

NARCOTIC POSSESSION CASE Charges pressed against Nasir, Omi

Names of three women dropped

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Detectives have pressed charges against Uttara Club Limited's former president Nasir Uddin Mahmud and his associate Tuhin Siddique Omi in a narcotics case.

Uday Kumar Mondol, inspector of Detective Branch of police and investigation officer of the case, had submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) court of Dhaka on July 28, according to the court's General Recording Office (GRO).

In the charge sheet, the IO said the charges brought against the duo of possessing narcotics were primarily proved, and that they should be brought under trial for it.

The IO dropped names of three women -- Lipi Akter, Sumi Akter, and Nazma Ameen Bristy -- from the case as their involvement was not proved, said an official of GRO.

All five were arrested earlier on June 14, after actor Pori Moni filed a case over attempted rape and murder against Nasir, Omi, and four others with Savar Police Station.

A team of detectives carried out a raid at a house in Uttara's Sector-1 and made the arrests later in the day after Savar police sought help from Dhaka Metropolitan Police in this regard.

Detectives recovered local and foreign liquor and 1,000 pieces of yaba from the duo's possession during the drive.

Later, Manik Kumar Sikder, sub-inspector of DB, filed a case against Nasir, Omi, and the other three with the Airport Police Station under the Narcotics Control Act.

The following day, a Dhaka court placed Nasir and Omi on a seven-day remand each, while the others were placed on three-day remands each.

While Nasir and the three female accused managed to obtain bails, Omit failed to secure bail in the case. Nasir and Omi also got bail in the case filed over the attempted murder and rape of Pori Moni.

'ASSAULT' ON SUB-INSPECTOR IN SUNAMGANJ'S SHALLA Probe takes new turn

More audio-video clips surface; OC of police station closed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

With a new video and three audio clips surfacing online last week, the investigation into the case of assaulting a sub-inspector of Shalla Police Station in Sunamganj on July 13 has taken a new turn.

In one audio clip, the prime accused of the case -- Arindam Chowdhury Apu -- was heard talking with Md Nur Alam, officer-in-charge of the police station, saying that he and his associates had beaten SI Shah Ali as per the OC's instruction.

Besides, other audio clips revealed that there was financial dealings between OC Nur Alam and Arindam over some other matter.

Meanwhile, a video clip surfaced online where a boatman -- Munir Hossain -- claimed that the SI and some others got on his boat that night. He said SI Shah Ali got injured while getting off the boat.

The Daily Star has obtained copies of the audio and video clips.

However, Mizanur Rahman, superintendent of Sunamganj police, said they saw another video clip where the same boatman said he was pressured to make a "false" statement.

The Daily Star could not find the copy of that video.

Sunamganj police recently withdrew OC Nur Alam from the station after his name surfaced along with the audio clips.

Contacted, Arindam, who got out of jail on bail on August 8, said, "The voice in the audio where it seems like I was telling the OC that I've beaten the SI is not mine. I did not beat the SI. It was forged with ill motive as my phone was seized by police right after my arrest that night."

Despite repeated attempts, this correspondent could not get in touch with OC Nur Alam as he did

not pick up his phone.

SP Mizanur said, "We closed the OC as his name surfaced after the audio clips leaked. We are investigating the matter."

About the video clip, he said, "It's clear that SI Shah Ali was beaten as there were injury marks on his body. The case is still under investigation and we will find who are behind the incident."

Meanwhile, a probe body has been formed by the DIG office in Sylhet over the clips.

Contacted, Zedan Al Musa, police superintendent (media and crime analysis) of the DIG office and a member of the probe body, said they will not make any comment in this regard as the matter is under investigation.

On July 13, Arindam, a Jubo League leader and former convener of Chhatra League's Shalla upazila unit, and Ratan Roy were arrested on charges of assaulting SI Shah Ali that night.

A case was filed by the SI with the police station accusing Arindam, Bishwajit Roy, Polish Sarkar Paltu, Ratan Roy, Chandan Roy, and three or four unnamed individuals.

Besides, a narcotics case was filed against Arindam, accusing him of being drunk and disorderly.

Arindam's family, however, alleged that the arrest was part of a communal agenda connected to his sharing of an audio clip of former Hefajat leader Mamunul Haque on Facebook in April.

Following the allegation, SI Shah Ali was closed from the police station on July 30.

Meanwhile, a Sunamganj court on July 15 granted Arindam bail in the drug case. On August 8, he was granted bail by the same court in the assault case. He got out of jail the same day.

