

Schoolboy found dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhalakathi

Police yesterday recovered the body of a 15-year-old schoolboy from the Sandha river in Barishal's Babuganj upazila, a day after he went missing on Saturday.

The deceased, Nayan Howladar, son of Sobhan Howladar of Bharosakathi village in Ujirpur upazila, was a Class X student at a local high school.

Quoting the deceased's family members, police said Nayan went out of his house after receiving a phone call on Saturday evening and did not return home, police said.

Villagers spotted Nayan's body floating in the river near Ramjankathi area in Babuganj yesterday morning and informed police. Officer in Charge of Babuganj Police Station Dibakar Chandra Das said, adding that they recovered the body and sent it to the hospital for autopsy.

Criminal might have killed the boy and dumped the body in the river, the OC said.

Man kills brother

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

A man was killed allegedly by his elder brother over taking ownership of an irrigation pump at Protapkathi village in Monirampur upazila of Jashore yesterday morning.

The deceased was identified as Jaded Sen, 52, son of late Suren Sen of the area.

The body was sent to Jashore Medical College Hospital for autopsy, said SM Enamul Haque, inspector of Monirampur Police Station.



A section of Robidas community in Lalmonirhat's Khuniyagachh union. They are worried that they might lose their ancestral land to influential locals again. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

For sixth time, they fear being driven out of own land

S DILIP ROY, Lalmonirhat

In a span of five years' time, since 2014, they lost their 32 decimals of ancestral land to an influential local -- not once, not twice, but a staggering five times!

They are the men and women of Robidas community, a depressed and backward Hindu caste in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

Every time the Robidas families, totalling only seven, fought back and were able to reclaim possession of their land in Kalmati village under Khuniyagachh union.

Exhausted, the remaining 38 members of the community are now on the verge of collapse as the same aggressor has resurfaced this year.

On March 29, the man, Alam Miah alias Kosai Alam, and his accomplices demanded that the Robidas community pay Tk 50 thousand extortion money for

access rights to their own land that they inherited from their ancestors.

Alam and his thugs returned the next day and barred the community members from conducting agricultural work on the land.

The Robidas community had been living peacefully on the land by the Teesta river since it was purchased in 1973, said Bachcharam Robidas, a senior citizen of the community.

But in the past few years, their piece of mind has been replaced with fear -- fear of being driven out of their own land, he lamented.

Dhaneshwar Chandra Robidas, another member of the community, said the first time the organised criminals encroached on their land was by building a makeshift structure on it.

The land was returned to the Robidas community after its members raised the issue in a village arbitration.

But the criminals made similar attempts four times more and the community, with the help of others in the village, foiled the attempts each time, Dhaneshwar said. "It happened five times in the last five years. Why do we have to suffer this inhumane torture?"

He said on March 31, he filed a case with Lalmonirhat Sadar Police Station, accusing Alam Miah and four others for issuing threats on the Robidas community.

Confirming that the Robidas community is the genuine owner of the piece of the land, Sultan Ahmed, an elderly resident of the village, said a group of people have been causing trouble unnecessarily by producing false documents of ownership.

Although the issue was settled in village arbitration several times, the group has been trying to take its possession again,

he added.

In the last session of arbitration, held at Lalmonirhat Sadar Police Station on July 27, 2017, the Robidas community was returned the rights to the land. Aside from law enforcers, the arbitration session was attended by villagers, village leaders, local politicians, journalists and lawyers.

Refuting the accusations made against him, Alam Miah claimed that the Robidas community is illegally occupying the piece of land that belongs to him and several others.

He however did not make any comment about previous decisions made at village arbitrations, favouring the Robidas community.

Sub-Inspector Selim Reza of Lalmonirhat Police Station said they would take necessary action against the accused following due investigation.

No firm govt grasp over share market

FROM PAGE 1
needed to run the capital market strongly.

