



PHOTO: STAR

Freedom fighter Zohurul Haque, who as a prosecution witness earlier gave evidence to the International Crimes Tribunal-1 against Jamaat-e-Islami chief Motiur Rahman Nizami for crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War, often stays at the Muktijoddha Sangsad office in Santhia upazila under Pabna district as he no longer feels safe at his house due to threat by Jamaat men.

Locals expect upholding of Nizami's death sentence

PWs of Pabna worried as Jamaat may vent wrath centring today's verdict

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR
TOPU, Pabna

The people of Pabna, the home district of Jamaat-e-Islami chief Motiur Rahman Nizami, are expecting that the Supreme Court will uphold his death sentence for crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War. However, eight prosecution witnesses (PWs) from Santhia upazila, who testified to the war crimes tribunal against Nizami, are worried about the possible acts of vengeance by Jamaat men as the verdict on the appeal against capital punishment of the war crime convict is set to be delivered today.

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 on October 29 in 2014 awarded Nizami capital punishment on four charges of war crimes, including the killings of intellectuals. Johurul Haque, former commander of Santhia Muktijoddha Sangsad, said Jamaat cadres using unidentified cell phone numbers threatened him after he made statement as a prosecution witness to the tribunal. "Despite threat from Jamaat men, we gave evidence against Nizami to the tribunal that awarded him death penalty. That time police gave us protection," he said. "As the area is the birth-

place of Nizami, now I pass most of the time outside my house fearing reprisal from the war criminal's followers," he added. Md Tofazzal Hossain Master, who stated to the tribunal about the torture cell of Nizami in Santhia, is expecting that Nizami's death penalty will be upheld. "I am a freedom fighter and so, I am not worried about my life. But I am concerned about the security of my family," said Tofazzal, also headmaster of Santhia Upazila Parishad High School. Prosecution witnesses and local freedom fighters said they expect upholding of the death penalty.

But most of them sought anonymity in fear of revenge by Jamaat men. Nasir Uddin, officer in charge (OC) of Santhia Police Station, said law enforcers have been kept alert to provide security for the prosecution witnesses and their family members. Drives are on to keep the law and order situation under control, he said, adding that Santhia police arrested upazila Shibir secretary Azibur Rahman and three local Jamaat men on Monday night. The district police administration has also taken special security measures ahead of today's verdict, the OC said.

For lack of bridge, students and villagers suffer

AZIBOR RAHMAN with
ANDREW EAGLE

"During monsoon months I often miss classes because of the shako," says Rima Khatun, a Class VI student of Gourinathpur Dhakil Madrasa in Jhenidah's Kotchandpur upazila, using the local word 'shako' for the bamboo bridge over the Kobadak River that many students and villagers rely on for their daily commute. "In rainy season it goes underwater," she says. To facilitate movement across the 150-metre-wide river, which is up to 5 metres deep, students and teachers built the shako with village-raised funds. Without a permanent and safe bridge available nearby, even a shako seemed an improvement.

Yet the bamboo structure is not only submerged when the level of the river is high but also regularly requires repair. "In rainy season especially I am afraid," says Class V student Sumon Hossain of Komorpur village. He studies in Gourinathpur Government Primary School and also relies on the shako. Madrasa teacher Humayun Kabir and Class XI student Sabuj Hossain of Shamsulhuda College face similar difficulties. Indeed, about ten thousand villagers of ten villages, including farmers, students and traders, have little choice but to brave the shako as the most practical way to cross the river. Farmers and traders meanwhile, face the added

hurdle of either trying to transport goods via the shako or, for larger cargo loads, using a circuitous seven-kilometre route to and from Kotchandpur Bazar. "I cannot always respond to the call of patients," says village doctor Eakub Ali of Gourinathpur village. "It's tough to cross the shako with a bicycle." Were a permanent roadway bridge to be constructed, the long-term suffering of villagers and students would be alleviated, and the distance for cargo to travel to Kotchandpur Bazar would be reduced to five kilometres. Moreover, with the simple reality that if any student crossing the shako

slips or the shako breaks underfoot, the mishap could well be fatal, the safety of a road bridge is a matter of urgency. "I have contacted the concerned authorities about the need for a bridge here," says the local union chairman Shahjahan Ali, "I am trying to progress the matter with the support of a government lawmaker." Engineer Jakaria Hossain, representative of the Local Government and Engineering Department in Moheshpur upazila which includes the river's southern bank, says letters forwarded to the concerned ministry about the issue have thus far had no effect. He hopes the local Member of Parliament will assist in raising the issue.



