

Tarique shown held

FROM PAGE 1
Akhter passed the order following a petition submitted by the investigation officer (IO) Imtiaz MAK Bhuiyan.

In the petition, the IO mentioned that Tarique's close friend and business partner Giasuddin Al Mamun in a confessional statement on April 9 said that he, along with six others, extorted Tk 1.32 crore from Khan Mohammad Aftab Uddin, managing director of Reza Construction Ltd, on different dates under Tarique's protection. Tarique took Tk 80 lakh of the amount as his share, and so he needs to be shown arrested in the case, the IO added.

Meanwhile, separate extortion cases were filed yesterday against Awami League leader and former state minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir and BNP lawmaker Nadin Mostafa.

CASE AGAINST HARRIS
A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned the hearing till April 30 on charge framing against Harris Chowdhury, former political secretary to prime minister Khaleda Zia, in connection with a graft case.

Metropolitan Sessions Judge Momin Ullah passed the order following a petition seeking adjournment of the hearing by the prosecution lawyer AFM Golam Fattah.

On April 5, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Deputy Director Abu Sayeed filed the case against Harris for not submitting his wealth statement to the ACC within the stipulated time.

Following the case, the Sessions Judge's Court issued arrest warrant against him and directed the authorities concerned to send a copy of the warrant to the police stations concerned.

CASE AGAINST LOBI AND MANZURUL AHSAN MUNSHI
Former chairman of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Ali Ahsan Lobi and ex-BNP MP Engineer Manzurul Ahsan Munshi were shown arrested yesterday in connection with two graft cases.

Metropolitan Magistrate Jagannath Das Khokon passed the order following the petitions of the IOs to show them arrested in the cases filed with Gulshan Police Station on March 22 and 27.

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) had filed a graft case against Lobi, also a former BNP lawmaker, for submitting false wealth statement and making huge sums of money through illegal means.

On the other hand, the ACC had filed a case against Manzurul, his wife Mazed Ahsan Munshi and sons Barrister Rizviul Ahsan Munshi and Rizwanul Ahsan Munshi for the same reasons.

CASE AGAINST HAFIZ IBRAHIM
Another Dhaka court yesterday fixed April 30 for hearing on charge framing against detained former BNP lawmaker Hafiz Ibrahim in connection with an arms case filed with Gulshan Police Station in February.

Judge Momin Ullah of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court accepted the charge sheet and set the date.

The joint forces seized a knife

3 killed

FROM PAGE 1
also damaged by the twister, which continued only 10 minutes, according to our correspondent.

The injured were admitted to different hospitals and health complexes. In Gangachara upazila, five of the injured—Mahbub, Mahmuda, Rezia, Nesser Ali and Sadequ—were admitted to the upazila health complex. Their condition was stated to be critical.

The affected areas are Bhagagora, Arajib Joydeh, Chhoto Rupai, Alembazar, Tenpara, Banatari, Koipara, Babupara, Ghajhonta Bazar, Charchhalapak, Taluk Habu, Char Ichli, Buridangi, Kashir Char, and Joyram of Gangachara upazila; Choumonhi, Moynakutti of Rangpur Sadar upazila; Machhrai, Udy Narayan and Char Najirhd of Kounia upazila.

The massive damage occurred at Ghajhonta Bazaar where about 200 shops, a madrasa and a girls' high school were damaged by the northwester.

The deputy commissioner visited the affected areas and sent a message to the ministry concerned seeking immediate relief for the storm-hit people.

Our Kurigram correspondent adds: Norwester lashed 19 villages under Chilmari and Roumari upazilas of the district at about 4:00pm.

At least 300 houses and two educational institutions were damaged and eight people injured by the storm that lasted for only seven minutes.

The affected villages are Bazra, Diarkhata and Charuapara under Chilmari upazila, and pukhuria, Kazali Rata, Tintali, Bagura Char, Ganjanpara, banchal Char, Bala Mara, Ghugumari, Jigni Kanda, Tapurchar, Shaulmari Shonapur, Khodaimari, Fulurchar, Goaler Char, Baitkamari and Bandaber under Roumari, Upazila.

The injured are undergoing treatment at local hospitals.

In Brahmanbaria, norwester hit three villages under Sadar upazila in the afternoon, damaging at least 20 houses, our correspondent reports.

The affected villages are Sultanpara, Radhu and Ramrai. Standing crops were damaged while electric poles and trees uprooted by the storm.

Mohammad Ali

FROM PAGE 1
other charges on the loans by this month, the amount being Tk 35.66 crore, sources said.

The business leader took the loans in a fraudulent process. And the bank has been treating those as bad loans since 1995, they added.

CASE AGAINST DIPJAL
The same court yesterday fixed May 16 for hearing on charge framing against Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Ward Commissioner Monowar Hossain Dipjal and his wife Rumana Dipjal in an arms case.

The IO pressed charges against them on March 16 and the case was transferred to the court for trial.

The joint forces seized huge arms and ammunition from their Mirpur house on March 8.

CASE AGAINST MKA ALAMGIR
An extortion case was filed against Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, former state minister for planning and an Awami League leader, and 114 others at a Chandpur court yesterday, reports our correspondent there.

