

AUGUST 17 SERIAL BLASTS

2 JMB militants get 10-yr RI in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A speedy trial court here yesterday sentenced two Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) militants to 10 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) each in the August 17 serial blasts case.

Mohsin Khan, 27, son of Late Rusmot Ali of Kaziatul village in Muradnagar upazila and Abdul Hye, 27, son of Late Abdul Malek of Asadnagar village of Bhrahmanpara upazila in Comilla, were convicted for their active participation in exploding bombs at six spots here on August 17, 2005.

The two were teachers of Sengram Dakhil Madrassa in Jaintapur upazila.

While pronouncing the verdict, Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal Judge Biplob Goswami also fined each of them Tk 5,000, in default, to suffer one year more RI.

Earlier, the convicts admitted their complicity with the incident of serial blasts before the District Judge's Court here.



MOHSIN KHAN



ABDUL HYE

Kotwali police sub-inspector (SI) Chand Miah submitted charge-sheet before the magistrate's court on November 17, 2005. Police also submitted a supplementary charge sheet on January 16, 2006.

Examining all records and witnesses, the court pronounced the judgement under Section 3 of Explosives Act.

The two convicts along with another accused will be produced before Speedy Trial Tribunal as trial of two more cases in connection with August 17 serial blasts will begin in the same court on July 15 and 16, court sources said.

Trials of all the cases in connection with the August 17 blasts are likely to be completed by August this year, court sources informed.

No clue yet to Anjan 'murder' in Jessore

Uncle denies accusation by victim's mother

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Jessore police could neither recover the arms used by the assailants to 'kill' Tanvir Hassan Anjan, nor find any clue to the incident involving his death.

Moreover, none lodged any FIR with Jessore Kotwali thana till 5:30 pm yesterday in connection with murder of Anjan, son of former slain editor of Jessore daily 'Runner'.

Anjan's bullet hit body was found in the bathroom of his residence at Bejpara under Kotwali thana Monday noon. He was a student of second year Honours class at Govt MM University College in Jessore.

Meanwhile, Shirin Akhtar, mother of slain Anjan accused

her brother-in-law Manzurul Alam Tutul of his involvement in the murder. Tutul is now editor of Dainik Runner published from Jessore town.

On the other hand, Manzurul Alam Tutul, addressing a press conference at 4:30 pm yesterday at Jessore Press Club denied allegation of his involvement in any way in the murder. "The murder of my loving nephew Anjan may be a sequel to a love affair with a girl who happens to be a daughter of his maternal uncle," he said.

Rebeya Khatoon, mother of slain editor of Runner Saiful Alam Mukul also said that her son Tutul was not involved in the murder of her grandson Anjan.

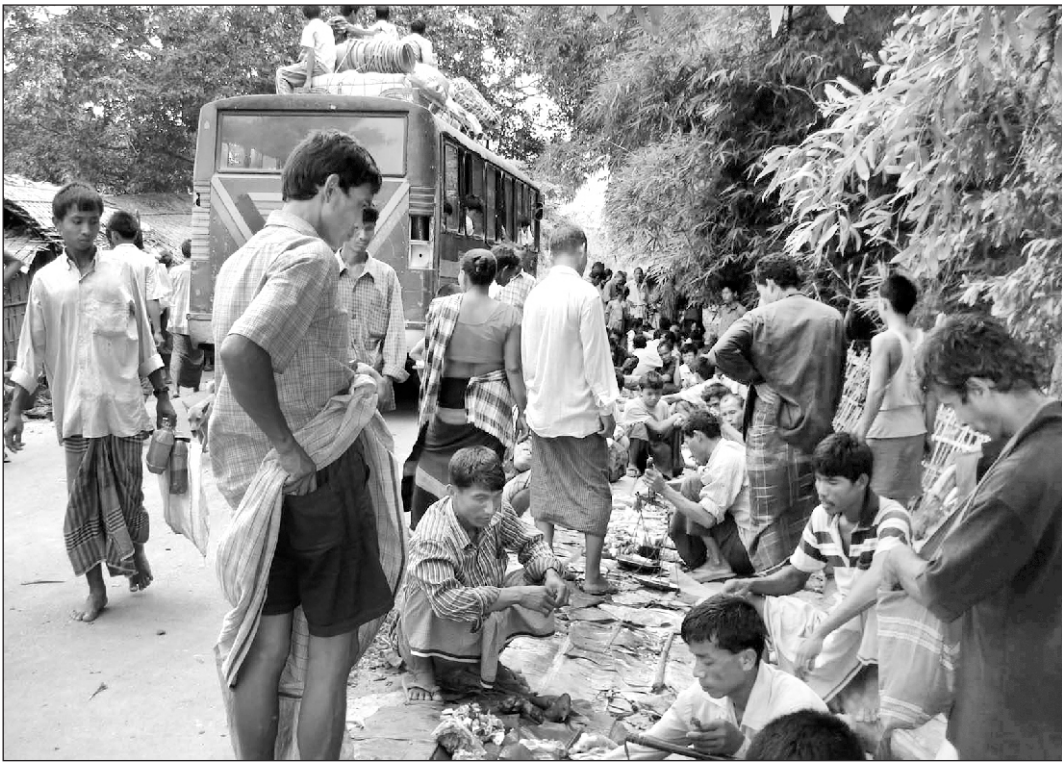


PHOTO: STAR

The make-shift fish and meat market that sits at Bbaibonchhara on the road between Khagrachhari and Panchhari risks lives of both the vendors and buyers because of speeding vehicles.

Satkhira Jubo Dal leader, 12 others sued for 'extortion'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

An extortion case was filed with Shyamnagar police station Monday night accusing 13 people including Nasim Farooque Khan Mithu, general secretary of district Jubo Dal and Iswaripur union parishad (UP) chairman Sadequr Rahman Sadek.

