

HC orders

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failed to unearth the facts of the case.

Yesterday, the HC directed the tribunal concerned to hold a retrial of the case in three months.

The HC asked the lower court to consider bail of Asif if it could not finish the retrial under Penal Code in three months after receiving the HC verdict.

The HC also asked the three accused who were acquitted to surrender before the tribunal. It also asked the tribunal to give them bail after they surrender.

The HC delivered the verdict after hearing an appeal filed by Asif and on a petition filed by Sifat's uncle [father's younger brother] Mizanur Rahman Khandker.

Asif in his appeal sought acquittal of the charges while Mizanur in his petition sought enhancement of Asif's punishment.

Asif's lawyer Sarwar Ahmed told The Daily Star that retrial order was issued as there were discrepancies between the trial proceedings and verdict delivery.

The case was filed under section 11(Ka) of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act, 2000, but the sentence was handed down under section 306 of the Penal Code, he said.

Mizanur placed arguments in support of his petition after taking permission from the HC.

Sifat was found dead at her in-laws' house in Mahishbathan area of Rajshahi city on March 29, 2015.

A murder case was filed accusing Asif and his parents. The case was later handed over to the Speedy Trial Tribunal, which began the trial proceedings on November 11, 2016.

BSF shoots

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The BGB official said they could know that a body was in Gopalnagar BSF camp under Malda, but could not be confirmed the victim's identity.

He added that they were trying to contact BSF.

Four cops

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from Cox's Bazar district jail around 11:00am, said Rab officials.

They were first taken to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital for jail for health check-up and later taken to Rab-15 office in Cox's Bazar, the Rab officials said.

Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police Khairul Islam, also the investigation officer of the case, said each of the four accused was remanded for another four days by a court on August 24.

Earlier, on August 12, each of them was remanded for four days in the same case.

Bangabandhu

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INDONESIAN SUPPORT FOR REPATRIATION OF BANGLADESH ASSURED

Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Adam Malik declares in Chittagong today that his government would spare no efforts for securing the repatriation of Bangalees stranded in Pakistan and would also strive to ensure Bangladesh membership in the United Nations.

BORDER LIKELY TO BE SEALED
Home Minister Abdul Mannan tells newsmen today that the government is determined to totally root out smuggling. Referring to the Indian offer to seal the Indo-Bangladesh border to check smuggling, the home minister says if it is found that for the greater interest of both countries it is necessary, then it would be done.

Both governments are determined to put a stop to smuggling and therefore any step in this direction would be taken on mutual consultation with each other, adds the minister.

SOURCES: September 8, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

90pc of Sinovac

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the registered clinical trial protocols, will not be used as main materials that regulators review in judging whether to approve the vaccine for commercial use, Yin said.

He said those who chose to be inoculated, including his wife and parents, had been informed of the potential side effects prior to taking the shot, and that its vaccine completing only early and mid-stage trials.

Yin, who also took the shot, said doctors asked about their health conditions before the vaccination, and the occurrence rate of adverse reaction among those vaccinated has been "very low".

Side effects after taking CoronaVac include fatigue, fever and pain, with mostly mild symptoms, according to results of a mid-stage trial sponsored by Sinovac, involving 600 participants and published last month ahead of peer review.

No vaccine has passed final, large-scale trials to prove it is effective and safe enough to protect people against the virus that has led to over 870,000 deaths globally.



High waves triggered by Typhoon Haishen crash against the coast in Kagoshima, Kagoshima prefecture, in southwestern Japan yesterday. Officials warned the typhoon could bring record rains and gusts strong enough to flip cars, prompting authorities to urge millions to seek shelter.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Fixing phantom bridges over nothing

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cancellation of the tender. The tender was cancelled on September 1.

Amtali Upazila Engineer Abdullah Al Mamun said the project director has prepared the project with the approval of the chief engineer and that he was implementing the instructions. The estimate does not have his signature, the engineer added.

Forkan Ahmed Khan, executive engineer of the Barguna LGED said no district-level employee was involved in making estimates, starting with the project's estimate. Everything is determined by the project director with the approval of the chief engineer of LGED. In terms of implementation, they only follow the instructions.

IBRP project director Abdul Hai said he does not know about the irregularities. Estimates have been sent from Barguna and have been approved, he said, adding that he did not think there would be such a big mistake.

