

Two get death for murder

STAR REPORT
A Gazipur court yesterday sentenced a man to death in a case filed for the murder of a woman at Boraid in Kaliganj upazila of Gazipur. Judge AKM Enamul Haque of Gazipur District and Sessions Judge Court gave the verdict, and fined him Tk 10,000. Convict Md Nurul Amin, 23, alias Nura, is the son of Sheikh Nur Chan of the area. "Minara Khatun, 35, the wife of Kuwait expatriate Shahab Uddin of the same locality, was returning home after cutting grass in a field on March 31 last year. Nura intercepted his neighbour Minara on her way and hit her on the head with a stick, leaving her dead on the spot," said Rabiul Islam, inspector of the court, adding that Nura hit her over a previous enmity. On April 2 the same year, the victim's daughter, Ayesha Begum, had filed the case with Kaliganj police against Nura. Meanwhile, a Sylhet court yesterday sentenced a woman to death in a case filed for the killing of her husband over a family feud, reports our Moulvibazar correspondent. Judge Akbar Hossain Mridha of Sylhet Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court gave the verdict, said Public Prosecutor Mafur Ali. Convict Fateha Mashruka, 45, was the wife of victim Md Ibrahim Kholil of Sujanagar village in Borolekha upazila of Moulvibazar. The court also fined her Tk 1,000. According to the prosecution, police recovered the slit-throat body of Ibrahim at his Charadighirpar residence in the Sylhet city on May 18 last year. After being informed by the victim's son Sajid Uddin, police recovered the body and sent it to Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital morgue for an autopsy. The deceased's family lodged the case with Kotwali police the following day against Fateha.

Entered India not by choice

STAR REPORT
BNP leader Salahuddin Ahmed, who has been in India since May last year, has claimed that he didn't go to the neighbouring country by choice. "I didn't come to India by choice. Everybody knows it," BBC Bangla Service last night quoted him as saying. He said he went through terrible experiences "in confinement in Bangladesh" for two months. Around two months after going missing in Dhaka city, Salahuddin was found in Shillong, the capital of north-eastern Indian state of Meghalaya. On May 12 last year, Shillong police spotted him loitering in Golf Link area of the tourist city. As he could not produce any travel documents and also appeared to be "mentally unbalanced", law enforcers arrested him for trespassing and admitted him to a mental hospital. It still remains a mystery how and when the BNP joint secretary general landed in Shillong after he was allegedly picked up by plainclothes law enforcers from a house in Dhaka's Uttara area on March 10. Salahuddin told the BBC that he was abducted from Bangladesh and his abductors left him in Indian territory, with his hands and legs tied and eyes blindfolded. But he didn't clarify who were the kidnapers. "I was in their custody for two months. What more can I say about this?" He is now facing a case for trespassing into India. He said he would try to make the court understand that he didn't enter India by choice. The BNP leader said he has been receiving treatment in India for last one year.

Police HQ alerted

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Dhaka Metropolitan Police told The Daily Star yesterday. Since the warning, Babul, who conducted several anti-militancy drives, busted some key militants' dens and arrested several top JMB leaders, became worried about his family's safety. His fear grew further after several letters purportedly sent by militants threatened him with dire consequences. Apart from conducting anti-terror drives, Babul recovered a huge volume of gold and Yaba tablets and arrested many local criminals while working as an additional deputy commissioner of the detective branch of Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP) in the past few years. Keeping all these in mind, the CMP has opened the investigation into the gruesome murder of his wife Mahmuda Khanam Mitu. Police are also raiding different parts of the port city to nab the assailants who first stabbed and then shot Mitu, 30, to death in Chittagong on Sunday morning in front of her six-year-old son. Talking to this newspaper at his father-in-law's house at the capital's Khilgaon, Babul himself hinted that militants might be behind the killing. "The style of the killing is similar to those carried out by militants." But he added he could not come to any conclusion before investigation. Babul was promoted to the rank of Superintendent of Police on April 5 and he joined the Police HQ on Thursday, leaving his family in Chittagong. He was staying at the Police Officers' Mess in Mirpur and looking for a flat for his family in Mirpur DOHS area. His brother said Babul was planning to shift in a few days. He also discussed his plan with his wife a few days ago. Babul wanted to have his son, a class-one student, admitted to Dhaka Cantonment School. The brother, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said that though worried, Babul never thought there would be an attack on his family. Mitu wanted to stay in Chittagong till the end of this year so that their son could complete his academic year at the Cantonment School there. She suggested that Babul rent a flat in another part of the port city where a few people would know them. But Babul was determined to move his family to Dhaka during Ramadan. Over the last two years, suspected militants have attacked and killed university professors, writers, pub-

