

It was to frame

FROM PAGE 16
Nasir and Shahriar then slaughtered the child. The criminals also cut off Tuhin's ears, genital and pierced two knives into his abdomen that had two people's names embedded on its grips, he added.

Meanwhile, Tuhin's father Abdul Basir, uncle Abdul Musobir and their neighbour Jamshed Ali were placed on three-day remand each.

Sunamganj Senior Judicial Magistrate Shyam Kanta Saha passed the order as police placed them before the court with five-day remand plea.

All five of the accused were detained on Monday and shown arrested after Tuhin's mother Monira Begum filed a case with Derai Police Station in connection with the murder, the police official said.

Body of Tuhin was found on Monday hanging from a tree some 200 yards away from his home at Kejaura of Sunamganj's Derai upazila.

Both of his ears and genital were cut off, throat was slit, and two knives pierced into his abdomen.

RIGHTS GROUPS CONDEMNED THE MURDER

National Human Rights Commission Chairman Nasima Begum yesterday strongly condemned the brutal killing of a Tuhin.

In a statement, she wrote, "The commission is observing that different types of heinous activities are occurring due to degradation of ethical values of few people."

"The commission express strong condemnation over the brutal killing of five-year child Tuhin."

The statement also urged the authorities to ensure exemplary punishment to the killers.

Earlier, the commission directed the superintendent of Sunamganj police to take necessary steps against the killers and to inform the commission with steps have been taken by November 7.

Besides, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad also condemned the brutal murder of Tuhin.

"Bangladesh Mahila Parishad expresses deep concern and sorrow over this heinous and brutal murder," said the press statement.

200 vehicles

FROM PAGE 16
any better before Friday.

The authority suspended ferry services in the terminals from 2:00pm on Sunday as silt deposited in the ferry channels and dropped the water level causing the poor navigability.

Abdul Alim, manager of Shimulia Ghat, said the water was only five feet deep in the channels while it must be at least seven feet deep for proper ferry operation.

He said though the operation was suspended on Sunday, the disruption had been going on since August.

The authority had been trying to dredge the channels to increase water level but struggling due to strong current, he added.

Officials of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) informed that all 17 ferries, operate normally on Shimulia-Kathalbari route, were anchored on the banks. They arranged three small ferries to carry ambulances for emergency situations.

Meanwhile, several hundred good-laden vehicles remained stuck for days in the terminals.

Traffic Inspector Md Helal Uddin of Shimulia Ghat traffic police said at least 200 trucks were waiting to cross the river since last week.

Release metro rail

FROM PAGE 16
The prime minister also asked the authority to implement the projects without harming Hatirjheel's beauty, sources said.

Talking to reporters at the Secretariat, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said ground work for the two new metro rail lines -- Mass Rapid Transit-1 and Mass Rapid Transit-5 (Northern Route) -- would start soon as funding for the projects has already been settled.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency would provide the lion's share of the costs in soft loans, he said.

He also said the prime minister asked him to start a feasibility study for implementing metro rail projects in Chattogram city. "Following the directive, I have asked the secretary of the ministry

and people involved in the metro rail projects to start the feasibility study as soon as possible," he said.

PROJECTS APPROVED
The Ecneec approved the proposal for MRT-1 -- from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to Kamalapur Railway Station -- with a cost of Tk 52,561.43 crore. The 31.24km line will have an elevated section from Notun Bazar to Purbachal.

Officials expect the project to be completed by 2026.

The MRT-5 (northern route), from Hemayetur of Savar to Bhata via Gabtoli, Mirpur and Gulshan, has an estimated cost of Tk 41,238.55 crore. The 20km line would have underground and elevated sections.

The project is scheduled to finish by 2028.

Apart from these two projects,

the Ecneec meeting yesterday approved eight other projects that cost Tk 6,225 crore.

They include construction of a multi-storyed building in Mirpur for government employees for Tk 1,088 crore and multi-storyed building at Azimpur for judges for Tk 129 crore.

OTHER DIRECTIVES

The prime minister also asked the authorities concerned not to give any new gas connection to homes and install LPG storage in every building from where gas would be supplied to flats.

She also asked all secretaries to live in government quarters or else the government would not pay their rent, meeting sources said.

She urged all to use nets to prevent mosquitos in government buildings, they said.

Myanmar handed fresh list

FROM PAGE 16
on the ground for Rohingya repatriation.

Foreign Minister Momen had a joint meeting with his Chinese and Myanmar counterparts on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.

The first meeting of the tripartite working body is scheduled to be held this month.

COASTAL SURVEILLANCE

About the coastal surveillance radar system, the foreign minister said Bangladesh's relations with China would in no way be affected due to the installation of the system.

He said many pirates come and take away fisheries resources due to limitation of a proper surveillance system. Installation of the radar system would help Bangladesh monitor pirates in a better way, he added.

During Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's official visit to India

on October 5, the two countries signed seven bilateral documents, including an MoU on providing a Coastal Surveillance System.

'DIPLOMATS' REMARKS UNNECESSARY'

The minister described some foreign diplomats' comments over the murder of Buet student Abrar Fahad as "unnecessary".

"There has been an accident and the government has taken very strong actions immediately. This must be recognised. It seems to me that they [diplomats] go beyond their norms," he told reporters.

Referring to the recent shooting in New York city's Brooklyn that claimed four lives, Momen said no one could be nabbed in connection with the incident, but there had been no such statement.

Abrar, a second-year student of electrical and electronic engineering department at Buet, was beaten to death on October 7 reportedly by some Chhatra

League men at the university's Sher-e-Bangla Hall.

The foreign minister also referred to the killings of schoolchildren in the US and other parts of the world where they see no such statement. "Here [in Bangladesh], there's a tendency of blaming. I think they [diplomats] should stop it," Momen said.

Thailand unveils

FROM PAGE 16
the people may remember late King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Khun Thong Daeng," Kasetsart University said in a statement.

University veterinarians used semen from the male offspring of Khun Thong Daeng to impregnate two royal dogs. Five puppies were born in June and three in September.

"The eight puppies are healthy," the university said of the Basenji hunting dogs.

5 sentenced to death

FROM PAGE 16
victims and sufferers sustained."

Prosecutor Mukhlesur Rahman Badal expressed satisfaction over the judgment, saying that the victims' families got solace after a long time.

However, state-appointed defence counsel Abul Hasan said he was aggrieved by the verdict and he would advise his client to file an appeal with the Supreme Court.

According to the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, a war crimes convict can file an appeal with the SC within 30 days from the date when the verdict is declared.

With the latest judgement, the war crimes tribunals have so far delivered 40 verdicts against 94 people. Of them, 68 have been sentenced to death.

CHARGES, PUNISHMENT
The tribunal found all the five convicts guilty on the first charge and gave them death penalty.

According to the charge, the five, along with Pakistan army members, and fellow Razakars attacked a Hindu-dominated Bishnupur village in Gaibandha Sadar upazila in the first part of June 1971 and caught, tortured several people, killed two Hindus and forced 300 to 400 other Hindus of Shahapara

union to leave the country.

Four accused, except Ranju, were sentenced to death on the second charge.

The convicts, along with Pakistan army and other Razakars, launched an attack in Nandina village of the same upazila on October 18 in 1971 and shot eight people dead and destroyed 40 to 50 houses, read the second charge.

According to the third charge, the four convicts with their fellow Razakars and army men carried out an attack in Daulatpur and killed five on the same day. They were given death penalty on the charge.

The five convicts on the same day launched a systematic attack in Nandina and Daulatpur and caught non-combatant freedom fighter Abul Kashem from Nandina and tortured him by hanging him with a tree. He was forced to drink urine when he wanted to drink water. Later, he was shot dead, according to the fourth charge.

Besides, they killed six other non-combatant freedom fighters, added the charge.

They were handed down death penalty on the charge. However, death sentences would naturally be merged, the tribunal said.

Atwood and Evaristo

FROM PAGE 16

The 79-year-old Atwood, who wore a badge of climate activist group Extinction Rebellion, held aloft the arm of her fellow winner as they walked to the podium together.

"I'm very surprised, I would have thought I would have been too elderly," said Atwood, who was honoured for her best-selling sequel to her 1985 dystopian classic "The Handmaid's Tale".

"I don't need the attention, so I'm very glad that you're getting some," she said to Evaristo, joking that as "a good Canadian, we don't do famous, we think it is in bad taste, so it would have been embarrassing if I'd been alone here".

Evaristo responded that it was "so incredible to share this with Margaret Atwood, who is such a legend."

"I am the first black woman to win this prize," she added, to cheers from the audience.

She late told reporters she was "happy to share it, I'm a sharing person," adding the prize money would go on paying off her mortgage.

The title of best work of English-language fiction published in the United Kingdom and Ireland has launched careers and courted controversy since its creation in 1969.

Past laureates have ranged from celebrated writers such as Ian McEwan and Julian Barnes to Kazuo Ishiguro and Roddy Doyle.

Paul Beatty became the first American winner when the Booker bowed to pressure and began including authors from outside the British commonwealth, Ireland and Zimbabwe in 2013.

This year's shortlist featured six novelists -- four of them women -- born across four continents.

The five-judge panel included the writer-broadcaster Atua Hirsch and the British-Chinese novelist and filmmaker Xiaolu Guo.

Of Atwood's novel, chair of judges Peter Florence said the panel "loves this examination of complicity and resilience and resistance, we love the language and the story-telling power, we love the ambition."

Where is Tk 4,500cr?

FROM PAGE 16
public bank, when Bacchu was its chairman.

"For that reason, the government removed him from the post but Bacchu was not made accused in the 56 cases filed over BASIC Bank loan scam," he said, adding the ACC's accountability was essential.

ACC Secretary Dilwar Bakth, however, yesterday told media that he could not understand the reason behind the demand for resignation of the Commission Chairman Iqbal Mahmood.

Talking to journalists at his office, he said investigators were the ones looking into the matter, so the commissioners or chairman are not responsible for its failure.

"Therefore, it is not understandable why the question of resignation was brought up," he added.

Asked why Bacchu had not been implicated, the ACC secretary said no one could be implicated until the money or its whereabouts were found.

"Once we get answers to the questions -- where did the money go, how was it converted and who was behind it -- we will submit a charge-sheet against those responsible," said Bakth.

He also claimed that the swindled money was not transferred to any account,

but rather withdrawn in cash.

"Had the money been kept in any bank account, then it could have been traced," he said.

In July 2017, the HC ordered the ACC to look into the alleged involvement of Bacchu and other directors in the scam.

Disappointed at the sluggish probe and ACC's failure to catch the big fish, the HC during a hearing last year said, "We have to cover our faces in shame."

In line with the directive, Bacchu was quizzed five times. The Commission also questioned all the directors of the then board.

The Central Bank, in its probe report, detailed how borrowers embezzled money from the state lender through fake companies and suspicious accounts.

The 47-page report, which includes a list of borrowers, gives a detailed account of how the loans were approved and then withdrawn in clear violations of the rules.

The report said BASIC Bank's board and its credit committee at the headquarters ignored the negative observations from the bank's branches on a number of loan proposals, and approved those without following due diligence.

The report was sent to ACC in 2014.

Turkey ignores US sanctions

FROM PAGE 16

started withdrawing from the area in 2012.

It follows a deal clinched Sunday between Damascus and the Kurds that saw government troops raise the Syrian flag in the flashpoint northern city of Manbij yesterday, after US forces pulled out.

Regime troops had entered the city near the border on Monday night, as pro-Turkey fighters massed to the west ahead of a planned assault.

Kurdish combatants from the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) are battling Turkish forces and their Syrian proxies -- mostly former rebels paid and equipped by Ankara -- in various parts of the northeast.

East of Manbij, the Kurds are mounting a desperate defence in the border town of Ras al-Ain, using a dense network of tunnels, berms and trenches.

They launched "a large counterattack

against Turkish forces and their Syrian proxies near Ras al-Ain," the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

An AFP correspondent in the area said clashes around the town continued yesterday, despite repeated claims by Ankara in recent days that it had captured the area.

Since launching their assault on October 9, Turkish-backed forces have secured more than 100 kilometres (60 miles) of border, but Ras al-Ain, which the Kurds call Siri Kani, has held out.

President Donald Trump announced a pullback of US forces from the border last week, a move which was widely interpreted as green-lighting a long-planned Turkish invasion.

Politically embattled at home, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan wants to create a 30 kilometre (20 mile) deep buffer zone on the Syrian side of the long border.

Brac University

Search for Director of Campus Life



Inspiring Excellence

Competitive Salary and Benefits

An exciting opportunity to make a substantial difference.

Under new leadership, Brac University is seeking to move well beyond being one of the leading universities in Bangladesh and position itself as one of Asia's leading international universities. To support this aim, we are seeking to appoint a Director of Campus Life with the knowledge and experience needed to provide a truly outstanding student