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OCT 28 VIOLENCE AT PALTAN

Hasina, Nizami, their top leaders charged

AL chief's name was added although Jamaat complaint did not mention her

CHAITANYA CHANDRA HALDER

Police yesterday charged Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina, Jamaat Chief Matiar Rahman Nizami and more than 50 top level leaders and workers with murder and other serious offences committed during street demonstrations on October 28 last year.

In a case brought by Jamaat immediately after the incident, Hasina was not mentioned. However, her name has now been added by the police.

Other than Hasina, 45 leaders and workers of her party and 14-party have been charged. They include AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil, former home minister Mohammad Nasim, General

Secretary of AL Dhaka, city unit Mofazzel Hossain Chowdhury Maya, AL Law Secretary Advocate Sahara Khatun, former AL lawmak-

ers Dr HBM Iqbal and Haji Selim, Jubo League President Jahangir Kabir Nanok, Chhattra League General Secretary Mofazzal Haider

Chowdhury Roton, Workers Party President Rashed Khan Menon, and JSD President Hasanul Haque Inu.

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STAR FILE PHOTO

A file photo of political violence in the capital on October 28 last that left several people killed and hundreds injured.



Hasina postpones April 14 return

HASAN JAHID TUSHER

Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina yesterday postponed her return to the country, which she planned for April 14, after a responsible person in the government assured her that the government will take necessary measures not to tarnish her honour and image, AL General Secretary Abdul Jalil said.

"Two false, fabricated and conspiratorial charges have been laid against Awami League President Sheikh Hasina. In order to combat these false charges, she decided to return on April 14, changing the previously scheduled return date," Jalil said at a press briefing at his Gulshan residence last night.

"In this context, a highly-placed authoritative government person

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Tigers fight hard

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh fought hard as they went down by four wickets against England in the World Cup Super Eights match at the Kensington Oval in Kingston on Wednesday.

England reached their target of 144 in 44.5 overs but it was the day of the Tigers bowlers who gave it their all in a spirited display of pace and spin bowling.

Wily left-arm spinner Rafique had superb figures of 10-3-33-2 as he picked up the wickets of Andrew Flintoff (23 off 21 balls) and Ravi Bopara for a duck, both outfoxed by

the veteran spinner. Rafique out-thought Flintoff with an arm ball while Bopara, fresh at the crease, nicked the ball to his boot and then saw it trickle on to the stumps.

Dependable batsman Paul Collingwood held his nerve, as he was unbeaten on 23 off 74 balls having hit just one boundary. Plucky Paul Nixon was unbeaten on 20 off 37 balls.

Both batsmen survived half chances with balls falling in no-man's land while a throw from Tamim Iqbal missed the stumps at

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PHOTO: AFP

Bangladesh batsman Shakib Al Hasan sweeps England spinner Monty Panesar (unseen) during their World Cup Super Eights match at Kensington Oval in Bridgetown on Wednesday.

Prosecutor of Jhalakathi judges killing case shot dead

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Unknown assailants last night shot dead the public prosecutor (PP) of Jhalakathi District Judge's Court and chief counsel of the case filed against Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) militants for killing two Jhalakathi judges.

The gunmen shot in the head of PP Advocate Hyder Hossain at 8:30pm soon after he came out of a

mosque in the district town after Esha prayers. The attackers could not be identified as of 10:00pm yesterday.

Hyder had recently said at different meetings that some people identifying themselves as JMB members were threatening him over telephone following the execution of the six top JMB militants.

Police had been apprehending JMB retaliation since all legal bars

were removed for the execution of the six JMB leaders, including its chief Abdul Rahman and his second-in-command Siddiqui Islam alias Bangla Bhai. The six militants were executed at different jails on March 29.

Devotees said they came out of the mosque on Gorosthan Road in Jhalakathi town hearing a gunshot and found Hyder lying on a pool of

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Spirited anti-graft drive yet to deliver

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and SHARIER KHAN

The spirit with which the present caretaker government launched the anti-corruption drive in February has apparently mellowed as the authorities have yet to come up with a single solid graft case against the high profile corruption suspects.

The defence members in the government's anti-corruption taskforces, requesting anonymity, said they have gathered a lot of hard

evidence, but they still require some time before filing any major case.

On the other hand, the civil administration members in these taskforces attributed the delay to initial emphasis on completing the investigations in shortest possible time.

"We were so hard-pressed to collect evidence in the shortest possible time that we could not conduct quality investigations," said a source requesting anonymity.

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PARLEY THEKAA

DUNIYAR SHUKH WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND MUCH MORE.