

'Stop filling Dumini canal'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Poli Sheva Society (PSS) and Green Mind Society yesterday demanded immediate steps to stop filling Dumini-Boulmari Khal (canal) in Dumini Union under Khilkhet Police Station by encroachers.

PSS and the society leaders, at a token eviction drive on Dumini canal held in front of National Press Club in the city, said a land grabbing organisation has been filling Dumini canal for the last few days, violating a High Court (HC) order.

HC on January 9 ordered a stop to filling Dumini canal with earth fol-

lowing a writ petition, says a press release.

The HC also directed Dhaka District Administration, Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner and officers-in-charge of Khilkhet Police Station to take proper steps in this regard.

Referring Dumini canal as the lifeline of Dumini Union as several thousand people's livelihood is based on it, the leaders said the land grabbers were grabbing parts of the canal since long and now are trying to grab it completely.

Farmers cannot irrigate due to

scarcity of water resulting from the land filling, leaving several thousand people jobless, they said.

Leaders also said once the government fails to save Dhaka's rivers and canals, it would become inhospitable.

PSS Executive Director KM Rokibul Islam Ripon, the society President Amir Hossain, Unnayan Dhara Trust Member Secretary Aminur Rasul, Campaign for Development Organisation Secretary Utpal Das and Shammilita Joladhar Rokhya Andolon Member Secretary Syed Saiful Alam were also present at the programme.

BIWTA official confesses crime
COURT CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) assistant accounts officer SM Abdus Salam yesterday confessed to his involvement with embezzling about Tk 25 crore from contributory provident fund.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Ismail Hossain recorded Salam's confessional statement after Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Assistant Director Benzir Ahmed produced accused on completion of his two-day remand.

BANGABANDHU MURDER CASE

6 fugitive killers to face trial soon: Shafique

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday expressed hope that six fugitive convicted killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman will be brought back to Bangladesh for trial within this year as the government made some progress in this regard.

The absconding convicts are Khandaker Abdur Rashid, Shariful Haque Dalim, SHMB Nur Chowdhury, AM Rashed Chowdhury, Abdul Mazed and Moslemuddin.

The government traced the fugitives and

the ministries of home and foreign affairs are working for their return through diplomatic channels, he told reporters at his secretariat office.

Shafique was speaking at a press briefing after a meeting with a taskforce constituted to bring back the fugitives. Home Minister Shahara Khatun, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam, Attorney General Mahbey Alam and Inspector General of Police Hassan Mahmood Khandker were present.

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Jamaat trio's plea rejected

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected a plea of three Jamaat-e-Islami leaders, including its Ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami, for dismissal of a case filed against them for hurting religious sentiment of Muslims.

Two others are Jamaat Secretary General Ali Ahsan Muhammad Mojahid and its Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayeede.

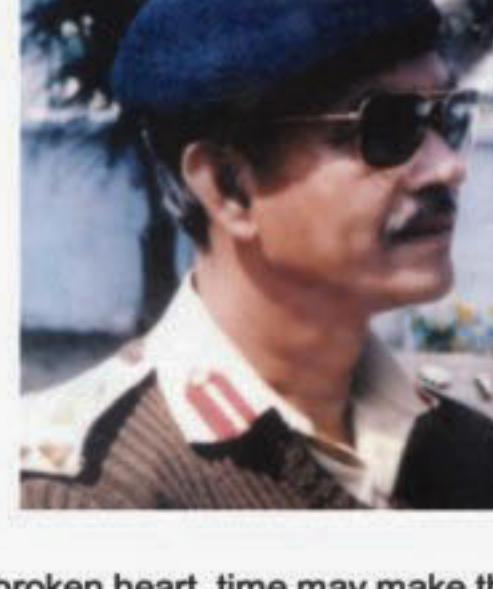
Metropolitan Magistrate AEM Ismail Hossain passed the order after their lawyer submitted a petition saying that the complainant of the case has been absent from the court on three consecutive dates.

Two more accused in the case, Dhaka City Jamaat Ameer Rafiqul Islam Khan and city Islami Chhatra Shibir President ASMY Yahia were absent yesterday.

Nizami, Mojahid and Sayeede were produced before the court during the hearing.

Brigadier General (Rtd) T.U.M. Iftekharul Bashar

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