

Gangsters threaten to kill entire family of KCC engineer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Khulna*

A group of local gangsters who committed a daring robbery at the house of the executive engineer of Khulna City Corporation (KCC) on Saturday, have threatened to kill him, his wife and their minor son if any case in that regard is filed with the police.

Engineer Liaqat Ali Khan said eight armed men wearing masks robbed his house at 17, Nirala residential area under Khulna thana at 7:30pm on Saturday, looting money and gold ornaments worth about Tk two lakh.

Khan, who was not home at that time, said the robbers told his wife that they would kill the entire family if any case were filed with the police.

Khan said he knows the identity of the robbers but decided not to file any case fearing for his and his family's safety.

OC of Khulna thana Tozammel Hossain said he has also failed to convince the KCC engineer to lodge a case.

The same group of men also committed another robbery on the same night in the Boyrecross Road residence of one Ruby Begum, looting money and gold ornaments worth over Taka 50,000. Ruby Begum and her family, who received similar death threats, said the robbers identified themselves as friends of a local ward commissioner.

Ruby is also reluctant to lodge any case.

Over the last five days, two gruesome murders were committed in city and an unidentified dead body was recovered from Nirala residential area. Nine robberies were committed in Khulna and Sonadanga thana areas over the last one and a half months.

Apart from armed robberies and murders, mugging, rape, burglaries and extortion have also increased alarmingly in the city recently, creating panic among city-dwellers. Hardly a day passes without incidents of muggings and

extortion by drug addicts and outlaws.

Armed cadres of legal as well as outlawed political parties are involved in such crimes in different areas in the city, said an official of Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) who complained about shortage of police officers and constables to tackle the situation.

PM's comment on Kolaroa condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Different political parties yesterday condemned Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's comment about Friday's attack on Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina at Kolaroa in Satkhira.

Speaking at a BNP programme in the capital Sunday, the PM accused the opposition of sponsoring the Kolaroa attack.

The Awami League (AL) General Secretary Zillur Rahman, in a statement, accused the PM of telling lies to hide the truth about the Kolaroa incident. "The nation has learnt the truth through newspaper reports. It is now clear to the people that the prime minister has lied to them in her statement."

Zillur also termed Khaleda's comments as ramblings of an insane at a time when the people are fed up with misrule by her coalition government.

"That she has lied has been proved by the statements of her party colleagues," the AL leader pointed out.

The 11-party alliance in a separate statement described the PM's remarks as irresponsible. "This will encourage the criminals," it said while condemning the attack on Hasina's motorcade.

The alliance also demanded arrest of and punishment to those responsible for the Kolaroa attack.

Gana Azadi League also issued a similar statement.

3 commit suicide in Rajbari

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Rajbari*

Three people allegedly committed suicide in Pangsha and Goolondo upazilas of Rajbari during the last 48 hours.

Police said, Bhanu Begum, 20, wife of Babul Sarder of Boyrat village in Pangsha upazila committed suicide by taking poison in her house on Sunday.

Helal Uddin, 25, son of Ahmed Ali of Vander Khola of the same upazila committed suicide by taking poison the same day.

Marian Islam Naushin was in the lap of her father Nazrul Islam when she was bullet-hit in the head in indiscriminate firing by muggers at Uttar Badda in the city on May 9 this year. The gang was fleeing in the face of chase by local people after mugging and shooting one person.

The court also issued warrant of arrest against two absconding accused - Mamun alias 'Ragkata' Mamun and Sumon and ordered attachment of their moveable property.

The Investigation Officer (IO) of the case submitted the charge-sheet against four people on August 21. The two other accused are - Moslem alias Muslim Mia and Saiful Islam Ratan. They are now detained in the jail custody.

Magistrate Kazi Meraj Hossain, after scrutinising the case diary (CD) and statements of the prosecution witnesses in the case, passed the order.

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Charge-sheet in baby Naushin murder case accepted

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM's) Court, Dhaka yesterday accepted the charge-sheet in the baby Naushin murder case.

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5 hurt in land grab clash

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A DCC Commissioner belonging to the ruling party along with his men injured five members of a family in a bid to drive them out of their house at Bijli Mohalla in the city's Mohammadpur area yesterday to grab their land.

About 20 armed men led by Salimullah Salu, commissioner of ward no. 42, went to plot No. 141-144 at Bijli Mohalla. Following an altercation with the inmates of the house, they started beating Montaz Rekha Noor, 40, wife of Haji Noor Mia, now working in Saudi Arabia.

They also beat Rekha Noor's son Mir Hossain 17, daughter Shan Naj Noor, 20, nephew Monir Hossain and brother Mostafa.

They were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment. Hospital sources quoting the victims said the gang members pulled out 2-3 teeth of Mostafa with a weapon.

