

A Correspondent

Madaripur: Three separate cases were filed against 14 people in connection with the deaths of 26 Bangladeshi nationals, who were killed in a gun attack in Libya on Thursday, in Madaripur district.

The family members of three victims of the gun attack from Madaripur who were killed in the gun attack, filed the cases with Rajoir and Sadar Police Station under the Human Trafficking Act on Sunday night.

Shawkat Zahan, officer-in-charge of Rajoir Police Station, said two separate cases were filed over the Libya gun attack that claimed the lives of 26 Bangladeshi nationals. Most of the victims hailed from Madaripur district.

Razzak Hawladar, father of the deceased Jewel, filed a case against four people - including an alleged member of the human trafficking gang in Madaripur, while Syed Khalashi, brother of deceased Rahim Khalashi, filed another case against seven people including the same alleged Bangladeshi member of the gang - Julhash Sheikh, son of Majid Sheikh of Madaripur.

Locals attacked Julhash's home in Madaripur the day after news of the macabre killings broke last Thursday, but police rushed to the spot and took Julhash to the relative safety of the coronavirus isolation ward at Madaripur Sadar Hospital, on the pretext of COVID-19 symptoms. He has since apparently been diagnosed with the disease.

Quamrul Islam, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station, said Abdul Halim Mia, father of the victim Mohammad Shamim of Dudhkhali union, filed the case against three people.

Police arrested two people, including Dina Begum, the wife of another broker, Nazrul Islam, in this connection on Sunday night.

The parents of murdered Jewel Hawladar said, "My son went to Libya three to four months back through the human trafficking gang in exchange of Tk 3-4 lakh. But they tortured him after confining him in Benghazi city. Later, the gang demanded Tk 10 lakh more from them and sent a recording of my son's voice asking for the ransom money. We even gave the money to broker Julhash but they killed my son."

Shah Alam Hawladar, father of Manik Hawladar, said "I gave Tk 4 lakh to Julhash but they demanded Tk 10 lakh more. To bring my son back I gave them Tk 10 lakh."

Some 26 Bangladeshi citizens were killed while 11 others were injured in a gun attack by some human traffickers on Thursday in the desert town of Mizdah, some 180km from Tripoli.

All the Bangladeshi nationals were buried in Mizdah, said M Ashraful Islam, Counsellor (Labour wing) at Bangladesh Embassy in Libya on Sunday.