

Govt sanction needed to frame charge

By SC Correspondent

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday allowed the appeal preferred against the order of the Senior Special Judge, Dinajpur directing the Assistant Superintendent of Police to submit a report after investigation into the Yasmin rape and murder case.

The Appellate Division also set aside the order of the High Court Division rejecting the criminal revisional petition summarily filed against the order of the Senior Special Judge.

Earlier on January 14, the Appellate Division granted leave to appeal to examine two points, whether the Special Judge committed an error of law in not sending the matter for government sanction to frame charge against government servants and whether an assistant superintendent of police, being a junior officer can investigate the allegations brought against his senior officers, the Deputy Commissioner and the District Police Superintendent.

As a result of the judgement, now the Special Judge will have to refer the case for prior sanction of the government and there is no scope for primary investigation.

Former member of the parliament and former president

of Dinajpur District Bar Association, Advocate M Abdur Rahim on September 14 last lodged an FIR against eight high government officials including the then Deputy Commissioner and District Police Superintendent of Dinajpur under Section 166/217/114 of the Penal Code read with Section 5(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947.

The FIR alleged that when on August 24 Yasmin was raped and murdered under police custody, the people of Dinajpur burst into agitation and demanded an exemplary punishment of those who were guilty.

On August 27 while the agitating people were in a procession, the police fired on them and seven people were shot dead, but the accused in spite of having learned the provisions of law attempted to conceal the dead bodies and to save the criminals, the FIR alleged.

Advocate M A Wahab Mian assisted by Advocate M Enayetur Rahim and Obaidul Hassan Shahin conducted the case on behalf of the informant.

Additional Attorney General Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan represented the state in the case.

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Visiting Sri Lankan Minister for Health, Highways and Social Services Alhaj AHM Fawzie called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday. — PID photo

Lankan minister meets PM Training of docs, exchange of teachers discussed

Visiting Sri Lankan Minister for Health, Highways and Social Services, Alhaj A H M Fawzie, called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Secretariat office yesterday, reports BSS.

During the meeting they discussed human resources development through training of doctors at post graduate level and exchange of teachers and study fellows in selected subjects like forensic medicine, community medicine, child health and reproductive health.

Sharing experience in programme development and delivery of services through exchange of delegations and study teams in the area of maternal and child health nutrition and some diseases common in both countries like TB and leprosy also came up in the discussion.

They also discussed matters on sharing experiences in the field of innovative strategies for providing quality health care services, particularly in the rural areas, role of NGOs in service delivery and community mobilization, participatory approach and cost-sharing for health care services.

The Prime Minister conveyed her greetings to President of Sri Lanka, Chandrika Kumaratunga and Prime Minister Srimavo Bandarnake. She also conveyed her best wishes for the people of Sri Lanka and

for their peace and prosperity. While expressing her satisfaction over the existing friendly relations between the two countries Sheikh Hasina referred to the long historical and cultural relationship and affinity between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

The Prime Minister lauded the positive role of Sri Lanka in the SAARC and expressed Bangladesh's eagerness to work in close cooperation with Sri Lanka in the SAARC forum.

The Prime Minister also congratulated the Sri Lankan health minister on his achievements as the current chairman of the South-East Asian region health ministers forum of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and wished him continued success in this position. She assured him Bangladesh's best support and cooperation to the forum and to WHO in general.

Madame Fawzie and Sri Lankan high commissioner in Bangladesh S B Atugoda were also present.

The Lankan minister left Dhaka yesterday after a 3-day official visit to Bangladesh. Bangladesh Minister for Health and Family Welfare Salahuddin Yusuf saw him off at the Zia International Airport. Health Secretary Mohammad Ali and Sri Lankan High Commissioner in Bangladesh S B Atugoda were present.

Dollar seized from passenger at Ctg airport

CHITTAGONG, Aug 8: Airport customs today seized 10 thousand US dollar from a passenger at the Chittagong Airport, official sources said, reports BSS.

