

5 rapists get life

STAR COUNTRY DESK

A Thakurgaon court yesterday sentenced four people to life term imprisonment in a rape case, while a court in Pirojpur awarded the same punishment on Sunday to another man for raping a physically challenged 13-year-old girl in 2014.

In Thakurgaon, Judge of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal Mirza Mohammad Ayub Ali handed down the verdict in a crowded court room in presence of three convicts while another was absconding.

The court also fined them Tk 1 lakh each, in default, to suffer another three months rigorous imprisonment.

The convicts are Alamgir, 20, son of Alauddin, Ismail Hossain, 30, son of Joysher Ali, Arif Hossain, 22, son of Amir Uddin Sheikh, and Yusuf Ali, 20, son of Abdul Barek.

According to the prosecution, the four criminals entered the victim's room in her house at night on June 18 in 2015 and raped her by turn.

The victim, aged around 22 years, filed a rape case the next day with Ruha Police Station, accusing the four people under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

Inspector (investigation) of the police

station placed the charge sheet on November 27 in 2015 against the four accused.

After examining 13 witnesses and records of the case the judge handed down the verdict.

A court in Pirojpur on Sunday sentenced a man to life term imprisonment for raping a physically challenged 13-year-old girl in 2014.

The convict is Sujan Howlader, 31, son of Delwar Hossain Howlader of Atarkhali village in Bhandaria upazila of the district.

Judge SM Zillur Rahman of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal- 2 in Pirojpur gave the verdict in presence of the accused Sujan. The court also fined him Tk 20,000, in default, to serve three years more in jail.

The court gave the verdict after examining the witnesses and evidence.

According to the prosecution, the girl's neighbour Sujan entered her house on August 10 in 2014 when she was alone. He left the victim bound and gagged and raped her. He also tried to kill the girl. Neighbours rushed to the spot hearing screaming of the girl while Sujan managed to escape.

The victim's father filed a case with Bhandaria Police Station. Later, police arrested Sujan and produced him before a court that sent him to jail.



Houses lie mangled as a storm lasting around half an hour battered areas of Kazirchar union in Muladi upazila of Barisal on Sunday evening.

PHOTO: STAR

Worker dies in Patuakhali crane fall

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A construction worker was killed and four others were injured as a crane suddenly broke down and fell on them at the site of Payra Bridge Project in Patuakhali's Dumki upazila yesterday.

The deceased is Mohammad Sohel, 22, son of Ayub Ali Khan of Teuta village in Shibaloy upazila in Manikganj.

The incident occurred in Lebukhali area on Patuakhali-Dhaka highway about 15 kilometres north of Patuakhali town, around 9:30am, said Officer-in-Charge Dibakar Chandra Das of Dumki Police Station.

Of the injured, Ramjan, 25, and Uzzal, 30, were admitted to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital, said Ahmed Sharif Sajib, manager of Payra Bridge Project.

Liya battles for justice

MIRZA SHAKIL, Tangail

With determination to stand on her own feet, Fatema Akter Liya has continued legal battle for justice along with struggle for survival with two kids, following brutal torture by dowry-greedy husband and his parents three months ago.

Liya, daughter of Tofazzal Hossain of Matikata village in Nikrail union under Tangail's Bhuapur upazila, was married to Shofiqul Islam, imam of Nikla Raipara mosque and a shop-keeper at a nearby market, in 2010.

Despite poverty, Tofazzal gave cash



PHOTO: STAR

Fatema Akter Liya with her two kids on Sunday comes to attend the trial proceedings at a Tangail court in the case for torture on her by dowry greedy husband and in-laws.

money, gold ornaments, furniture, fridge and other household items to the new couple.

"But my husband showed suspicious behaviour from the beginning. He often stayed away at night and seldom gave me money for familial expenses. He and his parents demanded dowry and tortured me, whenever I protested," said Liya, now 25.

She gave birth to her first child a year after marriage and another baby was born on November 30 last year through a caesarean section at a private

hospital in Tangail town.

