

READERS

respond

Here are some comments that came in response to Monday's *The Daily Star* report headlined "Police, post-mortem miss injury marks".

Z.Hossain

Can we establish a transparent post-mortem system? I understand assigned doctors can be bribed or threatened. The government should concentrate on issues of justice starting with this case. Have a thorough investigation system and take all steps to establish a transparent, professional and ethical post-mortem and police investigation system.

The power of the influential people must be uprooted.

Anon

It is sad that only when such tragedies happen, the reign of terror of 'fatwa' comes to limelight. This news will make headlines for a few days and then people will move on to something else until such news reappears. People are so blinded by the name of religion that rationality is often overpowered. We really need to do something about the supposed rule of religion.

Dr Shaidul Kazi, Finland

It is so frustrating that the 15-year-old innocent girl Hena had to receive so many lashes for a crime she did not commit. The lashes, which were a result of fatwa, led to her death. Alas! Our doctors did not get any injury marks in her body! Neither did the police inquest. Innocent girls from poor families will never get justice. Bangladesh is a country where the powerful can do anything over the less fortunate.

My heart cries out for Hena. I request the authorities concerned to conduct an immediate post-mortem with qualified doctors to determine what Hena was subjected to and ensure appropriate punishment to the accused. Failing to do so will lead to more innocent girls like Hena being victimised by fatwa in the future.

Towhid Salam

Not only should the culprits involved receive justice at court, but also the police officials and forensic experts who failed in their duties should be prosecuted.

Bikash, California

Star should continue follow-ups and not stop here. The criminals including the police must be brought to justice and we are happy to see that *The Daily Star* is working on this.

Shahed Kazi

What a shame that we call these people humans!

Dhruba

How come!! Police may miss injury marks for a number of ill-motivated reasons. But it is not acceptable that post-mortem could not find such injury marks. Above all, is the statement of the treating doctors not enough to establish that the girl sustained severe injuries and the cause of such injuries? I hope the girl's parents get some justice and the departed soul rests in peace.

Suman Sen

In the age of globalisation, we are still uncivilised. Corruption cannot be justified for anything. All over the country, people know the real story through the reports made by newspaper and electronic media. But police and doctors who performed post-mortem failed to notice any injury mark. This post-mortem report is a joke. It is an example of the many types of corruption committed by police.

We all strongly reject this fictitious post-mortem report and demand exemplary punishment to those hiding the truth.

Dipu Khondekar

Our state religion indeed! Only a secular constitution can save Bangladesh and Bangalee girls from these Arab inspired animals.

Seama Mowri

Please tell me if there is any non-government or authority looking into this? And a continued follow-up would be appreciated.

Abu Rayhan

Repeated occurrence of such incidents tells about our society's mental health status. I guess since the end of the British colonial rule, overall religious tolerance and social harmony downgraded in Bangladesh. Continuous use of religion in national politics is greatly contributing to this process. Because of a very weak social infrastructure, people of rural areas are not getting proper education and other services. Under these circumstances, religious fundamentalists easily lure rural people and exploit them for their own benefit. And this situation is the result of uneven development between urban and rural areas of the country.

Muhammad Zahirul Bhuiyan

We are familiar with this kind of forensic reports. We saw photos of Hena and her family members but saw none of the culprits. I thank the media for carrying out a follow-up on this cruel incident, which shook the masses. We request *The Daily Star* to publish photos of Mahbub and other absconding criminals as soon as possible and I believe the countrymen will find them.

Anonymous

Have you ever seen a true police report? Police reports change everyday. Money has a miraculous effect.

Hosneara Begum Poly

This is possible only in our country. God save us.



Police-picket face-off

Police arrest at least seven supporters of BNP's nationwide hartal yesterday after the strikers clashed with the law enforcers at Mohakhali Wireless Goli in the city. Fellows depart the conflict area with a wounded hartal supporter. Some activists inside BNP office injured in police action. A group of enthusiasts skating on the traffic-free highway in Shahbagh of the city. Hartal enforcers pelt police with brick chips near Titumir College. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR



NSU classes suspended today

METRO DESK

Classes at North South University (NSU) will remain suspended today for Swaraswati Puja at the university plaza.

