



SNAPSHOTS OF A TRAGEDY

This is a namaz-e-janaza on Abu Torab Bohumukhi High School ground at Mayani village in Mirsarai of Chittagong after 43 school and college students were killed in a tragic road accident near Mayani Bridge on the link road between Abu Torab Bazar and Borotakia yesterday. They were returning home on a truck after witnessing an inter-school football match in the upazila but the vehicle fell into a roadside ditch. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS, FOCUS BANGLA



Madrasa teacher held for stalking

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested on Sunday night a madrasa teacher for allegedly stalking one of his female students in Satkania upazila, Chittagong.

Arrested is Md Helaluddin, 28, son of Mostaque Ahmed of Maizbila village in Lohagara upazila.

The victim's father alleged that Helal used to send erotic messages over cellphone to his daughter, a student of class X at the madrasa, and threaten to abduct her.

An activist of Jamaat-e-Islami, Helal used to sexually harass his students at the institution, said Mohiuddin Masud, officer-in-charge of Satkania Police Station. The madrasa authority suspended him about four months ago for stalking the girl students.

Police said Helal admitted his offence, and a case was filed in this connection with Satkania Police Station.

Duke's bail order extended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday extended for a week the stay on a High Court order that granted bail to Saiful Islam Duke, a nephew of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, in August 21 grenade attack case.

The chamber judge of the Appellate Division on May 8 stayed the HC order and later on extended it till July 10.

The government recently filed the petition with the SC against the HC order.

An eight-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain yesterday also adjourned till July 14 the hearing of a leave-to-appeal petition.

DMP boss asked to produce Farroque before HC today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner to produce Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abdin Farroque before it this morning to seek bail in a case filed by police.

An HC bench passed the order after Farroque's counsels informed it that the police yesterday obstructed the opposition chief whip at United Hospital from appearing before it for bail in this case.

The bench of Justice Nozrul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Anwarul Haque also fixed today for hearing the bail petition filed by Farroque yesterday through his lawyers.

Earlier, at around 2:30pm yesterday, barrister Moudud Ahmed and advocate Khandker Mahub Hossain moved Farroque's bail petition before the HC bench in connection with a case filed by the police on charges of obstructing them from carrying out duties in the capital during a nationwide 48-hour shutdown that began on July 6.

The HC bench fixed 4:00pm for hearing the petition the same day.

Sher-e-Bangla Nagar police after a few hours of the incident filed a case accusing 10 to 12 people including Farroque of assaulting policemen.

Meanwhile, the police assault case against Farroque and 10 to 12 others was shifted to DB police from Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station and Assistant Commissioner Obaidul Haque was appointed as investigation officer of the case.

However, Officer-in-Charge of Gulshan Police Station Md Shah Alam told The Daily Star that there is a team of police at United Hospital, but they did not obstruct Zainul Abdin Farroque from going to HC.

Meanwhile, 24 hours after the court order, detective police could not start investigation into the police assault on Farroque yesterday.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Nazrul Islam of Detective Branch (DB) of police said they received the court order yesterday noon and were taking steps to engage an officer of inspector rank to investigate the incident.

The court of Metropolitan Magistrate AKM Azad on Sunday ordered the DMP commissioner to take legal action, upon investigation, against the policemen responsible for the assault.

The DMP commissioner the same day transferred the investigation charge of the case to the DB police.

Farroque was assaulted and injured at Manik Mia Avenue in the capital on the first day of the opposition-called 48-hour hartal, started on July 6.

On Thursday, BNP lawmaker ABM Ashraf Uddin Nizan went to the police station to lodge a case against two senior police officers in connection with the assault on Farroque but police refused to record it.

Nizan then filed an attempt-to-murder case with the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, accusing 25 policemen. The accused include Additional Deputy Commissioner Harunor-Rashid and Assistant Commissioner of Mohammadpur zone Biplob Sarker.

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