Man, twin daughters found dead in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Chattogram*

Police recovered the hanging body of a 50-year-old man and the bodies of his five-month-old twin daughters from a locked room at his in-laws' house in Banshkhali upazila of Chattogram on Friday evening.

The deceased are Md Jahed Hossain of Azani Para in East Chambal union of the upazila, and his daughters Jarin Jannat and Jasia Jannat.

The incident took place around 6:00pm at Mawlar Para in Pui Chhari union, said Banshkhali Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Robiul Haque.

According to police and locals, the room was locked from inside while Jahed's wife and other family members were away on an errand. They discovered the bodies after returning home.

Md Mizanur Rahman, an official of Banshkhali Fire Service and Civil Defence Station, said a team reached the scene around 6:00pm.

"They found Jahed hanging from a beam inside the room, while the two children were lying side by side on the floor beside a bed", he said.

The bodies were sent for autopsies, said the OC. "Legal steps will be taken after receiving the autopsy reports", he added.

PRAYER TIMING
NOVEMBER 15

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN	5-05	12-45	3-45	5-21	7-00
JAMAAT	5-40	1-15	4-00	5-24	7-30

SOURCE: **ISLAMIC FOUNDATION**

A family stands guard where railway has none

Nur Islam, family guarding Jagtha rail crossing in Thakurgaon for over 5yrs

MD QUAMRUL ISLAM RUBAIYAT, *Thakurgaon*

For a living, Nur Islam transports bodies for Pirganj Police Station on a battery-run rickshaw-van. But for over five years, the landless man has taken on another responsibility: saving lives at a railway crossing where he witnessed two people being killed by a train.

Since January 2021, Nur and his family have been voluntarily guarding an unauthorised railway crossing in the Jagtha area of Thakurgaon's Pirganj municipality, using a makeshift bamboo barrier to stop vehicles whenever a train approaches.

The initiative began after a fatal accident on January 11, 2021.

According to Md Sohrab Hossain Sujon, station master of Pirganj Railway Station, Ruhul Amin, 45, an employee of Thakurgaon Judge Court, and his former colleague Abdus Sobhan, 59, were travelling on a motorcycle to serve a court notice in Pirganj upazila when a Dhaka-bound Drutojan Express hit them at the crossing.

Nur witnessed the accident. The following day, he bought bamboo and ropes, erected a makeshift barrier and began guarding the crossing.

"I saw two people being killed by a train right before my eyes. After that incident, I decided to do whatever I could to help save others' lives. It gives me peace of mind," he said.

Since then, he has remained alert to approaching trains, rushing to lower the barrier whenever he hears a whistle. When he goes to work, family members take turns guarding the crossing.

During a recent visit, vehicles were seen waiting on both sides of the crossing as a train approached.

Standing beside the tracks, Nur pulled a rope to lower the bamboo barrier, holding back traffic. Once the train passed, he raised it, allowing vehicles to cross.

Nur lives with his wife, five sons and grandchildren on a small plot of land north of the railway station.

Even his grandson Bishal Hossain, who has a disability, regularly helps guard the crossing.

"My father is working selflessly for others. We support and encourage him," said Nur's son Naushad Hossain.

Neighbour Md Sagar Hossain said Nur had bought the bamboo and ropes with his own money and never sought payment.

Milon, a motorcyclist who uses the crossing several times daily, said a major accident could occur there without Nur's presence.

According to Nur, six trains pass through the crossing daily: the Panchagarh-bound Dolonchapa Express around 7:00am, the Dhaka-bound Drutojan Express around 8:30am, the Rajshahi-bound Banglabandha Express around 10:00am, the Dhaka-bound Panchagarh Express around 1:00pm, the regional Kanchan Express around 4:00pm, and the Dhaka-bound Ekota Express around 10:30pm.

But he receives no advance information about train movements from railway authorities.

"What does it matter? All we need to do is remain alert for train whistles," he said.

Station Master Sohrab Hossain confirmed that the crossing was unauthorised and Nur was working voluntarily.

He said there was no departmental instruction to inform Nur about train arrivals and departures.

Md Ferdous, divisional transport officer at the Lalmonirhat Railway Office, said a level-crossing gate was not included in the station's original design.

Asked when a gate would be authorised, he said he needed to consult the engineering department.



PHOTO: **STAR**

Nur Islam guards the Jagtha rail crossing in Pirganj, Thakurgaon as a train passes.

IN BRIEF

Savar man arrested over wife's murder

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Savar*

Neighbours detained a man and handed him over to police over the alleged murder of his wife in Dhaka's Savar yesterday.

Police, quoting locals, said Bablu Mia, 40, killed his wife, Rozina Begum, 30, with a knife at their home in the Tetuljhora area early in the day.

Neighbours later detained Bablu and handed him over to police.

Confirming the incident, Md Mosharraf Hossain, inspector (investigation) of Savar Model Police Station, told The Daily Star that Bablu works as a street vendor, while his wife Rozina was employed at a local garment factory.

The couple got into an argument in the morning over a family dispute. At one point, Bablu slit Rozina's throat with a knife, he said, citing neighbours.

Upon receiving information, police detained Bablu and took him into custody.

Rozina's body was recovered and sent to the morgue of Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital in Dhaka for autopsy.

"The process of filing a case is underway. The accused will be shown arrested in the case and produced before a court tomorrow [today]," Md Mosharraf added.

Dengue claims eight more lives

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



At least eight more people died of dengue and 1,674 were hospitalised across the country in the 24 hours till 8:00am yesterday, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

Of the latest fatalities, six were reported in Dhaka division and one each in Chattogram and Rajshahi divisions.

With the latest deaths, the country's dengue toll has risen to 491, while the cumulative number of cases has reached 1,60,557.

Currently, 5,915 dengue patients are receiving treatment at hospitals nationwide.

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