



A 12-day exhibition of artworks by artist Hamiduzzaman Khan begins at Bengal Gallery in the city today.

PHOTO: STAR

SI GAUTAM MURDER 2 accused on fresh remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two accused in the Sub-Inspector Gautam Roy murder case were taken on a three-day fresh remand on Sunday.

Earlier, the investigators ruled out the possibility of the involvement of the two -- Kailla Zakir and Haider Ali -- in the killing. The two were arrested by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab).

Detective police who were investigating the murder earlier reached the conclusion that the murder of sub-inspector Gautam was not pre-planned after they had arrested another Kailla Zakir alias Selim from his in-law's house in Shariatpur on Tuesday night.

Investigating officer (IO) of the case Ruhul Amin told The Daily Star that he could not be sure whether the two arrested by Rab are involved in the murder, so he took the two to fresh remand after completion their four-day remand.

Private universities run without fulfilling criteria

BSS, Dhaka

None of country's 54 private universities fulfils all the criteria required for registration under the Private University Act. They lack their own campus, faculty members, library or laboratory facilities, say educational experts.

The 1992 legislation stipulates that every private university should have five acres of land and be housed on a permanent campus within five years of operation.

Some universities have obtained land in the suburbs of Dhaka, but the only one to have started on its permanent campus is the North South University (NSU).

Noted educationist Prof Muzaffer Ahmad blamed a section of private universities for being interested only in earning money rather than building proper infrastructures. "They are not universities, they are merely tutorial homes," he said.

When the first private university, North South, was launched, the entrepreneurs behind it said aims of the new institution were to provide quality education to many students who go abroad each year and save foreign currency for the nation.

But most of the new private institutions still operate on temporary sites. Some do not even rent their own buildings but share space on a

shift basis with other private educational establishments. Bangladesh University, for example, shares space with Mohammadpur Preparatory School.

Others run alongside garment factories and commercial firms. Abedin Tower in Banani houses Queens University, offices and a garments factory. Darul Ihsan University's computer science department is housed in a flat in Dhanmondi area.

Many universities do not buy books and laboratory equipment due to space constraint, an education expert said.

The East West University library is alone in addressing the problem of shortage of space by subscribing to online libraries, enabling students to access to books through the Internet.

Some other private universities, however, provide books only related to their curriculum, but extra-curriculum books for widening knowledge is not available.

Prof Jahedul Islam of Dhaka University believes the government's decision to retain Tk 5 crore from new universities as a guarantee, instead of the previous Tk 1 crore, is a barrier to the participation of real educationists in this field.

He said private universities are making a positive contribution to the education sector, but would be helpful if the government lowers the guarantee payment and allows private universities with small campuses to function.

Inefficient management obstacle to ensuring healthcare

Doctors say at BSMMU founding anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Physicians yesterday said inefficient and incompetent management is weighing down the healthcare system of the country.

While the country has made long strides in healthcare over the years, the real problem lies in inadequacies in management and administrative activities, they said.

The doctors were speaking at a ceremony organised to celebrate the 12th founding anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) at its auditorium in the city.

Dr Mahmud Hasan, president of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) and former vice-chancellor of BSMMU, gave the Prof Dr MA Kaderi Memorial Lecture at the function.

Pointing problems faced by the doctors in managing their hectic timetable,

Dr Hasan said physicians in Bangladesh work in a different way compared to other countries.

"Unlike doctors in many other countries, we've to do private practice apart from our duties in hospitals for the sake of livelihood. Therefore managing time is difficult for the doctors."

He also stressed the need for having continuous evaluation and external audit to ensure that all activities are being conducted efficiently and competently.

"There is a common practice that good policies taken during the previous government are scrapped by the new administration. This trend needs to be changed," said Prod Dr Kanak Kranti Barua, a teacher at the BSMMU.

BSMMU VC Prof Dr Pran Gopal Dutta chaired the function. Secretary General of Swadhinata Chikitsak Parishad Prof M Iqbal Arslan, BMA Secretary General Prof

Sharfuddin Ahmed, health and population affairs secretary to the ruling Awami League Dr Badiuzzaman Bhuiyan Dablu, BSMMU Pro-VC Prof Shahidullah and teacher Dr Abdul Aziz, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, the VC inaugurated the ceremony by raising the national flag on the university campus. Later, a colourful rally was brought out from the campus.

Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque and prime minister's Health and Social Welfare Adviser Prof Syed Modasser Ali led the rally as chief and special guests respectively.

BSMMU was founded as the Institute of Postgraduate Medical Research (IPGMR) in December 1965. In April 30, 1998, the government transformed it into a medical university to expand the facilities for higher medical education and research in the country.

Journalist community divided over broadcasting policy: Azad

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country has no broadcasting policy to ensure accountability in journalism and protect the rights of the newsmen, journalist leaders said yesterday.

