

UP chairman shot dead in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Prishad shot dead a union chairman in Phultala upazila of Khulna district yesterday morning.

Abu Saeed Badal, 42, chairman of Damodar union parishad (UP) under Phultala upazila of Khulna district, was going to the UP office on a motorcycle from his house at Damodar when two young men waylaid him.

They fired five bullets from their revolvers from point blank range, hitting him on the head, chest and back, said eyewitnesses and police.

Doctors of emergency

ward of Khulna Medical College Hospital declared him dead when he was taken there at 11:20am.

The two killers escaped on their own motorcycle, firing blank shots to scare the pedestrians who witnessed the murder in broad daylight.

Protesting the gruesome murder, locals put up barricades at several places of Khulna-Jessore highway, disrupting transport services on different routes of southwestern region.

All shops of commercially important Phultala upazila were also closed after the incident.

Riot police and Rapid Action Battalion-6 have been

put on high alert at all vulnerable points of the upazila to avert violence as a tense situation is prevailing after the murder.

The slain UP chairman was elder brother of Phultala Upazila Parishad Chairman Ariful Islam Mithu, also president of Phultala unit of BNP.

Outlaws shot dead their father Phultala Sadar UP chairman Abul Kashem in the office of upazila nirbahi officer on October 18 of 1999.

Ariful Islam Mithu also survived a bomb attack by outlaws at Shiromoni under Khanjahan Ali Police Station of Khulna city on March 6 this year.

Verdict in Pabna serial blast case Aug 25

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A court here fixed August 25 as date of verdict in August 17 serial blast case, court sources said.

Outfits of banned Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) blasted bombs in front of Pabna court, Deputy Commissioner's (DC) office, bus terminal area and 10 other important spots of the district town on August 17, 2005.

Police submitted charge sheet accusing four JMB activists after two years of the incident on October 30 in 2007, court sources said.

The accused are Nurul Islam Kawwar, Pabna district unit commander of JMB, Abdu Awal, operational chief of JMB, Hasmat Ali and Mukul Hossain. Of them, two are in prison while rest two others are still hiding, court sources said.



A fruit vendor at Shaheb Bazar in Rajshahi city brings fresh guava along with tree branches to attract buyers yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Try killers of housewife Biplobi C'nawabganj people demand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Hundreds of people from all walks of life yesterday brought out a procession and held a rally in Chapainawabganj town demanding trial of the murder of housewife Afsana Akhtar Biplobi.

The protesters, mostly hailing from Rajarampur Moholla, also submitted a memorandum to the deputy commissioner (DC).

Liner at a protest meeting in front of the DC office, the speakers demanded arrest and punishment of the killers of Biplobi.

Afsana Akhtar Biplobi, 22, was allegedly killed by in-laws at Majhpara in Chapainawabganj town on Saturday following an altercation over their demanding dowry.

Biplobi's mother Halima Begum alleged that Biplobi's husband Atikur Rahman

Rana, father-in-law Azizur Rahman and mother-in-law Tanjila Begum and other members of the house at Majhpara in Chapainawabganj town tortured her to death on Saturday.

In the evening, they hung her body with a ceiling fan of the house to pass it off as a suicide incident, she said.

Then they took her to Sadar hospital where on duty doctor declared her dead.

Biplobi's husband and in-

laws fled immediately after reaching the body to hospital, sources said.

The body was later sent to morgue for autopsy.

When Ashikur Rahman Rana married Biplobi, daughter of late Mofiz Uddin Mia of Rajarampur in Chapainawabganj town three years ago, Biplobi's mother gave refrigerator, colour television, gold ornaments and furniture to the in-laws' family. One year later, a son was born to them, victim's family members said.

They alleged that Rana and his parents used to torture Biplobi regularly demanding Tk2 lakh.

Biplobi's neighbours said they heard groaning from the house from Saturday morning but the house owner did not let them enter there. The neighbours heard the news about 'suicide' in the evening.

Victim's brother Abdur Razzaq lodged a case on Sunday with Sadar police station accusing Rana and his parents of killing Biplobi.

The three accused and other members of the family went into hiding after the incident, said investigation officer of the case Sub Inspector Mahabubur Rahman.