The minister said as the capital market and economy were interwoven and integrated, there would be incentives for the market in the next budget.

In the whole world, the capital market and the economy was related in this way.

"But how much will be the incentives, I cannot tell that right now," he added.

Responding to another query from treasury bench MP M Israfil Alam, Kamal said the country's banking sector was now in delicate situation.

"Our banking sector is now in delicate position. There is no problem in accepting that," he said.

He also mentioned that these kinds of incidents occurred in every country

as it was not possible for a developing country to run all the sectors in a balanced way all the time.

"In that situation, I will not say that our banking sector is doing badly," he said.

He said that the rate of interest in the country was comparatively higher. "In the whole world no country has 14-15 percent interest rate," he said.

"We are doing one thing; soon we will formulate a rate integrated with the whole world. If we can implement that rate of interest it will be the turning point for the history of the economic sector of Bangladesh."

The finance minister mentioned that if the interest rate could be lowered to a single digit, there would be incidents of writing off loans repeatedly, which will cause

the increase of non-performing loans.

"The weak areas will be weaker; we don't want that repetition. We have started our work, now it is the time to implement it. We will reduce the interest rate, we will keep the rate in single digit which was the pledge of the prime minister," he added.

In reply to a supplementary question, Kamal said there were policies across the world to forgive loan defaulters. He, however, said all loan defaulters could not be forgiven.

"The country's economy will not run if we send all businessmen to jail. However, we cannot grant forgiveness to all. We must take actions against those who become loan defaulters willingly. The government will take a hard stance against them.

Principal 'ordered her killing'

FROM PAGE 1
Hossain Shamim from jail.

"Siraj ordered them to burn her to death if she did not agree to withdraw the case against him," the police official said, adding that he asked them to stage the murder as a case of suicide.

The PBI officer spoke to the media after the court finished recording of Siraj's statement for five hours.

He, however, refused to provide details for the sake of investigation.

Earlier on April 10, a Feni court granted a seven-day remand of Siraj over the murder. Till date, 21 people were arrested in this case. Of them, nine gave confessional statements.

MPO SCRAPPED

Siraj and Afsar Uddin, a lecturer of English department at the madrasa, were dropped off the monthly pay order yesterday over their involvement in the killing of Nusrat.

Deputy Minister for Education Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury approved a note scrapping the facility for the two.

Earlier, Siraj was arrested on March 27 in a case filed over sexually harassing Nusrat. Later on April 9, he was shown arrested in the case filed by the victim's brother for ordering the arson attack on Nusrat.

On April 6, a group of people set Nusrat on fire pouring kerosene on her as she refused to withdraw the sexual harassment case despite repeated pressure from the accused.

Alim examinee Nusrat lost her battle for life on April 10, five days after she was set afire.

Jamaat

FROM PAGE 16

"We recalled his [Monju] important role as a Jamaat leader and the glorious time when he was beaten up by the Chhatra League activists at Chittagong University. We also remembered his role in Jamaat's publicity department as a journalist," Maqbul added.

The new platform's manifesto shows there is no deviation from Jamaat, he said, adding, "So we don't see any reason to be disappointed at his [Monju] present activities."

Claiming that the new initiative will strengthen the Islamic movement, the Jamaat ameer said, "It is not necessary that the work for Islamic movement should be done from a single platform."

He hoped that the existing good terms between them would continue in future. "We pray for their success."

Eight killed

FROM PAGE 2

In another incident, a fourth grader was killed after a covered van hit him in Major road area of Mirpur yesterday afternoon.

The dead was identified as Mafim Sarkar, 12, a student of Mirpur RC Primary School.

The accident took place in front of Prime University around 1:30pm when the victim was riding a bicycle.

He was declared dead at National Institute of Neurosciences and Hospital.

Selimuzzaman, officer-in-charge of Darussalam Police Station said, police seized the covered van and also detained its driver Shamim Hossain, 25.

