

It was a baby, not a tumour!

STAR REPORT

Khadija Begum was seven months pregnant when her ultrasonograph indicated she had twins.

On September 18, Sheikh Hosne Ara, who conducted the C-section delivery at Gouripur Life Care Hospital, Dhaka, told the Daily Star that Daudkandi, said the woman had a baby girl and there was a tumour inside her. Khadija's cousin Faisal Ahmed told The Daily Star.

Hosne Ara delivered the baby girl and left what she thought was a tumour. She thought it was a tumour. But the woman of Comilla started having different complications in the following weeks and had another ultrasonography done.

The test found that she indeed had twins and one of the babies was still in her womb.

She was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) on Sunday. Physicians conducted a surgery and delivered a stillborn yesterday.

Salma Rouf, head of obstetrics and gynaecology at DMCH, told the Daily Star that she had experienced a very rare phenomenon where one of the twins develops within the uterus and another outside of it.

This led Gournipur physician Hosne Ara to assume that the baby outside of the uterus was a tumour. She was admitted to DMCH. She found one baby but the Ultrasonography suggested a twin. I noticed something suspicious outside the uterus. The situation was complicated, so I suggested that the woman be referred to the DMCH immediately.

The family moved to DMCH. I even called them and asked them to go to DMCH," Hosne Ara told The Daily Star.

A mobile court closed and locked down Gouripur Life Care Hospital and Digital diagnostic yesterday as it did not have government affiliation.

Key accused 'confesses' gruesome killing of girl

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patakhali

The main accused in the Barguna college girl Mala Akhtar murder case, college teacher Alifgar Hossain Palash, gave a confessional statement before a court around noon yesterday.

Senior judicial magistrate in Amtali upazila court recorded his statement, said Md Shahid Ullah, officer-in-charge of Amtali Police Station. He also the investigation officer (IO) of the case.

Police also arrested Mainul Ahsan Biphal in whose house the girl's dismembered body was discovered. He was sent to the court with a prayer for a seven-day remand.

The family alleged that she handed over the body of the girl to her relatives yesterday after an autopsy at Barguna General Hospital. She was buried at her family graveyard in Gudighata village of Barguna after Asr prayers.

Mala, the 17-year-old daughter of Md Golam Hossain, a resident of Gudighata village, had been in an affair with Palash for seven years, claimed sources with knowledge of the content of the confessional statement. She lived with her maternal grandfather in Amtali upazila.

Palash, who hails from Bashedina in Mirganj upazila of Patakhali, is a lecturer at Ghorbata Adarsha College. He is married to a cousin of Mala and lives in Barguna town. The couple has no children, the sources said.

In recent times, Mala had been putting pressure on Palash to marry her and the two had been arguing over it. She said yesterday quoting Palash's statement.

On Sunday afternoon, Palash took Mala to the house of his relative, lawyer Mainul Ahsan Biphal, in Amtali upazila town where at one point he allegedly had sex with her. The body in seven parts was put in barrels inside the bathroom.

Police recovered the body parts on Tuesday and arrested Palash at the scene.

At Nazrul Islam, OC (enquiry) for Amtali Police Station, filed a murder case accusing two Palash and Mainul.

Mainul's remand prayer will be heard by the court on October 31.

Bijoy Bhaskar, SP of Barguna, said the family alleged that she handed over the body of the girl to her relatives yesterday after an autopsy at Barguna General Hospital. She was buried at her family graveyard in Gudighata village of Barguna after Asr prayers.

Time served

FROM PAGE 1 terms, home ministry and jail sources said. There are 62 Indian nationals who are serving time in Myanmar, three each of Pakistani and Iranian origin and two Nepalese.

The jail authorities have informed the matter to the concerned embassies but have to wait until receiving clearance from the respective embassies.

Compounding the problem, if anyone dies while serving their sentences, the jail authorities have to keep their bodies in mortuaries for months until confirmation comes from their country of origin.

Currently, the all-time record shows that an Indian national's body is at Dhaka Medical College (DMC) morgue and one Myanmar national's body at Cox's Bazar Hospital morgue while the body of another Indian national is being kept at Sylhet hospital morgue.

