

NO LET-UP IN OUTLAW ATTACKS

Jhenidah BNP leaders on the run for fear of life

Sadar upazila party vice-president shot dead on February 19: Nine murdered in last 3 years

HOSSAIN SERAJ AND AZIBOR RAHMAN in Jhenidah

Many panic-stricken BNP leaders in outlaw-infested Jhenidah are now on the run for life as there is no sign of let up in killings and attacks by outlaws.

They became scared as two front ranking BNP leaders were shot dead allegedly by outlaws between January 21 and February 19, police and party sources said.

In their latest 'operation' on February 19, Jhenidah Sadar upazila BNP vice-president and chairman of Ganna Union Parishad (UP) Sharafat Hossain was shot dead during daytime.

Police and locals said, at around 2-30 pm, several masked gunmen waylaid Sharafat at Kuthidurgapur in Jhenidah sadar upazila and sprayed bullets killing him on the spot. Sharafat was returning home from the UP office in a rickshaw.

After a while, a man made a phone call to some local journalists, introducing himself as a leader of Janajuddho faction of outlawed Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP).

He claimed responsibility for the murder, saying 'class enemy' Sharafat was killed by

their cadres.

After Sharafat's murder, a Jhenidah BNP leader who has taken shelter in Magura, "Not only I, many of my party colleagues are now scared and on the run fearing attack by outlaws as law enforcers failed to tame them". He declined to be named.

Earlier, when district Jubo Dal organising secretary Haidar Ali Hadu was shot dead by Janajuddho cadres, panicked party leaders including Abdul Malek, Akteruzzaman, Zahiduzzaman, Abdul Majid, Asif Iqbal and Ashraf Islam Pintu filed general diaries (GDs) with police and sought security, he said. But there was no step by law enforcers, he alleged.

Jhenidah Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) Nazrul Islam however said, "Strict police vigilance is on to check the criminal gangs". Special drives have been launched to track down outlaws and criminals, he said.

Asked about alleged police failure, he said, "We are trying our best but it is not so easy to root out crimes overnight in an area where outlaws unleashed a reign of terror for 37 years".

According to police, intelligence

agencies and newspaper reports, at least 18 incidents of armed attacks on BNP leaders took place in Jhenidah district between October 19, 2005 and February 19, 2008. At least nine BNP leaders were killed and 10 others were critically injured in the attacks.

On January 21 in the evening, Shaikakupa upazila BNP organising secretary Idris Ali was shot dead on the spot by miscreants while he was coming out of his house on a motorbike.

On the night of January 25, Anwar Hossain Dablu, a BNP cadre and bodyguard of former lawmaker Moshir Rahman, was seriously injured as miscreants hurled bombs on him at a tea stall at Adorshopara in Jhenidah town.

BNP leader Abdul Halim of Dhobabila village in Jhenidah Sadar upazila was bombed to death on the night of December 9 last year when he was returning home riding a bicycle.

Janajuddho leader Rajib Ahmed in cell phone calls to some local journalists claimed the responsibility for the killing.

On November 18, Kumarbaria union Kishak Dal president Anwar Hossain Anu was bombed to death.

On June 25, Jhenidah Sadar

upazila BNP secretary Abu Bakar Siddik was bombed to death in front of his house in Bapaipara area of the town.

District Jubo Dal organising secretary Haidar Ali Hadu was killed on the spot on December 1, 2006 when miscreants opened fire on him after hurling two bombs.

Sadar upazila BNP office secretary Lutfor Rahman Shanto was shot dead on October 7 the same year.

In April, Ganna union BNP president Kabir Hossain was shot dead by unidentified gunmen.

On October 19, 2005, Hariakundu upazila BNP president and municipality chairman Azizur Rahman Mondol was shot dead in front of a tea stall near the local police station.

Shafiuddin Ahmed, vice-president of Madhuhati union BNP and a member of the same Union Parishad was bombed to death at Ccharkol Bazaar in Jhenidah Sadar upazila on December 10 the same year.

According to police and intelligence agencies, at least 11 outlawed parties with about 1000 armed cadres are still active in six upazilas of the district. They have at least 500 illegal firearms.

Jute workers begin work stoppage

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Casual workers of six state-owned jute mills began work stoppage yesterday to press their six-point demand.

