



Note: The real names of the rape victim and her relatives have not been disclosed in this report rather in some cases pseudonyms have been used.

## **Gang rape of a girl in Satkhira District: Allegation against police for putting false information in the FIR and taking bribe**

### **Fact Finding Report**

#### **Odhikar**

On February 26, 2013, Gita Rani<sup>1</sup> (18) a student of 12<sup>th</sup> grade and belonging to the minority Hindu Community under Ashashuni Police Station in Satkhira, went to visit a fair in Bamondanga village. At around 8:30pm she was seen to have been in a conversation with an old acquaintance Anup Mondol at the east side of that fair. All of a sudden a group of 7-8 miscreants rushed towards them aggressively, beat up Anup and robbed both their cell phones and Anup's wallet. At one point due to their incessant beating Anup got fainted, and then they forcefully took Gita to a marsh land (normally a paddy field which is inundated during monsoon season) in Bamondanga where she was raped by four persons. After committing rape, on February 27, 2013 at around 4:00 in the morning, one of the rapists left Gita at a house in a nearby Baintola village. From a woman in that house, Gita came to know about Alamgir, who dropped her at that house. From there at around 8:00pm, an unidentified man and a lady took a bruised and devastated Gita to a place named Tetultala by a motorcycle. While struggling to reach home from Tetultala, Gita was seen by her teacher who helped her to return home. Gita was admitted at the Ashashuni Upazila Health Complex on February 28 and she was treated there until March 03, 2013. During this period Gita's father and maternal uncle went to the Ashashuni Police Station six times, in order to file a case for gang rape of Gita. However, Mohammad Emdad Hossain, Officer-in-Charge of the Ashashuni Police Station did not pay heed. The Officer-in-Charge finally recorded the statement when Gita herself appeared with her family members on March 6, 2013 at the police station. Gita told him that she was abducted from the fair and then raped by Alamgir and three other strangers whom she never saw before. Following instruction of the police in-charge, a man in the police station named Pobitro Kumar Das prepared the FIR (First Information Report). He did not read out the FIR to Gita but asked her to sign on it. At the FIR it is mentioned that Gita was gang raped by five persons. The FIR recorded Anup Kumar, Himangsu, Mohammad Rabbi, Yahiya and Kamalesh as the accused. A case was filed under section 7/9(3)/30 of the Prevention of Repression against Women and Children Act, 2000 (amended 2003). The case number is 6; Date: 06/03/2013. But Gita alleged that, she was raped by four persons who were unknown to her but she came to know about Alamgir, a local journalist. It is revealed through Odhikar's fact finding that, Alamgir claimed

<sup>1</sup> Pseudonym

himself as a journalist of 'Doinik Kafela' and 'Radio Nolta', however at present he is not employed as a journalist by any media but by using false visiting card he is involved with illegal and antisocial activities at the locality.. Three of the five persons mentioned in the FIR, Anup Mondol (police in FIR wrote his name as Anup Kumar), Himangsu and Kamalesh were know to Gita and not rapists. She also stated that she does not know Mohammad Rabbi and Yahiya, but their names have been written in the FIR as rapists. Moreover, in the FIR, OC Mohammad Emdad ordered to state Alamgir's name as the person responsible for saving Gita's life instead of putting him as one of the accused. Besides putting false names; for the purpose of filing the case, the Officer-in-Charge took a bribe of Tk 5000/- (although he initially demanded Tk 15,000/-) from Gita's uncle. It is to be noted that filing FIR is a right of the vovictim and is provided without any cost as per law in any police station.

Odhikar carried out a fact finding mission into this incident. During the fact finding mission Odhikar interviewed the victim, alleged perpetrators, police and others.

### **INTERVIEWEES:**

#### **Gita Rani (18), victim of rape**

Gita Rani informed Odhikar that she was a student of Humanities of 12<sup>th</sup> grade in a college. On February 26, 2013 at around 10:00 in the morning she paid a visit to her paternal aunt who lives in Bamondanga village. From there she went to a fair called 'Pagoler Mela'<sup>2</sup> in Bamondanga. She met her friend Anup Mondol there at around 8:00pm. They were sitting and talking on the east side of the fair, when suddenly at around 8:30pm, a group of 7-8 unknown youths came, surrounded them, beat up Anup and robbed both their cell phones and Anup's wallet. They beat up Anup to the extent that he became unconscious, and after that Gita was dragged towards a marsh land of Bamondanga. Four persons there gang raped her till she became fainted. After committing rape on February 27, 2013, at around 4:00am, she was taken by one of the rapists to a house at Baintola village. A lady who was in that house told Gita that one Alamgir, a resident of Bamondanga, dropped Gita at the house which is known as 'Molla Bari'. Gita stayed there in that house all day. At around 8:00pm, an unknown man and a lady dropped her in a place called Tetultola by a motorcycle. Luckily, she found her teacher who helped her to go back to her home. After coming home she told her parents and her maternal uncle about the incident. She was admitted at the Ashashuni Upazilla Health Complex where she received treatment from February 28 to March 03, 2013. During this period her family went to the police six times to file a case but the police did not cooperate with them. On March 6, 2013, she had a medical check-up at the Satkhira Sadar Hospital. Later she went to the police station along with her father and uncle and filed a case under Section 7/9(3)/30 of the Prevention of Repression against Women and Children Act, 2000 (amended 2003). The Officer-in-Charge listened to her first, as to who she had accused. She informed the OC that she was abducted from the fair and raped by one Alamgir and three other persons. However, in the FIR, Alamgir's name did not appear as an accused, rather it has been falsely mentioned that he rescued her when she was dumped at a marsh land. She told Odhikar that the FIR (First Information Report) was not recorded in the way she described her incident.

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<sup>2</sup> Mela is a fair

### **Gita's Maternal Uncle**

Gita's uncle informed Odhikar that on February 26, 2013 at around 10:00pm he received a call from Abdul Alim of Goyaldanga village that some people kidnapped Gita from Bamondanga 'Pagoler Mela'. Soon after knowing the incident, he took his niece's husband and went to search for Gita first at the fair, then at the marsh lands, Jelapotua village and other places. Not being able to find Gita, he returned home on February 27, 2013 at 4:00 in the morning and then at around 6.00am he went out again to search for Gita. He informed people to search at various places namely Borodol, Khajra, Raotara, Pachpota etc. He informed the elected member of Ward 8 in Kadakati Union Parishad, Mizanur Rahman Montu at 3:00pm that Gita was missing. Gita's father, paternal cousin, Mizanur Rahman Montu and five others sat in a meeting with S. M Shahnawaz Dalim, the Chairman of Union Parishad. S.M. Shahnawaz Dalim decided that everyone together should head towards the Bamondanga fair first. At around 9:00pm, they reached the fair. Chairman Dalim asked the president of the fair organising committee about Gita's abduction. The president said that no one officially informed them about Gita's abduction. However, he heard about the matter from others. After 10-15 minutes in the fair, a call from Gita's house confirmed that she returned home. Then Gita's family members and the people who were accompanying them rushed to her house from the fair. He then heard about the incident from Gita. Since the country's opposition party called a strike (popularly known to be 'hartal') on February 28, 2013, it was not possible to take Gita to Satkhira Sadar Hospital for proper medical examination. However, considering her critical physical state, Gita was admitted at Ashashuni Upazila Health Complex. During this period he and Gita's father went to Ashashuni Police Station many times to file a case regarding the incident but the OC Mohammad Emdad Hossain refused to receive any care. On March 6, 2013, the OC Emdad finally ordered Pobitro Kumar Das to write an FIR (First Information Report) of the case when he took Gita to the police station. Pobitro Kumar Das however, did not read out the FIR to them, which they later learnt was changed from what Gita had narrated. Furthermore, he informed that OC Mohammad Emdad Hossain asked for Tk 15,000/- bribe money for the purpose of receiving this case, which was later negotiated at Tk 5000/.

### **Gita's Teacher**

Gita's teacher notified Odhikar that on February 27, 2013 at around 4:00pm, he was in a place called Budhata. From an unknown person, he was misinformed that a dead body was found of a girl named Gita of Baintola. To check the authenticity of the information, he made a call to his friend Dalim, the Chairman of the Khajra Union Parishad. Dalim confirmed that a girl named Gita was missing and another woman's dead body was found. Moreover, he mentioned that steps were being taken to rescue her. Gita's teacher started from Budhata towards his house. At around 8:30pm, he saw a girl covering her face in black 'dupatta' (a scarf) 150 yards north of Tetultola at the flash of his motorbike's headlight. When he moved close, he recognised Gita, his former student. Gita informed him that she was dropped off at Tetultala by a motorcycle from Baintola by an unknown man and a lady. He dropped her home on his motorcycle.

**Dr. Utpal Kumar Sarkar, Assistant Surgeon, Upazilla Health Complex, Ashashuni,**

**Satkhira**

Dr. Utpal Kumar Sarkar informed Odhikar that on February 28, 2013 at around 6:00pm, a girl came to the emergency unit of the hospital. She had wounds all over her body and there were abrasions in five or six places on her thighs. She was admitted in the female ward. Gita was released on March 3, 2013.

### **Anup Mondol (20), Gita's Friend**

Anup Mondol informed Odhikar that he is a student of the International University of Business, Agriculture & Technology (IUBAT) in Dhaka. He went to his hometown on holiday to attend Kali-Puja<sup>3</sup>. At around 2:00pm on February 26, 2013, Gita informed him through cell phone that she was going to visit 'Pagoler Mela' in Bamondanga in the evening. At around 8:00pm, he met Gita at the fair. Gita and Anup were chatting about 10/12 yards north from where the fair was being held. All of a sudden a group of 7-8 unknown men surrounded them, snatched his and Gita's mobile phones and his wallet. As they tried to drag Gita away, Anup tried to stop them. Hit by a hammer on his head, Anup fell unconscious. Right after gaining sense, he found himself being taken on a motorcycle by his friend Himangsu to a village doctor's (unregistered doctor) place situated in the South Borodol village. He received three stitches on his head and saline was pushed through his veins. He received treatment at the village doctor's place all night.

### **Komol Kanti Mondol, Village Doctor, Toyadanga Bazar, Ashashuni, Shatkhirra**

Komol Kanti Mondol informed Odhikar that on February 27, 2013 at around 7:00 in the morning, one Mohammad Alamgir Hossain from Bamondanga called him on his phone and wanted to know what medicines could be prescribed for a woman who has been raped. Komol then advised the person about some medicines.

### **S M Maruf Hassan, Resident Medical Officer ( RMO), Sadar Hospital Shatkhirra**

S M Maruf Hassan informed Odhikar that Gita Rani visited the hospital on March 6, 2013 and he completed her medical check-up. He sent the medical report to the Ashashuni Police Station. He was unwilling to answer any more question.

### **Alamgir Hossain (24), alleged Rapist**

Alamgir Hossain informed Odhikar that he is a local journalist of the local Daily Kafela newspaper and FM Radio Nolta in Satkhira. He is also a farmer within his own home boundaries.

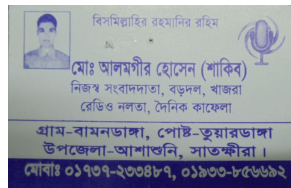


Photo: Visiting Card of Alamgir

<sup>3</sup> Hindu Festival

On February 27, 2013 at around 8:00 in the morning, he went to a Bamondanga marsh land (in the East of Bamondanga fair) to bring his cow. He noticed an unconscious girl lying at the ground there. He picked her up and brought her to his place and called a doctor for treatment at home. He also called Gita's home to take her back. Gita's father and uncle came to pick her up. Alamgir denied abducting her or raping her when asked about the allegation.

### **ATM Rafiq Ujjal, Editor Daily Kafela**

ATM Rafiq Ujjal informed Odhikar that they had no journalist named Alamgir Hossain in neither of their work stations, namely Borodol or Khajra. He said he would take legal steps against anyone who pretending to be a journalist of their daily newspaper.

### **Dedarul Islam Rabbi (16); allged rapist according to FIR**

Dedarul Islam's nick name is Rabbi. He informed Odhikar that he went to Bamondanga fair with his friends Mustakim, Ripon, Showkat and Abdur Rahman on February 26, 2013 at around 5:00pm. At around 8:00pm, he heard people shouting from a distance. Few minutes later, two persons came to him and told him that a person named Anup was attacked and beaten by a gang who then kidnapped a girl. Anup was constantly bleeding from his head. Those two persons requested to save the girl while by then everyone was aware of the incident inside the fair. He couldn't help and came back home at around 9:00pm.

