

8YRS INTO SAGAR-RUNI MURDER Investigation lingers on

IO fails to submit probe report for 71st time; victims' families express frustration

MUNTAKIM SAAD

Every time the court fixes a date for the investigation officer to submit the probe report in journalist couple Sagar-Runi murder case, the officer fails to do so. The court then sets another date for the report submission.



This has been going on for the last eight years.

The investigators could not make any headway in the sensational case, to the utter frustration of the victims' families. Whenever the investigators are approached, they come up with the same words: "Probe is underway".

Yesterday, the IO failed to submit the report for the 71st time. Later, a Dhaka court directed Rab, the agency dealing with the case, to inform it by March 23 about the probe progress.

Talking to The Daily Star later in the day, Rab's Additional Superintendent Khondoker Shafiqul Alam, the current IO of the case, said, "There is no update ... It [the investigation] remains where it was."

He could not say when he would be able to file the report.

Sagar, news editor at private TV channel Maasranga, and Runi, a senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



From left, Russell T Ahmed, CEO of champs21.com; Firoz Ahmed, chief operating officer of Dan Foods Ltd; Nazim Uddin Ahmed, chairman of Pandughar Group; Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star; and Shykh Seraj, founder director and head of news at Channel i, pose for a photo at the launch of the fifth season of Spelling Bee at The Daily Star Centre in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Spelling Bee back again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Much acclaimed television show for school-goers -- Spelling Bee -- is back once again.

The fifth season of the English spelling competition, in which students from Class 6-10 from both Bangla and English medium schools can participate, was launched at The Daily Star Centre yesterday afternoon.

The competition will take place all over the country.

This year, the competition is titled -- "Dan Cake Spelling Bee, Enlightened by The Daily Star, Brought to you by Champs21.com". The title sponsor for this year's Spelling Bee is Dan Cake, reads a press release.

Like every year, the competition will be organised by Champs21.com, with the support of The Daily Star and Telecast partner Channel i.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and the publisher of The Daily Star, Shykh Seraj, founder director and head of news of Channel i, Nazim Uddin Ahmed, chairman

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

4 teenagers gang-raped in capital

Schoolgirl raped in Tangail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Four teenagers were gang-raped in two incidents in the capital's Madhya Badda and Kadamtali areas on Saturday night.

The victims were sent to One-stop Crisis Centre at Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Sunday night for forensic tests after two cases were filed in this regard.

Lodging one of the cases with Badda Police Station, the uncle of a victim said two girls, aged about 13, were gang-raped by three youths in Madhya Badda.

Police detained a youth for interrogation.

Parvez Islam, officer-in-charge of the police station, said the victims went to DIT project area on Saturday evening to meet the youth. They got lost on their way home at night.

At one stage, three youths offered help to the girls to take them home safely. The youths took the girls to a secluded area and raped them, the OC said.

Meanwhile, police on Sunday night arrested three people in connection with

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

FIRST YEAR OF BANGLADESH BANGABANDHU'S NATION-BUILDING CHALLENGES

"Bangladesh has nothing to hide"



Winspeare-Guiccardi, representative of the UN secretary general, calls on Bangabandhu on February 11, 1972.

FEBRUARY 11, 1972

SHAMSUDDOZZA SAJEN

UN REPRESENTATIVE CALLS ON BANGABANDHU

"The government of Bangladesh has nothing to hide," comments Vittorio Winspeare-Guiccardi, UN Secretary General's Special Representative for Humanitarian Problems, after a meeting with Bangabandhu today afternoon.

Bangabandhu has told him that even though Bangladesh is not

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



Shringla to visit Dhaka early next month

The Indian foreign secy to do groundwork for Narendra Modi's visit

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Delhi

Indian Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla is set to visit Dhaka in the first week of March ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to attend the launch of birth centenary celebrations of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 17.

"The exact dates [of their arrivals] are being finalised," a senior Bangladeshi diplomat in New Delhi said, citing a recent meeting between Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Muhammad Imran and Shringla at the latter's office in New Delhi.

This will be the Indian Foreign Secretary's first visit to Dhaka since he took

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Martin Luther King's 'love' letter found



CNN ONLINE

Just in time for Valentine's Day, a rare handwritten note by Martin Luther King Jr. on the meaning of love has been discovered.

The note, believed to be from sometime in the mid-1960s, is up for sale through the memorabilia company Moments in Time.

While the note's sale price of \$42,000 may seem steep, Gary Zimet, CEO of Moments in Time, says the price reflects just how rare it is to find a handwritten note by the renowned civil rights leader.

"It is extremely rare. Other than inscriptions in (typed) letters and books, finding a handwritten note is very rare," Zimet said. "This note encapsulates the philosophy of King's life and that's why it's so important."

According to Zimet, King wrote the note after someone asked him what he believed was the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

2 'robbers' killed in 'gunfights'

STAR REPORT

Two alleged robbers, including a Rohingya, were killed in "gunfights" with law enforcers in Cox's Bazar and Cumilla early yesterday.

In Cox's Bazar, Nurul Amin, 43, was killed in a "shootout" between robbers and Rapid Action Battalion members at Pashchim Leda Nurai para in Teknaf upazila around 3:00am, said Lt Mirza Shahed Mahtab, camp commander of Rab-15 in Teknaf.

Nurul used to live in

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



PRAYER TIMING FEBRUARY 11

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5:25 12:45 4:30 5:57 7:15
JAMAAT 6:00 1:15 4:45 6:01 7:45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



Pedestrians jaywalk in front of moving vehicles in the capital's Shahbagh area, though there was a zebra crossing nearby (not in the picture). Dhaka Metropolitan Police launched many traffic awareness campaigns in the past, but such violations of road rules are still rampant in the city. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

LATE HASNA ABEDIN
FOUNDER AND FORMER CHAIRPERSON
AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-BANGLADESH

Remembering the kindness and compassion of late Hasna Abedin, Founder and Former Chairperson of AIUB

On the Occasion of her Third Death Anniversary
February 11, 2020

In loving memory of the one who bound us together with her warmth and affection, and, therefore, will remain in our hearts and minds forever. May Almighty grant her eternal peace in heaven.

"Members of AIUB Family"

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY-BANGLADESH
WHERE LEADERS ARE CREATED