

SI suspended over Mamun murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A sub-inspector of Kaliganj police in Gazipur was suspended yesterday for negligence of duty as a gang killed an arrestee at Ramchandrapur of the upazila after "snatching" him from police custody on Tuesday night.

Family members of the victim, sand trader Mohammad Mamun Bhuiyan, however, alleged that police had handed him over to the assailants.

SI Nripen Chandra Dey has been suspended as he failed to protect the detainee, Gazipur SP Abdul Baten told The Daily Star.

Police formed a three-member committee headed by the additional SP of Gazipur yesterday to probe the incident.

Nripen arrested Mamun on Tuesday evening from Borogaon village of the upazila as a suspect in a case.

Later that night, the SI filed another case against 150 to 200 unnamed people for obstructing police in discharging their duties and snatching Mamun from their

custody at Ramchandrapur village.

Mamun's family members alleged that police were taking him to Kaliganj Police Station in handcuffs by an auto-rickshaw, according to a report by Bangla daily ProthomAlo.

The three-wheeler stopped at Ramchandrapur village, where the gang led by former UP member Hekim Farazi and his nephew Jahangir Farazi had been waiting.

They hacked Mamun brutally in the presence of police, leaving him dead on the spot.

Police later took off his handcuffs and left the place.

Mamun's wife Rehana Begum complained that when she went to Kaliganj Police Station Wednesday night to file a murder case, the duty officer refused to record it.

Contacted, OC Enayet Uddin of Kaliganj Police Station denied the allegation. "We had asked them to file a case in this connection. But the victim's father told us [police] that they would file the case after his other son



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina meets a 16-member Indian delegation comprising Chief Minister of Meghalaya Mukul Sangma and Chief Minister of Arunachal Nabam Tuki at Gono Bhaban yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO



PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

The plastic drums contain the blood of animals, slaughtered around the capital, which some traders collect to sell to producers of poultry and fish feed. The photo was taken from Rayerbazar Beribadh area yesterday.

ATTACK ON BDNEWS OFFICE 2 more suspects arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two more youths suspected of attacking bdnews24.com journalists were arrested by Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in Savar early yesterday.

With the detention of the two, Rab and police have so far arrested five persons in connection with Monday's attack that injured nine journalists and an office staff.

Commander M Sohail, director of Rab's Legal and Media Wing, said the elite force detained Imran Hossain and Yakub Ali of Mohakhali from Nabinagar area.

On Tuesday, police arrested Jahidul Islam Sourav, Mir Hossain and Ilias Master Sumon. They are now on a four-day remand under Banani police.

After the arrest, Rab-1 produced Imran and Yakub before a press briefing at its office in Uttara where Imran admitted his involvement in the attack.

"After Sourav called me, I took a knife from a tea stall near the building and rescued Sourav after stabbing two people," Imran said.

"Both Imran and Yakub are known criminals in the locality. There are several complaints against them with police and Rab," Lt Col Rashidul Alam, commanding officer of Rab-1, told journalists.

"We have also got some names of suspected assailants. We are trying to arrest them too. We hope to get good results soon," he added.

ATTACK ON PROTHOMALO JOURNALISTS

The home ministry and police are yet to respond to the letters that Prothom Alo Editor Matiuur Rahman sent on May 28, requesting action against the 10 policemen, who ruthlessly beat up three photojournalists of the Bangla daily.

The home minister and inspector general of police (IGP) were requested to take action under criminal procedure alongside departmental actions.

Neither the police authority nor the home ministry has contacted the newspaper since submission of the letter, said Kamrul Hassan, a special correspondent of Prothom Alo.

Police physically assaulted Prothom Alo photojournalists Khaled Sarkar, Sajid Hossain and Zahidul Karim and took away their cameras at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar on May 26.

Dhaka Metropolitan Police has suspended 10 policemen in connection with the assault.

Home ministry yet to respond to Prothom Alo letters over police attack on its lensmen

33rd BCS preliminary test today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The preliminary test of the 33rd Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations will be held across the country today.

A total of 1,93,059 applicants are expected to sit for the one-hour test at 142 centres in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet simultaneously at 10:00am.

The applicants will vie for 4,206 vacant government posts.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) asked the candidates to take their seats in respective exam halls before 9:20am. No candidate will be allowed entry after 10:00am.

The seat plan is available on www.bpsc.gov.bd. AYM Nesar Uddin, controller of examinations (cadre), PSC, said the candidates could use normal calculators, but scientific calculators, handbag, cell phone, books and other electronic materials would not be allowed in the examination halls.

He requested the candidates not to bring cell phones to exam halls. "If anybody is found with cell phones inside the hall, his candidacy will be cancelled".

In addition, he said, the commission had made separate sitting arrangement for people with disabilities and provided amenities to those candidates.

For the first time, the PSC launched online registration system for the BCS examinees to ease the appointment process this year.

ACC grills 4 more Destiny directors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday quizzed four more directors of Destiny Group, including the wife of Chairman Rafiqul Amin, over various irregularities by the multilevel company.

Destiny directors Farah Diba, Rafiqul's wife Hosne Ara, Selina Rahman and Nitu Bishwas were interrogated for nearly four hours at the ACC office in the capital.

ACC Director Squadron Leader Tahidul Islam, Deputy Director Mozahar Ali Sarder and Assistant Director Towfiqul Islam grilled them until 3:00pm.

Earlier on Tuesday and Wednesday, the ACC officials interrogated Destiny Group Chairman Rafiqul, vice-presidents Mohammed Sayeed-ur-Rahman and Mohammad Gofranul Haque, three directors-- Gofran Ahmed, Mejhah Uddin and Irfan Ahmed Sunny-- and Destiny-2000 Ltd Chairman Mohammad Hossain.

But what information the ACC could extract from the Destiny Group members could not be known immediately. However, ACC Chairman Ghulam Rahman said in the afternoon that the information the Destiny officials gave in the last three days would be verified.

If the Destiny officials' statements contradict the findings of the ACC, the anti-graft watchdog will file cases against them, the ACC chairman said.

In the name of multi-level marketing, some companies and clever people are cashing in on poor people's desire to become rich, he said, adding they had also been laundering money for which they should be punished.

In mid-April this year, the commission launched an investigation into financial anomalies, including illegal banking, by the company and its sister concerns.

2 administrators for DCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday appointed two new administrators for the bifurcated Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) following the expiry of the tenure of their predecessors.

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Director General Shahjahan Ali Molla has been appointed to DCC North and Additional Secretary of Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Jillar Rahman to DCC South, said an official circular of Public Administration Ministry.

They replaced Khorshed Alam Chowdhury of DCC North and Khalilur Rahman, administrator of DCC South, who were appointed on Dec 4 last year, the day when the government divided the DCC into two.

Yesterday's appointment came after the government failed to hold the DCC elections within 180 days as stipulated in the amended local government law.

Stop attack on journos

Urge DU teachers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The pro-BNP-Jamaat teachers of Dhaka University yesterday formed a human chain urging the authorities concerned to stop repression on journalists to reinforce democracy in the country.

BNP-Jamaat backed white panel DU teachers organised the programme at the base of Aparajeya Bangla on the university campus protesting recent attacks on journalists across the country, including the killing of journalist couple Sagor-Runi and attacks on Prothom Alo and bdnews24.com newsmen.

Arts Faculty Dean Prof Sadrul Amin said, "They [journalists] have been frequently assaulted by law enforcement agencies and also by terrorists if any news against them is published in the media."

He urged journalists to jointly protest such oppression on them.

DU Syndicate member Prof Tasmeri SA Islam said assaulting newsmen in a democratic country is quite unusual.

Prof AFM Yusuf Haider, former DU pro vice-chancellor, addressed the

MAHMUDUL'S OATH TAKING AS MP Stay order extended till disposal of review petition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday extended its order that stayed the swearing-in of Maj Gen (ret) Mahmudul Hasan as lawmaker for Tangail-5 constituency till disposal of a review petition.

The BNP-backed candidate was supposed to take oath on May 30.

Jatiya Party leader Abul Kashem, who was elected MP in the 2008 general election from the constituency but was later declared disqualified as a candidate for the polls, filed the review petition.

A seven-member full bench of the Appellate Division, headed by Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, yesterday fixed June 5 for hearing the review petition.

Following an SC order, the Election Commission on May 7 cancelled the candidacy of Abul Kashem, as he was a loan defaulter during the election and declared Mahmudul Hasan elected to the constituency, as he bagged the second-highest number of votes.

Abul Kashem filed the review petition against the SC order on May 7.

During yesterday's hearing on the petition, Anisul Huq, a counsel for Abul Kashem, prayed to the apex court to adjourn the hearing, saying that Barrister Rafique-ul Huq, the principal counsel for Abul Kashem, was not in the country.

He also prayed for staying the swearing-in till disposal of the review petition.

PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT COMMISSION

Tk 177 crore budget approved

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Parliament Secretariat Commission yesterday approved a budget of Tk 177 crore for the Secretariat for the next fiscal year.

The commission, at a meeting chaired by Speaker Abdul Hamid, also approved a revised budget of Tk 140 crore for the current fiscal year, said a press release.

The finance minister will incorporate the approved budget in his proposal for the national budget for the next fiscal year.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Finance Minister AMA Muhith, Chief Whip Abdus Shahid, State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam and Legal Council members were present at the meeting held at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

The meeting decided to beef up parliament building security and approved 52 new posts for security officials.

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