The gang tried to drive away the family and take over the one-bigha land owned by Montaz. Source said the commissioner tried to grab the land to expand the adjacent slum owned by him.

Jainal Abedin, younger brother of Montaz, said the attackers also abducted Mostafa, who could not be traced till 9:00 last night.

Local people rescued the victims from the attackers and sent them to DMCH.

Witnesses said police caught three of the attackers from the spot. Local people said that Montaz, a local Awami League leader, contested the last DCC election for the post of women commissioner from wards 41, 42 and 43.

The duty officer at Mohammadpur police station last night confirmed that the commissioner attacked the family. He said a team went to the spot and was yet to return to give details.

Bappi murder Directive to publish ad on absconding accused

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Third Special Court for Prevention of Women and Children Repression, Dhaka yesterday directed the authorities concerned to take steps to publish an advertisement in two Bangla dailies asking an absconding accused in the Bappi abduction and murder case to appear before the court.

Judge Sarkar Abdul Mansur passed the order as absconder Shariful Islam alias Badal does not appear before the court to face trial although the court earlier issued a warrant of arrest against him.

The court also fixed September 17 for submission of paper cuttings of the advertisement.

The court on August 24 took the charge sheet in the case into cognizance.

The Investigation Officer (IO) of the case submitted the charge sheet against five people, including Bappi's maternal cousin Shahidul Alam Shipon. The four other accused are - Ripon Kumar Roy, Sanjit Sarkar, Sankar Rajbanshi and Shariful Islam alias Badal.

Three arrested for attack on Puja committee office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three people were arrested for their alleged involvement in the attack on the office of the Puja Committee at the Dhakeswari Temple at Lalbagh in the city yesterday.

The arrested are Shankar, Polton and Krisna Chandra.

According to the FIR filed by Mongal Ghosh, general secretary of the Dhaka Mahanagar Sarbojanin Puja Uddhapan Committee, the attackers ransacked the office, looted Tk 27,000 and cut off telephone lines.

The case was filed under section 4 of the Speedy Trial Act.

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6 AL leaders not guilty, Purnima's father says in narajee petition

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Sirajganj*

The Special Court for Prevention of Women and Children Repression, Sirajganj yesterday received the 'narajee petition' of Anil Chandra Shill, father of the victim Purnima Rani Shill, in the sensational Purnima Rani Shill rape case.

The court fixed the hearing date on this on September 8.

On August 25, CID Inspector Shahidullah Sheikh submitted the second charge-sheet against six Awami League leaders including former MP Abdul Latif Mirza with 23 persons. The other Awami League leaders are Ullapara Upazila Awami League President Shahidul Islam Punno, General Secretary Shaiful Islam Shafi, former PP of Judge Court Advocate Abdur Rahman, Awami League leader Marub Bin Habib and Khorshed Alam.

Meanwhile police arrested Shaiful Islam Shafi from Ullapara Bazaar who was also accused in the CID submitted charge-sheet. District Awami League refused to accept the

charge-sheet of CID and observed hartal in Ullapara last week.

The father of Purnima, Shree Anil Chandra Shill, lodged an assault case in Ullapara police station against 17 persons of Purboo Delowa village and Purnima Rani Shill was admitted in Ullapara Hospital on October 10.

Officer in charge of Ullapara police station after investigation submitted a rape case charge-sheet against 17 persons. Meanwhile, on request from the local ruling party leadership, the Home Ministry ordered the CID to investigate the case afresh. Local CID after examining the witnesses and the medical report submitted a fresh charge-sheet to the court.

But, father of the victim submitted the 'narajee' petition. He said in his petition that the said six Awami League leaders are not guilty and alleged that the CID in league with the ruling party submitted false charge-sheet against the Awami League leaders.

Alamgir

FROM PAGE 12
tion of ammonia plant, environment preservation and increasing production capacity of the Chittagong Urea Fertilizer Limited (CUFL).

Mohammad Abdus Sobhan, an officer of the Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAC) filed the case against Alamgir on May 13, this year.

He was shown arrested in the case on August 13.

Alamgir was granted bail in the case on August 24.

He was earlier granted bail in five other cases, including the Janatar Mancha Case (sedition case). But the Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on August 26 stayed the bail order till today.

Alamgir was arrested under Section 54 of the CrPC from the Zia International Airport on March 15 on his return from Singapore.

Later, he was shown arrested in the sedition case and four other cases.

DMCH in disarray

FROM PAGE 12
ing at Alam. He asked nurses to immediately arrange saline and injection.

"We need 20 oxygen cylinders, but we have only two. And it is not always possible to attend all patients as we have to accommodate twice the normal capacity of 30 beds in the ward. So it is obvious that some patients may feel lack of care here, but we can't help it," Prof Hoque told this correspondent in reply to a question.

He also said the director