

CITY

Nafisa's HSC result the last memory left with her mother

AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH, Savar

When the HSC results were published on Tuesday, Kulsum Begum, mother of 17-year-old Nafisa Hossen Marwa, found out that her daughter had secured GPA 4.25.

The news that was supposed to bring joy for Kulsum only brought her pain, as on August 5, Nafisa had gone to participate in a student procession towards the Gono Bhaban, never to return again.

She was a science group student at Sahajuddin Sarkar Model Higher Secondary School in Tongi.



Sand is being extracted from within Raghunandan Hill Reserve Forest area in Habiganj, posing serious threat to its biodiversity. Locals allege that a gang of influential people are involved in this illegal activity due to lax monitoring of the authorities concerned. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: STAR

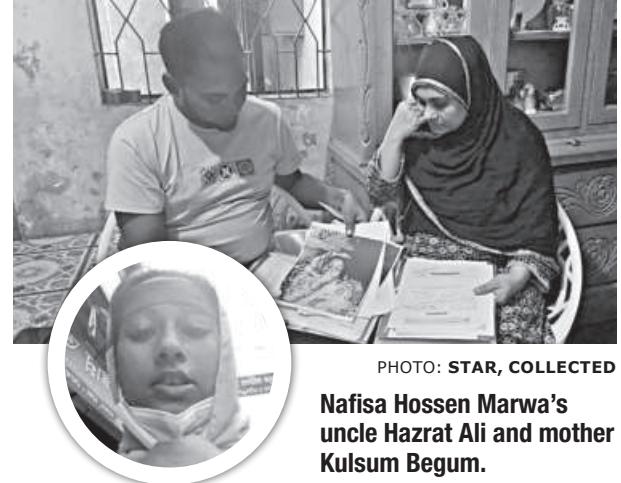


PHOTO: STAR, COLLECTED
Nafisa Hossen Marwa's uncle Hazrat Ali and mother Kulsum Begum.

On August 5, she was shot and killed in the Pakija area of the Dhaka-Aricha Highway in Savar.

Kulsum is an expatriate worker in Kuwait. Nafisa used to stay with her father, Abul Hossen, in Tongi. On July 31, Nafisa had gone to visit her maternal grandfather's house in Savar's Bakhtarpur area. From there, Nafisa participated in the protests.

While visiting Nafisa's grandfather's house yesterday, this correspondent found Kulsum and her uncle Hazrat Ali sitting in a room looking at Nafisa's hospital report, death certificate, and various education certificates.

"Nafisa had studied here [in Savar] until her SSC. She had joined protests at Jahangirnagar University on August 4 with her classmates. The next day, on August 5, she left home around 8:00am. I requested her not to join the movement, but she wouldn't listen," said Nafisa's uncle.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

RAGHUNANDAN HILL IN HABIGANJ

Illegal sand mining puts forest at risk

MINTU DESHWARA, Moulvibazar

Illegal sand extraction in the Raghunandan Hill Reserve Forest in Habiganj is posing a severe threat to its biodiversity, particularly in areas such as the Satchhari National Park and the surrounding tea gardens, which house diverse flora and fauna.

Locals allege that poor monitoring by the authorities has allowed a group of sand grabbers to use excavators at around 20 locations, including Panchhari. This extraction has intensified soil erosion, heightened the risk of landslides, and damaged local infrastructure, including roads.

Jabed Mia, a local, said the illegal extraction is increasing the vulnerability of tea workers and

others living in the foothills to landslides during rains.

A recent visit to the area revealed visible damage caused by the sand extraction. Excavators were seen in operation over an estimated 20-acre area.

Locals, speaking anonymously, accused an influential figure, Amjat Ullah from Panchhari, and his associates -- Mahfuz Mia, Bablu Mia, Kawsar Mia, and Saidur Rahman -- of leading the operation. They allegedly conduct sand extraction at night to evade detection, threatening anyone who protests against their illegal activities.

Additionally, the smuggling of extracted sand to industrial and construction sites is allegedly carried out by locals including Kalam Mia, Faiz Mia, and Bashir Mia.

Contacted, Amjat Ullah, Mahfuz Mia, Bablu Mia and Kalam Mia acknowledged their involvement in illegal sand mining.

"I am engaged in sand business since it is profitable," said Kalam.

Heavy trucks transporting the sand have worsened local roads, but the Roads and Highways Department has not yet acted, said resident Hasnat Mia.

Haripad Chandra Das, inspector at the Department of Environment in Habiganj, confirmed that about 12 gangs are engaged in illegal sand mining and promised legal action once further investigations are completed.

Chunarughat Upazila Nirbahi Officer Ayesha Akhtar said regular drives are being conducted to curb the illegal activities.

HATIKUMRUL INTERCHANGE
Construction work worsens traffic woes

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Ongoing construction of the Hatikumrul interchange in Sirajganj has recently caused severe gridlock on the highway connecting Dhaka with the northern districts.

The situation worsened over the past few days, particularly on Sunday, as vehicle movement surged due to the return of passengers after the



four-day Durga Puja holidays. The intersection connects 16 northern districts with the capital via the Jamuna Bridge, making it a vital route for thousands of passenger buses daily.

The interchange, once completed, is expected to ease traffic on the four major highways that converge at the intersection, leading to Rajshahi, Rangpur, Pabna, and the Jamuna Bridge.

However, the construction has blocked sections of the road with materials and equipment, causing long standstills during peak hours. "When the number of vehicles increases, traffic comes to a halt for hours," said Md Ishraque Ali, a bus driver on the northern route.

Another driver, Md Rajab Ali, blamed the highway police for not managing the intersection effectively. He alleged that police presence has been lacking since August 4, when a mob attacked the Hatikumrul Highway Police Station, looting weapons and injuring officers.

