

NEWSIN brief

Bus driver, helper held with 9,130 Yaba pills in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab)-2 detained a bus driver and his helper with 9,130 Yaba pills on the capital's Manik Mia Avenue early yesterday.

During primary interrogation, Md Suman, 33, driver of Hanif Paribahan, and helper Md Faruk Alam, 39, admitted that they used to transport the contraband pills from Cox's Bazar to different districts for drug peddlers, said Lt Col Md Anwar Uzzaman, commanding officer of Rab-2.

Rab also seized the bus that came from Cox's Bazar. Mahbubur Rahman, general manager of Hanif Paribahan, told The Daily Star that the management sacked the two yesterday.

Foreign minister leaves for Moscow

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali left for Moscow yesterday on a two-day visit to seek Russian support in addressing the Rohingya crisis, and to discuss a wide range of bilateral issues.

The visit is taking place at the invitation of Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

The two foreign ministers are expected to review the current state of Russia-Bangladesh relations, the prospects of promoting political dialogue and ties in trade, economic, cultural and other practical areas, said diplomatic sources.

HC verdict on writ petition

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Lawyers for Unique Properties Development Ltd and its sister concerns said the company had halted the earth filling in the area following the HC order.

Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud, Advocate Quamrul Haque Siddique, Advocate Ahsanul Karim, Barrister Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, among others, appeared for the company and its sister concerns.

Several hundred acres of croplands have been damaged by sand filling in the upazila since the HC issued an injunction against sand filling in 2014, according to local villagers.

The HC, in response to a public interest litigation in March that year, banned destruction of ecologically-sensitive agricultural land, adjoining wetlands and ecology along the Meghna river in Jainpur, Chaihashya, Char Bhabnathpur, Bhatibanda, Pirojpur and Ratanpur moujas.

KHALEDA'S RELEASE

BNP distributes leaflets, again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP senior leaders yesterday again distributed leaflets across the country demanding its Chairperson Khaleda Zia's release from jail.

They also urged people to resist the government's efforts to "revive a one-party rule."

In the capital, the party standing committee members and senior leaders distributed the leaflets among pedestrians.

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir inaugurated the programme through distributing leaflets near the party's Nayapaltan headquarters around 12:45pm.

Talking to reporters, he said they have taken a vow to free Khaleda through a peaceful movement.

He said through the leaflets, they call upon people to be vocal against the "unlawful and conspiratorial jailing of our chairperson".

Meanwhile, BNP standing committee member Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain was obstructed by police when he was distributing the leaflets in Mohakhali Rail Gate Area. He alleged that police foiled their programme without any provocation.

BNP standing committee member Abdul Moyeen Khan distributed leaflets in Uttara.

On March 1, the party also distributed leaflets across the country seeking Khaleda's release from jail.

Khaleda Zia was sent to jail on February 8 following a special court verdict that sentenced her to five years' rigorous imprisonment in the Zia Orphanage Trust graft case.



Christians pray for the wellbeing of the nation during the Sunrise Service on T&T ground in the capital yesterday. Dhaka Pastor's Fellowship organised the prayers to observe Easter Sunday, which marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ. PHOTO: STAR

A family longs for justice

Two years gone by, but PMO's directive produces no result in the investigation of Drik Gallery official Irfanul's killing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

On the eve of the second anniversary of Drik Gallery official Irfanul Islam's killing, the police investigation officer last week made the same comment that he made a year ago - there is "no lead" in the probe.

Today, the day Irfanul was found dead, his only son, Iftekhar Ul Islam, appears in this year's HSC examination without seeing any outcome of the letter he wrote to the prime minister requesting her intervention on February 22 last year.

Missing his father on his side during one of the most important public examinations in his life, Iftekhar lamented, "If my father was alive, the day would've been different for me. He used to stay up late with me during my preparations before any exam. He never let any problem touch me before or during an exam... I miss him..."

An accounts and administrative official at Drik Gallery, Irfanul Islam, 48, was found dead in a roadside bush in Narayanganj on April 2 in 2016. He went missing from the capital's Dhanmondi the same day, after withdrawing Tk 3.08 lakh from a bank.

