

Corruption begets crimes

Says ACC chairman
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Corruption gives birth to crimes, including militancy, reiterated Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Chairman Iqbal Mahmood yesterday.

Scopes for money laundering and militant financing will certainly narrow down, if the bank authorities strictly follow the existing rules and regulation, Mahmood said while inaugurating corruption prevention week at ACC's Segunbagicha headquarters in the capital yesterday.

The ACC is observing the week till April 1 with various programmes and the motto "If corruption ends, I will survive and so will the country".

To prevent money launderings, the ACC should be given scope to work jointly with Bangladesh Bank and National Board of Revenue (NBR), said Mahmood, adding that about 3 percent of the country's GDP is gobbled up by corruption.

"It would be easier to root out many criminal activities, if we can raise our children with values and in a corruption free environment," he said.



The way Buriganga Khal is being filled from both sides will soon make it a thing of the past. It is a key canal connecting the Buriganga and Dhaleshwari rivers and flows through Bhakurta in Savar, outside the capital. Though the canal can still be saved, there has been no initiative by the authorities so far. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

Panic in Christian village as locals, police clash

STAR REPORT

Panic spread across the Christian-inhabited Doripara village in Gazipur's Kaliganj upazila after the villagers clashed with police centring on a "police raid" there on Friday night.

Locals said four men entered at least two houses in the village around 10:00pm on Friday and demanded money. As the villagers asked for their identity, they forced them to shut up, claiming that they were policemen and were in a raid.

The villagers then shouted that robbers entered the village, prompting some 200 locals to rush in. They wanted to beat the four men, but they took shelter in a room.

"The four men entered a room to hide themselves. Then, villagers contacted Kaliganj Police Station asking if there was any police raid on Doripara village, but police said no," said villager Meena Dores.

However, in an hour a police team arrived at the spot and said the four men were plainclothes cops. The four, Meena said, searched her house and took Tk 5,000 from her wallet.

Another villager, Bikash Rozario, said the angry people demanded police give a

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Teacher meets tragic end on way to March 26 event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It was around 9:00am yesterday. Tripti Shankar Talukdar, a professor of Chemistry at the capital's Cambrian College, was going to the college to attend an Independence Day programme.

Watching the oncoming traffic, he was walking on the Natun Bazar road.

But his life was cut short tragically only a few yards away from the college, after a speeding bus hit him from behind.

"The bus was going the wrong way," said Julfiqar Ali, sub-inspector of Bhatara Police Station.

Critically injured, the head of Chemistry department of the college was rushed to the nearby United Hospital where the doctors



Tripti Shankar

declared him dead.

"When we went to the spot after the incident, we saw that he was severely injured in his head," said Mahub Hassan Linkon, vice principal of the college.

After the news of his death spread, students blocked the road and demanded punishment for the culprit.

Police arrested the bus helper, Swapon and seized the Motijheel-Banani route bus, "Bus no 6", said the SI.

Victim's brother, Dipti Shankar Talukdar, who took the body to their hometown in Barisal, said, "Like any other day Tripti went to the college from his Mirpur

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Rickshaw-van puller dies as truck hits him

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A rickshaw-van puller was killed in a road accident on the Dinajpur-Dhaka highway in Balupara village under Phulbari upazila of Dinajpur yesterday.

The deceased was Anisur Rahman, 35, of Damadarpur village under the upazila.

Police said the incident occurred when a speeding truck hit him, leaving him dead on the spot.

After the incident, road communication on the highway remained halted for three hours, said police.

THREE WOMEN MURDERED IN DAKKHIN KHAN 'Serial killer' yet to be identified

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

Police are yet to identify the "serial killer" who in the span of less than two months murdered three women and injured two other females in the capital's Dakkhin Khan area last year.

The murders were committed between July and September. Both the dead and the wounded were landladies.

According to police, all the attacks were carried out by a single person.

More than three weeks ago, law enforcers made a sketch of the suspect, and they were now trying to find a match in their database.

Police said the suspect would be around 31-35 years old. However, they were yet to pinpoint the motive behind the killings.

Posing as a potential tenant, the suspect, dressed in suit, attacked five landladies, said Sheikh Rokonuzzaman, inspector (investigation) of Dakkhin Khan Police Station.

"In our investigation, we've found that all five attacks were carried out by a single person. His identity still remains a mystery, but we are trying our best to identify him," he added.