Masud Rana, a contractor, lodged the case claiming that Mohiuddin and his men demanded Tk 60,000 as toll from him while he was doing a road development work at Kachua upazila of the district on January 5 this year.

The court ordered an enquiry into the case, sources said.

CASE AGAINST NADIM MOSTAFA
An extortion case was filed against former BNP MP Nadim Mostafa with Durgapur Police Station in Rajshahi on Monday night, reports our staff correspondent there.

Sekander Ali of Maria village of Durgapur filed the case that also accuses chairman of Durgapur municipality and upazila BNP General Secretary Saidur Rahman Montu and 18 others.

In his case, Sekander alleged that the accused demanded Tk 1 lakh as toll from the chairman candidate Sumon on July 14, 2003 during the UP election campaign.

As Suman refused to pay the money, the accused locally known as 'Nadim Mostafa gang' attacked his supporters. Montu fired several rounds of gunshots leaving many including the complainant injured, Sekander alleged.

Police arrested four -- Babul, Ansar, Shamsul and Gaffar -- from Maria village in connection with the case earlier while Montu was arrested by the joint forces last week.

MOSTAFA KAMAL PASHA SENT TO JAIL

A magistrate's court in Chittagong yesterday ordered to send former BNP lawmaker Mostafa Kamal Pasha to jail in a murder case, reports our staff correspondent there.

The court of Magistrate Badru Hadi issued the order after police produced him before it.

The joint forces arrested Kamal Pasha at his Rahmatpur residence at Sandwip at around 10:30pm on Monday for his alleged involvement in different criminal activities.

Pasha, also accused in four criminal cases including Sajib murder that took place at Sandwip on February 26, 1999, was handed over to police on the same night.

FROM PAGE 1
flick past square-leg in the first over. Jayasuriya then called Tharanga for a risky single to point, which turned out to be his only run. Thankfully for Sri Lanka, the fielder missed else Tharanga would have been in trouble.

Bond started badly, with a wide down the leg side. Two easy boundaries came off his bowling with similar deliveries -- Tharanga was the beneficiary.

Sangakkara played an irresponsible stroke, charging down the wicket and trying to hit Franklin over mid-on. He failed to get the timing right and ended up giving a simple catch to Fleming after scoring 18.

Sri Lanka were 69 after 15 overs with two of their big guns back in the pavilion.

With the pitch offering nothing for the opening bowlers, Jacob Oram was brought into the attack in the seventh over, replacing Franklin. He began well, conceding only a single in his opening over.

The next over bowled by Bond was a maiden but he was very lucky as Sangakkara hit a juicy full toss straight to point.

Sangakkara got his first boundary with a beautifully timed drive through the covers off Oram. In the same over, Tharanga also drove one on the off side for a couple as 10 runs came from the ninth over of the innings.

In Oram's next over, the Lankan opener hit one on the up, just clearing Patel's dive at backward point. The ball flew to the boundary and also brought up Lankan 50.

Franklin beat Tharanga with one that swung away from him. But the batsman frustrated New Zealand, edging a short delivery down to third man and driving a fuller one uppishly through covers for boundaries.

Their rivals also reportedly launched a counter attack with oars and sticks.

In connection with the case filed by Workers Party leader Kamal Ahsan, charges were brought against the accused for organising unlawful assembly, inflicting injuries on people, murder, and aiding and abetting criminal activities.

Nation's history left

FROM PAGE 1

the nine months of Liberation War, especially on March 25 night in 1971, according to a list prepared by the DU Central Students Union (DUCSU) Collection Centre. It however does not contain a complete account of the martyrs.

HISTORIC SPOTS

A number of places on the DU campus bear testimony to various events of the nation's history and heritage.

DU residential dormitories including Jagannath Hall, Fazlul Haq Hall and Zohurul Haq Hall (formerly Iqbal Hall), and teachers' quarters were targets of the occupying Pakistan army on March 25 night in 1971, and a number of teachers, students and employees were killed by Pakistan army on March 25, 1971.

Duta at a meeting recently demanded that the university authorities set up a memorial for the martyrs from DU who were killed by Pakistan army on March 25, 1971.

It also demanded preserving the campus sites that bear memories of the Liberation War.

Prof Delwar Hossain said, "Now we need a coordinated and central initiative."

WHAT HAVE BEEN DONE SO FAR

In a scattered manner, various departments and residential dormitories of the university and the DUCSU collection centre have so far tried to preserve the memories of '71.

Ratanlal Chakrabarti wrote a book -- Mukti Juddhe Shaheed - Jagannath Hall -- (martyrs of Liberation War at Jagannath Hall), and Duta published a souvenir on martyrs teachers of DU.

Different DU departments also published similar souvenirs on different occasions.

Shadhinata Juddhe Dhaka Bishwabiddalaya (Dhaka University in Liberation War) by Rafiqul Islam, History of Dhaka University by A Rahim and some other similar publications are there.

The DU authorities also have some publications including Dhaka Bishwabiddalaya Gouraber Ashi Bachhara (Glorious Eighty Years of Dhaka University) by Rejanur Rahman.