Sheikh Abu Bakkar, son of Sheikh Nurul Islam of Sultanpur of Satkhira town, filed the case.

Mithu is on the run now to evade arrest as he went into hiding after the declaration of emergency while local BNP leader Sadek is detained in jail as the joint forces arrested him on June 25.

This is the third case filed in the last three months against Mithu. The other accused in the case include SM Habibur Rahman Habib, Abul Kashem Morol, Fazlul Haque, Mahsin-Ul Mulk, Monsur Master, Mojibar Rahman Gazi, Shamim Ahmed, Krishna Pada Mondal, Abdur Rahim and Bhupendra Nath Sardar.

Mithu enjoyed undue power during the immediate past BNP-Jamaat led 4-party alliance government by virtue of being a close aide to central Jubo Dal president and then commerce ministry advisor Barkat Ullah Bhulu, sources said.

The complainant, Sheikh Abu Bakkar said, he has been cultivating shrimp on 550 bighas of land at Harinagar since 1989. He alleged that the accused led by Mithu demanded toll amounting to Tk 25 lakh from him on February 15 in

2004 and threatened him of dire consequences for non-compliance.

On February 20, at about 10, am the accused led by Mithu went there by a car and snatched away Tk 50,000 from him at gunpoint, Bakkar alleged. He said he did not file the case then for fear of retaliation as Mithu was an influential leader of the ruling BNP's youth front.

Contacted over cellphone, main accused Mithu denied the allegations and termed the case as baseless saying it was aimed at harassing and tarnishing his image.

On contact, Shyamnagar thana Officer in Charge (OC) Kazi Mizanur Rahman confirmed the filing of the case.

Allar Dal leader arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Jhenidah police Monday night arrested a leader of Allar Dal from a shop of phone-fax near Paira Chatter here.

Police said Nizam Uddin alias Nasir, 65, of Charak-Khola Siddiquia Darbar Sharif under Patharghata village in Borguna was arrested and a fax message of Allar Dal, Tk 994 in cash and a cell phone set were recovered from his possession.

The arrested was being interrogated till filing of the report yesterday afternoon.

Husband to die for killing wife for dowry

BSS, Panchagarh

A court here on Monday awarded death penalty to a man for killing his wife for dowry on July 31, 2004.

District and Sessions Judge and Judge of the Woman and Children Repression Prevention Special Tribunal Court of Panchagarh Mohammad Afzal Hossain found the accused guilty and delivered the verdict.

The prosecution story, in brief, is that convict Toimul Haque, son of late Mofiz Uddin of village Alegabari under Tentulia upazila in Panchagarh married Alema Begum, daughter of Aliur Rahman of nearby Sepoypara village few years ago.

The husband used to torture his wife for dowry. Since their marriage he allegedly took dowry from his in-law's house several times in the past.

At one stage, Toimul beat Alema Begum mercilessly as she failed to bring an amount of Tk 8,000 dowry money from her parents. She died on the spot.

Mother of the victim, Sabina Yasmin, filed a case in this connection with Tentulia police station on the next day. Police recovered the body and conducted autopsy at Panchagarh Sadar Hospital.

After investigating the case, police submitted charge sheets against Toimul Haque, his brothers Toibar Rahman, Tofizul Haque and Shamsul Haque to the court.

After examining the witnesses and evidence of the case, the judge handed down the verdict.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Rain water floods the playing ground of Laxmipur Government High School as the district experiences intermittent showers in the last few days.

3 JMB leaders remanded in Pabna

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A court here Monday granted one day remand for three top leaders of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) for investigation into their involvement in August 17 country wide bomb blast, court sources said.

Pabna Cognizance Court-1 Magistrate Masudul Haque granted remand for Advocate MR Khan, Mostafizur Rahman Shahin and Mukul in response to an appeal made by Pabna Police Station officer-in-charge (OC) Md Iqbal Shafi, court sources said.

The militants were arrested on May 23.

TWO KHULNA JUTE MILLS

31 more terminated, 3,505 get notices

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Thirty-one more permanent workers at Platinum Jubilee Jute mills at Khalishpur were terminated on Monday.

With these, the total number of terminated permanent workers at the jute mill so far stands at 476.

The general manager of the mill told this correspondent that termination of at least two-thirds of permanent workers is now inevitable' to save the jute mill from incurring huge financial loss.

At around 7.30 pm yesterday, 3107 workers and 398 employ-

ees of laid off Peoples Jute Mills were served with termination notices.

The termination notices were severed on order from the chairman of BJMC.

The general manger of Peoples Jute Mills Mahbubul Alam received a letter in this regard from the BJMC head office through fax yesterday evening.

Only a few security guards and six top officials of the mill are now left out of such notices.

Peoples Jute Mills was laid off on April 19 last on the grounds of severe financial crisis along with Crescent, Platinum and Star Jute Mills following violent movement by workers and employees.

Two persons were killed and over a hundred injured during police action.

The movement was lunched by workers to realise their arrear wages and other financial bene-

fits.

Meanwhile, members of Patshilpa Rakkha Gano Commission (PRGC) alleged on Monday that a deep-rooted international conspiracy was going on to destroy the export-oriented Jute industries in Bangladesh.

A five-member team of PRGC headed by its president engineer Shaikh Shahidullah visited Khalishpur industrial belt on Sunday where they talked to a large number of Jute mill workers to know their present condition.

The PRGC members while talking to local Journalists on Monday at Khulna Press Club also blamed the ministry of jute, BJMC, corruption in mill administration and CBA leaders largely for making the Jute mills losing concerns.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

This giant African catfish, weighing about 10 kg, was caught from a pond at Bashurhat in Companyganj yesterday.

6X2

8X4