

ANTI-EDUCATION ATTACK

# Schoolgirls poisoned in Afghanistan

REUTERS, Kunduz

About 150 Afghan schoolgirls were poisoned on Tuesday after drinking contaminated water at a high school in the country's north, officials said, blaming it on conservative radicals opposed to female education.

Since the 2001 toppling of the Taliban, which banned education for women and girls, females have returned to schools, especially in Kabul.

"We are 100 percent sure that the water they drank inside their classes was poisoned. This is either the work of those who are against girls' education or irresponsible armed individuals," said Jan Mohammad Nabizada, a spokesman for education department in northern Takhar province.

Some of the 150 girls, who suffered from headaches and vomiting, were in critical

condition, while others were able to go home after treatment in hospital, the officials said.

They said they knew the water had been poisoned because a larger tank used to fill the affected water jugs was not contaminated.

None of the officials blamed any particular group for the attack, fearing retribution from anyone named.

The Afghan government said last year that the Taliban, which has been trying to adopt a more moderate face to advance exploratory peace talks, had dropped its opposition to female education.

But the insurgency has never stated that explicitly and in the past acid has been thrown in the faces of women and girls by hardline Islamists while walking to school.

Education for women was outlawed by the Taliban government from 1996-2001 as un-Islamic.

# Looting was motive

FROM PAGE 20

Victim Fahima Sultana, wife of MA Mubin, deputy managing director of International Medical College at Tongi in Gazipur district, was stabbed to death inside her flat on the fifth floor of House-7 on Road-101 in Gulshan-2.

Mintu killed the Fahima in presence of her three-year-old son, who by the way was not physically harmed in the incident.

After his arrest, driver Mintu confessed to the killing and gave a detailed description of the gruesome incident to the press at a Rab briefing.

He said, "When I came to know about the huge property of my employer, I planned to rob of the family by killing madam [Fahima]. To execute the plan, I pur-

chased a knife with Tk 150 from Badda Natun Bazar and hid it in the car.

"When madam returned home after dropping her two daughters at school in Uttara, I followed her into the apartment. As I entered the flat, house help Bina saw the knife in my hand and cried out. I stabbed her in the throat so that she could not make any more noise," said Mintu.

"Seeing me with the bloodstained knife madam asked me about it. I told her that I would kill her and loot all valuables in the house. Madam gave me all wardrobe keys and told me to take everything but to spare her life. She said she would not disclose anything to anyone.

"Saying this madam tried to get away from me and I

chased her all over the apartment. She also tried to hide in the bathroom. There I stabbed her indiscriminately. When I realised that she was dead, I opened all the wardrobes and took all the valuables and cash and put those in a bag", said Mintu.

He said before leaving the flat he changed his blood-stained shirt and wore a fresh shirt of his employer.

"I escaped in Mubin's car, which I abandoned on Road-128 in Gulshan," he told the media.

According to the case filed with Gulshan Police Station on Tuesday night by the victim's husband, the driver made off with 150 tolas of gold ornaments, Tk 2 lakh in cash and other valuables worth Tk 1.05 crore.

Meanwhile, house help Bina was said to be in a critical condition in the capital's United Hospital.

Apart from driver Mintu and MA Mubin, Rab's Intelligence wing chief Lt Col Ziaul Ahsan and Media and Legal wing chief Commander M Sohail,

among others, spoke in the Rab press briefing. Fahima's children and sister were also present at the time.

Mubin thanked Rab for arresting his wife's killer.

Rab Commander M Sohail said Mintu had called his wife in the village and asked her to come to Dhaka so that law enforcers could not trace him.

"Mintu's wife is on the run with the remaining ornaments and cash. We are trying to arrest her and recover the valuable looted," he told the press.

# BNP ropes in 17 allies

FROM PAGE 1

people's aspirations.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia announced this at a press conference at Diploma Engineers' Institution in the capital.

Reading out a declaration paper on the 18-party alliance, Khaleda said expansion of the four-party combine was a necessity in view of demands from "all parties and people from all walks of life to be united to compel the present government to hand over power to a non-party caretaker government. It was a demand of time."

