

NEWS IN *brief*

Arrest of Shihara demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pro-BNP lawyers yesterday demanded arrest of Home Minister Shihara Khatun and five government officials in connection with the death of Supreme Court lawyer MU Ahmed.

The five officials are Attorney General Mahubey Alam, Home Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikder, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Benazir Ahmed, Detective Branch of Police Deputy Commissioner Monirul Islam and Shahbag Police Station Officer-in-Charge Rezaul Karim.

Ahmed, a pro-BNP lawyer of Supreme Court, died in the city's Square Hospital on August 26, sixteen days after he suffered a heart attack in police custody.

Rafiqul Islam Mia, president of Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum, a body of pro-BNP lawyers, yesterday placed the demand while presenting a written statement at a press conference at the South Hall of Supreme Court Bar Association.

He also demanded the authorities concerned to record a complaint lodged by Selina Ahmed, wife of MU Ahmed, against the six in this connection as a murder case within a week.

Domestic help dies in hospital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday recovered the body of a teenage housemaid from Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) who was brought there in a critical state.

The deceased was Bonya Akhter, 13, daughter of Jakir Hossain of Shariatpur district. She had been working at a house of Ramjan in the city's Kalabagan.

For interrogation, police detained Ramjan who took the victim to DMCH around 10:00am, as the incident seemed mysterious, police said.

Woman's decomposed body found

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the decomposed slaughtered body of a woman from her house at Badda in the city yesterday.

The deceased is identified as Salma Begum, 25, wife of Mohammad Sumon, a shop employee.

Police said on information they recovered the body after breaking open the door of the house around 12:10pm.

Housemaid found dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a female domestic help from in front of her employer's residence in the city's Dhanmondi yesterday morning.

Her employer Moinuddin, an NCC Bank official of Dhanmondi Branch, claimed that the victim, Shila Akhter, 25, died in fall from the rooftop of the six-storey building.

Moinuddin said Shila was trying to flee with some valuables from his apartment on the fifth floor. The housemaid tied up his wife Shahinur Begum and gagged her mouth with scotch tape before snatching the valuables, he added.

Locals, however, said they found no snatched goods with the body and suspected that the housemaid was murdered and dropped from the rooftop. They vandalised windows of the apartment, throwing masonries.

The locals found Shila's body around 11:00am as it falls with loud sound.

Sub-inspector Mahiuddin of Dhanmondi Police Station said police detained Shahinur for interrogation. He said police found no eyewitness, and sent the body to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy around 11:55am.

Moinuddin told reporters that his wife was home alone as he went to his workplace yesterday morning. As a neighbour informed him over phone of the incident of snatching, he called the security guard instantly over phone to lock the gate to stop her. Seeing the main gate closed, Shila went to the rooftop and jumped off to escape, he claimed.

Officer-in-Charge of Dhanmondi Police Station Moniruzzaman said police would investigate into the matter to discover if it was a murder.



Members of the country's Harijan community attend a reception ceremony for the community's meritorious students organised by Bangladesh Harijan Oikya Parishad, FAIR, and Manusher Jonno Foundation in the city's Jatiya Press Club auditorium yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

Introduce scholarships for Harijan students

Community leaders urge ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Harijan community, who are underprivileged socially and economically, yesterday called upon the education ministry to introduce scholarships for the community's students from class VI to VIII to prevent drop-outs after primary level.

They were speaking at a reception ceremony for the community's meritorious students, marking International Literacy Day, in the city's Jatiya Press Club auditorium.

Bangladesh Harijan Oikya Parishad and FAIR, a local non-government organisation, in association with Manusher Jonno Foundation, organised the ceremony.

Speaking at the programme, Rashed Khan Menon, chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education Ministry, said he would recommend the education ministry to initiate a quota system for the community's students at educational institutions.

The parishad's Educational Affairs Secretary General Sajal Kumar Roy said, "We start our cleaning work early at dawn but get only Tk 800 to 1,200 as wage."

"With that money, it is quite impossible to bear our children's educational expenses."

The parishad and FAIR provided financial assistance to 200 of the community's students, out of 287 applicants.

