

HABIGANJ 4-KID MURDER Charge framing deferred till August 28

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A Habiganj court yesterday deferred charge framing till August 28 in the case for the murder of four schoolboys in Bahubal upazila of Habiganj on February 12.

Habiganj Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal special Public Prosecutor, Abul Hashem Mullah Masum, said the court deferred the date because the judge is on leave.

Abul Hashem said Habiganj Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal Judge Masruza Parveen passed an attachment order on July 25 for the fugitives Babul Mia, Ustar Mia and Billal Mia.

A police team led by Officer-In-Charge of Bahubal Police Station, Molla Monir Hossain, conducted the operation to attach the properties of the absconding on August 4, he added.

Four schoolboys — Monir Mia, 7, Zakaria Shuvo, 8, Tajel Mia, 10, and Ismail Mia, 10 — were killed on February 12 due to enmity between two groups in a local Panchayat (village arbitration council), according to the charge sheet submitted to the court.



Valuable artefacts found at the thousand-year-old temple recently excavated at Madhabgaon village in Kaharol upazila under Dinajpur district. Right, two scenes of the relic site during the excavation.



PHOTO: STAR

1000-yr-old temple excavated

Navaratha style temple found in Dinajpur is first of its kind in Bangladesh

KONGKON KARMAKER with ANDREW EAGLE

The unearthing of a 1000-year-old sculpture of Mohini, the only female avatar of the Hindu god Vishnu, in Madhabgaon village of Dinajpur's Kaharol upazila has archaeologists excited. Not only is the discovery of Mohini unexpected, but the temple itself is designed in navaratha, nine-projection style, an architectural form commonly associated with the Kalinga temples of Odisha as well as temples in Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh, rather than Bengal.



The Dinajpur temple, when it was intact, resembled this impressive temple in Odisha of India.

"We found such a rare, brick-built structure," says Swadhin Sen, an archaeology professor from Jahangirnagar University

and head of the excavation team. "It's a first for Bangladesh."

"A navaratha style temple has never before been discovered in Bangladesh," says another professor from Jahangirnagar's archaeology department.

The temple was discovered in 2014 underneath a 7 metre high earth mound in the village. Excavation began in mid-April this year.

"We have completed the excavation work with the help of 27 local-hired workers," said Swadhin Sen.

The temple's foundations reach almost 8 metres underground, with a 2 metre high structure above land level. The "rathas" consist of different sized vertical projections along the temple's north, south and west sides. There is also a square sanctum which the experts believe was used for worship and a four-pillared room that is suggested to be an assembly hall. The temple's entrance is along the eastern edge of the site.

"The sanctum was a super-structure featuring a curvilinear tower," says Professor Seema Haque of the team. "This too is a very rare feature among the ancient brick temples that have been found anywhere in both parts of Bengal."

According to retired professor of ancient Indian architecture from the University of Kolkata, Dipak Ranjan Das, the site does have some similarity with the similarly unusual Siddheshwar Temple of Bahulara in West Bengal's Bankura.

During excavation, experts have uncovered shards of stone sculptures and pottery as well as decorated bricks and other stone objects. "We presume many of these pieces are part of a chakra disc, conch, mace and parts of legs with garlands. These are all iconographic attributes of Vishnu," says Swadhin Sen, noting that these are separate to the Mohini image discovered.

The team believes the temple

was probably used until as late as the 16th century, after which it was abandoned for unknown reasons. "We assume multiple deities were worshipped in this edifice," says Sen.

The temple's discovery has not only thrilled the archaeologists but generated great local interest as well. "I have seen that heap of dirt there since my childhood," says centenarian Satyram Roy of the area. "The site's land measures 49 decimals. I never thought there could be a 1000-year-old temple there!" He hopes the government will take good care of the site.

As news of the temple's discovery has spread visitors from near and far have converged to see it. At the current time the site attracts around 500 sightseers per day.

"This temple is a very good addition to our research in north Bengal over the past 15 years," says expert team member Professor Syed Mohammad Kamrul Ahsan.

Draft law

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national broadcast act has submitted the draft to the ministry which is reviewing it. Within a few days, we will place it before the cabinet for approval," he said.

The information minister was talking to journalists at a press briefing at his ministry office.

On December 23, 2014, the government formed a 38-member committee to draft the Broadcast Act according to which a broadcast commission would be constituted immediately after the law comes into effect.

The draft law has a provision of jail term and fine for violating the rules or regulations of the act and orders or directives of the proposed broadcast commission. Criminal procedures would be followed in case of probe, trial and appeal concerning any offence under the act.

