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Bangabandhu Murder Case Punishment to killers must to keep fabric of the society intact: SPP

Punishment to killers of Bangabandhu is necessary to keep the fabric of the society intact. Special Public Prosecutor Advocate Serajul Huq submitted in the court yesterday, reports UNB.

"If we want to keep the society alive, we will also have to keep laws alive... Indemnity Ordinance was made due to guilty consciousness of the killers. This law (indemnity) was made to blanket everything," he said.

adding "so he did not take any wrong decision." Referring to Gen Shafiqullah's deposition, the lawyer said coming out of the confinement from Bangabandhu on August 18, 1975, Shafiqullah immediately called for a conference of the senior officers.

Assault on female teacher BCL expels five JU unit leaders

The ruling Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League yesterday expelled five leaders of its Jahangirnagar University (JU) unit for assaulting a teacher of the university on August 23.



BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia offering munajat at the mazar of former president and founder of BNP Ziaur Rahman on the occasion of the party's 20th founding anniversary yesterday.

BB Governor From Page 1

Govt. But later, as soon as that three-year moratorium ended in March this year, he had made a fresh request for transfer of shares.

The smear campaign also propagates that the governor had favoured Prime Bank in allowing it to offer 60 per cent bonus share.

But the fact remains that it was the general decision of the BB to allow banks to issue bonus shares instead of giving cash dividend so that the capital adequacy of the banks are met to some extent and the profit of the banks does not go out of the banks.

In pursuance of this policy a number of banks including Prime Bank, AB Bank and Al-Arafah Bank were allowed to issue bonus shares. It has been learnt that more banks are awaiting the central bank's permission to issue bonus shares.

In allowing to issue bonus shares the BB had, in fact, several times rejected Prime Bank's application to provide both cash dividend and bonus shares.

In May 1997, Prime Bank had made a fresh request to allow it to provide 60 per cent bonus share and 30 per cent cash dividend. But it was rejected by the BB and the central bank showed detailed analysis why this cash dividend should not be allowed.

Later, Prime Bank applied for enhancement of its bonus share from 60 per cent to 100 per cent. But the BB also rejected this proposal.

These show that the governor has not used his discretionary power to gain personally from the shares, as the campaign alleges.

Allegations have also been raised about the share value of the Bank. But it is known to all that any share value in 1996 would not be the same in 1997.

The motive behind this smear campaign, as it is learnt, is to defame a governor who had waged a war against the big loan defaulters and loan defrauders. He had taken tough decisions on a number of cases in spite of intense political and business community pressure. This he could do because of the unstinted support given to him by the finance minister and the finance ministry.

Financial sector experts now feel that such a campaign should not distract the BB's role in bringing discipline in the banking sector for which the governor had acted so far.

BNP drive From Page 1 at the Sher-e-Bangla Nagar mazar of late President Ziaur Rahman, founder of BNP. Besides, the National Flag and party flag were hoisted atop BNP offices across the country.

BNP Chief and Leader of the Opposition in the Jatiya Sangsad Begum Khaleda Zia, along with central leaders of the party, visited Zia's mazar and offered fataha there in the morning. Leaders and workers of BNP's front organisations also laid wreaths at the mazar.

Pakistan claims headway in talks with India

DURBAN, Sept 1: Pakistani and Indian officials have made progress in discussions on the nuclear stand-off between the two countries, Pakistani Foreign Minister Sartaj Aziz said yesterday, reports Reuters.

There has been progress on India and Pakistan disarmament. It is being discussed right now, Aziz said ahead of a plenary meeting of foreign ministers before the Non-Aligned Movement summit here.

The leaders of the two countries are also due to meet in New York next month, Aziz said. "Our position on the subject is that we do not want to engage in a nuclear arms race and the underlying issue should be resolved," he said in response to questions.

An earlier PTI report said, foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan yesterday met for the second time in less than 24 hours in their effort to break the deadlock over the resumption of stalled bilateral dialogue process.

External Affairs Secretary K Raghunath met his Pakistani counterpart Shahid Ahmed on the sidelines of the NAM meeting. Additional Secretary in External Affairs Ministry, Dilip Lahiri, said without giving details of the talks.

Once again I am not at liberty to divulge any details about the discussions," he said. BCL, Shibir clash at CU: 3 hurt From CU Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 1: At least three students were injured during a clash between activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Istami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) on Chittagong University campus today.

At least 12 rounds of gunshots were also fired during the clash. Shibir activists also damaged a bus in front of Mozammel auditorium at the university today.

The clash ensued when Shibir brought out a procession on the campus on the sixth day of their siege programme to press home their five-point demand.

Further details could not be known immediately. SB officials said they were unable to provide any other details till interrogation was over.