He could not say why landladies were targeted. The inspector said they suspect the killer might be suffering from mental illness.

Asked how they made the sketch, he said they analysed CCTV footage in Dakkhin Khan area, talked to the victims' families and locals to make the sketch.

On why the sketch was not released, the police official said they did not release it for the sake of the investigation.

According to investigators, the first attack was on July 24 last year. Landlady Sahida Begum of North

Gawair in Dakkhin Khan was visited by a man who wanted to rent a flat. Followed by a discussion, the man asked Sahida to show him the flat.

Her body was later found on the floor of the empty flat.

The next attack was reported on August 21 when Suraiya Akther, a landlady in East Mollartek, was killed in the same manner.

On August 31, the suspect tried to kill Jebunnesa Chowdhury, owner of a

and around 5 feet 6 inches tall. He had small hair, wore a suit, and carried a bag.

Ziaul Huq Majumder, brother-in-law of Wahida, told The Daily Star late last month that after Wahida had been killed, police requested locals to stay alert.

Law enforcers asked all not to let unknown people in their homes, he said, adding that they had already strengthened security at their home.

Ziaul, however, expressed his concern as the killer was still at large.

"There is no guarantee whether the killer will not strike again," he said.

Investigators said the suspect went around looking for flats to rent. He did not call the numbers beneath the "To-let" signs. He never even made off with any valuables.

The Detective Branch of police and the Rapid Action Battalion are also conducting shadow investigations.

Rab's Intelligence Wing Director Lt Col Abul Kalam Azad told The Daily Star last month that they were looking for the man that matches the sketch.

Bishnu Chowdhury, owner of a house in Azampur, said he was worried as the killer was not arrested yet. He expressed disappointment over police not being able to identify the suspect.

In 2009, a serial killer named Rasu Khan of Chandpur was arrested after he had killed 11 women in Tongi and Savar areas. He was sentenced to death last year in one of the 10 cases filed against him. His appeal against the judgment is pending with the Supreme Court.

Another serial killer Momin alias Babu Mandol alias Pichchi Babu was arrested in Uttar Khan in the capital in 2014. He is accused of killing at least seven women.



house in Dakkhin Khan of Azampur. She survived the attack following a month-long treatment.

The latest attack took place on September 7 on Wahida Akther Shima, 48, of Danipara area of Gawair in Dakkhin Khan. Her family members found her body and took her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where doctors declared her dead.

Her husband, Sohrab Hossain, filed a murder case with Dakkhin Khan Police Station.

According to the case statement, the youth was aged between 25 and 28,



Iron barriers erected on the walkway of Ramna Park to keep motorcycles away and preserve the space for pedestrians. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

How to get int'l recognition of 1971 genocide

Campaign group ICSF suggests seven-point strategy
UNB, Dhaka

The International Crimes Strategy Forum (ICSF) has called upon the Bangladesh government to "seriously consider" its "seven-prong strategy" as part of a broader roadmap towards achieving global recognition of the genocide that took place in the country in 1971.

The campaign group said it reminded the United Nations and other international bodies that they were yet to grant official recognition to the Bangladesh genocide, and that it was their moral obligation to do so "without any further delay".

ICSF is an independent global network of experts and activists, working in the interest of justice for the

victims of international crimes. It has long campaigned for the recognition of the Bangladesh genocide.

As part of its seven-point strategy, ICSF suggested engaging with the Indian government regarding access to war-time military records and actively engaging with the international organisations for acknowledgement of the 1971 atrocities as genocide and international crimes, according to a statement it issued yesterday.

ICSF also laid emphasis on engaging with other foreign governments and entities with shared, strategic, or mutually advantageous interests involving recognition of the 1971 genocide; implementing "genocide risk education" in Bangladesh, and making it part of the national educa-

tional curriculum.

The independent global body suggested preserving important sites relating to the Liberation War, and properly investing in their development and maintenance.

Another recommendation is investing in the development of a knowledge base relating to the history of 1971, which includes archiving and digitising documents and making them easily accessible.

On the night of March 25, 1971, the Pakistani military started the genocide against defenceless Bangalees, which continued for nine months till the nation achieved victory on December 16.

In its statement, ICSF said the adoption of the recent resolution of the

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In a flagrant violation of traffic instructions, a pick-up truck is parked on the footpath near Nabisco area in Tejgaon. Due to unauthorised parking and urination, the footpath has become off-limits to pedestrians in the busy area. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN