

Minu sent to jail on surrender

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Former Rajshahi city corporation mayor and city unit president of BNP Mizanur Rahman Minu was yesterday sent to jail after he surrendered before two courts in seven cases filed against him during the BNP-led 20-party's anti-government movement this year.

Minu surrendered before one of the courts around 11:30am and sought bail. Rajshahi Metropolitan Magistrate Court Judge Joyonti Rani Das rejected Minu's bail petition in one of the cases and fixed July 27 for hearing two other cases, said inspector Abul Hashem of the court. Metropolitan Magistrate Mokseda Asgar also rejected Minu's bail petitions in three other cases. The court, however, granted him bail in another case as per an order of the High Court.

DHAKA-BARISAL-KHULNA ROUTE New BIWTC vessel to launch today

Advance sale of Eid train tickets ends at Kamalapur, Ctg stations; rush likely to begin today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC) will introduce today a new passenger vessel MV Madhumoti on Dhaka-Barisal-Khulna route.

With the latest one, the state-run BIWTC now has a fleet of seven passenger carriers plying from Dhaka to southern districts.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the two-storey vessel through a video conference at 10:00am, said a press release of the shipping ministry.

The 75.50 metre long vessel is able to carry 750 passengers. A Bangladeshi private shipbuilding company has constructed the vessel for Tk 27 crore, while its two engines were imported from Japan.

With Madhumoti, BIWTC's official capacity has increased to carry around 5,000 passengers through its seven ships. But the vessels carry at least three times as many passengers.

On the other hand, private companies operate around 150 launches, carrying around 3 lakh people daily.

Both private launch owners and BIWTC will start operating special trips today on the basis of passengers' rush.

TRAIN, BUS

The advance sale of Bangladesh Railway's tickets concluded at Kamalapur and Chittagong stations yesterday amid dissatisfaction of many people who did not get tickets.

On the last day, tickets were sold for July 17. Return tickets will start selling on July 16.

Railway officials anticipated that people would start leaving the capital in droves today to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr with their near and dear ones.

Meanwhile, bus stations of the capital including Gabtoli and Kalyanpur started to become crowded with home-bound people yesterday.

SC adjourns hearing challenge

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courtroom for an hour and imposed the fine, payable in seven days and in default to be jailed for one month, for criticising the punishment the court handed down on Dhaka-based British journalist David Bergman for contempt of court.

Zafrullah filed a petition with the SC on June 16 challenging the tribunal verdict.

That day, the Appellate Division chamber judge stayed the fine and sent the petition to the Appellate Division's full bench. The petition was included in yesterday's hearing list.

ACC to probe case against 2 court staff

FROM PAGE 3

Saiful Alam Mollah.

The court ordered police to send him to jail as it had no jurisdiction to grant him bail in the case filed under the ACC act. Only the special judge can grant bail to such accused, said sources.

Kotwali police on Sunday arrested

Mosleuddin on the court premises while Sheikh Md Naim, an MLSS of the court, managed to flee sensing presence of the law enforcers after Ubaidul Karim Akondo, an official of the court, filed the case.

All the accused of 70 criminal cases, pending with the same court, were released from prison following the fake bail orders.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visits the Grameenphone stall at the World Environment Day and Environment Fair on Sunday, enquiring about the telecom company's environment friendly initiatives and lauding it for winning GSMA Green Mobile Award 2014. The fair was organised by the Department of Environment on the trade fair ground at the capital's Agargaon. Grameenphone is also the sponsor of the fair.



A child shares his outrage on the death of a 13-year-old boy, Sheikh Md Samiul Alam Rajon, who was tortured by brutes in Kumargaon Bus Stand area of Sylhet on July 8 accusing him of being a thief, during a protest organised by "Biswa Bangalee Morjada Andolon" in front of Bangladesh National Museum in the capital yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

RAJON MURDER

Entire nation outraged

Demand for punishment keeps pouring through all outlets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"We will upload it on Facebook. The world will see it." This was what the murderers said while torturing Rajon to death.

The world did see it and it cringed in shame and rose up in an angry protest.

Thousands of posts flooded different social online platforms protesting the brutal murder of the 13-year-old boy in Sylhet.

Organisers had also urged all to join mass protests held yesterday in front of Jatiya Press Club and at Shahbagh in the capital demanding justice for Sheikh Md Samiul Alam alias Rajon.

Blogger and online activist Dr Pinaki Bhattacharya, at the protest organised at Shahbagh under the banner of Biswa Bangalee Morjada Andolon, said, "The video will be seen across the globe and people will know that we are barbarians."

"By ensuring justice, the state

should let the world know that we care for our children and that we value the lives of the poor," he said.

Imran H Sarker said, "It is always the poor who are oppressed and brutalised. If the child had been from a well-off family, he would not have been killed like this. Biswajit, women who are raped and people from indigenous community -- all are oppressed because they are poor."

Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori, also spoke.

In front of the press club, Bangladesh Jubo Union, Chhatra Union and Udichi formed a human chain demanding exemplary punishment for the killers.

Abdullah Al Kafee, leader of Communist Party of Bangladesh, said the killers had the confidence that they can get away with the crime.

On Twitter, the hashtag #JusticeforRajon emerged as a protest against the crime.

People have also taken to Facebook

condemning the heinous incident.

Cricketer Mushfiquur Rahim wrote "There can never be a worse crime than abusing an innocent child to death. Say no to child abuse!"