The Immigration Department officials, when contacted, said the SB was yet to submit a report on the incident.

Reached by telephone, Bangladesh High Commissioner in London Mahmud Ali told The Daily Star last night that he had no information about the deportation. He said that if any such incident had occurred, particularly involving MPs, he was supposed to be informed.

Senior officials of the foreign ministry, when contacted, also could not confirm the incident.

2 MPs deported From Page 1

All the 12 deportees were being interrogated by Special Branch police officials at ZIA till writing of this report late last night.

The SB officials quoted the two MPs as saying that they did not have visas to enter the United Kingdom. They had left Dhaka on Sunday for Ireland and landed at the Heathrow Airport in a Kazakhstan Airlines flight.

The 10 other Bangladesh nationals were deported for allegedly carrying false travel documents, the SB officials said.

The deportees landed at ZIA in a Biman flight at about 6 pm yesterday.

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Young man allegedly murdered by father-in-law

By Staff Correspondent A young man was murdered allegedly by his father-in-law and his accomplices in a house at Chalaban under Uttara thana in the city Monday night.

Police identified the dead as Abul Kashem Khan, 27, son of Abdul Motaleb Khan, a resident of Sahnabagh under Tejgaon thana area.

However, after preliminary investigation police suspected that Kashem was electrocuted inside the bathroom of the house.

Hospital sources said that the throat of Kashem was swollen. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for autopsy.



Students of Dhaka University brought out a procession on the campus yesterday protesting the rape of three students at Jahangirnagar University.

Gold seized at ZIA By Staff Correspondent Customs officials at Zia International Airport (ZIA) recovered gold bars and chains worth about Tk 25 lakh from two passengers, including a woman, of a Thai Airways flight yesterday.

Airport sources said last night that the Dhaka-bound flight from Bangkok with transit in Singapore landed at ZIA at about 12.30 pm. The customs officials challenged a passenger of the flight while he was crossing the green channel.

When the officials asked him if he had any gold with him the passenger denied. Then he was asked to walk through the archway which detected that he had gold with him.

Customs officials later handed him over to Cantonment police and filed a case with the thana in this regard.

NAM: Draft resolution From Page 1

The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. He said such a review should influence the organisations to address the setting of a new agenda focused on the sustained and sustainable development of our countries.

Mbeki's speech was adopted as an official NAM document in advance of a heads of state summit tomorrow.

The panel claimed that development issues had been sidelined in the interests of creating unfettered markets. The international agenda is dominated by the concern of developed countries to gain greater freedom for foreign investors, and for capital flows and the export of their goods and services.

ADB assures aid for relief, rehabilitation

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has assured of all possible assistance for immediate relief operation and post-flood rehabilitation in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

The assurance came during a meeting of the visiting 7-member ADB team with Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria in Dhaka yesterday.

ADB Board Directors Francesco Pittore (team leader), Jin-Gyu Park, Naoyuki Shinohara, Hans-Jurgen Stryk, John Austin, Berend Wilem, Van Gorkom, Prasit Ujlin and M Fazur Razaque were present.

Another report says, ADB has also assured the government of providing all possible assistance to repair the roads and railway tracts damaged by the devastating flood.

The assurance came when the team called on Communications Minister Anwar Hossain Manju.

Rubel murder From Page 1

asking the officials concerned to produce the two policemen before the commission immediately, the sources said.

In reply to the commission's earlier letter to the DB to place them before the commission, the DB had replied that the two policemen were not on duty then.

Si Nurul Alam and Si Tarek, members of AC Akram Hossain's team, are among the DB policemen who are suspected of torturing Rubel. The two have been missing since the murder of the young man, according to police sources.

Bazul Karim, Deputy Commissioner of the DB told The Daily Star yesterday that the two policemen were absent from duty since the incident.

Rubel, a resident of Shiddeshwari area in the city, was picked up by the DB police from in front of his house on July 23, taken to the DB custody and tortured to death.

Abul Mansur From Page 1

was editor of several leading newspapers. He was also one of the architects of the Awami League. He drafted the historic 21-point programme of the Jukta Front.

In his political career, he was closely associated with Sher-e-Bangla, Shaheed Suhrawardy and Maulana Bhasani. He was a close friend of rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam and became one of the most powerful satirists in Bengali language.

Severe famine stalks country, says Khaleda

DOHAR, Sept 1: Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Begum Khaleda Zia today said a severe famine is stalking the country but government has no preparation to tackle it, reports UNB.

"During the rule of Awami League in 1974, famine broke out and claimed thousands of lives of people. Again they are in power and the famine is haunting the nation," said the BNP Chairperson.

She was briefly speaking at Mouraditpur and Narisha Paschim Char while distributing relief goods among the flood affected people.

