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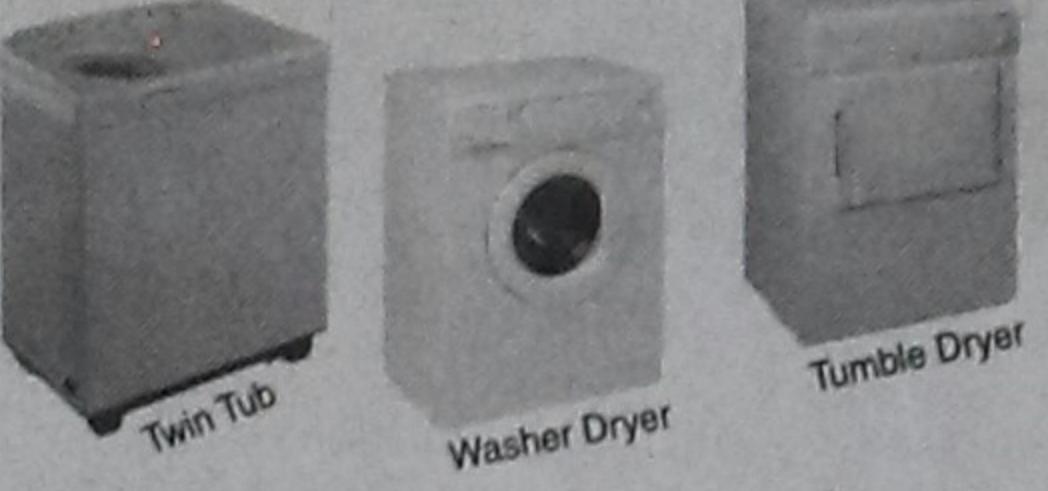
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Jubo Dal activist murdered in Feni

From Our Correspondent
FENI, May 31: A Jubo Dal activist was killed by some unidentified assailants at village Mohupur under Sadar upazila of the district last night, police said.

The victim, Khorshed Alam, 25, son of Abdul Quddus of village Jagatpur under Daganbuiyan thana was kidnapped by a group of eight youths from Mohupur village at about 9 pm. They took him to Malekumar Bazar and hit him with sharp weapons.

The youths left the scene, leaving Khorshed critically injured.

On receipt of information, police rushed to the spot and found Khorshed lying in a paddy field in unconscious state. They sent him to Feni Sadar hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at around midnight.

Police said Khorshed was wanted in four cases, including a murder filed with Daganbuiyan thana.

District Jubo Dal President Syed Mizanur Rahman and District JCD secretary Kamrul Hassan Masud blamed the ruling party activists for the killing.

Five tribals shot in Khagrachhari

From Our Correspondent
KHAGRACHHARI, May 31: Unidentified gunmen shot and wounded five tribals including a woman in two incidents on Tuesday and today.

Tension is prevailing since the incidents.

Tow of the them -- Ushakali Marma, 30 and Bishnu Dewan, 28 -- shot at Lakhchhbari, are said to be activists of Jana Sanghati Samity led by Shantu Larma.

JSS has accused the United Peoples Democratic Front, a breakaway faction, for the incidents.

The three others -- Mani Chakma, 18, Ramesh Chakma, 22 and Hirubala Chakma, 45 -- were shot when they were working in their fields in Shimbamir area under Khagrachhari Sadar thana.

Mani was sent to Chittagong Medical College Hospital in a critical condition and the two others were admitted to Khagrachhari hospital, sources said.

Army has been deployed in the area to back police. But none was arrested in connection with the incidents.

JSS has called a rally at Chengi Square today at 10 a.m. to protest the shooting incidents.

Kibria is already in the Jesh-

Panna Murder Case Shikdar to die, 6 get life term

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, May 31: Ershad Shikdar has been awarded death sentence and six of his associates -- 'Jamal' Farooq, Idris Ali, Jallil Mollah, French Alam, Moti and Motkar -- have been sentenced to life imprisonment in Panna Murder Case.

The judgement was delivered by Shamsul Arfin, Additional District and Sessions Judge of the Third Court, Khulna at 12:30 pm today.

The Judge also fined the six Tk 10,000 cash, in default of imprisonment. Of them Motkar was tried in absentia.

The prosecution story in brief is: Panna, a member of Bangladesh Ansars was severely injured in an armed attack by Shikdar and other accused on October 17, 1997 near Jorhat.

Later, he and all the accused were forced out of the court escorted by APBN and ruling Awami League.

Panna succumbed to his injuries in Dhaka Medical College

hospital the following day.

Earlier, Panna named his attackers in a statement given to police and doctors at Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH).

The court recorded statements of 25 witnesses in this murder case.

Today's judgement was the fourth in last three months. In all the verdicts, Ershad has been sentenced to death. The first judgement in Zainal Murder Case was delivered on February 20.

Ershad demanded a copy of the judgement from the Judge today. 'I shall not leave the court without having a copy of judgement,' he shouted at the Judge who asked Ershad to follow rules in this regard.

Later, he and all the accused were forced out of the court escorted by APBN and ruling Awami League.

Police filed a murder case with Dhanmondi thana soon after the killing where it was stated that Sajal was killed during a clash involving activists of BNP, Jamaat and ruling Awami League.

But according to earlier newspaper reports and witnesses, gunmen from the rear of a motorcade of Awami League workers shot dead Sajal Chowdhury at the intersection of Mirpur Road and Green Road at about 11:30 am during the hartal of February 9 last year. The motorcade was led by AL MP Mokbul Hossain.

Shahidur Rahman in his reply mentioned that he did not know that Detective Branch had submitted the final report and the court accepted it on February 10.

Shahidur Rahman also said Mokbul Hossain can not deny the charge of killing Sajal by distorting inquest and autopsy reports.

The lawyer must know that a 'managed final report' and 'acceptance' of the report is not the conclusion of trial of such a murder which took place around noon, Shahidur Rahman said.

"Still, if your client files Criminal/Civil case against me as per your suggestion, he has to file it in his own responsibility", Shahidur Rahman said in his reply to the legal notice.

According to a reliable source close to the interrogation team, Shimul also discussed for sometime the 'dialectical materialism' of Karl Marx during the non-stop interrogations Tuesday night.

At one stage, he said he wanted to return to normal life, but the 42-year life term in Imran Ghazi Murder Case stood in his way to do so, said one of the interrogators quoting Shimul.

Meanwhile, court has granted five days' remand for questioning him in the Ganesh Murder Case recorded with Sonandaga thana in 1998.

Shimul tells CID team PCBP had key role in murder of Rupsha UP chairman

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, May 31: Arrested leader of outlawed PCBP Mahmud Hasan Shimul has divulged some important information relating to looting of 12 arms from Noapara Akij Jute Mills and five from the Sundarbans Seafoods Ltd at Rupsha in December, 1997.

He confessed that all these 17 firearms and ammunition were looted by armed cadres of his party under his instruction.

On the fifth day of interrogation yesterday at the Jessore Police Lines, Shimul said Terkeda thana police recovered one of the five arms looted from Sundarbans Seafoods and another by Chittagong police. The remaining three rifles are still in possession of his cadres, he said. The case is being investigated by the CID, Khulna.

Denying his involvement in the looting of 12 firearms from Akij Jute Mills, Shimul said all these arms are in possession of notorious dacoit Kibria of Paira village under Abhoyanagar thana.

These arms were looted by Kibria who is not a member of PCBP at although he claims like that, Shimul told CID during interrogation.

Meanwhile, court has granted five days' remand for questioning him in the Ganesh Murder Case recorded with Sonandaga thana in 1998.

Tk 140cr medicine, medical equipment misappropriated

An investigation has unearthed misappropriation of medicines and medical equipment worth Tk 140 crore by 5 Civil Surgeons and a number of officials of Health Ministry and Directorate during 1996-98, reports UNB.

The Civil Surgeons are of Bo-

gra, Rangpur, Sylhet, Tangail and Gopalganj.

The investigation was carried out by a parliamentary sub-committee headed by Tajul Islam Chowdhury.

The sub-committee submitting its final report to the parliamentary standing committee on Health and Family Welfare Minister met yesterday recommended legal action against the corrupt officials.

