

## 4 SAD leaders placed on 7-day remand

FROM PAGE 12  
committee of SAD's combined private university unit; and SAD members Sakadoun Siam, 22, and Sadman Sadab, 21.

They were arrested at a flat on Road 83 in Gulshan.

The police had sought a 10 day remand for each after producing them before the court of Dhaka Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Md Ziadur Rahman yesterday.

Amid tight security, the four arrestees were taken to the courtroom at 4:10pm. Upon seeing them, a group of lawyers began chanting slogans against them.

They shouted, "Extortionist! Extortionist!"

As the arrestees tried to cover their faces, several lawyers confronted them, saying, "Why are you hiding your face?"

One lawyer shouted, "You've sold out the spirit of the July movement for extortion!"

During the hearing, Additional Public Prosecutor Md Shamsuddoha Sumon said, "These are not ordinary criminals. Since August 5 of last year, this group has been making lists of homes belonging to Awami League leaders in Dhamondi, Gulshan, and Banani and extorting money... We need to know who else is involved in these activities and in which locations."

Some people punched the arrestees when they were being taken

away from the court after the hearing around 4:35pm.

A 16-year-old SAD activist was arrested in the case and sent to the Children Development Centre in Gazipur by the Juvenile Court 8 of Dhaka, said a court staffer.

Siddique Abu Zafar, husband of ex-lawmaker Shammim Ahmed, filed the case with the Gulshan Police Station, naming six leaders and members of SAD and accusing 10 to 12 unnamed persons.

The complainant alleged that on July 17, the accused, identifying themselves as members of SAD, went to their home and demanded Tk 50 lakh. Since Shammim was not home, the demand was made to her husband.

"When I refused to pay, they labelled me an Awami League associate and kept pressuring me for the money. Eventually, I gave Tk 10 lakh to Abdur Razzak Riyad," he added.

Zafar also alleged that the group returned on July 19 and banged on the door, but left when he alerted the police.

"On July 26, Riyad and others came again. I was not home, but the security guard informed me. They demanded the remaining Tk 40 lakh and threatened to hand me over to the police if I did not comply. I called the police again, and five of them were arrested on the spot while another accused, Kazi Gourab, managed to flee," he added.

## Russia starts direct flights to North Korea

AFP, Moscow

Russia yesterday began direct commercial flights to North Korea, in a further sign of closer ties with its Asian ally helping its offensive in Ukraine.

The first Moscow-Pyongyang flight, operated by Nordwind Airlines, was scheduled to take off at 1600 GMT and land in the North Korean capital some eight hours later, according to the carrier's website.

Nordwind Airlines -- a company that used to serve holiday destinations in Europe before the EU imposed a ban on Russian flights -- had tickets priced at 45,000 rubles (\$570).

Russia's state news agency TASS reported that the first flight going the other way, from Pyongyang to Moscow, would take place on Tuesday.

Russia's transport ministry said the route would be serviced once a month.

Russia and North Korea restored train links on June 17 after suspending them in 2020 during the Covid pandemic.

The two countries have been forging closer military bonds in recent years, with Pyongyang supplying troops and weapons for Russia to use in its military operations in Ukraine.

They signed a mutual defence pact last year, when Russian President Vladimir Putin visited North Korea.

## Foreign debt

FROM PAGE 12

compounding concerns over its external financial position.

Bangladesh received 17 percent less in foreign loans year-on-year, amounting to \$8.56 billion in FY25, the lowest in four years.

Loan commitments by multilateral and bilateral lenders fell to \$8.32 billion in the last fiscal year, down 22 percent year-on-year from \$10.7 billion.

## BNP's income

FROM PAGE 12

A delegation led by the party's Senior Joint Secretary General Ruhul Kabir Rizvi handed over the financial statement to EC Secretary Akhtar Ahmed at the commission's headquarters yesterday morning.

Speaking to reporters afterwards, Rizvi said that the BNP's total income last year stood at Tk 15,65,94,842, while its expenditure amounted to Tk 4,80,04,820 -- resulting in a surplus of Tk 10,85,90,019.

In comparison, the party's income in 2023 was Tk 1,10,80,151, with an expenditure of Tk 3,65,23,970.

For 2022, income was reported at Tk 5,92,04,632, and expenditure at Tk 3,88,33,803.

Under the Representation of the People Order (RPO), all registered political parties are required to submit audited financial reports of the previous calendar year to the EC by July each year.

This year, the EC issued letters to 50 registered political parties, excluding the Awami League as its registration is suspended, urging them to submit their audit reports.

## Transport leaders

FROM PAGE 12

The announcement came within a week of the government launching a nationwide drive on July 20 against vehicles that have exceeded their economic lifespan. The campaign began about a month after the government set the economic lifespan of buses and minibuses at 20 years, and goods-laden vehicles, such as trucks and lorries -- at 25 years.

According to BRTA data updated on July 16, a total of 39,169 buses and minibuses, and 41,140 trucks, lorries, and tankers have crossed their economic lifespan.

Saiful said the recent drives to remove vehicles aged 20-25 years have already triggered strikes in various districts, raising concerns of a complete transport shutdown.

To address the issue, a joint meeting was held on July 20, where the transport leaders urged authorities to resolve the matter within 15 working days.

After that time passed without a solution, they decided to enforce a three-day strike starting August 12.

He said the economic lifespan of commercial vehicles should be extended to 30 years. While supporting the government's aim of reducing environmental pollution, he argued that pollution is primarily caused by vehicles using substandard fuel and lubricants or failing to maintain them properly.

Since all parts of a vehicle except the chassis, including the engine, are replaceable, any vehicle failing a fitness test or proven to cause pollution should be declared unfit, regardless of age.

Previously, expired vehicles were barred only from operating in metropolitan areas but were allowed in districts with valid BRTA fitness certificates.

"This provision must be retained," he said.

He also demanded that BRTA suspend its ongoing crackdown on older vehicles until these issues are resolved.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir said.

Among their other demands is the amendment to sections 98 and 105 of the Road Transport Act 2018, along with several other recommended provisions.

Six of the admitted patients have been injured covering over 30 percent of their bodies, the director said.

"Each day, unit heads talk to the patients twice and provide psychological support," Dr Nasir