PHOTO: STAR

Students walk amid risk on this bamboo bridge to cross the Kobadak River at Komorpur village in Moheshpur upazila under Jhenidah district as the demand for a concrete bridge there has remained unmet for long.

BCL INFIGHTING 14 sued in Thakurgaon

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Thakurgaon

Fourteen ruling party men have been sued on charge of attacking and vandalising the law chamber of advocate Moshtaque Alam, organising secretary of the district unit of Awami League, at Hallpara in the town on Monday.

Moshtaque filed the case with Thakurgaon Police Station yesterday, accusing 14 activists of Jubo League and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).

The accused include Amir Hossain Rubel, general secretary of Thakurgaon municipality unit of Jubo League, and local BCL leader Jummon Khan.

The attack was a sequel to Monday's clash between two factions of local BCL unit.

According to the case statement, a faction led by GM Siraj Mizan and Sourov Das attacked and vandalised the chamber at Hallpara in the town on Monday afternoon.

The clash took place around 12:30pm when leaders and activists of a faction led by district unit president Mahabub Hossain Rony and general secretary Sanwar Parvez Pulok locked in an altercation with another faction led by GM Siraj Mizan and Sourov Das in Thakurgaon intersection area over taking control of the party's office.

Fake army man arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Benapole, Jessore

Police arrested a fake army man from Shalta Bazar area in Sharsha upazila of Jessore district on Monday.

The arrestee is Shamim Hossain, 20, son of Saded Ali of Shalta village in the upazila.

Police said Shamim used to work as a domestic help at the house of an army officer in Dhaka.

He stole a set of army dress from that residence, quit the job and returned to his village a week ago.

Wearing the army dress, Shamim came to Shalta Bazar and tried to influence people in the area.

Three killed over land disputes in 3 districts

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Three men were killed over land disputes in Sylhet, Joypurhat and Jhenidah districts yesterday and the day before.

A young man was killed allegedly by his cousin over a piece of disputed land at Rasidpur village in Balaganj upazila of Sylhet yesterday.

The deceased is Saruf Miah, 25, cousin of Monir Miah of the village, reports our Moulvibazar correspondent.

Police said an altercation took place between Monir and Saruf when the latter went to the land for cultivation in the afternoon.

At one stage of altercation, Monir hit Saruf with an iron rod, leaving him seriously injured.

He was rushed to the upazila health complex where the on-duty doctor declared him dead.

Monir went into hiding soon after the incident, said Tariqul Islam, officer-in-charge of Balaganj Police Station.

In Joypurhat, a man was killed over land dispute in

Panchbibi upazila of the district, reports our Dinajpur correspondent.

The deceased was identified as Nur Mia, 50, of Panialgram village under the upazila.

Police said Nur Mia had a dispute over the ownership of a land with Md Sanauallah, one of his relatives. On Sunday afternoon, they sat together to resolve the dispute. Many senior locals of the area were also present.

At the arbitration, Md Sanauallah suddenly got angry and locked in an altercation with Nur Mia and left the arbitration.

Later, he brought a spear from his house and hit Nur Mia several times with it. Nur Mia was taken to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogra, while Md Sanauallah fled the scene.

As Noor Mia's condition deteriorated, the hospital referred him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Monday morning. He died on the way.

OC Ashraful Islam of Panchbibi Police Station

said they recovered the body and sent it to Joypurhat Modern Hospital morgue for autopsy.

A murder case was filed in this connection, the OC said, adding that they are raiding different areas to arrest Sanauallah.

Away in Jhenidah, a youth was beaten up to death following an altercation over a piece of land at Radhanagar village in Sada upazila of the district the same day.

The dead is Nasir Uddin, 45, son of Jalal Uddin of the village, reports our correspondent.

Locals and family sources said there was a longstanding conflict between Nasir and his elder brother Abdur Rashid and other family members over the land.

As a sequel to the conflict, Rashid and other family members beat Nasir mercilessly, leaving him seriously injured on Monday morning.

He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he died at night, said Assistant Superintendent of Police Gopinath Kanjilal.



PHOTO: STAR

A good number of children get treatment for diarrhoea under the open sky on the premises of Tangail Medical College Hospital on Monday as the 12-bed ward meant for diarrhoea patients there is too inadequate for the growing number of treatment seekers during the ongoing cold.

