

# Rohingya girl killed in Teknaf

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

A teenage Rohingya girl, who was adopted by a Bangladeshi family, was killed at her house in Teknaf upazila on Friday night.

Asma Akhter, 16, and her father Sharif Uddin were residents of Balukhali Rohingya camp.

Locals said Saudi expatriate Syed Alam's wife Hasina Akhter was also seriously injured in the attack.

Hasina and her adopted daughter Asma lived in their house at Chakmarkul under Hoaikkong union.

Unidentified assailants entered the house around 9:00pm and stabbed the mother and daughter several times before fleeing.

Hearing their screams, their relative Shahina Akhter shouted for help. Locals came to the scene and rushed the two to an NGO-run hospital in Goyalmara area in Ukhia upazila where doctors declared Asma dead.

Critically injured Hasina is undergoing treatment at the hospital. Alam and Hasina's only child Asma was a student at a residential madrasa in Cox's Bazar.

On information, Additional Superintendent of Police (Ukhia Circle) Nahid Adnan Tahian along with other officials visited the spot.

Asma's body was sent to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital, police said.

"We are investigating," he added.

## 5,655-carat

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diamonds, driving their demand in the market. Most of the world's emeralds are mined in Zambia, Colombia, and Brazil.

Elena Basaglia, Gemfields' gemologist, said there's been increasing interest in Zambia's emeralds, particularly from dealers in Europe.

"We are experiencing strikingly increased demand for high-quality Zambian emeralds from the major brands, particularly in Europe, all of whom admire the rich color and unique transparency of our gems -- qualities that make them unique among emeralds," Basaglia said.

The gem is not the largest emerald stone to have been found in the company's mines. In 2010, miners at the Zambia-based operation found a 6,225-carat emerald they named the "elephant" due to its massive size.

## Highest levels

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Khashoggi's dismembered body was "dissolved" in the consulate as part of an effort to leave no trace of the killing.

"Over the course of the past month, Turkey has moved heaven and earth to shed light on all aspects of this case. As a result of our efforts, the world has learned that Khashoggi was killed in cold blood by a death squad, and it has been established that his murder was premeditated," Erdogan wrote in The Post.

"We know that the perpetrators are among the 18 suspects detained in Saudi Arabia. We also know that those individuals came to carry out their orders: Kill Khashoggi and leave. Finally, we know that the order to kill Khashoggi came from the highest levels of the Saudi government."

But he said his government would keep asking other questions "the Saudi authorities have refused to answer", such as the whereabouts of Khashoggi's body and who ordered his assassination.

The murder of the royal insider-turned-dissident has provoked widespread outrage and sharp criticism from Washington, usually the staunchest of allies.

While President Donald Trump has ruled out halting arms deal with Riyadh as a punishment, his administration has effectively withdrawn support for the Saudi-led coalition's war in Yemen in a stark illustration of the cooling of ties.

Addressing mourners at a memorial service in Washington on Friday, the murdered journalist's fiancée called on Trump to back Turkey's efforts to investigate his death.

"I would like to send this message to Mr Trump: I would like him to support Turkey's legal efforts in trying to bring light to the situation and to discover the whereabouts of his body," Haticce Cengiz said in a recorded message.

Turkey's chief prosecutor said this week that Khashoggi was strangled as soon as he entered the consulate and also confirmed the body was dismembered.

Yasin Aktay, an advisor to Erdogan, hinted in an article published on Friday that the body may even have been destroyed in acid.

"We now see that it wasn't just cut up, they got rid of the body by dissolving it," an official in Turkey's ruling party, he told the Hurriyet newspaper.

"According to the latest information we have, the reason they cut up the body is it was easier to dissolve it."

A Turkish official has previously told The Post that "biological evidence" found in the consulate garden indicated the body was likely disposed of near the murder scene.

Saudi authorities have denied Turkish police permission to search a well in the garden, but allowed them to take water samples for analysis, according to local reports.

The murder has strained the decades-old alliance between the United States and Saudi Arabia, with Trump calling it "one of the worst cover-ups in history".

