

Unusual rush at High Court to seek anticipatory bail

More than 1,000 people, accused in various criminal cases, had thronged the High Court division of the Supreme Court, seeking anticipatory bail in two days before the court went on a long vacation last month, reports UNB.

The unusual rush has raised the eyebrow of legal experts and senior officials of the Law Ministry who expressed concern at the pressure on the High Court.

Some 1,000 to 1,200 bail petitions were taken up on September 26 and 27 before the High Court went on a long vacation from September 28. The benches continued till late in the evening on those two days, said a senior official of the Law Ministry requesting anonymity.

The Registrar of the High Court declined to give the number of bail petitions heard on those days and of the accused granted bail.

Attorney General Mahmudul Islam told UNB that he was not aware of the number, but said: "We have moved the Appellate Division to oppose the bails in many cases."

The Law Ministry official said most of those who secured bail were involved in criminal cases like rape, murder, illegal loans and defaulting bank loans.

They were granted bail as per the law. But what worried us was the huge number that thronged the High Court on the

eve of the vacation and the situation that demanded continuation of the bench till late in the evening," said the official.

The Law Ministry official replied in the affirmative when asked if the situation warrants notice of the Supreme Judicial Council.

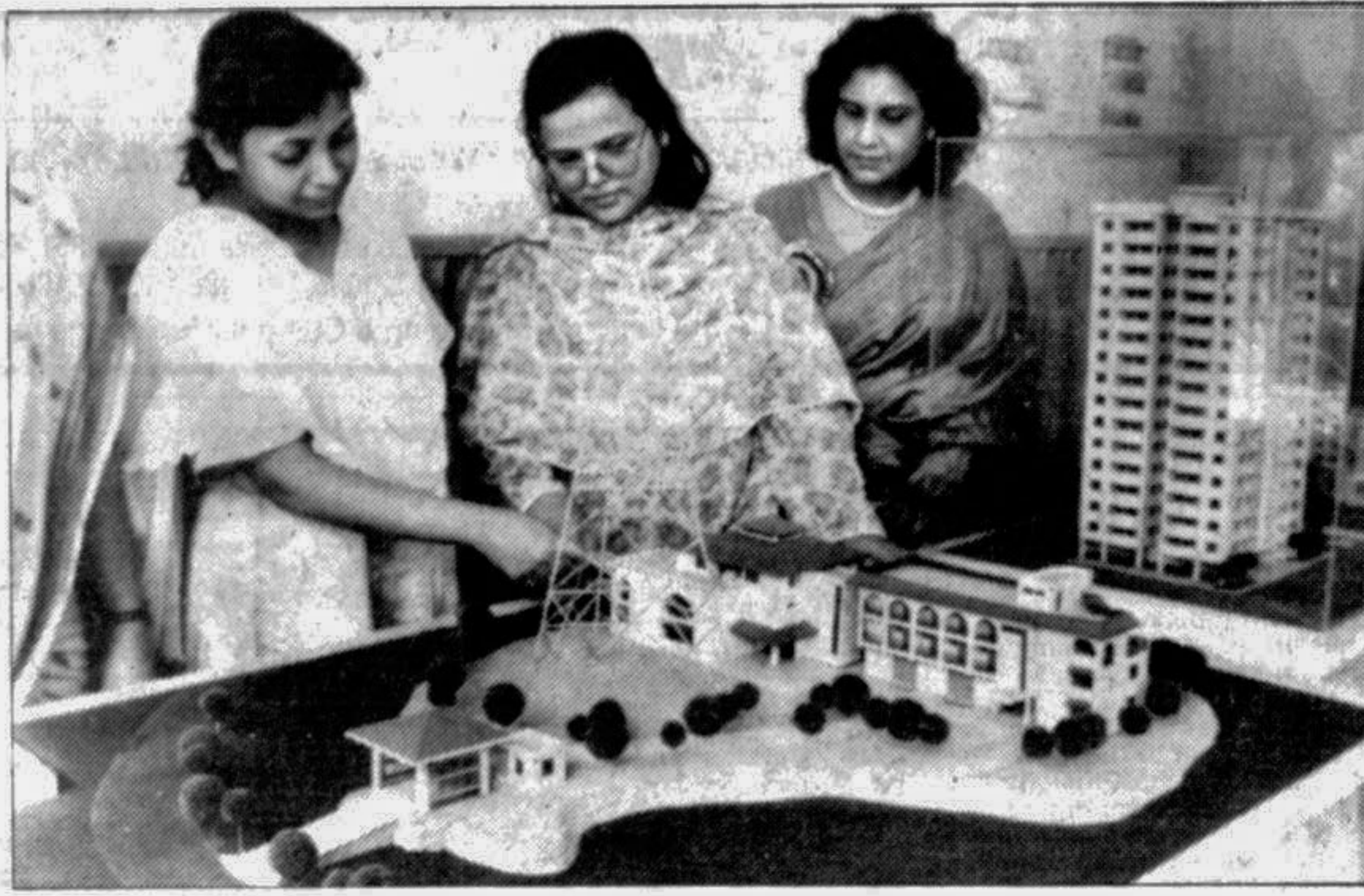
Headed by the Chief Justice, the Supreme Judicial Council have two senior-most judges of the Appellate Division as members.