(A Chandpur correspondent and our Noakhali correspondent contributed to this report)

Body of missing cop recovered

A CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

Body of a police constable, who went missing during a dash with a group of fishermen in the Meghna river in Haimchar upazila on Friday night, was recovered from Hizla upazila in Barishal yesterday.

Locals spotted the floating body of Mosharraf Hossain, 32, around 11:00am and informed the police, Officer in Charge (OC) of Haimchar Police Station Sheikh Mohsin Alam said.

Mosharraf was missing since Friday night when a police team had a dash with suspected criminals in the area.

Passengers vent their grievances

FROM PAGE 16
of Dhaka airport.

"In case of failure, the airline concerned will have to compensate the passenger," he added.

Jakir Hossain, a Saudi Arabia-bound passenger, told the hearing that sometimes it takes one to two hour to get luggage at the airport which is painful for them.

In response, Mollah Atiar Rahman, station manager of Biman, which deals with the ground handling, said they were going to take measures so that the passengers get their luggage within an hour of landing.

Kutubuddin, a resident of Magura, said many passengers, especially the migrant workers who are not educated enough to fill up departure or arrival cards at the airport.

"Although there is a Probashi Kalyan Desk at the airport to help the migrant workers, we seldom get any help from it. Officials at the desk seem reluctant to help when we go there to seek any assistance," he said.

In response, Tanvir Hossain, assistant director of the desk, urged the sufferers to report to the senior officials in case of any non-cooperation.

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Chairman Air Vice Marshal M Naim Hassan, who was present, asked officials of the desk in question to be more vigilant and remain active when an aircraft, especially from the countries where migrant workers are mostly employed, lands at the airport.

Nasir Ahmed, duty manager of Singapore Airlines, said long queues of passengers at the airport entrances had been a major cause of suffering for women and elderly passengers.

The airport authority should open one or two more entrances, he added.

In reply, the CAAB chairman said the third gate at the domestic terminal would be launched soon, adding that the construction of another gate for entering

the international terminal was in progress.

Md Abdullah Shaon, who was waiting for a Qatar-bound flight, said immigration police often behave with the migrant workers inappropriately.

Shaon, while sharing his experience, said an immigration police official humiliated him by calling him "tui" (a derogatory term for you) when he was about to visit Cyprus a few years ago.

He also complained of not finding any desk to lodge such complaints.

In response, Ashrafuzzaman, additional superintendent of police, immigration police, admitted that there might be some behavioural issues among some policemen.

"But I want to assure you that I will brief all members of immigration police to change their behaviour towards the passengers and to become more cordial. Actions will be taken if any immigration police misbehaves with passengers," he said.

Bikash Chandra Roy, a staff of Standard Bank stationed at the airport, said many washrooms of the airport are in poor condition and without adequate supply of water.

The CAAB chief gave an instant order to officials concerned to fix the problem.

In his inaugural speech, the CAAB boss said, "You all know 36 to 38 departments and organisations work at the airport to provide services to the valued passengers. We are trying to improve the quality of services at the airport but I won't say that exceptional incidents do not take place while providing quality services to the passengers."

About the passengers' allegations regarding the delay in getting their luggage on arrival, Naim Hassan said: "We are taking measures so that passengers get their luggage at the quickest possible time. It takes more time to get the luggage when two to three aircraft land at the airport at the same time.

BNP decides to stop

FROM PAGE 1

from taking oath," a senior leader told The Daily Star, wishing anonymity.

Soon after his remark, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said it was not her policy to divide any party or do anything that leads to a split in a party. She added that there was no pressure from the government on the elected MPs to be sworn in.

A day before the 90-day deadline for taking oath ends, BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman talked with three elected members of BNP via Skype last night.

The meeting sources said Tarique tried to separately persuade them not to take oath, but all of them said that there was "pressure" on them to take oath.

The BNP standing committee during a meeting last night at their Gulshan office requested the elected members not to take oath.

