

Arrest warrant issued against Mamunul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Narayanganj court issued an arrest warrant against former Hefazat-e-Islam leader Mamunul Haque yesterday.

Judge Nazmul Haque Shyamal of Narayanganj Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal passed the order as Mamunul was absent on the day of the cross-examination of witnesses, said Public Prosecutor Rakibuddin Ahmed.

Earlier, Mamunul got bail from the same court on April 4 in a case filed with Sonargaon Police Station in Narayanganj over rape charges.

Rakibuddin said the court had earlier fixed yesterday for cross-examination of witness SI SM Shafiqul Islam, the case's investigating officer, in presence of Mamunul.

On Mamunul being absent, Rakibuddin said, "Defence is trying to delay the trial at the last stage."

However, defence lawyer Omar Faruk Nayan said Mamunul was ill and doctors prescribed him bed rest.

The defence pleaded for another date, but the court denied the plea bargain and issued an arrest warrant.



As floodwater recedes in Sylhet, families return to their homes from shelter centres after 10-12 days. Inset, many areas in Companiganj and Gowainghat still remain submerged, forcing families to travel to Santuk market by boat to buy essentials. The photos were taken in the Santuk area of Gowainghat yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

The Russell's viper

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harmless snakes lost their lives.

At least eight snakes — four buff striped keelback, one python and common wolf snake, and two Siebold's snakes — were killed in a single week.

Additionally, at least 16 Russell's vipers were beaten to death in the last two weeks, eight in Rajshahi, five in Munshiganj, two in Faridpur, and one in Madaripur, as per officials.

Russell's viper is protected under the Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Act, 2012, as it plays a crucial role in controlling rodent population and its venom is used to produce life-saving medicines. Killing these snakes is a punishable offense.

Meanwhile, nine people have died from Russell's viper bites in the last three months, with five deaths in Manikganj, three in Rajbari, and one in Faridpur.

Experts have pointed fingers at the government, criticising their lack of public awareness campaigns.

Health Minister Dr Samanta Lal Sen has instructed public hospitals to maintain an adequate stock of anti-venom.

"The most important task is to take snakebite victims to a doctor at the quickest possible time... timely medical intervention can fully cure snakebite victims through proper treatment," he said.

INADEQUATE AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS
In Bangladesh, there are around 100 snake species, with 37 being venomous, including Russell's viper.

A 2018 study by Professor Farid Ahsan of Chittagong University suggested arranging training for medical staff and awareness campaigns for people in areas where such snakes are present.

However, after talking to government officials from 14 districts, this correspondent found that campaigns were conducted in only five districts.

Forest officials of these districts said they did not get any direction from the

ministry.

Imran Ahmed, conservator of forests at the Wildlife and Nature Conservation Circle, admitted that awareness programmes are inadequate.

As such, people resort to killing snakes after being misled by rumours.

"We are issuing letters to involve local administration in awareness raising activities and developing long term plans to overcome the panic," he added.

WHY THE POPULATION BOOM

Killing natural predators of the viper is the main reason behind their increase in number. Besides, an improved irrigation system now allows year-round crop cultivation, increasing the rodent population, which is the snake's main food source, said Kamrul Hasan, professor of Zoology at Jahangirnagar University.

Also, rising temperatures in the Rajshahi-Barendra region have increased the female snake population to 80 percent, he said.

Russell's vipers, being good swimmers, have spread from Rajshahi to other riverside districts via the Padma.

As many as 235 people were treated at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital over 11 years after being bitten by the viper. Around 29 people have died in the region during this time. They were mostly brought in after it was too late, RMCH sources said.

Student loses

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was recommended by doctors.

Imran Hossain Shajib, Boalkhali UNO, said actions would be taken following an investigation.

Madrasa director Mohiuddin Mahmud Manik claimed CCTV footage showed no such incidents took place at the madrasa. He said the child might have been injured in a separate incident.

He said the madrasa covered some medical costs following the complaint.

Over 250km of RHD Seven collapsed

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Cyclone Remal hit the coastal area of the country on May 26, which damaged 69 roads under 13 RHD divisions. The divisions are: Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Patuakhali, Barguna, Barishal, Pirojpur, Bhola, Faridpur, Sylhet, Sunamganj, Moulvibazar, and Noakhali.

Of the 98.47km of affected roads, 18km were national highways, 10.01km were regional highways and 70.47km were district roads, according to RHD data.

Zikrul said all the

affected roads have already been made passable except for a ferry service in Bagerhat.

