

Aug 21 probe

FROM PAGE 16

Talking to The Daily Star, Additional Special Superintendent of Police Abdul Karim Akand of CID said, "We have talked to a number of former and present senior officials at the CID office in the last few days."

Asked, Akand who is investigating the case said many others might be grilled for the sake of the investigation but declined to name anyone.

Special Superintendent of Police Meer Shahidul Islam of CID-Metro on Tuesday said Rumi, Amin and Obaidur were quizzed separately as they showed up individually at the CID headquarters in Malibagh. They had earlier been summoned in connection with the August 21 case, he added.

Sources say former NSI DG Rezaul Haider Chowdhury, now detained in connection with Chittagong arms haul case, the then acting Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) commissioner SM Mizanur Rahman and some other intelligence officials might be summoned for questioning.

The sources add one of the top intelligence personnel

helped Maulana Tajuddin, brother of detained former BNP deputy minister Abdus Salam Pintu, to flee from the country.

Meanwhile, the investigation officer of the case, in connection with misleading the probe, ASP Rownakul Huq Chowdhury, told The Daily Star he would submit charge sheet once charges are pressed in the carnage case after fresh investigation.

He said he has already talked to the three former CID investigators who allegedly misled the investigation to save the real culprits hiding the truth during the BNP-Jamaat alliance government.

During the last caretaker government rule, CID launched a fresh investigation and pressed charges against Pintu, his brother and 20 others including Huqjiboss Mufti Hannan.

On August 3 last year, the court ordered the government for more investigation to unearth the sources of grenades and persons who worked behind it and following the court order, CID arrested former BNP state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar.

MUGGING BID
3 policemen suspended

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) authorities yesterday suspended three policemen including a sub-inspector (SI) and an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) on charge of attempting to snatch Tk 16.5 lakh from two employees of a mobile phone shop in the capital on Tuesday.

They are ASI Mainul Islam of Adabor Police Station, SI Rowshan Zamil of Kotwali Police Station and constable Saju of detective branch.

ASI Mainul who was caught red handed by the mob during the mugging attempt was placed on a one-day remand while police are looking for SI Rowshan Zamil and constable Saju as they went into hiding after the incident, police said.

Paltan police produced Mainul before the court seeking five days' remand and the court granted for one day.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) of police Khandaker Mahid Uddin of Motijheel zone told The Daily Star he has already sent a report to the DMP authorities with a recommendation for taking punitive actions against the three policemen. A case has been filed under the Speedy Trial Tribunal Act in this connection, he added.

Lalbagh zone DC Anwar Hossain said, "I have already suspended Kotwali Police Station SI Rowshan Zamil who is now on the run."

"SI Rowshan went on a sick leave two days before the incident," DC Anwar said adding, "He committed the crime when he was not on duty."

Paltan Police Station Officer-in-charge Mujibar Rahman said they are trying to arrest the fugitive policemen.

The three policemen along with another person attempted to snatch from the two employees at Culvert Road near Bijoynagar Water Tank on Tuesday afternoon when they were on the way to Kakrail by a rickshaw after withdrawing the money from Mutual Trust Bank at Motijheel.

Hearing their cry for help, pedestrians rushed in and caught ASI Mainul and gave him a thrashing. But other members of the gang managed to flee. Later, Mainul was handed over to police along with the money recovered from his possession.

Probe body

FROM PAGE 16

The incumbent High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, another Bangladeshi who also served as deputy high commissioner in Bangladesh, will take over his new assignment in Bangkok on completion of his tenure in Dhaka. He is likely to leave Dhaka next week.

Present Pakistan's High Commissioner to South Africa M Ashraf Qureshi has been designated as the new high commissioner to Bangladesh. He will join in Dhaka mission early next month. Qureshi will replace Alamgir Bashar Khan Babar.

The government of Sri Lanka is sending Sanath Viragoda to replace incumbent High Commissioner V Krishnamoorthy. Sources said political appointee Sanath Viragoda is most likely to join in Dhaka in the first quarter of January.

Victory Day

FROM PAGE 1

homage to three million martyrs in the War of Independence.

On this day in 1971, the nation under the leadership of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Rahman won victory over Pakistani occupation forces after nine months of bloodshed.

General AAK Niazi, chief of the Pakistani occupation forces, surrendered to the allied forces of Bangladesh and India at Suhrawardy Udyana in Dhaka on December 16 with 93,000 soldiers following their defeat in the war that broke out in March, 1971.

The day was a public holiday. The national flag was hoisted atop all government, semi-government and other important establishments. The day was heralded by a 31-gun salute at dawn.

The whole country was in a festive mood yesterday. The National Mausoleum at Savar drew people of all ages and religions.

Thoroughfares and road dividers were decorated with miniature flags and bunting while some government buildings were illuminated. Many vehicle owners also sported the flag on their automobiles.