After offering munajat at the mazar of late president Ziaur Rahman on the occasion of the BNP's 20th founding anniversary at 10.30 am, Begum Zia boarded a launch from Pagla at 11.45 am for a day-long relief operation.

She distributed saree, lungi, rice, potatoes and food among the flood victims in Charbilaspur, Modhurchar and Joypura.

Begum Zia said, "The country is now facing flood crisis. The prolonged floods have washed away everything. If the government failed to take adequate steps immediately, the people will starve to death."

"Many people are dying for want of food. But the government failed to reach relief to the distressed people," Begum Zia alleged.

She said the ruling party has ignored her demand of forming an all-party relief committee for ensuring distribution of relief to the distressed people. "They refused the proposal so that they can misappropriate the relief materials," she added.

She renewed her demand to open gruel kitchen, interest-free loan, agri-inputs free of cost to the farmers, and easy loans to traders to run their business.

She called upon the people for post-flood movement to dislodge the government for ensuring the security of the people and prosperity of the country.

Barrister Nazmul Huda MP said the Prime Minister met the autocratic Ershad in Saudi Arabia.

He alleged that by signing the Ganges water sharing treaty with India, the government failed to bring the just share of water during the dry season but it brought flood waters in the rainy season.

Asma's life in danger From Page 1

still live with her kidney. A patient with 80 per cent damaged kidney can lead a normal life depending on the health status. They removed her kidney saying it was a diseased one which is yet to be determined," a kidney expert said.

"If Asma was suffering from kidney disease (tumour) why then she was not referred to the kidney department earlier? Asma had such a large tumour on her kidney and yet they failed to understand that it was a concern of nephrologists."

Asma, wife of a carpenter, now survives on costly dialysis treatment at DMCH.

"It's the only way she can be kept alive unless generous help come from Asma for expensive kidney transplantation," said Dr Md Firoz Khan, a nephrologist of DMCH kidney department.

"The costly treatment may not be possible to continue due to financial hardship. I have to spend Tk 650 every week for dialyser and other accessories for treatment of my wife. How can I afford it and for how long?" said Kamal Hussain, Asma's husband.

Asma is now under treatment of Prof M Khatun at Gynae Ward 18. She is taken to the kidney department every time.

Floods From Page 1

recorded further fall by 3 cm. Turag at Mirpur also receded by 2 cm. In Meghna basin, Surma and Kushiyara fell significantly.

Relief Ministry control room said flood situation deteriorated in eight districts - Narayanganj, Gopalganj, Noakhali, Brahmanbaria, Bogra, Laxmipur, Narsingdi and Chapainawabganj.

The situation remained static in 12 districts: Gazipur, Dhaka, Munsinganj, Myensingh, Kishoreganj, Faridpur, Madaripur, Shariatpur, Comilla, Habiganj, Rajshahi and Pabna.

Improvement was marked in 10 districts: Jamalpur, Netrokona, Sherpur, Manikganj, Rajbari, Barisal, Chandpur, Kurigram, Gaibandha and Sirajganj.

The control room said flood related death toll rose to 440 with 17 more deaths reported in 24 hours till 3 pm yesterday.

Health Directorate control room said 6,212 people were afflicted with diarrhoea in 24 hours till 12 noon. Five of them died.

With this, the death toll from diarrhoea since July 15 rose to 94 while the number of those attacked by the disease to 128,193.

PM: Floods From Page 1

and ensure food, health and sanitation after the flood water recedes.

She asked the concerned ministries for formulating co-ordinated action plan to deal effectively with the post-flood rehabilitation programmes.

Hasina said every inch of land should be cultivated to increase the agricultural production to make up the loss caused by the flood.

She suggested for cultivation of vegetables on lands belonging to schools, colleges and others.

The Prime Minister also asked the concerned authorities to ensure smooth unloading of foodgrains at the ports.

She said the Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) programme of the government will be intensified to save the people.

A coordinated rehabilitation programme will be started immediately after the recession of flood water, she said.

About the damage caused to the communication sector, the Prime Minister said steps would be taken to repair the damaged roads, bridges and culverts to restore normal communications.

Bid to raise funds From Page 1

sue the company, Mahanagari Traders, for its failure to repay Tk 13.34 crore in outstanding loans. The Securities and Exchange Commission has also rejected its application to make an initial public offering to raise Tk 15 crore.

A National Board of Revenue Inquiry also found that the company submitted two different balance sheets, one showing tax-friendly accounts while the other giving inflated figures to impress the SEC. (Detailed story on Business Page)

One stabbed to death in Ctg From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Sept 1: A young man was stabbed to death by a gang of dacoits at Pahartoli here last night, police said.

Shahidul Islam Shipon, 20, was stabbed at around 10 pm last night when he attempted to resist the looting of a shop owned by his family, police added.