

# 2 Destiny top brass taken on 18-day remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Two high officials of Destiny Group, including its chairman and managing director Rafiqul Amin, were placed on an 18-day remand yesterday in connection with two money laundering cases.

Mohammad Hossain, chairman of Destiny-2000 Ltd and Destiny Multi-purpose Cooperative Society is the other accused.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Erfan Ullah passed the order after the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) sought a 20-day remand.

However, the court stayed the remand prayer for the group's president Lt Gen (ret'd) Harun-Ar-Rashid as the hearing on his two bail petitions are pending with the High Court (HC).

The HC is expected to pass orders on those bail petitions today.

The ACC filed the cases with Kalabagan Police Station on July 31 against 22 top officials of Destiny for laundering and transferring investors' money amounting to Tk 3,285.26 crore to their personal accounts.

The two investigators ACC Assistant Director Md Towfiqul Islam and Deputy Director Mozahar Ali Sardar filed two separate remand prayers on October 11 after the accused surrendered before a Dhaka court.

In their forwarding reports, ACC said the accused were involved in laundering money collected from investors and they should be interrogated to trace the whereabouts of the money.

Destiny Group started its journey in 2000 through multi-level marketing business with only Tk 12 lakh.

## RAMU VIOLENCE

# Young Buddhists scarred mentally

*Says Buddhist Youth Festival Group*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The recent violence in Ramu has psychologically wounded the country's young Buddhist community, said leaders of Buddhist Youth Festival Group of Bangladesh yesterday.

"If the young generation fails to recover and move forward because of this brutal incident, it will be a great loss for the country," said Pulok Kanti Barua, chief sponsor of the group.

He made the remark at a press briefing on "The 2nd Buddhist Youth Festival 2012" at the capital's Dhaka Reporters' Unity. The festival will be held tomorrow at Bangladesh Shishu Academy auditorium.

"We want our young generation to know that the attackers in Ramu, Patiya and Ukhia are not the only people of Bangladesh, there are many people beside us," said Charu Uttam Barua, founder chairperson of the group.

The organisers will hold a silent protest programme tomorrow against the September 29 violence on Buddhist temples and residences at Ramu in Cox's Bazar.

## SAGAR-RUNI MURDER

# Info from 2 accused being verified

COURT CORRESPONDENT

An investigation officer (IO) told a Dhaka court yesterday that he gathered important information from two accused in journalist couple Sagar-Runi murder case.

The information derived from the two accused -- Tanvir Rahman and Palash Rudra Pual -- was being verified.

Md Zafar Ullah, senior assistant superintendent of police of Rapid Action Battalion, also the case's investigation officer, said this while he was producing the two before the court on completion of their eight day remand.

First Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Ali Hussain rejected bail petitions of two accused and ordered to send them to jail as the IO did not seek further remand to quiz them.

However, the IO said the two would be remanded again if necessary.

Meanwhile, five more accused -- Mintu alias Bargira Mintu, Kamrul Hassan Arun, Md Bakul Miah, Rafiqul Islam and Abu Sayeed -- were earlier placed on a five-day remand each in the same case.

The IO was quizzing them on remand to find out clues about the killing.

Sagar, news editor at the private TV station Maasranga, and his wife Runi, senior reporter at another TV channel ATN Bangla, were killed in the wee hours of February 11 at their rented apartment in the capital's West Rajabazar.

# Marginal farmers to get agri inputs free of cost

*Programme to be launched today*

HASAN JAHIID TUSHER

The government will launch today a Tk 6.81 crore "agriculture rehabilitation programme" to provide 78,011 farmers with farming inputs free of cost.

The farming inputs will be given to the small and marginal farmers of six districts--Jamalpur, Kurigram, Bogra, Gaibandah, Tangail and Sirajganj--to encourage them in cultivation to increase food grains production. The inputs will be given to the cardholder farmers who were affected by flash floods during Aman paddy cultivation.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury will inaugurate the programme at Islampur in Jamalpur.

For cultivating mustard, each farmer will get one kilogramme of mustard seed, 20kg of Dap (Di-Ammonium Phosphate) fertiliser

and 10kg of Mop (Muriate of Potash) fertiliser while for farming wheat, each farmer will get 20kg of its seeds and 10kg each of Dap and Mop fertiliser.

For corn cultivation, each farmer will get four kg of its hybrid seeds, 20kg of Dap and 10kg of Mop fertiliser.

Contacted, Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury said, "Our main target is to stand by the marginal farmers who have been affected by recent flash floods. The farmers will understand that the government amidst limited capacity is with them during their bad times."

"We have decided to rehabilitate these farmers so that they can recover their loss due to the flash floods," said Matia.

She said respective upazila agriculture officers will distribute the agriculture inputs among the farmers.



A Rapid Action Battalion member inspects some of the Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) instruments the elite force members seized, worth around Tk 1.15 crore, in different drives in Hathazari and New Market areas of Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

# Minorities continue to be exploited

*International workshop told*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The recent atrocities on minorities in Bangladesh prove their persistent exploitation for the majority's gains the same way they were discriminated against in the past, academics observed at an international workshop yesterday.

They also criticised the democracy of the majority and recommended its amendments reasoning that minorities are not given due attention in such a system.

"Minorities in Bangladesh become target of pre-electoral violence in a democracy ruled by the majority for political gains as seen in the recent cases in Ramu and Rangamati for instance," said panel speaker Dr Amina Mohsin, professor of international relations at Dhaka University.

The political blame game of one political party accusing another centring the attack on

Ramu Buddhists puts in perspective the kind of politics prevailing in Bangladesh, she told the workshop, "Controversial Democratic Spaces: Land, Environment and Human Rights in Bangladesh", at DU Senate Bhavan.