He said they were assessing the financial losses caused by cyclone Remal and will take necessary steps following the assessment.

RHD is responsible for a 22,476km network of roads and bridges across the country.

Apart from the RHD roads, many local roads under Local Government Engineering Department have also been affected by the floods and Remal.

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Amtali upazila, said they are yet to take any measures due to a lack of allocation to this end.

"Due to the high level of salinity in water in this region, the iron pillars of the bridges are getting corroded, leaving those in a dilapidated state while some have already collapsed," he said.

"We have sent a proposal to the higher authorities for construction of girder bridges in place of the existing bridges. The construction will begin once allocation is received," he added.

Govt, NGO data

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However, Road Safety Foundation, a non-government organisation working on road safety issues, on Monday published a report on road crashes during the Eid rush.

The organisation, compiling media reports, said at least 262 people were killed and 543 were injured in 251 road crashes in the 13 days from June 11 to June 23.

Without mentioning the name of the organisation, Nur Mohammad said, "The report of such an organisation is not acceptable and the data mentioned in their report is confusing."

He mentioned 10 reasons behind the road crashes during Eid journey, including riding bikes without helmets, rash

driving and over-speeding, risky overtaking, drivers not following traffic signs and road markings, and the carelessness of pedestrians while crossing the road.

Nur Mohammad said executive magistrates of BRTA and district administrations filed 3,739 cases against errant vehicles and drivers and realised Tk 85.41 lakh from them between June 13 and June 24.

He, however, said it is difficult to get the expected results in curbing a multifaceted problem like road accidents only with the enforcement of law and taking administrative measures.

Everybody has to obey traffic laws and above all, a social movement has to be launched to reduce road crashes, he said.

Antivenom

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Meanwhile, Barishal General Hospital has 60 vials, enough for six patients.

As of Monday, upazila-level hospitals in Barishal had 280 vials, enough for only 28 patients, confirmed Dr Maria Hasan, civil surgeon of Barishal.

She said arrangements are being made to send enough antivenoms in these hospitals so that each facility can treat at least 20 patients.

There are rumours of Russell's viper snakes in Barishal, but no confirmed bites have been reported, she added.

The officials also urged people to maintain caution.

TENDER NOTICE

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sub-Office in Cox's Bazar hereby announces the launch of the following tenders:

TENDER REFERENCE NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION
ITB/HCR/CXB/2024/004	FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRAME AGREEMENTS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BORAK AND MULI BAMBOO
ONLINE PRE-BID CONFERENCE Date and time: 01 July 2024 at 11:00 hrs BST.	

Interested and bona fide vendors are invited to participate in this Invitation To Bid (ITB) by accessing and downloading the tender documents at the following web link:
<https://www.unhcr.org/Public/Notice/237933>

Bids to be submitted:
Bids should be submitted as per the guidance in section 2.6 of the ITB document via the URL below:
<http://etenderbox.unhcr.org>
Bid submission deadline: 14 July 2024 - 14:00 hrs BST. Bangladesh time.

Kindly note that no hard copy is acceptable. The offer will be acceptable who submit only in the above link.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) NOTICE

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sub-Office in Cox's Bazar hereby announces the launch of the following Request For Information (RFI):

RFI REFERENCE NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION
RFI/HCR/CXB/2024/001	FOR THE PROVISION OF LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS (LPG & CYLINDER)

Interested and bona fide vendors are invited to participate in this RFI by accessing and downloading the RFI documents at the following web link:
<https://www.unhcr.org/Public/Notice/238038>

RFI to be submitted:
RFI should be submitted as per the guidance in section 3 of the RFI document by email to bfdcosup@unhcr.org copy tarekm@unhcr.org and mansaray@unhcr.org.

RFI submission deadline: Wednesday, 07 July 2024 - 14:00hrs BST. Bangladesh time.

Kindly note that no hard copy is acceptable. The offer will be acceptable who submit only in the above link.

TENDER NOTICE

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sub-Office in Cox's Bazar hereby announces the launch of the following tenders:

TENDER REFERENCE NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION
RFP/HCR/CXB/2024/009	For the establishment of Frame Agreement(s) for maintenance and repairs of air conditioning Systems (ACs), spare parts and consumables.

Interested and bona fide vendors are invited to participate in this Invitation To Bid (ITB) by accessing and downloading the tender documents at the following web link:
<https://www.unhcr.org/Public/Notice/23777>

Bids to be submitted:
Bids should be submitted as per the guidance in section 2.6 of the RFP document via the URL below:
<http://etenderbox.unhcr.org>
Bid submission deadline: 14 July 2024 - 12:00 hrs BST. Bangladesh time.

