

## Dead dolphin spreads bad odour

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A dead dolphin has been found at a coconut garden in Kuakata beach.

Due to this, bad smell is spreading in the area, polluting the environment. Local people, including tourists, urged the authorities concerned to remove the dead dolphin from the beach or to bury it.

About three months ago, a dead whale was found on the beach and local administration buried it there.

The 8-foot-long dolphin was stuck on the sandy beach about 600 metres east from Kuakata zero point, local fishermen said. Some fishermen saw the dead dolphin on Wednesday afternoon.

Moazzem Hossain, a schoolteacher of Barguna town, said very bad smell is spreading from the dead dolphin as it is rotting.

It should be removed from the beach or should be buried on the sandy beach, he suggested.

Abdul Mannan, a local fisherman, said the dolphin might have died after it was tangled with hilsa net in the deep sea and came to the shore by floating with the surges.

Md Kamrul Islam, Kalapara upazila senior fisheries officer, said dolphin is often caught by hilsa net and dies.

Fishermen often throw dead dolphin into the sea as it has no market price, he said.

Contacted, Abdul Bareq Mollah, mayor of Kuakata municipality, said they are taking steps to bury it.



A trawler overloaded with passengers crosses the mighty Jamuna to reach Kazirhat in Pabna from Aricha in Manikganj.

PHOTO: ZAHANGIR SHAH

# Risky river journey

Illegally run trawlers carry passengers on Aricha-Kazirhat and Paturia-Daulatdia routes

ZAHANGIR SHAH, Manikganj

A large number of people from different districts including Pabna, Rajbari and Manikganj take risky ride on trawlers to cross the Jamuna and Padma rivers but the authorities concerned have hardly taken any initiative to stop the illegal practice despite casualties in several incidents of trawler capsizing.

Around 40 engine-run trawlers are being used for carrying passengers on Aricha-Kazirhat and Paturia-Daulatdia routes, although it is illegal and risky,

said Faridul Islam, assistant director (Traffic) of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority's (BIWTA) Aricha office.

"The trawlers have no life saving equipment and the operators are without license for using the boats for carrying passengers across the large rivers. We wrote to deputy commissioners and superintendents of police of Manikganj, Rajbari and Pabna to take necessary steps to stop illegal plying of the small boats on the two routes."

Contacted, Manikganj

Superintendent of Police Rifat Rahman Shamim said, "BIWTA cannot evade their responsibility just by sending letters. They are the legal authority to see the matter. Police gives support to the BIWTA when they ask for."

Manikganj Deputy Commissioner SM Ferdaus said he will take lawful action in this regard.

On August 28, three people including a child went missing after a trawler carrying 100 passengers capsized in the Jamuna after a collision with a cement-laden cargo vessel.

Divers from Fire Service and Civil Defence Dhaka office and three units from its Manikganj office failed to recover the bodies of missing people despite trying the whole the day as the rescue operation was hampered due to bad weather and strong current of the river, said Mizanur Rahman, deputy assistant director of Manikganj Fire Service and Civil Defence.

At least 15 other passengers were also injured in the accident.

This correspondent talked to many people who use these engine trawlers to cross the

Padma and Jamuna rivers.

The people of Bera upazila and adjacent areas of Pabna district and Shahzadpur upazila and adjacent areas of Sirajganj district use trawlers on the Aricha-Kazirhat route to avoid traffic jam on highway while the people of Goalunda upazila and Rajbari district travel by trawlers on Paturia-Daulatdia route as they have to wait long time for boarding ferryboats and launches.

## JOURNO SAIFUL ALAM MUKUL MURDER

# Trial incomplete after 20 years

MOHSIN MILAN, Benapole

The trial of journalist RM Saiful Alam Mukul murder in Jessore is yet to be completed, two decades after the brutal killing.

The journalists in Jessore yesterday observed the 20th death anniversary of Mukul, former editor of Dainik Runner, through different programmes including mourning procession, placing of floral wreaths at the martyr's grave, discussions and milad mahfil.

Criminals killed Saiful Alam Mukul at Char Khambar More while he was going to his house at Bejpara from Jessore town on the night of August 30 in 1998, goes the statement of the case filed by Mukul's wife Hafiza Akter Shirin the following day.

None was mentioned as accused in the murder case filed with Kotwali Police Station.

The investigation officer (IO), the then ASP of Criminal Investigation Department's (CID) Jessore zone Dulal Uddin Akhond on April 23 in 1999 submitted a charge sheet to the court accusing 22 people including BNP leader former minister Tariqul Islam.

At one stage the proceedings of the case got stalled due to legal

complications.

In 2005 a special bench of the High Court revived the murder case and ordered extended investigation.

On December 21 that year CID officer Mawla Baksh added two new names and submitted a supplementary charge sheet to the court.

On June 15 in 2006, Second Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court in Jessore framed charge in Mukul murder case against 22 people.

The then minister Tariqul Islam and another accused named Rupam were acquitted.

Deposition of 25 witnesses in the case was completed in the court in 2010.

The proceedings of Mukul murder case again slowed down after Dainik Ittefaq journalist Farazi Ajmal Hossain appealed to

a High Court bench for his acquittal from the case, court sources said.

Later Jessore Second Additional District and Session's Judge's Court dropped the name of Farazi from the case and started the trial proceedings again.

"The trial process in Mukul murder case is at the last phase. The hearing of the case will start soon," said Public Prosecutor Rafiqul Islam Pitu.



## Housewife killed

Husband, brother-in-law arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

A woman was killed allegedly by her husband at Alohoi village in Trihsal upazila Wednesday.

The victim was Sweetie Akter, 25, wife of Saddam Hossain of the village.