She went on, "Our goal is to build a tougher movement for the formation of a patriotic government to meet the challenge of time and fulfil the aspirations of people."

The leader of the opposition in parliament urged all to form committees across the country to strengthen the anti-government movement.

The new components of the 18-party combine include Liberal Democratic Party, Kalyan Party, Jatiya Gana tantrik Party (Jagpa), National People's Party (NPP) and Bangladesh NAP, and seven other parties not registered with the Election Commission

-- Bangladesh Labour Party, National Democratic Party (NDP), Muslim League, Islamic Party, National Awami Party (NAP-Bhasani), Democratic League and People's League.

Among the leaders of these parties, only LDP Chairman Oli Ahmad won the last parliamentary polls.

Most of the new components of the expanded alliance are known as name-only parties.

The four-party alliance was formed in 1999 to intensify the movement against the then Awami League-led government. It comprised BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami, Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ) and Bangladesh Jatiya Party (BJP).

Later, IOJ split into three factions -- IOJ (Aminee), Khelafat Majlish and Jomiyat Ulamaye Islam-- and all of these were active in the four-party combine.

Most of the alliance partners of BNP keep their activities limited to forming human chains and holding discussion meetings.

Asked how these small parties will help strengthen the movement against the government, Khaleda said larger number of parties means "more strength and

more people with us". And this was proved during the recent grand rally of the BNP-led alliance and that of the ruling Awami League in the capital.

She said the present government has lost legitimacy to run the country. So, It has to amend the constitution to hand over power to a non-party caretaker government, and it is the only peaceful and constitutional way to protect democracy and build the country at present and in future.

Asked if the expanded coalition is an election alliance or a political alliance, the BNP chairperson said it is an alliance for movement to dislodge the government

Top leaders of new components of the alliance signed the declaration on it and they were present at the dais during the announcement.

Leaders of BNP and its alliance partners and several thousand workers were present at the programme.

At the March 12 rally in the capital, Khaleda announced that the four-party combine would be expanded with the inclusion of like-minded parties.

# Ilias Ali, driver go missing

FROM PAGE 1

hartal for Sunday and Sylhet BNP has called for a division-wide dawn-to-dusk hartal for today.

Police, of Banani Police Station in the capital, recovered the abandoned car of Ilias, 48, near his Banani home around 1:30am yesterday. They found the driver's mobile phone on the passenger seat.

Locals told The Daily Star during a spot visit yesterday afternoon that they did not see anyone picking up either Ilias or the driver. They just noticed an abandoned car with all its doors flung wide open.

Sub-Inspector Maruf Ahmed of Banani Police Station said finding a phone on the passenger seat they dialled a number from the phone's call history. One Abed picked up and said that it was driver Ansar's number and that he drove for Ilias Ali's wife.

Police then contacted Ilias' family who went to the spot and confirmed that the car belonged to them. They said Ilias had gone out with the car earlier.

The white car had a Dhaka University sticker; Ilias' wife works for the university. It was slightly damaged in the rear as if it was rear ended or had reversed into something.

Gulshan Division Deputy Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Khandker Lutful Kabir quoting Ilias' wife Tahsina Rushdir said she could not reach Ilias in the wee hours of Wednesday. Tahsina lodged a general diary with Banani Police Station yesterday morning.

Yesterday, she told The Daily Star that she was seeking Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's intervention in finding her husband. She

said, "We frequently see on TV the prime minister saying that as a person who has lost her family members and close relatives, she can feel the pain of those like her. The father of my children is now missing. I hope the prime minister will bring smiles on my children's faces back."

Ilias' son Labib Sharar, a student of class-X, told The Daily Star that his father left their home in Banani with the car and driver around 9:45pm Tuesday. He said Ilias usually returned home between midnight and 1:30am.

He said driver Ansar, 32, had been driving for them for only five or six years but he had been with the family for two decades. He said the family trusts Ansar.

Investigation officer Kazi Mainul Islam said police have sent messages to all stations across the country along with photographs of Ilias and Ansar. Other law enforcement agencies, including the Detective Branch (DB) of police, have also been alerted.