Article 96(4) of the Constitution stipulates: The functions of the Council shall be — (a) to prescribe a code of conduct to be observed by the judges; and (b) to inquire into the capacity or conduct of a judge or of any other functionary who is not removable from office except in like manner as a Judge.

Commemorative stamps on Mini World Cup likely

Bangladesh Post Office is likely to issue commemorative stamps on the Wills International Cup Cricket Tournament, known as Mini World Cup, Bangladesh Cricket Board sources said yesterday, reports BSS.

The day and night knock-out tournament begins on October 24 involving all the nine Test playing countries.



Visitors at an exhibition of building techniques and materials which opened at Ramna Park in the city yesterday. Housing and Public Works Ministry has organised the exhibition marking World Habitat Day '98. — Star photo

World Habitat Day observed

World Habitat Day was observed in the country yesterday as elsewhere in the world to uphold this year's theme "safer cities", reports BSS.

Inaugurating the programmes of the day, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina declared the outlines of her government's future plans for building safer cities in the country with well-planned healthy environment, scenic beauty, smooth traffic system and developed residential facilities.

The prime minister also released commemorative stamps to mark the occasion.

The day's programme began with a rally and a walkathon from the Shishu Park to the Osmany Memorial Hall in the morning. The walkathon was led by LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman, Public Works, Housing and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Nasim and State Minister for Land, Rashed Musharraf took part.

The rally and walkathon were organised by the Ministry of LGRD and Cooperatives and the Ministry of Housing and Public Works in collaboration with a non-government organisation, "Rehabilitation and Development Organisation for the Landless". It began at the Shishu Park and ended at the Osmany Memorial Hall.

Another programme of World Habitat Day was a three-day exhibition on building materials and technologies at the Ramna Park. It was inaugurated by Public Works and Housing Minister Mohammad Nasim.

"Another seminar on 'safer cities' was also organised by RAJUK in the morning which was inaugurated by Public Works and Housing Minister Mohammad Nasim.

Donations to PM's relief Fund continue

More organisations and individuals yesterday donated cash and cheques worth over Taka 31.83 lakh, one thousand Indian rupees and 451 US dollars, and huge quantity of relief materials to the Prime Minister's Relief and Welfare Fund for the country's flood victims, report agencies.

Employees and officers of Primary and Mass Education Division donated Tk 27,01,271. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Tk 291,500 and Bangladesh Homeopath Medical College and Ismat Kadir Gama donated Tk 50,000 each to the fund.

Probat Sarkar from Calcutta donated 1,000 rupees, Dr CH Ahsan 350 US dollars and MR Chowdhury gave 101 US dollars.

Among others, Syed Saad Ali donated Tk 16,211. Preparatory Grammar School of Mirpur Tk 15,000, Kamrunnessa Girls High School Tk 12,100, Bangladesh Dental Association Tk 11,500, World Opportunities International of Dhaka Tk 10,000 and Eskaton Club Tk 8,250.

Other donors included Bangabandhu Parishad of Potia, A Ahasan, Taidighi High School of Mymensingh, Barahatia Parangia Senerhat High School of Chittagong, Officers Association of Agrani Bank of Kusthia, Naikhaanghari Thana Awami League of Baradarban and Directors of Barapukuria Coal Mine Co Ltd.

Businessmen of Sylhet donated 1,000 packets of oral saline, 105 packets of milk powder and 3,500 pieces of water purification tables and Kapilmuni Bazar Jame Mosque donated two packets of relief materials.

