

Verdict in rape case delivered after 13 years

Rangpur man sentenced to life term

A Rangpur court yesterday sentenced a man to life term imprisonment 13 years after he had raped his domestic help in Pargachha upazila of the district.

Noya Mia (47) from the upazila was also fined Tk 1 lakh, according to court sources.

Judge Rokonzaman of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-2 delivered the verdict in absence of the convict, said Jahangir Hossain, prosecutor at the court.

Noya Mia has been skipping the court since he received bail 10 years ago, said the prosecutor.

According to the case statement, Noya Mia employed a teenage girl of his village as a house help in 2007.

He raped her when he found her alone at home. The girl filed a case accusing him on October 21.

Later, police submitted a charge sheet against Noya Mia on rape charge.



Bangladeshi expatriates working in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, whose visas have expired, yesterday formed human chains in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club, urging government intervention to facilitate return to their respective countries and resume work. Earlier, Saudi Arabia had extended workers' visas and Iqama till October 30.



PHOTO: STAR

Disabled-friendly healthcare training a must: speakers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Persons with disabilities regularly face challenges to access healthcare infrastructure and information. Therefore, there must be comprehensive training for healthcare providers on how to provide disabled-friendly health services, said speakers at a dialogue yesterday.

Titled "Policy Dialogue on Inclusive Health Services for Persons with Disabilities in Bangladesh: Challenges and Prospects", the dialogue was virtually organised by James P Grant School of Public Health, Brac University.

Dr Adrita Kaiser, assistant coordinator of the school, shared the findings of her research titled "Current Situation of Inclusive Health Services in Bangladesh: Findings from a Nationwide Study". According to the research, in which 5,000 persons with disability participated, an estimated 11.4 million persons have some form of disability in Bangladesh.

Dr Shafiqul Islam, executive director of Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP), said along with health services, inclusiveness is also important for other facilities like rehabilitation, health professional services, and assistant devices for mobility.

Van Paula Schindeler -- deputy head of mission, the Netherlands embassy in Bangladesh -- in her speech as special guest said Bangladesh is doing quite well in terms of addressing disability-specific barriers.

She, however, stated three major points for the government to address. Firstly, establishing Disability Development Corporation in all upazilas to provide free treatment and assistive devices.

Secondly, even though the Ministry of Social Welfare is the focal authority for disability issues in Bangladesh, research and policy dialogues also demonstrate that Department of Health and Family Welfare needs to play an active role to mainstream the disability policy, and therefore coordination among these institutions is required. Thirdly, substantial budgetary allocation for the healthcare sector is required, particularly for people with disabilities.

HIKED POTATO PRICE 10 wholesalers fined Tk 1.4 lakh in port city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Crc

A mobile court yesterday fined ten wholesalers a total of Tk 1,40,000 for selling potatoes at inflated prices at Chattogram city's Riazuddin market.

The traders were selling potatoes at Tk 40-42 per kilogramme without keeping sales receipts, although the government has set the retail price to Tk 30 per kg.

Omar Faruque, executive magistrate of Chattogram District Administration, told The Daily Star, "Most wholesalers are selling potatoes at inflated prices without keeping sales receipts. When we conducted the drive at the market, we found 10 traders charging more than the government set price."

DoE in Ctg fines 20 businesses Tk 11.65 lakh for flouting rules

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Department of Environment (DoE), Chattogram region fined 20 businesses including a shipyard, 11 brick kilns and two hospitals a total of Tk 11,65,000 for violating conditions and polluting environment.

The fines were slapped after a hearing at DoE Khulshi office of the port city. Moazzom Hossain, director of DoE Chattogram region told The Daily Star that Master and Brother Shipyard in Sitakunda was fined Tk 20,000 while Banaful and Company was fined Tk 1 lakh for running operations without effluent treatment plant. 11 brick kilns from Cox's Bazar, Noakhali, Bramhanbaria, and Laxmipur were fined Tk 8,60,000 over different violations, he said. City Hospital of Maizidi in Noakhali was fined Tk 1 lakh while Laksam General Hospital of Cumilla was fined Tk 20,000. Yusuf Chemical, a rice mill and Moni Cable were fined a total of Tk 65,000 for breaking DoE clearance conditions.