Customs official search the passenger Amir Khan on his arrival at the airport by a connecting flight from Dhaka and recovered the dollar.

Amir Khan who came from Oman was suspected for his alleged involvement in currency smuggling, the sources added.

Uranium

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the Science and Technology Agency of Japan and the BAEC. During the period 1976 to 1986, BAEC conducted preliminary reconnaissance surveys followed by helicopter-borne aerial and radiometric survey in some selected areas of greater Sylhet, Chittagong and the Hill Tracts, they recalled.

"It resulted in the detection of uranium occurrences in over 300 spots having radiation level of up to 60 times the background level," a BAEC source said.

India has already discovered large deposits of uranium in areas bordering Bangladesh, particularly in its eastern state of Meghalaya.

Dhaka-Mymensingh road communication disrupted

MYMENSINGH, Aug 8: Traffic on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway remained suspended since 4 pm today after the angry people blocked the road in Trishal thana following an accident that left two people dead, reports UNB.

Police said Abdul Majid Mohuri, 45, and his son Tuskar, 7, of Fulbaria thana of the district were run over by a speeding bus in Kazir Simla area. Witnesses said angry people damaged the bus and put up barricade on the road disrupting communication between Mymensingh and the capital.

Police arrested the bus driver, Morshed Mia, but could not remove the barricade till writing of the report at about 11 pm.

5-pt proposal

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Sangsad Bhaban yesterday, Suranjit contested the points raised earlier by Prof Chowdhury for making the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) effective.

The Deputy Leader of the Opposition briefing newsmen on Tuesday last put forward the five-point BNP proposal which, according to him, are prerequisites for making the House effective.

The five points are: Neutrality of the BT, more scope for the Opposition to play active role in the House, the Leader of the House has to talk like a leader of the parliament, ministers can't be allowed to speak every now and then and the Opposition members should get floor for giving personal explanation.

Contesting the proposals, Suranjit said the House runs as per the JS rules of procedure (ROP) and there were no scope of ambiguity. "Any minister can always take the floor under Article 300 of ROP. It's good privilege to enlighten the House on various issues."

Any member in the Opposition bench could, under Article 274 of ROP, give personal explanation, if needed, he noted.

About the role of the BT, the PM's adviser said, "BT has now become more popular than starting earlier after the Sangsad business", he, however, added that if one becomes aggrieved for being less projected in the electronic media, that should be reviewed.

Turning to the role of the Leader of the House, Suranjit said there was nothing exceptional in the case of the Leader of the House as parliamentary rules, regulations and norms were applicable to all MPs in the same way.

Sangsad tidbits

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the Speaker responded laughingly and assured to ask the parliament secretariat to repair the seat.

Shortly after wards, Mashur Rahman of BNP stood on a point of order. The Speaker asked him, "Apnaro ki bidhi baam (is your luck bad too)?"

However, Mashur replied in the negative.

During the question hour, Deputy Speaker Abdul Hamid made an announcement in the House for the whereabouts of a BNP lawmaker.

"Where are you Khurshid Jahan Haq, I want to give you the floor", Hamid said to the BNP MP who was missing from her own seat in the third row of the Opposition bench.

Khurshid Jahan rushed to her seat from another in the second row and said, "My question has already been raised by MK Anwar. That's why..."

The Chair had Khurshid's name on the computer screen on his table.

Like on other days, the Deputy Speaker faced criticism from the ruling party MPs who alleged that the former always looked to the left (the Opposition bench) and urged him to look to the right (the Treasury bench) too.

In reply, Abdul Hamid said: "Let me look to the left first and then the right". The comment from the Chair received table thumpings from the BNP lawmakers.

Later, Golam Hossain of the Jatiya Party, who sits straight to the Chair, said, "You look to the left and the right, but never look forward."