Earlier, while demonstrating at Khalishpur, they threw stool in front of the offices of the project directors of Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills and Crescent Jute Mills in the morning. As a result, the project directors, officials and employees of the two jute mills were compelled to leave their offices.

Officials and employees of four other Jute mills of Khulna - Jessore industrial belt also left their offices fearing similar action by casual workers.

Later, the workers staged demonstrations in front of their respective mills in support of their work stoppage at about 11 am.

Students and teachers of high schools run by managements of the six jute mills also abstained from attending their classes expressing their solidarity with the workers.

Casual Workers' Action Committee convener Shahidul Islam Gaiash threatened a tougher action if the managements of the mills take repressive measures with the help of security forces. The work stoppage will continue until their demands are fully met, he said.

A large number of security forces have been deployed in the industrial belt in apprehension of violence from 12 noon yesterday.

Zia fertiliser resumes production

OUR CORRESPONDENT, B'baria

Ashuganj Zia Fertiliser Company Ltd (ZFCL) resumed its production on Friday afternoon, after a suspension for 12 days.

On February 10, the reformer tubes of ammonia plant of the factory got overheated and the on-duty engineers stopped its functioning to prevent a possible explosion.

The factory, which was producing 1,400 tonnes of urea a day, has faced a production loss of 15,000 tonnes of urea due to the suspension, ZFCL sources said.

Earlier, the factory remained inoperative from January 22 to January 30 following an explosion in the compressor vessel of the ammonia plant.

600 fertiliser bags seized in Kushtia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Police Friday night seized 600 sacks of fertiliser from two trucks here and arrested the drivers in this connection.

Acting on a tip-off, a police team searched a Bogra-bound truck at Chourash bus stand and recovered 300 sacks of fertiliser from there.

On questioning, the driver and the helper of the truck asked police to search another truck at Mazampur. Accordingly, police searched the bus at about 7.30pm and recovered more 300 sacks of fertiliser from the bus.

Police said both the trucks were coming from Jessore and proceeding towards Bogra.

Unscrupulous fertiliser traders allegedly purchased the fertiliser in black markets and were transporting those to Bogra from Jessore.

They arrested drivers are Tara Mia, 45, of Chandu Stadium area in Bogra and Sekandar Ali, 37, of Kasimpur area in Jessore.

Police are yet to find out the actual owner of the fertiliser.

The arrested were being interrogated at Sadar police station till filing of the report yesterday afternoon.



Picturesque Kuakata sea beach drew a large number of holiday-makers during three government holidays ending yesterday.

Polls can be held under emergency, says Matin

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Elections can be held under emergency as there are instances of holding polls in such situation in the country in the past, home affairs adviser Maj. Gen. (ret.) MA Matin said at a view exchange meeting here yesterday.

Replying to questions from newsmen at the meeting, the adviser said there is no legal bar on holding election during emergency as there is full freedom of expressing opinion.

He however said the caretaker government is considering 'lifting or relaxing' emergency from all areas of the country. The upcoming dialogue between Election Commission and political parties would find out ways to lift or relax emergency, he said at the meeting held at the conference hall at Deputy Commissioner's office.



Maj. Gen. (ret.) MA Matin

Adviser MA Matin said there should not be any doubt by any quarter about election. Election will be held by December as per Election Commission road map and the caretaker government is working hard to fulfill aspirations of the people, he said.

Elite of the town, business leaders, public representatives, government officials and newsmen attended the meeting.

A meeting, some speakers urged the adviser to set up a Haor Board for development of the areas. They also proposed setting up of a passport office in Kishoreganj district.

They also spoke of exploitation of poor farmers by loan sharks due to ineffective role of banks and demanded steps for better communication between the haor district and Dhaka.

Deputy Inspector General of Police (Dhaka Range) Md. Amir Uddin, Deputy Commander of army camp in the district Maj. Salah Uddin Al Murad, Police Superintendent Mijanur Rahman also attended the meeting, chaired by Deputy Commissioner Sultan Ahmed.

GD against ex-Jamaat MP in Satkhira

Khaleque Mondol faces allegation of death threat to a family, misappropriation of madrasa fund

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A general diary (GD) was filed yesterday with Satkhira Sadar police station against former Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Maulana Abdul Khaleque Mondol and party leader Abul Kashem for allegedly threatening a family with death for opposing Mondol's name as a speaker at an Islamic mahfil in the area.

