

Man held for 'raping' girl in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man allegedly raped a married teenage girl at a slum in the capital's Baunia Badh area by threatening to kill her six-months-old daughter early yesterday.

The victim told The Daily Star that Abdul Matin, 45, who owns some shanties in the slum, broke into her house around 2:30am, and grabbed hold of the baby and threatened to strangle her if she screamed while he raped her.

But before Matin could leave, the victim cried for help bringing in her husband, a security guard, who was on duty near the house, she said.

The slum people beat Matin up before handing him over to cops. The victim said she had been living in one of the shanties, owned by Matin, for the last two years for a monthly rent of Tk 2,000.

Officer-in-Charge of Pallabi Police Station Syed Ziauzzaman said he visited the crime scene and found proof of the allegations against Matin. However, Matin, who was arrested, denied his crimes, added the OC.



Anti-Bt Brinjal Alliance forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday demanding a stop to farming and selling of the genetically modified vegetable. PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

RU RAHMATUNNESA HALL Residents vandalise dorm again

Protest eviction of 10 students

RU CORRESPONDENT

Female students of Rahmatunnesa Hall of Rajshahi University vandalised the hall for the second time on Wednesday night protesting the hall provost's decision to evict 10 students from the dormitory.

The agitating students broke windowpanes and some rooms of the hall, said witnesses.

The students also demanded immediate removal of the provost for mismanagement, and misbehaviour with students.

They said Provost Prof Sabrina Naz on Wednesday evicted 10 students from the hall as they did not have guest cards, which are needed to stay in the hall's gono room.

They had earlier vandalised the hall on Tuesday alleging that Prof Naz had misbehaved with Kismat Jahan, a second-year student of physics department, as Kismat refused to vacate the hall after being told to do so.

The students said Prof Naz did not issue the students guest cards although they had applied for them about a year ago.

They alleged that the hall provost is biased when issuing guest cards.

Contacted, Prof Naz said it is not possible to issue every-one a guest card. "I had to evict the students as they did not have guest cards," she added.

Prof Sadekul Arefin Matin, RU students' adviser, said they were looking into the matter.

NEWS IN brief

Ctg Jamaat ameer to be quizzed at jail gate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday gave permission to quiz Jamaat-e-Islami Chittagong city unit Ameer ANM Shamsul Islam for two days at jail gate in a vandalism and an arson case.

The order came after rejecting both remand and bail prayer of Shamsul, who was rearrested before Chittagong Central Jail on Wednesday. The court also asked police to submit the report within seven days.

Shamsul was arrested on May 12 with bomb-making materials in their Chittagong city office.

Saida Muna Tasneem new ambassador to Thailand

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to appoint Saida Muna Tasneem, currently serving as a director general in the foreign ministry, as the new ambassador of Bangladesh in Thailand.

A career diplomat, Tasneem belongs to the 11th batch of BCS (foreign affairs) Cadre.

In her diplomatic career, she served in Bangladesh Permanent Mission to the UN in New York and Bangladesh High Commission in London in various capacities, said a foreign ministry press release yesterday.

Bangladeshis stand

FROM PAGE 3

Alo, and Awami League Chittagong district (south) unit General Secretary Mofizur Rahman addressed the programme in front of Chittagong Press Club.

Meanwhile, Jatiya Party's Chittagong city unit also formed a human chain in the same place in the morning.

War crimes

FROM PAGE 5

Chairman of National Human Rights Commission Prof Mizanur Rahman commented that Bangladesh had already created a unique example in the international arena in the trial of crimes against humanity.

Chairing the discussion, Foreign Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali said Bangladesh continued to pursue Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's foreign policy ideals tied to the vision for global peace and justice despite many odds.

"Our commitment to international peace is best exemplified through our active peace diplomacy and just and inclusive peace model," he said.

UN peace

FROM PAGE 5

and future of the peace-keeping operation.

As head of the DPKO, Ladsous holds the authority to take decisions regarding the number of peacekeepers deployed and posting of peacekeepers at various capacities including force commander.

US lauds

FROM PAGE 5

"last mile" connectivity across the Bay of Bengal region, and linking key Indian, Bangladeshi, and Burmese transit hubs, Biswal said.

"We are also confident that the United States can play a helpful role in facilitating trade and connectivity in South Asia, through our New Silk Road and Indo-Pacific Economic Corridor strategies."

Evictors eyed brothel

FROM PAGE 5

"The evicted sex workers have nowhere to go but to live on the streets as they cannot return to their families," said Shahnaz Begum, member of Durjoy Nari Sangha.

She said the local goons were still threatening the leaders of Tangail based sex workers' organisation Nari Mukti Sangha.

Director (Rights) of MJF Rina Roy said, "Most of the land of the Tangail brothel belongs to the sex workers or their children."

However, Tangail sadar MP Sanowar Hossain, an Awami league leader, said he had obtained a list of tax payers of the holding numbers of the brothel houses, and it showed that most owners were "respected" locals. "I know many of them, but I didn't know they carry out such a business by renting out this place," he told The Daily Star by phone.

A source told our Tangail Correspondent that on July 11, the lawmaker and Tangail Municipality Mayor Shahidur Rahman Khan Mukti were present at a meeting at Tangail Central Jam-e-Masjid of Tangail's "anti-social activities prevention committee", which demanded destruction of the brothel.

Sanowar Hossain denied the claim, saying he attended a meeting of the Gorosthan complex committee, where people spoke against the brothel.

"But I told them not to take up law in their hands," he said, and denied knowing the members of the "anti-social activities prevention committee".

"Neither the sex workers nor the organisation representing them did come to me with any complaint of threats," he added.