Haitham Ahmed Belhassa and Essam Y Al-Alami, managing director and general manager respectively of Belhassa Group of Companies of United Arab Emirates, distributing relief materials among the flood-affected people of Murad Nagar, Comilla, on Monday. Kazi Shah Mofazzal Hossain Kaikobad, MP, was also present.

Children of Ghashphool Khelaghar Ashor selling flowers at Rayer Bazar area in the city yesterday to raise funds for an oral saline project for the flood-affected people.



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Satellite townships

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Hasina said under the Tk 164 crore project, barrack houses is being built for the homeless and the number will be enhanced to five thousand.

The Prime Minister said the government has taken up the Tk 30 crore Rural Infrastructure Development Project to construct 10,000 low-cost dwelling houses.

The government has also decided to set up a Housing Fund with an initial capital of Tk 50 crore to provide credit to the homeless, slum dwellers and persons affected by river erosion, for construction of houses, she said.

She said the slum dwellers, who voluntarily return to their villages, will be rehabilitated. They will also be provided with small credits for self employment, she added.

Decisions have been taken to construct flats under government initiatives and allot them among various professionals including artists, litterateur and journalists, she said.

Under the 'Urban Infrastructure Improvement Project' allotment of 4,282 plots among low and middle income group people in Chittagong has already been made while allotment of 4,360 plots in Dhaka is under process.

Besides, 4,000 plots will be allotted in Bogra, Kushtia, Patuakhali, Faridpur, Sylhet, Noakhali and Tangail districts, the premier said.

RAJUK will soon take up development work of a residential area called 'Purbachal' at north-eastern part of Dhaka. Government approval has also been accorded for setting up of another residential area called 'Jhilmil' at Dhaka-Mawa road

AL-BNP clash in Magura: 30 hurt

MAGURA, Oct 5: At least 30 people were injured in a clash between the supporters of Awami League and BNP at village Satyapur in Sadar thana this morning, reports UNB.

Witnesses said it was a power clash between the supporters of Awami League leader Hafiz Master and BNP leader Motahar Ali to establish superiority.

During the clash, both groups used dangerous weapons and ransacked a number of houses.

Police have been deployed in the area to avert further clash.

Govt urged to grant division in jail to three leaders

President of the Supreme Court Bar Association Habibur Islam Bhuiyan yesterday urged the government to grant division in jail to the three former ministers, including BNP MP KM Obaidur Rahman, reports UNB.

According to the jail code, they are entitled to division in jail, said Bhuiyan, a retired judge of the Supreme Court.

Talking to newsmen at 29 Minto Road last night, he said Obaidur Rahman, Nurul Islam Manjur and Shah Moazzem Hossain were arrested on suspicion.

They were not accused in the November 3, 1975, jail killing case as their name were not mentioned in FIR," he added.

Bhuiyan said the government arrested them to divert public attention from its failure in running the country and tackle the post-flood situation.



Flood-affected people of Ward No 29 of Dhaka City Corporation gathered in front of the Jatiya Press Club on Sunday to complain against the ward commissioner as they were not being provided with adequate relief materials. — Star photo

AP photo exhibition begins in city

A travelling photo exhibition of the Associated Press of America opened in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

The United News of Bangladesh (UNB) and Drik Picture Library jointly sponsored the exhibition.

Some rare photos on the world events, starting from the second World War to the contemporary world, were on display depicting war, peace, love and hatred of the modern civilisation.

A total of 51 photos have been put at the 10-day exhibition titled "Moments in Time" at the Drik Picture Library in Dhanmondi.

Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed inaugurated the exhibition. UNB Chief Editor Enayetullah Khan, Donna Bryson, South Asia News Editor of AP, Dr Shahidul Alam of Drik and Prof Harun-Or-Rashid, president of Asiatic Society of Bangladesh spoke on the occasion.

Organisers said similar exhibitions were held in some countries of Europe, South America and Asia marking the 150th founding anniversary of AP, the first and the largest news agency in the world.

The exhibition will remain open from 3 pm to 8 pm every day till October 15.

Workshop on agri development project study begins today

A two-day national workshop on Northwest Region Integrated Agricultural Development Project Identification Study begins in the city today, reports UNB.

