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Your Right to Know

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AVIJIT 'MURDER ACCUSED' He was 'picked up' 4 months ago

Alleges the crossfire victim's father; his real name is Mukul Rana, not Sharif

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The key suspect in blogger-writer Avijit Roy murder, who was killed in a "shootout" on Sunday, had been missing since being kidnapped by some unidentified persons in Jessore four months back, according to his father.

Besides, there is confusion regarding his identity. According to police, he was Sakib alias Sharif alias Saleh alias Arif alias Hadi-1. But his father Abul Kalam Azad said his name is Md Mukul Rana.

Mukul, who was from Baluigachhi village in Satkhira Sadar upazila, was kidnapped by 10 to 12 persons on a microbus from Bashundia intersection in Jessore around 11:00am on February 23, Azad told this newspaper yesterday.

Mukul was returning home in Satkhira from his in-law's house at Jagannathpur in Jessore with his newlywed wife Mohua Akter Piya. It was just four days into his marriage.

Quoting his daughter-in-law, Azad said while taking Mukul away, the



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CHOKING the KARNAPHULI

Encroachment on the Karnaphuli river continues unabated in Chandraghona Lichubagan area of Chittagong with houses being built illegally on the riverbank. The houses don't have proper sewerage system and dump untreated waste directly into the Karnaphuli, adding to pollution of the river. The photo was taken a week ago.



PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

HILSA now in haor



PHOTO: STAR
Fishermen catching hilsa in Hakaluki Haor yesterday. Inset, hilsas netted from the haor.

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Though unusual, fishermen are catching hilsa in Hakaluki Haor, the largest wetland in the country.

Generally, hilsa is found in river and sea. But for the last few years, fishermen at times netted hilsa in early monsoon in Hakaluki that covers

parts of Moulvibazar and Sylhet.

And this year, they are getting a good catch. Yesterday morning, many fishermen were seen selling the fish in different areas around the haor. They were in a cheerful mood.

Talking to this correspondent, some of the fishermen said that on a few occasions they

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THREE MONTHS OF TONU MURDER

Family 'being watched'

Mother questions delay in getting justice, alleges killing attempt on her husband

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With the killers of Sohagi Jahan TONU yet to be arrested even three months after her brutal murder, TONU's mother has alleged that her family is kept "under watch".

"They could not find out who killed my daughter and why. Instead [of finding the killers], they keep us under watch... where we go and which road we take," TONU's mother Anwara Begum said at a protest programme in Kandirpar of Comilla city yesterday.

She alleged that her husband, Yaar Hossain, was asked not to speak to the media or anyone about the murder.



Won't we get justice because we are poor? TONU'S MOTHER

"Can't TONU's father seek justice for his daughter?" she asked.

"Won't we get justice because we are poor?" she said at the human chain organised by rights and cultural activists.

The participants expressed their anger at "the flawed findings" of the autopsies and delay in arresting the perpetrators.

Anwara alleged that recently there had been attempts to kill her husband.

"On Thursday, he went to see the spot where TONU was found dead. A vehicle tried to run him over, but he escaped narrowly.

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NEWS ANALYSIS

'CROSSFIRE' LIABILITY POWER determines stance

SHAKHAWAT LITON

Ironically in our politics today, ideals, principles, beliefs or ethics do not determine what "stance" our leader will take. Rather, it is determined by power -- is the leader "in power" or "out of power" -- and that will determine the stance.

Here are some examples: While in opposition from 2001-2006, Sheikh Hasina was a vociferous critic of the extra-judicial killings by the law enforcers.

While addressing a public rally in Paltan Maidan in the city on January 10, 2005, she said, "Crossfire is a new pretext for killing people."

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