

Aziz Bahini chief, his bodyguard on 3-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The chief of infamous Aziz Bahini and charged-sheeted principal accused in Raozan Buddhist monk murder case along with his body guard were placed on a three-day remand here yesterday.

Magistrate Altaf Hossain approved the remand when Azizul Haq alias Azizya and Abul Kashem were produced before him at his office at 4.30pm.

Earlier, Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) of Raozan Police Station Zakir Hossain filed two separate arms case against Azizul Haq who was held with high quantity of sophisticated arms and ammunitions on Wednesday.

The army personnel from Ghagra in Rangamati arrested Azizul Haq and Kashem from their hideout at a rubber garden bordering Kaokhali of Rangamati hill district.

Azizul Haq is also accused in twenty other criminal cases including killing, abduction and illegal toll collection.



Supporters of different candidates in the Bar Council election seek vote from Gaziul Haque, a language movement veteran, when he came to the Supreme Court Bar centre in the city to cast his vote yesterday.

Obituary

BSS, Savar

Prof. Mafizuddin Ahmed of the economics department of Jahangirnagar University (JU) died of brain haemorrhage at a hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 66.

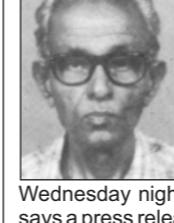
The university authorities have suspended academic and administrative activities yesterday noon to pay respect to late Prof. Mafizuddin, said a JU press release.

A reputed researcher, Prof. Mafizuddin also taught at Dhaka College, Rajshahi College, Chittagong Commerce College and Chittagong University.

His quirkhwan will be held at the central cafeteria of the university after Asprayers on May 16.

JU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Khandaker Mustahidur Rahman expressed deep shock at the death of Prof. Mafizuddin.

Sharadindu Dastidar



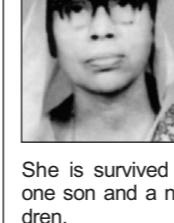
Comrade Sharadindu Dastidar, a pioneer of communist movement in Bangladesh, passed away in Chittagong on Wednesday night at the age of 85, says a press release.

Born in Chittagong in 1919, he was a member of the central committee of Workers Party.

He took part in the anti-British movement at a very young age. He was also arrested many times during his lifetime.

He is survived by his wife, one son and one daughter.

Mohsena Rahman



Mohsena Rahman, wife of late Enayetur Rahman, a former district judge, died at her home yesterday at the age of 97, says a press release.

She is survived by nine daughters, one son and a number of grandchildren.

Her quirkhwan will be held at her home, Motmaz Villa, House # 13, Road # 112, Gulshan, after Maghrib in a meeting with economists yesterday.

There might be an allocation for this in the coming budget, said Saifur in a pre-budget consultation meeting with the economists at the finance ministry.

"There's an acute shortage of good teachers, especially in science and English," Saifur said, adding that students are not learning to their highest potential because of this.

Saifur also hinted introduction of extraordinary merit scholarship in schools and colleges in addition to the current scholarship programme to encourage academic excellence.

Women urged to join active politics to ensure rights

BSS, Dhaka

Law Minister Moudud Ahmed yesterday called on women to involve themselves actively in the mainstream of politics to ensure their wider role in parliamentary affairs and development activities.

If women get proper education and increasingly take part in the political process, there would be no need for reserved seats for them in parliament in the near future, he said at a roundtable in the city.

Organised by Bangladesh Parliamentary Journalist Association (BPJA) and Bangladesh Legal Aid Services Trust (BLAST), the roundtable on 'Reserved Seats for Women in the Parliament: Our Expectation' was presided over by BPJA president Shahjahan Sardar.

Soma Islam of BLAST presented the keynote paper at the roundtable.

Moudud Ahmed said that without active participation in politics, women could not be able to uphold their position in political arena.

He urged the leaders of the women movement to play an active role in political parties to ensure their rights.

Referring to the various measures for education and empowerment of women, the law minister



PHOTO: STAR

Law Minister Moudud Ahmed speaks at a roundtable on 'Reserved seats for women in parliament: Our expectation' at the National Press Club in the city yesterday.

said girl children marked the highest enrollment in primary education among the South Asian countries.

Turning to various aspects of the bill for the reserved seats for women, he said it would be better if all political parties in parliament take part in enacting the bill.

He, however, regretted that the ruling party was waiting for one and a half months to finalise the bill in the parliamentary standing committee, but the main opposition did not respond to it.

The present government in the bill has kept provisions for raising the number of seats to 45 and distribution of those among the political parties in parliament according to their representation," Moudud said.

Former law minister Abdul Matin Khosru said women should increasingly participate in the politics to establish their rights.

He also called for direct elections to the seats, reserved for women.

Azaduzzaman Noor MP, Vice-Chairman of BLAST Justice Naimuddin Ahmed, President of the Platform to Resist Violence against Women Hasna Moudud, journalist Saifur Rahman and General Secretary of Bangladesh Mohila Parishad Aysa Khanam also spoke.

Transport strike in Sylhet May 16

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Retired government officials are going to fill the vacancy of teachers in schools and colleges, hinted Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman in a meeting with economists yesterday.

There might be an allocation for this in the coming budget, said Saifur in a pre-budget consultation meeting with the economists at the finance ministry.

"There's an acute shortage of good teachers, especially in science and English," Saifur said, adding that students are not learning to their highest potential because of this.

Saifur also hinted introduction of extraordinary merit scholarship in schools and colleges in addition to the current scholarship programme to encourage academic excellence.

Students of MC College and Sylhet Government College went on

rampage following the death of a fellow student by a speeding truck.

