

Schoolgirl strangled, another stabbed by stalkers

Staff Correspondent

A SCHOOLGIRL was strangled and another was stabbed by stalkers at their houses in Gazipur and Jhenaidah early Tuesday and Monday evening for their reported refusal to proposals for affairs.

The killed girl was a Class-VII student and a candidate in the Junior School Certificate Examination to begin on November 1 from a high school at Kaliakair upazila in Gazipur.

The family members and neighbour rescued the stabbed girl, a Class-IX student, in Jhenaidah district headquarters and rushed her to Jhenaidah sadar hospital.

The two schoolgirls were killed and stabbed as attacks on female school college students by stalkers continued.

The latest incident took to seven the number of attacks on schoolgirls and college girls by stalkers reported in two months since August 24 that killed three schoolgirls and injured five.

New Age correspondent

in Gazipur reported that the family members of the 14-year old strangled girl alleged that Arafat Sarker, 20, of Kutubdia village at Kaliakair used to stalk her on her way to and from school and proposed to establish an affair but she always rejected it.

The mother of the schoolgirl saw Arafat storming out of the girl's room early Tuesday. Seeing the mother, Arafat fled the scene running, the family said, adding that the mother entered the room and found the girl's body lying on the bed with a scarf around her neck.

On information, police recovered the body and sent it to Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Medical College for post mortem examination, Kaliakoir police station inspector (investigation) Md Rafiqul Islam told New Age.

The girl's brother said that Ararafat's father had been informed about the stalking but he took no action.

Instead, Arafat threatened my sister and father earlier for complaining to

Continued on page 2 Col. 5

Schoolgirl strangled, another stabbed

Continued from page 1
his father, the brother said.

New Age correspondent in Jhenaidah reported that the family members of the stabbed schoolgirl, 15, alleged that stalker Md Liku Hossain, 22, of Upashaharpara in the district town took possession on the rooftop of their house Monday evening.

When the girl went to the roof, Liku proposed to establish an affair and stabbed her indiscriminately as she rejected the proposal, they said.

The family members and neighbours rescued the girl

hearing her cry and rushed her to Jhenaidah Sadar Hospital while Liku managed to flee.

The girl's father filed a case with Jhenaidah police station naming five people including Liku, said Jhenaidah police station officer in charge Harendranath Sarker.

He said that they arrested two of the accused - Liku's sister Rupa Begum, 40, and Rupa's husband Ruhul Amin, 45, - at their house at Upashaharpara in the town Tuesday morning and were trying to nab the three other accused.

Since August 24, media re-

ported at least five more incidents of attacks by stalkers, including the killings of a Class VIII student of Willes Little Flower School and College in Dhaka and a Class IX student in Madaripur and attacks on a Class VIII student in Dinajpur, college girl Khadiza in Sylhet and twin college girl at Mirpur in Dhaka.

The attacks highlight the persistence of the deadly social menace.

Stalkers killed at least 75 girls, women and protesters in the past five years until mid-September, according to rights

organisation Ain O Salish Kendra.

In the face of unbearable insults from stalkers, at least 90 girls and women committed suicide in the same period, showed the rights organisation records.

The records showed that since 2011, at least 781 girls and women were sexually harassed. With many of the attacks remain unreported, the actual number of incidents of killings and harassment of girls and women by stalkers would be much higher, said rights activists.