Speaking with The Daily Star last week, the investigation officer, Inspector Munshi Asadullah of Criminal Investigation Department (CID), again said they could not find any clue after checking CCTV footages, scrutinising the call list on Irfanul's mobile phone and talking with

people.

Except for repeating the same information a year apart, Inspector Munshi could not mention whether they looked into any new avenue over the past year to expedite the investigation process.

"Neither the victim's family nor his office [colleagues] suspect anyone for the murder," he said.

Police are yet to ascertain the reasons behind the killing, let alone making any arrest.

So far, the only consolation Irfanul's widow, Johora Akhter, and their son, Iftekhar, has is the March 8 reply letter from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) mentioning that it has asked the home ministry to take necessary steps in this regard.

However, the letter did not produce any noticeable action, said Johora Akhter.

The investigation officer did not even contact them over the past one year, she said, adding that the last time he, Inspector Munshi Asadullah, contacted them was on the first death anniversary of her husband's killing, soon after this correspondent inquired Inspector Munshi about the state of the investigation.

"That was the only single time he [Munshi] contacted us since he became the investigation officer of the case on November 2016... The investigator keeps telling the same story and contacts us only

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Irfanul Islam

7 trade union men

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the order after the petitioners accompanying their lawyers appeared before the court and sought bail in the case.

In the hearing, Advocate MA Taher told the court that his clients surrendered before the High Court seeking bail on February 4. The HC, after hearing, granted them an eight-week ad-interim bail.

The HC also asked them to appear before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka on expiry of the period. Showing respect to the HC order, his client surrendered before the court seeking bail in the case.

On January 31, Major (retd) Rafiqul Islam, additional secretary (administration) of BGMEA, filed an attempt to murder case against 12 people with Ramna Police Station.

Lawyers rebuked

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about seven hours before the exam. The university authorities claimed that they did not have any information or evidence on the question leak, but the English section in the exam question and the leaked paper were found to be identical.

TIB stages countrywide

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There is a few example of punishing the leak-sters comparing to the number of question leak incidents, he said.

"Some people, who are involved in coaching business, play a significant role in question leak. The government should increase supervision in this area, also in the social media where the questions spread," Rafiqul said.

He said if the menace is not stopped, the country will not be built based on good-governance and merit.

TIB announced a nine-point demand. Some other major demands are providing incentive to teachers to stop coaching business and increasing supervision to stop misuse of information technology, publishing the investigation report on the recent [SSC] question paper leaks and taking necessary measures, and ensuring the application of laws to ban supplementary books, which are almost identical to guidebooks.

Find out 'missing'

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man's motorcycle, saying he would return home by noon.

Around 7:00am, his wife phoned him but his mobile phone was found switched off. She again rang him around 3:00pm and this time too found it off.

Shusanta Bhowmik, brother of Rathish, informed the matter to police on Friday night and filed a general diary with Rangpur Sadar Police Station on Saturday.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh		
Office of the Executive Engineer Eden Bldg PWD Division Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka Phone: 02-9540018, Fax: 02-9540171, Email: ee_eden@yahoo.com		
Memo No. 643		Date: 29/03/2018
Invitation for Tender (IFT)		
Sealed tenders are invited for the under mentioned work as per terms & conditions stated below and as mentioned in the tender document.		
01	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Housing and Public Works.
02	Agency	Public Works Department.
03	Procuring entity name	Public Works Department (PWD) represented by Executive Engineer, Eden Bldg. PWD Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
04	Invitation for	Leasing out "Officers Canteen" at Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
05	Invitation Ref & Date	Ref No. Deputy Secretary (Admin-3, Branch_) Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka. Memo No. 25.015.001.02.01.005.2002 (part-2)-323, Date: 15/03/2018.
06	Tender No.	T-04/2017-2018.
07	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
08	Tender document (information)	Address of the offices
	a) Selling	Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka; Office of the Executive Engineer: Eden Bldg. PWD Division/PWD Division-I/II/III/IV/City PWD Division/Sher-e-Bangla Nagar PWD Division-I/II/III/Mohakhali PWD Division/Motijheel PWD Division/Azimpur PWD Division/Savar PWD Division/Mirpur PWD Division/Resource PWD Division/Arboriculture PWD Division/PWD E/M Division-I/II/III/IV/V/VI/VII/VIII/PWD E/M Factory Division in Dhaka.
	b) Receiving/Submission	Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka; Office of the Executive Engineer: Eden Bldg. PWD Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka, Dhaka PWD Division-IV, Dhaka.
	c) Opening tender document	Office of the Executive Engineer, Eden Bldg. PWD Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka,
09	Tender document (time schedule)	Last time and date.
	a) For selling	Upto 17.00 Hrs on 15/04/2018 (Sunday).
	b) For submission	Upto 12.00 Hrs on 16/04/2018 (Monday).
	c) For opening	At 12.30 Hrs on 16/04/2018 (Monday).
10	Eligibility of tenderer	As mentioned in the tender document and shall meet the following qualifying criteria:
		(a) The minimum General Experience of the tenderer as a Bonafide Businessmen/Restuarant Business for at least 5 (five) years.
		(b) The minimum amount of free funds (Liquid Assets) and/or credit facilities net of other Contractual commitments of the tnderer shall be Tk 30.00 (Thirty) lakhs.
		(c) The tenderer should submit attached up-to date Income Tax Clearance Certificate, TIN and valid VAT Registration Certificate, National Identification Card and Trade License along with the tender.
11	Brief Description of works	"Officers Canteen".
12	Price of tender document	Tk. 1,000.00 (Taka one thousand) only.
13	Tender security	Tk. 1,00,000.00 (Taka one lac) only.
14	Official inviting tender	
	a) Name	Md Mostafa Kamal.
	b) Designation	Executive Engineer.
	c) Address	Eden Bldg. PWD Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka,
	d) Contact details	Tel Phone: 02-9540018, Fax: 02-954071 Email: ee_eden@yahoo.com
15	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.	
Md Mostafa Kamal Executive Engineer Eden Bldg. PWD Division Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka		
GD-894		

Killed by evil spirit!

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Three and a half years old Farid was not feeling well for the last couple of days. He was throwing tantrums over everything.

His mother, Rozina Begum, became quite worried. The mother and son had been living by themselves in Sinduriapara of Mainamoti under Burichong upazila in Comilla after Farid's father, Jamal Hossain, went abroad recently.

On Friday morning, she took Farid to see Mahbubur Rahman, known as a local "kobiraj" (an herbal practitioner), at Kuchaitoli of Sadar upazila around 10km away from their house.

Though the 55-year-old is called a kobiraj, Mahbubur "specialises" in getting rid of "evil spirits", according to his staff. He said Farid had been possessed by a djinn. He also suggested that the mother leave the boy at his care so that he could "cure" him. Mahbubur said he needed three days to get rid of the djinn.

The worried mother agreed. She also requested him to let her stay with her son. But Mahbubur refused and told her to go back home.

Rozina could not sleep and continued worrying about her son. She also called Mahbubur at night and wanted to hear her son's voice. But he said Farid was sleeping. It was a sleepless night for the mother, which she spent praying for her son's wellbeing.

In the morning, she called again. Mahbubur said the treatment was ongoing. Rozina decided to go to Mahbubur's residence, which was also his workplace.

But around noon, the 28-year-old mother received another call from Mahbubur.

The news she received shook her to the core.

He said her son had been killed by the djinn. He also informed that he had sent the body in an ambulance back to her for burial.

Soon afterwards, Sahadat, the khadem (caretaker) of the place, called Rozina for the exact location of her residence. He said the ambulance was near the Comilla Cantonment beside Comilla-Sylhet Highway.

Right away, her relatives contacted some of the locals, present in the area. They intercepted the vehicle and handed over Sahadat and the driver to police.

Abed Sultan Badol, an uncle of Farid, said, "There were many injury marks on my nephew's body. He must have been beaten mercilessly by the quack."

He demanded exemplary punishment to those responsible. Rozina was too grief-stricken to speak.

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Apply now; last date of application: 30 April 2018.

Written test for admission will be held at the Department of International Business, DU at 10.00 am on 11 May 2018.

Contact

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