

AUGUST 17 BLASTS

All 13 acquitted by Barisal STT

2 JMB men get life in Chittagong

STAR NATIONAL DESK

All the 13 accused in another case in connection with August 17 serial bomb blasts were acquitted by Barisal Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal (STT) yesterday.

In Chittagong, the Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal sentenced two members of Jamaatul Mujahideen, Bangladesh to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment in a case for serial blasts in the port city on the same day in 2005.

Our Barisal Correspondent reports: In the verdict, STT judge Rabul Hassan ordered release of the arrested nine out of 13 accused in case no. 11, if they are not accused in any other cases. Twelve cases were filed in connection with the blasts in Barisal city.

Those acquitted yesterday are Golam Morshed Chowdhury Reza, Jalal Arefin, Hafez Saiful Islam, Abu Yusuf Majumdar, Abu Solaiman Sujon, Md Maruf, Jasimuddin, Abdus Sobhan, Giasuddin, Sarwar, Abdur Rahim, Zahid Babu, and Ziaur Rahman Zia.

Four of the accused were tried

in absentia. They are Sarwar, Abdur Rahim, Zahid Babu, and Ziaur Rahman Zia.

Special Public Prosecutor Kazi Munir Hussein told The Daily Star that all the 13 were acquitted as charges against them could not be proved due to faults in the case and weak investigation.

The case (no. 11) was lodged in connection with blasts in front of Barisal General Post Office.

Sub-inspector Mosharrif Hossain of Barisal Kotwali police filed the case as complainant while sub-inspector Borhan Reza submitted charge sheet against the 13 on December 24, 2005.

With this, trial of six out of the 12 cases have been completed. Only in one case, seven people including four absconders were sentenced to life term by the same court on July 30 this year.

Our Staff Correspondent in Chittagong adds:

The Chittagong Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal (STT) yesterday sentenced two members of Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) to 10 years rigorous imprisonment in the sensational case for serial bomb

blasts on August 17, 2005.

They were also filed Tk 5,000 each, in default to suffer imprisonment for one year more.

This was the first verdict in Chittagong in connection with the August 17 blasts in the port city.

The convicts are JMB 'Chittagong region commander' Javed Iqbal alias Mohammad and Julfikar Ali. The court acquitted Arshedul Alam alias T Alam. STT Judge Mohammad Shafiqul Karim pronounced the verdict.

Sources however said that Julfikar Ali, who is now in police custody, and the one with the same name who was actually involved in the bomb blasts were different persons, but Julfikar was punished because of a mistake of the concerned lawyer.

When the judge drew attention to this alleged mistake, the lawyer - Nikhil Kanti Chowdhury - admitted his fault and apologised for that. He told the court that he did not quiz the witnesses about Julfikar.

The case was filed blasts in the city's Halishahar area on August 17, 2005.

The investigation officer submitted charge sheet on January 14, 2007 accusing six persons.

Of the accused, the names of JMB top leaders Shayak Abdur Rahman, Siddiqul Islam alias Bangla Bhai and Ataur Rahman Sunny were dropped as they were executed earlier. Charges were framed on August 6 last year.

In the case, JMB 'commander' in his confessional statement under Section 164 had told that their Ehsar member Julfikar was the mastermind behind the bomb blast near Hakkani Refuelling Station in Halishahar on August 17, 2005. But Julfikar, who is in jail now, was actually the elder brother of Abu Jar, an activist of JMB, Sitakunda branch in Chittagong. This Julfikar was arrested while supplying food to his younger brother Abu Jar in the court area.

During trial of the case, Javed disclosed before the court that the two Julfikars were different persons.

Sources said Julfikar might get release only after submitting appeal in this regard to High Court.

Storm lashes six Kurigram villages

A CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

A storm lashed six villages of Omar Majid union in Rajarhat upazila Saturday night damaging 216 houses in the affected areas.

The storm-hit villages are Dangrahat, Delapara, Fulkahat Hazari, Dhanipara, Balakandi, Sarkar Para and Pangkha Para.

The affected family members are staying under open sky facing heavy shower. Two victims, Sudhir Chandra, 50, and Mozammel Haque, 45, said the tornado was accompanied by heavy downpour and lasted for one minute only. But it completely damaged their houses and all of their belongings. The rain continued till yesterday, they said. They are now passing their days unaided.

Kurigram additional deputy commissioner (ADC-Review) Md Sarwar Jahan and Rajarhat upazila nirbahi officer (UNO) ATM Ziaul Islam visited the affected areas yesterday. They distributed 10 kilogram of rice to each of 175 victim families.

The administration is preparing a list of the affected families, the UNO said.

EXPULSION OF 2 PARTY MEN

BAU BCL appeals for withdrawal of Syndicate decision

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) unit at Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) at a rally on the campus yesterday appealed to BAU authorities to reconsider their decision taken at Saturday's Syndicate meeting to expel two BCL leaders from the university for assaulting a teacher.

