

CASE AGAINST SANVIR
Charge framing
hearing Jan 25

COURT CORRESPONDENT
A Dhaka court yesterday deferred till January 25 the hearing on charge framing against Bashundhara Group chairman's son Shafiat Sobhan Sanvir and four others in a murder case. Judge Mohammad Rezaul Islam of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-4 passed the order following a time petition submitted on behalf of two of the five accused in Humayun Kabir Sabbir killing case. Of the accused, Sanvir, son of Bashundhara Group Chairman Ahmed Akbar Sobhan Shah Alam, and security guards of Sabbir's house Nure Alam and Humayun Kabir have been fugitive since filing of the case. Sanvir's bodyguards Khairul Hassan Ujjal and Shamsuddin Ahmed, now on bail, appeared before the court yesterday and submitted a petition seeking time. According to lawyers, Ujjal and Shamsuddin in the petition prayed for an adjournment of the hearing, as they were not prepared to take part in the hearing. On the other hand, the prosecution was ready for hearing on charge framing against the accused. The same court on January 10 issued arrest warrants against Sanvir and the two security guards in the case. Sabbir, a director of Bashundhara Telecommunications Network Ltd, was brutally killed on July 5, 2006. His body was found outside a building in Gulshan in the city.

Prime minister for more empowerment of women



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina speaks at the inaugural function of a symposium titled "Imagining another future for Asia: Ideas and pathways for change" organised by Asian University for Women at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the city yesterday.

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed her firm conviction to take necessary steps in ensuring overall environment conducive to women's empowerment and advancement through providing them proper education.

"Lack of education and access to knowledge is the greatest detriment for progress," she said while addressing a symposium titled "Imagining another Future for Asia: Ideas and Pathways for Change."

Asian University for Women (AUW) has organised the three-day symposium at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

The premier said there is no alternative to education for all to expedite the forward march of a nation. By educating women, she said, the society can overcome any discrimination against them and lay the groundwork for their further progress.

Bangladesh always rejects the yoke of inequality between men and women as it believes that an unequal society can never yield full liberty, Hasina said.

"Education is both evidence of success in fighting discrimination as well as an instrument for fighting it," she added.

Referring to her government's steps in empowering womenfolk, she mentioned that for the first time in the history Bangladesh has so many women ministers in the cabinet.

Apart from 45 women in the reserved seats in parliament, she said 19 women have directly been elected as members of parliament and 30 percent women representation at all tiers of local government bodies from union council to city corporation has been ensured.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the Asian University for Women will play an important role in the transformation of not only Bangladesh but also the whole region.

She assured the gathering that her government will extend all necessary support to make the Asian University for women "our

pride in the best possible way." "We will not leave any stone unturned for development of the university in the days to come," she added.

She expressed the hope that students of this university receiving proper education will eradicate the darkness of ignorance that has been hindering the forward march of most of the societies in the region.

Addressing the symposium, former First Lady of Britain Cherie Blair said a large number of people in the Asian region are now living under abject poverty although this region has achieved significant development in science, technology and economic sectors in the last century.

People's rights to education are still absent in the region, she said and cautioned that it may cause huge devastation in society if the talent of women is not properly taken into cognizance.

Former First Lady of Japan Akie Abe called upon all concerned to make the best use of the ability of womenfolk for building a peaceful and poverty-free modern Asia. In this context, she said only education can help women to play a due role in their political and economic empowerment.

Appreciating women education, their development and empowerment in Bangladesh, she said this country could be a role model for other Asian countries in women empowerment.

Malaysian First Lady Rosmah Mansor said women's empowerment help them in decision-making programmes. Only education can help empower the women, she added.

In the function, former First Lady of Britain Cherie Blair was awarded the prestigious "Chancellor Award" and human rights activist of Kuwait Lulwa Al Mulla received the Asian University Award.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, Founder and Chief Executive of the university Kamal Ahmed and Chairman of Board of Directors Jack R Meyer, among others, spoke on the occasion.



PHOTO: PID

'Equitable growth challenge for Asia'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ensuring equitable economic growth and protecting the environment will be the most crucial challenges facing the Asian countries in the coming years, acclaimed academics said at a symposium yesterday.

Policymakers must come up with strategies from a new angle, unlike the traditional approach to growth which is not sustainable, they said at a symposium titled "Imagining Another Future for Asia: Ideas and Pathways for Change".

"We need economic growth which has to be equitable, affordable and sustainable," said Sunita Narain, director of Centre for Science and Environment, India while speaking at the session organised by Asian University for Women (AUW) at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital.