Expressing solidarity with the demand, lawmaker from Chapainawabganj Sadar constituency, said Biplobi's death seemed to be a pre-planned murder and he would do everything to ensure justice.

Four JMB militants jailed in Nilphamari in arms case

Two Allar Dal activists arrested in Gaibandha

STAR NATIONAL DESK

A Nilphamari court yesterday sentenced four militants of outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) to seven years rigorous imprisonment in an arms case.

The convicts are Golzar Hossain, 22, son of Golam Kibria of Dhakkin Karibari village under Dimla upazila of Nilphamari district, Abdul Baki alias Gokul, 25, son of Aminuddin of Nabinagar village under Patgram upazila of Lalmonirhat district, Noor-e-Alam, 25, son of Abu Bakkar Siddik of Shoulmari Munshipara village under Jaldhaka upazila of Nilphamari district, and Russel alias Monju, 18, son of Rafiqul Islam of Pathantari village under Patgram upazila of Lalmonirhat district, our correspondent quoting court sources said.

According to the prosecution, Golzar

Hossain received arms training in Birampur upazila of Dinajpur upazila in 2005. Later, JMB member Abdul Baki alias Gokul gave him some firearms, which he kept at his house.

After arrest, Golzar told police that he handed over some arms to Baki and Alam and Russel. Following Russel's confession, police arrested Baki and Alam, but failed to nab Russel.

A case was filed with Jaldhaka Police Station against the four under Arms Act. Charges were pressed against them on January 17, 2009.

After examining the witnesses, Additional District and Sessions Judge Md Ansar Ali pronounced the verdict. The convicts Russel was tried in absentia.

Our staff correspondent from Rajshahi reported that Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested two members of Allar Dal in a case under the Anti-terrorism Act in Sadullapur

upazila of Gaibandha district early yesterday.

The arrestees are Habil Mondol and Shahid Munshi of Kasmat Bagchi village under the upazila. They were brought to Rab-5 headquarters in Rajshahi.

Rab-5 Commanding Officer Lt Col Moinuddin Mahmud Chowdhury told newsmen that the law enforcers arrested the two while they were holding a meeting with some of their party men at a village in the upazila.

He said the other members of Allar Dal managed to flee, sensing the presence of the elite force.

On May 26, some 35 Allar Dal members including the two were engaged in persuading the villagers to be enrolled in the militant outfit.

As a villager Muslim Uddin protested, the militants beat him up. Muslim lodged a case against the militants and police pressed charges against the two arrested persons and others in the case.



Locals bring out a procession in Chapainawabganj town yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the killers of housewife Afsana Akter Biplobi. PHOTO: STAR



Mawa-Kawrakandi ferry service suspended for 14 hours

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

Ferry service on the Mawa-Kawrakandi route remained suspended for 14 hours since Sunday night due to poor navigability in the Padma.

About 300 vehicles got stranded on both sides, causing untold sufferings to the

passengers.

According to Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority and Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation, Ro-Ro ferry Shaheed Barkat got stuck to a hidden shoal near Magurkhanda area with 12 vehicles on board at about 10:00pm on Sunday night,

suspending the ferry services on the route.

However, the ferry service resumed at about 12:30pm yesterday.

Another ferry 'Raniganj' along with 20 passengers and vehicles on board got stuck in the middle of the river yesterday morning.

Officials said they

informed the higher authorities for immediate dredging of the Naodova channel.

Police said suspension of ferry service has resulted in huge traffic jam on both sides of the river. As the situation turned difficult to manage, additional police have been deployed on the highway.



Vehicles get stranded in a long tailback at Kawrakandi end of the Kawrakandi-Mawa route yesterday as two ferryboats remained stuck for hours in shoals of the Padma River on the route. PHOTO: STAR

WE CONGRATULATE ALL INDONESIANS ON THEIR 65th INDEPENDENCE DAY.

THE 7 SEATER AVANZA

Avanza 1300cc. / 1500cc. VVT-I Engine, 16-Valve, DOHC, 4 Cylinder In Line

NAVANA Navana Limited Phone: [Dhaka]02-9892911, 02-8851210 [Chittagong] 031-711596, 031-721203 E-mail: info@amartoyota.com

www.amartoyota.com