

Rizvi bailed in all cases but can't walk out of jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday granted ad-interim bail to BNP leader Ruhul Kabir Rizvi Ahmed for six months in two separate arson cases.

The court also asked the government to explain why Rizvi should not be granted regular bail in the cases filed with Motijheel Police Station on January 8 and 16.

Rizvi's lawyer Sagir Hossain Leon, however, said the BNP joint secretary general could not walk out of jail as the Supreme Court earlier stayed his bail in two other cases.

Rizvi has got bail in all 19 cases including the latest two, he added.

Illegally imported medicines seized at Dhaka airport

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials seized five cartons of illegally imported medicines, worth around Tk 2 crore, at the capital's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday.

On information, customs officials carried out a search at the airport and made the seizure of 26 types of medicine, said Shahiduzzaman Sarkar, assistant commissioner of Customs.

The medicines were imported from Turkey in two consignments with a declaration that those are food supplements, he added.

Woman hacked to death in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A woman was hacked to death in Kalshi Dighir Par of Chittagong city yesterday.

Police recovered the body of Rasheda Begum, 25, who was a garment worker, from her residence in the area in the afternoon.

AKM Mohiuddin Selim, officer-in-charge of Bandar Police Station, said Rasheda might have been killed by her husband Yunus, who had been on the run since the incident.

The motive for the murder could not be ascertained immediately, he said.



HOW LONG WE HAVE TO SING THIS SONG

(Anticlockwise from top) Siltation and rampantly dumped garbage has clogged up the Marium Bibi canal in Patharghata of Chittagong, where it meets the Karnaphuli River. Upstream, the menace is compounded by unchecked encroachment. The consequence is waterlogging in Chaktai and Khatunganj areas after rains during high tide. Years of campaign for reclamation of waterbodies grabbed by influential quarters backed by all major political parties, could not even make a dent to the situation. The new mayor of the port city ascended to the seat with high sounding promises of quick relieving actions which the residence have yet to see. The first two photos were taken yesterday and the other two on August 1.

PHOTO: Anurup Kanti Das



BADDA SHOOTING Another pro-AL man dies

Youth hacked to death in Mohammadpur STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fighting for life for 10 days, another victim of the August 14 Badda shooting succumbed to his injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) last night, bringing the final death toll to four.

Abdus Salam, 45, was Jubo League's Badda union unit joint secretary.

Witnesses said three to four gunmen carried out the attack at the capital's Badda Adarsha Nagar Panir Pump area on August 13 around 9:00pm.

The victims were among seven to eight leaders and supporters of the local Awami League (AL) and its associated bodies having a discussion.

Shamsuzzaman Shamsu, AL Maddhya Badda ward-6 unit vice-president, and Firoz Ahmed Manik, manager of a local hospital and a supporter of AL, died after being taken to United Hospital.

Mahbubur Rahman Gama, Swachhasebak League's Dhaka (North) city unit assistant cultural affairs secretary, died there the following day.

Moreover, a young man hacked by muggers in Mohammadpur was declared dead at DMCH.

Sohel Rana, 24, son of Abdul Mannan, was attacked in front of his house at Dhaka Udayan Residential area around 11:00pm while returning home after collecting some money, his friend Mohammad Alam said.

Death anniversary CITY DESK

Today is the 1st death anniversary of Ruhul Amin, an engineer.



On this occasion, a milad and a doa mahfil will be held at Kayna Jame mosque in his village on Friday.

BNP's Aman

FROM PAGE 3 Hospital Police Camp Inspector Mozammel Haque.

Nesar Ali, jailer at Dhaka Central Jail, where Aman had been kept, said he was taken to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University's (BSMMU) prison cell on having chest pains around noon.

On August 2, separate Dhaka courts sent Aman to jail in cases filed over arson attacks and vandalism during the BNP-led 20-party alliance's blockade and hartal.

'ATTEMPTED GRABBING OF HINDU MAN'S SHOP BY PIROJPUR MP' Rana Dasgupta threatened with legal action

Section of religious minority organisation leaders ask him to withdraw claim that they protested allegation being coerced by the lawmaker

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A section of leaders of religious minority organisations of Pirojpur yesterday asked the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad of Swarupkathi upazila, and Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad general secretary to withdraw his claim that they had protested a previous statement of his after being "lured and intimidated" by a local lawmaker.

