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FACEBOOK COMMENT

Schoolboy gets bail

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The Tangail schoolboy, who was jailed for two years under the ICT act for "threatening" a ruling Awami League lawmaker in Facebook over a week ago, was released on bail yesterday.

On September 20, the boy, Sabbir Shikder, a student of class-IX at Protima Bonki Public High School in Sakhipur upazila, secured bail in the case from the High Court.

"After the High Court order reached the jail around 4:00pm, he was freed around 5:15pm," Ritesh Chakma, jailer of Tangail district jail, told The Daily Star.

On September 17, a mobile court sentenced Sabbir, son of Shahinoor Alam of Protima Bonki village in the upazila, to two years' imprisonment.

Executive Magistrate SM Rafiqul Islam, also Sakhipur upazila nirbahi officer, passed the order a day after police detained the boy following the filing of a general diary by Anupam Shahajahan Joy, lawmaker of Tangail-8 (Basail-Sakhipur) constituency.

The magistrate claimed that the boy was 19 years old and he wrote "abusive and humiliating words" in his Facebook message to the lawmaker on September 16.

Maksudul Alam, officer-in-charge of Sakhipur Police Station, said the lawmaker filed a GD with the police station in this regard later that day.

Police then picked up Sabbir and interrogated him. As he admitted sending the text, police produced him before the mobile court of Rafiqul the next day, the OC said.

In a suo moto rule, the HC also asked Rafiqul and Maksudul to appear before the court on September 27 to explain their action on handing the punishment to the schoolboy.