

# Top Jubo Dal leader chargesheeted in Azibar murder case

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Central forest and environment affairs secretary of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal Modasserul Haque Huda and eight others were chargesheeted yesterday in the sensational Azibar Rahman murder case. Huda is also chairman of Dhulihar Union Parishad in Satkhira Sadar upazila.

All the accused except one--Dipak Chandra Roy--are in jail. All the nine accused were detained and sent to jail when they appeared before the District and Sessions Judge's court on February 26. Dipak Chandra Roy was released on bail on April 22.

Investigation Officer (IO) of the case Sub-inspector (S1) Akhtaruzzaman of Sadar police station submitted the charge sheet to a magistrate court. The murder took about four months ago.

The IO said he was convinced during investigation that the accused were involved in the murder. Charges were pressed under Section 302/104 of BPC (Bangladesh Penal Code), headed.

The other chargesheeted accused are Dhulihar UP member Amin Uddin, Biswa Nath Dhali, BM Gain, Indrajit Gain, Nikhil Gain, Raghu Nath Gain, Prabir Gain and Dipak Chandra Roy all from Sadar upazila.

Of the accused, only Huda is in jail.

Azibar Rahman and three others--Kashem, Khokon and Hasan--were abducted from their houses at Matiadanga village in Satkhira Sadar upazila on the night of January 5 this year. They were taken to a nearby shrimp enclosure at Khariadanga and tortured severely, killing Azibar Rahman on the spot. The three others were seriously injured. Azibar Rahman was son of Oli Ahmed.

Azibar's wife Mariam Begum filed a case with Sadar police station on January 6 accusing the nine people.

## Extortion cases against ex-MP in B'baria

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Four extortion cases were filed against ex-MP Mushfiqur Rahman, adviser of BNP chairperson Khaleida Zia, with a Magistrate court in Brahmanbaria yesterday.

Three persons--Mizanur Rahman, Abdur Rauf and Satchchu Mia--filed the cases on behalf of about 500 landless fishermen.

Twelve BNP activists and 25 unnamed people were also accused in the cases.

The complainants said that the fishermen took lease of some big water bodies in Akhawra and Kashba upazilas for three consecutive terms in 2002, 2003 and 2004. But BNP activists and supporter of the former lawmaker did not allow them to catch fish from the water bodies without paying toll.

They also looted fish worth about Tk 55 lakh from the fishermen, it was also alleged in the cases.

The magistrate ordered the Officers-in-Charge of Akhaura and Kshaba police stations to investigate the cases.

## ALLEGED RELIEF SCAM

# Complaint to ACC against ex-BJP MP in Satkhira

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Complaints have been submitted to Anti Corruption Commission, Satkhira Deputy Commissioner and law enforcing agencies against former BJP lawmaker Kazi Alauddin for his alleged anomaly in distribution of government food grains and CI sheets during the tenure of alliance government.

Kazi Alauddin (BJP-Najir) was elected from Satkhira-4 (Kaligonj-Debhata) constituency in 2001 election.

ACC sources said yesterday they sent the complaints to Dhaka and would start investigation when ordered.

The former lawmaker distributed food grains and relief CI sheets to organisations which existed in name only, they said in the complaints submitted recently, ACC sources said.

Signatories to the complaints include Abu Taleb Sardar and

Niranjana Pal of village Mukunda Madhusudanpur, Abdus Sanmad Gazi of village Parulgachha, Mosharraf Hossain of village Chachai, Yunus Ali of village Hogla, Nurul Haque of village Joypatkrati and others in Kaligonj upazila.

They alleged that the former lawmaker allotted two tones of rice and CI sheets each to Naobasapur Islami Kalyan Parishad, Sreerampur-Komorpur Samaj Kalyan Parishad and Bisnupur Samaj Kalyan Parishad; one tonne rice and CI sheets to Parulgachha Islami Pathagar; one tonne rice and CI sheets each to Parulgachha Zia Smriti Sangsad, Chachai Zia Sangsad, Nilkanthapur Islami Saaj Kalyan Parishad, Hogla Islami Pathagar and Faridpur Shahid Ali Mostafa Smriti Pathagar; CI sheets to Faridpur Islami Kalyan Parishad, Faridpur Samaj Kalyan Parishad, Noubazpur Zia Parishad and Nilkanthapur Zia Parishad and Mukundapur Sanapara Samaj

Kalyan Parishad; one tonne rice each to Bandakati Gazipara Shahid Zia Smriti Pathagar, Chowmuhuni Islami Kalyan Parishad and Renesa Pathagar in Kaligonj upazila.

Most of the allotted rice and CI sheets were misappropriated by local leaders and activists of the 4-party alliance as these organisations existed in name only, they said in the complaints.

They also alleged that Kaligonj Upazila Project Implementation officer (PIO) was also involved in the irregularities.

On contact, the Kaligonj PIO denied the allegation and said he had nothing to do because he made the allotments as per lists prepared by Kazi Alauddin.

Kazi Alauddin refuted the allegation and said he allotted those as per government rules.

"Some vested quarters are trying to tarnish my image by making false allegations", he said.

## Grenade found in madrasa

UNB, Sirajganj

Police recovered a grenade from a madrasa in Shajadpur upazila of the district yesterday.

Acting on a tip-off, the law enforcers raided Dariapur Hafizia Madrasah and recovered the grenade from its backyard.

All the resident students and teachers of the madrasa had gone into hiding after the raid.

A case was filed with Shajadpur Police Station.

