



Two to die for murder

STAR COUNTRY DESK
Two got death penalty for murder in Joypurhat and Chapainawabganj yesterday.
A Joypurhat court yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his wife in 2005, reports our Dinajpur correspondent.
The convict is Md Nazrul Islam, 40, son of late Akkas Ali of Dhuratul village in Joypurhat Sadar.
Nazrul strangled his wife Poli Aktar on May 7 in 2005, according to the prosecution.
Later, the victim's father filed a case with Joypurhat Sadar Police Station, accusing Nazrul.
Meanwhile, Lucky Khatun, 22, wife of Ibrahim Ali of Chapainawabganj municipality area, was awarded death penalty in a double murder case in Chapainawabganj, reports our correspondent.
The court also fined her Tk 2 lakh.
Another convict Mizanur Rahman alias Palash, 30, of the area, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment and fined Tk 10 lakh.
According to the prosecution, Lucky killed neighbours Sumaiya Khatun Meghla, 6, daughter of Milon Rana, and Mehjabin Akhtar Maliha, 5, daughter of Abdul Malek on February 12 last year and strangled them for a gold chain and two pairs of earrings.
Later, she sold the gold to Palash.
Maliha's father Malek then filed a case with Sadar Model Police Station in this connection.
Additional District and Sessions Judge Shawkat Ali pronounced the verdict.

A large number of students gather at Tangail bypass on Dhaka-Tangail road yesterday protesting attack on their fellows in different places including Dhaka on Saturday. Right, students of Bangladesh Agriculture University bring out a procession on the campus yesterday expressing solidarity with the movement of school and college students agitating for road safety measures. PHOTO: STAR

DEMAND FOR ROAD SAFETY MEASURES

Students' agitation on, attack on fellows protested

STAR COUNTRY DESK
Students took to the streets in different areas of Mymensingh and Tangail yesterday as part of their countrywide movement demanding adequate steps for safety on roads.
They protested attack on their fellows by police and Chhatra League activists in different areas including capital Dhaka on Saturday.
Our Tangail Correspondent reports: Students put blockade on Dhaka-Tangail highway at Ashekpur bypass near Tangail town from 12:00am to

1:30pm yesterday protesting attack on students agitating for adequate steps for safety on roads.
Hundreds of students from different schools and colleges and Mawlana Bhasani Science and Technology University demonstrated in Old Bus Stand area of the town and started controlling traffic there.
The agitating students later went to the highway with a procession and put a barricade there, stopping vehicular movements.
Saidur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Tangail Model Police Station, said,

"After staying there peacefully on the highway for some time, the students returned to their institutions."
Our Mymensingh correspondent reports: Transport workers obstructed vehicles at Kanchijuly near Town Hall intersection in the town in the morning.
As students tried to prevent them at noon, the transport workers chased them.
When larger number of students from Town Hall intersection went to the spot, the transport workers left the scene.
On information, police rushed to the

spot and brought the situation under control, said Md Al Amin, additional superintendent of police (Sadar Circle), Mymensingh.
Admitting the incident of chase and counter chase, Md Mahbubur Rahman, secretary of Mymensingh Zila Motor Malik Samity, said, "After hearing the matter, I along with other leaders rushed to the spot and warned the transport workers not to engage in untoward incident with the students."
Expressing solidarity with the students' demands and protesting attack on

the students in Dhaka, the students of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) brought out a procession on the campus yesterday.
Suspending their classes, some 200 students from different departments joined the procession around 10:30am.
After parading the campus they gathered at Muktamancha of the university and held a rally there.
The students joined their classes around 12:00 noon, said Prof Dr Atiqur Rahman Khokon, proctor of the university.

People's sufferings soar due to transport strike

MD AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh
Thousands of people are suffering as transport workers blocked Shambhuganj Bridge in Char Kalibari area, halting vehicles going to Mymensingh town through different internal routes of Mymensingh region.
On a visit to the spot, this correspondent saw transport workers stopping three-wheelers, including rickshaws, bound for different areas of Mymensingh, Sherpur, Netrakona and Kishoreganj.
Haider Ali, who works for a pharmaceutical company, said he was transferred to Kalmakanda upazila in Netrakona and is scheduled to join there, but could not get any transport. "I have been waiting at Shambhuganj Bridge for an hour but there is no bus available," he told this correspondent at around 11:30am.