DUCSU in December last year unveiled a mural on the Language Movement on the campus.

There is a Liberation War cell at the central library of DU containing a good number of books but most of the students do not know about it.

DUCSU COLLECTION CENTRE

The DUCSU collection centre's rare and valuable collections are facing decay and are getting lost due to lack of space and proper preservation.

Valiant freedom fighter and chief attendant at the centre Gopal Chandra Das alone collected those.

"We have valuable collections on the Language Movement, mass upsurge, Liberation War and anti-autocracy movements but we don't have enough space to preserve those," said Prof Ratanlal Chakrabarti.

When contacted, Prof Ratanlal Chakrabarti, who is acting director of the publication organisation of DU, said, "We don't have adequate funds and writers, and editing panel members are also busy. That is why we have yet to start the project."

SEPS SUGGESTED

DUCSU Collection Centre Treasurer Prof Belayet Hossain said the DU authorities should immediately take steps to preserve memories of the glorious past of this Institution so that the next generation can know this.

"Scattered initiatives will not serve the purpose well. The university authorities should do something."

the party but could not implement them due to the ban on politics under the current state of emergency.

When asked about Khaleda Zia's possible departure from the country, Nazrul said, "Why would she leave the country, she did not violate emergency rules."

Echoing Nazrul, Sadeque Hossain Khaleda Zia added, "The chairperson will bring it to the secretary general's attention if she thinks anyone failed to perform his or her duties."

However, both Hannan and Nazrul emphasised that the party is not about to split rather the leaders and activists are determined to remain united under the leadership of Khaleda Zia.

He also said Chairperson Khaleda Zia has faith in him, as he is one of those who were with her during the anti-Ershad movement.

"I personally welcome her [Sheikh Hasina's] statement. This is the first step towards a reconciliation between the senior leaderships of two major political parties," he said adding, "From the past experiences, particularly the experiences of the anti-autocratic movement of the 1990s, I foresee that a simultaneous movement might be launched soon."

Hannan once again firmly said Khaleda Zia informed the military-backed interim government about her unwillingness to go into self-exile.

"She did not go to any embassy, she even did not sign any paper; and it proves that she wants to stay in the country," Hannan said and urged the reporters present to pray for Khaleda Zia so she might be able to appear before them in person.

In reply to a question Hannan said Khaleda had asked the party secretary general to take actions against a few party members, which were not taken due to the current ban on indoor politics.

Hannan also said Khaleda's health condition slightly improved although he did not elaborate on the nature of her illness.

Meanwhile, Nazrul Islam Khan, and BNP's Dhaka city unit president, Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, said only a person appointed by the party chairperson has the authority to issue statements about the party.

"If necessary the person appointed by Khaleda Zia will speak," Nazrul Islam Khan told the reporters yesterday adding that Hannan Shah did not tell anything new as Khaleda Zia herself had taken initiatives to bring reforms to

Ctg port

FROM PAGE 16

The charge of equipment maintenance would also be given to private companies in a bid to reduce costs, as according to sources, the port authorities spend a huge amount each year in the name of buying spare parts of different equipment.

The process of dissolving the dockworkers' management board, formed in 1980s, has already started, sources said.

At present, the stevedores or port users have to hire workers from the board having 1,435 members, who often hold the port hostage in the name of realising their various demands.

The CPA would be able to save at least 30 percent cost in goods handling if the management board is dissolved, a shipping agent said.

The port witnessed a significant development since the caretaker government assumed power in January.

Ethiopian rebels

FROM PAGE 16

Ethiopian military units and destroyed the facility.

China's official Xinhua News Agency identified the Chinese workers and Ethiopian guards as employees of the Zhongyuan Petroleum Exploration Bureau, a division of China Petroleum & Chemical Corp., a huge state-run oil company better known as Sinopec.

Xu Shuang, the general manager of Zhongyuan Petroleum Exploration Bureau, based in Addis Ababa, said nine of its Chinese oil workers were killed, seven Chinese workers were kidnapped and 65 Ethiopians were killed in the fighting.

The lawyers observed that the restrictions not only undermined the image of the former premier, but also harmed the image of independent and democratic Bangladesh across the world.

They should be lifted immediately to uphold the rule of law and democratic dispensation.

The signatories to the statement include Barrister Shafiqul Islam, Mahbubul Alayam, former law minister Abdul Matin Khasru, Abdul Baset Majumder, Khandaker Mahbubul Hossain, Rahmat Ali, Sahara Khatun, Abdul Mannan Khan, Subrata Chowdhury and Enayetur Rahim.

Our staff correspondent reports: Thirty-one intellectuals in their statement said, "It is illegal to curtail the fundamental rights of a citizen to live in their motherland through this sort of ban."

"Justice, rule of law and the protection of people's fundamental rights are among the core commitments of Bangladesh's constitution," read the statement signed by prominent academics, writers, poets, playwrights, actors, human rights activists and an adviser to a former caretaker government.

"But we have observed with deep concern that the current caretaker government has imposed a ban on the return of former prime minister and Bangabandhu-daughter Sheikh Hasina," it continued.