

Emon placed on fresh 5-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Top terror Sanjidul Islam Emon and another listed criminal Dicon were placed on a five-day remand again yesterday in connection with the killing of cable TV operator Mostafizur Rahman Rubel of Hazaribagh.

A Dhaka court placed Emon on the remand after he was produced before the court at the end of his four-day remand in connection with the murder of former National University vice chancellor Prof Aftab Ahmad.

The court granted the five-day remand after Detective Branch (DB) Sub-inspector Mahbubur Rahman prayed for it.

Dicon is also an accused in August 21 Grenade Attack Case and Indian rice trader Mazedul Islam Murder Case.

Colleagues protest assault on doctor by Kaiser Hamid

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Doctors and employees of Dhaka Shishu Hospital formed a human chain in front of the hospital at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar yesterday in protest against the assault on one of its doctors by former national footballer Kaiser Hamid.

Physician KM Aminul Islam was injured when Kaiser Hamid assaulted him during a quarrel at a CNG filling station at Asad Gate in Mohammadpur on Saturday night, witnesses said.

The quarrel ensued as Aminul Islam protested Kaiser Hamid jumping the queue at Sonar Bangla CNG Filling Station.

Dr Khaleda Khatun, wife of Dr Aminul, filed a case with Mohammadpur police against the former national footballer yesterday.

Dr Aminul was waiting in the queue for about half an hour to fill up his car at the gas station. But Kaiser Hamid drove into the station and jumped the queue, the doctor said, adding that Kaiser assaulted him as he protested his action. Injured Dr Aminul was admitted to Shishu Hospital and later shifted to Shaheed Suhrawardy Hospital.

When contacted on Sunday night, Kaiser Hamid told The Daily Star, "The doctor received injuries when he (doctor) hit his head against a pillar during a scuffle."

Informatics Olympiad held at five divisional hqs

The Bangladesh Informatics Olympiad (BIO) 2008 was held in five divisional headquarters of the country recently, says a press release.

With the theme 'Challenge your talents for the best algorithm and programs', the competition involves a head-on fight of school and college children with sharp mathematical and analytical minds.

The three-hour exam contained questions, which ranged anything and everything between brainteasers, analytical questions and writing pseudocodes (algorithms).

The contests took place at Notre Dame College in Dhaka, Premier University in Chittagong, Metropolitan University in Sylhet, Khulna University of Engineering and Technology and Rajshahi University.

Organised by the Bangladesh Informatics Olympiad Committee (BIOC) and Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS), the event was sponsored by Nescafe 3-in-1. The Daily Star was the media partner of the event.

The winners of these contests will battle in the national event scheduled to be held at Notre Dame College on April 11.

Gas crisis leads to shortage of 728 MW in power generation

UNB, Dhaka

The Power Development Board claimed that the gas crisis has led to a shortage of 728 megawatts in power generation.

According to a senior PDB official, they had to either shut down or scale down operation of nine power generation units at different power stations across the country because of short supply of gas.

The troubled plants include Rajshahi Thermal Power Station in Chittagong, Shikabaha, two units at Ghorashal, Sylhet, Shajibazar, Haripur, Shidhirganj and Ashuganj power stations.

The PDB generated about 3,500MW electricity against the demand for 4,500MW yesterday.

However, experts believe the present demand for electricity is

over 4,700 megawatts, but PDB is hiding the fact.

To cope with the situation, the PDB and other power utilities have to resort to loadshedding of about 1,200 megawatts.

The capital city of Dhaka has to experience about 800MW loadshedding against its demand for 1,800MW.

According to official website of Petrobangla, the organisation now supplies 695 million cubic feet per day (mmcf) gas to power stations against their demand for 841 mmcf, which shows a supply shortage of 145 mmcf.

Similarly, the fertiliser factories are getting 289 mmcf gas against their demand for 233 mmcf.

Meanwhile, another UNB report from Chittagong says one of the two units of Rajshahi Thermal Power Station was shut down

completely while the other partially early yesterday due to poor gas supply, causing frequent load shedding in different areas of the port city.

Power Development Board (PDB) sources said they were compelled to stop power production in unit no-2, which is capable of generating 220mw electricity, at about 1.30am.

The authorities also cut down production to 100 MWs in the 200-MW unit due to short supply of gas.

