

Hired goons of 'war criminals' attack complainant's house

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Hired goons of ten alleged war criminals attacked the house of freedom fighter Abdul Rashid at Basatpur village under Sharsha upazila of Jessore on Sunday to put pressure on him to withdraw the case against the war criminals.

Failing to get Abdul Rashid at the house, the gang attacked bakery of his nephew Anwar Hossain at Basatpur Bazar and ransacked it, according to a correspondent from Benapole.

Meanwhile, a petition case was filed with a Rajshahi court the same day against ten alleged war criminals.

In Jessore, Abdul Rashid

filed a case with Sharsha Police Station on August 6 this year against ten war criminals including district Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Azizur Rahman, Jamaat leader Abu Musa, Mizanur Rahman (Master), Amir Hossain, Munsur Ali and Tofazzal Hossain.

Since filing of the case, identified miscreants of the area Khorshed, Jainal, Ainal Hossain, Anu Miah, Siraj Mollah and Shah Alam have been threatening to kidnap Abdul Rashid, Rashid said.

He filed a general diary (GD) with Sharsha Police Station seeking security of his life.

In Rajshahi, Abdul Alim Dewan of Brihatra village under Mohonpur upazila filed a petition case with

Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court accusing seven people for killing his cousin Abdul Aziz Dewan and looting house in 1971, reports our staff correspondent.

The judge asked police to investigate the case and take legal action against the accused.

The accused are Atar Ali and Nur Hossain of Usharer Hat, Mohed Ali of Sinduri, Rofiq and Abdul Khaleque of Borail village, Ejaz and Zaker Ali of Laloch villages in the upazila.

In the petition, the complainant alleged that the accused shot his cousin Abdul Aziz Dewan dead and looted gold ornaments and money from his house on November 28, 1971.



Defying the risk of accidents anytime, homeless people live in an appalling condition at a sprawling slum just beside the railway tracks near Dewanhat Bridge in Chittagong while the authorities are turning a blind eye.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOIKH

FOUR YEARS INTO NETRAKONA BLAST

They got no financial help, even none visited them

JAHANGIR ALAM, Netrakona

Four years into the tragic bomb blast at Netrakona, the victims are yet to get any financial help from the government.

Even no government officials visited them, said the victims' family members.

Nine people were killed and over 50 people including policemen injured as 'suicide squad' of banned militant organisation JMB blasted bombs in front of Udichi office in the town at about 10:30am on December 8, 2005.

Three of them, Khwaza Haider, 38, joint secretary of Netrakona Udichi, Rani Begum, 35, wife of a police sub-inspector, and Joinal, 55, died on the spot.

Sudipta Paul Shelly, 28, organising secretary of Netrakona Udichi, Yadob Das, 28, Rais Uddin, 35, Achab Uddin, 40, Jahanara Begum, 45, and an unidentified person succumbed to their injuries on way to or at hospital in Netrakona and in Mymensingh.

During a visit to the house of Shahana Begum, 30, wife of Khwaza Haider, this correspondent learnt that her family did not get any financial assistance from the government.

"My two children, Siplu, 13, and Shaon, 5, and mother-in-law live with me at this house. We have become helpless after Haider's death as he was the only earning member of the family. No minister, not even Netrakona deputy commissioner has visited my house till now," Shahana said.

Udichi leader Sudipta Paul also was the lone earning member of her family. Her parents Sushil Paul, 65, and Aruna Paul, 55,



Two blast victims: Sudipta Paul Shelly and Khwaza Haider of Udichi

and a brother are passing hard days in a rented house.

But they neither got any help from the government nor any government representative came to console them, they said.

This correspondent found Aruna Paul suffering from a serious disease but they were unable to buy medicine for want of money.

Families of other victims -- Rani Begum, Joinal, Raisuddin, Yadav Das and Jahanara -- also told similar stories as this correspondent visited their houses.

