



**Mohammad Mukul Mondol, member of Biplobi Communist Party<sup>1</sup> was allegedly shot dead by Police and RAB<sup>2</sup> in Horinakundu in Jhenaidah**

Fact finding Report

Odhikar

Mohammad Mukul Mondol (32) was the son of late Fokir Chand Mondol and Amena Khatun of Asan Nagar village of Alomdanga thana in Chuadanga district. At 3.10 in the morning of October 5, 2011, he was allegedly shot dead in a field at Michakhali in Pairadanga village by the Police of Horinakundu Police Station and the members of RAB-6.

Odhikar conducted a fact-finding mission into the matter. During this they interviewed:

- Relatives of the deceased, Mohammad Mukul Mondol
- Eye witnesses and
- Members of law enforcing agencies.



Picture: Mohammad Mukul Mondol

**Mosammat Nasima Khatun (30), wife of Mohammad Mukul Mondol**

Mosammat Nasima Khatun told Odhikar that she used to live in Dabila village under the Horinakundu Police Station, with her husband. Police occasionally arrested and released her husband under 'suspicion', as he worked for the Biplobi Communist Party and had several cases filed against him. Around two weeks before the day of incident, her husband went to Abdalpur at around three in the afternoon. At around nine in the night, approximately 15 or 16 plain-clothes police came to their home and introduced themselves as the police of Horinakundu Police Station. One of them told her that, they arrested her husband from Abdalpur and kept him in the prison van. They also asked her to get into the van, but she refused to do so. Police searched their home. However, they could not take her away, due to the intervention and pleas of her neighbours and locals. Later she went to the Horinakundu Police Station and RAB office in search of her husband. Police said that they did not arrest anybody named Mukul. In the morning of October 5, 2011, her brother in law told her over phone that the Police had shot her husband dead.

**Abdur Rashid (45), Brother-in-law of Mukul**

Abdur Rashid told Odhikar that at around 9 pm of one day two weeks before October 5, 2011, police of Horinakundu Police Station arrested Mukul and kept him in a prison van. When the police tried to take Nasima away, the locals requested them not to take her for the sake of her children. Then the police took Mukul away only. On October 5, 2011, Nasima informed him that the police had shot Mukul dead.

<sup>1</sup> Revolutionary Communist Party

<sup>2</sup> RAB: The Rapid Action Battalion – an 'elite force' made up of police and members of the armed forces. Created in 2004 to assist the police to combat crime.

**Mohammad Nazrul Islam (50), Cousin of Mukul**

Mohammad Nazrul Islam told Odhikar that there are several cases filed against Mukul, causing the police to arrest him several times. Once the police arrested Mukul but the Court released him as it found him not guilty. From then, to avoid police harassment, Mukul went to live in his in laws house at Dobila village with his wife and children. At around 10 in the morning of October 5, 2011, a police officer from Alamdanga Police Station came and informed him that he had information from Horinakundu Police Station about Mukul. The officer told Mr. Islam that Mukul was shot dead in 'cross fire' and his body had been taken to Horinakundu Police Station. When Nazrul went to the Horinakundu Police Station, he found Mukul's body lying on a rickshaw-van. He saw, what he believed were five bullet holes in Mukul's chest. Police took the body of Mukul for post mortem and demanded 4000 taka as van fare. Then the body of Mukul was taken to Jhenaidah District Hospital for post mortem. After the post mortem Mr. Islam brought Mukul's body back home. Then he conducted the ritual bathing of the body. At 8 pm Mukul was buried in the Asan Nagar grave yard.

**Sohiron Nesa (38), Eyewitness**

Sohiron Nesa told Odhikar that at around 3 in the morning of October 5, 2011, she woke up hearing the sound of a vehicle. She came out of her home and saw three/four police vans. The police officers brought a man out of the van. She heard the sound of 35/40 shots and also heard the police shouting 'catch him, catch him, he is escaping '. After sometime, the police gathered some people from Charatola bazaar and asked them to pick up a body and put it on the van. Then the police took signatures from some locals and they left.

**Mohammad Asadul (34), Eyewitness**

Mohammad Asadul told Odhikar that he is a night guard and on October 5, 2011, he was on duty in Charatola bazaar. At around three in the morning, Sub Inspector (SI) Nasir Uddin of Horinakundu Police Station with his police force approached the at field of Pairadanga village near the Charatola bazaar and told him to be careful. Soon after, a RAB jeep drove towards the field. At 3:10 in the morning he heard the sound of firing from the field. Police called him at 3:30 and brought him to the place of occurrence. He saw a body lying face down on the ground. Then police collected a gun and money from there and made an inquest report, which he was made to sign. Police told him and a few others who had gathered there, to pick up the body and put it on a cycle van and leave.