lishers, secular bloggers, gay rights activists, foreigners, policemen and members of religious minorities, including Shia and Sufi Muslims, Christians and Hindus. But this is for the first time that a family member of a top cop has come under attack. Reportedly, terror group Islamic State claimed responsibilities for many of the past attacks. But the government maintains the group has no presence in the country, and squarely blames the opposition parties such as the BNP and Jamaat for those. Talking to the BBC yesterday, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal suggested an Israeli link to the recent killings of secular bloggers and minorities. He said an opposition MP had met an Israeli intelligence agent and there was evidence of an "international conspiracy" against Bangladesh. He gave no more evidence. Israel says the claim is nonsense. A DUBIOUS MESSAGE! On the fateful morning, Mitu received a message over her cell phone, saying that there would be an assembly at her son's school and so her son should be there half an hour earlier, family members said. They said they heard about the message from police. Sources said the school authorities denied sending any such messages. Police suspect the assailants had sent the SMS to trick her. On a normal day, the boy would get on the school bus from a spot some 200 metres from their house around 7:15am. For the last two years, a police constable would accompany him to the spot. But on Sunday, Mitu took him as the constable had a bike accident about two weeks ago. As the mother and the son reached near Well Food, a food outlet, the assailants hit her with their motorbike, before stabbing her indiscriminately and shooting her in the head. One of the assailants held her son during the attack, neighbours said, quoting the boy, who was not hurt. Meanwhile, Babul filed a case against three unnamed people with the Panchlailsh Police Station. Police detained four people for interrogation, but did not disclose their identities. Detectives also claimed to have recovered the bike used by the assailants from the port city's Badurtala area around 2:00am yesterday. Mitu was buried at the Meradia graveyard in the capital yesterday.

Ramadan items dearer

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Onion prices rose by 7.69 percent to Tk 25-45 a kg. Prices of potatoes, palm oil, eggs, beef and broiler chicken also went up. Demand for chickpea, sugar, dates and khesari pulse normally goes up during Ramadan, as most devotees break their fast with these items. The price hike is in contrast with the government's claim about the supply situation. A market analysis by the commerce ministry in the middle of May found that the supply is good enough to meet the expected demand during Ramadan. Market analysts say it has become a tradition that prices of almost all grocery items would skyrocket before and during the fasting month. Price hike is one of the major concerns in Bangladesh especially ahead and during Ramadan. Prices of essential commodities such as rice, wheat, pulses, sugar, edible oil, ginger, garlic, onion and potato account for more than one-third of the annual household expenditure of the bottom 20 percent of the population, according to the 2005 Household And Income Expenditure data. Researchers blame inflation, price hike in international market and business syndication for the price spiral. However, inflation has decelerated in recent years. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, the annualised average inflation in the outgoing fiscal year is 6 percent, based on the data available up to April.

Govt spreads

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the militants are becoming stronger. Though the extremists are carrying out killing incidents in broad daylight without any fear, the power-hungry people are not taking those into its consideration," the BNP chief observed. Khaleda also demanded the government immediately arrest and mete out exemplary punishment to the real killers. Unidentified criminals stabbed and shot dead Mahmuda Khanam, wife of Superintendent of Police Babul Akhter, in Chittagong city's GEC intersection. Sixty-year-old Sunil Gomez was hacked to death by assailants inside his grocery shop at Bonpara Christian Palli in Baraigram upazila of Natore. In a statement, Khaleda observed that the country has apparently become a death valley due to serial killings. "This country where people have no right has turned into a death valley. People have to pass their every moment amid a terrible fear of losing their lives. Our existence as a nation will be at stake if we can't put up a strong resistance irrespective of politics and opinions to overcome the situation," she said. Accusing the government of showing apathy to the recent killings, the BNP chief said, "A big question has arisen in public mind what is the mystery behind the barbaric incidents and what message the government and the militants are trying to send out?"

Hasina

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as politics, business, technology and philanthropy. Forbes said the women on the list control \$1 trillion in revenue and influence more than 3.6 billion people around the world. There are 32 chief executives on the list, 12 world leaders and 11 billionaires, including nine who have built billion-dollar companies from scratch. The average age is 57, with Yahoo Chief Executive Marissa Mayer the youngest at 41 and Britain's Queen Elizabeth II the oldest at 90. Sheikh Hasina is ahead of Bidhya Bhandari, president of Nepal, Dalia Grybauskaitė, president of Lithuania, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, president of Liberia, and Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, president of Mauritius, among other known figures. On its website, Forbes said Sheikh Hasina Wazed has command over a country with the world's eighth largest population -- 162 million people -- and she has wielded this power since 2009. "Critics contend that she can, and should, be exercising her influence to address the recent spate of hate crimes against journalists, teachers, and gay activists. Yet Wazed's [sic] administration has been largely silent, and claims the attacks did not come from Islamic radicals, despite evidence that points to the contrary. "Critics worry the failure to roundly condemn the murders only sets the stage for worse, further destabilising a government that already lost credibility in the 2014 elections, which left hundreds dead or injured," said the magazine. In March this year, business magazine Fortune named Hasina as one of the greatest leaders of the world. The prime minister ranked 10th among 50 leaders who "are transforming the world and inspiring others to do the same", the internationally acclaimed magazine said.