Khairuzzaman, a security guard of a flat building near the spot, told The Daily Star that he was on duty around Tuesday midnight. He and another guard saw the car abandoned an hour before police reached the spot.

Commander M Sohail, director of Legal and Media wing of Rab, told The Daily Star last night that Rab has been also investigating the incident.

**BNP REACTION**  
BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia alleged that a government agency and Rapid Action Battalion picked up Ilias Ali from his car. She asked the government to immediately return him.

"None of those who were involved in killings and disappearances will be spared

and if necessary the issue will be taken to international courts," she told reporters addressing a press conference at Diploma Engineers Institution yesterday.

She claimed that some people witnessed personnel of law enforcement agency pick up Ilias but the agency did not inform the party or the family about his whereabouts.

She said they would resist such incidents. "Movement to oust the government will be forged if Ilias is not returned to us," she added.

During a meeting of BNP high-ups at Khaleda's Gulshan office last night, it was decided to call for the hartal for Sunday. Mirza Fakhrul told journalists about the decision after the meeting.

Earlier, during a rally in Sylhet, district and city units of BNP called for the division-wide dawn-to-dusk hartal for today. The BNP leaders there alleged that Sylhet city Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal Joint Secretary Iftekhar Ahmed Dinar was picked up by law enforcers on April 3 and he has been missing since.

BNP activists put barricades on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway which suspended road communications for nearly four and a half hours, reports our Sylhet correspondent.

They blocked different points of the highway in Bishwanath, South Surma and Balaganj upazilas of Sylhet.

The vehicular movement on the highway resumed around 2:30pm when police rushed to several spots and charged truncheons to disperse the demonstrators, said Shakhawat Hossain, the superintendent of police of Sylhet.

Police fired eight teargas canisters while the demonstrators damaged six vehi-

cles.

Over 20 people, including four policemen, were injured in sporadic clashes at places on Dhaka-Sylhet highway during the blockade. Of them, Biswanath upazila correspondent of Bangla daily Inquilab, Mamunur Rashid Mamun, was admitted to Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Pro-BNP Supreme Court lawyers in the capital also brought out a protest procession on the court premises around 1:00pm yesterday.

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and other party leaders and activists visited Ilias' home in the morning.

Home Minister Shahara Khatun, the inspector general of police and the commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police went to Ilias' home around 10:30pm last night. They stayed there for an hour or so.

Shahara told the family that law enforcement agencies were not involved in the incident and she assured them of doing everything she could to find Ilias.

**ILIAS' PROFILE**

Born on January 1, 1961, at Ramdhana village under Biswanath Police Station in Sylhet, Ilias came under the spotlight during the autocratic regime of Ershad when he was studying at Dhaka University.

His name spread fast on campus as he was one of the top armed cadres of BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal. He had taken part in many armed battles among student groups and intra-party conflicts.

Ilias and 11 other students were expelled from Dhaka University in 1987 for violence on the campus.

Even after the expulsion,

he continued to stay in Kabi Jashimuddin Hall and led a faction of Chhatra Dal rival to Chhatra Dal leaders Ovee and Niru.

He had been accused in several murder, arms and other criminal cases.

Ilias was elected Chhatra Dal general secretary during BNP's first tenure in 1991-1996. But the student body committee was dissolved within a few months as his faction of Chhatra Dal evicted the rival faction led by Ovee and Niru from campus. There were several murders on campus during that time.

Ilias was put behind bars for a while after the dissolution of the committee.

He became a lawmaker in 2001 from Sylhet-3 constituency.

Ilias grabbed more attention after his much-talked-about political rivalry against former finance minister late M Saifur Rahman.

After Saifur Rahman died in a car crash in 2009, Ilias' influence over greater Sylhet BNP increased.

## Social Development Foundation (SDF)

House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230

IFT No.: SDF/Proc./Bi-Cycle/G 20.0(ENJ)/2012/ 425

Date: 18/04/2012

### Invitation for Tenders

Goods- (Bi- Cycles – 400 Nos.)

