



Posters titled "Beware! Godfather!" have begun popping up on the streets in many areas of the city in the last few days, like these in Nilkhet. The posters contain photos of a number of alleged murder case accused and listed criminals, showing their supposed association with suspended Jubo League leader Khalid Mahmud Bhuiyan, who was arrested recently for running illegal gambling facilities. PHOTO: STAR

Putting a face on crime

PBI plans to recruit 40 sketch artists to help solve complicated cases

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

Bangladesh Police is planning to recruit forensic sketch artists to help solve complicated cases and expedite investigation process.

Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI), tasked to probe special cases, has already sent a proposal to the Police Headquarters (PHQ), seeking 40 such artists.

Apart from that, PBI has also proposed to recruit 5,284 additional manpower for removing backlogs and settling cases in the shortest possible time.

"The proposal is now pending at the home ministry for approval," Banaj Kumar Majumder, PBI chief, told The Daily Star recently. A forensic artist will try to sketch the face of a criminal and crime scene after taking notes from eyewitness and victims, said Majumder.

"We have to deal with many cases in rural areas where it's hard to avail digital support and CCTV cameras are not available," he said. "A sketch artist will come in handy in such circumstances. The drawings can also be submitted to the court as corroborating evidence, along with case documents," he added.

Recently, PBI took the assistance of sketch artists to explain the brutal killing of Feni madrasa student Nusrat Jahan Rafi, which is a first in the country's history. It was a

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benchmark in the police investigation, said the official.

Police presently outsource sketch artists. Even in some sensitive cases, like in writer and blogger Avijit Roy murder, police invited sketch artists from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to draw the faces of suspects, according an official involved in that investigation.

"Presently, we do not have any sketch artist but if the investigation officers (IO) want, they can hire one," Rumana Akhter, special superintendent of Criminal Investigation Department's (CID) Forensic

DNA Laboratory, told this correspondent. Currently, PBI tries to digitally draw the

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'Take action against Menon'

Legal notice served on home ministry STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Supreme Court lawyer yesterday served a legal notice on the home

ministry, requesting it to take necessary action against Rashed Khan Menon, chairman of the governing body of Young Men's Club -- for his alleged involvement in running a casino.

Advocate Eunus Ali Akond sent the legal notice saying, "the law enforcers did not take any action against the said chairman [Menon] though some others were arrested".

"As per news, I came to know that Rahsed Khan Menon, MP of Dhaka-8 constituency, is the chairman of governing body of Young Men's Club in Fakirerpool, Motijheel, Dhaka, and the said MP inaugurated the casino... His photograph was also seen at the chairman's room in Young Men's Club," Akond said in the legal notice.

The legal notice further reads, "The said member of parliament is liable for joint crimes as defined under sections 3, 4 and 15 of the Public Gambling Act. He is a lawmaker, but he has violated Article 18(2) of the constitution and gambling act."

According to Article 18(2) of the constitution, the state shall adopt effective measures to prevent prostitution and gambling, he said in the legal notice.

"Such action of the said MP is unconstitutional and it is a sedition charge as defined under Article 7A of the constitution and is punishable under the Penal Code," Akond said in the legal notice.

The lawyer requested authorities concerned to reply to the legal notice

in 24 hours and said that he would file a writ petition with the

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'Mugger' killed in Hatirpool as Rab fires 'in self-defence'

Wife of deceased claims he worked at a jewellery shop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A suspected mugger was killed while another was injured when one of them tried to open fire on officials of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and the elite force fired back in Hatirpool area of Dhaka early yesterday, Rab sources said.

The deceased was identified as Sushan Mitra alias Suman and the injured is Hasan, said Mohiuddin Faruque, Company Commander of Rab-2.

When a team of Rab was patrolling Mirpur Road around 12:30am, they heard some passersby shouting "muggers, muggers" near Labaid Hospital, the officer said.

As they reached the spot, they saw a motorcycle -- with three riders -- moving towards New Market. After being chased by the Rab team, the motorbike made a U-turn and went towards Kalabagan, and finally made their way to Panthapath.

Officers managed to capture them when they reached near Eastern Plaza in Hatirphool area, Mohiuddin said.

At this point, one of the riders tried to bring out

a pistol which prompted Rab officials to shoot at them, leaving two of them injured, he added. The third rider managed to flee, the official said.

Both of the injured were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where Sushan was declared dead. Rab recovered one pistol, four bullets and a

magazine from the spot. The Rab official said the trio also mugged a person in front of Square Hospital on Panthapath

earlier that night. Rab recovered a bag from their possession from which they found some snatched items.

Meanwhile, Sushan's wife Subarna Mitra said her husband worked at a jewellery shop in Old Dhaka's Tantibazar area.

"I spoke with him around 10pm when he said he was coming home. Later, when I called him again at 1:07am, he didn't answer the phone," she said, adding that she learnt of his death from Rab officials.

Subarna alleged that Rab members went to their house in Mirpur's Darussalam area around 4am SEE PAGE 4 COL 6

outer ring road around Dhaka STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Govt to construct

To ease Dhaka's traffic jam, the government will start construction of a 48km outer ring road around the city in 2020 under a government-to-government initiative with

The cabinet committee on economic affairs yesterday at a meeting approved a proposal to this end which will be implemented under the public private partnership (PPP) initiative.

