

N'GANJ-7 MURDER Court accepts charges against 35

Issues arrest warrants for 13 including 8 Rab men; rejects no confidence petition against the charge sheet that dropped names of 5 FIR accused

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A Narayanganj court yesterday accepted charges against 35 persons in two cases filed over seven murders and issued arrest warrants for 13 fugitive accused, including eight members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab).

Senior Judicial Magistrate Saiduzzaman Sharif also rejected a no confidence petition against the charge-sheet. Selina Islam Beauty, wife of slain Narayanganj City Corporation councillor Nazrul Islam, filed the petition for dropping the names of five who were made accused in the first information report (FIR).

Selina's counsel Sakhawat Hossain said they will move to higher court against the rejection of no-confidence petition.

He alleged that the investigation officer of the case failed to unearth the plan and financing behind the murders.

The court directed the authorities concern to confiscate properties of the 13 fugitives.

Law enforcers yesterday produced three former Rab officials Tareque Sayeed Mohammad, Arif Hossain and SM Masud Rana along with other accused of the cases.

On April 27 last year, seven people, including Nazrul Islam and senior lawyer Chandan Sarker, were abducted from the Dhaka-Narayanganj link road. Later, their bodies were found floating in the Shitalakkhya river.

TIB condoles Humayun Kabir's death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) yesterday expressed deep shock at the death of its founding trustee board chairperson and Renata Ltd chairman Syed Humayun Kabir.

TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman, in a statement, said Kabir was one of the key designers of the anti-corruption movement in Bangladesh.

"The death of Syed Humayun Kabir is an irrecoverable loss for the country. He was not only a successful businessman but also an ideal personality to follow for others being an honest and patriotic man," he mentioned.

The TIB family will remain engaged to show respect to his contributions by heading the anti-corruption movement amid all barriers, said Iftekharuzzaman.

Also the founder of SAJIDA Foundation, Humayun Kabir, who died Tuesday, aged 83, was buried at the capital's Banani Graveyard yesterday.

He was among the country's most respected business professionals whose career had long been associated with leading multinational organisations. He was also a trustee of the Centre for Policy Dialogue.

Kabir had devoted his life to reaching out to the poor and marginalised, and thus SAJIDA Foundation came into being, a seedling planted during his 25th wedding anniversary when it was founded as a gift to his wife, Sajida Humayun Kabir.



This sorry state of Battali Road seems to reflect the scenario in nearly all of Chittagong city's roads with the suffering of commuters intensifying during the monsoon. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY

Rainfall leaves Chittagong city roads battered

PRANABESH CHAKRABORTY, Ctg

Continual shower since late June has left major thoroughfares in Chittagong city in a dilapidated state with numerous potholes and craters which are causing immense sufferings to commuters including Eid shoppers.

Moreover, ongoing construction of two flyovers under the Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) on two major roads -- Station Road and Muradpur-Sholashahar Road -- is even worsening the situation. The construction materials and equipment piled up on the roads do not let the rainwater easily pass through resulting in waterlogging.

According to Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) sources, of the total 800km road network under the CCC, around 500km is paved road, 200km is concrete road and 100km

is brick or unpaved road. A total of 150km road on which heavy vehicles operate has already developed many craters, said CCC Executive Engineer Munirul Huda.

The most battered roads are seen in Muradpur, Sholashahar, CDA Avenue, Wasa, Lalkhan Bazar to Tigerpass, Sheikh Mujib Road and Agrabad Barik Building areas.

Nowadays, whenever it rains, vehicular movement remains halted for one to two hours whereas on other days traffic jam is experienced only during a particular part of the day, said locals.

Rashed Chowdhury, resident of Agrabad, has to suffer daily on the way to his office at Nasirabad. "It is very difficult to locate the potholes particularly at night. I already had two minor accidents due to these potholes," he said.

The Daily Star also found piles of

sand and mud occupying a major portion of another affected road Kadamtal. Locals in Bahaddarhat, Cornel Hat, Mogoltuli, Sirajuddullah Road, Batali Road, Telpotti Road, Zakir Hossain Road and Kapasgola Road areas are also going through the same ordeal.

Rickshaw puller Md Bashir Miyan of Kadamtal said, "It is very difficult to my rickshaws on these roads. My rickshaw along with a passenger overturned few days ago as I could not notice a rainwater filled pothole on Station Road."

Nowadays, it takes about 45 minutes to reach New Market from Tigerpass instead of 10 minutes, said Yusuf Jamil Rajib, an MBA student who was going for Eid shopping at Reazuddin Bazar.

