

Nur not innocent

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reported statement of Nur Chowdhury "false" and "unacceptable". The government is trying to bring back all the six fugitive killers of Bangabandhu, including Nur Chowdhury, through diplomatic channels to put them on trial, Law Minister Shafique Ahmed told The Daily Star.

Nur told the CBC interview aired on February 28 that he filed a petition to a Canadian court so that he is not extradited.

He is trying to get refugee protection in Canada and is currently living in Toronto under a deportation order, the CBC radio reports.

Nur was a member of the killing squad that stormed into the house of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on Road 32 in Dhanmondi on August 15, 1975.

The Supreme Court on November 19, 2009 upheld a

High Court verdict that affirmed the trial court judgement, which sentenced Nur, along with 11 others, to death.

In the verdict, the apex court also convicted Nur as the lone shooter who killed Bangabandhu.

Nur, a former lieutenant colonel of Bangladesh army, has been absconding since the day the case was filed on October 2, 1996 for assassinating Sheikh Mujib and his family.

The law minister yesterday termed Nur's appeal not to deport him to Bangladesh as "totally unacceptable" and expressed the hope that the Canadian court will dismiss it.

"As far as we know he is trying to get Canadian citizenship and has recently filed a petition to a Canadian court not to deport him to Bangladesh. In the petition, he said he would be executed if the Canadian

authorities extradite him," the minister said.

Mentioning the Canadian law is against the refugee-seekers who ask for shelter after committing atrocious crimes, Shafique said, "We are hopeful that the court will dismiss his petition eventually after considering his past record of committing such heinous crime and observing fair trial procedures, accepted globally, in the case."

The law minister also expressed concern saying that other convicted fugitives of the case might take such initiatives to save their lives.

Shafique said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina would go to Canada next month, but he did not say whether she would settle the matter of bringing Nur Chowdhury to Bangladesh.

The five other fugitives are Lt Col Khandaker Abdur Rashid, Lt Col Shariful Haque Dalim, Lt Col AM Rashed Chowdhury, Capt

Abdul Mazed and Risaldar Mosleuddin Khan. The other convict Lt Col Abdul Aziz Pasha died in Zimbabwe in June 2001 where he took political asylum.

Anisul Huq, principal state counsel in the Bangabandhu assassination case, told The Daily Star that the Court of District and Sessions Judge had found proof of Nur Chowdhury's involvement in the killing of Bangabandhu and most of his family members.

The HC in a complete scrutiny of the evidence of record found him guilty, and thereafter the Appellate Division also gave a judgement wherein Nur Chowdhury and 11 other accused were found guilty.

Anisul Huq said at this point Nur's statement is ridiculous, adding, he could have appeared before the court and claimed his innocence.

The very fact that he has been absconding for so long

proves his guilt, he said, adding, his statement made in the interview is false and travesty of truth.

"In my opinion he is a liar. According to the evidence and record, he is the killer of Bangabandhu," the counsel added.

Quoting the statements of the witnesses of the case, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said Nur Chowdhury had fired at Bangabandhu on the stairs of the house on Road 32 in Dhanmondi.

"After killing Bangabandhu on August 15, 1975, Nur Chowdhury told LD Bashir Ahmed, who was also a witness in this case, that he [Nur] fired at Bangabandhu by a stengun," he said.

He added Nur Chowdhury and Aziz Pasha were the most heinous of all the killers of Bangabandhu, as Aziz opened fire on women of his family that night.

All eyes on HC

FROM PAGE 1
General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star yesterday.

Yunus, who founded Grameen Bank three decades ago, went to the court on Thursday, and challenged a directive of the central bank that arbitrarily and unceremoniously removed him from Grameen without serving any show cause notice, said Yunus' counsels.

The court set Sunday for a verdict on the petition of Yunus, who maintains that he had been appointed to the post in line with the laws that govern the bank -- a sharp contrast to the claims of the central bank and the government.

Nine directors of the microfinance institution jointly filed another writ petition with the High Court, challenging the legality of Yunus' removal.

Meantime, the main opposition BNP demanded withdrawal of the government decision to remove the microcredit pioneer from Grameen.

The government decision has angered Yunus' well-wishers as well as thousands of Grameen borrowers and depositors, and the international community.

The government on Thursday clarified its stance on Yunus and Grameen Bank to diplomats and representatives of Bangladesh's development partners, who seemed unconvinced by its arguments.

US Ambassador James F Moriarty did not hold back his country's concern after his meeting with Finance Minister AMA Muhith on Thursday.

Senator John Kerry, chairman of the United States senate committee on foreign relations, has also expressed concern over Yunus' removal from Grameen. He said the international community would keep a close eye on the situation.

Friends of Grameen, an international effort to save Yunus and Grameen Bank, has accused the government of plotting to take over the organisation that has 83 lakh borrowers in Bangladesh alone. Former Irish President Mary Robinson leads the effort.

Meanwhile, BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir demanded the government scrap its decision to remove Muhammad Yunus from the post of Grameen Bank managing director.

He termed the government move a blow to the rural people trying hard to change their lot by taking microcredits from the Bank.