# Diver dies in search for Indonesia jet crash dead

AFP, Jakarta

An Indonesian diver died while recovering body parts from the ill-fated Lion Air plane which crashed into the sea killing 189 people, an official said yesterday.

Syachrul Anto, 48, who died on Friday, was part of the team searching for body parts and debris from the jet in the Java Sea.

"He was a volunteer with the Search and Rescue Agency," Isswarto, commander of the Indonesian navy's search and rescue division, told AFP.

It is believed he died from decompression.

"He was found by the SAR team, fainted. He was treated by our doctors, after he regained consciousness, we sent him to the chamber for decompression.

"We have all the equipment, however God's will says differently," national search and rescue agency head Muhammad Syaugi said at a press conference.

Anto had previously served in Palu which suffered an earthquake and

# Transcom, Star, Prothom Alo

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highest taxpayer in this category.

Four of the five highest taxpaying journalists were on the previous year's list. Late Samakal editor Golam Sarwar was among the five journalists. This time, he has been replaced by Naem Nizam.

A National Board of Revenue notification issued on Thursday revealed the names of 141 top taxpayers, including individuals and organisations, for fiscal 2017-18. The move was made as per the National Tax Card Policy, 2010 (amended).

The NBR would honour them with tax cards likely on November 12, said one of its officials.

Tax cards would be handed over to individuals in two categories -- "special category" and "source of income or profession", according to the notification. Senior citizens, gazetted war-wounded freedom fighters and individuals under 40 are included in the "special category" while Businessmen, doctors, journalists, lawyers, engineers, architects, accountants, new taxpayers, players, actors, artists and others are included in "source of income or profession" category.

The NBR has been awarding tax

tsunami in September and was also involved in recovering the bodies and debris from an Air Asia plane crash nearly four years ago.

The Lion Air plane which crashed Monday was en route from Jakarta to Pangkal Pinang city on Sumatra island.

It plunged into the water just minutes after takeoff, killing everyone on board.

At least 73 bags containing body parts have been retrieved from the waters so far but only four victims have been identified.

Officials on Thursday retrieved the flight data recorder but are still searching for the second black box, the cockpit voice recorder, which could answer the question as to why the brand new Boeing-737 MAX 8 crashed.

"We have heard a weak 'ping' ... the divers are still searching for it," Syaugi said.

Two days after the flight data recorder was recovered, investigators at Indonesia's national transportation safety committee have yet to download the key data due to salt residue on the memory card.

cards to top taxpayers in separate categories for the last three years. Mahfuz Anam and Matiur Rahman were among the top taxpayers in 2016 and 2017. Transcraft Ltd, Mediaworld Ltd and Mediarstar were also highest taxpayers in print and electronic media category in those two years.

Meanwhile, Transcom Beverage of Transcom Group has been named as top taxpayer as a company in "Food and others" category. The other two companies who made it to the list are Nestlé Bangladesh and Olympic industries.

Like previous years, the NBR has published the names of top taxpayers at city corporation and district levels and those of the top female and young taxpayers. Latifur Rahman, chairman and chief executive officer of Transcom Group, has been named one of the highest taxpayers in Dhaka city corporation area.

Last year, the NBR honoured Latifur Rahman's family with the title of "Kar Bahadur Paribar" or tax icons family for paying big amounts of tax with exemplary compliance for a long time. This time, no new family, however, was given the title.

# Schedule after talks, please

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"We will send a letter to the prime minister tomorrow morning [this morning], requesting her to hold a small-scale dialogue with us," BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said after emerging from a meeting at Kamal's chamber in the capital's Motijheel.

However, Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader has ruled out the possibility of holding talks with political parties after November 7.

"We would not hold any talks after November 7. It would not be possible to hold dialogues for long as the election schedule will have been announced by then," Quader told reporters at Dhanmondi 32 yesterday.

As many as 85 political parties wrote to the prime minister seeking time to hold talks about the 11th parliamentary election, he said, adding that it may not be possible to sit with all the parties.

EC Secretary Helaluddin Ahmed said Oikyafront's letter would be placed at the Commission meeting today.

