

Ambulance for KMCH turned into microbus for personal use

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

A brand new ambulance meant for carrying patients of Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) is being used as a private vehicle of the director of Nucleus Medicine and Ultrasound Centre on the KMCH campus.

Dr Ashok Kumar Pal, director of Nucleus Medicine and Ultrasound Centre, has allegedly changed the system and structure inside the ambulance to give it the shape of a microbus and suit it for his personal use.

KMCH authorities received the ambulance from the government only four months ago.

Dr Ashok keeps the ambulance-turned-microbus under his possession from noon till late hours of night everyday, said several officials and employees of the centre.

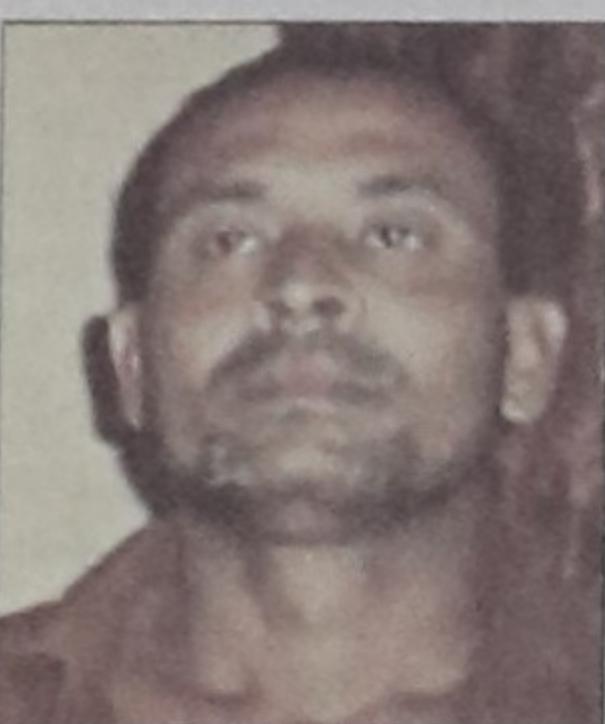
He also receives fund from KMCH authorities to buy fuel for it, sources said.

The vehicle is regularly seen at the car-parking shed of Sandhani Diagnostic Centre on Babu Khan Road in the city where Dr Ashok has a chamber for private medical practice.

Asked whether the KMCH authorities are going to take any action regarding the misuse of hospital ambulance, KMCH Superintendent Dr Quazi Hamid Asgar said, "Although situated on the KMCH campus, Nucleus Medicine and Ultrasound Centre is under the energy ministry, not under the Ministry of Health. Only the ministry concerned can take action regarding the matter."

When contacted, Dr Ashok Pal said he is not accountable to media to tell anything relating to his official and personal matters.

Asked about the matter, Idris Ali, driver of the vehicle, said he is not in a position to make any comment on the matter as he serves under the director.



Rasu Khan



Kohinoor

Police meet family of Kohinoor, Rasu remanded again

A CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

Police yesterday came to know the identity of Kohinoor who was one of the 11 women killed by self-confessed serial killer Rasu Khan.

Sub-Inspector Abdur Rahim of Chandpur Model Police Station, also the investigation officer (IO) of Kohinoor murder case, said Kohinoor was a daughter of Ali Akbar Prodhania of Teli Machhua Khal village under Matlab upazila of Chandpur.

Kohinoor's mother Nur Jahan Begum told police that her daughter married Delwar Khan of Goalondo under Rajbari district while she was working at a garments factory.

She said Rasu killed Kohinoor by drowning in the Dakatia river in the Dakatia area on October 23, 2008.

Police had earlier taken Rasu on a six-day remand in connection with Kohinoor murder case. During remand, he confessed to killing Kohinoor.

Meanwhile, a Chandpur court yesterday placed the serial killer on a two-day fresh remand in Mehedi murder case.

Police from Chandpur Model Police Station produced Rasu in the Judicial Magistrate's Court, seeking four days remand, but Magistrate Md Mozammel Haque granted two days' remand for him.

Police recovered the body of Mehedi from the bank of Dr Shankar Dutta's pond near Durgadi Shashan ghat under Chandpur Sadar upazila on February 26 this year. A case was filed in connection with the murder on March 15.

Law enforcers conducted a drive in Tongi area under Gazipur district early Thursday and arrested three accomplices of Rasu Khan.

The arrestees are grocer Manik, his wife Sufia and 'human trafficker' Basu Dey.

Faridganj police arrested Rasu at Nirashpara in Tongi on October 7 in connection with a theft case.

SCHOOL THAT MAKES ONE FEEL BLUE



PHOTO: STAR
Students of Auliapur Hat Government Primary School in Patuakhali Sadar upazila attending classes under the open sky as dilapidated building of the school cum cyclone centre, inset, was declared abandoned more than a year.



200 pry students study under open sky for over a year

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

A few hundred students of Auliapur Hat Government Primary School in Patuakhali Sadar upazila have to attend classes under the open sky as the school building cum cyclone shelter was declared abandoned more than a year ago.

As the building has become too risky due to lack of repair since its establishment in 1973, villagers cannot use it during cyclone or other natural disasters.

During a recent visit, this correspondent saw about 200 students of five classes getting lessons under the open sky.

"We have to take benches to the field for attending classes every day and bring them back to the school rooms after the classes end," said class four student

Sabina.

"We arrange classes under the open sky as a team from Education Engineering Department last year told us not to use the unfit building. How will we conduct classes in the rainy season?" Farida Parvin, headmaster of the school, said.

"We are afraid to send our children to the school as condition of the building is very bad," said Ali Akbar Khan, a guardian.

Locals could not take shelter in the cyclone shelter during the last cyclone as it had been declared abandoned, he added.

Md Abu Zafor Mridha, chairman of the managing committee, said, "Despite assurance by the higher authorities several times, work for rebuilding the school is yet to start."

"The building may collapse any time

as it has remained without any renovation since its establishment in 1973. Classes are disturbed. Sudden rain wets students' books and khatas when they attend classes under the open sky," he said.

Sadar upazila Primary Education Officer Jesmin Akhter said, "We discussed the matter in a meeting of Upazila Education Committee on June 5 in 2007 and we sent resolution with prayer to take immediate steps to rebuild the building but no step has been taken yet."

When contacted, Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer Khorsheed Alam, also chairman of Upazila Education Committee, said, "We are trying our best to rebuild the school building."

Mokhlesur Rahman, Sadar upazila engineer for LGED, said, "We sent several letters to the higher authorities about rebuilding the school but they are yet to take necessary steps."

Notorious pirate arrested

UNB, Noakhali

A pirate gang leader and one of his accomplices were held in Musapur area of Companiganj upazila on Saturday.

Acting on a tip-off, police conducted a drive in the area and arrested Neyamat, ring-leader of notorious 'Neyamat Bahini'.

Following his confession, police raided sluice gate area of Musapur and arrested Nurul Islam alias Moin Uddin along with two guns.

Police said, Neyamat was wanted in a number of piracy, murder and other criminal cases.

CONFlict RIFE IN MOULVIBAZAR BNP

Rivals demand removal of Naser as convener

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Intra-party conflict in Moulvibazar BNP has taken a serious turn as a faction on Saturday demanded removal of district convener M Naser Rahman for his alleged involvement in anti-organisational activities.

Senior leaders of the district and upazila units raised the demand at a meeting at Moulvibazar municipal auditorium with district BNP senior joint convener and former lawmaker Begum Khaleda Robbani in the chair.

District BNP joint convener advocate Juned Ahmed, Musharraf Hussain Badsha and Mizanur Rahman, Baralekhia upazila BNP leader M Abdul Hafiz, Rajnagar upazila BNP leader Hakim Bakht Kamalganj upazila BNP leader Captain (retd) Sajjadur Rahman, Kulaura upazila BNP leader Badruzzaman Sajal, Srimongal upazila BNP leader Yeakub Ali, Moulvibazar Sadar upazila BNP leader Ayas Ahmed and Kamalganj Upazila Parishad Chairman Shamim Ahmed Chawdhury addressed the meeting.

In a press release, Begum Khaleda Robbani said senior leaders of the district and upazila units have demanded immediate removal of Naser Rahman from the post of convener for his non-political activities, affecting the district unit.

She said the meeting has decided to hold councils of all upazila units between October 31 and November 16.

When contacted, district BNP convener M Naser Rahman said a joint convener has no authority to convene meeting or issue press release.

AL leader murdered in Pirojpur

UNB, Pirojpur

A union level Awami League leader was hacked to death at Batjala village in Sadar upazila Saturday night.

The deceased was identified as Alamgir Hossain, 35, member of Shikder Mallik union AL committee.

Quoting villagers, police said rivals chopped Alamgir indiscriminately while he was returning home from a nearby shop at about 9:00pm. Alamgir died on the spot and the killers fled the scene firing blankshots.

On information, police recovered the body at midnight and sent it to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

Locals recovered two cartridges and a pipe-gum butt yesterday from the spot and deposited those to a village watchman of the union parishad.

Contacted, officer in-charge (OC) Ibrahim of Sadar police station said there were several allegations of burglary, robbery and other crimes against Alamgir.