"Journeys on these bumpy and battered roads are uncomfortable and painful especially when you are

not in good health," said Nafisa Sharmin who was visiting a doctor in Mehedi Bagh.

Bishwajit, resident of Batali Road area, said the layer of bitumen on the road got washed away by rains many days ago. Besides taking immediate steps to renovate the roads, the authorities should also remove materials and equipment from roads which are causing water clogging and thereby damaging the bitumen layer.

The CCC engineer said the CCC has allocated Tk 3 crore for fixing potholes on roads which fall under their purview and the work will be completed within six days.

Contacted, CDA Chief Engineer Md Jashim Uddin Chowdhury said renovation of a portion in Kadamtal has already started and the other parts will be fixed within a few days.

HSC exam results on August 8 or 9

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The results of Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and equivalent examinations will be published simultaneously either on August 8 or 9.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid ordered the officials concerned to get the summary of the results ready for handing it over to the prime minister, said an official, seeking anonymity.

The results will be available on the website: <http://www.educationboardresults.gov.bd>.

The examinees can also get their results from their respective centres and boards, and on cell phones through SMS.

Over 10.73 lakh students under 10 education boards appeared in this year's HSC and equivalent exams that began on April 1.

Doping gang busted in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives yesterday arrested a doping gang, which includes a bank official, in the capital's Motijheel and recovered 1,800 sedation pills from them.

The arrestees are Abdul Matin alias Ocyan Matin, the gang leader, Abul Bashar, a cashier at Sonali Bank, Md Selim, Md Shimul, and Abul Hossain, said Deputy Commissioner (south) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

In primary interrogation, the arrestees admitted that Matin used to buy contraband sedatives from different border areas. The gang mainly lurked in bus, train and launch terminals in Dhaka and its outskirts, and robbed passengers after doping them.

At least 54 doping gang members have been arrested in this month of Ramadan, he said, adding that such gangs become desperate ahead of Eid taking advantage of overcrowded roads and terminals.

Teenage boy stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 14-year-old was stabbed to death by some other boys older than him in a conflict over "showing disrespect" near his Dakhin Khan house in the capital yesterday evening, said police.

The deceased was Rana Mia, son of Amir Hossain.

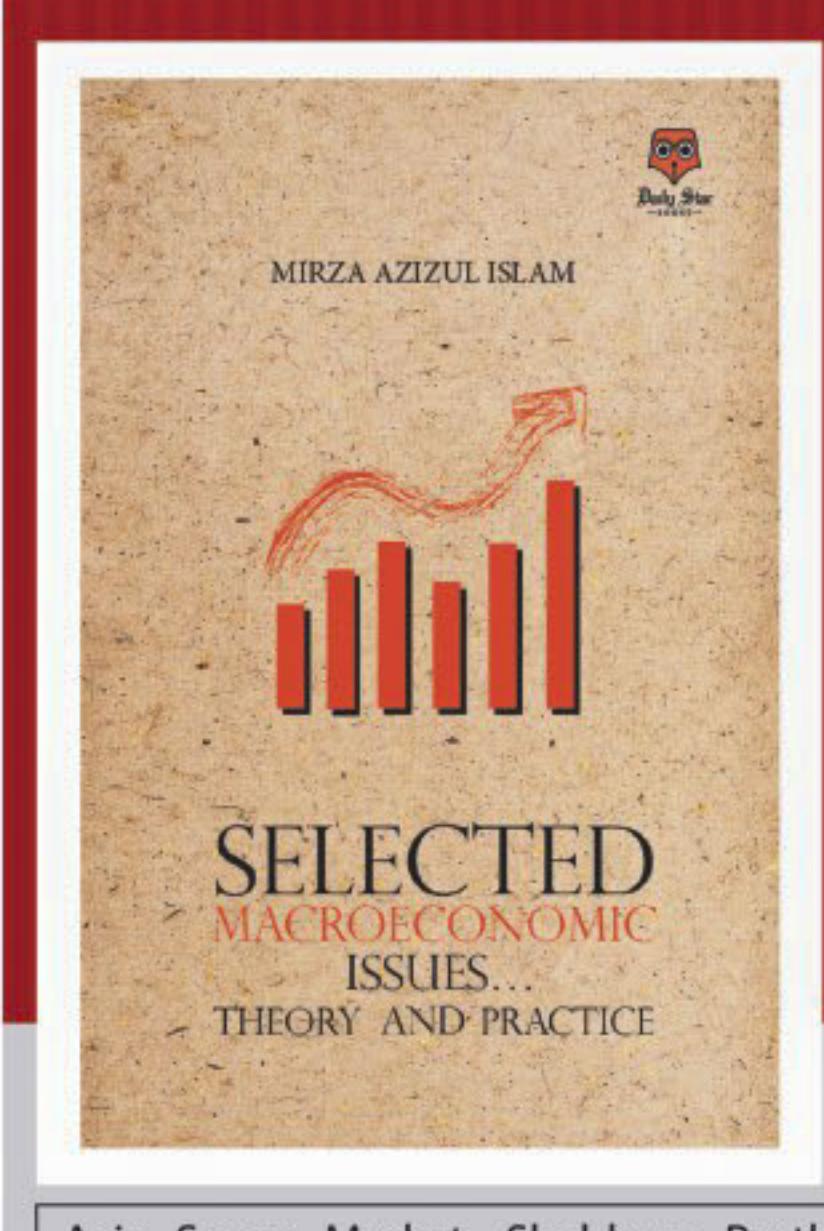
Some teenage boys had been quarrelling with their junior in the area for several days demanding "more respect" from them, said Hidayet Hossain Mollah, sub-inspector of Dakhin Khan Police Station.