According to the sources, the station requires 56 MMC gas to run the station smoothly. But since Monday midnight, the Bakhra Gas Systems Ltd has been supplying only 20 MMCs for the plant.

Following the power disruption, city dwellers are suffering a lot while the outages also hampered production in mills and factories.

I won't have food at Bangabhaban if FFs' children go hungry

Says Dr Akbar

UNB, Dhaka

Chairman of the Regulatory Reforms Commission Dr Akbar Ali Khan yesterday said he would never have food at Bangabhaban if the children of freedom fighters continue to starve.

"On March 26, a freedom fighter's wife came to Bangabhaban to collect leftovers. As a freedom fighter, I cannot tolerate such thing. If the children of freedom fighters go hungry, I'll never take food at Bangabhaban," he said in a voice choked with emotion.

Dr Akbar said this while addressing the premiere of a telefilm titled 'Siddh Tragedy-2007' at Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU).

He said the government is just like a 'mother'. "Then why the poor and the freedom fighters' children will go hungry?"

About the telefilm on Siddh, he said it would help the people know about the extent of the destruction caused by the cyclone in the south-eastern districts.

Dr Akbar also said the government has failed to take adequate measures to reconstruct the infrastructure and improve the lifestyle of the people in Siddh-hit areas.

Chairman of the Seventh Wage Board Justice Habibur Rahman Khan, FBCCI director Kamal Uddin Ahmed, freedom fighter Mustafa Allama, sports personality Kutubuddin Akbar and director of the film Saiful Islam Talukder were present at the premiere.

DU student injured in road accident

DU CORRESPONDENT

A student of Dhaka University (DU) was injured in a road accident on the campus last night.

Imran, a third year student of history department, received injuries in his head and hand when a private car hit him in front of the vice chancellor's residence at around 8:15pm.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Death anniversary

Today is the 22nd death anniversary of Justice Syed Muhammad Hussain, former chairman of Bangladesh chapter of International Law Association and Amnesty International, says a press release.

Justice Hussain was also a former general secretary of Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts and the then Pakistan Arts Council.

His publications include a book titled 'Banglar Katha'.

He was awarded 'Swadhinata Padak' (posthumous) in 1998 in recognition of his contribution.

Selima Jalal Lovelu

Today is the first death anniversary of Selima Jalal Lovelu, an eminent social personality and wife of late freedom fighter and diplomat Sheikh Ahmed Jalal, says a press release.

Her deepest sense of spontaneous love and affection touched the lives of numerous relatives, friends and well-wishers who ever came her way during her short journey of life.

On the occasion, her children Sylvia and Faisal Jalal requested all to attend a doa and milad mahfil to be held after Maghrib prayers on Friday at her Gulshan residence.

Amin Lashkar

Today is the 11th death anniversary of Amin Lashkar, former president of Bangladesh Chemist and Druggist Association and founding member of Saarc Chamber of Commerce, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held after Maghrib prayers at his residence (House-164, Road-1, Baridhara DOHS) in the city.

ASM Nurul Haque Bhuiyan

Today is the 10th death anniversary of Prof Dr ASM Nurul Haque Bhuiyan, a scientist, educationist and Language Movement veteran, says a press release.

Prof Bhuiyan was the 1st Convener of the 'Sarbadalia Rashtra Bhasha Sangram Parishad'.

On the occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at his daughter's residence at Mohammadpur in the city today evening.



Police disperse agitating workers of RN Sweater Ltd as they were staging a demonstration following the death of a co-worker without treatment at Shyamoli in the city last night. (Story on Page 16)

MINUS-TWO FORMULA

Designers to pay heavily, says Hannan Shah

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP chairperson's Adviser Brig Gen (ret'd) Hannan Shah yesterday said they will have to pay heavily who have designed the so-called 'minus-two formula'.

"We will compel the designers to explain it (minus-two formula) after forming the government through an election," he said while addressing a discussion meeting in the city.

The meeting was organised by Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal, the youth front of BNP, with its acting president Mian Mohammad Selim in the chair.

Urging the party leaders and workers to get ready for a movement, Hannan Shah said after the return of the party secretary general from abroad they will take a final decision about what to be done by the party men in this regard.

"We will give you call soon and you will have to implement the party decision," he told the party men.

Hannan Shah said people are not safe under the present government and they might lose their patience.

"So the government should handover power as soon as possible

through holding an acceptable election," he added.