As operation of vehicles on all the roads has remained suspended for an indefinite period 'on security grounds' from yesterday, the sufferings of the people have gone beyond description, lamented some passengers in Charpara area in the town.
They also said if the undeclared transport strike continues the people's suffering will increase.
Swarnali Rani said she had been waiting at the bridge with her five-year-old son for a Kishoreganj-bound bus but did not get any after waiting for an hour.
Taking advantage of the situation, the drivers of three-wheelers are charging much higher fares.
"I went to Mymensingh town from Tarakanda upazila spending Tk 70 this morning, but usually I need Tk 20," said Shammi Akter, an HSC student who was waiting in the bridge area to return home.

Talking to this correspondent, some transport workers said they want immediate solution of the ongoing crisis as many of them live from hand to mouth.
Mymensingh District Transport Workers Union Publicity Secretary Md Ali Hossain said the transport workers are continuing their programme demanding normalcy on the road.
Blockade programmes are going on at different spots, including Shambhuganj Bridge, Mashkanda Bus Terminal and Zero Point, said Mymensingh Zila Motor Malik Samity Secretary Md Mahbubur Rahman.
On obstruction of rickshaws and private cars, he said such incidents were unwarranted.
Our Sherpur Correspondent adds: No long-distance bus plied from the district town yesterday.
Dhaka-bound buses were seen lined up at the municipal and Nabinagar terminals in the town.

Another 'drug dealer'

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Alipur of Raikot union in Nagolkot.
With this, at least 208 suspected drug traders were killed since the anti-narcotics drive began on May 4. Most of them were killed in so-called shoot-outs involving police and Rab.
Nazrul Islam, officer-in-charge of Nagolkot police, said the shootout took place as a team of law enforcers raided Olipur area on information that two drug dealers went there to sell drugs.
Sensing the presence of police, drug dealers attacked them with machete and

started shooting at the police. The law enforcers also returned fire, triggering a "gunfight".
At one stage, the police found Mehedi with bullet injuries and rushed him to Comilla Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, the OC added.
He claimed constable Ali was chopped by machetes in the leg and had to take 35 stitches for the wound.
The police seized a blood-stained machete, an LG gun, two cartridges and 1,000 pieces of Yaba pills from the spot.

Nine injured in AL infighting

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Noakhali
Nine people were injured as two groups of local Awami League men clashed at Miar Bazar of Char Kaunia village under Purba Char Matua union in Sadar upazila yesterday.
The injured, all hit by shotgun bullets, were admitted to Noakhali 250-bed General Hospital.
The injured are Sajib, 25, Harun, 18, Reaz, 18, Sohel, 20, Sujon, 21, Gias Uddin, 20, Sharif, 28, Manik, 20 and Babul, 23.

Take your kids back to school

FROM PAGE 1
Communication Technology Infrastructure Development (Info-Sarker Third Phase) through a videoconference from her official residence the Gono Bhaban.
She claimed that the government was implementing all the demands of the protesting students one by one.
"What they've done is enough, we didn't resist them, now a third party is out there in the field, if anything happens who'll take the responsibility?" she questioned.
"Let them [students] give attention to their academic activities, let them build themselves as worthy citizens of the country so that they could lead the country and make it more beautiful," she said.
Hasina urged the people of the country not to pay heed to rumours.
"A vested quarter is trying to create instability in the country through propaganda. Please don't pay heed to any rumours and don't get confused by any propaganda.
"Whatever you see or hear, verify those first, please don't believe anything without verification, I'll specially request the school students and youths in this regard," she said.
The 10 districts where 300 unions

were brought under fiber connectivity are Kurigram, Nilphamari, Bagura, Netrakona, Habiganj, Patuakhali, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Rajshahi and Chandpur.
Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Minister Mustafa Jabbar and State Minister for Information and Communication Technology Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak also spoke at yesterday's programme.
Palak said some 10 crore people would come under high-speed broadband connectivity with the implementation of the project.
The PM also said the children had been on the streets for the last few days and doing what they wanted.
"They're checking vehicles and papers. I don't know what they actually know about the checking, but they're doing that. Police, BGB and Rab have showed their patience, we all are helping them, our ministers, MPs, judges are obeying what they are saying. We didn't resist them. We can realise their sentiment and pain," she said.
She said the "students" vandalised police buses, motorcycles and attacked Rab members. "What we're seeing now is dangerous...a third party has got involved in this agita-

