing a survey, Nuruzzaman Talukder, estate officer of KCC, said the canal used to be around 50-70 feet wide in different locations

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## ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

# Helpline launched to report complaints

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Information and Service Helpline "333 4" has been launched to report any complaints related to the environment.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, minister of environment, forest and climate change inaugurated the helpline service yesterday at a programme in the meeting room of the ministry.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between A2I of ICT Department and the ministry to facilitate cooperation and coordination for overall digital transformation.

At the meeting, Saber said this will widen the range of digital initiatives aimed to improve government services, increase internal efficiency and citizen involvement by setting up facilities for citizens to report complaints to the ministry.

Speaking at the programme, Zunaid Ahmed Palak, state minister of Ministry of

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## ARICHA GHAT

# 65 illegal structures knocked down

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority yesterday dismantled 65 illegal structures from Aricha Ghat in Manikganj yesterday.

BIWTA Executive Magistrate Hasan Maruf, who led the daylong eviction drive, said, "Illegal structures in the riverside areas of BIWTA are being demolished. In continuation of that, the drive was conducted at Aricha Ghat. Saplings will be planted to beautify these places."

BIWTA Aricha Port Officer SM Sajjadur Rahman said, "Such an eviction drive will also be conducted at Paturia Ghat soon. A total of 150 illegal structures were removed from Daulatdia Ghat area in Rajbari on Monday."



Since January 23, the mission conducted a total of 68 cleft lip and palate surgeries and one burn deformity surgery for free of cost.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

# For their smiles only

Rotaplast Mission, Chevron Bangladesh organise free surgeries for 67 children with cleft lip

DWOHA CHOWDHURY

Two-year-old Nusrat Jannat was born with a cleft lip. Her father Monir Miah, a car driver, could not afford to arrange for reconstructive surgery on her lips.

Thanks to US based non-government organisation Rotaplast Mission, little Nusrat is now all smiles after a successful surgery by a group of the finest surgeons, and that too completely free of cost.

The 7th Rotaplast Mission to Bangladesh conducted reconstructive surgeries for 67 children, including Nusrat, and two adults, to help them get their smiles back.

The 29-member mission brought in 12 doctors, six nurses, a therapist, and a Covid-19 safety officer to Bangladesh from the US, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, and Egypt, who volunteered for the good deed.

Rotaplast International has been working to provide free surgical care to children born with cleft lips and palates for the last 30 years.

In Bangladesh, Chevron Bangladesh has been supporting the mission since 2013 under its social investment initiatives.

This year, the mission was organised by the Rotary Club of



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PHOTO: COLLECTED

Jalalabad in Sylhet, while Sylhet Women's Medical College Hospital arranged for the surgeries.

Earlier, four such missions were completed in Sylhet since 2014.

Since January 23, the mission conducted a total 68 cleft lip and palate surgeries and one burn deformity surgery for free.

Like Nusrat, Siddika Begum, 5, also had cleft lip surgery conducted under the mission.

Her father Siraj Uddin, a farmer, said, "We are very happy to see her smiling after this successful surgery done by foreign surgeons for free."

Foysof Ahmed, 24, was injured in a fire incident in Saudi Arabia. Since he was not a listed labourer there, he was not compensated accordingly.

The mission conducted his burn deformity surgery for free too.

"Such surgeries usually cost Tk

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GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
ROADS & HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER  
ROAD CIRCLE, MOULVIBAZAR  
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Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Road Transport & Bridges/Road Transport & Highways Division			
2	Agency	Roads & Highways Department			
3	Procuring Entity Name	Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Moulvibazar			
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present			
5	Procuring Entity District	Moulvibazar			
6	Invitation for	Procurement of physical service			
7	Invitation Ref No	35.01.5800.187.07.07.86.24-191			
8	Date	06/02/2024			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement Method	NCT & OTM			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Revenue Budget & GOB			
11	Development Partners (if applicable)	N/A			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project/Program Code (if applicable)	N/A			
13	Project Name (if applicable)	N/A			
14	Tender Package No.	01/Tender/PSN/Rustompur Toll/MRC/2023-24			
15	Tender Package Name	Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of a Real-Time Web-Based Toll Collection System of Rustompur Toll Plaza at 193 <sup>th</sup> Km of Dhaka (Katchpur)-Bhairab-Jogodishpur-Shaistaganj-Sylhet-Tamabil-Jaflong (N-2) Road under Road Division, Habiganj of Road Circle, Moulvibazar for 3 (Three) years.			
16	Tender Publication Date	06/02/2024			
17	Tender Last Selling Date	11/03/2024 upto 05:00 pm			
18	Tender Closing Date and Time	Date	Time		
19	Tender Opening Date and Time	12/03/2024	12:00 pm		
20	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address			
Selling Tender Document(Principal)		Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Moulvibazar			
Selling Tender Document (Others)		Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD, Road Division, Habiganj			
Receiving Tender Document		Office of the Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Moulvibazar			
Opening Tender Document		Office of the Superintending Engineer, RHD, Road Circle, Moulvibazar			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
21	Eligibility of Tenderer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tenderers shall have the legal capacity to enter into the Contract under the Applicable Law.</li><li>Tenderers shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organisations registered in Bangladesh.</li><li>Tenderers shall have fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh</li><li>As per requirements specified in TDS &amp; TOR</li></ul>			
22	Brief Description of Services	Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of a Real-Time Web-Based Toll Collection System of Rustompur Toll Plaza at 193 <sup>th</sup> Km of Dhaka (Katchpur)-Bhairab-Jogodishpur-Shaistaganj-Sylhet-Tamabil-Jaflong (N-2) Road under Road Division, Habiganj of Road Circle, Moulvibazar for 3 (Three) years.			
23	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	4000 TK			
24	Package No	Identification of Package	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Completion Time in Weeks / Months
	01/Tender/PSN/ Rustompur Toll/MRC/2023-24	Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of a Real-Time Web-Based Toll Collection System	Habiganj	25,00,000/-	36 months
25	The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings. This notice will be available on RHD website <a href="http://www.rhd.gov.bd">www.rhd.gov.bd</a> and CPTU website <a href="http://www.cptu.gov.bd">www.cptu.gov.bd</a> .				

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