NAIMUL ABRAR'S DEATH Court defers indictment order

Bss, Dhaka

A Dhaka court yesterday set November 12 to pass order on charge framing in a case lodged over the death of Dhaka Residential Model College student Naimul Abrar, against 10 people including the editor of daily Prothom Alo Matiur Rahman.

Yesterday was the scheduled date for passing order in the case, but Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge KM Imrul Qayesh adjourned hearing till November 12 as the order was yet to be ready to be passed.

Earlier on October 13, the court set yesterday to pass the order, as counsel of the plaintiff Advocate Omar Faruk Asif concluded his part of the hearing on charge framing.

Ninth-grader Naimul Abrar Rahat died after being electrocuted behind the stage during an event organised by the Kishor Alo, a publication of the Prothom Alo, at Dhaka Residential Model College ground on November 1, 2019.

On November 6, 2019, Abrar's father Mojibur Rahman filed the case with the court in this connection.

Ecneec okays

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Md Mamun-ul-Rashid said the DNCC will implement the project by June 2023 with an estimated cost of Tk 319.23 crore.

The major project operations include development of 13.68km road, construction of 9.05km roadside drain and 6.58km pipe drain, development of 26.58km footpath, 7.74km road median, installation of 22.77km MS grill fencing, 22.31km SS grill fencing and 1,710 traffic signs, construction of 50 passenger camps and 36 new foot-over bridges, development of 47 such bridges, and installation of 17 escalators with them.

Md Ashadul Islam said though it was proposed that DNCC will finance Tk 63.85 crore for the project, the PM directed to finance it fully from the government fund.

Sheikh Hasina also asked the local government bodies, including city corporations, to enhance their capacity gradually to execute development projects with their own revenues in future.

The Ecneec meeting also cleared the first

revision of "SASEC Road Connectivity Project-II: Elega-Hatikamul-Rangpur Highway Four-Lane Upgradation" project increasing the cost by Tk 4,763.37 crore and extending the timeframe till December 2024 instead of August 2021.

The overall project cost has now increased to Tk 16,662.38 crore from the original outlay of Tk 11,899.01 crore, which was scheduled to be implemented from September 2015 to August 2021.

Mamun-Al-Rashid said the cost increased mainly for land acquisition, as compensation against land value was made three times as per the Acquisition and Requisition of Immovable Property Act, 2017.

The cost against the land acquisition saw a rise by Tk 2,253.16 crore and that against the resettlement by Tk 226.70 crore.

Besides, Ecneec endorsed the 2nd revision of Development of Sonapu-Sonagazi-Zoranganj Road Project, increasing the cost by Tk 107.09 crore and extending the timeframe till June 2021.

Australia releases Covid-19 response plan for Bangladesh

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Australia has released a Covid-19 Development Response Plan for Bangladesh, focusing on investments in long-term economic growth, inclusive education, skills development and private sector engagement.

The two-year Covid-19 Response Plan is part of Australia's recently released development strategy -- Partnerships for Recovery -- which outlines how the Pacific nation will work with its global partners to address the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Besides, humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees and the host community remains a priority for Australia, said a statement from the Australian High Commission in Bangladesh yesterday.

"Australia will place strong emphasis on protecting the most vulnerable, especially women and girls, and people with disabilities," it said.

Australia will work in partnership with the Bangladesh government to ensure its Covid-19 programmes remain closely aligned with key government initiatives, the statement said.

"Australia is committed to supporting Bangladesh's longer-term development priorities, as outlined in its 8th Five Year-Plan."

Fatima Yasmin, secretary of the Economic Relations Division, said "The Government of Bangladesh is finalising the 8th Five Year-Plan, where Covid-19 recovery strategy has been incorporated."

