

### Madrasa teacher stabbed to death at home

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Miscreants stabbed a madrasa teacher to death at Railway Colony in Barabkunda under Sitakunda upazila, Chattogram early yesterday. The deceased was identified as Emran Hossain Riad, 28, a teacher at Sitakunda Alia Madrasa, said police.

Emran had previously gotten into arguments with young drug addicts in the colony and they were irate with him, said Delwar Hossain, officer-in-charge of Sitakunda Police Station.

Emran's father Sarwar Hossain, who worked as a wayman in railway and is currently in LPR, came out of their home in the colony hearing a sound around 12:30am.

"He noticed some youths breaking the street light and about to take drugs," said the OC, adding, "Sarwar forbade the youths to take drugs and asked them to leave, but they locked in an altercation with him."

"At one stage, three of them trespassed into Sarwar's home. Emran, who was asleep in another room of the house, woke up hearing the ruckus and came out," he said.

"As the youths noticed Emran, they stabbed him in the abdomen. Emran died on the spot," said the OC.

Police were conducting drives to arrest the criminals, he said.



A rickshaw-van puller avoids two gaping holes while travelling on Sonadanga Natun Road in Khulna. Locals have put a bamboo pole in one of the holes to warn commuters but fear an accident may happen anytime on the busy road. The photo was taken in Kabir Bottola on Sunday.

PHOTO: DIPANKAR ROY

### MAN LYNCHED IN CTG Family claims it's planned murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Family members of a former BCL leader, who was lynched on Monday by an angry mob in the port city's Pahartali railway market on allegation of extortion, yesterday claimed that he was murdered in a planned way.

Denying the allegation of extortion or any criminal activities, Md Shakirul Islam Shisir, younger brother of deceased Mohiuddin Sohel, at a press conference said no cases had ever been filed against him.

Family members including Sohel's wife, two children, parents and sister were present at the press conference.

Reading out a statement, Shisir said his brother was killed in a planned way since he took steps against drug peddling and other criminal activities in Pahartali Bazar and adjoining areas.

He never demanded extortion money from anybody, rather he was a contractor in the railway, he said.

Sohel recently uprooted a den of illegal activities run by a former ward councillor who is currently involved with Jatiya Party, he said, adding that this person was angry with Sohel and such enmity could be a reason for this brutal murder.

### B'baria-2: Re-voting in 3 centres today

UNB, B'baria

Re-balloting at three polling centres under Brahmanbaria-2 constituency, where voting was suspended during the December 30 election, will be held today.

In case of 100 percent turnout of 10,574 voters, BNP candidate Abdus Sattar Bhuiyan needs 208 votes while his nearest rival independent contender Moyeenuddin Moyeen needs 10,367 votes to win the election.

The three election centres are Jatrapur Govt Primary School, Bahadurpur Govt Primary School and Sohagpur Dakkhin Govt Primary School.

Re-voting is necessary as the margin of votes between Sattar and Moyeenuddin is 10,159, less than the total votes at the three centres.

### DEATH OF RAIFA Receiving threats to withdraw case, says father

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Rubel Khan, father of toddler Rafida Khan Raifa -- who died in a private hospital in Chattogram last year, due to alleged negligence in treatment -- yesterday alleged that he was being threatened to withdraw the case that he had filed with Chawkbazar Police Station in this connection.

Rubel, a senior reporter of the Bangla daily Samakal's Chattogram bureau, made the allegation before the probe body formed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to investigate into the allegation of wrong treatment.

The four-member probe body, led by the

ministry's Joint Secretary Saifullahil Azam, spoke with Rubel at Chattogram Circuit House.

Rubel told The Daily Star that he informed the probe committee about the threats he received for withdrawing the case. He, however, declined to disclose the name of the person who issued the threat.

Contacted, Azizur Rahman Siddique, civil surgeon in Chattogram and member secretary of the probe body, declined to make any comment about it.

Raifa, 3, died on June 29 last year at Max Hospital after she was admitted there with pain in her throat. Her father filed a case on July 18 over negligence in treatment.

### Case filed over death of workers at illegal stone pit

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A case was filed yesterday in connection with the deaths of two workers at an illegal stone pit in Shah Arefin Tila area of Sylhet's Companiganj upazila on Monday afternoon.

Meanwhile, police recovered the bodies of the workers in the morning. The deceased are Selim Miah, 25, and Nurul Haque, 30, of Sunamganj.

Selim's wife filed the case with Companiganj Police Station accusing Abdur Rahim, owner of the illegal quarry, and others, said Tajul Islam, officer-in-charge of the police station.

The bodies were sent to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College for autopsy, he added.

Another case was filed yesterday with the police station, accusing 23 named stone traders and 500 unnamed workers for carrying out an attack on a taskforce, comprising of the administration, police and Border Guard Bangladesh personnel, during a drive against illegal stone extraction on Monday afternoon, said the OC.

Masud Rana, assistant commissioner (land) of Companiganj, said he along with the taskforce was conducting the drive in Lilai Bazar area when

some stone traders and workers attacked them.

Fifteen persons including members of BGB, Railway Security Force and upazila administration were injured in the attack, he said. The taskforce has been formed to stop illegal stone extraction in Companiganj and Gowainghat upazilas.

Influential and unscrupulous traders continue to extract stone illegally in the district, defying repeated ruling of the High Court and drives of taskforce. So far, 54 workers have been killed in such stone pits since January 2018 till now.

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