Speaking at a ceremony organised at a city hotel to distribute 'Unesco Bangladesh Journalism Award 2010', the leaders said the government is sitting idle with the draft broadcasting policy.

Whereas the journalists in the country are continuously being harassed and repressed, they said adding that a significant number of newsmen were killed while performing their professional duties, but the criminals are yet to be tried.

Even their job security is threatened for political vengeance, which could be overcome if there was a broadcasting policy, said Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul, editor in chief of Boishakhi Television.

Information Minister Abul Kalam Azad however said the journalist community is

divided on the issue of formulating a broadcasting policy.

"Many journalists gave me an impression that the broadcasting policy would lead the government to control journalists," he said, adding that the information ministry has received two separate draft policies on the electronic and print media and they will talk to journalist leaders in this regard.

On the issue of quick disposal of the journalists killing cases, the information minister said he had discussed the matter with the law minister, the home minister and the prime minister, adding the government will move forward with the evidence as per the existing laws.

Bangladesh Unesco National Commission and Unesco Dhaka Office jointly organised the award giving ceremony to mark the World Press Freedom Day yesterday.

Nazrana Chowdhury of ntv won the Unesco Bangladesh Journalism Award

2010 for his investigative report on mistakes in the primary and secondary level school textbooks.

Altob Hossain of the daily Jaijaidin and Emran Hossain and Ershad Kamol of The Daily Star received honorary awards.

Thanking the government for enacting the Right to Information Act, the journalist leaders said ensuring the freedom and security of the press is a must to strengthen the mass media.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, who chaired the session, said, "Ensuring security of the journalists is a must to ensure free flow of information."

He also stressed the need for increasing awareness in the society and so to improve the educational status.

Derek Elias, officer in charge of Unesco Dhaka, Syed Ataur Rahman, secretary to the Ministry of Education, journalist Jaghul Ahmed Chowdhury and Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, editor of The Bangladesh Observer also spoke on the occasion.

World Press Freedom Day observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The World Press Freedom Day was observed in the country as elsewhere across the globe yesterday with the theme 'Freedom of Information: The Right to Know.'

Different organisations organised seminars and other programmes to mark the day.

Transparency International launched a global programme titled 'Tell us what you've done' to observe the World Press Freedom Day.

The new programme will test how easy, or not, it is to obtain information from governments or their anti-corruption efforts.

Initiated by Transparency International and Access Info Europe, it is an attempt to verify whether governments are complying with the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and other anti-corruption conventions, says a TIB press release.

The press release also said

the enactment of the Right to Information Act by the Bangladesh government is a significant step in implementing the provisions of the UNCAC to which Bangladesh is a state party.

As one of the participating organisations in this new initiative, the TIB has submitted a request to the government to inform what further it has done to comply with the commitments made under the UN convention, says the release.

Meanwhile, Campaign for Citizen's Right to Know arranged a seminar on 'Freedom of Information and Media' at the Jatiya Press Club in the city on the occasion.

The speakers at the programme said the media is the last shelter for the people for that the media should always stay beside them defying all the pressures.

Columnist Syed Abul Maksud chaired the meeting. Shyamal Dutta, editor of the daily Bhorer Kagoj was a guest discussant at the seminar.

News in Brief

BB tightens forex rules for electronic media

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Electronic media houses will now have to take clearance from Bangladesh Bank (BB) to withdraw \$50,000 or more in foreign currency from their bank accounts.

The rules apply to the money remitted from abroad. The central bank has issued a notice to all commercial banks yesterday, making the clearance mandatory for the electronic media, a BB official told The Daily Star.

Salam Pintu's bail rejected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court (HC) bench yesterday rejected the bail petition by former BNP deputy minister Abdus Salam Pintu in the 2001 Narayanjanj blast case.

The bench of Justice Siddiqui Rahman Miah and Justice Krishna Devnath rejected the petition after hearing arguments from both the sides.

The blast took place near the Awami League office in Narayanjanj on June 16, 2001, which left 20 people dead and scores of others including former AL lawmaker Shamim Osman, injured.

Pintu was shown arrested in this case on November 6, 2009.

Food minister warns officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Food Minister Abdur Razzaque yesterday warned the officials concerned of punitive actions if any irregularities are found in the process of procuring rice in the current Boro season.

"You must maintain transparency and make the procurement a success in time. Rice quality and weight must be accurate. Actions will be taken if any irregularities are found," he said.

He was addressing a meeting of the district food officials at the Department of Food on Boro procurement.

He said timely supply of agricultural inputs and subsidies in fertilisers and diesel has resulted in a bumper boro crop this year, and there will be no problem in making the procurement a success.

Sayed Eskandar gets bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday granted six months' anticipatory bail to Major (Retd) Sayeed Eskandar, brother of BNP Chairperson Khaleida Zia, in a corruption case filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

An HC bench of Justice MA Wahhab Miah and Justice JBM Hasan also issued a rule upon the government to explain why Sayeed Eskandar should not be granted permanent bail in this case.

