



Miscarriage after police ‘assault’

Says woman now in hospital

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Police in Gazipur allegedly assaulted a pregnant woman, causing a miscarriage last week.

The 25-year-old woman, who is currently admitted to Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmad Medical College Hospital, said policemen have been keeping an eye on her, making sure she doesn't talk to journalists about her ordeal.

Police have formed a three-member committee on Thursday to look into the allegation of assault, said Deputy Commissioner (North) Zakir Hossain of Gazipur Metropolitan Police, adding that policemen were watching over her because she requested for it.

The woman, who owns a parlour, told this correspondent that around six months ago, several unknown men sent her husband some fake "indecent" photos of her. The pictures were photoshopped, she added.

She then filed a case under the Digital Security Act with Kashimpur Police Station, she said.

On March 1, the woman, who was three months pregnant, went to the police station to let the officers know the names of two witnesses of the case, she said. When she reached there, the officers asked her to talk to Constable Ruma.

The woman met the constable and told her the names. The woman requested Ruma to write down the addresses.

“As I repeatedly requested her to write down the

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Ignoring restrictions, a passenger smokes a cigarette on a bus. Smoking in public, an act prevalent across the country, is not only harmful for the smoker but all those around them. The Daily Star does not condone the act of smoking or any other use of tobacco.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

He was fugitive in plain sight for 21 years

Sentenced to death for trying to kill Hasina, he made no attempts to hide his ID

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN

A man, sentenced to death for attempting to assassinate Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, was right under the nose of law enforcers in Dhaka for 21 years.

He got married, operated businesses and made a national identity card with his real identity during his fugitive life.

Azizul Haque worked as a tailor, grocery trader and bookseller for livelihood in these years.

He even intended to get a passport but finally backed up as it required police verification.

Meantime, he took shelter at a Darbar Shareef in Netrakona's Durgapur area for some days.

He made his driving license from there and returned to Dhaka to start working for a publishing house in Banglabazar.

He also worked for a printing press in Khilkhet and then started his own press in the area.

Aziz, a member of banned militant outfit Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (Huji), used to publish Jihadi books from those printing presses and hand those over to other members of the outfit.

According to investigators, Aziz married in Narayanganj's Rupganaj in 2007. In the last decade, he visited Rupganaj from Dhaka daily.

Talking to The Daily Star, an official of the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit said this.

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FOOD MINISTRY OFFICIALS' TRIP TO UK, TURKEY

No one knows how much it'll cost

SUMON ALI

An 11-member delegation of the food ministry is going to the UK and Turkey for a study tour that may start in the next few days even though the details of the 10-day trip remain unknown.

Six of the 11 officials contacted by this correspondent could not say which organisation would impart the training. Nor could they tell what skill or knowledge they expect to acquire from this trip.

Titled "Study tour and training on food security, safety, risk and crisis management" the journey may commence any day around March 8, said a food ministry order signed by Deputy Secretary Anima Rani Biswas.

None of the ministry officials, including the food secretary and chief accounts officer, could say how much this trip would cost the government.

Fewer foreign trips of officials amid the pandemic meant that the government saved Tk 2,500 crore in just about a year, finance ministry officials said in July 2021. Besides, the Finance Division in a circular on July 1,

2021, said government funds could only be spent for essential trips until further notice.

Contacted recently, Mosammat Nazmanara Khanum, secretary of the food ministry, who is part of the delegation that consists of three additional secretaries, six deputy secretaries and a joint secretary, said, "A tour has been approved but the date is not fixed yet."

When prodded about

"I think we need to know the cost and validation of the trip."

Khondaker Golam Moazzem
Research director at Centre for Policy Dialogue

the budget, she referred the correspondent to Mujibur Rahman, the ministry's additional secretary of administration.

Contacted, Mujibur said the cost of the trip would depend on the airfare and the kind of programme the officials would enroll in.

"Those who are going on this tour will submit a report and

share their experiences with other officials. This experience will be useful not only for their career but also for their whole life," he said.

Salma Momtaj, additional secretary of the ministry's finance and audit division, seemed to be in the dark, too.

"I don't know about the cost. Everything has been fixed by the administration department. I can't say anything," she said.

Ronak Sufia Afsara Rahman, chief accounts and finance officer of the ministry, did not respond to The Daily Star's request for comment.

Shah Nawaz Talukder, an additional secretary of the ministry, who is part of the delegation, said, "The government will pay whatever it costs -- no extra money will be given. We will submit the receipts [of our expenditures] after the tour."

Khurshid Iqbal Rezvi, additional secretary of the ministry's planning division and a member of the delegation, said, "We don't have the advanced technology for such a training

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29 BNP men hurt in clashes with pro-AL men, cops

STAR REPORT

At least 25 people, including a member of the police, were injured in a clash between the supporters of the Jubo League and BNP in Dumki upazila of Patukhali yesterday.

The clash took place around 11:00am in front of the BNP office, where hundreds of leaders and activists of the party gathered to take part in a rally protesting the rising prices of commodities, according to eyewitnesses.

At the same time, a procession of Jubo League, the youth wing of the ruling Awami League, was passing through and a brawl ensued.

Upon getting the information, police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

At least 50 BNP leaders and activists were injured during the vandalism of the party office by the Jubo League men, who attacked BNP's peaceful programme, according to Khalilur Rahman, convener for BNP Dumki upazila.

Sirajul Islam Tuhin, general secretary of Jubo League in Dumki upazila, differed: BNP men attacked the Jubo League procession that was being held in protest against "anarchy created by Jamaat-BNP".

The situation was now under control, with additional police deployed at important places in the city, said Abdus Salam, the officer-in-charge of Dumki Police Station.

Meanwhile, over at Ghordaur Bazar in Munshiganj's Louhajong Ipazila, BNP leaders and activists engaged in a scuffle with the police when they wanted to bring out a protest procession around 11:00am.

Louhjong Upazila BNP Convener Md.

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A dejected Mushfiqur Rahim, playing his 100th T20I, walks back to the pavilion after being dismissed by Afghanistan pacer Fazalhaq Farooqi in their second T20I in Mirpur yesterday. Bangladesh lost the game by eight wickets.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

ACC sues 15 for embezzling Tk 105cr

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday sued 15 people in three cases for their alleged involvement in dodging Tk 105.10cr government revenue.

The accused include customs officials, importers, outsiders, and clearing and forwarding (C&F) agents.

They collaboratively dodged the money by providing fake documents for clearing false declared goods, including cigarettes, from 10 imported consignments, alleged the anti-graft watchdog.

According to customs sources, five importers and C&F agents tried to release 10 consignments of imported cigarettes through Chattogram port declaring as garments raw material and Chinese new tyres between March and September in 2018.

The six sued customs employees are Assistant Programmer Kamrul Haque, revenue officers Sultan Ahmed and Habibur Rahman, Assistant Revenue Officer Saifunnahar Jony, Computer Operator Firuz Ahmed, and Office Assistant Abdul Al Masum.

The accused importers are Jarar Enterprise owner Mahbubur Rahman; Moving Trade International managing partners Mizanur Rahman, Mafizur Rahman and Abdul Hannan; and Sifat Trading owner Saklaudding Titu.

ACC also identified C&F agent Habibur Rahman Apu

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People using Airbnb to help Ukrainians

CNN



Airbnb hosts in Ukraine are being flooded with bookings from people all over the world who have no plans to visit as part of a creative social media campaign to funnel money to besieged Ukrainians who need financial assistance as Russian forces bombard their country and cut off services.

On March 2 and 3, guests from around the world booked more than 61,000 nights in Ukraine, according to an Airbnb spokesperson.

More than half of those nights were booked by Americans. "More than 10 bookings came in today. This was surprising, it's very supportive at the moment," Airbnb host Volodymyr Bondarenko, 36, told CNN early Friday.

The call for guests to book Airbnbs in Ukraine started online, where supporters urged people to book rooms as close to a check-in date as

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