

AL man killed by rival faction in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An Awami League activist was hacked to death and three others were injured in an attack by their rival faction over establishing supremacy in Sap Majhir Ghat area at Anwara upazila of Chittagong yesterday.

Kafil Uddin, 28, son of Md Ayub Ali of Kurukul village, was declared dead at Chittagong Medical College Hospital. The injured are Abul Hashem, 24, Shohel, 20, and Rubel, 20.

Quoting witnesses, police said the four were returning home around 2:00am when some 15 people attacked them with sticks, stones and sharp weapons.

Locals caught two of the attackers, Jane Alam and Md Yousuf, and handed them over to Anwara police.

Requesting anonymity, an Awami League union-level leader said Kafil's

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A boat ferries people across the Jadukata river in Sunamganj, which was supposed to have a bridge by now. Five lakh people from Tahirpur, Dharmapasha, and Bishwambharpur make six crossings by boat in the river to commute between Pathanpara and Miyarchar. A project for construction of the 750 metre bridge has already been approved by Ecneec, but it remains stuck in the LGED bidding process, said local public representatives. During a public rally in 2010, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina promised to build a bridge over the river. The photo was taken last week.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

EU to discuss Bangladesh EC formation

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

As the tenure of the current Election Commission expires in February next year, the European Union yesterday announced to discuss with the government the formation of a new Election Commission in Bangladesh.

The EU-Bangladesh Joint Commission will discuss the matter in December in Brussels, so all stakeholders have their full confidence in the new EC, EU Ambassador to Bangladesh Pierre Mayaudon said at a talk with diplomatic correspondents at a hotel in the capital.

He said the EU Subcommittee on Democracy, Governance and Human Rights of the Joint Commission was set to meet the Bangladesh side in Brussels on December 20.

"We've a history of cooperation between the EU and the Election Commission in Bangladesh. So this is very much on top of our agenda," said Mayaudon and added that the Election Commission had to play a critical role in creating confidence among all keeping the next general election in mind.

In reply to a question on the next general election in Bangladesh, the EU envoy said, "2019 is still far away but it's not so much far actually."

The EU envoy further said another important EU parliamentary delegation will visit Bangladesh in mid-November, which will actually look into the trade issue.

Diplomatic Correspondent Association Bangladesh (DCAB) arranged its structured "DCAB Talk" with its President Angur Nahar Monty in the chair. General Secretary Pantho Rahman gave the welcome speech on the occasion.

Ambassador Mayaudon said cooperation between the EU and Bangladesh was driven by modernity and at the same time by a sense of sharing common values with the people of Bangladesh, namely

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BIMSTEC leaders agree on regional connectivity

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

Bangladesh and six other South and South East Asian countries have resolved to explore the possibility of a motor vehicle agreement among them like the one involving Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal, according to a document agreed by the countries during the "BIMSTEC Leaders' Retreat" during the "BRICS-BIMSTEC Outreach Summit" in Goa, India, on Sunday.

Referring to the physical connectivity among the member countries of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral, Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) that also includes India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan, the document says, "Being convinced that the development of connectivity in various forms and manifestations is the key to promoting regional integra-

tion, we express satisfaction over the continuing efforts and initiatives to advance multi-modal physical connectivity (air, rail, roads and waterways) in the BIMSTEC region."

The document titled "BIMSTEC Leaders' Retreat 2016 Outcome Document" was made public yesterday. The leaders agreed to explore the possibility of having the motor vehicle deal because this assumes significance, as the Saarc Motor Vehicles Agreement proposed by India in the previous summit in Kathmandu has been a non-starter due to Pakistan getting cold feet over it.

They also agreed to explore ways to deepen cooperation in areas such as aquaculture, hydrography, seabed mineral resource exploration, coastal shipping, ecotourism, renewable ocean energy, disaster management, and food security to promote

holistic as well as sustainable development of the region.

The leaders reiterated their commitment to an early conclusion of the Bimstec Free Trade Area negotiations and directed the Trade Negotiating Committee and Working Groups to expedite the finalisation of its constituent agreements and agreed to offer special and differential treatment for the Least Developed Countries for their integration into the regional economy.

Referring to the growing threats of climate change to people of the region, they resolved to strengthen cooperation to protect and preserve the environment and stressed the need for pursuing sustainable development and implementing the Paris Agreement at both national and regional levels.

They also reiterated strong commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

One BRTC bus makes less than Tk 200 profit a day!

High operation, maintenance costs blamed

UNB, Dhaka

It may sound absurd, but this is the fact. A BRTC bus on an average could not make the net profit of even Tk 200 a day during the last two fiscal years as the operation and maintenance costs were unusually high.

According to statistics provided by the BRTC (Bangladesh Road and Transport Corporation), the net profit of BRTC buses was Tk 6.57 crore in the 2015-16 fiscal year and Tk 6.85 crore in 2014-15 fiscal, even though over 1,000 buses were in operation.

For the high operation costs, BRTC officials blamed the recent pay hike of BRTC staff, high repair costs for old buses, additional fuel costs due to traffic congestion and a good number of unproductive staff amid manpower shortage.

In 2015-16 fiscal, 1,018 out of 1,539 BRTC buses were in operation and earned Tk 226.93 crore while Tk 220.36 crore was



spent for operation and maintenance purposes. So, each of the 1,018 buses on an average made a profit of Tk 176 per day.

BRTC Chairman Md Mizanur Rahman said the lion's share of the income is spent on fuel and repair works, as most of the buses are old, and also on staff salaries which have been doubled.