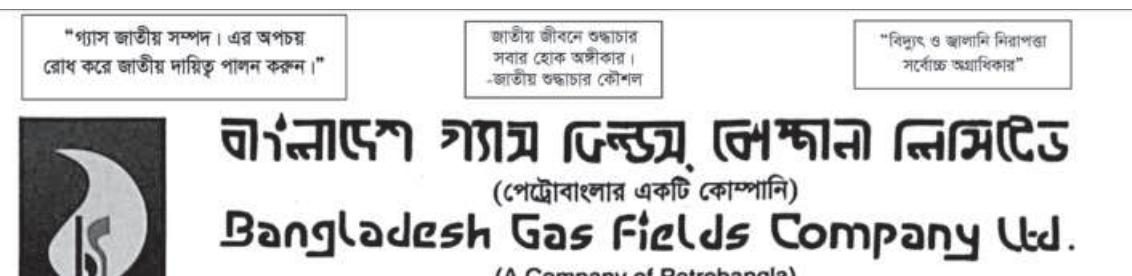
Although police personnel have resumed work,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 5



This discarded tyre lies in a puddle and stagnant water accumulates inside it, providing an ideal breeding ground for Aedes mosquitoes. Some traders store and sell such tyres in the Signboard area of Narayanganj. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Energy & Mineral Resources Division	
2	Agency	Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd. (BGFCL), A Company of Petrobangla	
3	Procuring Entity	Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd. (BGFCL)	
4	Procuring Entity Code	
5	Procuring Entity District	Brahmanbaria	
6	Invitation Reference No.	Tender Ref. No. BGFCL/GOODS(FP)/224 Dated October 15, 2024	
7	Invitation for	Procurement of Special Tools of Waukesha Gas Engine Model: 16V275GL+	
8	Procurement Method	Single stage two-envelope open tendering (International Competitive tendering)	
9	Budget & Source of Fund	Own Fund of BGFC	
10	Tender Publication Date	October 16, 2024	
11	Tender Selling Date & Time	<p>a) Tender documents will be available between 09:00 hrs & 15:00 hrs (BST) on all working days (Sunday to Thursday) from October 17, 2024 to November 27, 2024. No extension in closing date for selling of tender documents will be allowed.</p> <p>b) Place: BGFCL's Liaison office at Petrocentre (14th Floor), 3 Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka.</p> <p>c) Price of Tender Document: Tender documents will be sold on payment of USD 20.00 or BDT. 2,400.00 (Non-refundable)</p>	
12	Tender Closing Date & Time	<p>a) Date & time: Tender documents will be received on November 28, 2024 up to 11:30 hrs (BST).</p> <p>b) Place: BGFCL Head Office, Meeting room at 2nd floor, Birashar, Brahmanbaria-3400.</p>	
13	Tender Opening Date & Time	<p>a) Date & time: Tender documents will be opened on November 28, 2024 at 12:00 hrs (BST) in presence of the Tenderer's representatives, if any.</p> <p>b) Place: BGFCL Head Office, Meeting room at 2nd floor, Birashar, Brahmanbaria-3400.</p>	
14	Date, Time & Place for Pre-Tender meeting	Not Applicable	
15	Eligibility of Tenderer	<p>Reputed firms, manufacturers and suppliers from all countries except Israel with the following international experience:</p> <p>(a) Overall 05 (five) years of experience.</p> <p>(b) If the tenderer is not the manufacturer himself, the tenderer has to submit the Manufacturer's Authorization Letter from the manufacturer or manufacturer's authorized distributor to prove the quoted materials are genuine.</p> <p>(c) Tenderer shall have experience in supplying similar materials to other than the Tenderer's own country within last 5 (five) years.</p> <p>(d) Offered materials manufacturer shall have minimum 10 (ten) years of experience in manufacturing the same products.</p> <p>(e) Manufacturer shall have valid ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & OHSAS 18001 certificates as well as tenderer shall have valid ISO 9001 certificate..</p>	
16	Description of Goods	Special Tools of Waukesha Gas Engine Model: 16V275GL+.	
17	Tender Security Amount	USD 3,100.00 or BDT. 3,70,000.00	In the form of Bank Guarantee only
18	Delivery Time	120 days from the date of L/C opening	
19	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Engr. Md. Shahidur Rahman Chowdhury	
20	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	General Manager (Technical Services)	
21	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd. (BGFCL), Head Office, Birashar, Brahmanbaria-3400, Bangladesh, Telephone no. 02334428141 E-mail: prbgfcl@gmail.com/dgmpf@bgfcl.org.bd	
22	Special Information	<p>i) Tenders must remain valid for 120 (one hundred twenty) days from the date of closing of the tender.</p> <p>ii) The tender security must remain valid for 148 (one hundred forty eight) days from the date of closing of the tender.</p> <p>iii) In case of any unavoidable circumstances such as strike, civil commotion, Govt. declared holiday, etc. tender will be received and opened on the following working day.</p> <p>iv) Tender(s) submitted after the deadline for receiving of tenders will be rejected and returned unopened to the tenderer.</p> <p>v) Tender submitted by e-mail will be rejected. Likewise photocopy of e-mailed tenders will also be rejected.</p> <p>vi) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject any or all tenders or annul the tendering process at any stage without assigning any reason whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected tenderers.</p> <p>vii) This tender will be conducted as per the Public Procurement Act 2006 and the Public Procurement Rule 2008. The aforesaid notice is also available at CPTU website @ http://www.cptu.gov.bd. Petrobangla website @ www.petrobangla.org.bd and BGFC website @ www.bgfcl.org.bd</p>	

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