President Zillur Rahman laid a wreath at the National Mausoleum to pay homage to the Liberation War martyrs. He stood there for a few moments in silence.

Ministers, advisers, deputy speaker, state ministers, chiefs of three services, diplomats, freedom fighters and senior civil and military officials, among others, were present on the occasion.

Leaders of different political parties including the ruling Awami League and main opposition BNP, different socio-cultural organisations, rights groups, professionals'

associations, educational institutions, and a cross-section of people placed wreaths at the mausoleum.

The president later inaugurated the Victory Day rally and parade of children and juveniles at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the city.

In the afternoon, President Zillur Rahman hosted a reception at Bangabhaban where he exchanged greetings with wounded freedom fighters, war heroes, cabinet members, advisers, foreign diplomats, chiefs of three forces, political leaders, top civil and military officials and other eminent personalities.

To mark the occasion, newspapers published special supplements; television channels broadcast talk shows, cultural programmes and dramas.

Special prayers for martyrs were offered in the mosques, temples and churches.

New envoys

FROM PAGE 16

The incumbent High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, another Bangladeshi who also served as deputy high commissioner in Bangladesh, will take over his new assignment in Bangkok on completion of his tenure in Dhaka. He is likely to leave Dhaka next week.

Present Pakistan's High Commissioner to South Africa M Ashraf Qureshi has been designated as the new high commissioner to Bangladesh. He will join in Dhaka mission early next month. Qureshi will replace Alamgir Bashar Khan Babar.

The government of Sri Lanka is sending Sanath Viragoda to replace incumbent High Commissioner V Krishnamoorthy. Sources said political appointee Sanath Viragoda is most likely to join in Dhaka in the first quarter of January.

Poor must get

FROM PAGE 1

"Time is now for collective wisdom and right decisions for a greener, habitable world. Let's not forget that posterity would judge us for the choices we make here, and the world we leave behind for our future generations."

Regarding the fund, she said disbursement of the fund must take into account the extent of vulnerability to climate change, the size of population exposed to risk, adaptation initiatives by countries concerned.

"Adaptation funding must be at least 1.5 percent of GDP of the developed countries, separate from ODA as stipulated in the Brussels Program of Action," the PM said.

Inability to take correct and immediate decisions here would result in topographical changes, food and water insecurity, health hazards, and mass movements of people, the PM said.

Hasina also called for taking immediate actions by all nations on the basis of the Bali Action Plan on sustainable development for survival to face the challenges of the climate change.

She further stressed that developed countries must also allow transfer of eco-friendly technology, particularly the MVCs and LDCs at affordable costs.

Hasina in her speech said an International Centre for Adaptation, Research and Training under UNFCCC is also needed to be set up for bolstering capabilities through shared experiences on adaptation.

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction has ranked Bangladesh as the most vulnerable country to floods, third most to tsunami, and sixth most to cyclones in terms of human exposure, the PM said.

She told the summit that it is estimated that a meter rise in sea level due to global warming would inundate 18 percent of Bangladesh land mass, create 20 million climate refugees with 40 million more losing their livelihood by 2050.

In fact, she said, scientific estimates indicate a billion people would be displaced all over the world by 2050 by climate change.

Hasina in front of the global leaders also presented Bangladesh's present government's various plans to save the country's people from the climate change calamities.

The Bangladesh premier urged the global leaders to stand by Bangladesh with financial and technological assistances, as these programmes would entail huge funds.

During their probe, the committee members visited the scene for several times and took interviews of several hundred witnesses, including garment workers and members of the law enforcement agencies.

No headway

FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile, President of the UN climate change conference in Copenhagen Connie Hedegaard resigned yesterday following clashes between demonstrators and police outside the summit venue Bella Centre. Hedegaard is to be replaced by the Danish premier.

"With so many heads of state and government having arrived, it's appropriate that the prime minister of Denmark presides," Hedegaard told The Daily Star that he does not know what is going to happen here.

Asked how the negotiation process is going on, Indian Environment Minister Jai Ram Ramesh yesterday told The Daily Star that he does not know what is going to happen here.

OPENING SESSION OF HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

Bangladesh was again mentioned in the speeches delivered at the opening session of the high-level segment.

South Korean officials in charge of nuclear negotiations were not immediately available for comment.

Bosworth went to North Korea to try persuading the regime to return to disarmament talks also involving South Korea, Russia, China and Japan.

The closely watched talks were the Obama administration's first with Pyongyang since the US president took office in January.

Bosworth said North Korea agreed on the need to resume the talks but did not make a firm commitment on when it would rejoin the negotiations.

After the opening session, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at a press conference said the negotiations are now at a very critical stage but they are hopeful the world leaders will reach an agreement.

However, Pyongyang walked away from the talks this year in anger over UN Security Council condemnation of a rocket launch widely seen as a test of its long-range missile technology.