BNP legislator Abdul Wahab rose to say that the Chair could

Tk 63000 seized from passenger at ZIA

By Staff Correspondent

The security personnel at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) recovered local currency notes worth Tk 63,000 from a Dubai-bound passenger yesterday evening.

During luggage scanning at the airport a security department supervisor noticed the notes in the luggage of a Biman flight passenger A K M Rezaul Karim at about 7:30 pm, airport sources said.

Talks in Delhi

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the two nations. Farooq Sobhan also paid courtesy call on Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Atal Behari Vajpayee and former External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee.

28 passports with forged visas recovered: 7 held

By Staff Correspondent

The Detective Branch (DB) police have arrested seven persons from Mirpur and Demra thana areas and recovered 28 passports with forged visas, 12 Biman tickets, photographs of more than a hundred persons including women, accounts book, seals and other raw materials for producing fake visas and forged certificates of SSC, HSC and universities.

Police sources said the DB team arrested the persons during a raid which started on Wednesday. They were identified as Yusuf Kamal, Abul Bashar, Abdul Baki, Abdul Ali, Golum Hakanni, Mahmud Hasan and Abul Kalam Azad. The arrested are the members of an organised gang involved in trafficking women, illegal manpower business and fraudulence, police said adding that the gang did not have any legal recruiting licence.

Barisal transport strike called off

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Aug 8: After the fifth day of strike, the Road Transport Workers' Union of the district has called off their strike from this morning.

This decision was taken last night following the assurance of Deputy Commissioner and Police Super of Barisal.

BNP Bill

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highly defective one. He quoted Article 66 of the Constitution which clearly stated about the qualification and disqualification to contest parliamentary election.

Khasru said that many Bangladeshis working abroad could not become voters.

He said the issue could be taken to the law commission.

Replying to the state minister, Major (ret'd) Hafizuddin Ahmed said that he had formulated the bill after studying constitutions of 10 to 15 countries.

He said in Pakistan Constitution a provision existed under which a government official could not contest parliamentary election for a certain period after he or she was dismissed on charge of misconduct or corruption.

Major (ret'd) Hafizuddin said that according to the existing provision if an army chief was dismissed for an attempted coup he could contest the election and if won could become even the defence minister.

However, the Speaker wanted to put to vote the objection raised by the state minister but a number of BNP members wanted the state minister for law to reply again.

When former speaker and BNP member Shaikh Razzak Ali tried to say something on it Speaker Humayun Rashid Chowdhury said he had no way under rules of procedure but to put to vote the objection before the House.

The House then rejected the introduction of the bill by voice vote.

IO suspended

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SI Nazrul Islam, the investigating officer (IO) of the case, was suspended yesterday on grounds of negligence of duty following a preliminary inquiry by the Detective Branch (DB).

The DB of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) carried out an investigation following press reports on his fall Wednesday.

Police sources said the preliminary investigation found that SI Nazrul did not verify the name and address of Masud before filing the chargesheet against him. Besides, court officials and police were also apprehensive of the identity of the four year-old boy.

Road named after Sharifuddin Ahmed

The Ministry of Communi-

cations has named the road connecting Baniachang with Ajmirganj in Habiganj district after late MP Sharifuddin Ahmed. From now on, the road will be known as "Sharifuddin Ahmed Road". The step has been taken as per the directive of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, said a PID handout yesterday. Construction works on the road is expected to be completed very soon, reports UNB.

BNPPP meets Aug 11

An emergency meeting of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party Parliamentary Party (BNPPP) will be held on August 11 at 3 pm in the number 1 committee room of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban. Leader of the Opposition and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia will preside over the meeting, reports BSS.

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Body to probe 'missing' of Kalpana soon

Home Minister Major (ret'd) Rafiqul Islam has assured three organisations of the Chittagong hill districts that a judicial enquiry committee would be formed immediately to investigate the reported missing of Kalpana Chakma, reports UNB.

The minister gave the assurance to a seven-member delegation of Hill People's Council, Hill Students' Council and Hill Women Federation who called on him at his office yesterday, said a press release of the organisations.

The delegation, led by Hill People's Council general secretary Prasit B Khisa, included Samiran Chakma, Sanjoy Shakma, Jyomong Marma, Khushi Roy Tripura, Bartika Chakma and Kabita Chakma.

The delegation also handed over to the minister a memorandum containing their five-point demand.

Responding to the memorandum, the home minister said the ministry would look into the cases filed against leaders of the three CHT organisations during the past government, the release added.

Tk 750 cr rural power supply project okayed

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) yesterday approved five development projects involving of Tk 814.55 crore including Tk 455.54 crore in project aids, reports BSS.

The approval was given at a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair at the cabinet conference room at the Bangladesh Secretariat.

Under one of the projects, Taka 750 crore will be spent for the implementation of area-wise rural electrification scheme.

Under the scheme, electricity supply will be ensured in 45 thanas of Bhola, Gopalganj, Shariatpur, Rajbari, Munshiganj, Dhaka, Sylhet and Sunamganj districts. Besides, 20 sub-stations will be set up and 800 km electric lines would be laid through constituting eight "Palli Biddut Samities" in the project areas.

The other projects included "Khaal River Project" at a cost of Taka 18 crore, women development project at a cost of Taka 16.19 crore and sports development project at a cost of Taka 22 crore. Besides, over

Taka eight crore would be spent for releasing fish fry in open water bodies.

The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria, LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, Education, Primary and Mass Education Division and Science and Technology Minister ASHK Sadique, Water Resources Minister Abdur Razak, Commerce and Industry Minister Tofael Ahmed, Agriculture, Food, Disaster Management and Relief Minister Motia Chowdhury, Energy, Power and Mineral Resources Minister Noor Uddin Khan, Shipping Minister ASM Abdur Rob, Minister of State for Women and Children Affairs and Social Welfare Dr Mozammil Hossain, State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Satish Chandra Roy and Minister of State for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Kader.

Besides, the Cabinet Secretary, members of the Planning Commission, the Principal Secretary and the Secretary to the prime minister and secretaries also attended the meeting.

Sugarcane price won't be raised, says Tofael

A senior cabinet minister yesterday ruled out the possibility of raising the price of sugarcane in near future, reports UNB.

Replying to a resolution moved by an opposition legislator in Parliament, Commerce and Industries Minister Tofael Ahmed argued the price was already higher in Bangladesh than in other sugar-producing countries.

He cited that the price of per maund of sugarcane in India is Rs 20 against Tk 37.50 in Bangladesh.

Higher price of sugarcane is resulting in higher price of sugar, up to Tk 35 per kilogram in the local market compared to Rs 17 in India, the minister told the House.

Tofael cautioned a fresh raise in the price of sugarcane would take the price of local sugar out of consumers' reach.

The minister thanked the previous BNP government for not raising the price of sugarcane during its tenure.

CEC: Tolerance

From page 1

tions had already been issued to the law enforcing agencies in this regard, especially not to make any discrimination in the recovery of unauthorised arms and arrest trouble-mongers regardless of their party affiliations.

When asked about the possibility of deployment of army during the by-elections the CEC said the matter was under serious consideration of the Election Commission.

Replying to another question regarding the stopping of enquiry by an election commission team into the alleged burning ballot papers in Chandpur, the CEC said it had to be stopped because the matter had become subjudice following the filing of an election petition by the candidate who secured the second highest votes in the June 12 general elections in that constituency.

The enquiry team was scheduled to submit its report to the Commission by June 30, but before that date an election petition was filed to the election tribunal. That was why the proceedings of the enquiry team had to be stopped, he said.

Flood kills 50 in Spain

BIESCAS, Spain, Aug 8: At least 50 people were killed and 150 injured in flash floods at a campground in the Spanish pyrenees, according to a new toll given to AFP by regional police today.

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