Among them, 91 students of secondary level were provided Tk 5,000, 92 students of higher secondary level with Tk 6,000 while 17 students in honours level with Tk 7,000 each respectively.

A total of 80 meritorious students of Secondary School Certificate and Higher Secondary Certificate examinations of 2011 were handed over crests.

Hoping to see the quota system before the next educational year, lawmaker Menon asked the parishad to formally apply to the standing committee through a letter so that he could make the recommendation.

FAIR Director Dewan Akhtaruzzaman, Loknath Brahmachari Ashram and Mandir General Secretary Sree Bishnupad Bhoumik and the parishad Secretary General Nirmal Chandra Das addressed the programme, chaired by the parishad President Krishna Lal.

RELATIONS WITH BANGLADESH

Manmohan's visit made concrete advance, says India

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India yesterday said Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Dhaka "has achieved concrete progress in our efforts to develop and strengthen close and friendly relations with Bangladesh."

"The prime minister's visit has enabled us to put across our vision of an equal and mutually beneficial relationship with Bangladesh to the widest cross-section of its people. It is essential for us to develop and nurture a comprehensive partnership with that country", Indian External Affairs Minister SM Krishna told the Lok Sabha in a suo motu statement, a day after Singh returned here from a two-day Bangladesh visit.

"Our relations with Bangladesh are important to us for many reasons.

Bangladesh is a country that is proud of its unique and rich cultural heritage. A strong, stable, and prosperous Bangladesh is in our interest. It has embarked upon the path of multi-party democracy, based on the ideals of its liberation war, moderation, and tolerance. It is a respected member of the Islamic world. It has witnessed a healthy growth rate in the last few years", Krishna said.

He said India was "committed to building a strong partnership with Bangladesh, including assistance in developmental efforts and enhanced bilateral cooperation to our mutual benefit".

Krishna said India was keen to arrive at "fair and equitable arrangements" with Bangladesh for sharing of the waters of common rivers. We have experience of this before, as in

the Ganges Water Treaty of 1996. We, however, recognise that water is a sensitive issue in both countries. The government will work towards arriving at solutions that are acceptable to all concerned".

Pointing out that effective management of Indo-Bangladesh borders is the first essential step to creating a defined and peaceful boundary that will provide a stable and tranquil environment for cross-border cooperation with Bangladesh, he said the Protocol to the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement, signed September 6, by the two countries "paves the way for a settlement of the long-pending land boundary issues".

"India and Bangladesh have now put in place mechanisms, including the recently concluded coordinated border management plan, which we

hope will greatly reduce the scope for incidents on the border and strengthen mutual trust and goodwill among the border guarding forces and people living in the border areas. We hope that problems arising from illegal border crossings and related difficulties will be better addressed by both sides".

"Our efforts to resolve the border issues with Bangladesh reflect our desire to make our borders with the neighbours the borders of peace, stability, and amity", he said.

The Indian minister said the Framework Agreement on Cooperation for Development with Bangladesh "contains new ideas for bilateral and sub-regional cooperation which will institutionalise the rapidly growing ties between the two countries".

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Photos a must for deeds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Photos of both donor and receiver have to be attached along with the deeds during the signing of power of attorney for selling and buying, development or mortgage of unmoveable properties.

Munshi Nazrul Islam, inspector general of registration department, issued an office order in this regard on September 7, 2011 under the direction of Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, said a press release.



Bula Roy, wife of renowned Tagore singer late Ajit Roy, along with her daughter and son met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Gono Bhaban official residence in the city yesterday. PHOTO: PID

WEATHER TODAY

Rain likely
UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions and at many places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions in next 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to very heavy falls are also likely at places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions, Met office said.

Day temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:9pm today and rises at 5:43am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 31.5 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet, Dinajpur and Chuadanga and lowest 23.0 degrees Celsius at Feni.

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	30.0	25.0	91	79
Chittagong	27.0	23.8	96	90
Rajshahi	30.0	26.3	91	92
Rangpur	31.0	26.0	88	71
Khulna	28.0	25.5	98	96
Barisal	28.4	25.2	96	92
Sylhet	31.5	25.2	89	80
Cox's Bazar	27.5	24.3	97	98

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