

Six murdered

STAR COUNTRY DESK

At least six people were found murdered in Jessore, Mymensingh and Chuadanga in two days.

Two unidentified people aged about 35 were found dead near the railway track in Barinagar-Mathurappur area of Jessore Sadar upazila yesterday.

Police said one of the dead was found beheaded. The criminals might have left the bodies on the railway track after killing them elsewhere.

Meanwhile, Police recovered bodies of two unidentified persons, including a woman, in Sadar upazila and Phulbaria upazila of Mymensingh yesterday.

Members of Fire Service and Civil Defence recovered the body of woman aged about 40 floating on the Brahmaputra river, police said.

In another incident, police recovered decomposed body of a 35-year-old man from Teligram village in Phulbaria upazila, police said.

The body bore injury marks in its neck and the man might have strangled, the OC said.

Two traders were killed in Alamdanga upazila of Chuadanga on Saturday and Sunday.

Of them, fish trader Rajiv Hossain, 25, was killed at Nandabar village on Sunday night while grocer Hasibul Alam's body was recovered at Begoa village on Saturday, the day after he went missing.

Police arrested two people in connection with Rajiv killings so far. Five to six miscreants swooped on fish trader Rajib at Nandabar village when he was returning home at Mochainagar village on a rickshaw van after selling fish.

Fish trader Robjel Ali said the criminals stabbed Rajiv indiscriminately, leaving him dead on the spot.

Police said they recovered the throat-slit body of Hasibul from a Begoa field on Saturday.

Our correspondents from Benapole, Mymensingh and Kustia contributed to the report.

2 freed on ransom, 10 arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Police arrested ten people, including four women, on charge of abducting two men who bought freedom for ransom in the district's Kulaura upazila on Sunday.

The rescued are Suleman Khandakar, 33, and Zakir Hossain, 36, employees of a Thai glass shop named Inter-Koli-2 in Ashulia Gazirchat area of Dhaka.

Two men on Friday made an agreement with the shop owner to make a glass house in Kulaura town, said Suleman and Zakir.

As Suleman and Zakir went to Kulaura with the two men on a bus on Friday night to make a measurement of the proposed glass house, they were taken to a house in Longla Khas area.

"Demanding ransom, the abductors beat Suleman and Zakir. As per their demand, I sent Tk 2.10 lakh through bKash," said Jalal Uddin, owner of the Thai glass shop.

Suleman and Zakir were released on Sunday afternoon and they told the matter to Rahel Ahmed, owner of Shyamoli bus counter in Kulaura.

Informed by Rahel, we conducted drives and arrested ten people of the gang from different areas, said Shamim Musa, OC of Kulaura Police Station.



A sawmill in Singa Bypass area of Pabna town runs ignoring forest department guidelines. Inset, logs are kept in a sawmill in the area.

PHOTO: AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU

An indifferent forest department

Of the 367 Pabna sawmills, 340 run without forest department permits

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU with ANDREW EAGLE

Md Abdul Awal Titu is the owner of a furniture store and sawmill in the Singa Bypass area of Pabna town. Relying solely on a municipal trade licence he has been running both businesses for the last couple of years. In ignoring forest department guidelines he is hardly alone. Most Pabna mill-owners either don't know that department permission is required for sawmills, or they don't care.

"I don't know anything about a forest department licence," says Md Aminul Islam, who operates Jakir Timber, another mill in Singa, on a rental basis. "I am

licensed as a furniture trader," he says. "I don't know if the mill has forest department permission."

"In the nine upazilas of the district there are 367 sawmills," says forestry official Kabir Hossain Patwari. "Surprisingly, only 27 of them have a forest department licence. The rest are illegal."

As many of the illegal mills are owned by influential people, the forest department is reticent to enforce the law and close them down, he adds.

A sawmill should be located at least ten kilometres away from reserve forest. It must be outside residential areas. "In most cases sawmill owners purposefully establish their mills in the vicinity of

reserve forests, and also in residential areas," Patwari says.