'Be wary of conspirators'

Foreign minister urges all, says success of Bangladesh could increase 'enemies'

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen has urged all to remain alert about conspirators at home and abroad so that brutal incidents like August 15 can never take place in Bangladesh.

"Conspirators haven't stopped yet," he said, adding that the number of enemies might increase following Bangladesh's economic growth and significant development in other fields.

Dr Momen said all need to be prepared to face enemies of the country and need to remain alert about propaganda against Bangladesh.

The foreign minister was addressing a webinar ahead of the National Mourning Day as the chief guest.

Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University Teachers Association hosted the event on Friday night.

Dr Momen said the foreign affairs ministry has been able to work successfully due to realistic foreign policy given by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

He said Bangabandhu had always laid emphasis on establishing peace. The minister encouraged university teachers to do research on Bangabandhu's leadership, ideology and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's prudent leadership and achievements.

The Prime Minister has introduced a culture of peace at the United Nations with the aim of overcoming conflicts and establishing lasting peace, he said.

Dr Momen said no one in the world will be a refugee if lasting peace is established.

He mentioned that on the occasion of the recent Golden Jubilee of Independence and the birth centenary of Bangabandhu, the governments and heads of state of different countries of the world have praised the unimaginable success of Bangladesh.

Former Vice Chancellor of Jagannath University Prof Dr Mizanur Rahman was the key speaker.

Vice Chancellor of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University AHM Mustafizur Rahman spoke as special guest.



No vaccine

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He said the mass inoculation campaign will continue, as the jabs will continue to come.

He urged "vested interest groups" to refrain from spreading propaganda about the vaccination programme.

The AL leader also called upon the medical community to continue to be by the side of the people with the vow to serve humanity.

Quader said the credit goes to the visionary leadership of the prime minister as she maintained an effective balance between saving life and livelihood in fighting the deadly virus.

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Md Sharfuddin Ahmed presided over the function while Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque, former minister AFM Ruhul Haque and BMA President Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin spoke virtually.

Swachip President Dr Iqbal Arsalan, General Secretary Dr MA Aziz and Awami League Health Secretary Dr Rokeya Sultana were also present.

Some from

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(CTTC) unit of DMP arrested an alleged leader of a militant group who used to train people in making bombs, he said.

"We've succeeded in arresting the gang," Shafiqul Islam said.

The DMP boss said police are on high alert to ensure the foolproof security ahead of National Mourning Day.

"Though there's no security threat ahead of August 15, but we can't rule out any possibility."

"August 15 is an important day, and militants may try to carry out subversive activities in the two-kilometre stretch of the programme venue if they fail to carry out an attack on the location to draw attention of the international media. But we think no such incident will happen," he said.

People across the country will observe National Mourning Day, the darkest chapter in the history of independent Bangladesh, today.

On this day in 1975, the nation's founding father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of his family members were assassinated by a cabal of military men.

The government, various socio-cultural, political and professional organisations, including ruling Awami League and its associate bodies, have chalked out

programmes to observe the day.

At least three members of banned militant outfit Ansar Al Islam are said to have travelled to Afghanistan recently while many others are expressing their desire in closed online groups to reach the country, leaving law enforcers concerned, said counterterrorism officials while talking to The Daily Star recently.

Radicalised young people are already encouraged by the resurgence of Taliban in Afghanistan as it has already captured major parts of that country, they said.

Law enforcers have learnt from some arrested members of Ansar Al Islam, a pro-al Qaeda militant outfit, that at least three Bangladeshi youths have reached Afghanistan recently.

In the 1980s, many Bangladeshis, particularly madrasa students and teachers, went to Afghanistan to join the war against the forces of the then Soviet Union. They were trained in operating heavy arms and using grenades. After the Afghan war ended in 1992, many of them returned home and declared the launch of Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami (Huji) at a press conference in Dhaka on April 30, 1992.

According to different media reports, Taliban has reached within 11 kilometres of Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan.

Where are

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The US government has reportedly reopened a case against Rashed, signalling that he could face deportation and death sentence, according to a report published in Politico.

Law Minister Anisul Huq narrated the reasons behind the government's failure to bring the five absconding killers back to the country and constitute the commission.

"It's still very difficult to bring the killers of Bangabandhu back to the country because they had been established in strong positions politically, officially and financially by the beneficiaries of the killing -- Ziaur Rahman, HM Ershad and Khaleda Zia," he told The Daily Star on August 6.

"They had created obstacles for 21 years," said the minister, who is also the principal state counsel of Bangabandhu murder case.