A member of the standing committee said they were frustrated by the MPs-elect wishing to take oath even after talking to Tarique Rahman.

Asked, BNP MP-elect Aminul Islam said they would have to abide by the party's decision. Another MP-elect Harun-ur-Rashid refused to comment.

Article 67 (1) of the constitution says that a member of parliament shall vacate his seat if he fails to take oath within 90 days from the date of the first meeting of parliament after being elected. According to the constitution, if the BNP's MPs-elect do not take oath by to-day, the Speaker may extend the deadline upon request.

The maiden session of the current parliament began on January 30 following the national election on December 30, 2018.

The Awami League bagged a landslide victory, securing 258 seats out of 300. The BNP-led Jatiya Oikyafront got only eight seats. Gonoforum, a major component in the alliance, got two seats.

Immediately after the polls, the Jatiya Oikyafront rejected the election result, citing widespread irregularities and vote rigging.

The BNP and Gonoforum have been demanding a fresh election, saying that their MPs-elect will not take oath and join parliament.

Two MPs-elect of Gonoforum -- Sultan Muhammad Monsur Ahmed from Moulvibazar-2 and Mukabbir Khan from Sylhet-2 -- took oath on March 7 and April 2 respectively, defying the party's decision.

ER				
Eastern Refinery Limited				
North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh				
Ref: 28.0000.028.07.005.19/ABP			Date: 29/04/2019	
Invitation of Re-Tender (International) for Replacement of MCC Panel of ABP Unit at ERL				
1	Ministry/Division	Energy and Mineral Resources Division.		
2	Agency	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).		
3	Procuring entity name	Eastern Refinery Limited.		
4	Invitation for	Goods and related services.		
5	Invitation Ref. No.	28.0000.028.07.005.19/ABP		
KEY INFORMATION				
6	Procurement method	One stage two envelope (Technical and Financial)-ICT.		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
7	Budget and source of funds	Own Funds.		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
8	Tender Package No.	ER/E&G/TB6211-MCC PANEL/19		
9	Tender package name	Replacement of MCC Panel of ABP Unit at Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL).		
10	Tender publication date	29/04/2019		
11	Tender last selling date	29/05/2019		
		Date	Time	
12	Tender closing date and time	30/05/2019	BST 1400 hrs	
13	Tender opening date and time	30/05/2019	BST 1415 hrs	
14	Name & address of the office(s)	Address		
	Selling tender document (principal)	Manager (Accounts), Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh.		
	Selling tender document (others)	ERL Dhaka Liaison Office, 2nd Floor, YMCA Bhaban, 1/1, Pioneer Road, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.		
	Receiving tender document	Board Room, 1st Floor, Registered Office, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh.		
	Opening tender document	Board Room, 1st Floor, Registered Office, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
15	Eligibility of tenderer	As per Tender Data Sheet (Section-2).		
16	Brief description of goods or works	Supply of new MCC Panel including all equipment for ABP Unit at ERL.		
17	Brief description of related services	Installation, Testing and Commissioning of MCC Panel of ABP Unit at ERL.		
18	Price of tender document (Tk)	TK. 2000.00 (two thousand) or US Dollar 25 (twenty-five).		
	Lot	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security (amount in taka)
	Single	ER/E&G/TB6211-MCC PANEL/19	ABP Unit of Eastern Refinery Ltd	Tk. 4,50,000 (four lac and fifty thousand)
				Completion time
				30 weeks
PURCHASER DETAILS				
19	Name of official inviting tender	Engr. Md. Tazul Islam.		
20	Designation of official inviting tender	Deputy General Manager (E&I).		
21	Address of official inviting tender	Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chattogram-4204, Bangladesh.		
22	Contact details of official inviting tender	+88 031 2501261	+880 1554631326	tazul3069@gmail.com
23	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders at any time or stage without assigning any reason whatever and no claim will be entertained in this regard.			
GD-778				