On the night of December 6, a day after she returned home, her husband and his parents attacked her with sharp weapons. Neighbours rescued her and admitted her to Tangail General Hospital with swollen eyes and serious injuries on different parts of the body including the head.

Liya's father on December 8 filed a case with Bhuapur Police Station against Shafiqul, his parents Abdul Hamid and Rokeya Begum of Chanamula village in the same upazila.

On December 12, the trio surrendered before the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate's court in Tangail and the court sent them to jail, rejecting their bail prayer.

Charge sheet against Shofiqul and his parents will be submitted to the court very soon, said investigation officer of the case Shamsul Huda, sub-inspector of Bhuapur Police Station.

Liya's father, said, "I and my daughter have to go to Tangail often to attend the court proceedings in the case. With my little income as a tailor, I am passing hard days as I have to maintain Liya and her two sons, along with five other members of my family."

"The infections on Liya's head are yet to be cured. Doctors suggested conducting a CT scan of her head but it could not be done due to lack of money," he said.

Liya alleged that after release on bail, her mother-in-law is spreading slanders against her and creating pressure for compromise through influential people.

"But I want due punishment of Shafiqul and his parents so that others dare not commit such crime against any woman. I want to stand on my own feet and educate my kids," she said.

Liya, who completed education up to the higher secondary level, wants a suitable job.

Two stabbed dead in Jessore, Bogra

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Two people were killed in Jessore and Bogra on Sunday.

Our Benapole correspondent reported that criminals stabbed a youth to death in Jessore Sadar upazila on Sunday.

The deceased is Bappa Islam Pappu, 20.

Police said a group of four to five chased Pappu and stabbed him indiscriminately with at District Council Market around 7:30pm.

Pappu died on way to Jessore General Hospital.

OC Illias Hossain of Kotwali Police Station said Pappu, accused in several cases, might have been killed over previous enmity.

Away in Bogra, a youth was killed and another injured at Shanshardighi Bazar in Shibganj upazila on Sunday.

The deceased is Omar Faruk, 21.

Police said Faruk and injured Mehedul had a feud with Roynagar UP Chairman Feroz Ahmed Rizu over cultivating fish on a leased pond.

Rizu's men stabbed Faruk and Mehedul and left the two on the premises of TMSS Hospital.

Stalkers assault 2 girls

STAR COUNTRY DESK

An SSC examinee and a seventh grader were assaulted by their stalkers in Pirojpur and Manikganj in the last two days.

A youth allegedly assaulted an SSC examinee for refusing love proposal in Pirojpur Sadar upazila yesterday, reports our correspondent.

The SSC examinee of Daudpur Palli Milon High School in the upazila hails from Morrelganj upazila in Bagerhat. She lives with her maternal grandparents at Udoykathi village in Pirojpur Sadar.

Md Mojibor Rahman, headmaster of the school, said the girl came to school to consult with the teachers about the practical examination.

On her way back home from school, Imran Sheikh, 23, son of Hanif Sheikh of Pukhuriya village, waylaid her and began to hit her.

On information, teachers from the school rushed to the spot, rescued the girl and informed police. However, the accused managed to flee the scene.

The victim's grandmother said her granddaughter has been living with them since childhood as her mother stays in Dhaka.

Imran has been stalking the victim from Class VI, she said, adding that he always disturbed her over phone.

A case was filed with Sadar Police Station, accusing Imran and his associate Habibur Rahman, 22, Md Masumur Rahman Biswas, officer in charge of Sadar Police Station, said, adding that they are raiding different areas to arrest the accused.

Meanwhile, a stalker assaulted a schoolgirl at Baniajuri village in Ghior upazila on Sunday, reports our Manikganj correspondent.

The accused is Firoj Chowdhury, son of Rana Chowdhury of Thakurkandi village.

He slapped the Class VII student of Baniajuri Union School and College as she refused his illicit proposal.

The girl's father said Firoj proposed his daughter while she was returning home from school. Firoj slapped her as she refused.