Speakers at the press conference placed six demands including prevention of unplanned eviction at brothels, long-term plans by the state to prevent young girls from joining prostitution, and discussions with sex workers on sustainable alternative livelihoods for them.

Hasina calls for upazila

FROM PAGE 3

coordination in each development work as well as integrated plan before taking any step, saying Bangladesh was geographically a small country, but its population was huge, and it was a tough task to render services to people.

"We'll have to accomplish that difficult task."

Noting that the LGRD ministry usually gets higher allocations in the national budget, Hasina said the local government institutions like upazilas, municipalities and union parishads will have to take steps to raise their own income to render better services to people.

Pointing out her Awami League's election manifesto of 2014, the prime minister also pledged for planned urbanisation and increasing civic amenities across the country.

"Arsenic-free safe water for all and sanitation in every house would be ensured," she said.

Hasina said the government also had a commitment to link village, union and upazila headquarters with the road network.

The prime minister said the local government division would have to work with more integrity to execute these commitments of the government.

She mentioned that the local government organisations had an important role in alleviating poverty and establishing good

governance in the country.

"I hope the elected representatives and the government servants would perform this responsibility together and ensure happiness, peace and prosperity of people."

The prime minister mentioned that the government as per its capability was allocating money to the local government bodies. "But this allocation is not enough for running the service programmes," she said.

She directed the LGRD ministry to find out a way for maintaining the navigability of river routes as the height of the bridges constructed by the ministry often halts the movement of river vessels.

Sheikh Hasina said 90 percent rural people and 99 percent urban people had been brought under safe water supply. "I hope all people will be brought under the safe water coverage by 2016-17," she said.

She also expressed her belief to turn the country into a mid-income one well before 2021 through implementing the development works as the present government would stay in power till 2019.

She said the Union Information and Service Centers would be renamed as Digital Centers in the future.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Syed Ashrafur Islam also spoke on the occasion.

Govt takes maiden initiative

FROM PAGE 3

to send them back home, said the statement.

Maj Gen Rezanur Rahman Khan, Bangladesh ambassador in Iraq, however, said the embassy had rescued 33 Bangladeshis from Mosul with the assistance of the Iraqi administration.

"Of the 33 Bangladeshis, 18 of them fled as they did not want to return home because they had migrated to Iraq spending huge amounts of money," he told The Daily Star over the phone.

More than 25,000 Bangladeshis are working in different sectors in the troubled country. They have been passing days in

insecurity since the conflicts broke out among different forces.

But the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry was claiming that the Bangladeshis were not facing any problem as they were not the target.

However, at least 105 Bangladeshis have returned from a company based in Baghdad in three phases this month on their own initiatives on security grounds.

Around 4,000 Bangladeshis alone are working for "Bismaya New City Project" in a South Korean company, Hanwha Engineering and Construction, in the southern part of Baghdad.

RAHMAN TODAY

Rally
Facebook activists of Bangladesh will organise "March for Gaza" protesting the Israeli aggression on innocent Palestinians. Venue: Shahbagh. Time: 2:00pm.

Human Chain
Bangladesh Minority Sangram Parishad will form a human chain protesting attacks on religious minorities. Venue: Jatiya Press Club. Time 11:00am.

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সেনা কল্যাণ সংস্থা

সেনা কল্যাণ ভবন (২১ তলা) ১৯৫, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা -১০০০

পুনঃ বিক্রয় বিজ্ঞপ্তি

(সেভয় আইসক্রীম ফ্যাক্টরী)

সেনা কল্যাণ সংস্থার প্রকল্প সেভয় আইসক্রীম ফ্যাক্টরীর ০১টি আইসক্রীম প্লান্ট (ইটালী অরিজিন), ০১টি চকোলেট প্লান্ট (ইটালী অরিজিন) ও ০১টি ক্যাডি প্লান্ট (তাইওয়ান অরিজিন) চালু অবস্থায় বিক্রয় করা হবে। অগ্রহী দরদাতাগণ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে (সকাল ৯.০০ ঘটিকা থেকে বিকাল ৩.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত) সেভয় আইসক্রীম ফ্যাক্টরী, ১৯৪ এ/বি, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২০৮ এ সংরক্ষিত যন্ত্রপাতি/মালামাল সমূহ পরিদর্শন করতে পারবেন। শর্তাবলী সম্বলিত দরপত্রের সিডিউল ১,০০০/- (এক হাজার) টাকা মাত্র (অফেরৎযোগ্য) নগদ মূল্যে ১১ আগস্ট ২০১৪ ইং দুপুর ২.৩০ টা পর্যন্ত হিসাব বিভাগ, সেনা কল্যাণ সংস্থা, সেনা কল্যাণ ভবন (২১ তলা), ১৯৫, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০ ও সেভয় আইসক্রীম ফ্যাক্টরী, ১৯৪ এ/বি, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, ঢাকা থেকে ক্রয় করা যাবে। উল্লেখিত সময়ের মধ্যে দরপত্র সেনা কল্যাণ সংস্থার প্রধান কার্যালয়ে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বক্সে জমা দেয়া যাবে। দরদাতাগণকে দরপত্রের সাথে জামানত হিসাবে প্রদত্ত দরের ৫% (ফেরৎযোগ্য) টাকা ডিডি/পে-অর্ডার আকারে সেভয় আইসক্রীম ফ্যাক্টরীর অনুকূলে জমা দিতে হবে। একই দিন (১১ আগস্ট ২০১৪ ইং) সেনা কল্যাণ সংস্থার প্রধান কার্যালয়ে বেলা ৩.০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাদের সম্মুখে প্রাপ্ত দরপত্রসমূহ খোলা হবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোনরূপ কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়াই যে কোন/সকল দরপত্র সম্পূর্ণ বা আংশিক গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

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