Meanwhile, Prof Mizanur Rahman condemned the incident in a statement issued by the National Human Rights Commission.

He said NHRC took cognisance of the incident in suomoto and ordered Sylhet Metropolitan Police to investigate the incident and submit a report to the commission.

Besides, Manusher Jonno Foundation, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA), Bangladesh Shishu Odhikar Forum, and Bangladesh Jubo Maitree issued statements condemning the incident and demanding punishment of the perpetrators.

Rajon was tied to a pole and beaten to death by four men on Wednesday.



The erosion of Jamuna's banks continues unabated in Gaibandha, putting thousands of families at risk. Amid the threat, people are busy relocating their houses to safe places. The photo was taken at Saghatta upazila's Gobindi village yesterday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

BNP hits back at Inu's comments on Khaleda's trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hitting back at Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu's comments, BNP yesterday threatened that those who said a special tribunal would be set up to try party chief Khaleda Zia would face trial in the future.

"All the allegations against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia are baseless. But those who are now talking about setting up a tribunal and trying to put her on trial will stand trial in the future," BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon told a press conference at its headquarters at Nayapaltan.

"The country's people will brook no conspiracy like a trial against her," he said.

Inu recently said a special tribunal will be formed after Eid-ul-Fitr for speedy disposal of the cases against Khaleda for instigating arson attacks during the BNP-led alliance's three-month agitation since January. "If Khaleda Zia can prove her innocence, she will remain in politics; if she cannot, she must quit politics," he further said.

Ripon demanded that the government make people's Eid trips smooth and safe. He cautioned that launch and bus owners operated their vehicles and vessels on the occasion after giving them a makeover, causing accidents. He urged immediate action against this practice.

Meanwhile, Prof Emajuddin Ahmed yesterday told a discussion at Jatiya Press Club that the government should hold a mid-term election to restore democracy.

Mob beat 3 robbers to death in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Three alleged robbers were beaten to death by a mob at Hizla upazila in Barisal early yesterday.

The dead are Miraz Molla and Harun Bepari of Khunna-Govindapur village and Hanif Sardar of Bausia village in the same upazila.

Hizla Police Station Officer-in-Charge Golam Sarwar said locals caught the three around 2:30am while 10 to 12 robbers were preparing to commit a robbery at Baherchar village in the upazila. The villagers then gave them a thrashing, leaving the three dead on the spot.

Police recovered the bodies and five sharp weapons from near a betel leaf garden in the morning.

OC Sarwar said he suspected that all of them were members of "Yusuf Sardar Bahini". Yusuf Sarder, a suspected ring leader, was beaten to death by locals on May 16 this year, said Khalilur Rahman, chairman of Barojalia Union Parishad. Two cases -- one for robbery and another for mob beating -- were filed with the police.

NEWSIN brief

HC order on MP Rana's bail petition now today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday extended till today its order that asked law enforcers not to harass or arrest Amanur Rahman Khan Rana, Awami League lawmaker of Tangail-3, and his brother in the Faruk Ahmed murder case.

The court will also pass an order today on the bail petitions filed by Amanur and his brother Shahidur Rahman Khan Mukti, also mayor of Tangail Municipality, fearing arrest or harassment. Earlier on Sunday the HC had issued the same direction.

The bullet-hit body of freedom fighter Faruk, also a district AL leader, was found on January 18, 2013.

Police have found evidence of involvement of Amanur and his three brothers in the murder, according to a report of the Prothom Alo published last September.

Razzaque president, Alamgir secy general of BCS (Taxation) Assoc

CITY DESK

Abdur Razzaque, member of Tax Administration and Human Resources Management of NBR, and Alamgir Hossain, director of Central Intelligence Cell, were elected president and secretary general of Bangladesh Civil Service (Taxation) Association respectively for two years.

The election was held at the association's annual general meeting in Dhaka recently.

NBR's Tax Commissioners Sanjit Kumar Biswas, Sultan Mahmud and Meftah Uddin Khan were made vice-presidents, Additional Tax Commissioner MM Fazlul Haque treasurer, while Additional Tax Commissioners Lutful Azim and Shamimur Rahman joint secretary generals of it.



Razzaque Alamgir

US embassy to remain closed on July 15, 19-20

CITY DESK

The US embassy in Dhaka will be closed on Wednesday in observance of the holy Shab-e-Qadr and from Sunday to Monday to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr.

These closures include the Consular Section and the American Center's Archer K Blood Library and EducationUSA Student Advising Center.

Emergency services for American citizens will be available. Please call 55662000 and ask for the duty officer.

Humayun new envoy to Kenya

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The government has decided to appoint Maj Gen Abul Kalam Mohammad Humayun Kabir as the next high commissioner of Bangladesh to Kenya, said a foreign ministry announcement yesterday.

He served as the chairman of Sena Kalyan Sangstha, military secretary to the president, vice-chancellor of Bangladesh University of Professionals, chief of Doctrine, Army Training and Doctrine Command, general staff officer first grade, and also at a UN Mission in Mozambique.



PHOTO: STAR

Dr Abdul Muqeet, assistant professor, nephrology department, kidney disease specialist; and Sumaiya Shahnaz, clinical diabetics specialist, at a discussion on food for patients of kidney diseases organised by Roche Bangladesh Ltd in Dhanmodi of the capital on Sunday.



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