Goods seized from train

UNB, Joypurhat

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel on Saturday seized Indian goods worth Tk 7 lakh from a train at Panchbibi rail station. A team of BDR searched Rajshahi-bound Uttara train and seized 960 bottles of phenyl syrup, 53 pieces of saris and some medicine. BDR searched the train as part of month-long anti-narcotics drive.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS

Outlaw held with arms

UNB, Rajshahi

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday morning arrested an outlaw along with arms at Chandrapur village in Bagmara upazila. Outlaw Chandu Pramanik alias Badsha, is son of Ayruddin Pramanik of Baje Goalkandi village of the upazila and a cadre of MI-Lal Pataka. Rab sources said, a gang of extremists snatched a firearm after killing a police constable on May 2, 2008 at Taherpur weekly market in Bagmara. It is suspected that Chandu might have link with the killing and looting his firearm. Yesterday, one pistol, one magazine and two bullets were recovered from his possession.

Robber killed in Pirojpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Rivals murdered an alleged robber at Borojala village in Pirojpur Sadar upazila on Saturday night. The deceased was identified as Alamgir Sheikh, 40, son of late Mostafa Sheikh of the same village. Officer in-charge (OC) of Pirojpur Sadar police station Gazi Md Ibrahim said a gang of criminals chopped Alamgir to death while returning home at about 11:00pm. Alamgir is an accused in two robbery cases and one murder case, police said. The body was sent to Pirojpur Sadar Hospital for autopsy.

Effigy of Col Oli burnt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Phulbari people on Saturday night burnt the effigy of Col Oli Ahmed protesting his recent visit to Barapukuria Coal Mine Company Ltd and supporting the open pit method of coal extraction. Protesters urged Oli to withdraw his remarks against Phulbari agitators made during his visit on October 18. Sources said, hundreds of protesters from different villages of Phulbari upazila brought out several processions and gathered at Nirmota crossing Saturday night and held a rally. Later the protesters burnt the effigy of Col Oli.

Housewife's body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

Police on Saturday recovered the decomposed body of a housewife, allegedly killed by her husband three days ago, from a pond at Bari Madhupur village in Kishoreganj upazila. According to police, Nargis Akter, 25, was wife of Faruk Hossain and mother of a girl child. Locals said, Faruk forced Nargis on trivial matters and she remained missing since Wednesday night. They located her body under the mud of the pond Saturday afternoon and informed police. Police recovered the body and sent it to district hospital morgue for autopsy. Faruk went into hiding. A case was filed in this connection.

2.4 kg heroin seized

UNB, Comilla

Members of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) in a drive on Saturday night recovered 2.4 kilogram of heroin from Suagazi bus stand area in Sadar Dakkhin upazila. BDR sources said, acting on a tip-off, members of 33 Rifles Battalion raided the area and recovered the heroin from an abandoned bag. Sensing presence of the border guards, the smugglers fled the scene leaving behind the heroin bag, they said.



PHOTO: CHEVRON
Chevron officials handed over cheques to headmasters of three schools in Bibiyana under Habiganj district at a simple ceremony recently. Chevron Bangladesh has continued Quality Education Support Programme in the district for the last three years.

Mother hilsa seized

A CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

Coast guards, in a drive early yesterday, seized egg-carrying mother hilsa worth about Tk 8.40 lakh from a passenger launch in Molehead area of the Meghna. But the fish was sold in open auction for only Tk 1.20 lakh, said Chandpur model police station officer in-charge (OC) Quazi Abdul Quayum. Coast Guard Chandpur station commander Captain Khawaja Masum led the drive. Sources said, coast guards recovered about 70 maunds of mother hilsa from a launch named "Shariatpur-3" at around 1:30am yesterday. The launch was coming to Dhaka from Bholia via Chandpur. The fish were handed over to police.

3 BCL activists held

UNB, Sylhet

Four people, including three activists of Chhatra League (BCL), were arrested along with lethal weapons, from Bilpar area of the city Saturday afternoon. The arrestees were identified as Chapal Das, 19, son of Sajal Das of Dariapara, Tilak Chowdhury, 20, son of Rakesh Chowdhury, and Khairul Islam, 21, son of Kabiruddin of Mirzangal area. Police said, they chased a group of 20-25 BCL activists when they, equipped with sharp weapons, were about to launch an attack on rivals in Bilpar area and arrested three of them. Later, three lethal weapons were also recovered from their possession. During the drive, police also held notorious snatcher Munna, 25, son of Zafar Ahmed of Khuliapara, from the area.

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Residential houses, made adjacent to hills in Chittagong city, remain awfully vulnerable to landslides. The photo was taken from Anwara Residential Area of South Khulshi in Chittagong city.