He urged the party leaders across the country to hold special prayers at Masjid and Mandir on Friday for the release and welfare of Khaleda Zia.

Party leaders Goyeswer Chandra Ray, Mohammad Shahjahan, Rizvi Ahmed, Syed Mehedi Ahmed Rumi, Habib un Nabi Sohel, Shafiq Bari Babu, Shirin Sultana and Nasiruddin Asim also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier at a press briefing at Khandaker Delwar's Nam flat, Rizvi Ahmed, acting office secretary of the party, said the party will announce programmes for the release of party leaders including the chairperson after the return of the secretary general.

Protesting the case filed against Tarique Rahman, his wife and mother-in-law, he said after having failed to implement minus-two formula, motivated cases are being filed to eliminate the family members of Khaleda Zia from the politics.

"But the members of Zia family are ready to sacrifice their lives for democracy and the country," he added.

Accused in murder case escapes from police custody

COURT CORRESPONDENT

An accused in a murder case escaped from the police custody during the hearing of the case at a Dhaka court on Monday.

Following the incident, constable Razi Ullah who was guarding the accused during the hearing, was suspended yesterday.

Sources said Mohammad Shahid Ullah, who was accused of killing his wife Arjuna Parvin Fency at his Khilgaon residence on November 3, 2005, escaped from the courtroom of Fourth Additional Metropolitan sessions Judge's Court.

Later, police searched all the areas but failed to find out the accused.

Relatives of the victim urged the police to arrest the accused and take action against the policeman responsible.

On April 24 in 2006, Shahid Ullah obtained bail from the High Court (HC) using forged documents, which was cancelled on July 27 the same year.

Dhaka-Kolkata train

FROM PAGE 1 charge for goods train and inter-changing of wagons.

The Maitree Express with a capacity of 370 passengers will run between Dhaka Cantonment Station in Dhaka and Chitpur Station in Kolkata through Darshana border, once a week from both sides.

"The Indian High Commission has informed us that the central government has turned down the West Bengal government's plea to re-fix the date for launching the train service," Communications Secretary Mahabubur Rahman told The Daily Star yesterday.

Dhaka, however, is yet to receive any letter in this regard, he said adding, "But we do not see any problem now to begin the train service on Pahela Baishakh."

Launching of the train on Pahela Baishakh, the first day of Bangla New Year, became uncertain after the West Bengal government requested the central government last week to defer the date to the last week of May, saying that going ahead with the programme might violate the code of conduct for the panchayat elections scheduled for May.

On March 11, Indian Railway Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav announced at the Lok Sabha about starting the much-awaited friendship train on April 14.

ATKM Ismail, additional secretary of the communication ministry leading the six-member Bangladesh delegation in the bilateral talks, said the deal of launching the service will be signed after the talks end tomorrow.

"The Bangladesh government has already agreed to launch the train service from Pahela Baishakh. The issue will be raised at Indian parliament on April 3," he said.

The talks will begin at 11:00am at Rail Bhavan in the city.

RN Varma, Additional Member (Traffic) of Indian Railway Board, will lead the seven-member Indian delegation.

A train will leave Dhaka for Kolkata on Saturdays and start the return journey on Sundays. Another train will leave Kolkata on Saturdays and start the return on Sundays.

Sources said train fares will be between \$8 and \$20 depending on classes for the 538km journey--

418km in Bangladesh and 120km in India.

India has already set up the necessary infrastructure like customs and immigration facilities, passengers' waiting halls and other related facilities at Gede Station on the Indian side of the border, said reports.

Meanwhile, the Darshana Station in Chuadanga is being renovated with facilities for immigration and customs check. Eight booths for immigration and one for customs check are under construction in Darshana Station.

"All the preparations will be made by Pahela Baishakh," said Mahabubur Rahman.

Sources said the rail authorities have been asked to make a complete plan to build a station with options for constructing metal fences at Joynagar of Chuadanga near the border.

Around three acres of land will be acquired for the purpose. If required, Bangladesh will also construct metal fences near the border for security reasons, the communications secretary told reporters.



Doctors, officials and employee of Dhaka Shishu Hospital form a human chain in front of the hospital in the city yesterday protesting the assault of their colleague by former national footballer Kaiser Hamid.