The UN Security Council tightened sanctions in June after North Korea conducted an underground nuclear test, its second, in defiance of an earlier ban.

The sanctions, aimed at derailing North Korea's nuclear weapons program, ban the country from developing its nuclear program and selling conventional arms.

During his three-day visit, Bosworth did not meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il. However, he relayed a personal letter from Obama to the reclusive Kim, a senior State Department official said Tuesday in Washington.

Connie Hedegaard said, "For years, the disagreement held us back. Let's get it done. Let's make the differences into decision."

UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer said, "The next three days is our chance...We have a chance, a real chance, to change the history."

The prince of Wales said, "The mankind had the power to push the world to the brink, so do we have the power to bring it back into the balance?"

Prof Wangari Maathai, the noble peace prize winner of 2004, in her speech urged world leaders to be responsible not to the present mankind but to the not-yet-born future generations.

Earlier, the UNFCCC executive secretary warned that negotiations were progressing very slowly and that there was still an "enormous amount of work to be done".

Delegates have been discussing details of a new draft text ahead of the start of the high-level segment.

The world leaders started arriving in Copenhagen to attend the last session of the UN climate talks where the world is expecting a new protocol to be signed on Friday.

The talks stalled and the plenary sessions adjourned last week several times as none of the coalitions are eager to move from their positions on reducing CO2 emissions.

He observed that police should have used more rubber bullets and opted for other means like baton charges and using teargas canister to disperse the angry mob to reduce the number of casualties.

The committee, formed at a meeting at the home ministry on November 1, is now set to submit its report today after missing two deadlines--first on November 15 and the second on December 14.

The report is ready...hopefully we are going to submit it on Thursday," said a deputy secretary of the home ministry who is also a member of the probe body.

A set of recommendations for government's consideration to check unrest in apparel industry has been made in the report, sources said.

Earlier on Sunday head of the committee and Labour Secretary Ataharul Islam said they had completed their investigation to submit report in a day or two.

The committee comprises representatives from the home ministry, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BGMEA), Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BKMEA) and workers.

During their probe, the committee members visited the scene for several times and took interviews of several hundred witnesses, including garment workers and members of the law enforcement agencies.

A case was filed on that very day with Keraniganj Police Station in this connection but none was arrested yet, said police.

N Korea presses for lifting of UN sanctions

AP, Seoul

\$200 billion annually from the developed nations to battle climate change, but the developed nations have offered \$10 billion from next year and refused to make any commitment for a long-term mandatory financial mechanism.

The current big polluters like India and China are not ready to cut their emission level.

Asked how the negotiation process is going on, Indian Environment Minister Jai Ram Ramesh yesterday told The Daily Star that he does not know what is going to happen here.

OPENING SESSION OF HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

Bangladesh was again mentioned in the speeches delivered at the opening session of the high-level segment.

South Korean officials in charge of nuclear negotiations were not immediately available for comment.

North Korean officials conveyed the message to Stephen Bosworth, President Barack Obama's envoy on North Korea, during the diplomat's trip to Pyongyang last week for high-level talks, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported, citing an unidentified diplomatic source.

South Korean officials in charge of nuclear negotiations were not immediately available for comment.

Bosworth went to North Korea to try persuading the regime to return to disarmament talks also involving South Korea, Russia, China and Japan.

The closely watched talks were the Obama administration's first with Pyongyang since the US president took office in January.

Bosworth said North Korea agreed on the need to resume the talks but did not make a firm commitment on when it would rejoin the negotiations.

After the opening session, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at a press conference said the negotiations are now at a very critical stage but they are hopeful the world leaders will reach an agreement.

Connie Hedegaard said, "For years, the disagreement held us back. Let's get it done. Let's make the differences into decision."

However, Pyongyang walked away from the talks this year in anger over UN Security Council condemnation of a rocket launch widely seen as a test of its long-range missile technology.

The closely watched talks were the Obama administration's first with Pyongyang since the US president took office in January.

After the opening session, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at a press conference said the negotiations are now at a very critical stage but they are hopeful the world leaders will reach an agreement.

Connie Hedegaard said, "For years, the disagreement held us back. Let's get it done. Let's make the differences into decision."

However, Pyongyang walked away from the talks this year in anger over UN Security Council condemnation of a rocket launch widely seen as a test of its long-range missile technology.

The closely watched talks were the Obama administration's first with Pyongyang since the US president took office in January.

After the opening session, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at a press conference said the negotiations are now at a very critical stage but they are hopeful the world leaders will reach an agreement.

Connie Hedegaard said, "For years, the disagreement held us back. Let's get it done. Let's make the differences into decision."

However, Pyongyang walked away from the talks this year in anger over UN Security Council condemnation of a rocket launch widely seen as a test of its long-range missile technology.

The closely watched talks were the Obama administration's first with Pyongyang since the US president took office in January.

</