Dhaka University and Germany's Bielefeld University co-hosted the programme.

About destitution of Rohingya refugees in Myanmar, DU history professor Mesbah Kamal said, "Myanmar never recognised Rohingyas because they are Bangalee people but unwanted in Bangladesh. They were displaced by the British from the Chittagong Hill Tracts to Myanmar in the 1827 Burmese war."

On the status of minorities, he said, "There are...92,000 IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) families in the CHT each having five members on an average in Bangladesh. Moreover 92 percent of the indigenous people in the North Bengal are day labourers."

# Dr Kamal mulls new political alliance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted jurist Dr Kamal Hossain, president of Gono Forum, yesterday said his party started taking opinions on whether to form a new alliance ahead of the next parliamentary elections.

On whether he will lead the alliance, he said, "Our decision will come after everyone's opinion has been taken. We have started taking opinions from here (yesterday's press conference)."

Meanwhile, former president AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury's Press Secretary Jahangir Alam said a new political alliance would be launched by Badruddoza and Dr Kamal.

The duo will announce the launching on October 22 through a press conference in the capital's Sonargaon Hotel, he said, adding, "The alliance's name will be formally announced in December or early January."

Dr Kamal, addressing a press conference Gono Forum organised in the capital's Jatiya Press Club, said newspapers reveal that people definitely want a change after seeing that public representatives were not keeping their pre-election pledges.

"We have started taking opinions on how that change will happen. We will take opinions everyday and seek opinion from different communities and professionals," he said.

On whether his party will contest in the election independently, he said they would take a decision beneficial for the nation.

The constitution expert, however, said he would continue his campaign of 23-point reform proposals chalked out by the 14 political parties in 2005 to ensure a free and fair election.

The party in power had also talked about the reform proposals before the elections, he said.

He said he had heard that the word reform in Bangladesh had become negative, for instance, seeking reform was considered "conspiracy" while a pro-reformist was a "bad person".

On the recent attack on Buddhist community, he said, "We have to dig deep and find the motive without blaming each other."

On the prime minister's statement that the next parliamentary election would be held after Jatiya Sangsad's dissolution, Dr Kamal said the prime minister says many things but often retreats from her earlier remarks for the nation's interests.

# Seven killed, 29 hurt in road accidents

METRO DESK

Seven people were killed and 29 others injured in road accidents in Dinajpur, Netrakona, Jessore, and Nilphamari on Tuesday and yesterday.

Our Dinajpur correspondent reports, two people were killed and another was injured in an accident on Dinajpur-Bochaganj highway in Bochaganj upazila of Dinajpur yesterday.

Police said Abdul Rakib 19, and Md Mobarak Ali 20, were killed on the spot, while Md Riku 28, was critically injured as a truck hit their motorcycle near Bochaganj Women College around 2:20pm.

After the incident, agitating locals blockaded the highway for about three hours.

In Netrakona, a man was killed and eight others were injured in an accident on Mohongonj-Lepsia road at Katakhalhi of Khaliajuri upazila yesterday, reports our correspondent.

Police said the accident took place as an engine-run three-wheeler fell into a roadside ditch after its driver lost control over the wheel killing its passenger Rajon Mia, 40 on the spot.

BSS reports from Jessore, three people were killed and 20 others injured in a road accident on Jessore-Magura highway in Khazura area of Bagherpara upazila on Tuesday.

Police said Ekramul Haque, 36, Baku Fakir, 52, and Sador Ali, 55 were killed on the spot as a bus collided head-on with another around 11:00am.

In Nilphamari, Abdul Aziz, 55, was killed on the spot as a pick-up van hit his bicycle on Saidpur-Parbotipur highway in Saidpur Cantonment area on Tuesday, reports BSS.

## Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT,  
Mymensingh

Alhaj Abdur Razzaq, a veteran freedom fighter, died of kidney failure at a hospital in Dhaka yesterday. He was 72.

He left behind his wife, four daughters, two sons and a host of relatives and well wishers to mourn his death.

He was buried at Golkibari graveyard in Mymensingh town with state honour following his namaz-e-janaza at Anjuman Eidgah ground after Zohr prayers yesterday, said family sources.

Abdur Razzaq was a retired senior principal officer of Sonali Bank.

## Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 30th death anniversary of prominent politician and social

worker Rahatullah Sarkar, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil, recitation of the holy Quran and food distribution among destitute will be held at his residence at Parbatipur in Dinajpur.

Rahatullah helped in organising freedom fighters during the War of Liberation in 1971.

He took part in forming Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haque, Mawlana Bhashani and Hossain Shaheed Suhrawardi led Juktofront against the then autocratic Muslim League.

## Syeda Dilruba Shiparin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 5th death anniversary of Syeda Dilruba Shiparin Joyonti, wife

of Deputy Secretary Khairul Islam, says a press release.

She was a former vice-president of the Bangladesh Chhatra League unit of Munnujan Hall of Rajshahi University and a member of Bangla Academy.

A doa and milad mahfil will be held at her husband's government residence after Maghrib prayers today.

Relatives, friends and well wishers are requested to pray for the departed soul.

## Career Opportunity



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- Call on Key Accounts and new prospects.
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- Proactive, assertive and ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Demonstrated basic computer skills and proficiency in MS Office and other windows-based programs.
- Pro forma experience, strong analytical, critical thinking and problem solving skills, including understanding of ROI, POS analysis.

Interested candidates are encouraged to send their CV to [ranks petroleum@hotmail.com](mailto:ranks petroleum@hotmail.com) on or before 25th October 2012.

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