

Police finally find little Ria's body in septic tank

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Rangpur

Police on Sunday night, finally recovered the body of the 7-year-old schoolgirl, allegedly abducted 26 days ago, from a septic tank of her neighbour's house at Poran village in Pirogachha upazila of the district.

The hapless girl was identified as Ria Akhtar, daughter of Abdur Rahim of the village and a Class-I student at Poran Government Primary School.

Police and the family of the deceased said, on December 24 afternoon, Abu Zafar Jewel, 38, son of late Abu Kashem of the same village and some of his fellows abducted Ria when she was playing near her house.

The abductors demanded Tk 4 lakh as ransom from Ria's father Abdur Rahim over mobile phone.

They also threatened to kill the girl if the family failed to give the money without delay.

Later, the girl's father filed an abduction case with Pirogachha police station on December 31, accusing six including Zafar.

Abdur Rahim also informed all about the incident to Rab-13 of Rangpur camp.



Ria Akhtar

50 shops of 3 markets in Noakhali gutted

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Noakhali

At least 50 shops were burnt to ashes in a deadly fire that engulfed three markets in the town early yesterday.

Quoting witnesses, Fire Service officials said, the fire broke out from an unknown source at around 4:00am at Maijee Hawkers Market and soon spread to the adjacent Chandni Super Market and Feroza Shopping Complex.

Four units of Fire Service from Maijee and Chowmohoni brought the blaze under control after three hours of frantic efforts.

Assistant Director of Fire Service Md Manir Hossain however said the fire might have been originated from an electric short circuit.

The fire completely gutted more than 42 shops and partially damaged 30 others, said an affected shop owner.

Besides, several shops were looted during the fire, they said.

The gutted shops include that of clothes, cosmetics, medicine, computer, readymade garments and mobile phone, locals said.

The affected shop owners and traders claimed that they incurred a loss of around Tk. 50 crore in the incident.



Cracks have developed at a point of the flood protection embankment at Piprakhali on the bank of Pira River in Mirzaganj upazila under Patuakhali district shortly after the portion was completed early this month.

PHOTO: STAR

Dyke develops cracks just after construction

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

The flood control embankment in Piprakhali area has developed several cracks and become vulnerable soon after its construction in Mirzaganj upazila of the district.

Water Development Board (WDB) took up a Tk 75 lakh project to construct the 5.41-km-long dyke from Mirzaganj to Rampur to save the agricultural land in the area from saline water and tidal surge.

According to WDB sources, a local firm started construction of the flood control dyke from Piprakhali point in the first week of this month. But cracks have developed in the embankment just after 10 to 12 days, the sources added.

Locals said they have already informed the contractor concerned and the WDB officials of the matter, but no step has been taken yet to protect the embankment.

"Though the authorities concerned have

started construction of an embankment in the area, responding to our long demand, it (embankment) has developed cracks at the beginning of its construction," they alleged.

Abdul Maleq, 45, of Piprakhali area said if the cracks are not repaired immediately, the dyke will not sustain.

Contacted, work supervisor Main Uddin said a ditch has been made at the side of the dyke as they had to collect earth from there. "We are filling up the ditch as per instruction of the WDB authorities, the supervisor said.

Md Motaleb, sub-divisional engineer for Patuakhali WDB, said, as per terms and conditions of the work order, minimum 15 feet blank space should be kept between the bottom of the embankment and the ditch. Cracks appeared in the dyke as the contractor concerned did not follow it, he added.

Md Delwar Hossain, executive engineer of Patuakhali WDB, they have already asked the contractor to fill up ditch as soon as possible.

BASHAR MURDER

22 AL men sent to jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Nature

A court here yesterday sent 22 Awami League leaders and activists to jail after rejecting their bail prayer in Jabo Dal leader Abul Basharmurder case.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Liaquat Ali Mollah passed the order when the charge sheeted accused surrendered to the court in the morning.

On October 5 last year, Abul Bashir, 36, vice president of Baraigram upazila unit Jabo Dal, was killed and another activist of the party Babul Hossain injured in a gun attack by criminals.

Later, Bashir's elder brother Abdul Khalek filed a murder case accusing 30 AL leaders and activists.

Police said, a charge sheet was pressed against 22 people including Nagar union unit AL secretary Mohammad Bakul, and ward unit AL president Nur Mohammad and Nagar union chairman Samsuzzoha Saheb on January 10.

Protesting the arrest of the top Jamaat leader, Pabna district unit of Jamaat called a day-long hartal today.

"Our party secretary was held in false cases. So, we have decided to observe a day-long hartal on Tuesday to protest his arrest," said Nayeb-e-Ameer of district unit Jamaat Zohurul Islam yesterday.

In Dinajpur, a Jabo Dal leader, also union parishad chairman of Hakimpur upazila was arrested in connection with a vehicle vandalism case yesterday.

Arrestee Shah Alam, 40, is general secretary of Hakimpur upazila Jabo Dal and chairman of Khatramadhabpara union in the upazila.

Earlier, a Dinajpur court issued a warrant for his arrest on January 17, police said.

