

2 killed in clash over playing music loud

A CORRESPONDENT, Brahmanbaria

Two persons were killed in clashes between two groups over playing high-pitched music at a wedding in Bancharampur upazila yesterday.

The dead were identified as Abdus Salam Bepari and Lal Mia. Police arrested Md Suruz Mia, Md Sajib Mia, Md Shah Alam of Kalikapur village and Rahmat Ali of Darigaon village of Honna upazila in Comilla in connection with the incident.

The police and locals said music was being played at high volume at the wedding of Al Amin, son of Yunus Mia, of Kalikapur on January 22.

Abdus Salam's men protested against playing the music, triggering an altercation. At one stage, supporters of one Siddiqur Rahman locked into a clash with the protesters in the afternoon that day.

Siddiqur filed a case with Bancharampur police against 17 people of Abdus Salam on Saturday that resulted in enmity between the two groups.

Siddiqur's men also allegedly attacked Abdus Salam with sharp weapons, killing him on the spot around 8:30am yesterday.

Zohra Khatun, wife of Salam, alleged that her husband, who went to feed cows in the morning, was killed by Lal Mia's men. As the news of Salam's death spread, his men allegedly attacked Lal Mia around 10:30am and left him critically injured. He was taken to Bancharampur Upazila Health Complex where doctors declared him dead.

Shahinur Akter, daughter of Lal Mia, alleged that several of Abdus Salam's men attacked their house and killed her father.

Four bodies

FROM PAGE 16

On information, police recovered the body of Fahim from Hizla in Barisal, while Manik's body was recovered from Sahebganj in Haimchar, Wali Ullah, officer-in-charge of Haimchar Police Station, told this correspondent.

The trawler was pulled out of water around 6:30pm yesterday. The bodies of Aleya and her daughter were found inside the trawler.

Five victims still remain unaccounted for.

Many of the passengers managed to swim ashore after the accident.

SSC exams

FROM PAGE 16

This year, the number of examinees rose by more than 1.72 lakh. The written tests will end on March 8, while the practical tests would be from March 9 to March 14.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has changed the venue of today's cabinet meeting for the convenience of the SSC and equivalent examinees, reports UNB.

"The prime minister has taken the decision to facilitate the movement of the examinees to their respective examination centres," said PM's Deputy Press Secretary Ashrafur Alam Khokan.

He said the cabinet meeting will be held at the Prime Minister's Office instead of Bangladesh Secretariat where it is usually held.

Khokan also mentioned that the prime minister will go to her office from her official residence Gono Bhaban to attend the meeting at 10:30am, when all the examinees will be in their examination centres.

At a pre-examination press conference, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid on Saturday said 8,42,933 boys and 8,08,590 girls would appear in the SSC and equivalent examinations at 3,143 centres under 10 education boards.

Of them, 13,04,274 students will sit for the SSC exams under eight general education boards, while 2,48,865 students will appear in Dakhil (secondary level of madrasa) examinations, and 98,384 in SSC vocational exams, he said.

Three killed in suspected Islamist attack in northern Kenya

REUTERS, Mombasa

At least three men were killed in a village in Kenya's coastal Lamu county in the early hours yesterday during a raid by suspected Islamist militants, police and officials said.

At least five gunmen who spoke Somali came to Pandanguo village, searching for men. They interrogated them and some of them they killed, a survivor who was shot during the attack said from a local hospital.

The village sits about 40 km inland from the Indian Ocean town of Lamu, which is popular with Western tourists, and is 100 km from the border with Somalia.

EX-MP SHAKHAWAT War crimes trial begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Trial of former BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Shakhawat Hossain and eight others from Jessore began yesterday in connection with their alleged crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

Chief Prosecutor Ghulam Arief Tipoo yesterday placed the opening statement in the case before the International Crimes Tribunal-1.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice Anwarul Haque with members Justice Md Shahinur Islam and Justice Md Shohowardi fixed February 15 to start recording testimony of the prosecution witnesses.

All the accused are from Keshabpur upazila in Jessore. Apart from Shakhawat, now involved in Jatiya Party politics, the others are Billal Hossain Biswas and Ibrahim Hossain of Nehalpur, Sheikh Md Mujibur Rahman and Kazi Ohidul Islam of Shekhpur, Aziz Sardar of Mominpur, Aziz Sardar of Boga, Lutfar Morol of Porchakra and Abdul Khaleq Morol of Altapol.