Police detained three suspects after Rana's father Amir Hossain filed a case against nine named and 5-6 unnamed teenage boys of the neighborhood.



These dresses, as shopkeepers in the capital's New Market claim, are in high demand among young teens anticipating Eid-ul-Fitr for having been adopted from Kiranmala, a fantasy Bangla serial aired in an Indian channel. The photo was taken yesterday.

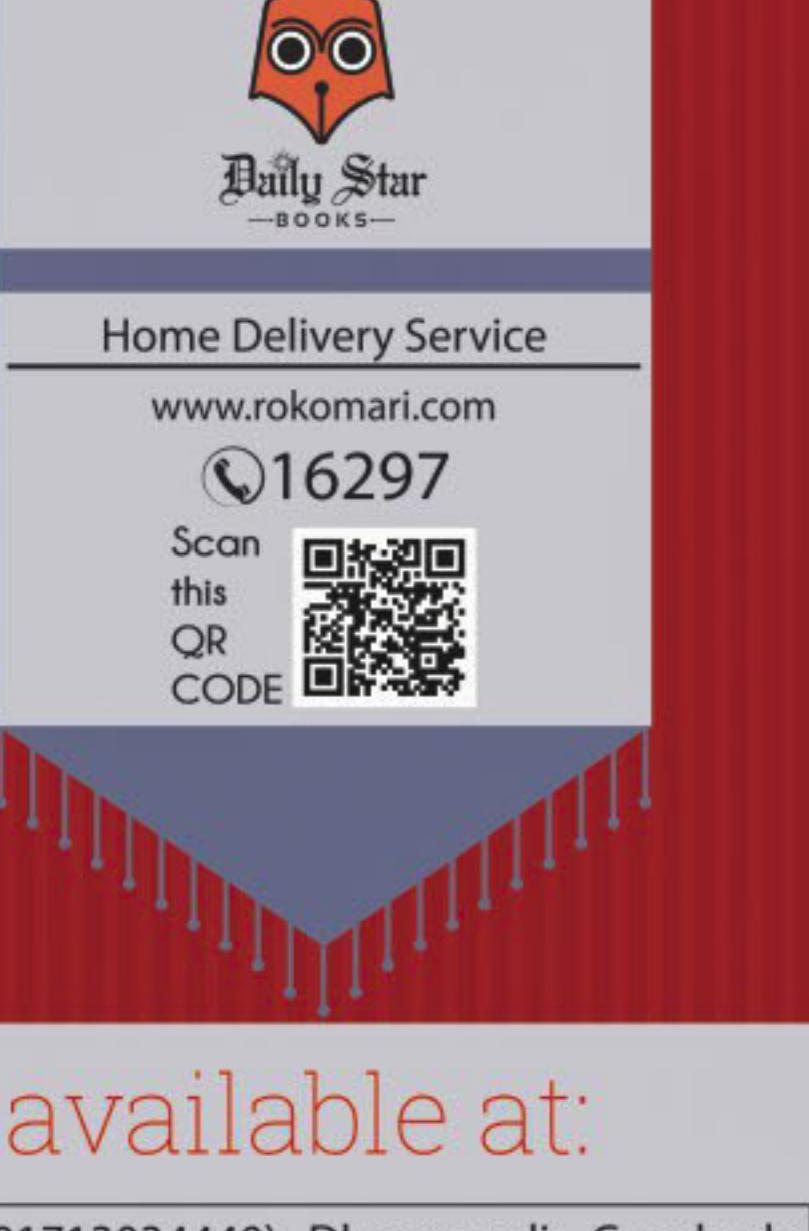
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