AL men elected

FROM PAGE 16

Baraigram of Natore. Nominees of BNP were elected chairman in Osmaninagar of Sylhet, Jagannathpur of Sunamganj and Hossainpur of Kishoreganj while an independent candidate won in Guimara of Khagrachhari.

Some candidates of the BNP, Jatiya Party and rebels of the ruling AL brought allegations of vote rigging by AL men in several upazilas, report our correspondents.

Yesterday's elections drew much attention from different quarters as they were keen to see whether the newly formed EC would be able to hold the polls in a free and fair manner.

The new EC, led by KM Nurul Huda, took office on February 15. Experts and some former and current EC

officials earlier said the initial local government polls would be a litmus test for the new commission which is scheduled to oversee the 2019 parliamentary election.

Of the 14 upazilas, fresh elections were held in Sylhet's Osmaninagar, Khagrachhari's Guimara and Sunamganj's Jagannathpur for all three posts of chairman and vice-chairman.

The rest of the upazilas went to by-polls to fill in some vacant posts. Besides, by-elections were held in Shakhipur municipality of Tangail, Golachipa municipality of Patuakhali, Arani municipality of Rajshahi and Sherpur municipality of Bogra, said EC officials.

The AL nominee won the mayor election in Patuakhali's Golachipa Municipality. Out of three

councillor posts in as many municipalities, two went to BNP-backed candidates and the other to an AL favourite.

VOTING PEACEFUL

In Sylhet, voting in Osmaninagar and Jagannathpur upazila was peaceful, but the turnouts were very low, reports our correspondent.

Morelganj upazila in Bagerhat went to by-polls to elect a vice chairman. No incidents of violence and electoral irregularities were reported.

However, Jatiya Party-backed candidate Akhteruzzaman boycotted the election bringing allegations of mismanagement by election officials and vote rigging.

Denying the allegations, Returning Officer Humayun Kabir said the elections were fair.

In Hossainpur upazila of Kishoreganj, voting was held to elect the chairman. Polls were peaceful, but the turnout was low due to rain, reports our correspondent.

BNP candidate Jahurul Islam Mobin and AL rebel Md Sohel alleged that supporters of AL nominee Jahurul Islam Nuru rigged the voting. Denying the allegation, the AL candidate said there were no voting irregularities.

In Rangabali upazila of Patuakhali, our correspondent visited Saleha Khatun High School polling centre. A group of some 20 AL men went to the polling centre around 9:30am and started stuffing ballot boxes in favour of party chairman candidate Delwar Hossain. The presiding and polling officers did not take any action.

After around 30 minutes,

the ruling party men left the polling station.

BNP candidate Jahangir Hossain Akon alleged that supporters of the AL nominee occupied polling stations and rigged voting. He demanded the EC hold a fresh by-election.

Delwar, however, denied the allegation of vote rigging. Presiding Officer Saidul Islam refused to make any comment on the issue.

In Comilla, a mobile court jailed a man for seven days for casting fake votes in the by-election for the chairman post of Adarsha Sadar upazila parishad.

Elections in Guimara of Khagrachhari, Baraigram of Natore, Sujanagar and Ishwardi of Pabna, Gouranadi and Banaripara of Barisal were held peacefully, report our correspondents.

Jujube growers all smile



PHOTO: STAR

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

Over 1,000 growers of jujube, a small fruit known locally as boroi, are happy at getting bumper production and much higher prices in the district this year compared to last year.

One kg of jujube is being sold at Tk 35 to Tk 40 in the retail market, but they sell it at Tk 25 to Tk 30 to the middlemen, while they got Tk 15 to Tk 17 per kg last year, growers said.

Deputy Director (DD) of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) in Lalmonirhat Bidubhushon Roy said there are about 550 jujube orchards on 2,200 bighas of land in five upazilas of the district, while there were orchards on only 200 bighas a few years ago. Farmers have become interested in growing jujube because they get good profit, the DD added.

Amjad Hossain, 50, of Megharam village in Sadar upazila said he and two other farmers prepared a jujube orchard on 12 bighas of land five years ago. "We were interested in farming jujube as we got good prices for the fruit over the last few years," he said, adding that they are happy getting expected profit, though they suffered huge loss last year.