Of them, Shakhawat, Billal and Lutfar Morol are in jail, while the others are on the run.

In his short statement, Tipoo said the prosecution believed they would be able to prove all the charges beyond any shadow of doubt.

CHARGES
According to the first charge, Ibrahim and the two along with 10-12 Razakars picked up a woman of Boga at the directive of Shakhawat on Ashwin 27 and detained her at Chingri Bazar camp for three days. Shakhawat allegedly tortured and raped the woman, who was working as a source for the freedom fighters.

Outbreak now

FROM PAGE 1

Manikganj, diarrhoea in Chuadanga, Kushtia and Natore, and suspected food poisoning from cake intake in Chittagong in 2014.

Last year, there were niph outbreaks in Naogaon, unintentional pesticide poisoning in Mymensingh, suspected cholera in Meherpur, suspected pesticide poisoning linked with litchi consumption in Dinajpur, anthrax in Meherpur, Kushtia and Gazipur, diarrhoea among pilgrims at Ashkona Haji camp in Tongi, diarrhoea in Narayanganj EPZ area, Jessore and Gaibandha, H5 in Mymensingh and Dhaka and food poisoning in Kishoreganj.

"Drinking boiled water at all times, avoiding unhygienic food, keeping clean and limiting the use of pesticides are ways to avert outbreaks of the diseases," said Mahmudur Rahman.

The surveillance also found the presence of leptospirosis, a disease with symptoms like fever and jaundice that spread from rodent and domestic animal excrement in different districts. The highest 25 cases of the disease was reported from Uttara Adhunik Medical College hospital.

"Since its outbreak, whenever we get blood samples of fever, we check to see whether it is a case of leptospirosis," Mahmudur told The Daily Star.

The regulatory authorities, including the Food Safety Authority, the departments concerning food production and processing or supplying water need to work vigorously to ensure food and water quality, he added.

Due to the rise in population, people are living in more congested houses than in the past and often their proximity to domestic animals are closer than before, he added.

Mahmudur also pointed out the outbreak of some of the food-and water-borne diseases were caused by the presence of rodent excrement in the food items.

For example, 46 cases of leptospirosis, were found in Dhaka and Narsingdi districts between

One day in the middle of Bangla month Shraban, Shakhawat along with 25-30 Razakars convened a meeting where the former delivered an inciting speech to kill supporters and activists of Awami League and pro-liberation people, according to the second charge.

On Ashwin 28, Shakhawat accompanied by eight other accused and several Razakars caught local Awami League leader Chadtullo Gazi and kept him detained at a Razakar camp for four days. He was later shot dead on the bank of the Kapatakha river, the charge added.

The third charge said around 10-12 Razakars, including Mujibur, Ibrahim and Khaleque, on Ashwin 25 picked up Nur Uddin Morol around 7:00am at the directive of Shakhawat and brutally tortured him at the Razakar camp. He, however, was later released after giving a bond.

According to the fourth charge, on a late Ashwin night, Razakars of Chingri Bazar camp picked up a source for freedom fighter Malek Sardar from his house and tortured him at a torture camp. He was later shot dead by Shakhawat around 8:00am on Ashwin 28 near the ferry ghat of Chingri Bazar and his body was thrown into the Kapatakha.

At the beginning of Ashwin, Razakars, upon receiving Shakhawat's instruction, went to capture freedom fighter Miron Sheikh around 10:00am. When Miron tried to escape, Razakars shot him and took him to Chingri Bazar camp. As a result of brutal torture, the victim became crippled and Razakars threw him into Kapatakha thinking him dead, the last charge read.

May 2014 and December 2015.

The disease was also seen in Habiganj, Cox's Bazar, Naogaon, Patuakhali, Chittagong, Thakurgaon and Satkhira, according to the report.

In about 70 percent of the cases, the human infected with the disease dies, said Mahmudur, adding that the animal bearing the germ remain unaffected.

