

CONVICTION OF MK ALAMGIR

# ACC to appeal against HC verdict

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has decided to lodge an appeal with the Supreme Court (SC), seeking to overturn the High Court (HC) verdict scrapping the conviction and jail sentence of Awami League lawmaker Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir in a corruption case, since about 50 other accused in similar cases are trying to take advantage of this verdict.

Following the HC verdict, the ACC find it difficult to go ahead with the cases against the 50 persons, who are accused of amassing illegal wealth and concealing information about their wealth to ACC, sources said.

The 50 accused persons include former BNP ministers Nazmul Huda, Tariqul Islam and Mirza Abbas, BNP leader Salauddin Quader Choudhury, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's political secretaries Mosaddak Ali Fala and Harris Chowdhury, former

BNP state minister Ruhul Quddus Talukder Dulu, Mufti Shahidul Islam, former Jamaat-e-Islami MP Shahjahan Chowdhury, Giasuddin Al Mamun's brother Hafiz Ibrahim, former finance minister Saifur Rahman's son Naser Rahman, former Awami League minister Mohammad Nasim, former Awami League chief whip Abul Hasnat Abdullah and AL Adviser Salman F Rahman.

Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan, a panel lawyer for ACC, told The Daily Star that the commission is preparing the paper books to file the appeal against the HC verdict and will lodge the appeal after receiving the copy of the judgement.

The commission will prepare 20 copies of the appeal and each copy will have at least 2000 pages describing the history of the case, first information report, charge sheet, charge-framing order, lower court verdict, the HC verdict, and other relevant things, he said.

As per the existing SC rule, 14 copies of the appeal will have to be submitted to the apex court for hearing, he said, adding that other copies will be given to the lawyers concerned.

MK Alamgir's counsel Barrister Rafique-Ul Huq earlier said the ACC secretary on February 18 in 2007 issued notices on behalf of the commission on 50 people, including Alamgir, asking them to submit their wealth statements.

"The secretary had no jurisdiction to issue such notices as per the ACC law. But cases were filed against them on the basis of the illegal notices bringing similar charges against them," he said.

Most recipients of the notices were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment during the emergency period, the lawyer said, adding that there was no legal basis for the special court's verdict in the case against his client.

## 'Fix minimum wage for domestic helps'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar yesterday urged the government to form a wage board and fix minimum wage for the domestic helps to ensure their rights, says a press release.

Partnership of Women in Action (PaWA) and Nagorik Uddog jointly organised the seminar on mindset regarding domestic helps, their security and specific policy at the National Press Club in the city.

Speaking as the chief guest, Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and Employment Ministry Israfil Alam said the government had already taken initiatives to review labour law.

Labour leader Abul Hossain said a total of 12 domestic helps were victims of violence in the last month while 6 of them died.

He underscored the need for concerted efforts to ensure the rights of the domestic helps.

## Result of 29th BCS preliminary test soon

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The result of the 29th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) preliminary examination under the Public Service Commission (PSC) is expected to be published within one month and a half.

The result of 28th BCS written exam is likely to be published within this month and the viva voce of successful candidates of written exams to be started at the end of September.

The information was disclosed at a press conference organised by PSC at its hall room yesterday to inform the media about the recently held 29th BCS preliminary examination.

PSC member Brig Gen (ret'd) Abidur Reza Khan said, "We are expecting to publish the result of the 29th BCS preliminary exam within one month and a half."

He said as many as 1,09,876 candidates sat for the first-round exams in 92 centres across the country on August 14, vying for 1,581 posts, which may be increased.

"The preparation for publishing the results of the 28th BCS written examinations is underway and we expect the result to be published soon," the PSC member said.

He also said the commission is trying hard so that the circular of the 30th BCS for 2010 would be

issued within January 5-15 in 2010.

PSC Chairman Saadat Hussain said the preliminary exam was held fairly and nicely and under fair environment excepting some few problems.

Asked about allegations of some complexities in question paper in the preliminary exam, he said such kinds of little mistakes could be happened in such a huge scale of exams.

"We have found only three cases like this and we will put an advertisement in the newspapers soon asking the candidates to apply who faced such problems," he said, adding: "The commission (PSC), which acts as a recommending authority, must be careful in this regard so that the candidates will not be sufferers."

About the 27th BCS, he said they remain on their earlier

stand in this regard as no new directives came to the commission so far.

Regarding the government's initiative to appoint doctors on ad hoc basis, Saadat said they would be regularised by PSC.

Asked, the PSC chairman said, "We are trying hard to publish the result of 28th written exams by the end of this month."

Other PSC members were also present at the conference.

## Change of Address



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