

BCL leader threatens to kill RU teacher

*Flies into fury, being refused lunch
boxes without vouchers on*

Pahela Baishakh

RU CORRESPONDENT

A Rajshahi University unit Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader threatened to kill a teacher when the latter refused to give lunch boxes to a group of BCL activists without vouchers during the Bangla New Year celebrations on Monday.

Shamim Hossain, an assistant professor of the management studies department, alleged that Rahajul Amin alias Ridoy, joint secretary of RU unit BCL and a master's student of the department, had given him another threat two hours later over the phone.

"Ridoy along with 12/15 BCL activists came to the department and demanded lunch boxes for all of them around 1:30pm," the teacher said.

"When I refused to give them lunch boxes without vouchers, Ridoy threatened to kill me. He also complained to the department chairman for not getting lunch."

Two hours later, around 3:30pm, an unknown caller threatened to shoot the teacher dead on the campus, as he "misbehaved with Ridoy, didn't give him lunch", Shamim Hossain told The Daily Star, saying it was Ridoy who had orchestrated the call.

Ridoy denied both allegations but a number of teachers and students were present when he threatened the teacher in person.

"When sir refused him saying, 'I can't do that because vouchers are limited', Ridoy shouted, 'I belong to Chhatra League, why don't you give me lunch?'," said a witness told The Daily Star, on condition of anonymity, fearing retribution.

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Before he stormed out of the room, Ridoy threatened to kill the teacher, he added.

RU unit BCL President Mizanur Rahman Rana said they would take stern action against Ridoy if he actually did it.

Lunch boxes are distributed free among students on every Pahela Baishakh but they must collect vouchers in advance to receive food.