Appeal for help

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



A visually impaired h a f e z (Q u r a n memoriser) appealed to g o o d -

hearted people of the society for financial assistance to repair his braille machine, which is his only means of livelihood, says a press release.

Shekh Motiur Rahman, an orphan, lost his eyesight at the age of four.

With the help of an English woman he continued his study up to class X. Then he learnt the Quran under braille system and became a hafez.

Rahman purchased a Perkins Braille, a braille typewriter, with financial help from philanthropic people after his appeal was published in *The Daily Star* on June 6, 2008.

But the typewriter has gone out of order and it is not possible for Rahman to repair the machine at a cost of Tk20,000.

So he requests the affluent section of the society to help him in repairing the machine.

Contributions can be sent to Shekh Motiur Rahman, Village and Post Office: Fakrabat, Upazila: Jhenaigati, District: Sherpur, Mobile Phone: 01740997397, Savings Account No 3963, Sonali Bank Ltd, Jhenaigati Branch, Sherpur.

Tungipara rail route project approved

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The cabinet committee on purchase yesterday approved a project for construction of a new rail-track to Tungipara, the birthplace of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The committee in a meeting chaired by Finance Minister AMA Muhith also okayed proposals for import of rice and wheat and furnace oil for rental power plants.

It approved about Tk 249 crore for rehabilitation of Kalukhali-Bhatipara section and construction of Kashiani-Goplaganj-Tungipara rail route.

Kalpotoru Power Transmission Ltd of India landed the work as the lowest bidder.

The proposal for import of 30,000-tonne rice at a rate of \$530 per tonne and 50,000-tonne wheat for \$363 per tonne was okayed.

Besides, the committee also approved import of two lakh tonnes of furnace oil from Indonesia for supply of fuel to rental power plants at different parts of the country.

For preparing the design of Padma Bridge, New Zealand-based consultation firm Maunsel Ltd AECOM got an additional \$7.31 million approved by the committee.

The government first decided to pay the firm \$16.57 million. But the extra amount was allocated, as the firm's area of work has been expanded. Now the total cost stands at \$23.89 million.

Besides, the purchase committee has appointed a contractor for rehabilitation work of the water supply system under Dhaka Water Supply Sector Development Project at a cost of Tk 76 crore.

Two muggers held in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested two youths at Dhanmondi in the city yesterday as they were fleeing on a private car after committing a snatching in Lalbagh.

The muggers are Nayon, 25, and Russel, 20, of Mohammadpur in the capital. With injuries, they were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for treatment.

Dhanmondi police said they chased down the private car carrying four muggers at Satmasjid road in front of Islami Bank around 12:00pm.

The car was badly damaged and the two arrested muggers sustained injury, as the vehicle crashed into the road divider. Two other muggers managed to flee the scene.

Officer-in-charge Shah Alam of Dhanmondi Police Station said the muggers were about run over a sergeant in New Market area, as he was trying to stop them.

During preliminary interrogation, the muggers confessed that the car was snatched earlier and it was being used in mugging, said the OC.



Discussion

Bangladesh Enterprise Institute will hold a roundtable discussion; Venue: Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel; Time: 9:30am.

Seminar

The Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies will organise a seminar; Venue: BIDS conference room; Time: 11:00am.

Launching

Pro-edge Associates will hold a launching ceremony; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 2:40pm.

Puja

Stamford University will hold Swaraswati Puja; Venue: Siddheswari campus; Time: 10:00am.

Inaugural

Sammilito Sangskritik Jote will organise a launching ceremony; Venue: Central Shaheed Minar; Time: 4:00pm.

Prize giving

Islamic Foundation will hold a prize giving ceremony; Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre; Time: 10:00am.

Human chain

Bangladesh Griha Sramik Federation will organise a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Launching



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