"We are hopeful about announcing the election schedule within this week. The Election Commission wants to hold the election by December," he told reporters after a meeting on polls preparation at the Nirbachon Bhavan.

CEC KM Nurul Huda, the four other election commissioners and high officials of the EC were present at the meeting.

The ongoing talks with political parties began after Kamal, also president of the Gonoforum, wrote to the PM for holding a dialogue, to which the PM responded positively. Later, other political parties began requesting the PM to sit with them as well.

So far, the 14-party ruling alliance sat with the Oikyafront, which includes the BNP and several other parties; and the Juktafront, led by former president Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury.

The ruling alliance leaders will sit for talks among themselves at the Gono Bhavan tonight, while they will hold talks with the Jatiya Party tomorrow at the same venue.

The 14-party will also sit with Islamist and leftist parties, Quader said.

After the much-hyped dialogue with the Oikyafront on November 1, Quader had assured the opposition alliance of holding further talks to find a solution to the political crisis over the upcoming national election.

At the talks, the Oikyafront had placed a seven-point demand, including formation of a polls-time government, dissolution of parliament

# AL, BNP

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trying their luck in three constituencies, while two AL and two BNP men are vying for tickets in the 2 seats in Rajbari.

In Kishoreganj, the AL has 14 and BNP 17 leaders fighting for nominations in six constituencies. Former AL general secretary Syed Ashraful Islam, President Abdul Hamid's son Rejwan Ahammad Taufiq and late president Zillur Rahman's son Nazmul Hassan Papon are the heavyweights.

In Tangail, some 24 AL and 17 BNP leaders are trying to get nomination in eight constituencies. Here, the AL potential candidates include former food minister Abdur Razzak and former post and telecommunications minister Abdul Latif Siddique.

In Narsingdi, some 13 AL and nine BNP leaders are trying to get nominations in five constituencies, while at least 12 AL and 11 BNP leaders are competing for nomination in five constituencies of Gazipur.

In Narayanganj, 10 AL, 14 BNP and two JP leaders are running for four constituencies. AL leader Shamim Osman is the sole candidate in Narayanganj-4.

In Manikganj, seven AL and five BNP leaders are competing for nominations in three seats, while nine AL and five BNP leaders are competing for party tickets in the three seats of Munshiganj.

In Mymensingh, at least 33 AL, 25 BNP and 12 JP leaders are competing for nominations in 11 constituencies. BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia's adviser Afzal H Khan and JP co-chairman Raushan Ershad are the heavyweights.

In Jamalpur, over 15 AL and 13 BNP leaders are in the race for nominations in five constituencies.

In Netrakona, some 20 AL and 18 BNP leaders are campaigning in five constituencies. The prospective candidates in AL include ICT Minister Mustafa Jabbar and State Minister for Youth and Sports Arif Khan Joy while former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar's wife Tahmina Zaman Sraboni is the candidate of BNP.

In Sherpur, around 12 AL and 11 BNP candidates are aspiring for nominations. The candidates include Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury.

Our correspondents Zahangir Shah, Farhana Mirza, Aminul Islam, Sanad Saha, Mirza Shakil, ABM Aminul Islam, Abu Bakar Siddique and Suzit Kumar Das contributed to the story.

## AL aspirants

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Dhaka-12 and Sahara Khatun of Dhaka-18.

Although BNP leaders and activists are not visible on the ground, the party has some vital candidates in Dhaka.

Dhaka City South BNP General Secretary Kazi Abul Bashar may contest the poll from Dhaka-6 if veteran leader Sadek Hossain Khoka, who is facing a sedition case and lives in the US, does not run.

In Dhaka-7, BNP leader Nasiruddin Ahmed Pintu's wife Nasima Akhter Kalpana may get the party nomination.

BNP standing committee member Mirza Abbas may get party ticket in Dhaka-9, Barrister Nasir Uddin Asim in Dhaka-10, standing committee member Barrister Rafiqul Islam Miah in Dhaka-16, and Vice-Chairman Maj Gen (ret'd) Ruhul Alam Chowdhury in Dhaka-17.