The mahfil, scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, is being organised by Agardari Alia Madrasa, of which Khaleque Mondol was principal for 25 years. The GD was filed by Abdul Baki Sardar of Agardari village in Sadar upazila, police said. He also sought protection for him and his family, police said.

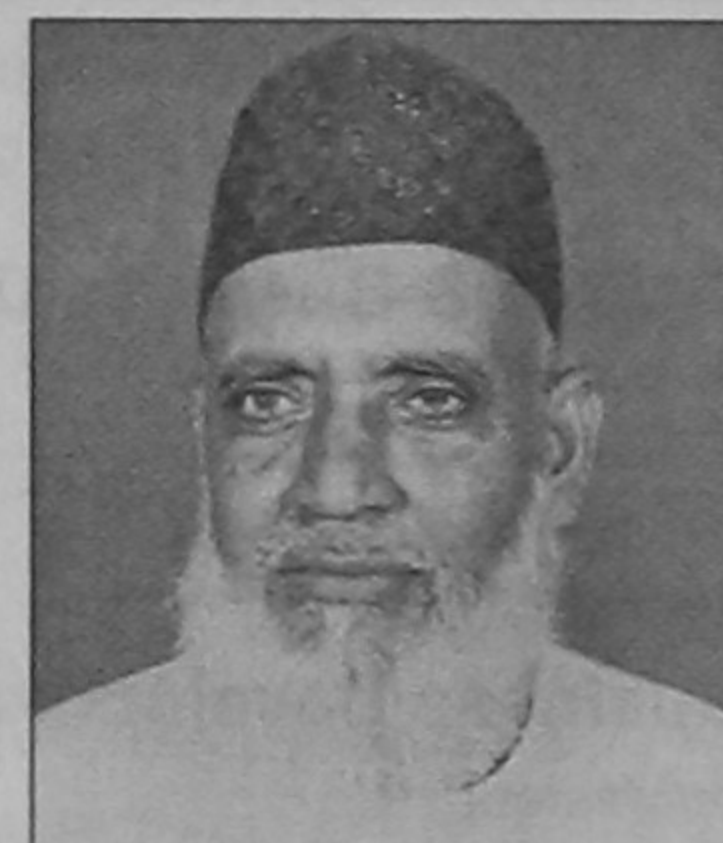
A controversy has been created in the area over inclusion of the name of Khaleque Mondol in the list of speakers as he allegedly misappropriated about Tk 6 lakh from the madrasa fund while he was its principal.

Jamaat leader Khaleque Mondol was elected from Satkhira-2 (Sadar) constituency as a candidate of BNP-led four-party alliance in 2001 election.

In the GD, Baki alleged that the Jamaat leaders threatened him and his family with death as he opposed his name as a speaker at the mahfil.

He also mentioned in the GD that some local people also submitted an allegation to a secretary to the government on August 25 last year about alleged misappropriation of madrasa fund by Khaleque Mondol and demanding action against him.

The high official ordered additional divisional commissioner



Abdul Khaleque Mondol

Khulna division to investigate the matter and take action, the complainant said.

Soon after the investigation was started, Khaleque Mondol deposited Tk 3,06,423 with Sonali Bank in

Satkhira (through TR form No-6 dated October 25, 2007), the money he withdrew illegally from monthly government pay order (MPO) of the madrasa teachers, Baki claimed in the GD.

A few days later, Khaleque Mondol deposited Tk 2 lakh with the madrasa fund as lease money for 250 bighas land owned by the madrasa. He did not deposit any lease money during his tenure as principal, he alleged.

Baki said in the GD that he requested madrasa authorities to exclude Mondol's name from the list of speakers as his alleged irregularities are being investigated. This infuriated the former lawmaker and his men, he said.

On contact, Khaleque Mondol refuted the allegation and said he deposited the money.



Air Vice Marshal (ret.) AK Khondoker, chairman of Sector Commanders Forum, addressing a convention of freedom fighters in Sylhet yesterday, seeking trial of war criminals. Six sector commanders and a large number of freedom fighters attended the meeting. (Story on back page).