One may face a maximum penalty of three months imprisonment or a fine of Tk5 lakh or both for violating the rules or regulations and orders or directives of the commission, it says.

Besides, if anyone runs broadcast without prior approval under the law or other related laws, the guilty person may face a maximum penalty of seven years in jail or a fine of Tk 10 crore or both, the draft reads.

It mentions 27 types of activities that a broadcaster cannot carry out without prior approval from the authorities concerned.

The commission would prepare a guideline for the broadcasters and regularly monitor whether they are properly following the National Broadcast Policy, the guideline and the code of ethics, it says.

The commission would be given the authority to take measures against a broadcaster if any content of broadcast poses a threat to security, territorial integrity, peace, public order and unity of the country or if it is vulgar, false and malicious.

In August, 2014, the information ministry published a gazette on the National Broadcast Policy-2014 for television and radio amid concerns from rights activists and media personalities about a possible misuse of some of its provisions.

About registration of online media, Inu said preparation of the draft of the proposed National Online Mass Media Policy was at the final stage. He added that they had already received more than 1,700 applications for online media registration, which were being reviewed.

"Discussion about how we will register them is ongoing. It's at the final stage," he said, adding that a final decision on registration for online media would be made based on the online media policy.

The information minister said flow of correct information is required to resist militancy and propaganda.

School becomes

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However, with much of the school's land grabbed by influential people from Durgapur Bazar Committee, it's unclear if the 350 primary school students will be able to achieve such praiseworthy results in future, no matter how hard the teachers try.

"The noise of people and vehicles is a disturbance to teaching activities," says Assistant Teacher Farzana Khatun.

"At the least we need a boundary wall constructed at the school as soon as possible."

Accommodation constraints, particularly during the morning shift, are an added obstacle to learning.

The school's eight teachers including the headmaster have repeatedly urged local influential people to take necessary steps to protect the school's learning environment and recreation facilities, but entreaties have

been met by threats to school staff and students from the land grabbers.

"We have informed our higher authorities about the situation," says Headmaster Faruk Hossain.

"But we are yet to see any action. We believe a congenial learning atmosphere is vital in order that our students reach their potential and flourish."

President of the school's managing committee Akram Hossain says he has also apprised the higher authorities of the problems, and has been trying to motivate local people to support the school's needs, but he adds, his efforts to date have been in vain.

Kahaloo upazila's primary education officer Sarwar Hossain says they have repeatedly written about the issue to higher officials at the primary education department, but pleas have gone unanswered as yet.

HC clears way for DMP

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There is no bar on the city police continuing collection of information following the HC verdict, he said, adding that the police cannot threaten a person for collecting information which might hamper his personal security.

Any aggrieved person would have the right to take legal action against the police if they violate any provision of the DMP rules and regulations while collecting information, Motaher told The Daily Star.

The HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Ashish Ranjan Das came up with the judgment after disposing of the writ petition that challenged the legality of the provision.

Petitioners' lawyer barrister Aneek R Haque said they would decide on moving an appeal before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court after receiving the full text of the HC judgment.

Three SC lawyers, including Aynunnahar Siddiqua, filed the petition as a public interest litigation on March 20.


According to the petition, the DMP rules and regulations of 2006 did not authorise the police to collect information about tenants.

Under the provision, information could be collected on individual cases, not on a mass scale, it said.

The DMP on February 29 announced that it had been collecting "identification information" from landlords and tenants since November last year and asked the city residents to provide information to it by March 15.

On March 27, the HC issued a rule upon the government to explain why the provision should not be declared unconstitutional and illegal.

Earlier on March 13, the HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir rejected another petition that sought an order to stop collection of tenants' information. The court said the city police was allowed to take any step under the DMP rules and regulations to prevent terrorism and militant activities.

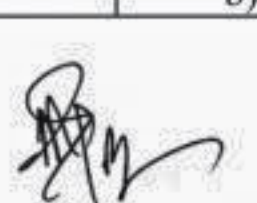


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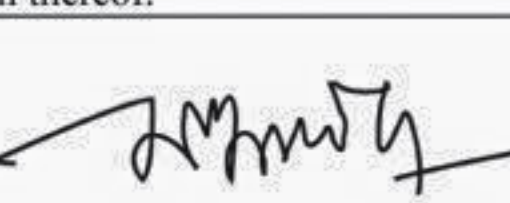
122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.