The scale of non-compliance was brought to light in particular at a meeting last March, of the District Development and Coordination Committee. And yet, to date no serious action has been taken to address the problem.

Indeed, in light of this lack of law enforcement, local rights association Lawyers Society for Law has recently taken the step of having a legal notice issued against six government authorities.

"Notice to take action has specifically been issued to the secretary of the environment ministry, the director-general of the environment and forest directorate, the

divisional forestry officer in Pabna, the deputy commissioner, district forestry officer and additional district magistrate," advises Advocate Mesbahul Islam Asif, on behalf of the association.

The district's Deputy Commissioner Md Jasim Uddin claims better enforcement efforts have already begun. "We have launched a mobile court to seek out illegal sawmill operations and take action," he says. "The high number of illegal mills is primarily due to forest department negligence."

On condition of anonymity, meanwhile, several mill owners allege that they have to bribe forestry officials in order to keep their businesses running.



Villagers voluntarily repair a section of an embankment along the Buri Teesta river in Satjan village under Dimla upazila of Nilphamari.

PHOTO: STAR

Laudable initiative

Villagers make embankment voluntarily along Buri Teesta to save crops from flood

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Nilphamari

People of Satjan village in Nautara union under Dimla upazila are repairing an embankment along the Buri Teesta river with their own effort and ingenuity as the authorities concerned were indifferent to their requests for repair of the embankment.

A 340-metre-long section of Buri Teesta river's embankment was washed away by the flood in August last year, damaging vast tracts of Aman paddy fields in the village.

Since then, people had been asking Nilphamari Water Development Board (WDB) to repair it on emergency basis in order to save crops during this rainy season as there is every possibility of recurrence of flood, but the departments concerned did not pay any heed.

Finding no other way, villagers joined hands to repair the embankment voluntarily, using their own labour and money, as it is a question of their survival, said Nurul Huq, 75, former chair-

man of Nautara union parishad.

They raised money for buying 2,000 bamboos, plastic nets, iron nails and other necessary items, and those who could not give money gave their labour, he added.

Visiting the area on Saturday, this correspondent saw villagers erecting bamboo fences in rows on the river bed, some were fixing plastic nets on the bamboos so that earth from the embankment did not get washed away by the strong current, and some others were carrying earth.

Shamsher Ali Sardar, a local who had knowledge about embankment construction as he worked with WDB contractors in the past, was overseeing the work.

"We erected bamboos and fixed plastic nets on the vulnerable 150 metre section out of 340 metres, and work is on to repair the embankment," he said.

"Paddy on my four bighas of land was damaged totally last year by the

onrush of water that flowed through the breached embankment and submerged around 300 acres of land in Satjan and adjacent Chawradangi villages," farmer Abul Hossain, 60, said.

"A two-to-three-foot layer of sand was also deposited on the land, ruining soil fertility. We removed the sand to transplant Aman saplings this year," said farmer Hakkul Islam, 65.

Saidul Islam, 45, said paddy on his eight bighas of land was totally damaged in last year's flood. He and his son now pull rickshaw in Dhaka to earn a living, he added.

Nautara Union Parishad Chairman Saiful Islam Lelin said he had helped the villagers' praiseworthy effort with money and asked WDB several times to address the problem.

District WDB Sub-Divisional Engineer Md Hafizur Rahman said over cellphone that an embankment was a necessity and they had sent a project proposal to the higher authorities.

ALAM MURDER

Jubo League leader lands in jail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A court here yesterday sent Ishwardi upazila unit Jubo League General Secretary Rajib Sarkar to jail, rejecting his bail prayer in a case for killing a Jubo League man.

The Judicial Magistrate's Court-2 gave the order when Rajib was produced before the court.

Local Jubo League leader Ariful Islam Alam was shot and hacked by his party rivals in the upazila headquarters on August 10 in 2016. He later died at a hospital in the capital.