Moreover, over 300 out of some 3,000 BRTC staff, including drivers, virtually cannot

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People gather around a colourful chariot at the indigenous Buddhists' festival of "Mahaa Wagyawai Powe" in Bandarban town last evening. Paper lanterns (fanus) are also released on the occasion.

PHOTO: SANJOY KUMAR BARUA

Child marriage foiled in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court yesterday foiled a child marriage and fined the 55-year-old would-be groom and the parents of the 14-year-old would-be bride.

The 55-year-old Md Rafiq, a rich businessman of Chittagong city, and the parents of the eight grader were fined Tk 1,000 each. They were not given jail terms as the marriage alliance was fixed primarily, said Executive Magistrate Kazi Mahbubul Alam.

Rafiq's estranged wife informed the mobile court of the marriage.



From right, Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman, TI Board of Directors Chair José Carlos Ugaz Sánchez-Moreno, TIB Chairperson Sultana Kamal, Prof Suraiya Khair, and Rezwana-ul-Alam attend a meet-the-media at Dhaka University's senate building yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

8 WAR CRIME SUSPECTS FROM JAMALPUR, MYMENSINGH Charges taken into cognisance

ICT issues arrest warrant against four of them

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday took into cognisance eight charges of crimes against humanity allegedly committed by eight men from Jamalpur and Mymensingh during the 1971 Liberation War.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Anwarul Haque also issued a warrant seeking arrest of four of them and directed police to submit a report by December 13 on the warrant's execution.

Of the accused, Rezaul Hauque alias Akkas Moulvi, 65, and Badaruzzaman alias Chand Kazi, 65, are from Muktagachha upazila.

ABM Yunus Ali, 65, his brother AKM Yusuf Ali alias Yusuf Alam, 60, Omar Faruk alias Omar Ali, 70, Nasiruddin alias Kalu, 64, AKM Belayet Hossain, 64, and Ismaili Hossain, 65, are from Jamalpur sadar

upazila. Rezaul, Yunus, Yusuf and Omar Faruk are now in jail.

Pressing the charges on September 7, prosecutors say Badaruzzaman was a local Razakar Bahini commander while the others were involved with Al-Badr Bahini.

The crimes include torture and killing of three people of Malatipur Pathalia village on May 13; killing of five cobblers from Chchua Kurigram on June 27 and killing of class-VIII student Ahmmad Ali of Subarnakhila village on August 5 for chanting the Joy Bangla slogan.

The others are over the killing of seven people of Kejaikanda Konagaon on August 5; brutal torture of two freedom fighters and their disappearance on November 12 and torture of one Abdul Latif, a freedom fighter's brother, and torching of his house on November 12.

The remaining incidents are the killing of Azizur Rahman on November 20 for assisting freedom fighters; and killing of doctor Anil Kumar Singha on November 26.


The tribunal also rejected for a third time a petition of a former Bangalee army official seeking bail.

The tribunal earlier had directed jail authorities to ensure necessary medical treatment and send Shahidullah to a hospital, if necessary.

Shahidullah is an alleged commander of a Pakistani army camp in Comilla who worked for the Pakistani occupation army and committed crimes. This is the first time a former army man has been arrested. The arrest was made in his Daudkandi house on August 2.

The tribunal also granted prosecutors three months' time and directed to submit an investigation report, if there were any, on January 8 in the case.

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সম্মানিত করদাতাদের জন্য জরুরি তথ্য: ০২

২০১৬-১৭ কর বছরের আয়কর রিটার্ন জমা নেয়া হচ্ছে-
আপনার আয়কর রিটার্ন জমা দিয়েছেন তো?

সম্মানিত করদাতা, দেশের উন্নয়নের জন্য যে রাজস্ব প্রয়োজন তার বড় অংশ আসে আপনার দেয়া আয়কর থেকে। তাই একজন করদাতা হিসেবে আপনি দেশের উন্নয়নের গর্বিত অংশীদার।

কোম্পানি ব্যতীত অন্যান্য সকল করদাতার জন্য এ বছরের আয়কর রিটার্ন দাখিলের শেষ দিন ৩০ নভেম্বর ২০১৬। রিটার্ন দাখিলের সময় আর বাড়বে না।

শেষ দিকে রিটার্ন দাখিলে অনেক ভিড় হয়, ফলে করসেবা পেতেও অসুবিধা হয়। ভিড় এড়ানোর জন্য আগেভাগেই আপনার রিটার্ন দাখিল করুন এবং সাথে সাথে রিটার্নের প্রাপ্তি স্বীকারপত্রটি নিয়ে নিন।

আপনি যদি কর উপদেষ্টার মাধ্যমে রিটার্ন দাখিল করেন তাহলে আপনার কর উপদেষ্টাকে বলুন শেষ তারিখের জন্য অপেক্ষা না করে আগেভাগে রিটার্ন দাখিল করতে।

৩০ নভেম্বরের মধ্যে রিটার্ন দাখিল না করলে জরিমানা ও বিলম্ব সুদ আরোপযোগ্য হবে। রিটার্ন দাখিলে দেরী করে জরিমানা ও বিলম্ব সুদের অতিরিক্ত টাকা কেন দিবেন?

রিটার্ন দাখিলে আইনী বাধ্যবাধকতা রয়েছে এমন কেউ রিটার্ন দাখিলে ব্যর্থ হলে কর আইন ভঙ্গ হবে। এতে এক বছর পর্যন্ত জেল অথবা অর্থদণ্ড অথবা উভয় শাস্তির বিধান রয়েছে।

সময় মতো রিটার্ন দেই, দেশ গড়ায় অংশ নেই।

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