

## 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.

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

"Escaped in Gulshan'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 valuables looted," he told the press.

# Ilias Ali, driver go missing

FROM PAGE 1

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

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.

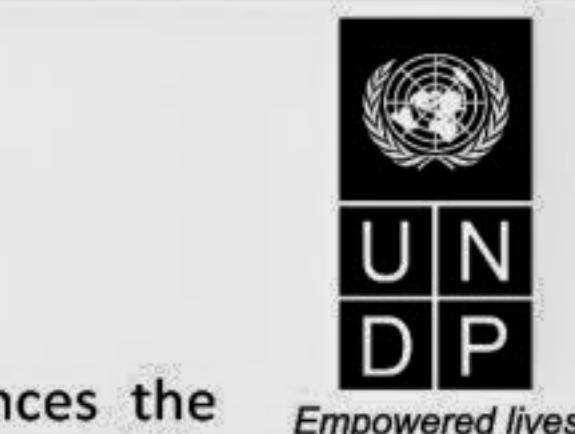
**ILIAS' PROFILE**

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,



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## Vacancy Announcement

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

- Operations Manager
- 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)

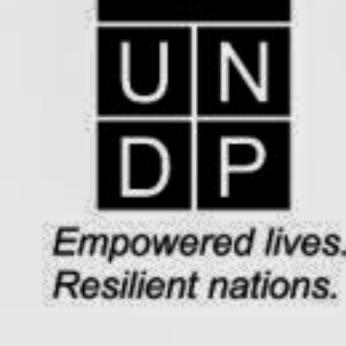
### Procurement of Crime Scene Kit-200 Sets

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).



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## 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
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11 Development Partners (if applicable)	IDA
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### 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

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)

Social Development Foundation (SDF), House No. 4, Road No. 21, Sector No. 4, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230

- Selling Tender Document (Principal)

None

- Selling Tender Document (Others)

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

Conference Room, SDF

Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional