

2 to die, 3 get life for murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chittagong Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal yesterday awarded death sentence to two persons and life term imprisonment to three others in a murder case.

The tribunal sentenced Rahima Akhter, the wife of the victim, and Mohammad Shamim to death and life-term imprisonment to Ashiqur Rahman Rony, Khorshed Alam and Saiful Islam for killing Masud Alam, a ward boy of Comilla Gomati Hospital. Rony, Khorshed and Saiful were also fined Tk20 thousand each.

Of the convicts, Shamim has been absconding while others are in jail.

According to case proceedings, Rahima Akhter, wife of slain Masud Alam, developed an extra marital relationship with Shamim. Following a familial dispute over the affair, Rahima along with Shamim and the other convicts made a plan to kill Masud.

They called Masud out of his house and took him to Bodhair area of Comilla on March 2, 2006. At one stage, they stabbed him to death and buried the body at a nearby brickfield.

Police recovered Masud's skeleton on March 29, after 27 days of his murder and filed a case.

The charge sheet was submitted on September 30, 2006 and charges were framed on January 8, 2007.

Judge Shafiqul Karim delivered the verdict taking deposition of 18 witnesses.

Public Prosecutor (PP) Quamrul Islam Chowdhury Sajjad stood before the court on behalf of the state while advocates Abu Taher and Taifur Alam stood for the defendants.



PHOTO: STAR

Workers erect a makeshift bamboo bridge at Sawari Ghat of Buriganga river in the city yesterday to facilitate the movement of commuters as the water level continues to rise due to torrential rain.

ANTI-CORRUPTION DRIVE

ACC seeks support from NBR, financial insttts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Chairman Lt Gen (ret'd) Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury yesterday said the commission needs documentary support from

the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and banking and financial institutions in its fight against corruption.

"We want to file cases against corrupt people with necessary evidence so that they cannot get away from any stages of

the trial," he said at a meeting with the customs and tax officials at the NBR conference room in the city.

He also said the ACC needs to step up its drive against corruption by pursuing appropriate legal proceedings so that none can nullify its actions in the future.

The ACC chief urged the institutions concerned to extend cooperation to the anti-corruption drive, saying that it is not possible for a single agency to stamp out corruption.

He urged the NBR and banking and financial institutions to inform the government of any suspicious financial transaction immediately. These institutions can alert the government whenever a corrupt person submits income tax return, makes bank transactions or opens letter of credit for import, he added.

NOKIA'S SNAP-A-STORY CONTEST

Prize distributed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The prize giving ceremony of the countrywide Nokia's Snap-a-Story Competition was held at the Spectra Convention Centre in the city yesterday.

Cartoonist Shishir Bhattacharya and Photographer Imtiaz Alam Baig were the judges who selected 15 photos out of the total 5000 as 'Story of the Day'.

The winners received Nokia Bluetooth headset from the judges.

People also picked three photos through SMS voting as 'Story of the Week' out of the 15 selected photos adjudged by the judges.

The winners are Shahana Akhter Snigdha, Husne Reza and Shomail Atahar.

They received Bluetooth-enabled printers.

Meanwhile, 15 people, who sent SMS to choose 'Story of the Week', were also awarded Nokia 3110 classic handsets.

Speaking on the occasion Shishir Bhattacharya said the competition, first of its kind in Bangladesh, drew spontaneous response from the people.

Nokia Category Manager Sajid Matin and Photographer Imtiaz Alam Baig also spoke on the occasion.

8 killed in crossfire in July

Says BSEHR report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eight persons were killed in crossfire and 2712 fell victim to mass arrest in the last month, says a Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) report.

The report added that between July 1 and July 31, 207 were killed due to social violence and 588 were killed in different sorts of accidents, including building and wall collapse, lightning, drowning, train and road mishaps, etc.

A total of 69 people, including 31 men and 39 women, committed suicide during this period.

A total of 13 women and eight girls were raped while 11 fell victim to gang rape.

Besides, three women were killed after being raped, nine were killed for dowry, two were lynched after mob beating and police recovered body of 72 from different parts of the country.

The report added that joint forces arrested 823, 13 were injured in bomb blasts, 14 fell victim to acid violence and two journalists were assaulted since the state of emergency was declared.

The BSEHR prepared the report on the basis of reports published in different national dailies.

Declare Bangabandhu as Father of Nation

BCL urges govt

DU CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), the student wing of Awami League, demanded that the government declare Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the Father of the Nation and observe August 15 as National Mourning Day.

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was assassinated with his family members on August 15, 1975.

BCL has also chalked out a month-long programme to

observe the Day.

BCL members will wear black ribbons throughout the month of August.

On August 15, BCL and its central, district and upazila committees will place wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu while the national flag, party flag and black flags will be hoisted at half-mast.

On the occasion, prayers, mourning procession, photography exhibition, token hunger strike and blood donation programmes will also be held.

4 clinics fined Tk 2.4 lakh in Gazipur

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A mobile court in a drive yesterday fined four clinics Tk 2.40 lakh and arrested three people, including one of the owners, for unhygienic environment and violating agreement in Gazipur.

Witnesses said the mobile court led by First Class Magistrate Mahmudul Kabir Murad fined Al-Shifa Clinic Tk 50,000, Sina Hospital Tk 55,000, Satata Diagnostic and Clinic Tk 75,000 and Insaf Hospital Tk 60,000.

The court also arrested Abu Said, 48, owner of Al-Shifa Clinic and

Masud Parvez, 28 and Lutfur Rahman, 30, employees of Satata Diagnostic and Clinic.



PHOTO: STAR

Winners of the Nokia 'Snap-a-Story' competition pose for photograph at the prize giving ceremony at the Spectra Convention Centre in the city yesterday.