Rafique Miah, 45, a jujube grower from Khorarpul village in the upazila, said he spent Tk 15 to Tk 18 for producing one kg due to increases in labour cost and price of pesticides. "I got Tk 67,000 from my two bighas of land by spending Tk 35,000, while I got only Tk 30,000 last year," he added.

Mizanur Rahman, 55, of Kakina village in Kaliganj upazila said he prepared two orchards on 10 bighas. "I have already sold jujube worth Tk 2 lakh and I am hoping to get Tk 2 lakh more from selling the rest of the fruit in my orchard. I spent Tk 1,90,000 on production," he added.

Fruit trader Arshad Hossain, 38, of Mogholhat Gate in Lalmonirhat town said growers are earning good profit due to high demand this year. "We are sending large quantities of jujubes to Dhaka and other parts of the country, though there was a slump in sales last year," he added.

Bidubhushon said agriculture officials provide technical support and advice to farmers. Jujube growers are happy at getting bumper production and good prices this year, he added.

Settlers enforce hartal in Rangamati for equal rights

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

A dawn-to-dusk hartal was enforced by Bangalee Chhatra Parishad and Parbattya Bangalee Gano Parishad passed off peacefully in the district yesterday.

Speakers at a rally demanded Bengali quota at Rangamati Science and Technology University and Rangamati Medical College.

Md Asaduzzaman, organising secretary of Parbattya Bangalee Chhatra Parishad in Rangamati, said CHT people are given utmost priority in the appointment of administrative posts at Rangamati Science and Technology University.

They demand equal rights for all people including Bangalees in CHT and immediate removal of the vice chancellor of the university.

Md Ibrahim, president of Parbattya Chattogram Bangalee Chhatra Parishad, said they will go for tougher movement if the authorities failed to take any steps in this regard.

No untoward incident took place during the shut-down, said Md Rashid, officer-in-charge of Rangamati Kotwali Police Station.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges
 Road Transport and Highways Division
 Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka
 www.rthd.gov.bd

Memo No. 35.00.0000.041.30.016.16-157 Date: 05/03/2017

Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/division	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division.		
2	Procuring entity name	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division.		
3	Procuring entity code	50-Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges.		
4	Invitation for	Annual Report 2015-2016, Envelop Design & Printing.		
5	Procurement method	OTM		
6	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget (GoB).		
7	Tender last selling date	21-03-2017		
8	Tender submission date and time	22-03-2017	2.00pm	
9	Tender opening date and time	22-03-2017	3.00pm	
10	Name & address of the office(s)	Address		
	-Selling & receiving tender document	Room No. 809 (8th Floor), Bhaban No. 7, Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.		
	-Opening tender document	Room No. 822/B (8th Floor), Bhaban No. 7, Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.		
11	Eligibility of tenderer	The tenderer should be well-experienced with valid Trade License, Income Tax Certificate, VAT Registration Certificate, Experience Certificate, Bank Solvency Certificate etc.		
12	Brief description of works	Annual Report 2015-2016, Envelop Design & Printing.		
13	Brief description of related services	Not applicable.		
14	Price of tender document (Tk)	BD Tk. 1000.00 (one thousand) (non-refundable) as a form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any schedule bank of Bangladesh Bank to the Joint Secretary (Admin), Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Dhaka.		
15	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (refundable)
	1	Annual Report 2015-2016, Envelop Design & Printing	Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Road Transport and Highways Division, Dhaka	Tk. 50,000.00 (fifty thousand) only
				07 (seven) days after award of contract
16	Name & designation of official inviting tender	Md. Liakot Ali Khan, Assistant Secretary.		
17	Address of official inviting tender	Room No. 822/B (8th Floor), Bhaban No. 7, Road Transport and Highways Division, Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.		
18	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 9584128	Fax: 9585138	e-mail: sasadmin@rthd.gov.bd
19	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all or any tenders.			
20	This invitation of tender notice will be available at the Road Transport and Highways Division website: www.rthd.gov.bd			

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GD-497