

Bangabandhu murder

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Claiming his client innocent, the counsel said many army personnel were involved in the killing. That does not mean the entire army was involved in it.

Making a pointed reference to a provision of law, he said involvement and participation must be inseparable.

He said during the trial in the lower court many circumstances prior to August 15, 1975 like crash of a helicopter, army coup and other disorders were not taken into account. Had the court considered those incidents, the situation would have been otherwise today, Tariq said.

Advocate Zahurul Islam Mukul, counsel for absconding accused Lt Col AM Rashed

Please see page 8 for What's on today, Tomorrow, Weather and Here & There.

Tender snatchers of R & H directorate not yet held

By Staff Correspondent

Ramma police is yet to arrest anyone in connection with the snatching of tender bids from five representatives of two Chinese companies at the Roads and Highways Bhaban in the city on October 10.

Sources at the Ramma police said that none at the Roads and Highways Bhaban was willing to testify against the muggers who allegedly belong to the ruling party's front organisation, Jubo League.

The Chinese bidders gave written complaint to the Ramma thana on October 10. But Ramma police accepted the complaint as a simple general diary, although the case was a direct violation of Public Safety Act (PSA).

After the incident was reported by the Bangla daily, Prothom Alo next day, Ramma police, under pressure, accepted the complaint

Six jailed in dacoity case in Chittagong

BCL leaders

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CHITTAGONG, Oct 18: Assistant sessions judge of the fourth court Abdul Mannan on Monday sentenced six people to five years Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) each in a dacoity case, reports BSS.

The court also fined them Tk 1000 each in default, to suffer Tk 1000 each for three more months.

The judge acquitted an accused of the charges.

The convicts are M Shah Alam, Nur Alam, Mokbul Hossain, Abdul Awal, Mokbul Ahmed and Abdul Mannan.

The prosecution story in brief is that the accused committed dacoity at Hitachi Rashed Industries Ltd and Rashed Electronic Ltd at Nasirabad in the city on February 13, 1992. They took away goods worth Taka 12 lakh. A case was filed in this connection with Panchalaish police who later submitted charge sheet against the accused.

The judge examined six witnesses in the case and found the accused guilty.

Students, transport workers clash in Sylhet

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, Oct 18: Plying of bus and minibus on the Sylhet-Sunamganj and Sylhet-Chhatak and Sunamganj-Chhatak routes remained suspended since this morning following a clash between the students and transport workers at Govindaganj.

Additional police men have been deployed at the Govindaganj bazar to avoid further clashes.

The trouble erupted at about 10:30 am when a teacher of Govindaganj College had an altercation with the conductor of a minibus over fare. The transport workers also misbehaved with him.

Hearing the news, students for the college rushed to the bus stand and put up a barricade on the road. In retaliation the transport workers also blocked the road with the vehicles then agitated students and villagers damaged six minibuses.

A minor boy, who sustained serious injuries during the incident has been admitted to the Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Biman's flight

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at 10:30 pm, when the flight took off, was given at 8:45 pm.

Asked if the passengers could understand what was meant by 'aircraft consequential', he said, 'Please contact the public relations wing.'

Flight delays in some routes due to trouble in a F-28 aircraft of Biman caused the consequential delay in the Calcutta flight, one source said.

But the Customer Services, which offered passengers an apple and a piece of cake each, did not tell them what caused the delay.

The first schedule for departure of the flight was at 5:10 pm, the second at 7:15 pm, the third at 9:15 pm and the fourth at 10:30 pm.

Biman officials said the flight was rescheduled due to rains.

But it was not raining at 5:10 pm.

Chowdhury, in his brief argument submitted that none of the prosecution witnesses said that Rashed was present at Bangabandhu's residence at the time of killing. This proved that he was not involved in the killing and hence cannot be punished in the case.

Advocate Abu Bakar Siddique, counsel for absconding accused Rissaldar Moslemuddin, submitted that none of the prosecution witnesses said he (Moslem) was present in Bangabandhu's house at the time of the incident on August 15. Some of the witnesses however said he was seen at the residence of Sheikh Moni, another victim of the massacre on that day.

The court rose for the day before Siddique completed his argument. Hearing in the bench comprising Justice Ruhul Amin and Justice ABM Khairul Haq will resume this morning.



JSD-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) brought out a procession in the city yesterday protesting the Prime Minister's apparent silence on the police forces' failure to contain crime in

-Star photo

10 more roads planned in city to ease traffic jam

In a major move to ease nagging traffic jams in the capital, the government has decided to construct and broaden ten roads across the city, reports UNB.

RAJUK (Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakha) will construct four roads, Dhaka City Corporation another four and Local Government Engineering Department two roads.

A meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on Housing and Public Works yesterday was apprised of the schemes. Held at Sangsad Bhaban, the meeting was presided over by

As part of the decision, RAJUK will construct or widen Dayangan-Jurain link road, Tongi Diversion Road-Progoti Sarani, Ramna Stargate-Notre Dame College and Sepnara Parbata-Rokeya Sarani.

The other roads are Mirpur Stadium-Agargaon Radio Office, Malibagh Crossing-Janapath link road, Motijheel Shapla crossing-Kamalapur Railway Station, West Dhanmondi-Tanerry crossing, Gulshan South crossing-Progoti Sarani link road, Malibagh Rail Gate-Tejgaon Rail Station road (parallel with the railway).

Meeting sources said the government earlier had acquired 60-foot area for the Stargate-Notre Dame College road but 30 feet were not under government

those roads.

Meeting sources told UNB that as part of the new decision, some roads would be broadened to lessen the jams while new roads would be built in some areas to divert the pressure of traffic on packed roads.