Kindly note that no hard copy is acceptable. The offer will be acceptable who submit only in the above link.

Daughter to visit

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He has been shifted to Jhenaidah prison as drives will be conducted with him to recover the discarded phones, said Harun Or Rashid, additional commissioner of the Detective Branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

Local police are ensuring no one recovers the phone before investigators reach the spot, Harun said.

Magistrates, fire service divers and fishermen will be present in the drives to recover the phones, he said.

"Babu initially filed a general diary reporting lost phones, but later gave confessional statements

saying he discarded them in a pond on a leader's order," the DB chief said.

Azim went to Kolkata on May 12 and stayed at a friend's house for a night. He left the following day, saying that he would visit a doctor.

On May 22, India and Bangladesh police said the lawmaker was murdered.

Besides Babu, detectives also arrested four other accused for their alleged involvement with the killing. They are Mintu, general secretary of Jhenaidah AL, Amanullah, suspected coordinator of the killing mission, his nephew Tanvir Bhuiyan, and Celesty Rahman.

Be scared of humans

FROM PAGE 3
Gono Bhaban held over the outcome of her recent visit to India.

Journalist Shykh Seraj in his question said a panic has been created on social media centring Russell's viper. He asked if the government would take any steps to raise awareness in this regard.

In response, the prime minister said animals are important to maintain the ecological balance. She suggested people to remain cautious. "You [people] should be scared of humans, not animals or snakes," said Hasina.

Currently, a series of stories regarding Russell's viper are getting viral on social media as the snake has reportedly spread alarmingly in the country. Some people even announced a bounty for killing the reptile.

Request for Proposals (RFPs)

International Labour Organization (ILO) Dhaka invites proposals from interested Firms/Organizations for the following tenders:

Tender Title: Hiring firm/organization to provide implementation support related to the tourism sector enterprises component of the ILO program Leaving No One Behind: Improving Skills and Economic Opportunities for the Women & Youths in Cox's Bazar (ISEC). Tender No. rfx_574_ROAP

The bidding documents can be downloaded from the ILO Dhaka website under **Procurement Notices** at <https://www.unhcr.org/Public/Notice/238560>

The deadline for submission of the proposal is **Sunday, July 21, 2024, by 04:30 PM (BST time).**

World Health Organization Bangladesh

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

The World Health Organization in Bangladesh invites proposals/bids from the interested Companies in Bangladesh for the following service:

- RFP/BAN/2024/024 (Addendum-1):** To provide support on "Vulnerability and adaptation assessment of climate change impact on nutrition in Bangladesh".
Deadline for the submission of RFP: **14:00hrs, 30 June 2024 (Dhaka time).**
- RFP/BAN/2024/025:** Piloting antimicrobial stewardship in different tiers of hospitals in two districts of Bangladesh to reduce antimicrobial use in healthcare facilities.
Deadline for the submission of RFP: **14:00hrs, 10 July 2024 (Dhaka time).**

Interested Companies can view and download the relevant RFP documents from:
<https://www.who.int/bangladesh/about-us/procurement-notice>.

Interested bidders are requested to submit their financial and technical proposals in two separate sealed envelopes as per the instructions provided in the RFP documents at the Reception of WHO Bangladesh, House-SW(1)1/A, Road-8, Gulshan-1, Dhaka.

PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION (PSI)

This is for information of all concerned that Credit Rating Agency of Bangladesh Limited (CRAB) vide its letter Ref. no.: AGL/RCM/240626/2024-8662 dated June 25, 2024 announced the Surveillance Credit Rating Report of Trust Bank Limited based on the Audited Financial Statements of the Bank for the year ended on December 31, 2023 as well as other relevant quantitative and qualitative information up to the date of declaration of the rating. The details of the particulars are as follows:

Long Term	Short Term	Outlook	Rating Date	Rating Validity
AA ₁	ST-1	Stable	25 June 2024	30 June 2025

This information is being disseminated in pursuant to the BSEC's Notification No. BSEC/CMRRC/2009-193/37/Admin/132 dated May 12, 2022.

Dated: Dhaka
June 25, 2024

Sd/-
Md. Mizanur Rahman, FCS
Company Secretary

Trust Bank
A Bank for Financial Inclusion

PRAYER TIMING

JUNE 26

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha

AZAN 4-05 12-45 5-00 6-54 8-17

JAMAAT 4-40 1-15 5-15 6-57 8-45

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION