UP CHAIRMAN MURDER Mother cries

for justice OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Sahara Begum, mother of Union Parishad (UP) chairman AK Azad, who was killed in an attack by rivals, yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to the

culprits responsible for the

death of her son. While speaking at a press conference at Joypurhat Press Club, Sahara said of the five accused in the murder case, Sohel Rana, 25, and Munir Hossain, 28, of Joypurhat Sadar upazila have been killed in crossfire.

Sahara alleged that although members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested another accused Md Munna from Dhaka on November 9, but police are reluctant to arrest Hatem Ali, the mastermind behind the murder.

On June 5, criminals stabbed and shot Azad, newly elected chairman of Bhadsha UP in Sadar upazila, while he was returning home around 10:30pm. He succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment at a private hospital in the capital on June 12.

Azad won the election as AL rebel candidate by defeating AL nominated candidate Hatem Ali.

War heroine Biva struggles for survival with challenged son

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barisal

"The brutal Pakistani army snatched away all the charm and happiness from my life 45 years ago," said Biva Rani, struggling for survival with her physically and mentally challenged son in Gournadi upazila under the district.

She lives in a shabby tin-shed house of her brother Upendranath Mandal near Torki Bandar in Gournadi and works as a weaver and occasional midwife to make a living as her husband left her in 1988, after knowing her identity as a Birangana (war heroine), Biva said.

During the 197 1Liberation War, Biva, then reading in Class VIII, lived with five siblings at the house of her father Umesh Chanda Mandal, a small trader at Torkir Char. "In the month of Jaisthya (mid-

May to mid-June), Pakistani army

aided by local Razakars attacked

Torki. While trying to flee, our family members got scattered and I with some other women took shelter inside a sugarcane field," she said. "Razakar Ayub Ali and his associates nabbed us from there and handed us over to the army. We tion in 1971. Afterwards, he left me "Unlike many other women vicbecame victim of their brutalities

and I became senseless at one stage,"

said a weeping Biva. "Later local freedom fighter Sagir Mia rescued me and brought me home. I was married with Anukul Majumdar of the area the next Medical College Hospital. month. Then I with several members of the two families went to West Bengal in India as refugee," Biva said.



War heroine Biva Rani helps her physically and mentally challenged son to take food at her house in Gournadi upazila under Barisal recently.

band came to know of my victimisa- occasions. and went to India.

Later Sagor became physically and mentally disabled as nerves and muscles of his legs dried due to alleged wrong treatment for head injury at Barisal Sher E Bangla

a midwife, on the basis of my earlier ment," Biva said.

"After the independence, we experience as a health worker. Zamal returned home. My only son Sagor Mia, Esahaq chairman and a few was born in 1988. That year my hus- other locals helped on different

> tims of the Liberation War, I did not get any help from the government. I appealed to the Ministry of Liberation War to include my name as a freedom fighter but to no response yet.

"At this old age, I want recogni-"I do tailoring, sewing and tion as a freedom fighter and nechandloom weaving, and also work as essary support from the govern-

ICT brightens life of villagers

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

People of eight villages in three upazilas of the district have been enjoying the benefit of ICT from eight centres for the last few years.

Federation of RDRS Bangladesh, a platform for villagers, have been running the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) centres, two of which are providing training on ICT to educate youths.

Nazmin Nahar, 21, of Aditmari upazila, said, "After receiving training at RDRS's centre, I will take up outsourcing to earn a living."

Majedul Islam, 22, of the same village, said the training will make him selfsufficient, adding that 30 other youths of his village are receiving training on ICT.

Farmer Hamidul Islam, 52, of the upazila, said he goes to the ICT centre to get information on agriculture.

Field Coordinator of RDRS Bangladesh in Lalmonirhat Maidul Islam said many people have got jobs after receiving the training at the two centres at Mahishkhocha village of Aditmari upazila and Tushbhandar village of Kaliganj upazila, where 100 people receive training every day.

MINDLESS FILLING AND GRABBING

Mirzapur canal almost dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

An important canal in Mirzapur municipal area of the district has become almost dead due to mindless filling and grabbing. The three-kilometre-long canal, locally known as

Barukhali Khal, links the Louhajang and Bongshai rivers, and flows through Baimhati area in the south and Bawar Kumarjani area in the north of the upazila headquarters. Different structures, including dwelling houses and

shops, were constructed after filling of the canal at different places, which threatens the 25,000 municipality dwellers with water-logging, locals said.

Several elderly citizens in Mirzapur said water used to flow through the canal all through the year, including the dry season.

After the '80s, influential people started grabbing the canal

with the help of a section of dishonest officials and employees of the local land office. The grabbers, having political clout, also constructed concrete structures including high-rise buildings on the banks of the canal, locals alleged. "The canal was 102 feet wide previously but now it is 50

feet to 60 feet due to the mindless encroachment," said green activist Ershad Alam, also a resident of Post Kamuri area in the municipality.

The death of the canal will bring environmental disaster in the area as it is the most important drainage system of the town, he added. "As the confluences between the canal and the rivers have

been filled up, water flow has already stopped at different places. The water has also become polluted, posing a health hazard for locals," Ershad said.

Admitting the sorry state of the important canal, Mayor of Mirzapur municipality Shahadat Hossain Sumon said the municipal authorities will save the canal and revive its flow.

"We and the upazila administration will demarcate the area of the canal very soon and take next necessary steps in this regard," he added.

Assistant Commissioner (Land) in Mirzapur Rumana Yasmin said fresh bid to grab any river or canal will be resisted, adding that steps will be taken to recover the grabbed canal through social movement.

Half-century not a good score for a bamboo bridge!

AMINUL ISLAM with ANDREW EAGLE

A half-century might be a noteworthy cricket tally but it's a long time for people to live without a vital transport link. Yet in Mymensingh's Ishwarganj upazila the inhabitants of seven villages have suffered from such a situation, with the locally-made bamboo bridge at Sankurghat the only nearby option for crossing the Kanchamatia River, a Brahmaputra tributary.

"It's really difficult to reach upazila headquarters," says Alal Uddin from affected Bishnupur village. "It's a twenty-kilometre journey away from the river due to the lack of a good transport link, and in rainy season the scale of the suffering is even worse."

"Villages in our area are famous for quality vegetables, year-round," says Aklima Khatun, a farmer of nearby Bhatirchar. "But due to the transport difficulties we are left at the mercy of middlemen."

"If there was a concrete bridge over the cannot get fair prices for their produce,"

river," agrees another farmer, Jasim Uddin from Machuadanga, "we could reach upazila headquarters, the district town and even Dhaka with ease. Then we could achieve a reasonable profit for our produce."

In the meantime villagers have themselves constructed the bamboo bridge at Sankurghat, which many school children must negotiate on every school day to reach class. The bamboo bridge needs repair work and some reconstruction each year.

More painful still, several villagers commented, is when critical patients who need to reach Ishwarganj upazila's health complex or Mymensingh town hospitals as a matter of urgency cannot.

In all seven villages a concrete bridge is a long-cherished dream. Despite this, no initiative for its construction has ever been taken.

says Modabbirul Islam, the chairman of affected Razibpur union, "the construction of a concrete bridge is a must. Without it our locality will not develop."

"Before many national elections candidates of different political parties have made colourful pledges to build the bridge; they happily take the votes of our villagers but don't keep their promises," Modabbirul said.

The upazila nirbahi officer of Ishwarganj, Rajib Kumar Sarker, says along with other upazila officials he visited the area recently and has asked the upazila engineer to prepare a proposal for a concrete bridge. "We will send the proposal to the concerned authority soon, and make it a priority job for us," he says. "In the meantime, we will construct a wide and strong bamboo bridge funded by the administration within a week, to facilitate "For our students and our farmers who easier passage of villagers and students across the river."



The canal locally known as Barukhali Khal flowing through the Mirzapur municipality area in Tangail is nearly dead due to mindless filling and encroachment. PHOTO: MIRZA SHAKIL



A few kids cross a bamboo bridge over the Kanchamatia river at Sankurghat in Ishwarganj upazila of Mymensingh to reach school.

PHOTO: STAR

In Loving Memory of Yousuf Saaduddin Ahmed Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, my time seemed all too brief, Pon't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart. Lift up your heart. and share with me, and share with me, God wanted me now, He set me free. God wanted me now, He set me free. (from I am free by unknown author) Yousuf Saaduddin Ahmed was suffering from prolonged illness since 2014 He breathed last on 30.11.16 at 10:00pm at the Apollo Hospitals. He was laid to rest on 01.12.16 in his mother's grave at Banani graveyard. We request your prayers for his departed soul. ~ From his bereaved family members

Call to stop harassing indigenous people

A CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

United People's Democratic Front (UPDF) organised a 30kilometre-long human chain from Khagrachhari Sadar to Dudukchara in Panchari upazila of the hill district yesterday demanding end to what they said unwarranted arrest and harassment of UPDF leaders and indigenous people.

Speakers at the programme demanded immediate release of UPDF central committee member Ujjal Smriti Chakma and Pahari Chhatra Parishad central committee secretary Bipul Chakma.

They alleged that law enforcement agencies during their joint operations in different areas of the hill district arrest UPDF leaders and supporters without any justifiable cause and harass innocent indigenous people.

Democratic environment in the Chaittagong Hill Tracts is a must for a lasting peace in the region, they said. GD-2497

Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI) Mymensingh-2001 Memo No. 33.04.0000.136.05.007.16-228

20 Brief Description of Laboratory Equipment & Related Services (As per schedule)

Date: 06-12-2016

1	Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock (MoFL)		
2	Agency	: Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI)		
3	Procuring Entity Name	: Project Director		
4	Procuring Entity Code	: N/A		
5	Invitation for	: Procurement of Laboratory Equipment		
6	Procuring Entity District	: Mymensingh		
7	Invitation Ref. No. and Date	: Memo No. 33.04.0000.136.05.007.16-228 Date: 06-12-2016		
8	Procurement Method	: Open Tendering Method (OTM)		
9	Budget and Source of Fund	: GoB Funded, Development Project		
10	Project/ Programme Code	: 5018		
11	Project Name	Culture of Cuchia (Mud eel) and Crab in the Selected Areas of Bangladesh and Research Project (Component-B, BFRI Part)		
12	Tender Package No.	: Package No. G-7		
13	Tender Package Name	: Procurement of Laboratory Equipment		
14	Tender Last Selling Date	: Date: 28-12-2016, (Up to 17:00 pm)		
15	Tender Closing Date and Time	Date: 29-12-2016, Time- 12:00 pm		
16	Tender Opening Date and Time	Date: 29-12-2016, Time- 12:30 pm		
17	Name & Address of the Office (s)			
	- Selling Tender Document (Principal)	: Accounts Section, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh-2201		
	- Selling Tender Document (Others)	 i) Member-Director (Fish.), Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), Farmgate, Dhaka- 1215 		
	- Receiving Tender Document	: ii) Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh- 2201		
	- Opening Tender Document	: Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh- 2201		
18	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	: N/A		
19	Eligibility of Tender	 Tenderer should provide: Valid & updated trade license, Vat Registration Certificate, Income TAX clearant certificate with TIN and Bank Solvency Certificate with Bank Statement. All evidence regarding the above documents must have to submit with the tenderer. The tenderer shall have minimum 05 (Five) years experience in supply of similar goods at related services. Similar work experience in a single work order not less than 25,00000 (Twenty five lac taka only) during last three years. Tenders have to fulfill the requirements of Tender Data Sheet (TDS) & Particular 		

Package No. Package G-7		Description of goods & services Laboratory Equipment	Price of tender documents (TK) 1,000/- (One thousand taka only)	Amount Tender Security (TK) 1,92,000/-	Compl. Time 08 Weeks		
						21	Name of Official Inviting Tender Dr. DurinAkhterJahan
22	Designation of	Official Inviting Tender	Project Director				
23	Address of Official Inviting Tender		Project Director, Culture of Cuchia (Mud eel) and Crab in the Selected Areas of Bangladesh and Research Project (Component-B, BFRI Part), Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI), Mymensingh-2201				
24	Contact Details	of Official Inviting Tender	Phone No.: 01712-611185				
25	Special instruct	Special instructions i) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject tender without assigning any reason whatsoever ii) If the bid can					

Conditions of Contract (PCC)

Special instructions i) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject tender without assigning any reason whatsoever ii) If the bid can not be received/opened due to unavoidable circumstances or holiday on scheduled date and time bid shall be received/opened at the same venue and time on the subsequent working day iii) In case of failing on providing supporting paper(s)/document(s) the tender shall be out right rejected. iv) The authority is not bound to accept the lowest priced tender, if the specifications of goods and other terms and conditions mentioned in the schedule are not fulfilled by the Tenderer v) The Tender may be hand delivery or posted by registered mail or Courier Service. vi) Other terms and conditions to be followed as per schedule vii) The work order will be given subject to the availability of fund.

> Dr. Durin Akhter Jahan Project Director