The surveillance focusing on water- and food-borne diseases collected stool and blood samples between May 2014 and December 2015 from district hospitals in Thakurgaon, Naogaon, Satkhira, Patuakhali, Habiganj, Narsingdi, Cox's Bazar, and Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Uttara Adhunik Medical College Hospital and Bangladesh Institute of Tropical and Infectious Disease (BITID) in Chittagong.

It collected a total 4,064 stool samples and 1,016 blood samples from jaundice patients and 2,113 blood samples from people with fever.

The surveillance also included interviews of randomly selected people over telephone asking them health-related questions and also their food and drink habits.

Mahmudur noted that awareness of people regarding food consumption that is potentially risky for their health also appeared to be low.

Despite reports of the niph outbreak, the telephone survey carried out by the IEDCR showed that in June 2014, 951 out of 3,197 people drank raw date palm sap and in 2015, 820 out of 3,518 did so.

Experts have asked people repeatedly to refrain from drinking raw juice because it often contains excrement of bats containing the germ.

The surveillance showed that a number of districts in the country had outbreaks of anthrax in 2014-2015.

The germ of this disease enters the human body from domestic animals through cuts on the skin. It has been more common in the central and southwestern Asia.

How they get freed

FROM PAGE 1

Ahmed, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon, LGRD Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, Law Minister Anisul Huq, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and top bureaucrats and high officials of police, Rab and the BGB.

Sources said a senior minister raised the issue of the police torture and later other ministers joined the discussion. In response, the inspector general of police said appropriate action has been taken against the policemen in question.

On January 9, the Bangladesh Bank official was tortured for refusing to pay a bribe of Tk 5 lakh in the capital's Mohammadpur. Just within a week, cops beat up a Dhaka South City Corporation staff in the capital's Jatrabari area. These two incidents caused widespread outrage.

The meeting also recommended introducing similar uniform for all private security guards so that their uniforms bear no resemblance to that of the army or the BGB.

The home minister informed the

meeting that his ministry is formulating a law on dress code for the private security guards and an order will be issued soon.

The meeting asked the law enforcement agencies to take tough action to stop extortion and issuing of death threats over mobile phones.

Tofail Ahmed, also a veteran Awami League leader, slammed police, saying they have no success in the war against drugs.

Sources said the committee recommended sending samples of all energy drinks to the Department of Narcotics Control to test whether they contain alcohol.

After the meeting, Amir Hossain Amu told reporters that the government is going to take legal measures against those trying to create anarchy by hurting people's religious sentiment.

"Those troublemakers were given warnings earlier; now legal action will be taken against them if they continue to do so," he said.

Amu, also the ruling Awami League's advisory council member, said law enforcers have collected information about some people

Be innovative

FROM PAGE 16

"Our common glory is the Liberation War, common danger is religious extremism and common enemy is poverty," he said.

Former principal secretary Abdul Karim said the youths of our country are hard workers. He urged them to be keen on being entrepreneurs rather than looking for jobs.

He said hard work was more important than being talented and urged them to train themselves so that they could achieve their goals.

He asked the youths to learn English and another language on the side so that they could be better prepared at the global level.

CCCI President Mahbul Alam said the youths were the most important resource in our country and that Bangladesh must make the best of this resource.

He said about 30 percent of the population was young people.

President of Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sarath Prematunge Kahapalarachchi, Awami League lawmaker MA Latif and Chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Power and Energy Tajul Islam also spoke on the occasion.

Mahfuz Anam, editor and publisher of The Daily Star, was a special guest and moderator of the programme.

Over 10,000

FROM PAGE 16

"Not all of them will be criminally exploited; some might have been passed on to family members. We just don't know where they are, what they're doing or whom they are with."

Officials in Italy warned in May 2015 that almost 5,000 children had disappeared from asylum reception centres since the previous summer.

In October, the authorities in Trelleborg in southern Sweden said about 1,000 unaccompanied refugee children and young adults who arrived in the town in the previous month had since gone missing.

Confirming the overall estimate of missing minors, a Europol spokesman said a large proportion may have also disappeared after landing in Greece.

The country is the first entry point for most of the 1 million migrants who arrived in Europe by boat in 2015, and authorities have been criticised for failing to register and check the arrivals.

Criminal gangs known to be involved in human trafficking in Europe are now targeting refugees, Europol said.