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| DESCO POWER IS YOURS | | Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO) House # 22/B, Faruque Sarani, Nikunja # 2, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh Tel. No: +88 02 8900110-11, 8900820-23, Fax No. +88 02 8900100 E-mail: pit@desco.org.bd, Web: www.desco.org.bd |
| Request for Expressions of Interest | | |
| 1 | Agency | Dhaka Electric Supply Company Limited (DESCO) |
| 2 | Procuring Entity Name | Procurement, Inspection & Testing Division, DESCO. |
| 3 | Procuring Entity District | Dhaka |
| 4 | Expression of Interest (EOI) for selection of | Consulting Firm (Time-based) |
| 5 | Title of Service | Consultancy Services for Construction of 10 (ten) Storied Agargaon Office Building at Agargaon-I Substation area. |
| 6 | Proposal No. | RFP No. 42/2015 |
| 7 | Invitation Ref No. | DESCO/Procurement/RFP/2016/012 |
| 8 | Date | 05/01/2016 |
| KEY INFORMATION | | |
| 9 | Procurement Method | Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) |
| FUNDING INFORMATION | | |
| 10 | Budget and Source of Funds | DESCO's own fund |
| PARTICULAR INFORMATION | | |
| 11 | Project Name | Construction of 10 Storied Agargaon Office Building at Agargaon-I Sub-station area. |
| 12 | Project Location | Agargaon-I Substation area. |
| 13 | EOI Closing Date, Time & Place | Date: 24/01/2016; 12.00 Noon The EOI shall be submitted in two sets (one original and one copy) in sealed envelopes, to the address mentioned below: Office of the Superintending Engineer (Procurement, Inspection & Testing), DESCO Plot # 22/B, Faruque Sarani, Nikunja # 2, Uttara, Dhaka-1229 |
| INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT | | |
| 14 | Brief Description of Assignment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO) is going to build an office building of 10 (ten) storey having each floor area approximately 6,000 sqft at Agargaon-I Substation area. The building should be aesthetically beautiful, green & energy efficient. The ground floor will be used for parking and all other floors should be used as office space equipped with modern facilities (air conditioning system, intercom, STP, C.C TV etc.). For the above work DESCO is pursuing consultancy services from local well experienced consulting firms. These consultancy services include the preparation of Topographical Survey Report, Sub-soil Investigation, Detailed Architectural Drawings, floor layout plan including sitting arrangement with partitions/cubicles, Modeling, Civil Structural Design & drawings, Electrical & Sanitary Design & Drawings, Fire Protection System Design & Drawings, Estimate Preparation of Bid Document, full time supervision during construction period. All the designs are to be prepared following Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC) and other relevant National/International Codes. The services will also include supervision of all the relevant construction works. The expected duration of the proposed work: The entire consultancy service (for Planning and Design, Preparation of BOQ, Preparing tender document, Selection of Contractor, Construction supervision and defect liability period) shall have to be completed within 42(forty-two) months. Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO) is now inviting proposals from eligible consulting firms /companies to express their interest in providing the service. The EOI shall be submitted in firm/company's letterhead pad and must include information regarding their qualification (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions and availability to procure skilled personnel, etc. to perform the above service). |
| 15 | Experience, Resources and Delivery Capacity Required | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The consulting firm shall have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 05 (five) years experience as consulting firm. Experiences of rendering consulting services for at least 02 (two) nos. 08 (eight) or above storied aesthetically beautiful buildings within last 10 (ten) years under Govt. Semi Govt., Autonomous or Private organization. Satisfactory completion of consultancy services for civil construction works whose estimated or executed value is not less than Tk.12,00,00,000/= (Taka twelve crore) in maximum 03(three) contracts within last 10 (ten) years. Average annual turnover at least 08 lac for last 03(Three) years. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Valid Trade License of concerned business. Income Tax and VAT Registration certificate. Audited financial statement for last 03(three) years. Documents in support of experience and financial capability as mentioned above a to d. The firms shall submit the following along with EOI: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Valid Trade License of concerned business. Income Tax and VAT Registration certificate. Audited financial statement for last 03(three) years. Documents in support of experience and financial capability as mentioned above a to d. |
| 16 | Other details (if applicable) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short listing will be made and RFP document will be issued to the selected firms in accordance with the procedure set out by DESCO. Interested firms may obtain further information from the office of the under signed during normal office hours. |
| 17 | Incomplete & conditional proposals will not be considered. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all proposals without assigning any reason whatsoever. | |
| Engr. S. M. Shah Sultan Executive Engineer (Procurement) & SE (P, I & T) Addl. Charge, DESCO | | |