He said the governments led by Ziaur Rahman, Ershad and Khaleda had not only given political support and shelter to the killers, but also patronised them and made their positions stronger in foreign countries.

"He [Ziaur Rahman] had given jobs to the killers at different foreign offices," he said.

The law minister said Ershad had allowed Farooq and Rashid to run a political party named Freedom Party and Khaleda Zia had made them lawmakers.

"The Sheikh Hasina-led government has been trying to bring the absconding killers to the country one after another. We are satisfied with the progress made so far, but, we will not be completely satisfied until every last killer is brought back to the country and executed," he said.

The law minister said the policy makers in the government could not hold physical meetings to fix the framework of the commission, due to the ongoing pandemic.

"We must constitute the commission once the situation is normal," he added.

On November 19, 2009, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court upheld the High Court verdict, confirming capital punishment of 12 killers of Bangabandhu and his family members.

"The accused persons by their barbarous act proved that the object of the conspiracy was not to oust the president from power, but their object was to eliminate the entire family and it was an act of exceptional depravity on the part of the accused persons, an unparalleled act in the annals of crime committed in the country," the Appellate Division observed.

"The accused persons brutally killed such a leader who is none but the Father of the Nation. They even did not spare the son of the president who was below 10 years old. They killed him in such a brutal manner that the nation was shocked and dumbfounded."

"There was no explanation why they killed the three women. They committed a crime against humanity by killing a child and three innocent women who were unarmed."

Still carrying

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"All of a sudden, they started firing on us. I think Sukanta Babu was the first to fall; I saw the minister [Sernibat] go down on the tea table next to Sukanta, with blood flowing from his back."

"I remember, a person firing the gun wore a wicked smile. After his magazine ran out, he was handed another gun, and he started to shoot again. As all of this was going on, Sernibat's barely alive body fell on top of me."

"I could clearly hear him reciting prayers with his last breaths. His body suddenly froze. Bullets started piercing my body too."

"Once the firing subsided, I thought of my son and daughter and tried to summon all my strength to get out of there. But movement felt impossible -- just three feet felt like an eternity away."

"Eventually, I managed to slither to the outside. I went down on the nearby drain and tried to drink its sewer water, but it was filled up with blood."

"I saw police rescuing the injured and screamed for help," he recalled.

"Police took me to Dhaka Medical College where I was treated at the surgery ward. With me were Credence members Zillur Rahman, Rafiqul Islam Rafiq, Dilip Mandal, and Syed Golam Mahmud, all bullet-hit yet somehow alive."

"A day later, we came to know of the massacre that took place. That Bangabandhu and his family had been killed, and that Credence founder Abdur Naeem Khan Rintu also died at Sernibat residence. After about two months of treatment, I went back to Barishal."

"It took another year for me to recover a bit. Two more surgeries later, 10 of the 11 bullets that pierced my body were taken out. The other one still remains, and will go to the crematorium with me, like the horrid memories of August 15 that have stayed with me," Lalit said as tears rolled down his cheeks.

Lost
My Bangladesh Medical & Dental Council Certificate Reg. No. A-75901, Date: 07/04/2016 has lost. Baizid Bostami Thana, Chattogram, GD No. 721, Date: 15/07/2021.
Dr. Ulfat Nargis Jahan D-100

None can

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National Medical Association of Bangladesh, a registered organisation of alternative medical services, had filed the petition.

It sought seeking the HC directive on the government to constitute a separate regulatory body and to prepare a separate rule for rendering professional service

and for using "Dr" before the names of its members.

In the full verdict, the HC bench opined for establishing a separate ministry like "Ministry of Ayush, Government of India" for running alternative medical service in Bangladesh, writ petitioner's lawyer Rashna Imam told The Daily Star.

জয় বাংলা জয় বঙ্গবন্ধু

১৫ ই আগস্ট
জাতীয় শোক দিবস
তুমি স্বাধীনতা
তুমিই বাংলাদেশ

জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান
বঙ্গমাতা শেখ ফজিলাতুন্নেছা মুজিব
ও ১৫ ই আগস্টের সকল শহিদের প্রতি
গভীর শ্রদ্ধা

নর্থ সাউথ ইউনিভার্সিটি



The footpath on the opposite side of Adabar Police Station is treated as a dump of seized vehicles by the police. As a result, pedestrians are forced to walk on the road, slowing down vehicular movement and putting all at risk. This photo was taken yesterday from Ring Road.

PHOTO:
AMRAN HOSSAIN