BRAC
75, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Phone: 9881265, Ext: 2032

Invitation For Tender (IFT) for Purchase of Diesel Generator

Project Name	BDFP
Tender Package no.	BDFP-01/08
Diesel Generator Capacity & quantity	Capacity: 25 - 30 KVA (Prime) power. Quantity: 10 (Ten) units.
Time for Completion of Delivery & Testing	45 days
Price of Tender Document	Tk. 500/-
Tender / Performance security (%)	5% of the total value.
Name and address of the Office Selling Tender Document	Accounts Department, 4 th Floor, Annex Building, BRAC, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.
Name and address of the Office Receiving & Opening Tenders	BRAC Procurement Department (BPD), 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.
Date and Time for Selling Tender Document	February 25 to March 05, 2008 Time: 09.00am to 1:00pm.
Date and Time for Submission of Tenders	March 06, 2008 Time: 9.00am to 2.00 pm
Date and Time for Opening of Tenders	March 06, 2008 at 3.00 pm.

Lawyer held for 'extortion' Court notice on another for forgery

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Police on Friday night arrested advocate Anwar Hossain Mizan, a member of Barisal District Bar Association and former leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League, in connection with robbery and extortion cases.

BNP leader advocate Nazimuddin Panna have been served a notice to show cause for submitting fake documents in the court in favour of his client.

Advocate Anwar was wanted in four cases of robbery and extortion filed with Rajapur and Sadar police stations under Jhalakathi district, police said, adding that Jhalakathi police had issued special warrant against him.

He was sent to Barisal jail under Section 54 and would be sent to Jhalakathi court today for facing trial of cases lodged against him, Rafikul Islam, officer in charge of Barisal Kotwali Police Station said.

Police said Anwar committed criminal activities in Barisal during the Awami League government and left the city after BNP-led four-party alliance government came to power.

He and Jubo Dal leader Mir Ziauddin Mizan were involved with different criminal activities including attack on Jhalakathi Press Club, robbery and extortion.

Denying the allegations of criminal activities, Anwar said four-party alliance minister barrister Shahjahan Omar filed false cases against him due to local political rivalry. He said he has been practising law in Barisal for the last four and a half years.

Barisal District and Sessions Judge Md. Shahidullah issued the show cause notice to advocate Nazimuddin Panna on Thursday after the certified copies of the order sheets of lower court submitted by Advocate Panna in under trial case for Nurul Islam murder were proved as forged.

Vacancy Announcement

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Bangladesh, invites applications from highly qualified, energetic, and experienced development professionals who want to join UNDP's dynamic working environment, for recruitment in the following positions for the "Unleashing Youth Potential" Project:

1. Project Manager
2. Advocacy and Communication Manager
3. Web Manager
4. Project Assistant
5. Admin and Finance Assistant
6. Driver

For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than 06 March 2008.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ASIA PACIFIC

House # 49/C, Road # 4A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209
Tel.: 966-4953, 862-9368, 966-1193, Fax: (880-2) 966-4950
E-mail: registrar@uap-bd.edu, Website: www.uap-bd.edu

INTERNATIONAL TENDER FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY (HPLC) SYSTEM

Sealed Tender is invited supply of PC Based Binary Gradient (Two Pump Type) HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY (HPLC) SYSTEM For the Department of Pharmacy, the University of Asia Pacific (UAP). Schedule of tender can be purchased from the office of the Registrar, UAP during office hour by paying Tk. 500.00 (Taka Five Hundred only) by Pay Order. Last date of submission of tender offer is 27 February 2008. UAP reserves the right to accept or reject any of all tenders without assigning any reason.

Registrar

MG
MAGURA GROUP

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) WANTED FOR SWEATER INDUSTRY

Magura Group, an Industrial and commercial conglomerate, dealing with multidimensional business is looking for a Chief Executive officer (CEO) for its 100% export oriented sweater Industry based in Chittagong having 2500 knitting machines. The candidate must have MBA/Masters degree and preferably be an Ex. Army/Foreign National having 10 years practical experience in administration, production, marketing, merchandising, export/import etc. The candidate must be capable to take full responsibility and to manage total activities of the project and will have to take challenge to achieve export target.

Attractive remuneration package will be offered to the really deserving candidate. Interested candidates are requested to send their application with detail CV with 02(two) passport size recent photographs to the following address by March 10, 2008.

Director (Law & Admin)

MAGURA GROUP

House # SW (C) 14, Road # 7, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212
info@maguragroup.com or info@koresbd.com