## 8 fishermen feared drowned

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

At least eight fishermen are feared drowned in Paira river as their five trawlers sank in a storm Tuesday night, some survivors said yesterday.

The eight fishermen are Shah Alom, 25; Alomgir, 18; Main Uddin, 23; Yunus Ali, 30; Ali Hossain, 27; Harun, 22; Khaleq and Rubel--all from different villages in Patuakhali Sadar and Mirzagonj upazilas.

The survivors said 17 fishermen who were on board the five trawlers reached shores by swimming when the vessels sank.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) Chairman Lt Gen (rtd) Hasan Mashud Chowdhury addressing civil society members at an opinion-exchange meeting at Bogra Zila School yesterday.

## USAID official visits shoals in Sirajganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

USAID Mission Director in Bangladesh Roger D Carlson yesterday visited activities under the Shouhardo programme, implemented with USAID assistance to increase food security of vulnerable groups in shoal areas of Sirajganj.

The programme is implemented by CARE to improve life of four lakh vulnerable households in different shoal, haor and coastal areas in 18 districts in the country by 2009.

Later he exchanged views at a meeting with stakeholders at Charnalshapara in Sirajganj town.

The USAID will continue to give assistance for such programmes being implemented in cooperation with Bangladesh government, he told the meeting.

USAID officials Walter Shepherd and Golam Kabir, Shouhardo programme officials Shazedul Hasan and H J M Kamal accompanied the USAID Mission Director during the visit.

Later Roger attended a food distribution programme at Dhanbandhi Chowdhuripara and held a meeting with Sirajganj municipality officials.

## KUSHTIA JCD LEADERS TELL POLICE

# Top BNP leaders were behind attack on journos

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

The two arrested Jatyiatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders were sent to Kushtia jail yesterday on completion of two days' remand.

They are Kushtia district JCD joint-organising Hasan Zaman alias Hasan and Sadar upazila JCD secretary Arifur Rahman alias Sumon.

They were arrested on May 2 for their alleged involvement in attack on a journalist's convention in the district on May 29 last year.

According to police, the JCD leaders during interrogation on remand admitted their involvement in the attack, made by about 200 party activists.

They also mentioned the names of some top BNP leaders in the district who were behind the attack allegedly to foil the journalist's convention, the sources said.

At least 25 journalists including The Bangladesh Observer Editor Iqbal Sobhan Choudhury were injured when the JCD men attacked the convention.

The convention was called to protest filing of 'false extortion cases' against three local journalists by the then BNP lawmaker from Kushtia-2 and district BNP president Sahidul Islam.

After 10 months, Samim Bin Sattar, correspondent of Daily Khabar, filed a case with Sadar police station accusing two former BNP lawmakers and 10 others.

The accused former lawmakers are Sahidul Islam of Kushtia-2 and Syed Mehedi Ahmed Rumi of Kushtia-4. Mehedi Rumi is secretary of Kushtia BNP.

Others accused in the case are Kushtia BNP secretary Sajedur Rahman Bablu, district Jubo Dal president Sahidullah Sahid, secretary Mohsin Ali, and BNP activists Nurul Islam Chad, Mizanur Rahman Diuk, Al-Amin Kanay, Golam Hafiz Pipul, Atiar, Mirazul Islam Rintu and Abdur Razzak Bachchu.

According to police, arrested JCD leaders Hasan Sumon were not included in the list of accused. They were detected later from video footage of the incident.

## UP chairman held in Rangamati

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Joint forces arrested a Union Parishad (UP) chairman from his house at remote Ghilachhari village under Naniachar upazila.

Amar Jiban Chakma, chairman of Ghilachhari Union Parishad was arrested on Tuesday.

Based on his confessional statement, forces recovered a locally-made gun, hemp and Tk 50,500 counterfeit notes from his house in the district town.

Later, joint forces handed him over to Kotwali police.

Three separate cases were filed with Kotwali police station in this connection.

## New VC of Bhasani varsity

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Prof Dr Mohammad Monimul Haque joined Maulana Bhasani University of Science and Technology (MBUST) as vice-chancellor (VC) yesterday.

Before joining Prof Haque was working as a professor at chemistry department in Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).

He has been appointed VC after two months of resignation of his predecessor in the face of agitation by students and teachers.

Several vital posts including that of Pro-vice-chancellor, Treasurer and Librarian of the university are still vacant, sources said.

## NON-PAYMENT OF SALARY

# Dinajpur vet college teachers on strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Dinajpur Government Veterinary College teachers and staff yesterday went on an indefinite strike protesting non-payment of their arrear salaries due to shortage of fund, officials sources said.

The college is now severe fund crisis, resulting in uncertainty to 250 students, they said.

Because of fund crisis, 98 officials including 23 teachers are not getting their salaries for the last seven months since October, 2006.

Moreover, the college authorities could not pay their telephone bills, buy fodder for cattle, meet the expenditure of examinations and give scholarship to students.

Earlier, teachers, officials and staff, in a meeting held here in April threatened to go for an indefinite strike for failure of government to

fulfil their demand from May 9. The demands include payment of their seven months' salaries and merger of the college with Hajee Danesh Science and Technology University (HDSTU).

The college authorities also held a meeting with Education Secretary Md Syed Ataur Rahman on May 6. He gave directives to the Livestock Ministry to pay their seven months' salaries, but in vain, college sources said.

The then Awami League government established the college on 10 acres of land beside the Dinajpur-Dhaka highway at a cost of Tk.30cr under a development programme of the Ministry of Education in 1997.

A five-year curriculum including one year internship was introduced. There are three departments in the college.

14.5x4

6X2