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH		
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Finance
2	Agency	Social Development Foundation (SDF)
3	Procuring Entity Name	Managing Director, SDF
4	Procuring Entity Code	Not used at present
5	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka, Bangladesh
6	Invitation for Tender	Supply of Bi-cycles with all accessories
7	Invitation Ref No	SDF/Proc./Bi-Cycle/G 20.0(ENJ)/425
8	Date	18/04/2012

#### KEY INFORMATION

9	Procurement Method	Open Tender Method-OTM (NCB)
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#### FUNDING INFORMATION

10	Budget and Source of Funds	IDA Credit No. 4757-BD
11	Development Partners (if applicable)	IDA

#### PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12	Project / Programme Code (if applicable)	None
13	Project / Programme Name (if applicable)	Empowerment and Livelihood Improvement- Nuton Jibon Project.
14	Tender Package No.	G 20.0(ENJ)
15	Tender Package Name	Supply of 400 (Four hundred) Bi-cycles with all accessories to Regional Offices (Rangpur, Jamalpur & Barisal)
Date		
16	Tender Publication Date	19 / 04 / 2012
17	Tender Document Selling Date	22 / 04 / 2012
18	Tender Last Selling Date	08 / 05 / 2012
Date		
19	Tender Closing Date and Time	09/ 05 / 2012 2:00 p.m.
20	Tender Opening Date and Time	09 / 05 / 2012 2:30 p.m.
21	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address
- Selling Tender Document (Principal)		
- Selling Tender Document (Others)		
Social Development Foundation (SDF), House No. 4, Road No. 21, Sector No. 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230		
None		

#### NO CONDITIONS APPLY FOR SALE, PURCHASE OR DISTRIBUTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

- Receiving Tender Document		
Social Development Foundation (SDF), House No. 4, Road No. 21, Sector No. 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230		
- Opening Tender Document		
Social Development Foundation (SDF), House No. 4, Road No. 21, Sector No. 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230		
22	Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)	Conference Room, SDF
Date		
Time		
30 / 04 / 2012 11.30 a.m.		

#### INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

23	Eligibility of Tenderer	As defined in Tender Data Sheet of Bidding Document.
24	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Supply of 400 Bi-cycles with all accessories
25	Brief Description of Related Services	None
26	Price of Tender Document (Tk)	Tk. 500/- only

Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Completion Time in Weeks
27	1	Supply of Bi-rcycles with all accessories	Social Development Foundation (SDF), House No. 4, Road No. 21, Sector No. 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230	Tk. 1,00,000/- only 8 Weeks after signing of contract

#### PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

28	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Nurul Islam Sardar
29	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Managing Director
30	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Social Development Foundation (SDF), House No. 4, Road No. 21, Sector No. 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230
31	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone : 880-02-8963946, 8959581, 8959368 Fax : 880-02-8961096 Email : md@sdfbd.org
32	Special Instructions:	(i) The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender Proceedings

(Md. Nurul Islam Sardar)

Managing Director  
Social Development Foundation (SDF), Dhaka  
www.sdfbd.org

## Vacancy Announcement

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces the vacancy for the following posts for the **Strengthening Election Management in Bangladesh (SEMB) Project**.

1. Operations Manager
2. Human Resources Manager

The duration of the Service Contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds

For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than 17:00 pm, 2 May 2012.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

## INVITATION TO BID (ITB)

### Procurement of Crime Scene Kit-200 Sets

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh seeks bid from interested, registered and qualified Firms/ Companies for **"Procurement of Crime Scene Kit - 200 Sets."**

All interested Firms/ Companies may collect the bidding Documents (ITB) by applying to the following email Address: [javed.noman@undp.org](mailto:javed.noman@undp.org)

Submission of Bid: Potential Firms/ Companies are requested to submit bid in sealed envelope marked with "Procurement of Crime Scene Kit - 200 Sets" and should be addressed to the UNDP Procurement Unit, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.

Deadline for the submission of Bids : 08 May, 2012, 2.30PM (Bangladesh Time).