**BANGLADESH MADRASAH EDUCATION BOARD, DHAKA**  
Serial No. MBR : 130027128

**Registration Card  
Dakhil Examination**

Registration No. : 10 18 85 69 83 Session : 2011-12

Name of Student : Dedarul Islam  
Father's Name : Anamul Hoque  
Mother's Name : Shafia Khatun  
Class : IX(Nine) Dakhil TOT Sl. : 0026 Sex : Male  
Date of Birth : 08/06/1997  
(In Word) : Eighth June Nineteen Hundred And Ninety Seven  
Name of Madrasah : Tuar Danga Dakhil Madrasah [ 118601 ]  
Thana/Upazilla : Ashashuni (593) District : Satkhira

**Information of JDC Examination**  
Board / Madrasah : Passing Year : 2010 Roll No. : 246335 Reg. No. : 1018856983  
Subject Code and Subject Name : Group : General

101 - Quran Mazid	107 - English
102 - Hadith Sharif	108 - General Math
103 - Arabic - I	109 - Islamic History
104 - Arabic - II	129 - Social Science
105 - Fish & U. Fish	113 - Ag. Studies (Optional)
106 - Bangla	

Student's Signature: [Signature] Head of the Institution: [Signature] Registrar: [Signature]

Note: This registration card is valid for 3 (three) consecutive examinations. Candidates must bring this card to the Examination Hall.

Photo: Registration card (Dakhil Examination) of Dedarul Islam. According to the card his age is shown as 16 years

On March 7, 2013 at around 7:00pm Alamgir informed him that Gita had filed a case against him (Rabbi) for raping her. Alamgir informed him that a case was also filed against him (Alamgir) but he got rid of his name by bribing Mohammad Emdad Hossain, OC of the Ashashuni Police Station for Tk 15,000/-. He also told Rabbi that on the night of February 26, 2013, he picked up Gita and raped her. Along with him a man from Tuar Danga and two men from Goyaldanga were also there who had also raped her.

N.B. In the FIR of the case his name is mentioned as Mohammad Rabbi and age 20.

### **Enamul Haq, Father of Dedarul Islam Rabbi**

Enamul Haq informed Odhikar that on February 26, 2013 at around 5:00pm, Rabbi went with few of his friends to Bamondanga fair. At around 9:00pm, he came back home. He said that someone must have included Rabbi's name in Gita's rape case deliberately. He asked for fair trial and justice.

### **Mohammad Emdad Hossain, Officer-in-Charge, Ashashuni Police Station, Satkhira- Allegation of influencing a case with false information and taking bribe:**

Md Emdad Hossain informed Odhikar that on February 27, 2013 noon, Gita's maternal uncle had brought a complaint with regard to abduction of Gita and he did not accept the case. On March 6, 2013, Gita herself filed a case accusing five persons under Section 7/9(3)/30 of the Prevention of Repression against Women and Children Act, 2000 (amended 2003). The case number is 6; Date: 06/03/2013. Before filing the case he listened to Gita's story. Gita also informed him of the Daily Kafela's journalist, Alamgir Hossain who had raped her. In reply to the question why Alamgir's name was still not there in the list of accused, he answered that since Alamgir was a journalist; his name was removed from the FIR. The Officer-in-Charge could not explain why facts were missing in the FIR. He informed that it was still under investigation.

### **Odhikar's Comment:**

According to fact-finding, it seems that,

1. Mohammad Emdad Hossain, Officer-in-Charge of Ashasuni Police Station filed the case by taking Taka 5000/- bribe money from Gita Rani's family. Though he demanded Tk 15,000/- from Gita Rani's family. Mohammad Emdad Hossain removed the name of Alamgir from the case by taking taka 15,000. from Alamgir.
2. Reviewing the statement of Alamgir during fact finding; it is found that on February 27, 2013 at around 8:00 am Alamgir went to a marsh land at Bamondanga to bring back his cow and found a girl on the ground. He took that girl at home and gave treatment. However, according to the rural doctor Komol Kanti Mondol, at around 7:00am, Alamgir called at his mobile phone and wanted to know about treatment for a person for who was raped. Moreover, Gita was taken home by her teacher but Alamgir claimed that Gita's father and uncle took her home. Alamgir's claim is inconsistent with the rest of the interviews.
3. It is revealed through fact finding that, Alamgir claimed himself as a journalist of 'Doinik Kafela' and 'Radio Nolta'. But at present he is not employed as a journalist in any media. He is using false visiting card and is involved with illegal and anti social activities in the locality.
4. The real information is being suppressed and the accused person's name has been removed from the FIR.

In such situation, Odhikar demands arrest of the real perpetrators and proper investigation. Odhikar also demands steps against Mohammad Emdad Hossain, Officer-in-Charge of Ashasuni Police Station for manipulating the case for his personal gain.