Eskandar yesterday appeared before the HC bench for bail.

Accused BNP man held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

Police arrested a BNP leader from in front of Gate No-3 of the Secretariat in the city yesterday afternoon in connection with the killing of the Netrakona Jubo League president.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) Rezaul Karim of Shahbagh Police Station said they rescued BNP leader ATM Mostafa while some people of Netrakona caught him in front of the gate at around 5:00pm and gave him a good beating.

OC Rezaul said they informed Netrakona police and they will hand over Mostafa to Netrakona police as he was accused in a killing case there.

ATM Mostafa was one of the accused in Netrakona Jubo League President Swapan Joardar murder case.



Covering themselves in shrouds, the third and fourth class employees of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital take out a procession from the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday demanding their temporary recruitment be made permanent. (Story on Page 16)

Warning to 38 DU staffs for being late

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Harun-Rashid yesterday issued warning letters to 38 officials and employees of the administrative building for not attending their offices on time.

"I visited different offices at the administrative building from 9:30am to 10:45am (on Sunday) and found some officials and employees absent at their workplace," said Prof Harun, who was the acting vice chancellor from April 29 till Sunday since Vice

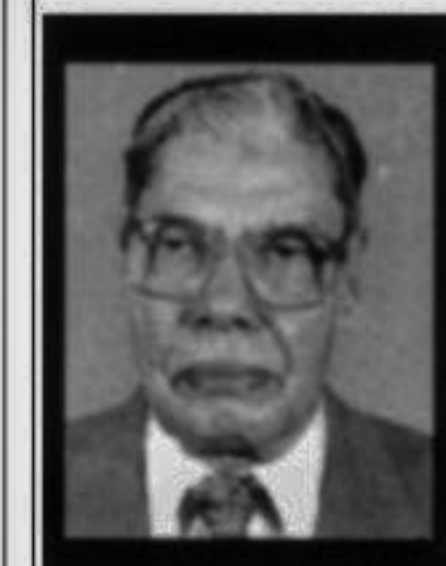
Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique was in Spain.

Though the office hour at the administrative building starts at 9:30am and finishes at 4:30pm, a good number of officials and employees attend offices a bit later regularly and leave before it finishes.

Prof Arefin rejoined office yesterday morning.

Prof Harun also issued a show cause notice on AB Siddique, personal officer of the VC, for enjoying 'unauthorised leave' and not informing the former about a meeting with the prime minister.

We Mourn



National Professor M. Innas Ali

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) deeply mourns the sad demise of National Professor M. Innas Ali, who died on 3 May, 2010. Prof. Ali was the first Vice-Chancellor (Rector) of the University and also the Chairman of the Founding Trust of the University. The members of the Education, Science and Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT), the Founding Trust of the University and all the members of IUB family express their deepest condolence to the bereaved family of late National Professor M. Innas Ali and pray for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH (IUB)

WEATHER TODAY

No change in temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain dry elsewhere over the country, Met Office said in a forecast.

Mild heat wave is sweeping over Khulna division and the regions of Faridpur, Rajshahi, Ishwardi, Barisal, Patuakhali and Khepupara it may continue.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:29pm today and rises at 5:22am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 37.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and Ishwardi and lowest 22.2 degrees Celsius at Mymensingh and Srimongal.

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	35.4	23.5	63	54
Chittagong	34.0	25.8	69	69
Rajshahi	37.0	24.5	66	65
Khulna	36.5	23.4	66	61
Barisal	36.0	24.7	73	59
Sylhet	34.1	22.8	78	71
Cox's Bazar	35.8	28.4	64	66

Renowned ENT Consultant Dr. Saket Aggarwal is now in Apollo Hospitals Dhaka

Dr. Saket Aggarwal is a graduate from the Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC), Delhi, India. He did his Post Graduation (MS) in Otorhinolaryngology (ENT) in the year 1999. He also cleared his DNB in ENT in the year 1999. Post MS, he served in Maulana Azad Medical College for 3 years. After this, he has served as a Consultant in various hospitals in Delhi including the Max Hospitals Group, a leading corporate hospital group of North India. He has good experience in all types of Ear surgeries, Nasal surgeries including FESS (endoscopic surgery of sinuses) and Neck surgery.

He has special interest in surgery for voice including phonosurgery, surgery for tracheal stenosis including stenting and cochlear implant surgery.

Dr. Saket Aggarwal
MBBS, MS, DNB (ENT)

Emergency Hotline: 10678 | Appointment: (02) - 8845242 | Ambulance: 01714-090000
Info Centre: Chittagong: 01713-064555 | Sylhet: 01713-047461 | Bogra: 01713-229988 | Khulna: 01713-489191
Plot 81, Block E, Bashundhara R/A, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh | www.apollodhaka.com

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