"We believe Australia's Covid-19 response plan for Bangladesh will be aligned with the government's priorities," she added.

Australia and Bangladesh have shared interests in a secure, prosperous and inclusive Indian Ocean region. Australia appreciates its strong development, people-to-people and trade ties with Bangladesh, the Australian High Commission said.

Some get

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the right to use and drink water from rivers, beels, haors etc. But we have no proper management system, we have no equality of rights," said Syeda Rizwana Hasan, director of Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA).

"Water rights is one of the basic human rights, per capita availability of water in Bangladesh is much higher than India and Africa; but the actual scenario is vastly different," she continued.

"Some people in our country get more water than needed, while others don't get enough," Rizwana lamented.

During his speech, Dhaka University Professor Tanzimuddin Khan said, if the state wants to give equal water rights to the public, the state should get its fair share from neighboring countries. He also spoke of how political power is misused by land and river grabbers and demanded that they be cut off from their sources of power.

Anisur Rahman, director of Center For Natural Resource Studies, and Samsul Huda, executive director of Association for Land Reform and Development also spoke at the programme and echoed similar sentiments.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) International Labour Organization (ILO) Dhaka invites proposals from interested Firm/ Organization for developing e-learning package/course for TVET teachers training programme (CBT & A Level-4) in line with Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) approved competency standards. The bidding documents can be downloaded from the ILO Dhaka website under Procurement Notices at: https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/WCMS_367536/lang-en/index.htm The deadline for submission of proposal is Sunday, November 29, 2020, by 04:30 PM (BST time).

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Office of the Executive Engineer City PWD Division, 15, Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka Phone: 9550663, Fax: 9561924 Memo No. 25.36.2600.130.00.000.00.707 Date: 27/10/2020 Corrigenum Notice SL. No. To be replaced as 1. Registration period will be 29.10.2020-05.11.2020 between 10.00am to 5.00pm instead of 08.11.2020-12.11.2020 between 10.00am to 5.00pm. 2. Receiving queries through email will be 08.11.2020-10.11.2020 instead of 15.11.2020-16.11.2020. 3. Reply to queries by email will be 12.11.2020 instead of 19.11.2020. 4. Submission date will be 03/12/2020 Thursday instead of 03/12/2020 Sunday. All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged. This corrigendum will be a part and parcel of the said tender. Mohammad Showkat Ullah Executive Engineer City PWD-Division, Dhaka GD-1709

UGC to

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UGC said such universities can grade students taking the attendance, assignments, presentations, mid-term exam results into account held before online tests. They can also take results of previous semester into consideration while preparing results for outgoing session.

But it also said practical classes for all laboratory-based courses will have to be completed in the classroom once the situation becomes normal. All private universities have been closed since March 17 to curb the spread of Covid-19.

Prof Shahidullah said they have also discussed the matter of allowing private universities to withdraw interest from the reserve fund, deposited to a bank.

"They will be able to use the money only to pay salaries of teachers and staff members. We are hearing from sources that many private universities cannot pay them salaries," he said.

According to Private University Act 2010, it is mandatory for each private university to have a reserve fund.

According to law, each private university in Dhaka and Chattogram has a reserve fund of Tk 5 crore, each university in other metropolitan cities has Tk 3 crore, and each university in other places Tk 1.5 crore.

RU to hold

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said Prof Abdul Alim, a syndicate member.

However, details on how they plan to host the exams during the pandemic are yet to be decided, which will be finalised after the admission test committee's meeting.

In addition, on the issue of whether to permit honours degree holders to participate in the university's convocation, the academic council decided to let them participate alongside masters graduates, prof Alim told The Daily Star.

Meanwhile, a decision was reached to set up a "Bangabandhu Chair" in the Institute of Bangladesh Studies (IBS) of the university. The Bangabandhu Chair will be elected for every two academic years.

It will be awarded on the basis of work, literature, research, special contribution in the field of education etc.