Police arrested Saddam and his elder brother Shahjahan in connection with the killing.

The arrestees were produced before a court that sent them to jail yesterday, said Md Jankiur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Trishal Police Station.

Early Wednesday, Saddam hacked Sweetie, leaving her seriously injured following a family feud. She was rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where the doctors declared her dead. The body was sent to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Saddam and Shahjahan were arrested from the hospital.

Sweetie, daughter of Joyanal Abedin of Boilor village, married Saddam eight years ago and since then there were feuds between the couple over different family issues.



Journalists form a human chain in Rangamati yesterday demanding punishment for the killing of journalists including Suborna Nodi.

PHOTO: STAR

## Outrage over Nodi murder

Fellow journalists demand killers' punishment

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Murder of Journalist Suborna Nodi triggered outrage in Jamalpur, Savar, Gaibandha and Rangamati yesterday, report our correspondents.

Journalists, civil society members and politicians at a human chain in Jamalpur town demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of the killers of Suborna Nodi, Pabna correspondent of Ananda TV.

Jamalpur Zila Press Club formed a human chain in Bakultola area of the town. Senior Vice President of the press club Kamal Hossain presided over the programme.

The speakers condemned the killing of the female journalist who was hacked to death by criminals when she was entering her residence in Pabna town on Tuesday night.

They also protested torture on media people including photojournalists across the country.

Meanwhile, journalists from different print and electronic media in Savar at an agitation programme urged the authorities concerned to bring the killers of Nodi to book immediately.

Ashulia Press Club yesterday formed a human chain protesting the brutal killing of the journalist.

The speakers expressed deep concern over killing of Suborna Nodi. They urged the law enforcers to take immediate steps in this regard.

Away in Gaibandha, people from all walks of life including journalists formed a human chain along DB road in the town protesting murder of journalist Suborna Nodi and demanded exemplary punishment of the killers.

Organised by Ananda TV Viewers Forum, Gaibandha, the human chain was attended by journalists from different print and electronic media.

In Rangamati, newsmen at a human chain in the town demanded exemplary punishment of the killers of Nodi.

## Former father-in-law on remand

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A court here yesterday placed industrialist Abul Hossain on three days' remand in the case for killing journalist Suborna Nodi, former wife of Abul's son Rajib Hossain.

Criminals hacked Nodi, 30, Pabna correspondent of Ananda TV, to death when she was entering her home in Pabna town around 10:00pm on Tuesday and she died at Pabna Medical College Hospital the same night.

The victim's mother filed a murder case accusing Rajib Hossain, former husband of Nodi, Rajib's father Abul Hossain, and four to five people with Pabna Police Station on Wednesday.

The case was handed over to the Detective Branch (DB) of police.

Police arrested Abul Hossain the same day and produced him before the Senior Judicial Magistrate's

Court, Pabna, yesterday afternoon, said Md Monirul Islam, officer in charge (OC) of Pabna DB.

"Investigation officer SI Orbinda filed a remand prayer for five days to the court for the sake of investigation. Senior Judicial Magistrate Md Rashid Hasan granted three days' remand for the arrested," the DB OC said.

Advocate Belal Hossain, lawyer of the accused, however, said, "Abul Hossain and his family are not involved in killing Suborna Nodi. If the investigation goes properly, the real killers will be identified."

"The key accused Rajib Hossain went into hiding after the murder. Police have already raided possible areas but could not find him. We are trying to get his location by using technology," said Goutam Kumar Bishwas, additional superintendent of police in Pabna.



Abul Hossain being taken to a court in Pabna following his arrest in the case for the murder of journalist Suborna Nodi, former wife of Abul's son Rajib Hossain.

PHOTO: STAR

## Body of girl found wrapped in polybag

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Police recovered the throat-slitted body of an unidentified girl, aged about 20, wrapped in a polythene bag in Jessore City College area early yesterday.

Jessore Kotwali Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Apurba Hasan said they recovered the body of the young girl wrapped in a polythene bag.

Apurba said the girl might have been killed elsewhere a few days ago and the body was thrown in the area.

The body was sent to Jessore General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

## AL LEADER BAPPY MURDER CASE

# Next cross-examination of MP Rana Sept 20

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Cross-examination of lawmaker Amanur Rahman Khan Rana, in the case for killing district Awami League (AL) leader Aminur Rahman Khan Bappy, was conducted partially in a court here yesterday.

Judge Maksuda Khanom fixed September 20 for conducting the rest of the cross-examination, said defence lawyer Rafiqul Islam.

Rana was produced before the First Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court, said Court Inspector Anwarul Islam. Rana is in jail as an accused in freedom fighter Faruk Ahmed murder case.

Rana, AL lawmaker from Tangail-3 (Ghatail) constituency, is younger brother of Bappy and number 27 witness in the murder case.

Rafiqul conducted cross-examination for the third occasion for 25 minutes. Rana identified the items in the seizure lists during the cross-examination, Rafiqul said.

Later, the defence lawyer submitted a time petition for conducting more cross-examination of Rana, saying that Abul Kashem, one of their main lawyers, will conduct the cross-examination, but he could not attend the court due to illness.

Eight of the 17 accused, including former BCL leader Murad Siddique and BNP leader Ali Imam Tapan, were in the dock during the hearing, Rafiqul said.

Time petitions were submitted for the absent nine other accused, including municipality Mayor Jamilur Rahman Khan Miron and Azad Siddique, a leader of Krishak Samik Janata League, and the court accepted the petitions, he added.

Bappy was murdered in an attack near his College Para residence on November 21 in 2003.

The victim's father Atoar Rahman Khan filed a case with Tangail Police Station the next day, accusing 20 people.