

Special court

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yesterday heard arguments of the prosecution and set today for delivery of verdict.

The prosecution said they are able to prove the allegations against the accused and prayed highest punishment for Harris.

Earlier, the prosecution produced five witnesses before the court. They are Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Deputy Director (DD) Abu Sayeed, ACC Field Officer Khan and a daker of Aktheruzzaman, caretaker of Harris' neighbour's house, Abdul Hakim, Harris' cousin Fakruddin Chowdhury and caretaker of Harris' another neighbour's house, Alfaazuddin.

On April 30, Judge Momin Ullah of the Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court framed charges against Harris in his absence.

The ACC DD filed the case on April 5 for not submitting wealth statement to the commission within the stipulated time.

In response, the court issued an arrest warrant and ordered the authorities concerned to send its copy to the police station concerned.

On February 18, the ACC asked Harris to submit his wealth statement within 72 hours, but neither Harris nor any of his representatives complied with the instructions.

MAMUN ARMS CASE
Judge Mohammad Azizul Haq of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court yesterday framed charges against Giasuddin Al Mamun, close friend of BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Tariqul Raffin, in a case filed for possessing illegal firearms and ammunition.

Mamun pleaded not guilty and demanded justice after the charges were read out to him.

Earlier on April 26, Cantonment police submitted the charge sheet against Mamun to the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka showing 12 people as prosecution witnesses.

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE of Cantonment Police Station Shahim Khan, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, pressed charges against Mamun, who was arrested from his Banani DOHS residence on March 26.

Police seized a .22 bore Spanish pistol and eight bullets from his house.

Later, an arms case was filed against Mamun and he was placed on a four-day remand.

HAFIZ IBRAHIM CASE
The same court yesterday framed charges against detained former BNP lawmaker Hafiz in a case filed for possessing illegal firearms.

Hafiz demanded justice and pleaded not guilty when the court read out the charges to him.

Gulshan police pressed charges against Hafiz on March 18.

The joint forces seized a sword and a knife from his Gulshan residence on February 27.

NASIR CASE
A special court yesterday recorded statement of Abdullah Al Zahid, complainant of a graft case filed against detained former state minister Mir Nasir and his son, Mir Helal.

After recording the statement, Judge AK Roy of the Second Special Court fixed today for next hearing of the case.

ACCDs Sharmin Ferdousi and Abdullah Al Zahid, also the IOs of the case, submitted the charge sheet of the case filed with Gulshan Police Station on March 6.

According to the charge sheet, the two accused accumulated assets worth over Tk 24.39 crore illegally.

Helal also transferred Tk 2.83 crore from different bank accounts following his father's arrest, the IOs added.

Torture marks found

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demanded immediate actions against those responsible for Majnu's death.

As people were demonstrating, police on loudspeakers were repeatedly requesting them to maintain peace and order and not to defy the state of emergency rules. But the procession continued.

In the afternoon, Majnu's namaz-e-janaza was held at Purbopara Mosque and his body was laid to rest at his family graveyard.

Twenty-five-year-old Majnu was allegedly beaten to death as he was guarding his lichee orchard Friday night.

"Handing over of Majnu's body was delayed due to an executive probe led by a magistrate to prepare the inquest report. It was important for a murder case," said Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP) Mahbubur Rahman.

During the probe around 10:00am yesterday, first class magistrate Jonendranath Sarkar in presence of the victim's family members noted innumerable marks of torture on the body, sources said.

Mahbubur Rahman said, "There is nothing new in the case against Rab as there are ample examples of senior members of law enforcement agencies facing legal actions."

While talking to The Daily Star last evening, Rajshahi Rab Commanding Officer Colonel Shamsuzzaman Khan said a probe body is interrogating four Rab personnel of Rajshahi Railway Colony Camp at Rab-5 headquarters in Rajshahi in connection with the death of Majnu.

The committee was formed following government directives to investigate the alleged killing of Quamrul Islam Majnu in Rab torture on Friday night.

The committee chief and Rab Intelligence Director Lt Col Asif Ansari and Rab Intelligence Deputy Director Major Abdul Hamid reached Rajshahi from Dhaka yes-

AL expresses

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AMAN CASE
Judge Firoz Alam of the First Special Court yesterday adjourned hearing of the graft case against former state minister for labour and employment Aman and his wife Sabera Aman until today following a time petition by the prosecution lawyers.

The adjournment came since Sabera was not produced before the court due to her illness. However, the complainant appeared to give his deposition.

The case was filed against them with Kafrel Police Station on March 6 accusing them of amassing huge wealth through illegal means.

ACC DDs Abdullah Al Zahid and Jibon Krishna Roy, also the IOs of the case, submitted the charge sheet of the case.

In the charge sheet, the IOs said Aman and his wife amassed properties valued over Tk 10 crore illegally.

But the two AL and BNP leaders agreed in principle that they want participation of more women in the party politics and parliament.

But Syed Ashraf told The Daily Star, "We always want more women leadership in politics, parliament and the party, but it will not be right to set a framework-like the 33 percent binding-for that."

MK Anwar said, "The constitution of the BNP has provisions for keeping 10 percent women and the number can be increased through discussion."

The two leaders said the government should withdraw the ban on indoor politics so that the political parties can give their opinions on such important issues.

"Let the Election Commission first discuss the issues with us [political parties], then we will see, analyse and examine those and give our decisions," said Ashraf.

AL to go tough
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DIPJAL ARMS CASE

Another Dhaka court yesterday adjourned hearing on charge framed against Dhaka City Corporation Ward Commissioner Monowar Hossain Dipjal and his wife Rumana Dipjal in an arms case.

Judge Mohammad Azizul Haq of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court set May 27 for next hearing of the case.

The IO pressed charges against them on March 16 showing 12 people as prosecution witnesses.

Dipjal is still at large while Rumana is now in jail custody. The joint forces seized huge arms and ammunition from their Mirpur house on March 8.

Hasina
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DRUGS CASE

you just delay and delay -- it's a delaying tactic. But they should not play this tactic anymore, people are not fools," she said in an interview with Indian TV channel CNN/IBN.

Hasina said that both her and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's wealth statements should be made public.

The AL chief questioned the military-backed government's stance regarding corruption.

Their stand against corruption at first -- we supported that, but where is that stand now? There are so many corrupt people moving around."

Hasina also observed that after 1975, the military rule had destroyed each and every institution, including the Election Commission and the judiciary.

"This caretaker government should allow the people to choose their own government," she added.

Torture marks found
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yesterday afternoon.

The probe team also includes a Rajshahi metropolitan magistrate and Rajshahi Rab second-in-command Major Kabir.

"We are interrogating them as they were primarily identified to be involved in the operation, they were not closed or suspended," Shamsuzzaman said.

He, however, declined to name the four saying the matter is still under investigation.

Police, however, recorded a murder case against Rab personnel and others involved on Saturday night and started its own investigation.

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