There are fears unaccompanied children and young people may be dragged into sex work, slavery and other illegal activity.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) spokesman Leonard Doyle told the BBC the figure of 10,000 missing children was "shocking but not surprising".

He said it was "to be expected" that many of these would be caught up in exploitation.

"Let's hope now the EU puts the resources into finding these children, helping them and reuniting these children with their families."

The warning from Europol comes days after the UK government said it would accept more unaccompanied child refugees from Syria and other conflict zones, without giving numbers.

However, it said it would not be taking in vulnerable children who had already made it into Europe.

On Saturday, at least 39 migrants, including several children, drowned trying to cross the Aegean Sea from Turkey to Greece.

The IOM said on Friday that 244 migrants had drowned in the Mediterranean so far this year, out of 55,568 arrivals.

44 lakh

FROM PAGE 16

municipality offices, upazila election offices and district election offices across the country.

The commission then received complaints and recommendations from people until January 17 for necessary amendments.

The authorities disposed of complaints and made amendments by January 22. After completing all the procedure, the EC released the final list, said the EC official.

The commission for the first time collected information about citizens aged 15 and above but only those, who were born on or before January 1, 1998 have been included in the electoral roll.

Those, who will become 18 years in 2016, will be included in the list next year. The process will continue like this in the coming years.

Earlier, data of citizens of 18 years or above were collected.

Information about below-18 citizens has been collected to prepare their national identity (NID) cards, EC officials said.

Special security

FROM PAGE 1

blogger-writer Avijit Roy was brutally killed and his wife Rafida Ahmed Bonya wounded critically on the Dhaka University campus during the fair last year.

The situation turned worse as a publisher was brutally killed and three publisher-writers were injured nearly three months ago in simultaneous attacks in the capital's Shahbagh and Mohammadpur.

"We are concerned as some incidents happened last year," Biplob Faruk, publisher of Lekha Prokash, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Against this backdrop, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to inaugurate Amar Ekushey Granthamela-2016 at 3:00pm.

She will hand over Bangla Academy Literary Award (Sahitya Puroshkar) 2015 to the recipients. Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, MP will be present there as special guest.

Law enforcement agencies said they had changed security arrangements, keeping past experiences in mind and would provide "special security" to writers, bloggers and visitors at Ekushey Book Fair if they wanted it.

"If any citizen informs police about his concern over security, we will provide special security until he stays on the fair premises," said Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia at a press briefing at the DMP media centre.

This year, 402 organisations are taking part in the fair, increased from 351 last year. Of those, 80 have their stalls on the Bangla Academy premises while the rest at Suhrawardy Udyan.

Seminars on culture, literature and politics will be held every day from Tuesday to February 29, in which eminent litterateurs and academicians will participate.

An international poetry festival will be held at the Abdul Karim Sahitya Bisharad auditorium and on the main stage of the fair on Wednesday, marking the diamond jubilee of Bangla Academy.

Poets from Slovakia, Morocco, Sweden, Taiwan, United Kingdom, India and Bangladesh will recite poems. A discussion will also be held on Bengali and world poetry that day.

Like previous years, all books except Bangla Academy's will be sold on 25 percent commission while people would get 30 percent discount on Bangla Academy's books.

The fair will remain open for all from 3:00pm to 8:00pm every day. However, on holidays, it will be open from 11:00am to 8:00pm.

On International Mother Language Day on February 21, the fair will open at 8:00am to continue until 8:00pm.

DMP PRESS BRIEFING

The DMP commissioner said sufficient lights would be there inside the fair premises and in adjacent areas.

As many as 200 CCTV cameras have been set up and seven watch towers at different points to monitor the entire

place.

This year, entry and exit points are separate for smooth passes of visitors, said the commissioner, adding that visitors would have to go through archways at the entry points at Bangla Academy and Suhrawardy Udyan.

After 5:30pm, people will be able to enter only the part of Suhrawardy Udyan, where the fair is taking place, every day throughout the month. People will have to leave the remaining part by the time.

Apart from the deployment of regular law enforcement agencies, the Rapid Action Battalion, plainclothes cops and members of intelligence agencies will be on duty at the venues and surrounding them.

According to police, there will be patrols on the university campus to nab anyone who would try to flee after committing a crime.

Special teams will be deployed as well to prevent sexual harassment amid crowd.