"We are not against the Syndicate decision but we humbly appeal the authorities so that they (two BCL leaders) can return to normal life. A family depends on a boy in many cases and if their education life is ruined, it will ruin their social life simultaneously," a BCL leader said at the meeting.

BCL earlier collected some 2000 signatures of BAU students and submitted it to the Syndicate before its meeting.

The BCL leaders also welcomed the decision taken against Prof. Dr. Mahfuzur Rahman who was dismissed from service for absence from the university for long without permission.

BCL leader Dipak Kumar Paul, an MS student of Agronomy Department of Agriculture Faculty, was expelled for life from the university for assaulting Assistant Professor Md. Wakilur Rahman, a house tutor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall in the early hours of August 29. Another BCL activist - Biman Chandra Roy, an MS student of Animal Science Department of Animal Husbandry Faculty - was expelled for a year for the same incident. Both were also declared unwanted at BAU.

MPs should resign for failure to meet polls pledges

Speakers tell TIB workshop in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Participants in a workshop of Transparency International of Bangladesh (TIB) held in Barisal have demanded inclusion of term of resignation for the elected lawmakers in case of failure to fulfill their election promises.

The workshop on preparing 'Citizens' charter about parliament and members of parliament' was held at Celebration Point Auditorium of the city on Saturday night.

TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman presented the keynote paper containing background and results of the research works conducted in 32 constituencies by 25 groups of TIB.

Quorum crisis due to absence of MPs forced to adjourn sessions of parliament on many occasions and

ineffectiveness of the parliamentary committees resulted in failure to ensure accountability and transparency of the governments, he said.

Quality for parliament membership, transparency and accountability of MPs, role of the Speaker of parliament, MPs' right to cross the floor, people's right to get information about MPs, and role of people, political parties and Election Commission in nominating candidates for parliament elections came up in the discussion.

An MP candidate must be a voter in the constituency concerned while honest, competent, patriotic, accountable persons should contest in the elections, speakers said at the workshop.

Lawmakers should participate in regular face-to-face programmes with people to maintain their accountabil-

ity and transparency, they said. They urged formation of election conduct rules with provision for resignation of MPs in case of failure to fulfill their election promises.

TIB sources said they will prepare a 'citizens' charter about parliament and members of parliament' following suggestions collected by the research groups and 13 workshops conducted throughout the country.

Among others, Barisal City Corporation mayor-elect advocate Shawkat Hossain Hiron and Mayor-in-charge Awlad Hossain Dilu took part in the discussion attended by over one hundred participants from different professions and walks of life.

Advocate Manabendra Batobayal, convener of Barisal Conscious Citizens' Committee, the local chapter of the TIB, presided over the workshop.

Reopen RU, cancel political appointments

RU teachers demand

RU CORRESPONDENT

Teachers of Rajshahi University (RU) under the banner of Progressive Teachers Society (PTS) yesterday called upon the authorities to immediately declare specific date to reopen the university soon.

Earlier on August 20, RU authorities closed the university for indefinitely period following violent clashes between students and local traders that left 60 people, including teachers, students and policemen, injured.

The PTS teachers at a view exchange meeting with journalists

at Shahidullah Arts building also urged the caretaker government to remove all corrupt and politically appointed persons from important administrative positions in Rajshahi University and all other public universities.

Demanding investigation into alleged corruption and irregularities done by the politically appointed persons, the teachers said removal of corrupt people is essential to establish congenial academic atmosphere on RU campus and other public universities.

PTS convener Prof Mozaffar Hossain told newsmen that they

will meet RU VC Prof Mamnunul Keramat at his office soon and demand specific date to reopen the university.

Prof Abdus Sobhan, Prof Mizan Uddin, Prof Anando Kumar Saha, Prof Mahabubur Rahman, Prof Fayezuzzaman, Prof SM Abu Bakkar, Prof Chowdhury Sarwar Zahan, Prof Dulal Chandra Roy and Prof Moly Kumar Bhowmik, were present, among others, during the meeting.

When contacted, RU Vice Chancellor Prof Mamnunul Keramat said authorities will take necessary steps to reopen the university soon.

Kamran quits party post, may be freed in a few days

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Detained Sylhet city mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran quit his party position yesterday.

Kamran, in a letter to Awami league acting general secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam resigned from the post of convener of Sylhet city AL. A copy of the letter was also sent to Sylhet Divisional Commissioner yesterday.

Kamran was re-elected mayor of Sylhet City Corporation in the August 4 polls.

Kamran is expected to be freed on bail within days. He was granted bail by the High Court last week and the papers may reach the jail authorities soon. He is facing four cases, of which proceedings of 2 had been stayed by High Court. He was granted bail in the rest two cases.

An official of Sylhet Central Jail told The Daily Star yesterday evening, "We are yet to receive any court order in connection with the mayor's bail".

4 Barisal JP leaders expelled

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Four Jatiya Party (JP) leaders here were expelled from the party for doing anti-party activities, JP sources said.