Bangladesh Shipping Corporation BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road Chattogram-4100, Bangladesh Invitation for Appointment of General Agent for BSC in Spain Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), under Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of Bangladesh invites tender for appointing a general shipping agent having capacity to perform the ships husbandry works in different ports of Spain. 02. Standard Tender document will be available at: BSC Head Office and upon email request. 03. Tender information are as follows: Tender document last selling date/time: 07/12/2020 1700 hrs (BST/LT) Tender last submission date: 08/12/2020 Tender opening date: 08/12/2020 in the Office of General Manager (Cargo Supervision & Operation), Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (BSC), BSC Bhaban, Saltgola Road, Chattogram. 04. Eligibility of applicant: As per tender schedule. 05. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders/quotations. General Manager (FE/WAG) Telephone: 88-031-721976, 720699, 2521162-68 Fax No. 88-031-710506, 722380 e-mail address: gm-lines@bsc.gov.bd Website: www.bsc.gov.bd GD-1707

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার পরিচালকের কার্যালয় ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা স্মারক নং-ঢামেকহা/সংগ্রহ-১/বাৎসরিক দরপত্র/২০২০-২০২১/৭৫৪২ তারিখঃ ২৭/১০/২০২০ইং ২০২০-২০২১ইং অর্থ বৎসরে আহবানকৃত দরপত্রের সময় বর্ধিতকরণ সহ সংশোধনী প্রসঙ্গে ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতালে ২০২০-২০২১ইং অর্থ বছরে এমএসআর সামগ্রী, ক্লিনিং ও অন্যান্য মনিহারি (বিবিধ) এবং কর্মচারীদের পোশাক সংগ্রহের জন্য স্মারক নং-ঢামেকহা/সংগ্রহ-১/বাৎসরিক/২০২০-২০২১/৭৫২৮, তারিখঃ ২৯/০৯/২০২০ইং মোতাবেক বিক্রি বাণা ও ইয়েজিটৈনিক পত্রিকা এবং সিপিটিইউ-তে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের মাধ্যমে উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র আহবান করা হয়। অনিবার্য কারণবশত উক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নিম্নোক্তভাবে সংশোধন করা হলোঃ

ক্রঃ নং	পূর্বের বিজ্ঞপ্তির ক্রঃ নং	পূর্বের বিবরণ	সংশোধনী বিবরণ
০১	(৯) দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রির তারিখ ও সময়	০১/১০/২০২০ইং তারিখ হতে ৩১/১০/২০২০ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত। প্রতি কর্মদিবসে সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বেলা ২.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। উক্ত তারিখ ও সময়ের পর কোন দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রি করা হবে না।	০১/১০/২০২০ইং তারিখ হতে ১১/১১/২০২০ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত প্রতি কর্মদিবসে সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বেলা ২.৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। উক্ত তারিখ ও সময়ের পর কোন দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রি করা হবে না।
০২	(১০) প্রি-বিড সভার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	১৫/১০/২০২০ইং তারিখ, বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা, ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা এর সভাকক্ষ।	০১/১১/২০২০ইং তারিখ, বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা, ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা এর সভাকক্ষ।
০৩	(১১) দরপত্র গ্রহণের তারিখ ও সময়	০১/১১/২০২০ইং তারিখ, সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।	১২/১১/২০২০ইং তারিখ, সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা হতে বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত।
০৪	(১২) দরপত্র বাস্তব খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	০১/১১/২০২০ইং তারিখ, বেলা ১.৩০ ঘটিকা, ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা এর সভাকক্ষ।	১২/১১/২০২০ইং তারিখ, বেলা ১.৩০ ঘটিকা, ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা এর সভাকক্ষ।

এছাড়া বিজ্ঞপ্তির অন্যান্য সকল শর্তাবলী বলবৎ থাকবে।

ব্রিগেডিয়ার জেনারেল এ কে এম নাসির উদ্দিন পরিচালক ঢাকা মেডিকেল কলেজ হাসপাতাল, ঢাকা GD-1710