



LGRD and Cooperatives Minister and BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan addresses a press conference at his Bailey Road official residence in the city yesterday while the party's Senior Joint Secretary General Tarique Rahman, left, looks on.

'412 women fell victim to violence in Jan'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 412 women from across the country were the victims of different forms of violence last month.

This was stated in a report of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad prepared on the basis of stories published in different national dailies.

Of them, 65 were raped, 25

gangraped and 13 killed after being raped.

Besides, a total of 19 women were the victims of dowry, and 10 of them were killed for their failure to pay the dowry.

Fifty-five women and 87 children were physically assaulted.

Five incidents of fatwa were reported during the period.

NDC team visits defence ministry

BSS, Dhaka

The 7th batch of National Defence Course (NDC) yesterday visited the Ministry of Defence as part of its training curriculum.

The course began on January 7.

Commandant of the National Defence College Maj. Gen. Abu Tayeb Muhammad Zahirul Alam, other faculty and course members accompanied the delegation.

TANGAIL JUBO DAL LEADER MURDER Four get death, 3 others life

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced a former upazila chairman, a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader and two others to death and three others to life imprisonment for killing Giasuddin, a Jubo Dal leader of Nagarpur in Tangail district.

The convicts with death are chairman of Nagarpur upazila Abdul Quddus, JCD leader Iqbal Kabir Ratan, Prince and Mohammad Rafiq while Arzu, Ripon and Nuru Miah were given life imprisonment.

Of the convicts, Quddus and Ratan were present in the court during the verdict while the rest were tried in absentia.

The court acquitted another accused Surya Miah as the charge brought against him was not proved.

Judge Shahed Noor Uddin of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 gave the verdict.

The punishment of the fugitives will be effective from the date of their arrest or surrender and the convicts with death can appeal to the High Court within 30 days, the judge said.

Quddus and Ratan, now on bail were produced before the court at 11:45am and the judge took his seat at 12:05pm and read out the high-

lights of the 28-page judgement in 10 minutes.

Victim's brothers Abdus Salam, Abdus Satter, Humayun Kabir, wife Aleya Begum and sister Sufia Akhter were present in the court during the delivery of the verdict and they broke down in tears after hearing it.

Abdus Salam, complainant of the case, and victim's wife Aleya Begum expressed their satisfaction with the verdict. But they said they want quick execution of the verdict.

After the verdict, Quddus and Ratan said the complainant implicated them in the case to harass political.

Earlier, the prosecution and the defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 24 out of 31 prosecution witnesses.

The prosecution story is brief that victim Giasuddin, joint convenor of Jubo Dal Nagarpur thana unit, was shot dead by a group of assailants led by upazila chairman Abdul Quddus at about 2:30pm on June 16 in 2003 at Bhabra Bazar at Nagarpur upazila while he was going to Tangail on a motorbike. The victim was killed following a dispute over establishing dominance in the area.

Later, victim's elder brother Abdus Salam filed a murder case with Delduar Police Station accusing Abdul Quddus and five others the next day. The investigation officer pressed charges against Quddus and seven others on December 2 in 2003.

The court framed charges against Quddus and eight others on August 29 last year and its trial began on September 2 the same year.

Special Public prosecutor Abdul Latif Talukder appeared for the state while advocates Nazrul Islam, ABM Sharuddin Khan Mukul and Shafiqul Islam defended the accused.

Kotwali OC dies of heart attack during hartial duty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

ABM Sultan Ahmed, Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali Police Station, died of heart attack yesterday while performing his duty during hartial hours at Patuatuli in the old city yesterday.

Sultan felt serious chest pain at 11:30am and fell on the ground.

He was rushed to a city hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Mohiuddin, the OC of Mojitheel Police Station, died of cardiac arrest last year while chasing a truck suspecting that it was carrying smuggle goods.



PHOTO: STAR
Asma Kibria, widow of slain former finance minister and Awami League leader Shah AMS Kibria, speaks at a press conference at her Dhanmondi residence in the city yesterday. On her right is her son Dr. Reza Kibria and on her left is her daughter Dr. Nazli Kibria.