**Mohammad Abul Khayer, Officer in-Charge, Horinakundu Police Station, Jhenaidah**

Mohammad Abul Khayer told Odhikar that at around 2 am of October 5, 2011, he came to know from his source that some unknown miscreants had gathered in the field of Pairadanga village near Charatola bazaar. He informed SI Nasir Uddin and Khondokar Hossain Ahmed, Deputy Assistant Director (DAD) of RAB-6. At 3.10 am in a joint mission of RAB and police, a listed miscreant named Mukul got killed in the cross fire. He also informed Odhikar that seven cases were filed against Mukul in different police stations of Alomdanga in Chuadanga, Mirpur of Kushtia district, Horinakundo of Zhinaidah district and Kotchadpur Police Station. Mukul was also a listed miscreant at the Police and District Special Branch (DSB).

**Sub Inspector (SI) Nasir Uddin, Horinakundu Police Station, Jhenaidah.**

SI Nasir Uddin told Odhikar that, at around two in the morning of October 5, 2011, when he was on duty the Officer in-Charge SI Abul Khayer told him over phone that, some unknown miscreants had gathered in the Michakhali field in Pairadanga village. Then he informed the RAB patrol team of the matter. When he arrived in the Charatola Bazaar at around 2.45 am he met Khondokar Hossain Ahmed, DAD of RAB-6 patrol team. The RAB and Police jointly moved towards the Michakhali field. At around 3:10 am, both the teams approached the shallow pump machine belonging to Mohiuddin Munshi. Alerted to the presence of RAB and police, the miscreants started shooting. RAB and Police fired back. The shooting lasted for 15 to 20 minutes till the miscreants fled. Nasir Uddin said that RAB and Police fired around 48 rounds.

He also said that the locals were awakened and approached the field. After searching the field, the police found one shutter gun, one gun, three rounds of bullets of rifle, three cartridges, two hand bombs, one dagger, and eight pairs of sandals, 843 taka, one matchbox and one packet of cigarettes. They also saw a body lying on the ground. They made a seizure list at 3:45 am. They sent the wounded person to Jhenaidah hospital for treatment. At 4:05 am the duty doctor declared him dead. Locals identified him as Mukul Mondol, the commander of Moyazzem<sup>3</sup> group of the Biplobi Communist Party. Then a police notice was sent to Mukul's family to take his body back home.

He filed two cases against 10/12 unknown persons in this regard. The first Case number is- 04; dated: 5/10/2011 under Section-19 (ka) of the Arms Act of 1878 (Amendment 2002) and section-4/6 of Explosive Substances Act 1908<sup>4</sup> and the second case number is- 5; dated: 5/10/2011 under section- 353/307/302/34 of the Penal Code 1860<sup>5</sup>. He also stated that Sub Inspector (SI) Mohammad Shahabuddin Gazi was the investigating officer of those two cases.

**Sub Inspector (SI) Mohammad Shahabuddin Gazi, Horinakundu Police Station, Jhenaidah**

SI Mohammad Shahabuddin Gazi told Odhikar that the cases numbered 4 and 5 filed by SI Nasir Uddin on October 5, 2011, are under investigation. He refused to say anything else.

**Khondokar Hossain Ahmed, Deputy Assistant Director (DAD) of RAB-6, Jhenaidah Camp**

DAD Khondokar Hossain Ahmed told Odhikar that Mukul was killed in cross fire on October 5, 2011. He refused to say anything else regarding this case.

**Doctor Rashed Al Mamun, Residential Medical Officer, Jhenaidah**

Doctor Rashed Al Mamun told Odhikar that, on October 5, 2011, police of Horinakundu Police Station brought a body to the morgue though he could not recall the time. He saw that the man had been shot several times. After confirming his death, he did the post mortem. He found that one bullet had passed through the chest and four bullets through the ribcage. He mentioned in the post mortem report that the reason of the death was excessive bleeding.

**Sudhir, Morgue Assistant, Jhenaidah District Hospital, Jhenaidah**

Sudhir told Odhikar that on October 5, 2011, police of Horinakundu Police Station brought a body of a person to the morgue, whose name was Mukul that he came to know later on. At the time of post mortem he assisted the doctor. Sudhir believed that the person was shot and killed.

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<sup>3</sup> A wing of Biplobi Communist Party

<sup>4</sup> Section 19 (a) of the Arms Act 1878 contains provisions for breaches for committing offences in respect of certain arms, while section 4 and 6 of the Explosive Substances Act 1908 provides for Punishment for attempt to cause explosive or for making or keeping explosive with intent to endanger life or property and punishment for abettors.

<sup>5</sup> Sections 353, 307, 302, 34 of the Penal Code 1860 deal with assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty; attempt to murder attempts by life-convicts; punishment for murder; and acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention respectively.