INVITATION FOR TENDER

S/N:	Invitation for Tender Reference	Nomenclature of Tender
01		
Lot-A	Invitation Reference No: ICHRI/SC/Equipment/01/2016; (Re-Tender): date: 22/08/2016	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Handing Over of 1 (One) Brand New Computed Radiography (CR) for Radiology and Imaging Department of Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute (ICHR)
Lot-B	Invitation Reference No: ICHRI/SC/Equipment/01/2016 (Re-Tender): date: 22/08/2016	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Handing Over of 1 (One) Brand New a Tilt Table for Cardiology Department of Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute (ICHR)
Lot-C	Invitation Reference No: ICHRI/SC/Equipment/02/2016; date: 22/08/2016	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Handing over of 35 (Thirty Five) Units of Brand new Syringe Pump for different Departments of Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute (ICHR)
Other Information:		
02.	Procurement Method	: Open Tendering Method (OTM)
03.	Source of Fund	: Ibrahim Cardiac Own Fund
04.	Name & Address of the Office of Selling Tender Documents	: Cash Counter (3rd Floor), Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.
05.	Date of Selling tender documents	: Tender documents are available from 27 August, 2016 to 21 September, 2016 on all working days (8.00 am – 4.00 pm)
06.	Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)	: Time: 10:30 a.m. & Date: 8/09/2016; at Conference Room of Organ Transplant unit (5 th Floor), Annex Building, Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka.
07.	Tender Closing Date	: 22 September, 2016 at 11.00 AM
08.	Tender Opening Date	: 22 September, 2016 at 12.00 Noon (In presence of the tenderers or their representative, if there be any)
09.	Tender Dropping Place	: Tender box kept in Corporate Office (5 th Floor) Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000.
10.	Tender Opening Place	: Conference Room of Organ Transplant unit (5 th Floor), Annex Building, Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Shahbag, Dhaka.
11.	Name, Designation & Address of Official Inviting Tender	: Prof. Dr. M. A. Rashid CEO, Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute (ICHR)
12.	Eligibility of tender:	(i) The tenderers should be manufacturer or their authorized supplier/distributor/agent or dealer of the offered equipment. (ii) Tenderers shall have at least five (05) years experience of Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of quoted equipment satisfactorily. (iii) Tenderers shall submit price quotation in BDT either for individual Invitation Reference of Tender or all Invitation Reference of Tender and prices quoted shall be for 100% of the items and quantities specified for each Invitation Reference of Tender. (iv) Tenderers should have valid up-to-date legal documents like trade license, TIN, VAT, Income Tax & Bank Solvency Certificate (v) All required eligibility and conditions of the tenderers are stipulated in tender documents.
13.	Price of tender documents (non-refundable) as mentioned in Serial No. 01	: For each lot Tk.2,500.00 (Two Thousand Five Hundred) only
14.	Tender Security	: 3% (three) of quoted amount in favor of Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital & Research Institute in the form of Payment Order/Demand Draft from any schedule bank to be submitted along with tender.
15.	Time for completion of the work	: Three (03) months from the date of contract agreement
16.	Special Condition:	a) If the tender is not possible to receive and open on the schedule date for unavoidable events, then the same will be received and opened on the next working days at the same time and places. b) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all without assigning any reason thereof.



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(Prof. Dr. M.A. Rashid)
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John Kerry

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diplomatic source in Washington told The Daily Star last night that Kerry will carry the message of US President Barack Obama that the US wants to take its ties with Bangladesh to new heights.

Kerry during his day-long visit will hold discussions on bilateral, regional and international issues, including security, with his Bangladeshi counterpart AH Mahmood Ali.

The US secretary of state will be here on the morning of August 29 and leave for New Delhi later in the evening, a source at Bangladesh embassy in Washington said.

There is an event in New Delhi on August 30, which he will be attending.

There is no official announcement of the visit yet, diplomatic sources said.

Bangladesh Ambassador in Washington Mohammad Ziauddin will depart for Dhaka on August 26 and arrive the following day.

It will be US Secretary of State Kerry's first visit to Bangladesh. Former US secretary of state Hillary Clinton, now the democratic presidential nominee, visited Bangladesh in May, 2012.

Kerry will also meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

The United States is already in discussion with Bangladesh about an assistance package for counter-terrorism and violent extremism.

US Ambassador in Dhaka Marcia Bernicat held several meetings at the foreign ministry recently, including with the foreign minister on Sunday, but did not indicate any such high-level visit.

On February 19, Foreign Minister Mahmood Ali had a meeting with Kerry at the US Department of State.

When the minister invited his counterpart to visit Bangladesh, Kerry responded "very positively" and said he would love to go at the "earliest opportunity".

Asked for comments about Kerry's visit, a former ambassador of Bangladesh said Bangladesh's increasing strategic importance in the region was possibly one of the reasons for Kerry's visit.