Besides, BNP leaders Syed Moazzem Hossain Alal will contest the poll from Dhaka-13, Amanullah Aman from Dhaka-2 and Goyeshawar Chandra Roy from Dhaka-3, while Mirza Abbas's wife Afroza Abbas is likely to get nomination in a Dhaka constituency.

# Attacked

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after a Rab team shot him and later claimed that the officers mistook him for a criminal. His injured leg had to be amputated.

At yesterday's press conference, Altafunezza Maya, chairperson of the Gonoshasthaya trustee board, said it had been a decade since Zafrullah retired from the day-to-day management of the organisation.

Zafrullah said, "My activities involve attending the few yearly meetings the institution holds."

The trustee board also claimed that a recent RAB-4 mobile court raid at their pharmaceuticals department was ill-motivated.

The mobile court fined the institution Tk 15 lakh on October 23, after finding expired reagents and drugs.

Maya said, "Everything they found to be expired was already in the discarded pile. We store them in a certain place and then dispose of them accordingly."

Meanwhile, Sramik Nirapotta Forum in a statement yesterday condemned the attack on Gonoshasthaya Kendra, demanded proper investigation into the incident and punishment of the perpetrators.

The statement signed by its convener Hameeda Hossain also urged law enforcers to play a responsible role.

"According to newspapers and other sources, although a written complaint was submitted about the attack on Gonoshasthaya Kendra and Limon, no case had been recorded by the police station yet," it reads.

# Not a perfect start

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couple of early hiccups, smashing a fluent 88 and negotiating the home spinners well up to his dismissal as the visitors reached 236 for five at stumps.

Peter Moor and Regis Chakabva navigated the final hour of the day with caution and will resume on 37 and 20 respectively with the aim of posting a formidable total and putting the Tigers under pressure.

Williams was heading towards his second Test hundred before being dismissed by skipper Mahmudullah Riyad. A sharp delivery that kicked off the surface and took the outside edge was taken well at slip by Mehedi Hasan Miraz.

However it was Williams' 173-ball vigil, which included nine fours, that helped Zimbabwe steady the ship after losing wickets at crucial moments.

It came as a surprise when Bangladesh opted to go with just one seamer, Abu Jayed, in the line-up alongside three spinners. Left-arm spinner Nazmul Islam and Ariful Haque made their Test debuts while Nazmul Hossain Shanto made a comeback to the Test side after debuting in New Zealand last year.

Skipper Hamilton Masakadza dominated the Bangladesh bowlers after the visitors opted to bat and reached his fifty in the first session with the help of four fours and two sixes.

But his partner Brian Chari, despite playing well early in the innings, threw his wicket away when he went for a slog and was bowled off left-armer Taijul Islam. The spinner soon removed Brendon Taylor for six with a flighted delivery that took an inside edge and was caught by Nazmul Hossain.

Zimbabwe were then feeling the pressure at 47 for two but Williams and Masakadza calmed things down by lunch, adding 38 runs.

However, Masakadza was trapped in front just after lunch without troubling the scorers and departed for 52. A beautiful delivery shaped into the right-hander to leave the visitors on 85 for three.

Sikandar Raza (19) then paired with Williams and added 44 runs for the fourth wicket before becoming the maiden Test wicket for left-armer Nazmul when he opened the gate between bat and pad, allowing the ball to strike timber.

The home side came back well and managed to mount the pressure on Zimbabwe and bowled six maiden overs in the post lunch session. However, after Williams' departure, Moor and Chakabva managed to see things through until stumps.

## PM questions

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Hasina said she spoke at the end of the dialogue to wrap it up.

She mentioned that the government accepted many demands of the Oikyafront.

AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader, advisory council members Amir Hossain Amu and Tofail Ahmed, presidium members Matia Chowdhury, Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim and Mohammed Nasim, among others, took part in the discussion.

Yesterday was the 43rd anniversary of the Jail Killing Day. On this day in 1975, national leaders Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmad, AHM Quamruzzaman and M Mansur Ali were killed inside the erstwhile Dhaka central jail.

The meeting, chaired by the PM, observed one-minute silence in memory of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, his wife Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib, martyrs of August 15, 1975, and the four national leaders.