Addressing a press conference in the capital's Jatiya Press Club, they threatened to otherwise take legal steps against Rana Dasgupta.

Rana, talking to The Daily Star, said his claim was correct and based on evidence.

At a press conference in Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) on August 6, he had alleged that the lawmaker, AKMA Awal, had attempted to grab a shop of a Hindu businessman of Swarupkathi.

Two days later, people, including some of the leaders, formed human chains in Pirojpur and Dhaka and organised a press conference at DRU protesting his allegation.

In an interview published in Prothom Alo on August 16, Rana said the protesters had been "lured and intimidated" by the lawmaker into staging the demonstrations.

Yesterday's press conference was organised by the District Muktiyuddha Command, Puja Udjapan Parishad of

Hasina urges

FROM PAGE 3 Bangladesh since the latter's independence, said Hasina.

She also sought more Japanese support in the fishery sector, particularly for harvesting and processing of Tuna fish.

Masato Watanabe said many investors of his country were keen to invest in Bangladesh. He hoped that Bangladesh in the coming days will get more direct investment from Japan.

The Japanese envoy said he had already met the agriculture minister of Bangladesh and discussed ways to strengthen the longstanding collaboration in this sector.

Watanabe also referred to the mourning month of August in Bangladesh noting that this month was a month of mourning for the people of both the countries.

Inu claims section 57 of ICT Act not contrary to HR

FROM PAGE 3 taken over its sections.

On protests by some ruling party leaders and an MP over the killings of the party men in recent incidents of crossfire, Inu said, "There are over 300 MPs and over 1,000 leaders and activists of Awami League across the country.

"Among them, one MP might react to it and it is quite natural but the extrajudicial killing is not the formula of the Awami League-led grand alliance government."

On BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's recent call on the government to open the "closed door of besieged

democracy", he said the door of democracy was open and democracy was not confined. Actually, the militants are confined here, he said.

The door of democracy did not and will never allow war criminals, militants, arsonists and killers to enter, he said.

Cox's Bazar war crimes suspect gets conditional bail

FROM PAGE 3

Police so far arrested seven of the accused, one of whom later died, while the remaining 12 are absconding, according to the prosecution.

Police arrested Rashid and another accused, Salamat Ullah Khan, in Cox's

Bazar on March 1 after the tribunal issued a warrant that day.

Rashid's lawyer SM Shahjahan sought the bail saying he was 86 years old and had been facing several health complications since the arrest.

Otherwise, the jail authorities

should at least be directed to send him to the prison cell of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, he added.

Prosecutor Rana Dasgupta vehemently opposed, saying the release might influence the investigation.

Charges pressed against two

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Nasrin, assistant superintendent of police of Rab-1, submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka, showing 23 people as prosecution witnesses.

The court tomorrow will decide

whether it will accept the charges. The arrestees are now on a 10-day police remand.

RAB ARRESTS RAPISTS OF GIRL IN GAZIPUR

Rab officials on Saturday arrested two alleged rapists of a 12-year-old girl in Shibbari Mor area while

they were fleeing to Chittagong in a bus.

Both of the arrestees, Md Alam, 40, and Mozammel, 30, admitted to raping the girl on July 11 night and fleeing to their village homes the next day when the victim's father filed a case, said Rab officials.

BNP claims implication of Tarique

FROM PAGE 3

was demanding a neutral probe. "We want the government to bring the real criminals to book. But it will be very unfortunate if the government uses the case as a tool to harass the opposition," he said.

Tarique, who is staying in London since 2008, is one of the 52 people standing a trial in the case.

Referring to the prime minister's remarks, Ripon alleged that a vested quarter was trying to create a distance between Hasina and Khaleda.

APPEAL OF PAPIA'S CHILDREN

The children of BNP's ex-lawmaker Syeda Asifa Ashrafi Papiya yesterday demanded her release, saying their education and family life were being hampered greatly due to her absence.

Her three children -- the eldest preparing for university admissions and the two others studying at school -- made the appeal through a briefing at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

A Dhaka court sent Papiya to jail on July 16 on her surrender before it in nine arson cases.

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