Of these three individuals, Suraj Singh died on January 3, 2017, SP Kumar died on July 19, 2017, SP Myanmar national Abu Siddique died on February 2, 2017.

Seeking amnesty, a high official of the Ministry of Home Affairs told The Daily Star that once a foreign national is charged with a criminal offence, then s/he becomes eligible for deportation. In such cases, prison authorities have to verify the national's local addresses of their foreigners from their embassies, the official explained.

"Unless the embassies verify the information and give clearance, the authorities will not be able to release them, and the foreign nationals will have to stay in jail even after serving their term," the official said.

Currently, 68 jails in the country hold as many as 568 foreign inmates. Of them, 421 are prisoners and 58 are convicts. Of them, 324 prisoners are Myanmar nationals while 47 others are Indian nationals.

Besides, there are 32 Pakistani nationals, seven Thais, six Malaysians, three each from Tanzania, Peru and Cameroon, and one each from China, Spain, Germany, Congo, Nepal, Nigeria, Algeria and the United Kingdom.

Inspector General (IG) of Prisons, Brig Gen Syed Hekkar Uddin, however, said the queries to embassies have been responded to and the queries they are sending to them and giving feedback.

It is still taking some time to get verification as the prison authorities need to send the queries to embassies through home and foreign ministries. After receiving the queries, the embassies send a letter to their government and then the concerned country verifies the identity of the foreigners using their local police.

At times, it can take up to a year to get the information back from the relevant ministry as it disperses through all the channels, said the IG.

"In this process, we are now facing most difficulties with Myanmar as they do not accept that any of their nationals are in our jails although Myanmar nationals account for the highest number of foreign prisoners in our jails," he said.

For this reason, the court, on August 7, gave a decision about one Myanmar national among the 20 whose prison term was already over and ordered him to be released from prison and kept in a refugee camp, said the prison chief.

Asked about the matter of crimes committed by foreign nationals, IG prisoners said they are getting most prisoners from India and Myanmar, having usually arrested them for illegal entry into Bangladesh. Some of the offenders are accused of money laundering and illegal VOIP cases, he said.

The IG further said that they cannot bury the dead bodies without getting permission.

For example, one of the Indian nationals, Tarak Mukharjee, died on November 2016. His body was kept at DMC morgue for nearly nine months. Jail authority completed the burial process of Tarak after getting Indian High Commission's confirmation after a long process.

"I was in my job," the police official said.

"If I were younger, I wouldn't have been caught. If I had been in my 74 and old enough," the thief was quoted as saying.

He said the regular students will be sitting for the test on 10 papers including the four subject total marks will be 400. The entrance mark of 33 in MCQ and descriptive parts will be regarded as pass mark.

The minister said they were going to implement for the first time a system that all candidates must enter examination halls half an hour before the exam begins.

Six DB men

FROM PAGE 16 The incident took place only a day after the Anti-Corruption Commission filed a case against former superintendent of police of Fajur Subhash Chandra Saha and his wife for allegedly amassing Tk 8.36 crore beyond their known sources of income.

The DB men were taken to the temporary camp at Sabrang and later handed over to police after the SP was arrested in a traditional SP of Cox's Bazar there.

The police officials assured that proper administrative measures would be taken against the accused policemen. They also returned Tk 17 lakh to Gafur's family.

Monnuzaman said the DB men released his brother around 4:00am after taking the money on the Marine Drive road, around 500 metres from the checkpoint.

Gafur told this newspaper that the detectives picked up him from Hotel Alim in the district around 1:00pm on Tuesday after he had lunch with his friends.

"When two of my friends brought the DB men said a case was filed against me and they would release me after paying 17 lakh."

"The DB team confined me to a room in Maheshkhala Para area and demanded Tk 50 lakh for my release. They threatened to kill me in crossfire if I didn't oblige."

The 26-year-old trader said the DB men had contacted his family members through his cell phone and finally settled the ransom for Tk 17 lakh.

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Six doctors for 7,000

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