The tender notice included the repair of an iron bridge in front of Dakshin Taktabunia Secondary School on Banshunia canal in Amtali's Haldia union. However, the same bridge is shown in the tender on Nashbunia canal.

Selim Khan of Dakshin Taktabunia village said there is no canal in Haldia union named Nashbunia.

The tender notice also mentions repair of two bridges at Tujir Bazar and Ramjir Bazar of the same union but there are no bridges there on Haldia canal.

Instead, there are bamboo bridges in the canals of those two markets.

GM Osmani Hasan, president of Amtali Contractors Association, said

bridges have been shown repaired in front of Elahiya Dakhil Madrasa and in front of South Rawagha Keratul Quran Madrasa but there is no bridge in the canal in front of those two madrasas. There is a bamboo bridge over which people are currently crossing.

The 85-metre-long bridge adjacent to Tujir Bazar in Haldia Union, for which a tender has been called for renovation, is in fact 60 metres. Even though there is no bridge, more than 25 metres length is shown here, he added.

Besides, the cost of earth work here has been estimated at around Tk 9 lakh. There is no bridge on the canal adjacent to Ramji Bazar of the same union. There is a bamboo bridge of 51 metres. But here too, the length is shown as 70 metres.

Harun Mollah, a resident of Dalachara area of Gulishakhali union of the upazila, said four bridges of just one-and-a-half kilometers have been shown for repair. Two of them are fit for use, the other two are bamboo bridges.

Sultan Ghazi, 63, a resident of the area adjacent to South Raoga Keratul Quran Madrasa in Haldia Union, said the madrasa has no bridge here. There is a bamboo bridge here and although a woman died a few months ago after falling into a canal from this bridge, no iron bridge has been built here.

LGED contractor Bashir Uddin said, "I have visited at least 25 bridge areas of Amtali upazila mentioned in the tender.

"We have found bamboo bridges in place of 13 bridges. And I have seen that there is no need to repair a few such bridges at a huge cost."

He also complained that the length

of each bridge was exaggerated.

GM Osmani Hasan alleged that Executive Engineer Forkan Ahmed Khan has invited tenders for the construction of 33 bridges in connivance with influential contractors in exchange for large sums of money.

As per the rules, the surveyor of the concerned Upazila Engineer's Office of LGED will measure the bridges when it comes to making estimates. The sub-assistant engineer also has to make an estimate after the on-the-spot visit.

Abdul Quddus, a surveyor at the Amtali Upazila Engineer's Office, said, "I did not measure the length of the bridge and the soil, but I was asked to sign the estimate. I said I would not sign without an on-the-spot visit. I do not know how the estimate was later approved."

The same statement was made by Deputy Assistant Engineer Nizam Uddin. He said, "After the on-the-spot inspection and reporting, there was a rule to make an estimate, but I did not do any of this. Estimates have been prepared and approved from Dhaka. I know nothing else."

TIB demands

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Iftekhazuzaman stressed the need to find out whether local influential and corrupt groups had a role in the attack.

Such an attack happened because of the lack of instance of trial of people who in the past attacked local administration officials, he said.

The attack on the UNO is a clear example of a culture of impunity that has developed in the country, he said.

'World's loneliest elephant'

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Martin Bauer, a spokesperson for animal welfare campaign group Four Paws, said Kaavan has been finally given medical approval to travel, most likely to an animal sanctuary in Cambodia, where the elephant will find companionship and better conditions.

Wildlife experts from Four Paws inspected the elephant upon invitation by local authorities, Bauer said. Kaavan underwent a full medical examination at the zoo on Friday and was found to be malnourished.

"Due to malnutrition and lack of physical exercise Kaavan shows visible signs of obesity. Also, his nails are cracked and malformed which can be attributed to the inappropriate flooring and structure of his enclosure," said Dr Amir Khalil, a veterinarian with Four Paws.

The Marghazar Zoo was ordered to close in May by Pakistan's High Court because of its shockingly poor conditions, which were blamed on systemic negligence.

Four Paws was invited by the Islamabad Wildlife Management Board to safely transfer the remaining

animals in the zoo, including a pair of former dancing bears.

"Unfortunately, the rescue comes too late for two lions that died during an attempted transfer at the end of July after local animal handlers set a fire in their enclosure to force them into their transport crates," Bauer said in a statement on Saturday.

Before the order to close, Marghazar Zoo had come under fire for its mistreatment of animals. More than 500 animals have been reported missing in recent years and over two dozen animals have died in the zoo's care since 2016.

The campaign to relocate Kaavan took hold four years ago and was boosted by celebrity backing, notably from Cher, who repeatedly shared information about the elephant with fans.

Kaavan first arrived at the zoo in 1985 as a gift to Pakistan from Sri Lanka. The elephant was not always so lonely and for many years shared a small enclosure with female partner Saheli, which died in 2012.

On inspection, Kaavan was found to be suffering behavioural issues as well as the physical damage wrought by the poor, isolated conditions at Marghazar Zoo.

Blaze extinguished on stricken oil tanker off Sri Lanka

AFP, Colombo

A massive fire on a stricken oil tanker off Sri Lanka's coast has been extinguished, the island nation's navy said yesterday, as international salvage experts began to assess the damage over fears of an environmental disaster if there is a leak.

The Panamanian-registered New Diamond, carrying over 270,000 tonnes of crude and diesel, was en route from Kuwait to the Indian port of Paradip when it issued a distress call Thursday after an engine room explosion that killed a Filipino crew member.

Sri Lanka's navy chief Nishantha Ulugetenna said the fire on the tanker, which the navy chief and the Indian coastguard got under control on Friday -- had finally been put out.

"The fire has been completely doused," the vice admiral told reporters in Colombo.

"The tanker's (steel) plates are still very hot so there is a risk of reigniting new fires."

The Indian coastguard tweeted that "no flame & smoke" was visible from the vessel.

The announcement came as Sri Lanka's Disaster Management Centre said foreign salvage experts and insurance assessors had started examining the ship some 75 kilometres (46 miles) from the coast.

Ten British and Netherlands professionals with expertise in rescue

operations, disaster evaluation and legal consultation arrived earlier yesterday, the navy said.

Dutch firm Smit Salvage had commissioned the experts and was also sending two tug boats from Singapore and Mauritius, the navy added.

The Indian coastguard, which deployed six ships, an aircraft and a helicopter, added yesterday that its pollution control vessel had arrived at the site in the Indian Ocean.

The rescue vessels are still dousing the tanker with water to prevent fresh fires being ignited in heavy winds lashing the hot steel plates near the burnt engine room.

The tanker had suffered a crack of its hull some 10 metres (33 feet) above the waterline as a result of intense heat from the fire, officials said.

Authorities said there has been no oil slick and the crack was not considered a catastrophic structural failure.

Sri Lanka's Marine Environment Protection Agency has said that legal action could be taken against the owners, Liberian-registered Porto Emporios Shipping Inc, "should the worst happen and the ship breaks up".

The vessel is larger than the Japanese bulk carrier MV Wakashio, which crashed into a reef in Mauritius in July leaking more than 1,000 tonnes of oil into the island nation's pristine waters.

Race to assess damage to stricken oil tanker off Sri Lanka

AFP, Colombo

An international team of salvage experts arrived in Sri Lanka yesterday to assess damage to a fire-stricken oil tanker off the east coast, officials said, as fear mounted for an environmental disaster if there is a leak.

The Panamanian-registered New Diamond, carrying over 270,000 tonnes of crude and diesel, was en route from Kuwait to the Indian port of Paradip when it issued a distress call Thursday after an engine room explosion that killed a Filipino crew member.

The Sri Lankan navy and Indian coastguard got the blaze under control on Friday, preventing it from spreading to the flammable cargo.

'Fox News is gone'

FROM PAGE 12
war. Anyone who went was a sucker," she quoted the unnamed official as saying.

"It was a character flaw of the president. He could not understand why someone would die for their country, not worth it," the source said.

Trump has furiously defended himself in the wake of the story in The Atlantic, tweeting and retweeting stories condemning it as "fake news".

"You work so hard for the military, from completely rebuilding a depleted mess that was left by OBiden, to fixing a broken V.A. and fighting for large scale military pay raises, and then a slimeball reporter, maybe working with disgruntled people, makes up such a horrible charge," a furious Trump tweeted on Saturday.

A day earlier, the US president had tweeted: "Jennifer Griffin should

"Ten British and Netherlands professionals with expertise in rescue operations, disaster evaluation and legal consultation will be arriving in the island this morning," the navy said in a statement.

Dutch firm Smit Salvage had commissioned the experts and was also sending two tug boats from Singapore and Mauritius, the navy added.

The Indian coastguard, which has deployed numerous ships, an aircraft and a helicopter, added yesterday that its pollution control vessel had arrived at the site in the Indian Ocean.

The rescue vessels continued to douse the blaze with water yesterday as a large plume of smoke rose from the ship.

be fired for this kind of reporting. Never even called us for comment. @FoxNews is gone!"

According to The Atlantic, in a conversation with senior staff members, on the morning of the visit, Trump said: "Why should I go to that cemetery? It's filled with losers."

The official explanation for that missed visit was bad weather.

The habitually Trump-friendly Fox News has been criticised for seemingly sidelining Griffin's reporting in its coverage of the story, reports AFP.

A story on its website on Saturday was headlined: "Sources dispute claim Trump nixed visit to military cemetery over disdain for slain veterans."

Several of Griffin's colleagues at Fox have publicly defended her on Twitter, along with Republican congressman Adam Kinzinger, who called her "fair and unafraid".

Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB)		TCB Bhaban, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215		www.tcb.gov.bd	
Import Section					
Request for Quotation (International) of 5,000 (±10%) M. Ton Onion					
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Commerce.			
2	Agency	Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB).			
3	Procuring entity name	Chief Officer (Commercial), TCB, Dhaka.			
4	Procuring entity code	Not applicable.			
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.			
6	Invitation for	Onion.			
7	Invitation Ref No.	26.05.0000.016.23.055.20.528			
8	Date	06-09-2020			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement method	Request for Quotation (RFQ) (International).			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and source of funds	TCB's own fund.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
11	Package No.	TCB/Imp-09/Onion/2020			
12	Package name	Onion.			
13	Quotation publication date	07-09-2020			
		Date	Time		
14	Quotation documents last selling date and time	15-09-2020	17:00pm		
15	Quotation closing date and time	16-09-2020	12:00pm		
16	Quotation opening date and time	16-09-2020	12:15pm		
17	Name & address of the office(s)	Address			
	-Selling quotation document of each item can be purchased from the banks & offices as mentioned in right column	(1) Sonali Bank Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch, TCB Bhaban, Dhaka. (2) Trust Bank Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch, and (3) Accounts & Finance Division, TCB's Principal Office at Dhaka.			
	-Receiving quotation document	In front of TCB's reception (2nd Floor), TCB Bhaban, 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.			
	-Opening quotation document	Board Room, TCB.			
INFORMATION FOR QUOTATIONER					
18	Eligibility of quotation	Bonafide suppliers/manufacturers. Details conditions will be mentioned in the quotation documents.			
19	Brief description of goods	Import of 5,000 (±10%) (five thousand plus minus ten percent) M.Tons Onion.			
20	Price of quotation document	Tk 5,000 (five thousand) only per set.			
21	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Quotation security amount (USD/Tk)	Shipment schedule
	1.	Onion	Offers are to be made on CFR (C) Chattogram (Previous name Chittagong) by Sea.	Quotation is to be submitted along with quotation security amounting to: USD 35,000.00 (US dollar thirty-five thousand) or BDT 30,00,000.00 (BDT thirty lac) only in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee. The successful quotationer is to submit 5% (five percent) performance security in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee.	Entire quantity of goods is to be shipped within 45 (forty-five) days (including L/C correction & grace period) from the date of opening L/C.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
22	Name of official inviting quotation	Md. Shekhabur Rahaman (Deputy Secretary).			
23	Designation of official inviting quotation	Chief Officer (Commercial), TCB, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.			
24	Address of official inviting quotation	Principal Office, Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB), 1, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.			
25	Contact details of official inviting quotation	Telephone No. 02-8180074	Fax No. 880-2-8180057	E-mail: tcb@tcb.gov.bd, tcbimp@tcb.gov.bd	
26	Special instructions:				
	a. Incomplete, conditional quotation and alternative offer shall not be considered.				
	b. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject any/all quotations partly or wholly without assigning any reason.				
	c. Quotationer who was awarded the Notification of Awarded (NOA) earlier but could not submit performance security (PS) in due time, will not be eligible for the quotation.				
	d. Quotationer whose performance security (PS) was partially or totally forfeited earlier will not be eligible to participate in the quotation.				
Md. Shekhabur Rahaman Chief Officer (Commercial) Trading Corporation of Bangladesh					
GD-1399					