



SHAZNEEN CASE

HC verdict stayed for 2 months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday stayed the High Court (HC) verdict on sensational Shazneen murder case for two months.

Chamber Judge Amirul Kabir Chowdhury stayed the verdict after hearing a leave to appeal petition filed by Syed Sajjad Mainuddin Hasan alias Azad, one of the convicts awarded death sentence.

The HC Death Reference Bench on Shazneen murder case comprising Justice Ali Asgar Khan and Justice Emdadul Haque, in its verdict on July 10, upheld the death penalty of five convicts, including

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

Quake triggers tsunami in Indonesia again

67 killed, 70 missing, warning issued for Nicobar

AFP, Jakarta

At least 67 people were killed and scores injured after a tsunami smashed into the south of Indonesia's Java island following a strong undersea earthquake, a local legislator said Monday.

"The death toll so far stands at 67. The number will certainly increase. I just saw another body being taken in," Rudi Supriatna Bahro told Metro TV from the West Java province's Pangandaran coast.

"The situation is almost similar to Aceh," he said, referring to the Indonesian province where 168,000 people were killed in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster.

He said thousands of people had taken shelter in mosques and other safe places.

"Many of the injured were suffering from broken bones," he said.

Earlier Putu Suryawan of the Indonesian Red Cross disaster relief division told AFP that 70 people were missing and another 40 were injured in three West Java areas in the southern coast.

Suryawan said residents had reported about 40 more people, who were building a dam when the tsunami struck, were missing. Three Red Cross ambulances and 15 volunteers had left for the disaster zone.

The tsunami also hit the coastal parts of Central Java province and

there were unconfirmed reports of at least five deaths there.

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono earlier said five people had been killed and urged residents to move away from coastal areas.

"The search is ongoing for those who are still missing," he told reporters. "It is important to take care of the dead and the injured."

"We call on people to evacuate vulnerable areas. There have been at least five aftershocks," he said, adding that military and rescue teams had been sent to the area.

Witnesses said waves hit buildings and houses on the south coast following the earthquake.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Sunny, others jailed for 3-17 years

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) military commander Ataur Rahman Sunny and five others to 3 to 17 years of Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) for possessing firearms, ammunition and explosives.

Judge Mohammad Monzurul Bachhid of the Fourth Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court delivered the verdict of two cases in a packed courtroom while the six accused including Sunny were present.

Following the verdict, Sunny and others began chanting different songs loudly and they maintained that they would not obey the verdict of the 'worldly' court.

Rab produced Sunny and six others before the court at 11:30am

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



PHOTO: STAR

Anxious parents with their babies suffering from influenza wait to see doctors at Dhaka Shishu Hospital at Shyamoli yesterday with the viral fever spreading in the city.

RU authorities to allow murder suspect Salehi to sit for exam

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University (RU) authorities are going to allow RU Islami Chhatra Shibir President Mahub Alam Salehi, also a suspect in the Prof S Taher Ahmed murder case, to sit for his master's exams despite his poor attendance of classes.

Rajshahi University Vice-chancellor (VC) Prof Altaf Hossain yesterday told newsmen that the previous decision on Salehi issue would remain unchanged.

The VC also said, "The department sent his attendance report to me and I have no option but to allow him to sit for the examinations."

Geology and Mining Department sources said the departmental academic committee sent the report on Salehi's class attendance on June 16 to the controller of examinations office. The report said Salehi had only attended 16 per cent of the classes in his master's programme.

The department authorities again did not write the number of classes attended by Salehi on his Student Information Form. The

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8



PHOTO: AFP

Lebanese civilians carry the body of a victim of Israeli airstrike on Beirut's Kafarchima area yesterday.

Dozens killed in Iraqi market attack

REUTERS, Baghdad

Dozens of people were killed in an attack around a crowded market in a violent town just outside Baghdad yesterday, one of the bloodiest incidents in Iraq this year, police and Interior Ministry officials said.

There were conflicting accounts from officials as residents and police reported the sound of clashes continuing, roadblocks thrown up around the town of Mahmudiya, which lies on the main highway south from Baghdad, and patchy telephone communications.

Officials in Baghdad put the death toll at around 40, a local police commander put it at 55 and Iraqiya state television ran a flash later

putting the number of dead at 70. Police and the Interior Ministry could not immediately confirm that figure.

There were reports of a car bomb, a mass gun attack and also an ambush against a funeral convoy of Shia mourners heading between the capital and traditional burial sites at Najaf.

This latter version prompted members of parliament from the Shia Islamist faction led by militant cleric Moqtada al-Sadr to quit Monday's session of the legislature. Leaders told a news conference that 41 people had been killed in the ambush.

The attack came on the anniversary of the 1968 coup that brought Saddam Hussein's Baath party to

power. Dominated by the Sunni minority, the party oppressed Shias for 35 years.

Initial reports from police in the town, Interior Ministry officials in Baghdad said, indicated that a car bomb had devastated a crowd of mourners heading between the capital and traditional burial sites at Najaf.

But a police commander contacted in the town itself told Reuters that a series of explosions, reported by residents, were mortars falling on the town, followed by a rampage by gunmen through the market -- a rare tactic in Iraq against civilian targets, although seen a week ago in Baghdad.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Yet another case filed against Bulu

Arrest warrant issued

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued an arrest warrant against MNH Bulu, a director of satellite TV station Boishakhi, after a businessman filed a case alleging that a cheque written by Bulu was bounced.

Metropolitan Magistrate Syed Mohammad Mujibul Haq issued the order after Noor Hossain, a former director of EXIM Bank Limited, filed the case with the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court.

After 18 days of confinement in jail, Bulu was released on June 17 securing bail in all three cases filed against him.

In his complaint, Noor Hossain mentioned that he and his wife

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

KIBRIA KILLING

SC stays case proceedings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court (SC) yesterday stayed for three months all proceedings of former minister Shah AMS Kibria killing case now pending in the Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal.

Full bench of the Appellate Division of the SC headed by the chief justice passed the order and also granted government's leave-to-appeal petition against the High Court's May 14 order following a petition of complainant of the case seeking further investigation.

Earlier on May 4, the tribunal judge adjourned the trial for 10 days as the complainant prayed for four weeks' time to appeal after his prayer for further investigation was rejected.

Complainant of the case, Habiganj Awami League (AL) leader Abdul Majid Khan, then filed a petition in the HC challenging the Sylhet Divisional Speedy Trial

Tribunal's rejection of his prayer for further investigation into the case.

The HC bench on May 14 ordered the government to explain within two weeks as to why the ruling of the Speedy Trial Tribunal should not be declared illegal and without lawful authority. The bench also stayed all proceedings of the case until disposal of the rule.

The government then moved to the SC against the HC order and filed a leave-to-appeal petition that full bench of the SC granted yesterday.

Additional Attorney General Abdur Rezzak Khan moved for the government while Dr Kamal Hossain moved for the complainant of the case.

Former finance minister and AL lawmaker Kibria was killed in a grenade attack at Baidderbazar in Habiganj after a party rally on January 27, 2005.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

BSF kills 1

UNB, Naogaon

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) gunned down a Bangladeshi national on Bamnpara border under Sapahar upazila yesterday.

The victim was identified as Tozammel Haq Kalu, 48, a cattle trader.

Locals said the Indian border guards of Naiorkori outpost opened fire when Kalu along with eight others was going to Bamnpara border from Sapahar in the morning.

Kalu received bullets and died instantly. The BSF men then took away the body.

Immediately after killing, BDR protested the incident and asked its Indian counterpart to return the body. But the BSF personnel of Naiorkori outpost resorted to unprovoked fire at Bamnpara outpost of BDR in the afternoon, forcing the Bangladesh border guards to retaliate.

BDR and BSF have declared red alert along the 179-km border of the district and mobilised additional troops and artillery.

Local BDR Commander Lt Col Zahid Hasan confirmed the incident. He said they are ready to face any eventuality.

Bus kills 4 in Keraniganj

UNB, Keraniganj

A bus crashed into two rickshaws and two rickshaw vans on the southern side of the Second Buriganga Bridge in Keraniganj area yesterday, killing the rickshaw and van pullers on the spot.

Police and locals said the Dohar-bound bus from Nayabazar in the old part of the capital then rammed a road-divider in the same area, injuring 16 other people.

Identity of the dead could not be known. Six of the injured were admitted to Midford Hospital while others given first aid.

Police seized the bus, but its driver and helper managed to flee.

Hotel staff gunned down in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Unknown extortionists gunned down an employee of a residential hotel in the city's Maghbazar area yesterday.

The victim was identified as Abul Hussain, 35.

Witnesses said a gang of three stormed into Hotel Rajmahal International around 9:00am and was looking for its manager. As the manager was not available, the gang demanded toll from Abul Hussain. On refusal, the extortionists shot him point blank and left the scene.

Md Jahir, another employee of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6



PHOTO: STAR

BNP activists led by lawmaker Makbul Hossain burns the plaque of Golapganj Health Complex in Sylhet yesterday following clashes between them and supporters of Privatisation Commission Chairman Inam Ahmed Chowdhury.

BTTB launches prepaid card for land phones

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) yesterday launched prepaid cards of Tk 500 and Tk 200 for land phones.

ISD and Economy ISD (E-ISD) calls can be made from BTTB's phones across the country by dialing 010201 while NWD calls only from Dhaka multi-exchange area.

The prepaid cards are now available at City Bank and Basic Bank branches across the country.

Telecommunications Minister M Aminul Haque inaugurated the prepaid card service at the city's Moghbazar Telephone Exchange.

BTTB chairman and board members and high officials concerned were present at the function.

Prayer Timing		
July 18		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-15	4-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	5-00	5-15
Maghrib	6-54	6-58
Esha	8-15	8-45

Source: Islamic Foundation