The transport workers also made a counter attack on the college hostel same day.

The rally expressed concern as local political leaders and administration did not take any measure to cool the situation.

It also called for immediate punitive measures against those involved in the rampage.

The demands of transport owners include establishment of a truck terminal in city, repair of the South Sumra Bus Terminal, dissolution of the so called Bus Malik Samity and establishment of a permanent stand for microbuses and rickshaws at Chouhatta.

MISHEL MURDER CASE Charges farmed against four

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A tribunal in Dhaka yesterday farmed charges against four accused in the Mishel Murder Case.

The four accused are Shoeb alias Sohel, Mohammad Shahin, Mohammad Hanif and Momtaj Mall alias Jamai Momtaj.

Of them, Shahin and Momtaj

were present in the court and pleaded not guilty after the charges were read out to them.

Two other accused Sohel and Hanif have been absconding since the incident.

Judge Shahed Noor Uddin of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 fixed May 18 for trial of the case.

The tribunal discharged Jahangir Alam, former officer-in-charge (OC) of Shyampur Police Station, as charges against him were not proved.

Mishel, a fourth-grade student of Dania Sunshine Kindergarten School, was kidnapped from near their Dania residence at Shyampur in the city on July 5 last year. The kidnappers demanded Tk 3 lakh from Mishel's father in ransom.

Victim's father filed a general diary (GD) with Shyampur Police Station the following day and ASI Abdus Sultan filed a regular case against Shahin, Shoeb and Yusuf on July 8.

Victim's father filed another petition on July 14 with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Dhaka seeking inclusion the names of five others in the FIR (First Information Report).

The criminal investigation department (CID) pressed charges against OC Jahangir Alam and four others on December 30 last year showing 30 people as prosecution witnesses.

The name of the OC was included in the charge sheet for his negligence in rescuing the victim and arresting the accused.

DUPDAA executives

Syed Marghul Mursheed, chairman of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission, and Rezaul Haq Chowdhury Mushtaq, chairman of Harbour Shipping Agency Ltd., have been elected president and secretary of Dhaka University Political Science Department Alumni Association (DUPDAA) for 2004-2005, says a press release.

The vice-presidents are Prof. Dr Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan of Dhaka University, Mir Shahabuddin

Mohammed, vice-chairman of EPB, AKM Shamsuddin, chairman of Bangladesh Land Port Authority, Mian Mushtaque Ahmed, divisional commissioner, Dhaka, and Khuda Baksh Chowdhury, DIG of Police, Dhaka Range.

Other office-bearers are ASR

Roquibul Hassan, Farhat Chowdhury and Rabiu Haque - joint general secretary; Shah Jalal Uddin Khan - treasurer; Md Rafiqul Islam - organising secretary; Munir Hossain Khan - assistant organising secretary; AKM Nurul Alam Nantu - cultural secretary; Syeda Momtaj Shirin - assistant cultural secretary; Bashir Ahmed - publicity secretary; Azhar Mahmood - assistant publicity secretary; Jalal Feriq - information & research secretary; Raisuddin Ahmed - social welfare secretary; GM Shahidul Alam - literature and publication secretary; Mahfuzur Rahman Siddique - sports secretary; Quazi Rakibul Islam - legal affairs secretary; Mezbah Uddin Ahmed - office secretary; and Shamsun Nahar Mushfiq Shikha - women affairs secretary.

A youth was gunned down by unidentified assailants at Bhupur in Fatikchhari in the early hours of yesterday.

The dead was identified as Osman Gani alias Shahab, 28, son of Shahel Ahmed.

The armed gang called Osman

out of his house in Bhupur at about 2.30 am and shot him at point-blank range.

Fatikchhari police sent the body to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for autopsy.

Previous enmity was the main reason behind the killing, police said quoting the local people.

Relatives and well-wishers have been requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Youth shot dead in Chittagong

BSS, Chittagong

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Friends, relatives and well-wishers have been requested to attend the cheholum.

Chelum of Professor Zohra Begum, wife of SM Al Husainy, former chairman of Public Service Commission and chairman of Swanirvar

Bangladesh, will be held at the central office of Swanirvar at 5/5, Block-C, Lalmatia, after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

She died on April 6 at DAB car-

diac centre.

Friends, relatives and well-

wishers have been requested to

attend the cheholum.

MA Hannan Mia

BSS, Dhaka

Chelum of MA Hannan Mia, former deputy commissioner of Taxes, Dhaka zone, will be held at his home at Atipancha in Keraniganj after Juma prayers today.

He died of a cardiac arrest on March 6 at the age of 69. He is survived by his wife, five sons and four daughters.

Relatives, friends and well-

wishers have been requested to

attend the cheholum.

Sraddha

Shraddha of Dr

Raimohon Majumdar, a

noted freedom fighter and social worker, will be held at his home at Pairpur in Madaripur today,

says a press release.

Dr Majumdar died on May 5 at the age of 61. He is survived by his wife, a son and three daughters.

Relatives and well-wishers have been requested to attend the shraddha.

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Rangpur, Bogra, Pabna and Comilla and weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country till 6.00pm today.

Precipitation severe heat wave over the regions of Rajshahi, Ishwardi, Jessor and Chaudanga and mild to moderate heat wave elsewhere over Rajshahi and Khulna divisions and some parts of Dhaka division may continue, Met office said predicting that day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

Highest temperature 42.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chaudanga and the lowest 24.2 degree at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:34pm today and rises at 5:16am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town Temperature Humidity in Celsius percentage

Max Min Morning Evening

Dhaka 36.5 29.0 78 70