

Sunday, July 24, 2022

NEWAGE

CU expels two BCL activists

Staff Correspondent . Chattogram | Updated at 11:52pm on July 23, 2022



The Rapid Action Battalion produces four arrested before media at Hathazari RAB camp in Chattogram on Saturday after arresting them on allegation of harassment of a female student at Chittagong University. — Focus Bangla photo

The Chittagong University authority on Saturday evening permanently expelled its history department student Md Azim and anthropology department student Md Nurul Absar, alias Babu, for their involvement in the female student harassment on July 17.

Azim and Babu were the activists of the university unit Chattra League.

The decision of expulsion came at the board of residence, health and disciplinary committee meeting.

Chittagong University's assistant proctor Shahidul Islam told New Age that the students were expelled permanently for their involvement in the harassment.

About one hundred students gathered at the Chittagong University rail station to protest at the sexual harassment of their fellow student, said a witness Md Mizanur Rahman.

Earlier on the day, the Rapid Action Battalion arrested five of the Bangladesh Chhatra League activists in connection with the harassment of the female student.

‘We have arrested four of the accused on early Saturday at different locations in Chattogram,’ RAB-7 commanding officer Lieutenant Colonel MA Yusuf told New Age.

RAB-7 Hathazari camp commander Mahfuzur Rahman said that they arrested another person on Saturday afternoon for his alleged involvement in harassing the CU female student.

The arrestees were Md Azim, 23, son of Md Amir Hossain from Hatiya area in Noakhali, Md Nur Hossain Shawon, 22, son of Javed Hossain from Fatehpur of Hathazari area, Md Nurul Absar, alias Babu, 22, son of Belayet Hossain from Fatehpur of Hathazari area, Md Masud Rana, 22, son of Abdul Mannan from Jhalkathi, Md Saiful, 27, son of Shamsul Gazi from Hathazari area.

Of them, Md Azim is a second year student of Chittagong University history department and Md Nurul Absar is also a second year student of the university’s anthropology department while Md Nur Hossain Shawon and Md Masud Rana are the students of Hathazari College, said Lieutenant Colonel MA Yusuf.

‘Though Md Nur Hossain Shawon and Md Masud Rana are not the university students, they posed themselves as the Chhatra League activists of the university,’ he said.

‘The university authorities identified Azim and one other on Friday and informed us of their identities. Later, we arrested Azim at one of his relatives’ residence at Raozan. Following Azim’s tip-off, we arrested three others.’

However, another arrestee Md Saiful was a former student of Hathazari College. Saiful’s father is an employee of the university’s estate department, said RAB-7 Hathazari camp commander Mahfuzur Rahman.

The female student was stripped off and filmed on July 17. Moreover, they beat up her male friend who was with her at that time and was trying to save her. Later, the accused stole their cell phones.

The victim filed a case with Hathazari police station on July 20 against five unidentified people in this connection.

Azim is a follower of Chittagong University unit Chhatra League president Rezaul Hoque Rubel, said the party sources.

Meanwhile, the Chhatra League central unit issued a show-cause notice to its Chittagong University unit president Rezaul Haque Rubel for his alleged role in indiscipline activities in connection with the incident at the university.

Rubel allegedly threatened the female student as she complained to the university authorities following the sexual harassment.

However, Chittagong University vice-chancellor Shireen Akhter while addressing the 34th senate meeting announced that they would suspend the accused from the university permanently.

Responding to a question by senate member Waseqa Ayesha Khan, also a lawmaker, the vice-chancellor said, 'The university disciplinary committee will take decision in this regard soon.'

Students of Chittagong University, Dhaka University and different left-leaning student bodies, including Samajtrantik Chhatra Front and Chhatra Union protested at the sexual harassment of the CU female student on the campus.



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