She suggested renewable energy as a key to production, saying "We can grow but not at the cost of polluting the planet."

"Can we not try taking rickshaws and buses for mobility, instead of cars?" she asked.

Identifying rising food and oil prices as the major upcoming issues, she said extreme climate conditions could have huge impact on agriculture.

Stressing on mass education, Sugata Bose, a professor of Harvard University said demographic dividend could turn into disaster in densely populated Asian countries like Bangladesh, unless the young population is provided education.

Kathy Matsui, member of the board of directors of AUW Support Fund, said booming population would be one of the major concerns in countries like Bangladesh, China and India.

"However, inequality in terms of gender, education and income are still widespread here" Kathy added.

Martin Wolf, associate editor of The Financial Times said it is wiser to think on a global context rather than on a regional context.

Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration of the Harvard Business School William Kirby and Beximco Group Deputy Chairman Salman F Rahman also spoke at the session.

98pc power demand to be met in 2-yr: Ashraf

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

LGRD Minister Syed Ashraf Islam yesterday said 98 percent of the country's electricity demand will be satisfied within the next two years.

The government has already taken initiatives to increase power production, he said.

Syed Ashraf yesterday inaugurated Chittagong Apparel and Accessories Exposition (CAFAXPO)-2011 in the port city.

First vice-president of BGMEA Nasir Uddin urged the government to give more support to garment sector.

Awami League lawmaker Akhtaruzzaman and Chittagong City Corporation Mayor Manjur Alam also spoke.

27 books for secondary level approved

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday approved 27 supplementary books on 11 subjects for secondary-level students of the current academic session.

The National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) will issue a gazette notification within three to four days and ask the students from class VI to IX to buy these books, said NCTB officials.

"We will soon issue a gazette notification on the approved books after fixing their prices. The publishers concerned will sell those to the market at the government rate," said NCTB Chairman Prof Mostofa Kamal Uddin.

These books are appropriate for the secondary-level students as they had been examined and scrutinised by Independent Evaluation Committee (ITEC) that is comprised of noted educationists and experts, he added.

The supplementary books were approved in an ITEC meeting at Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DSHE).

The government approves supplementary books such as English grammar and composition, Bangla Bakoron (Bangla grammar) and Rapid Reader for the secondary level every year.

The students of class VI, VII and VIII read English Grammar and Composition, Bangla Bakoron and Rapid Reader while the students of class IX and X English Grammar and Composition and Bangla Bakoron.

VIOLENCE AGAINST MINORITY HC asks govt to show its measures

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to submit a report on the steps that the government has taken over the torture of and violence against minority people of Shaikupa in Jhenidah district to this court by January 26.

An HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain ordered the deputy commissioner (DC) and superintendent of police (SP) of Jhenidah to place the report.

The HC order followed a writ petition filed by Bangladesh Human Rights Foundation (BHRF) on January 19 as a public interest litigation. Earlier, newspapers reported the torture and violence after election to Shaikupa municipality on January 13.

ইনোভেটিভ পূর্বাচল ইষ্ট উড সিটি'র পুট বরাদ্দ লটারী সম্পন্ন

আমারা আনন্দের সাথে জানাচ্ছি যে, গত ২০ জানু'১১ হোটেল রেডিসন এ এক আড়ম্বরপূর্ণ অনুষ্ঠানে লটারীর মাধ্যমে সম্মানিত জেতারদের মধ্যে পুট বরাদ্দ করা হয়। অনুষ্ঠানে বিপুল সংখ্যক পুট গ্রহিতা উপস্থিত ছিলেন। লটারী অনুষ্ঠানে ইনোভেটিভ হেভিটস লিঃ এর মাননীয় চেয়ারম্যান জনাব মোহাম্মদ কামাল উদ্দিন স্বাগত জানান। কানাডিয়ান ইন্টারন্যাশনাল স্কুলের প্রিন্সিপ্যাল মিঃ মাইক পূর্বাচল ইষ্ট উড সিটিতে স্কুলের নামে বরাদ্দকৃত ৫০ বিঘা জমিতে অদূর ভবিষ্যতে একটি আন্তর্জাতিক মানের ক্যাম্পাস নির্মাণের প্রত্যয় ঘোষণা করেন এবং মিসেস শিরীন জাহান ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন করেন। পুট গ্রহীতাগণ মাত্র ৬ (ছয়) মাসের মধ্যে লটারী সম্পন্ন করায় এ প্রকল্পের উন্নয়নে সন্তোষ প্রকাশ করেন। নিম্নে লটারীতে পুট বরাদ্দ প্রাপ্তদের নামের তালিকা প্রকাশ করা হলো :