Road left

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up regularly. "The road has been in a very bad state since the Moghbazar-Malibagh flyover project authorities embarked on building the ramp," said Lokman Hossain, a fish trader at the wholesale market. Occupying the entire central width of the road, the contractor has piled up excavated soil and kept construction equipment there, leaving very narrow space for traffic. The road is now under a thick layer of mud in front of the fish market and BGMEA building, making all vehicles, especially the non-motorised ones, struggle to get through, added Lokman. Shafinaz Ahmed, who commutes regularly in her car, said: "This is probably the dirtiest road in the city. Rickshaw-riders with spine problems might suffer after passing through the road." Abdur Razzak, executive engineer of Dhaka North City Corporation, said they handed over around 150 metre stretch of the road to the flyover authorities on conditions that the road would be kept passable for commuters and be returned to the DNCC in its usual condition after completion of the construction work. The road is not supposed to be left in such a deplorable state. The city corporation even exempted the project from regular road cutting fees to facilitate the construction of the flyover, he noted. Despite repeated attempts, this newspaper could not reach Project Director Nazmul Alam for his comment as he didn't answer several phone calls and a text message.

No arrest

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Investigators yesterday produced Sabuj before a Natore court with a remand prayer. The court is scheduled to hear the appeal today, according to court sources. Sunil's daughter Swapna Gomez filed a murder case with Baraigram Police Station after unknown assailants hacked the 60-year-old to death on Sunday noon at his shop adjacent to his house. The case has been handed over to the Detective Branch of police in Natore, police sources said. A six-member committee led by Additional Superintendent of Police Munshi Shahabuddin will monitor the investigation. Sunil was alone in his shop after offering Sunday prayers, said family members and locals. There were hacking marks on his neck, police said. Abdul Hai, officer-in-charge of DB in Natore, said detectives were looking into the incident, the latest in a series of attacks on religious minorities, keeping different issues in mind. However, they will give priority to the alleged militant link during the investigation, said investigation officer Hai.

Ramadan begins

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Minister and Chairman of the committee Principal Matior Rahman and other committee members were present in the meeting. Muslims are meant to fast from dawn to dusk during the lunar month, a time of restraint and austerity. During the holy month, all government, semi-government and autonomous and semi-autonomous organisations will follow new office timings. All these offices will remain open from 9:00am to 3:30pm with a 15-minute prayer break from 1:15pm to 1:30pm during the month.

Only 2 people

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But in reality the rules are not followed, which is a threat to law and order and road safety, said the circular. "Only two people are allowed to ride a motorcycle, not three. As we often see that the targeted killings are being carried out by three motorcyclists [three people riding a motorbike]," said Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal while talking with reporters at his office. In recent years it has been seen that criminals and militants often use motorcycles as their getaway vehicle. "Police will ensure that three people do not ride a motorcycle together. Directives have already been given to law enforcement agencies in this regard," the home minister said. Kamal said a motorcyclist would not be allowed to carry even his or her spouse and child since it would be three people on one bike. Apart from the killing of the wife of a police superintendent in Chittagong on Sunday, suspected militants and criminals used motorcycles in at least 10 other attacks across the country, including the killings of Italian aid worker Cesare Tavella, Japanese national Kunio Hoshi, Rajshahi University teacher Prof Rezaul Karim Siddiquee. According to the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority, among the registered 2.1 million vehicles, 1.3 millions are motorbikes. On January 22, 2015, the Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges had imposed a ban on bikers carrying pillion passenger as at that time it had become common for criminals to explode crude bombs in public places, especially on busy streets, and carry out arson attacks using motorbikes.

Addendum-1

Directorate General of Health Services
Director of Stores & Supplies
Central Medical Stores Depot
30, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sharani
Tejgaon, Dhaka-1208
Postponement Notice
Procurement of "Cobalt Tele therapy"
Invitation for Bids IFB No. CMSD/G-1562/ICB/2015-2016/D-4/66 Dated: 20-04-2016, Procurement of "Cobalt Tele therapy" published in The Daily Star dated 24-04-2016 and The Daily Kaler Kantha dated 24-04-2016 scheduled to be opened 08-06-2016 at 11-00 hours (BST= GMT+ 6 hrs) is hereby postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. The revised date will be informed to all concerned through those newspapers.
All other terms and conditions of the bidding documents will remain unchanged.
Brigadier General Md. Parvez Kabir
Director (Stores & Supplies)
& Line Director,
Procurement, Logistics & Supplies Management,
DGHS, CMSD, Tejgaon, Dhaka
Tel: 9129231 Fax No: 88-02-9126547
GD-1238

VACANCY NOTICE

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces the vacancy for the following position with Development of Sustainable Renewable Energy Power generation (SREPGen) project under Service Contract modality.
• **Monitoring & Evaluation Officer (SB3 level)**
The duration of the Service Contract (SC) is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.
For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply, please visit our website:
<http://www.bd.undp.org/content/bangladesh/en/home/operations/jobs/>.
Applications should be received no later than **Monday, 13 June 2016**.
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

VACANCY NOTICE

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces the vacancy for the following position with National Urban Poverty Reduction Programme (NUPRP) under Service Contract modality.
• **Mutual Accountability Unit Coordinator (SB4 level)**
The duration of the Service Contract (SC) is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.
For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply, please visit our website:
<http://www.bd.undp.org/content/bangladesh/en/home/operations/jobs/>.
Applications should be received no later than **Tuesday, 14 June 2016**.
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.