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The Daily Star

PADLOCKING SCHOOL ACC arrests UP member

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A team of Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday arrested a local government representative in Bhaluka upazila in Mymensingh, as he "padlocked" a primary school building for one and a half months following an incident centring money matters.

Rafiqul Islam alias Ismail Rafiqul Islam alias Ismail, a member of Hobirbari Union Parishad, was arrested from the Bhaluka Upazila Parishad premises.

The ACC team led by its deputy director Farid Hossain Patwary arrested him around 1:00pm after The Daily Star on Sunday had published a report headlined "Happy to get back their school" on the padlocking incident, said Kamrul Ahsan Talukder, Bhaluka upazila nirbahi officer.

Baluka police said they quizzed Ismail after he was handed over to them. A case was filed against him.

The building of Gangatia Educo Skikhhalaya was constructed at the cost of Tk 70 lakh. The institution has 175 students from pre-primary to class-V and is run by the Spanish NGO "Education and Development Foundation".

The incident involving Tk 2 lakh occurred on August 10, when Ismail arrived at the place where the contractor of a construction firm based in the capital was handing over the school building to the authorities concerned, said ATM Rafiqul Islam, coordinator of Education and Development Foundation in Mymensingh. He then padlocked the building. On Thursday, however, the UNO along with upazila officials and the OC went to the school and unlocked it.