

PILKHANA MUTINY TRIAL

All BDR jawans except one claim themselves innocent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One BDR jawan of signal sector of BDR headquarters accused of the mutiny, out of 187, yesterday pleaded guilty in the special court to the mutiny while the rest claimed themselves innocent.

The Special Court-8 headed by BDR Deputy Director General Brig Gen Obaidul Haque asked all on the dock whether they are guilty or not when Lance Nayek (signal) Mohammad Iman Ali pleaded guilty.

The charges brought against him is: Iman Ali was present at the unit but he did not take any step "willingly" to prevent mutineers or inform any superior about the situation of the Pilkhana on February 25-26 in 2009.

Iman Ali said, "I admit the guilt except the word willingness." The court accepted his plea. He was then separated from other mutineers and freed from handcuff.

Earlier, the court read out individual charges against 137 suspected mutineers of the sector after resuming its trial around 9:00am. On Sunday, it read out charges against the 50 jawans. It also framed charges against the 187 accused mutineers on the day.

The charges include leaving the Darbar Hall defying the orders of then director general Maj Gen Shakil Ahmed, taking part in the mutiny, not informing the higher authorities about the mutiny and collecting arms and ammunition from the armouries.

All the accused were produced before the court before beginning of the day's trial.

The court set up at Darbar Hall in Pilkhana adjourned its proceedings till January 4 next year. The court also asked the prosecutor, Major Mohammad Ahsan Habib, to produce the witnesses before the court on the day.

A total of 74 people, including 57 army officers, were killed during the February 25-26 mutiny last year.

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one step ahead/PA082/2010

'Crossfire, shootout violence by state'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Ganatantrik Baam Morcha yesterday at a meeting said the government violated its election pledges by not playing its role in preventing

extra-judicial killings.

Speaking at their central executive committee meeting, they termed the so-called 'crossfire' and 'encounters' as violence carried out by the state.

Speakers added that extra-

judicial killings should not continue in a civilised county especially when there is a constitution and established judicial system.

They also pointed out that no matter how heinous the crime is, justice should have

effect through the judicial system, says a press release.

Central committee members Tipu Biswas, Saiful Haque, Rajekuzzaman Ratan, Hamidul Haque and Mosharraf Hossain Nannu spoke among others.

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