# 35 more lined up for nod

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development of infrastructure of Tangail municipality, Tepakhola Lake in Faridpur town and five municipalities in Cumilla, setting up of Bogura-Rangpur-Syedpur gas transmission pipeline, construction of a bridge on the Mathabhanga river near Kushtia-Jhenidah highway, renovation of Ranishankail-Pirganj road portion of the Thakurgaon-Pirganj highway, construction of a bridge on the Punarbhava river and renovation of Birganj-Kaharol highway. One of the project is aimed at digging and developing 100-feet canals on both sides of the Purbachal Ring Road.

## RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Some of the projects are meant for infrastructure development of rural areas of greater Kushtia, Gopalganj, Faridpur and Dhaka. Some are to renovate road infrastructure damaged by natural disasters in the three hilly districts of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban.

Projects related to the development of Paira Port, dual gauge rail line, setting up of medical colleges and

# Drug peddler

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around 12:30am. The robbers fired at the police officials, forcing them to retaliate. Kafi sustained bullet wounds during the gunfight," OC Akanda said.

Kafi was taken to MMCH where he was declared dead.

Police claimed to have recovered a gun and two used bullets from the spot.

The OC further said sub-inspector Nazim Uddin, assistant sub-inspector Mohammad Mazid, and constable Ibrahim were injured in the incident, adding that they were being treated at Mymensingh Police Lines Hospital.

He also said Kafi was accused in three cases filed under the Anti-Terrorism Act with Kadamtoli Police Station in Dhaka in 2013, and was arrested once around two years ago in Dhaka for his involvement in anti-government activities.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Kafi's older brother Abdul Alim said they were hardly in touch with Kafi since he left for Dhaka about seven years ago.

"Earlier, he used to contact with us over mobile phone and also told us that he used to run makeshift fruit shops at Tongi and Narayanganj. But he cut-off all connections with us around three years ago," said Alim, a local bakery employee.

He added that their family knew nothing about Kafi's involvement with JMB.

Meanwhile, Alamgir, an electrician and suspected drug peddler, was killed in an alleged gunfight with police in Shaheed Kachari Bazar area beside the Mymensingh-Kishoreganj highway.

Shah Kamal Akanda, officer-in-charge (OC) of DB police in Mymensingh, said a team of detectives raided the area around 1:30am upon receiving information that a gang of drug peddlers had gone there.

"When police reached the spot, the drug peddlers fired at the law enforcers, forcing them to retaliate, leading to the gunfight. Alamgir sustained bullet wounds during the incident," he said.

Alamgir was taken to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH) where he was declared dead.

Police claimed to have recovered

two kgs of marijuana and two used bullets from the spot.

They also said Alamgir was accused in three cases related to narcotics filed with Kotwali Police Station.

However, his family members alleged that he was killed three days after he had been picked up by plain clothes men. Police, however, denied the allegation.

Meanwhile Alamgir's father Mohammad Ibrahim, a local fish trader, said his son was addicted to drugs once but was never involved in drug peddling, adding that Alamgir had been living at his sister's house in Purbadhala in Netrakona for the past three months.

"Alamgir came home on Tuesday evening. Around 10:00pm, plain-clothes men picked him up from our home," he said, adding that they searched for Alamgir at Kotwali Police Station and the DB office several times and asked about his whereabouts but police denied picking him up.

His family demanded an investigation into the incident.

With this, at least 252 suspected drug dealers and peddlers have been killed since the nationwide anti-narcotics drive began on May 4. Most of them were killed in so-called shoot-outs involving police and Rab.

# We will seek

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parliamentary election," he said, urging his party leaders and activists to keep a vigil at every polling centre so that no one dared to rig the polls.

Ershad later declared the name of Mostafa Al Mahmud, convener of Islampur upazila unit JP, as the candidate for Jamalpur-2 constituency and sought votes for him.

Chaired by Mostafa Al Mahmud, the party meeting was also addressed, among others, by JP Secretary General ABM Ruhul Amin Hawladar, Vice-President Nurul Islam Nuru, presidium members MA Sattar and Foyсал Chisti and Iqbal Ahsan, general secretary of the party's district unit.