

# Campus killers too strong to be nabbed ?

New Nation Report

The Detective Branch of Police is likely to be vested with the task of unearthing the mystery behind the murder of Dhaka University student Alamagir Kabir Liton, who was shot dead inside a room of the Surja Sen Hall on Sunday night.

Police have so far failed to make any headway to track the killers, who left behind a magazine with cartridges and a few spent bullets in the room, whose occupant, a student of the political science department, an activist friend of non-activist Liton, had since then remained untraced, police sources said.

Ramna police is investigating the case. But they have failed to proceed further as the authorities are considering transfer of the case to the Detective Branch of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, according to informed sources.

But the DB of DMP, entrusted with task of tracing out the gunmen, who shot dead a bril-

liant student of the Dhaka University, Arif Ahmed, at the entrance of the S.M. Hall on November 29, last year, have failed to achieve any success to bring the murderers to book.

Although the authorities formed a special team of DB investigators, headed by its the Contd. on page 8 col. 1

## Campus killers

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then deputy commissioner Shahidullah Khan, who has been recently transferred to Kishoreganj, to trace out the killers of Arif, nothing tangible has been reported by the team.

Witnesses said the gunmen, riding motorbikes and armed with sawn-off rifles and home-made bombs, were well known for their 'business.' They had swooped down on a demonstration by the residents of the S. M. Hall protesting against terror unleashed at the hall by certain elements coming from the neighbouring Zahurul Huq Hall.

After the murder of Arif, a masters final year student of finance, who never stood second in any examinations, some protesters ransacked the office of the DUCSU vice-president, pulled down the portrait of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman from the wall and set it on fire.

All student groups, barring pro-Awami League Chhatra League, held a joint rally protesting the Murder. Chhatra League held a separate rally.

As there had been waves of protests and shocks shaking the conscience of citizens once again at the murder of another student in the campus, the site of so many killings during the past six years, the authorities decided to gear up the investigation.

The aftermath of the killing also saw the resignation of the provost of the S.M. Hall Prof. Mohsin.

However, the special team of DB was entrusted with two more jobs. These were: finding out those who ransacked the DUCSU VP's office and those who were involved in shoot-outs between two factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal in the campus.

The team detained a Chhatra Dal leader. Sajal, for questioning in connection with the ransacking of DUCSU VP's office. He was sent to detention under the Special Powers Act for a month.

Barring this action the special team had done nothing, informed sources said.

What prompted the police and the university authorities to move at a slow pace to investigate the Arif murder could not be known. Sources inside the university administration say no witnesses came forward to provide evidence regarding the Arif murder. Someone, it appears, is too powerful to show his teeth and flex muscles at potential witnesses. Such a situation has made it difficult for the university's own committee to probe the murder, according to university official.

As the killing of Liton, coming in the wake of Arif's murder, once again shocked the people, everyone expected that police would move fast with the university authorities backing them to find out the killers. But the progress so far suggests that like the murder of Arif and past slayings in the campus, the death of Liton may also be forgotten.

Meanwhile, Sultan Mohammad Mansur Ahmed and Mushtaque Hossain, Vice-President and General Secretary of DUCSU, in a statement yesterday expressed their deep concern and resentment over the killing of Liton.

The DUCSU leaders also announced a programme of sit-in in protest against the campus killings in front of the Vice-Chancellor's office on February 3.