A team of national consultants will conduct the workshop, which will be inaugurated by Planning Division Secretary Abdul Hamid Chowdhury at 9:30 am at the seminar room of LGED Bhaban (Level-4), Agargaon.

The Agriculture Ministry and Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations have jointly organised the workshop to share the ideas and findings of the study.

The study was conducted to identify a broad-based agricultural development project which will help raise household income and living standards of the rural population of the Northwest, said a press release.

UP chairman killed in road mishap in Mymensingh

MYMENSINGH, Oct 5: A UP chairman was killed and a man critically injured in a road accident near Shambhuganj Bridge in Sadar thana on Sunday night, reports UNB.

Hospital sources said Mofidul Islam, Chairman of Tarakanda Union Parishad, and his companion Abdul Latif were seriously injured when a microbus rammied into his motorbike at 9 am.

They were rushed to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital where Mofidul Islam succumbed to his injuries at about 12 am.

Police seized the microbus, but the driver fled the scene. A case was filed.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Facilities Department, Ministry of Education
Comilla Zone, Comilla

Tender Notice

Dated: 27/9/98

No-02/SSS/Development/FD(CZ)/98-99

Scaled tenders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are hereby invited from A-1 Class enlisted contractors of this Facilities Department and renewed during 1997-98 fiscal year for construction one-storey academic building in the following non-government secondary schools under a development project titled 'Development of Selected Secondary Schools (Government and non-government)'.
a) Description of work.

Group No	Name of district	Name of thana	Name of school
01.	Comilla	B-Para	Dulapur High School.
02.	Do	B-Para	Shidlai Nazneen High School.
03.	Do	Nangolkot	Chawkuri High School.
04.	Do	Nangolkot	Islampur High School.

b) Estimated cost for each work : Taka 17,50,000/-
c) Time limit for completion of each work : 06 (six) months.
d) Cost of each tender schedule : Taka 750/- (non-refundable).
e) Last date and time of selling tender : 14/10/98 (till office hours).
f) Date and time of receiving tender : 15/10/98 (till 1 PM).
g) Date and time of opening tender : 15/10/98 at 1:30 PM in presence of contractors (if any).
h) Amount of earnest money : If the tenderer quotes the same rate of estimated cost or quotes higher rate, earnest money at the rate of 2% of estimated cost will have to be given. If the rate lower than estimated cost is submitted a total of 10% including 8% additional will have to be submitted in favour of Executive Engineer, Facilities Department, Comilla Zone, Comilla from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh.

i) Offices where tender documents will be sold and received : Apart from the office of undersigned all zone offices of Executive Engineers of this department under Chittagong and Sylhet divisions, Chief Engineer, Facilities Department, Shikha Bhaban, Dhaka, offices of Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong/Sylhet and Assistant Engineer, Facilities Department, Bararia district. Tender documents will be sold and received as per abovementioned date and time.

Terms and conditions

- At the time of purchasing tender documents, receipt of depositing fee till 1997-98 fiscal year, original copies of registration book and VAT registration certificate will have to be produced and at the time of submitting tender attested copies of all these papers will have to be submitted along with tender.
- If any error is found in the information provided by contractor, any time, then the tender will be regarded as rejected and even if the work order is issued, the work order will be cancelled.
- Copies of certificate of income tax payment for the fiscal year 1995-96, 1996-97 (for whom it is applicable) will have to be submitted with tender.
- Participating contractors will have to submit bank statement for 1997-98 with tender. The balance for one day of concerned contractor will have to be Tk. 3 lac.
- Attested photocopy of registration book of licence will have to be submitted with tender.
- Contractor /contractors, firm who could not complete their work within the stipulated period allotted during last fiscal year without any specific reason and progress of the work is not satisfactorily will not be able to participate in tender.
- Tender of contractor /contractors' firm will be treated as rejected if any wrong information is provided in 'Eligibility Evaluation Form'.
- Income Tax and Value Added Tax (VAT) will be deducted from bill of all kinds as per government rule.
- Tender will be considered as outright rejected if the lowest rate is less than over 5% of the estimated cost.
- The contractor cannot claim any financial benefit if the name of institution is changed or dropped under any unavoidable circumstances.
- Bill will be paid subject to availability of fund. Contractor will be obliged to complete the work within stipulated time.

The authority reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason.

DFF-20696-27/9
G-2217

Md Fazlur Rahman
Executive Engineer
Facilities Department, Comilla Zone, Comilla.