

JS PROBE AGAINST SIRCAR, AKHTAR HAMID, DELWAR

Trio took Tk 40 lakh in additional fuel bill

SHAKHAWAT LITON and RASHIDUL HASAN

Former speaker Jamiruddin Sircar, his deputy Akhtar Hamid Siddiqui and former chief whip Khandaker Delwar Hossain took over Tk 40 lakh as fuel bills in addition to their fuel allowances during the tenure of the last parliament.

According to a report prepared by the transport pool of Parliament Secretariat, Sircar drew Tk 7.73 lakh and Akhtar Hamid Tk 15.71 lakh as additional fuel bills for two Pajeros during 2004-2008 while Delwar drew Tk 16.68 lakh for a microbus during 2001-2006, sources in the secretariat said.

Fuel bills for the Pajeros were also

increased to 20 litres a day from 10 litres in 2005, the sources said.

The three were entitled to use two vehicles each for official purpose and money for around 40 litres of fuel daily. They were also entitled to get fuel bills for trips outside Dhaka.

Another document shows that Tk 4.50 lakh was allocated in 2004-05 fiscal year for the maintenance of the vehicles used by Sircar and Akhtar Hamid at that time. But the amount was increased to Tk 14.50 lakh following demands from their offices.

The additional money was provided from other sectors in the budget for Parliament Secretariat, officials said. They, however, could not give the details

of the expenditures.

The transport pool of Parliament Secretariat has recently submitted the report to a parliamentary sub-committee led by Brig Gen (retd) SK Bakri. The sub-committee formed by the all-party parliamentary probe body is probing allegations of corruption in Parliament Secretariat and has started gathering information on transport expenditures during the last parliament.

When contacted, Bakri, also a lawmaker of the ruling Awami League, told The Daily Star that they are yet to collect all the information. "So far we have examined a number of documents and we

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Army HQ on BDR probe

Calls for 'responsible' news

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The army headquarters yesterday urged the media to be more responsible while reporting on sensitive issues like the BDR carnage in Pilkhana.

A press release signed by Lt Col Kazi Mohammad Kabirul Islam, director of the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), said the armed forces formed an enquiry committee to probe the barbaric killings of army officials and the probe report was handed over to the chief of the armed forces on May 10.

The press release reads: even though the armed forces did not disclose any information about the report, different media have been continuing to run misleading and fictitious reports on such a nationally sensitive issue, which raises concern and confusions.

Many including defence officials wondered how around 7,000 BDR personnel could flee the BDR headquarters after committing the bloody

Only 25 BDR men now found hiding

Faruk slams media for speculative reporting on army probe find; border guards proposed to get new name, logo, motto, uniform

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The authority has finally identified only 25 BDR jawans as fugitives among over 7,000 earlier claimed to have escaped from Pilkhana BDR headquarters after the February 25-26 carnage.

Commerce Minister Faruk Khan, who heads a committee for coordinating measures of the Prime Minister's Office and the home and defence ministries in the wake of BDR carnage, yesterday said many of these fugitives committed grievous offences.

Interestingly, the authority gave the media different numbers of fugitive BDR members in the last two and a half months - from the initial 2,000 to 1,800 to 1,000 and then only 250.

Yesterday, the BDR authority provided brief information about the 25 fugitive BDR jawans and their photographs for publishing in newspapers.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4 NAMES AND PHOTOS OF FUGITIVE BDR MEMBERS ON PAGE 6

Legal notice served on govt to save rivers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has been served with a legal notice to take immediate steps to stop encroachment, earth-filling and construction of illegal structures on Buriganga and Turag rivers around Dhaka and Shitalakhy river in Narayanganj.

Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) tendered the notice demanding that the authorities concerned

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Wasa plans to preserve water of Ashulia

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) is planning to preserve floodwater in Ashulia area, treat and supply it to Uttara to meet the ever-growing demand for pure water in the capital.

A coordination meeting of Dhaka Wasa's operation and

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Waste from Bscic Industrial Area in Gazipur ends up in the Baimail Jheel and then flows into the Turag turning water of both into an obnoxious deep purple liquid. The photo was taken at Baimail Jheel.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

Rahim slips, hurts eye

Rezzaqul talks in line with Sahab

STAR REPORT

Detained former chief of National Security Intelligence (NSI) Abdul Rahim yesterday slipped and fell on a window-sill and injured his right eye while using bathroom at CID's Chittagong divisional headquarters.

The incident happened before dawn when electricity went out, said Mohammad Muslim, special superintendent

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Sahab talks less in front of magistrate

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Former National Security Intelligence (NSI) director Wing Commander (retd) Sahab Uddin in his confessional statement has concealed important information that he disclosed earlier to the Taskforce for Interrogation (TFI) during questioning.

Sources said he spelled out the involvement of some politicians, army officers and the high commission of a country with the smuggling of 10-truckloads of arms and

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Lanka free from terror, declares Rajapakse

'Prabhakaran's body' recovered from battlefield

AP, AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's president declared his country "liberated from separatist terror" yesterday as the military said it recovered the body of Tamil Tiger rebel leader Velupillai Prabhakaran from the battlefield on which he was slain.

The images were shown after the Tigers announced the guerrilla leader was still alive and well, and that they would continue fighting for a separate Tamil homeland despite President Mahinda Rajapakse's call to unite the nation.

Under international pressure to reach out to the Tamil minority, Rajapakse vowed in a nationally televised speech that "terrorism" had been

defeated and that a political solution to the island's ethnic divisions would be found.

TV footage also showed a bloated body resembling the rebel leader, still dressed in a dark green camouflage uniform, laid out on a stretcher on the grass. A blue cloth rested on top of his head, apparently to cover a bullet wound. His open eyes stared straight up and his face appeared bloated.

"A few hours ago, the body of terrorist leader Prabhakaran, who ruined this country, was found on the battleground," army chief Gen. Sarath Fonseka told state television.

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FULL-PAGE COVERAGE ON PAGE 12



This handout picture released by the Sri Lankan Army yesterday is said to be the body of Tamil Tiger leader Velupillai Prabhakaran in Putukkudiruppu in the north east of the country.

PHOTO: AFP

Online Poll

Two ex-NSI chiefs have been arrested over 10-truck ammo smuggling in Chittagong. Do you think the probe is on the right track?

Yes (69.81%)

No (24.92%)

No Comments (5.27%)

Total votes: 626

TODAY'S POLL

Pakistan has urged Bangladesh to let bygones be bygones with regard to atrocities committed by the Pakistani army in 1971. Do you support?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

SME Loan

BSF kills 2

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot two Bangladeshi men dead and critically injured two cattle traders in two separate incidents near Kurigram and Chapainawabganj borders early yesterday.

The deceased were Ayub Ali, 35, and Amir Islam, 28.

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প্রাণ

ওঁড়া মশলা

জীবনে আনে স্বাদ!



...খাবার ভালতো শরীর-মন দুটোই ভাল