Fakhrul was speaking at a human chain arranged in protest at Yunus's dismissal as the microfinance institution head. The 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner was relieved of his duties through a Bangladesh Bank letter on Wednesday.

Jatiya Ganotantrik Party (Jagpa) Chhatra League organised the event in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

Fakhrul Islam said Dr Muhammad Yunus himself is an institution who won Nobel Prize as he pioneered micro-credit, now acclaimed worldwide. He called the dismissal politically motivated.

He alleged the government is destroying all institutions of the country. They [the government] had looted a huge amount of money through share market scam. Even the country's security system was hit hard by BDR mutiny.

Jagpa President Shafiul Alam Prodhhan said Awami League also insulted great leaders like Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani and Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haque in its earlier tenure.

He said the government had "removed" Yunus only to establish Indian supremacy over the country.

Speakers at a seminar in Chittagong threatened to go for a massive movement to protest the decision to remove Yunus from Grameen.

Hossain Zillur Rahman, former adviser to a caretaker government, and other speakers accused the government of tarnishing the image of the Nobel laureate and the country.

The whole world came to know about Bangladesh through the achievements of Prof Yunus, Zillur told the audience at Chittagong Zila Parishad auditorium.

"Prof Yunus is being denied now. We will not accept it."

Salauddin Kashem Khan, trustee secretary of AK Khan Foundation, Saifuzzaman Chowdhury Javed, former president of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), MA Salam, former senior vice-president of CCCI, and SM Abu Taiyab, club president of Chittagong, also spoke.

Chittagong City BNP President Ameer Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury at a roundtable said they would launch a movement to protest Yunus' removal. Chattagram Unnayan Andolan, a pro-opposition forum, organised the roundtable in the port city.

Grameen staff and borrowers with the masses formed human chains in upazila and district headquarters across the country to protest Yunus' removal from Grameen.

The human chains and protests were staged peacefully, report our correspondents.

In Lalmonirhat, human chains were formed at Aditmari, Hatibandha and Patgram upazilas as well as along the Lalmonirhat-Burimari highway.

Grameen members, borrowers and staff with people from all walks of life took part in the human chains and demanded the government review its decision, and allow Yunus to run Grameen for the sake of the poor.

Several hundred people formed a human chain and marched in Dinajpur demanding Yunus' reinstatement in the post of managing director of Grameen. Tasmira Begum, a borrower of Dinajpur Grameen Bank unit, handed over a memorandum to the Dinajpur deputy commissioner.

Grameen employees formed a human-chain at Sapath Chatter in Chandpur and urged the government to cancel its decision.

Grameen borrowers and staff organised human chains also in other districts including Narayanganj, Narsingdi, Narail, Panchagarh, Brahmanbaria, Thakurgaon, Khagrachhari, Rangpur and Sirajganj.

Yahya's call, Tikka Khan's

FROM PAGE 1
background of the pressure he was under from his party and the students. Senior leaders of the party met at Bangabandhu's Dhanmondi 32 residence to weigh the pros and cons of what he would be stating on March 7. Meanwhile, East Pakistan was being administered through a series of directives from the Awami League. These directives were made public on behalf of the party by the party general secretary general Tajuddin Ahmed.

Employees of state and private organisations had by March 6 demonstrated complete allegiance to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Dhaka station of Radio Pakistan had already been calling itself Dhaka Betar since March 5. It planned to broadcast live Bangabandhu's address at the Race Course on March 7.

On the day, President

Yahya Khan went on the national hook-up in Rawalpindi again, this time to announce a convening of the National Assembly in Dhaka on March 25. He and the rest of the regime were obviously concerned that unless such a move was made, the possibility of Mujib's declaring independence for Bangladesh the next day would become all the greater. However, in the course of his address, General Yahya Khan sounded indignant and clearly seemed to be pinning the blame for the crisis on the Awami League. He noted that his efforts to call a round table conference on March 10 had not been accepted. And he made it clear, in what sounded like a threat, that as long as he was in charge, the Pakistan armed forces would do everything in their power to uphold the integrity and solidarity of

Pakistan. The speech predictably did not go down well in East Pakistan.

A significant development of the day was the appointment of Lt. General Tikka Khan, infamous as the Butcher of Baluchistan for his murderous operations against Baluch tribals in the early 1960s, as governor of East Pakistan. He would also be functioning as martial law administrator, zone B. The move came following the departure, in quick succession, of Admiral S.M. Ahsan from the position of governor and Lt. Gen. Sahibzada Yaqub Khan from the position of martial law administrator, zone B. Tikka Khan's efforts to be sworn in as governor would be thwarted by Chief Justice B.A. Siddiky's refusal to administer the oath of office to him against the background of an intensifying nationalist movement in Bangladesh.

China acknowledges 'great resentment'

Vows to meet public demands

AFP, Beijing

Premier Wen Jiabao yesterday acknowledged "great resentment" in China over growing income disparity, corruption and other problems, and vowed his government would work harder to meet public demands.