The victim's wife Rupa Khatun then filed a case, accusing seven BCL and Jubo League men including Rajib.

Tarakanda UZ poll tomorrow

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The poll to Tarakanda Upazila Parishad is scheduled to be held tomorrow.

Four candidates are running for the post of the UZ chairman. They are advocate Fazlul Haque Khan (Awami League), Nilufar Yeasmin Talukder Moni (BNP) and Masud Rana Khan (BNP rebel) and Md Shahidul Haque (Jasad-Inu).

Three candidates are running for vice-chairman post while two for vice-chairman post reserved for woman, said sources.

Md Hafizur Rahman, Tarakanda upazila election officer said all necessary preparations have been completed so far. The election will be held at 72 polling centres.

UNO Sharmin Sultana said the administration has taken all preparations to make the election free and fair.



Bangladesh Bank
(Engineering Department)
Motijheel Office
Dhaka

Website: www.bb.org.bd

Invitation for Tender

Tender No-01/2018

Dated: 22/07/2018

Sealed tenders are invited from the bonafide contractors/construction firms for "Miscellaneous repairing and painting works to the external surface incl. Stair case of 4-storied Residential Building No.- Kha-1, 2, 3, Ga-1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, GHA-1, 2, Pump House, Boundary wall etc. at Bangladesh Bank Quarter, Motijheel, Dhaka". Necessary informations are given below:

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| 1 | Procuring entity | : | Bangladesh Bank, Motijheel Office, Dhaka. |
| 2 | Name of the work | : | Miscellaneous repairing and painting works to the external surface incl. Stair case of 4-storied residential building No.- Kha-1, 2 & 3, Ga-1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, GHA-1, 2, Pump House, Boundary wall etc. at Bangladesh Bank Quarter, Motijheel, Dhaka. |
| 3 | Eligibility of tenderers | : | This invitation for tender is open to all having following eligibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) General experience: Minimum period of general experience in the relevant works shall be 05 (five) years. (b) Experience of similar work: Satisfactorily completed at least 02 (two) works of similar nature worth not less than Taka 50.00 lac in a single contract, in any Government/Semi-Government/Autonomous organization of Bangladesh during last 5 (five) years. The tenderers shall have to furnish certificate in this respect from officers not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent. (c) Liquid assets/Credit facilities: Minimum liquid assets/credit facilities shall be Tk 45.00 lac. (d) Turnover: The required average annual turnover shall be greater than Tk 120.00 lac over the last 5 years from the date of publication of tender notice in the newspaper. The tenderers shall have to furnish work order & completion certificate in this regard issued by the concerned authority. (e) Shall meet all other criteria, terms & conditions as specified in the tender document. |
| 4 | Price of tender document | : | Tk 1,000.00 (Taka one thousand only). |
| 5 | Tender security | : | Tk 1,60,000.00 (Taka one lac sixty thousand only). |
| 6 | Name and address of the office selling tender document | : | Engineering Department, 2nd floor of 1st Annex Building, Bangladesh Bank, Motijheel Office, Dhaka. |
| 7 | Name and address of the office receiving & opening tenders | : | Office Room of the General Manager (Admin), 2nd floor of Main Building, Bangladesh Bank, Motijheel Office, Dhaka. |
| 8 | Last date and time for selling tender document | : | 12/08/2018 during office hours. |
| 9 | Last date and time for submission tender document | : | 13/08/2018 up to 03:00pm. |
| 10 | Date and time for opening of tenders | : | 13/08/2018 at 03:30pm (Intending tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend). |
| 11 | Brief description of the works | : | Dismantling damaged plaster & renewing the same, repair all kind of pipe leakage, removing weeds & trees including roots from building and mending well the damages, applying weather coat, enamel paint, distemper etc. |
| 12 | Special instructions | : | Bangladesh Bank authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. |

ব্যাহকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

DCP: 48/2018-2761
Date: 23-07-2018
GD-1805

Md Masum Patwary
General Manager (Admin)