tion."
Hasina said suddenly the sale of school uniforms in the capital's Gausia and ID cards in Polashi area have gone up alarmingly. "Are all these students? Now, I'm anxious about the safety of the school students."
She said those who were involved in arson attacks, killed people by hurling bombs sneaked into the student movement. "They can do anything."
The PM said the police started the Traffic Week yesterday and now there was no need for the school students to control traffic.
"Whatever the students have done, that's good...now there's no need of them...if anyone of them wants to volunteer, I've directed the police to involve them."
Coming down heavily on a section of people who "always try to fish in troubled waters", Hasina said they were trying to create a situation where they could gain something.
She said a group of youths suddenly attacked the Awami League office in Dhanmondi on Saturday. "Why did AL office come under attack? 17-18 activists were injured badly."
Taking a dig at some newspapers, Hasina alleged that they never wanted a healthy atmosphere in the

country. "They always want to create something else that will hinder the healthier political process in the country, they get some importance in troubled situations..."
Hasina urged all to use the internet, social media, Facebook and YouTube for good purposes, not for the ugly ones. "Sometimes, we see bad language being used on social media and it shames us; these should not be used for wrong tasks."
Technology should be used for constructive works and to create a peaceful atmosphere that will be beneficial for all, she said adding, "We want the children to attain proper education and build themselves for an improved life. They're supposed to build a beautiful country!"
About a recent road crash that claimed the lives of two college students in the capital, the PM said she was very much sorry and claimed that she acted immediately.
Hasina said the government had already taken a move to enact a traffic law.
"The cabinet in principle approved its draft, it has been sent to the law ministry for vetting," she said urging all to abide by the traffic rules.

3.6 lakh tonnes of hard rock 'missing'

FROM PAGE 16
production until 2013, was due to weighing error and system loss and that it had not been corrected over the years.
Interestingly, in 2012-2013, Nanman produced 2.81 lakh tonnes and delivered the same to MGMCL, according to documents.
In September of 2013, Belarus-based Germania Trest Consortium (GTC) signed a six-year deal with MGMCL for the mine's production, management and maintenance, replacing Namnam.
It produced around 12.73 lakh tonnes of rock until 2016-17. In a letter sent to the Board of Directors of MGMCL by the mine officials, it was mentioned that they suffered 2.05

percent system loss during GTC's handling of the mine, which is about 26,000 tonnes.
Officials say that around 56,518 tonnes more was produced and sold in 2016-17 but there were no records.
In 2017-18, the mine produced 7.69 lakh tonnes.
Failing to find where the 3.60 lakh tonnes of rock went, a five-member committee was formed on March 14 to investigate.
Led by Abu Taleb Farazi, general manager (Marketing) of MGMCL, the probe body found the deficit along with possible causes for it. It submitted its report to Managing Director SM Nurul Aurangjeb on July 2.
The Daily Star contacted

Aurangjeb, who is on leave for haji. He said he had not been working at the mine for too long. He had joined in February this year and following the signs of shortage formed the five-member probe body in March. He said he had received the report and was aware of the stock shortage.
After coal going missing from the BCMCL came to light on July 16 creating nationwide outrage, Petrobangla on July 26 formed a four-member body led by Zabed Chowdhury, a director of Petrobangla and acting managing director of MGMCL, to assess the loss of hard rock.
Zabed said he had been unaware of the shortage as he had joined a few weeks ago and that the probe was on.

The MGMCL authorities raised the missing-rock issue before its seven-member Board of Directors on July 29 attaching the probe report of the five-member committee. They requested adjustment of the discrepancy and rock prices.
They claimed that measurement error, system loss, rock mixing with soil, absence of weighting scales at crushing and sorting plant, unwanted materials in produced rocks, washing away by rainwater, dust, mud and handling losses over the years caused the shortage.
Abul Taleb Farazi, general manager (marketing) of MGMCL, said they had been raising the issue before the board since 2013.

Maddhapara Granite Mining Company Limited (A Company of Petrobangla) Parbatipur, Dinajpur. Invitation for Re-Tender. Ref No. Ref: 28.17.0000.411.44.001.18-490. Date: 02-08-2018. Table with 26 rows detailing tender information including Ministry/Division, Agency, Procurement Method, Budget, and Tender Package details.

Signature and name of Deputy General Manager, dated 02.08.18.