In a "state of the nation" speech opening the annual 10-day session of the nation's rubber-stamp parliament, Wen admitted his government had "not yet fundamentally solved a number of issues that the masses feel strongly about."

These included high consumer and housing prices, "significant problems concerning food safety and rampant corruption", and people being illegally

kicked off their land to make way for unrestrained property development.

China will "effectively solve problems that cause great resentment among the masses," Wen told the NPC's nearly 3,000 delegates in his two-hour address at the Great Hall of the People in the heart of Beijing.

"We must therefore have a strong sense of responsibility toward the country and the people and work tirelessly and painstakingly to solve these problems more quickly to the satisfaction of the people," Wen said.

The National People's Congress convened amid an increase in tension after a similar mix of issues helped spark unrest across the Arab world.

Topping the agenda is inflation and Wen pledged the communist leadership would step up its fight to contain rising prices of food, housing and other essentials, warning the problem "affects social stability".

He alleged the government is destroying all institutions of the country. They [the government] had looted a huge amount of money through share market scam. Even the country's security system was hit hard by BDR mutiny.

Jagpa President Shafiul Alam Prodhhan said Awami League also insulted great leaders like Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani and Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haque in its earlier tenure.

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Tender Notice for Construction of 1,50,000 Gallon Capacity Underground Water Reservoir at ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.		
2	Agency	ICDDR,B		
3	Procuring Entity Name	Executive Director, ICDDR,B		
4	Procuring Entity District	Mohakhali, Dhaka.		
5	Invitation for	Works		
6	Invitation Ref No & Date	Memo No. ICDDR,B/Mohakhali/VE/11/65, Date: 24-02-2011		
7	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM-PW2)		
8	Budget and Source of Funds	HNPSP-GoB		
9	Development Partners	HNPSP		
10	Project / Program Name	Vertical Extension and Renovation of Research and Hospital Building- ICDDR,B, Dhaka, Bangladesh		
11	Tender Package No.	Package No. 65		
12	Tender Package Name	Construction of 1,50,000 Gallon Capacity Underground Water Reservoir at ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka		
13	Tender Publication date	Date March 07, 2011		
14	Tender Last selling date	Date March 29, 2011		
15	Tender Closing date & time	Date March 30, 2011, Time - 12.00 PM		
16	Tender Opening date & time	Date March 30, 2011, Time - 12.15 PM		
17	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address		
	- Selling Tender Document	Treasury Unit, Cash Counter-2, Ground Floor, IPH Building, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka between 10:00 AM to 03:00 PM		
	- Receiving Tender Document	Procurement & Materials Office, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka.		
	- Opening Tender Document	Procurement & Materials Office, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka.		
18	Pre-tender meeting	Pre-Tender meeting will not be held		
19	Eligibility of Tenderer	i) The Tenderers shall have minimum 5 (five) years general experience of Building Construction with Underground Water Reservoir / Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP). ii) The Tenderers shall have minimum 5 (five) years experience of Building Construction as prime contractor with Underground Water Reservoir /ETP iii) The Tenderer shall have Experience of execution of similar nature of works worth of Tk. 50 lac in single contract value within the last 5 (five) years in Bangladesh. iv) Evidence regarding successful completion of works in the form of work order/award and completion certificate/performance certificate/contract must submit along with the Tenderer document. Certificate should have to be issued by the Officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer of concerned department. v) Sanctioned credit line facilities of at least Tk. 50 lacs. vi) Average annual construction turnover Tk. 50 lacs over the last 5 years. vii) Experience certificate should have to be issued by the officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent of the concerned organization. viii) Tenderer must have qualified and experienced technical personnel for Civil, sanitary, electrical and mechanical works and essential equipment for Construction of Underground Water Reservoir. ix) Tenderers are required to submit price quotation correspond to 100% of the required items and quantities. x) Other required eligibility and condition of the Tenderers as stipulated in the Tender data Sheet and Tender Documents		
20	Price of Tender Document	Tk. 1,000.00 (Taka one thousand) only		
21	Pkg No. Description	Location	Tender Security Amount (TK)	Completion Time
	11/65 Construction of 1,50,000 Gallon Underground Water Reservoir at ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka	ICDDR,B, 68, Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Sarani, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.	Tk. 2,00,000.00 (Taka two lac) only in the form of Pay Order, Bank Draft or Bank Guarantee in favour of ICDDR,B, Dhaka from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh.	180 calendar days
22	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Kamruzzaman		
23	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Sr. Manager, P & M		
24	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Procurement & Materials Unit, Finance Department, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali, Dhaka.		
25	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Tel: 8860523-32, Ext: 3732	Fax: 8811686	e.mail: zaman@icddr.org web: www.icddr.org
26	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.			
27	Special Instruction :			
	a) All activities in connection with the said procurement of Goods will be guided as per rule of "The Public Procurement Rules 2008".			
	b) If it is not possible to receive & open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received and opened on the following working date at same time and same place.			
	c) Notification of Award and Contract agreement will be established subject to the availability of funds.			

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Kamruzzaman
Sr. Manager
Procurement & Materials Unit