Injured MK Alamgir admitted to BSMMU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detained Awami League leader and former state minister Mahiuddin Khan Alamgir was admitted to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) last night after he got injured at Kashimpur Jail in Gazipur in the afternoon.

Sources said he received serious injuries in his head as he slipped and fell over in the jail toilet at about 4:30pm.

"He got injured as he slipped in the jail toilet and was admitted to the BSMMU," Deputy Inspector General (Prisons) Maj Shamsul Haider Siddique told The Daily Star.

Earlier, he was punitively shifted from the prison cell of the BSMMU to Kashimpur Jail for using mobile phone in violation of the jail code.

Joynal Hazari's cadre member arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested a member of the notorious 'steering committee' of former Awami League lawmaker Joynal Hazari from a flat at Twin Tower at Shantinagar in the city yesterday.

The arrestee, Ekramul Huq is an accused in several cases, including four murders in Feni. He was a member of Fulgazi upazila steering committee.

Rab-3 officials said Ekramul and his gang members had carried out criminal activities with firearms like AK-47 rifles in Feni district. He went into hiding soon after the present caretaker government took over.

DU postpones decision over exam fees

DU CORRESPONDENT

The authorities of Dhaka University (DU) yesterday postponed their decision of not publishing the result of first semester examinations of arts and social science faculty until they pay Tk 1000 for the semester's exam fee and exam centre fee.

The authorities took the decision in response to the ongoing demonstrations of the students of first-year students of arts and social science faculty.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz said, "We postponed the decision and the matter will be discussed in deans' committee, finance committee and syndicate meeting".

On March 24, the authorities issued a notice asking students to pay Tk 700 for exam fee and Tk 300 for centre fees.

The first-year students of arts and social science faculty began

their demonstrations on the campus protesting the authorities' decision on March 31.

As part of their ongoing demonstrations, students yesterday brought out a procession at the arts building and held a rally at the foot of Aparajevo Bangla to press home their demand.

They also demanded that the authorities must keep transparency in semester system and complete each semester in due time.

At the rally, the students alleged that the authorities are taking increased amount of money from them in every semester in the name of various charges.

The authorities are hatching conspiracy by increasing fees so that the children of poor or middle-class families cannot get higher education, they alleged.

They also warned the authorities of a tough agitation programme if their demands were not met soon.

DHAKA TODAY

Launching ceremony

The launching ceremony of the ICCB business directory, published by International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Bangladesh, will be held. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. Time: 10:30am.

scientific seminar to mark the World Autism Awareness Day. Venue: Gallery-1, Dhaka Medical College. Time: 12:00 noon.

Discussion

Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) and Scholastica School jointly organise a discussion on 'Lunch box challenge' to mark the World Consumer Rights Day-2008. Venue: Scholastica School Uttara campus. Time: 11:30am.

Scientific seminar

Bangladesh Society for Child Neurology, Development and Disability organises a

WEATHER TODAY

No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at one or two places over all the six divisions of the country during the next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, Met Office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 33.7 degree Celsius was recorded at Chandpur and the lowest of 18.8 degrees at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:15pm today and rises at 5:49am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.4	23.2	53	45
Chittagong	30.8	24.4	67	51
Rajshahi	32.0	23.2	59	46
Khulna	31.5	22.0	79	66
Barisal	32.0	22.5	72	67
Sylhet	27.5	18.8	77	65
Cox's Bazar	33.1	24.2	71	68

Dhaka City College, Dhaka

Road No. 2, Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Class Commencement Notice of Honours Part I (session : 2007-'08)

The students of BBS (Hons) in Accounting, Management, Marketing, Finance & Banking and BA (Hons) in English Part I of session 2007-'08 of this college are informed that their classes will commence from **5 April 2008**. They are asked to collect their class routine on 3 April 2008 from their respective department notice board. They are to attend classes wearing dress specified in the college manual.

Principal 31.3.08

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- B.Sc. in (ETE)
- B.A. (Hons.) in English
- MBA (Regular)
- MBA (Executive) (Classes on Fridays & Saturdays)
- M.A. in English
- M.A. in English Language Teaching (ELT) 1-yr
- M.A. in English Language Teaching (ELT) 2-yr
- LL.M. (1-yr & 2-yr)

Admission Test for Undergraduate Programs on 11 April, 2008 Limited Seats

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Professor Dr. Rahim B. Talukdar
Former Vice Chancellor, BUET
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