After the meeting, Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said 134km road will be constructed under the project.

The committee approved the construction of 48km in the first phase which will cost about Tk 10,200 crore, he The government will implement the project with

assistance from the Japanese government, said the minister. According to the project proposal, the construction will start in 2020 and end in 2023.

Yesterday, the cabinet committee also approved the purchase of 20 lakh machine-readable passport (MRP) booklets and 20 lakh lamination foils at a cost of Tk 41 crore.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT DHAKA COMMERCE COLLEGE

Complainants claim of being coerced

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Instead of investigating complaints against Saidur Rahman, a teacher of Dhaka Commerce College (DCC), the college authorities are allegedly investigating two of their female lecturers who submitted allegations of sexual harassment against Saidur.

Professor Saidur, chairman of Bangla department at the college, has been influencing the college governing body in this regard, both the female teachers alleged.

The committee to prevent sexual harassment at DCC are yet to submit its report, though they are compelled to do it within 30 days since the allegations were field two months ago, college sources said. The college authorities, on the

contrary, have formed a separate threemember probe body to investigate the female teachers -- bringing allegations of "controversial activities" against them.

One of the women -- who submitted a written allegation against Saidur on June 17 -- was dismissed from her lecturer post on May 28, on charges of violating the college's code of conduct. one day Saidur called her on the The college administration on June 12 withdrew her dismissal notice.

"He [Saidur] sacked me as I refused to have physical relations with him," said the victim lecturer.

According to the allegations, Saidur harassed her in the car, she alleged. used to call the complainant, making sexual advances. "One day, he called me to his room and tried to sexually assault me... He also threatened to fire me, as I protested," reads the allegation.

On September 21 and 23, the lecturer was asked to provide oral testimony over allegations against her, but she refused to speak.

"They have two common members in both the [probe] committees and the rest of the members were not present on the day. How could I trust them to get justice?" she said.

On the same day, a member of the committee against sexual harassment prevention, Advocate Shagorika Jahan, requested me to make compromise with Saidur. "You cannot do anything, as he [Saidur] is powerful," the lecturer quoted Advocate Shagorika.

Another victim, who submitted allegations in July this year, said that

phone in the evening, saying, "I will go to buy medicine in Mohammadpur. I don't want to go alone. Could you come with me?" When she agreed to accompany him, Saidur sexually

"No one dares to speak against Saidur Rahman, who is an influential teacher in the college. Moreover, if anyone submits allegation, she faces threats," said a teacher of English department of the college, wishing to remain unnamed.

DCC sources said the college had no committee to prevent sexual harassment until the allegations made by the two female teachers, though the High Court in 2018 ordered to form such committees in all educational institutions.

On May 25, the college administration formed a probe body that has already accused one of the female lecturers for having "an illicit relationship with an assistant professor of the Bangla depertment". The probe body also issued a showcause notice to the lecturer.

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PHOTO OF THE DAY



Activists sing at the fifth central council of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front. The programme was organised in front

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Despite strict rules that prohibit parking here and there, cars belonging to government high-ups and different agencies are parked occupying both sides of Abdul Gani Road in front of the secretariat. As a result, the roads to and from Zero Point police box to Matsya Bhaban are constricted to one narrow lane. The photo was taken yesterday.

ROHINGYA REPATRIATION

The world is with us: foreign minister

UNB, New York

The international community has assured Bangladesh that they would remain engaged in its efforts to resolve the Rohingya crisis so that the Myanmar refugees can return to their homeland with safety, security and dignity, said Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen.

of Aparajeyo Bangla sculpture on Dhaka University campus yesterday.

"The world community has shown full solidarity with Bangladesh to resolve the Rohingya crisis saying that Myanmar refugees must be repatriated to their homeland," he said at a press briefing in New York on Tuesday.

The event was held at the Bangabandhu Auditorium of Bangladesh

Permanent Mission. The minister said Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad, OIC Secretary General Dr Yousef bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen and Saudi Foreign Minister Dr Ibrahim bin Abdulaziz Al-Assaf as well as ministers and representatives from different countries, including the USA, the UK, Canada, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Turkey, Sweden, Singapore, Kuwait, Serbia, the Philippines and Gambia, and European Union came up with their assurance of extending support to Bangladesh in this regard.

While speaking at a high-level event on Rohingya crisis, organised jointly by Bangladesh Mission and OIC Secretariat, they assured Bangladesh of pursuing the Rohingya issue, said the foreign minister.

"They also want safe, secure and dignified repatriation of the Rohingyas. I think it's a great achievement for Bangladesh," he said.

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those who have been forcibly displaced. The US also encouraged the government of Myanmar to work with the government

of Bangladesh to facilitate use of Burmese curriculum to teach Rohingyas in Bangladesh. This will help facilitate the reintegration

US urges Myanmar

The United States has urged Myanmar to

create conditions that would allow for

"voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable" returns, based on the informed consent of

to create safe

conditions

STAR REPORT

of Rohingya youth who choose to return to Myanmar, according to US Department of State. The US made the fresh call on Tuesday

in New York, while announcing more than \$127 million in additional humanitarian assistance for Rohingyas and host communities in Bangladesh and internally displaced Rohingya and members of other

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