সর্ব জনাব মোঃ আবু সোয়াইব	মোঃ আশরাফুল আলম	নাসিমা বেগম
মোঃ তোবারক হোসেন	তাসনিম জাহান	ডাঃ আজিজুর রহমান জোয়ার্দার
কাজী ইসরাত জাহান	মাসুদ আহমেদ খান	অরুণ কুমার সিংহ
অজিত কুমার সাহা	ইকবাল হায়দার	কে, এম খালিদ তৈমুর রানা
মনোয়ার আলম চৌধুরী	কাজী সাইফুদ্দিন পারভেজ	মোঃ লিয়াকত আলি সবুজ
মোঃ রাকিবুল হাসান	মিসেস হোসেন আরা	মোঃ তোহিদুল হক
চন্দনপুর ইনসার্ফ কোং	এস,এম আকলাকুর রহমান	চৌধুরী মনিরুল ইসলাম
ইঞ্জিনিয়ার অসিম কাব্বি রায়	মোঃ কামাল হোসেন	ডাঃ ভবানী প্রসাদ রায়
মোঃ আনাম উল্লাহ	সুমন কাব্বি দেব	ডাঃ ওমর ইবনে ফায়জুর রহমান
মাহবুবুর রহমান	এ, এম, অনজু জোয়ার্দার	ডাঃ ওমর ইবনে ফায়জুর রহমান
মোঃ লিয়াকত আলি	মোঃ মাহবুব আলম	ডাঃ জারিয়াতুল করিম
মোঃ আমির উল হাসান	মেজর মোঃ আব্দুল্লাহ আল হুসাইন	মোঃ জসিম উদ্দিন
মোঃ নজরুল কাদের নাজিম	মেজর মোঃ এনালাু করিম	সরোয়ার কামাল পাশা
মোঃ রাশেদুজ্জামান	এহসানুল হক	সরোয়ার কামাল পাশা
তোহিদুল আলম	হুদয় নদিদাত হুদি	মিসেস রেখা শরীফ
তোহিদুল আলম	নুসরাত বানু	আশরাফ আলী খান
মোঃ আবু সুফিয়ন	ফারাহ নাগিত কাব্বি	কিরনুয় বড়ুয়া
মোঃ নঈম ইকবাল	সারোয়ার কামাল পাশা	হুদয় নদিদাত হুদি
মোঃ হুমায়ন কবির	সারোয়ার কামাল পাশা	মোঃ এমদাদুর রহমান
মোহাসিনা বেগম	মোঃ সমশের আলী	মোঃ শরীফ উদ্দিন
মোঃ ইলিয়াস আহমেদ	আশিক মাহমুদ	জুননাহার চৌধুরী
মোঃ আব্দুর রহিম	নারায়ন চন্দ্র দেব	জু উন নাহার চৌধুরী
মোঃ সাইফুল ইসলাম	মোঃ আবু সোহেব	সায়রা জেবীন
বেগম ফাতেমা রশিদ	ডাঃ বিলকিস আরা বেগম	মোহাম্মদুল কবির মজুমদার
মিসেস দিলরুবা রশিদ	ইরিন নাহার	এ, টি, এম নূরে আলম
শিমুল চৌধুরী	ইঞ্জিনিয়ার এ,কে,এম সামছুল হুদা খান	নূর রহমান আজমী
মোঃ রাকিবুল ইসলাম	অশোক সরকার	মির্জা নাহিদুর রহমান
	দোলন কাব্বি বড়ুয়া	ইন্দিরা বড়ুয়া

DHAKA TODAY

Human chain
Bangabandhu Sanskritik Jote will form a human chain. Venue: In front of National Press Club, Time: 11:00am.

Conference
BSMMU will arrange an international conference. Venue: Sheraton hotel, Time: 9:00am.

Human chain
Jatiya Nagorik Samaj will form a human chain. Venue: In front of National Press Club, Time: 10:30am.

Musicevening
High Commission of India will organise a Rabindra sangeet evening. Venue: Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Gulshan-1, Time: 6:30pm.

Symposium
Asian University for Women will arrange a symposium. Venue: Radisson hotel, Time: 8:00pm.

Human chain
Bangladesh National Awami Party will form a human chain. Venue: In front of National Press Club, Time: 11:00am.

Photo exhibition
A photo exhibition by Stephan Rabold will be held. Venue: German Cultural

Know Bangladesh Better

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Ruby Ghuznavi & Revival of Natural Dyes

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