Bombs kill 45

FROM PAGE 16

"Bodies were still being pulled from the wreckage," a witness told state news channel Ikhbariyah.

The heavily populated area in the south of the city is a site of pilgrimage for Shia from Iran, Lebanon and other parts of the Muslim world.

The explosions occurred as representatives of Syria's government and its divided opposition began convening in Geneva for the first UN-mediated peace talks in two years.

Syrian Prime Minister Wael al-Halaki was quoted as saying the attacks were prompted by "terror groups" who sought to "raise their morale after a string of defeats" by the army.

The United Nations has said it is aiming for six months of talks, first seeking a ceasefire and later working toward a political settlement for Syria. The nearly five-year conflict has killed more than 250,000 people, driven more than 10 million from their homes and drawn in global powers.

The Sayeda Zeinab shrine area witnessed heavy clashes in the first few years of the war but has since been secured by the Syrian army and Shia militias led by Hezbollah, which has set up protective roadblocks around it.

The shrine houses the grave of the daughter of Ali ibn Abi Taleb, the cousin of Prophet Mohammed, whom Shias consider the rightful successor to the prophet. The dispute over the succession led to the major Sunni-Shia schism in Islam.

Iraqi and Iranian Shia militia groups that have volunteered to fight Sunni Islamist radicals in Syria in a conflict that has heavy sectarian overtones often say they are coming to Syria to defend the shrine.

Many have their headquarters in the area near the shrine, according to residents.



ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LIMITED
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria-3402, Bangladesh

Memo No: APSC/MD/HRM-2(Recruitment)/AD-1/309 Date: 26-01-2016

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited (APSC) an enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) is the largest power generation company of Bangladesh. APSC has undertaken a number of large power generation projects which are at the stage of completion and eyeing for new projects to meet growing demand for electricity. The company is looking for energetic and promising person for immediate appointment to the post of **Executive Director (Engineering)** and invites applications from Bangladeshi nationals who are interested to serve the company and ready to accept the challenge.

The Executive Director (Engineering) is one of members of the management of the Company who reports through the Managing Director to the Board of Directors. He is responsible for technical studies, engineering, construction, supervision, operation and maintenance of all the operational functioning facilities of the company. Other important tasks include technical forecasting in all respect regarding all electrical, mechanical and civil establishments, assessment of manpower requirement in technical sectors and development planning for technical manpower. He is also responsible for providing proper assistance to the Managing Director for ensuring sound administrative environment among employees engaged in the technical sectors.

Educational Qualification:

- B.Sc.Engineering in Electrical/Mechanical Engineering.
- Candidates with multidisciplinary qualifications will be preferred.
- **Below CGPA 2.50 or third class/division in any level is not eligible to apply.**

Experience:

- Candidate must possess at least 18 (Eighteen) years' work experience in management of large organization of which at least 12 (twelve) years in managerial position in the field of engineering activities in any electric utility.
- Candidate servng below the post of Superintending Engineer or Deputy General Manager or equivalent need not apply.
- Candidate should have familiarity in engineering, supervision, operation and maintenance of large power plant.
- Candidate need to be Conversant in computer literacy and proficient in both spoken and written Bangla & English languages.

Age Limit: Not exceeding 57 years on the last date of submission of application.
Basic Pay: Monthly salary in the scale of Tk. 85,000/- (as per APSC pay scale-2013).
Remuneration/fringe benefits: Including Basic Pay, 30% Power Station Allowance, Medical Support as per APSC medical policy, Residential accommodation at site, Full-time transport with driver, Group Insurance and other Fringe Benefits as per Company's Service Rules.
Terms of Appointment: The appointment will be made initially for 3 (Three) years (or renewable subject to performance up to maximum 60 years of age) and a set of targets to be given by the Boards of Directors for evaluation of performance.

How to Apply:

1. Candidates should apply in prescribed application form which is available in APSC website: www.apsc.com and should attach necessary documents as described in the form.
2. Application **must reach on or before 22/02/2016** to the below address:

Company Secretary
Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.
Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria-3402
3. Persons serving in Government, semi-government or autonomous organization should apply through proper channel.
4. APSC management reserves the right to cancel any or all applications without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

(Mohammad Abul Mansur)
Company Secretary
Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd.
Phone : +880 8528 74647