Sources close to the meeting told UNB last night that the report identified the officials who indulged in corruption and specified how they misappropriated the public wealth.

The report mentioned specific allegation against the officials involved in corruption, said Syed Mehed Ahmed Runi MP.

The meeting also expressed its deep shock at the death of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul.

When the correspondent tried to talk to Siddique Ullah, he shouted and talked inconsistently.

7 years in jail without trial

By Court Correspondent

One Mohammad Siddique Ullah was acquitted of charge yesterday after confinement in the jail custody for seven years long without trial.

Meteorite Magistrate Dilip Kumar Sharma gave the order upon a petition filed on behalf of Siddique Ullah yesterday.

The court also served a show cause notice on the jail authorities and police to reply why Siddique had been detained so long without being an investigating report.

Siddique, a resident of Chatkhil thana in Noakhali district, was arrested under Section 54 of the CrPC on March 15, 1993 by Motijheel police. But no report was submitted by the investigation officer in connection with the case in the last seven years.

Victim's brother Md Maniruzzaman filed a case with Gulshan thana accusing Quamrun Nahar's husband, Iftekher Ahmed Shipu at Banani in the city yesterday.

Quamrun Nahar was killed and raped in December last year.

When the correspondent tried to talk to Siddique Ullah, he shouted and talked inconsistently.

Sajal's father replies to Mokbul's legal notice

By Staff Correspondent

Shahidur Rahman, father of Sajal Chowdhury, has replied to a legal notice issued on him by a lawyer of a ruling party MP.

Syed Rezaur Rahman, lawyer of ruling party MP Allia Mokbul Hossain had served the legal notice on May 17, asking Shahidur Rahman to explain why a criminal case and a defamation suit would not be filed against him.

The allegation of Shahidur Rahman has damaged reputation of Mokbul Hossain, the legal notice said, asking him to reply within 15 days.

Police submitted the final report in Sajal Murder Case in December last year. Final report of a case is submitted when a police investigation fails to prove charges against the accused which normally leads to disposal of the case.

Police filed a murder case with Dhanmondi thana soon after the killing where it was stated that Sajal was killed during a clash involving activists of BNP, Jamaat and ruling Awami League.

But according to earlier newspaper reports and witnesses, gunmen from the rear of a motorcade of Awami League workers shot dead Sajal Chowdhury at the intersection of Mirpur Road and Green Road at about 11:30 am during the hartal of February 9 last year. The motorcade was led by AL MP Mokbul Hossain.

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Meanwhile, court has granted five days' remand for questioning him in the Ganesh Murder Case recorded with Sonandaga thana in 1998.

He is candid enough to admit that his position as Secretary General is "not enough" to make the Summit take place. Besides Dhaka, he has already visited Colombo, Delhi, Male, Kathmandu and hopes to travel to Islamabad shortly. He said the organisation is now hoping to hold the next Summit, the 12th since its inception.

Nihal said, as per the SAARC Charter, consent of all seven heads of government or state are required for holding the Summit, and nothing can be done unless 'all agree'.

Officials said under provision of the amendments to the Law Commission Act 1996, honorary members and consultants could be appointed to the Commission to strengthen its function in legal reforms.

Murder, rape case

Boy sent to remand centre

By Court Correspondent

Kabir Hossain arrested in connection with the alleged killing and raping of Quamrun Nahar, wife of Major Ashraf Haider, yesterday refused to give a judicial statement before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka.

Kabir Hossain, 12, is a domestic help at the house of the deceased.

Kabir was produced before the CMM's court yesterday after a 5-day police remand. He was then taken to Metropolitan Magistrate M Shahidul Islam's room. The Magistrate became astonished to see Kabir as he is only 12 years old. How could it be possible to kill or rape a 25-year-old woman by such a tender aged boy? The court then ordered to send him to a remand home without recording Kabir's judicial statement.

Kabir Hossain was killed and raped in December last year.

Victim's brother Md Maniruzzaman filed a case with Gulshan thana accusing Quamrun Nahar's husband, Iftekher Ahmed Shipu at Banani in the city yesterday.

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