On December 7, pickets of Jamaat-Shibir and BNP damaged two trucks in front of Hili Port. Later, Harun Ur Rashid, the owner of the trucks, filed a case with Hakimpur PS, accusing Shah Alam.

In Joypurhat, police on Sunday arrested 14 people in connection with several criminal cases from different areas of five upazilas.

Superintendent of Police Hamidul Alam said several teams of police conducted separate drives in Sadar, Panchbibi, Khetal, Kalai and Akkelpur upazilas from Sunday midnight to early yesterday and arrested the 14.

The arrestees include five

27 BNP men sued for Natore UP chairman murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Nature

Earlier, on Saturday night, police arrested three BNP activists, including Rabban, in connection with the murder from different areas of Singra upazila.

Fazle Rahman Fanu, 60, executive committee member of the upazila unit AL, was stabbed to death by a gang around 12:30pm on Saturday.

Mainul Haque Chunnun, brother of the murdered AL leader, filed a case with Singra police station on Sunday night, accusing 27 men and naming 12 of them.

Ibrahim Khalilullah Fatik, organising secretary of Singra upazila unit BNP and also the former chairman of Kalam UP has been made the prime accused in the case.

The other accused include Kalam union unit Swebchhasebok Dal president Abdul Karim, Golam Rabbani, 24, Abdul Momin, 32 and Hasan Ali, 26.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum, Natore district unit, will form a human chain this noon to protest the killing.

Newly wed man 'takes own life,' youth murdered before wedlock

STAR COUNTRY DESK

A newly wed man allegedly took his life on Saturday, the day after his wedding in Baralekha upazila of Moulvibazar district.

Fazlur Haque, 35, only son of Mufasir Ali of Surikandi village married Fetaima Begum, a divorcee with two children, on Friday night.

On Saturday night, Fazlur locked in an altercation with his elder sister over a family issue, sources said.

At one stage, he tried to take his life by slitting his own throat with the help of a sharp knife which left him critically injured.

He was rushed to Baralekha health complex where the doctor declared him dead.

However, the death raised questions among locals as to whether it was case of suicide or murder.

In Bogra, a youth has been mysteriously hacked to death a week before his marriage at Daspara in Dhunia upazila.

His body was found near his residence in Kajipur upazila of Sirajganj district at around 8:00am on Sunday, reports our correspondent.

Jamaat, JCD, Jubo Dal leaders held

STAR COUNTRY DESK

from Sadar, three from Kalai, two each from Panchbibi and Khetal, and one from Akkelpur upazila.

In Bagerhat, Detective Branch police arrested a local Jamaat leader, accused in several cases over the recent violence, in Sadar upazila of the district on Saturday night.

The arrestee, Abu Taleb Mondal and Ariful Islam, were later sent to jail.

Officer in-charge of Pabna Sadar police station Kazi Hanifur Islam said, police arrested Jamaat leader Abu Taleb Mondal and JCD leader Ariful as they were accused in dozens of cases filed for vandalism, cutting trees, digging roads, bomb explosion during hartals and road blockades recently. Police picked them up in connection with specific cases of violence, he said.

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

One of the leading private universities in Bangladesh invites applications for the following positions:

PRO-VICE CHANCELLOR

Qualifications: Candidate must have a graduate and a post graduate degree with first class (or equivalent) preferably in Engineering/ Business Administration/ English/ Law, and a PhD from a reputed university.

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Qualifications: Candidate must have at least a Master's Degree in Accounting/ Finance/ Economics or MBA with excellent academic record. Candidates with FCA/CMA/CPA will be preferred.

Experience: At least 15 years experience in university teaching, administration or accounting/financial management in any well-known university/large organization including 8 years in the executive rank or in the senior- most position.

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Applications should reach to:

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Vacancy Announcement

Issued on: 21 January 2014

Deadline for Application: 04 February 2014

The FAO Representation in Bangladesh is inviting applications from qualified candidates to the following vacant positions for its project "Enhancing Food Security through improved crop water management practices in the Southern Coastal areas of Bangladesh (GCP/BGD/050/NET)" to be filled as soon as possible:

Field Monitoring Associate

(UN Salary scale and benefits for similar position apply).

Interested qualified candidates will find the post descriptions, the link to the Personal History Form (PHF) and the information on how to apply in the following web link: <http://www.fao.org/asiapacific/bangladesh>. All applicants must submit their PHF to: FAOBD-Vacancies@fao.org only by close of business on 04 February 2014.

Request for Proposal Hiring Consultancy Firm

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Bangladesh seeks Proposals from interested Companies for Hiring Consultancy Firms for

- i) Conducting Training to Journalists, Ref: RFP-BD-2014-002 and the deadline for submission of Proposals is Tuesday, February 04, 2014, 4:30 p.m. local time.
- ii) Online Application Management System, Ref: RFP-BD-2014-003 and the deadline for submission of Proposals is Wednesday, February 05, 2014, 4:30 p.m. local time.

All interested companies may download the Bidding documents (RFP) from <http://www.bd.undp.org/content/bangladesh/en/home/operations/procurement/>

Submission of Proposal: The envelope should state the tender subject mentioned above and the Proposals must be submitted as per the instructions specified in the RFP document by the Registry Unit, UNDP Bangladesh, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharni, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.



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