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Meeting sources said the government earlier had acquired 60-foot area for the Stargate-Notre Dame College road but 30 feet were not under government

control. "Now those unused lands for the road will be taken for broadening the road," one source informed.

In the meeting the lawmakers discussed progress of various plans taken for implementation by RAJUK to eliminate the much vexed traffic jams.

The meeting stressed undisrupted movement of pedestrians and trouble-free plying of vehicles ripping up the illegal occupants from the footpaths and roads.

It also discussed maintenance, increased beautifying and ensuring tight security of the parks of the capital and recommended necessary allocation for upkeep and development.

Other committee members Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Engineer Moszaffar Hossain, Noor-E-Alam Chowdhury, Haji Mohammad Selim, Mustafizur Rahman, Rehana Akther Hira, Shamsuzzaman Dudu, M Ahsanul Huq Mollah and Ziaul Huq Zia attended the meeting.

West Bank, Gaza

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is to withdraw troops and tanks from friction areas and lift a military siege of Palestinian cities, while the Palestinians are to cease shooting attacks on Israeli positions.

Israel's deputy defense minister, Ephraim Sneh, said the goal was total calm, but added that the truce would not be completely undermined due to sporadic unrest.

Still, there were rock-throwing clashes across the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and more than two dozen Palestinians were injured by Israeli live fire and rubber bullets. An Israeli soldier was hurt by a firebomb in a clash near the Jewish settlement of Kfar Darom in the Gaza Strip.

The Israeli army said it has pulled back some tanks from the outskirts of Nablus in a symbolic gesture and would withdraw more heavy equipment from other friction points once it appeared the violence had ebbed.

In other developments today, Israel radio said the Israeli army has arrested eight Palestinians involved in the mob killing of two Israeli reserve soldiers last week in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

The appeal appeared aimed especially at Arafat's Fatah faction, whose armed militias have taken in a lead in shooting attacks on Israeli positions.

In the West Bank town of Nablus, a Fatah leader, Ali Farraj told a crowd of 4,000 cheering supporters that his faction would press on with the three-week uprising in which 102 people have been killed, most of them Palestinians.

The uprising must continue. The clashes must continue," said Farraj, speaking during the funeral of a Fatah activist. After the burial, dozens of mourners marched to an Israeli checkpoint and threw stones, later to be joined by several gunmen who shot at Israeli soldiers, drawing Israeli return fire. Near the town of Jenin, shots were fired at an Israeli jeep, but there were no injuries.

Rashid came under attack while he was on a mass contract programme at the bazaar.

The BCL activists also ransacked Rashid's house at T&T road in Bakerganj town.

They felt that it would be the best option to attract a potential SP. But the idea was replaced by two options following agitation by Biman employees, who opposed conversion of it into a PLC, fearing loss of jobs and benefits.

The consultants were then asked to prepare two sets of bid papers one providing for a tie up with a SP retaining the corporation status of Biman and the other its conversion into a PLC.

Then there were differences of opinion between Biman authorities and the consultants on valuation of the airline's assets.

The consultants put Biman's assets at only 100 million dollars but the authorities declined to accept, ordering a revaluation.

But issue has not been settled. The IM would contain assessment by the consultants and also by the Biman, sources said.

Meanwhile, Dr Babar asked many of his subordinates in the hospital yesterday including some doctors not to obey orders from Brigadier Badrul Munir any more.

He had earlier said to this correspondent he was engaged in politics and would continue to do so. He also said he enjoys political support from ruling party high-ups.

With recession of floodwaters, various diseases like diarrhoea and dysentery have been broken out in the affected areas.

Our Jerssoe Correspondent adds: Nearly 12,000 flood-affected people in five upazillas of the district have been attacked with various diseases.

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immediately if the order came from Arafat.

The Fatah leader in the West Bank, Marwan Barghouti, softened his words Wednesday, saying "it's not easy to control the feelings of the people." On Tuesday, Barghouti had said the uprising would continue, regardless of the truce.

What we look at first is the volume of opening fire against us," he told The Associated Press. "We are experienced enough to differentiate between sporadic events and a wave of violence directed by the Palestinian leadership."

Arafat's Palestinian Authority reaffirmed its commitment to the cease-fire.

In an announcement broadcast today on official TV and radio stations, it said it has issued strict orders to all Palestinians involved to follow through on the implementation of what has been agreed on at the Mideast summit in the resort of Sharmel-Sheikh.

The appeal appeared aimed especially at Arafat's Fatah faction, whose armed militias have taken in a lead in shooting attacks on Israeli positions.

The storm was expected to hit the coast late Thursday, CV Bhadram, director of the Indian Meteorological Department, said.

"It is moving very slowly," he said. "There are signs of its weakening because the eye of the storm is getting disintegrated."

Bhadram had earlier said that the storm was expected to reach the coast on Wednesday night.

Biman IM

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there had been a controversy over conversion of Biman into a Public Limited Company (PLC), approved initially by the Biman management in July following recommendations by the consultants.

They felt that it would be the best option to attract a potential SP. But the idea was replaced by two options following agitation by Biman employees, who opposed conversion of it into a PLC, fearing loss of jobs and benefits.

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There are allegations that Dr

Babar is now using the house, transport and furniture without any authorisation whatsoever. The house is not allotted for him and same is the case with the vehicles.

Flood situation in Sylhet static

From Our Correspondent

SATKHIRA, Oct 18: Flood situation in Satkhira town, Tala, Assann, Debbarha and Sadar upazillas remained static.

The army is yet to confirm the joining date of Col. Huda, but a source in the Army Medical Services said that Col. Huda who had earlier served as director of the hospital for a short period is likely to take over on Sunday.

Dr Babar in the meantime assembled people on the hospital premises yesterday morning to celebrate assuming that he was going to take over as director.

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