District JP joint secretary Golam Morshed Chunnun, organising secretary Rustam Ali Howladar, Barisal city JP vice-president Rustam Ali Khan and organising secretary Mainul Islam got copies of their expulsion from JP central office secretary Advocate Md Rezaul Islam Bhuiyan on Saturday, said District JP president Mohsinul Islam Habul.

JP chairperson HM Ershad expelled them from the party on August 27, he said.

However, expelled JP leader Rustam Ali Howladar said he had already resigned from the party much before his expulsion.



A flood victim in badly affected Sadipur in Faridpur district carrying belongings to a safer place yesterday.

7 of a family get life for murder in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A Barisal court yesterday convicted seven people of a family to life-term imprisonment in Yunus Bepari murder case in Mehendiganj.

Md Shahidullah, district and sessions judge in charge of the Tribunal for Prevention of Crimes Violating Public Safety, handed down the verdict in presence of six accused while one was tried in absentia.

The seven convicts are Abdur Rob Khan, his sons Jamal, Baker, Zaker and Jahangir Hossain (ab-

sconding), daughter Kohinora Begum, and Jamal's wife Taslima Begum.

They were also fined Tk 25 thousand each, in default to serve more one year RI.

Following a conflict after divorce of Kohinur Begum by her husband Yunus Bepari, 40, the accused beat Yunus to death at Noyakhali village on August 8 in 2004, goes the prosecution.

The victim's brother Habib Bepari lodged a case in this connection the next day with Mehendiganj Police Station.

'AIDS increasing alarmingly in greater Mymensingh'

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Speakers at a seminar here called for launching a massive awareness campaign about AIDS in Mymensingh as the disease is increasing alarmingly in the district.

The statistics showed the alarming rise of AIDS detection cases in Mymensingh.

The first AIDS case was detected in Mymensingh in 1989 and the official number rose to 874 in 2006 and 1207 in 2007, it was revealed at the seminar. The actual number will be much more, the speakers said.

Greater Mymensingh, having borders in all sides, is in AIDS risk as the area is used as transit for many districts. Transport workers visit the areas in large numbers, increasing the risk, they said.

The seminar on 'Greater Mymensingh is in AIDS Risk and Our Initiatives', held at Mymensingh Press Club auditorium on Saturday was joint organized by the press club and World Vision HIV/AIDS Prevention Project.

Mymensingh Deputy Commissioner Md. Shamsul Alam was the chief guest at the seminar with Press Club Vice President Wazedul Islam in the chair.

Buses and trucks wait in long queues to enter Daulatdia ferry terminal yesterday as six ferryboats on Daulatdia-Paturia route are inadequate to deal with a large number of vehicles plying the route.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Police Headquarters
Dhaka

Local Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the manufacturers/suppliers/local agents in their official pad for purchase of the following items for Bangladesh Police (Project).

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs.
2.	Agency	Police Headquarters, Dhaka.
3.	Procuring entity name	Inspector General, Bangladesh Police.
4.	Procuring entity code	2211
5.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6.	Invitation for	Tender Goods Single Lot
7.	Invitation Ref No	E&T/MV/03 (2008-2009).
8.	Date	30/08/2008.

KEY INFORMATION

9.	Procurement method	NCT Open Tendering Method (OTM).
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FUNDING INFORMATION

10.	Budget and source of funds	Development Budget, Aid Grant (JDCF) & GoB.
11.	Development partner	Japan

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12.	Project code	5940
13.	Project name	Enhancing the Capacity of Bangladesh Police.
14.	Tender publication date	01/09/2008.
15.	Tender last selling date	29/09/2008.
16.	Tender closing date and time	30/09/2008 12:00 noon
17.	Tender opening date and time	30/09/2008 12:30pm
18.	Name & address of the office(s)	
	- Selling tender document	The Project Director, AIG (E&T), Room No. 220 (1 st Floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000.
	- Receiving tender document	The Project Director, AIG (E&T), Room No. 220 (1 st Floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000.
	- Opening tender document	Operation Conference Room (1 st Floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000.
19.	- Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Operation Conference Room (1 st Floor), Police Headquarters, Dhaka-1000
		Date Time
		10/09/2009 15:00

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

20.	Eligibility of tenderer	As described in tender document.
21.	Brief description of goods or works	Shown at Serial No. 23
22.	Tender document price	Tk 750.00

Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender security in Taka	Completion time in month
23.	01 (one)	Petrol Engine: Double Cabin Pick-up (with converted into CNG engine)-60 nos	Rajarbag Police Lines, Dhaka	22,50,000.00 03 (three)

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

24.	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Sibgat Ullah, ppm-seba
25.	Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director.
26.	Address of official inviting tender	AIG (E&T) and Project Director of "Enhancing the Capacity of Bangladesh Police," Police Headquarters, Dhaka.
27.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 9564779, Fax: 7176129 E-mail: aige_t@police.gov.bd

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

Md. Sibgat Ullah, ppm
AIG (E&T), Bangladesh Police
Police Headquarters, Dhaka

GD-3973

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