Netrakona Udichi Shilpi Gosthi has taken various programmes to remember the tragic day.

On February 17 in 2008, Speedy Trial Tribunal-2 in Dhaka sentenced JMB men Salah Uddin, Asaduzzaman and Yunus to death for their involvement with this bomb blasts at Netrakona.

Salah Uddin and Asaduzzaman have filed appeal to the higher court while Yunus is yet to be netted.

Ahle Hadith SG on fresh remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Jamat-e Ahle Hadith secretary general Rezaul Karim was placed on three more days' remand yesterday in connection with a case filed on charge of giving death threat to Attorney General Mahbubey Alam.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Ruhul Amin granted the remand after a long hearing on the police prayer for quizzing him for six days, said court inspector Debendranath Das.

Detective Branch (DB) police arrested Rezaul on November 25 under Section 54 and lodged the case under Anti Terrorism Act of 2009 with Boalia Model Police Station on December 3.

In the case, plaintiff Motiar Rahman, an inspector of the DB, police complained that Rezaul's handwriting resembled with the handwriting of the letter issuing threats.

Rahman also alleged that Rezaul, despite being a government college teacher, came to Rajshahi from his home in Bogra thrice in November without permission of college authorities.

"This indicates his ill motive," he stated.

KISHOREGANJ MOTORBOAT CAPIZE

Death toll 50 as boy's body found, 5 still missing

A CORRESPONDENT, Kishoreganj

Locals yesterday recovered the body of a 9-year-old boy from River Diara raising the death toll in Friday's tragic motorboat capsizing to 50.

The boy, identified as Waliullah, son of Shamsul Haq of Ganadpur village under Dharmapasha upazila in Sunamganj, was found floating about one kilometre away from Mithamohan, the spot of accident.

Earlier on Sunday, divers recovered body of a teenage girl.

The girl was identified as Mitu Akter, 18, daughter of Ratan Miah of Kanchanpur village under Mithamoin upazila in the district.

The body of the girl was also recovered about one kilometre off the accident site. Despite recovery of the two bodies in the last two days, at least five more people are still missing, sources said.

A joint team of BIWTA and local administration with the help of locals lifted up the

sunken boat -- MV Chanmia -- onto riverbank at around 3:00pm on Sunday, said Mithamoin upazila Chairman Advocate Kamrul Ahsan Shahjahan.

There was no dead body inside the boat, he added.

Launch Al Helal-1 collided head-on with MV Chanmia on the Diara at Mithamoin Friday morning. The boat with around 80 passengers sank in the river.

Earlier on Friday, 47 bodies were recovered and next day one more body was found.

Tafiz Uddin of village Ranuakandi in Mithamoin lost his wife Anwara, 32, son Tofazzal, 6, daughter Rojina, 11, and Rahimunnesa, 2.

Hamjara, Aklima and Safajulla, children of Md Marus of Golhati village, died in the incident.

Harun of Itna lost his wife Sarna, 32, daughter Dalim, 12, and nephew Jihad, 10, niece Zinnat, 8.

Mamun, of the same village, lost his sister Ratna, 15, daughter Neela, 5, and sister-in-law Tania, 16.

SNAPS AND SNIPPETS



Poet Muhammad Nurul Huda inaugurates traditional 'Oin Poani Utsav' (a festival resembling camp fire) at Darianagar tourist centre in Cox's Bazar sea beach on Friday. The festival will continue till December 16.

PHOTO: STAR

Jailer finally gets bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

The acting jailer of Sherpur district, facing charge of torturing a jail inmate, yesterday got bail from a Khagrachhari court. Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Md. Iqtiaul Islam Mallik granted the bail at noon following submission of bail prayer by defense lawyer advocate Nasir Uddin Ahmed. The same court also fixed December 8 for next hearing. Earlier, Senior Judicial Magistrate Abdullah Al Mamun sent Faridur Rahman Rubel, acting jailer of Sherpur to Khagrachhari district jail on Thursday last after Rubel surrendered to court. A case was filed against Rubel recently by a prisoner alleging torture on him by the acting jailer when he was posted at Khagrachhari jail. The same court rejected the jailer's bail prayer for second time on Sunday.

Body handed over to BSF

UNB, Benapole

Body of an Indian national, who died at a hospital in Jessore three months ago, was handed over to Indian Border Security Force (BSF) through the Benapole check-post on Sunday. Benapole immigration sources said, Rafiqul Islam, son of Mujibur Rahman of Palashi Paschim Para in Nadia district of West Bengal was arrested while illegally entering Bangladesh through Meherpur border on May 17. A case was filed against him with Gangni thana of Meherpur. Later, he was sent to Jessore jail being sentenced in the case. As he fell sick in the jail, he was admitted to Jessore 250-bed General Hospital where he died on September 6.

Godown gutted in Noakhali

UNB, Noakhali

Plastic goods at a godown belonging to Yasin Traders were gutted in a fire that broke out at Badalkati road in Chatkhil Bazaar Saturday night. Godown owner Mohammad Yasin said, the fire burned down goods worth at Tk 14 lakh at about 11:30pm. He, however, failed to ascertain the reason behind the fire. Another report from Sherpur adds: Four shops and a rice mill were destroyed in a devastating fire incident in Akkas Ali Market at Dakpara crossing in Sadar upazila early Sunday. Locals said the blaze originated from electric short circuit in the market and soon engulfed the shops and the rice mill.



PHOTO: STAR

Patuakhali journalists organise a human chain in front of Patuakhali Press Club yesterday protesting filing of 'false' cases by lawmaker Golam Maola Roni against journalists of Patuakhali.

DEFAMATION CASE BY LAWMAKER

Patuakhali journalists continue protest

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Journalists here yesterday morning formed a human chain in front of Patuakhali press club protesting filing of Tk one crore defamation case by Golam Maola Roni, lawmaker from Patuakhali-3 (Galachipa and Dashmina) constituency, against the journalists of a number of dailies.

Over hundred people including journalists, local elites, activists of different social and professional organisations joined in the human chain.

Later, a rally held on the street, was addressed by Nirmol Kumar Rakshit, president of Patuakhali press club, Swapan Banarjee, club's vice president Abu Zafar Khan, former president of the club, advocate Habibur Rahman Shawkat, central organising secretary of JSD and MA Khaleq, president of district teachers association.

The speakers said that the case filed by the lawmaker amounts to interference in the freedom of press. He could send rejoinder to the press concerned or file a complaint with the press council but he filed the case to harass the

journalists, they said.

They urged the prime minister to intervene for withdrawal of the case unconditionally and at the earliest.

Earlier, the journalists submitted a memo to the prime minister through the DC on November 9 in this regard.

The lawmaker sued 11 journals of the daily Prothom Alo, daily Jugantor, daily Samokal and the daily Manab Zamin including their editors, publishers. The case was filed with a court in Dhaka on November 3 alleging publication of defamatory reports against him.

Two traders held with VGF rice

UNB, Gazipur

Police on Sunday arrested two traders along with 965 kgs of rice earmarked for VGF programme at Jamalpur Bazaar in Kaliakoir upazila.

The arrestees are Kabir Hossain, 35, and Mamunur Rashid, 30.

Four members of Madhyapara Union Parishad lodged a complaint against UP Chairman Sirajul Islam, secretary Mahbub Mollah and daifadar Yousuf Ali in this connection.

Police said daifadar Yousuf sold the 13 sacks of rice to the two shop owners -- Kabir and Mamunur -- meant for distribution among the VGF cardholders.



PHOTO: STAR

Sushashoner Jonno Pracharabijan (Supra) forms a human chain at Sathmatha intersection in Bogra town yesterday demanding steps to save Karatoa River from encroachment and siltation.