

GARMENT TRADER MURDER

4 to die, woman gets life

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced four youths to death and a woman to life in jail for killing a garment trader in July 2003.

The youths are Saifullah Al Mahmud Tanvir, 25, Nurul Haq alias Nuru, 22, Alamgir alias Sujan, 23, and Babu alias Chhintai Babu, 27, and the woman Safia Begum, 25,

is sister of Sujan.

Safia, the mastermind in the killing, was given life in jail instead of death as she has a minor daughter.

The court acquitted Amir Hossain and Jony as the allegations brought against them were not proved.

Judge AR Masud of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-4 handed down the

sentence in presence of the convicts.

Earlier, the prosecution and defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 15 prosecution witnesses.

Saidur Rahman Liton, general secretary of West Chowdhurypara Public Welfare Society, was killed by a gang of miscreants led by Tanvir at West Malibagh at about 8:45pm on July 10, 2003. The victim was killed as he asked Safia to leave the locality due to her anti-social activities.

Later, victim's younger brother Sajedur Rahmn filed a case with Ramna Police Station against Safia and six others the same day.

During the investigation, Safia, Nuru and Tanvir gave confessional statements to magistrates on different dates.

1,100 bottles of phensidyl seized in city

UNB, Dhaka

A special squad of Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) seized 1,100 bottles of phensidyl from TT Para slum in the city yesterday and arrested one person in this connection.

Acting on a tip-off, the DNC team raided the TT Para slum at about 2:00pm and unearthed an underground passage under the slum from where they recovered the bottles of phensidyl in 22 sacks.

The team also arrested M Ilias Miah, an alleged phensidyl peddler, from the spot.

A case has been filed with Sabujbag police station.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina gives away a medal to a child at a function at the Osmani Memorial auditorium yesterday. Sheikh Russell Shishu Kishore Parishad organised the event marking the birth anniversary of Sheikh Russell, the youngest son of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Italy keen to recruit more Bangladeshis

Envoy tells PM

UNB, dhaka

Italy is keen to recruit more manpower from Bangladesh, as Bangladeshis have been able to show good performance over

there.

Italian Ambassador in Dhaka Pietro Ballero said this when he had a courtesy-call on Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday.

The Ambassador appreciated the performance of Bangladeshis working in Italy.

Thanking the envoy, Khaleda stressed the importance of high-level exchange of visits between the two countries and said Italy could import more items from Bangladesh.

The envoy emphasised formation of a joint chamber of commerce and industry to increase trade between the two countries.

Khaleda renewed her invitation to her Italian counterpart through the Ambassador to visit Bangladesh.

Golam Mohammad new envoy to Jordan

UNB, Dhaka

The government has decided to appoint Golam Mohammad, director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Golam Mohammad, a career diplomat, joined the BCS (Foreign Affairs) cadre in 1982.

Develop a sustainable system to meet city water demand

Bhuiyan tells roundtable

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Local Government, Rural Development (LGRD) and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday asked Dhaka Water Supply Authority (Wasa) to develop a sustainable system based on surface water to meet the demand for water in the city.

"82 percent of Dhaka Wasa water is extracted from the underground and only 18 percent derived from surface water sources. Because of over extraction, ground water table is rapidly falling down, which is not at all environment friendly," he said.

He was speaking as chief guest at the inauguration of "Stakeholders Consultation Workshop for Dhaka Water Supply Policy" jointly organised by Dhaka Wasa and Asian Development Bank (ADB) at Local Government and Engineering Department (LGED) auditorium.

He said Dhaka Wasa is currently meeting 80 percent of total demand of water in the capital.

Bhuiyan said the problems associated with urbanisation are becoming more prevalent in Bangladesh.

"Especially, the service providers are confronting with the important

tasks of providing safe water and sewerage facility in the mega cities like Dhaka. Dhaka Wasa is trying its best to meet the rapidly increasing demand of water," he said.

A long-term policy and planning should be adopted through which the conjunctive use of water resources is ensured, he said.

Presided over by LGRD secretary AHM Abul Kashem, the meeting was also addressed by State Minister for LGRD Ziaul Haque Zia, ADB representatives Shakeel Ahmed Khan and Hua Du, and managing director of Dhaka Wasa Dr Kazi Ali Azam.