

SAYEDEE, QUADER MOLLAH Order on petitions today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal is scheduled to pass order today on petitions filed by Jamaat-e-Islami leaders Delwar Hossain Sayedee and Abdul Quader Mollah seeking investigation reports on their alleged crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War.

The duo, now in jail, submitted the two separate petitions to the tribunal last week.

The tribunal has already accepted the formal charges against them.

Deposition and cross-examination of prosecution witnesses are going on against Sayedee while hearing on charge framing against Quader Mollah is scheduled for January 29.

In the petitions, the duo said the investigation reports were not with the copies of the formal charges and other documents they received from the prosecution.

Investigation reports are a part of the trial's documents. The prosecution must provide them with the reports as per provisions and the rules of procedure framed under the International Crimes Tribunal Act, they said.

Without the reports, they cannot properly defend themselves and will be deprived of justice, they added.

After hearing the petitions, the tribunal, on January 15 and 19, fixed today's date to pass the order.

During the hearing, the defence counsels argued that there is no precedent in any country of the defence not being provided with the investigation report by the prosecution.

The prosecution, opposing the prayers, said providing the reports might put the prosecution witnesses at risk.



Prime Minister and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina addresses a view exchange meeting with the party leaders of Noakhali district at Gono Bhaban yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: PMO

15 Jamaat men on seven-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fifteen leader and activists of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami were taken on a seven-day remand after their arrest from the city's Uttarkhan yesterday.

The police had already sought permission from the home ministry to file a sedition case against them, said Nazmul Islam, officer-in-charge of Uttarkhan Police Station.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Uttarkhan police raided the residence of one Tofazzel Hossain at Borobag of Uttarkhan where the activists were holding a secret meeting at around 1:00am to foil the war crimes trial, the OC said.

The police also seized huge copies of 18 different books written against Awami League and war crimes trial.

The Jamaat men were shown arrested under section 54 and were produced before a Dhaka court that placed them on a seven-day remand.

Jamaat leader of Tongi Golam Maula, his son Monir Hossain and Tofazzel are among the arrestees.

Union info centres lauded

BSS, Chandpur

Foreign Minister Dr Dipu Moni yesterday said people from all walks of life should pursue digitalisation at local level to turn Bangladesh into a middle income country in next 10 years and build Sonar Bangla eventually.

She was addressing as the chief guest a discussion at Chandpur Shilpakala Academy.

Bangladesh Computer Council and Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology organised the event.

Meet people's expectations to be elected again

Speakers urge govt at discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has to struggle to fulfill people's expectations in the next two years if it wants to be elected to power again, said speakers at a discussion yesterday.

The discussion, "The current situation and challenge to build a progressive democratic homeland", was organised by Sammilito Samajik Andolon at Liberation War Museum in the city's Segunbagicha and presided over by its President Ajay Roy.

"The current situation is tight for the government and has worsened with corruption," said noted econo-

mist MM Akash at the discussion.

All the ministers, including the prime minister, should disclose their current and pre-election wealth statements. If any discrepancy is found between the two, they should be removed from their positions, he added.

"The government has no time to be free from worries. It must improve the country's economy and complete the war crimes trial if it wants to remain in power for the next term," said Akash.

It seems that corrupt practices in the communications ministry was going unabated with the government's consent, said the organisation's Vice President Z Tariq Ali while

presenting a paper.

The three hundred lawmakers think that the country is their personal asset, an attitude which gave birth to boundless corruption, nepotism and misuse of power, he added.

If the government was able to establish good governance and reduce the magnitude of looting, people would bring them to power, said Tariq.

Former deputy governor of Bangladesh Bank Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled said the government should introduce rationing of everyday essentials for citizens with fixed-income as this is the only group affected by the recent inflation.

Move on to establish one-party rule: BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir yesterday alleged that the government does not believe in democracy and is doing everything to establish one-party rule in the country.

The government is creating fabricated stories to establish the one-party rule, he said adding that, the country's sovereignty and freedom are getting destroyed during the incumbent government's tenure.

He said this while addressing a party's discussion on the occasion of the BNP founder Ziaur Rahman's 76th birth anniversary in the city's Diploma Engineers Institute.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia was present at the function as the chief guest.

any protest," Fakhru said, presiding over the discussion.

Pointing at different incidents of secret-killing, he said the government has failed to ensure the security of people.

He also urged the countrymen to unite for strengthening the movement against the government to protect the democratic rights of the people and ensure their safety.

Barrister Moudud Ahmed alleged that the government's subservient policy has turned Bangladesh into a neighbouring country's state.

Terming the incumbent government 'autocratic', he said it has bought the 15th amendment to the constitution to establish one-party rule.

Mahmudur Rahman, acting editor of the Bangla daily Amar Desh, and former Dhaka University vice-chancellor Prof Emazuddin Ahmed also spoke at the function.



Prof Ajay Roy speaks at a discussion titled "The current situation and challenge to build a progressive democratic homeland" organised by Sammilito Samajik Andolon at Liberation War Museum auditorium in the city yesterday. On his right are Dr Mosharraf Hossain, Bimal Biswas and Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled and on his left are Z Tariq Ali and Sharif Nurul Ambia.

PHOTO: STAR

No. 20 Premier Pavilion

World Class Products Manufactured Locally..

DITF - 2012 occasion

Tk. 1000 Discount Per Thousand Pcs

Architectural Wall Tiles For Exterior & Interior (CT-5)

10 Hole Bricks

Roof Tiles

***Special offer is valid for all products till 31st January, 2012.**

MIRPUR CERAMICS Dhaka: Banani: 01730010515, Mirpur: 01730010559, Hatirpool: 01730010556
 Uttara: 01730010560, Mohammadpur: 01914455400, Baridhara: 01730010568
KHADIM CERAMICS Sylhet: Mirabazar: 01711334374, 01711116256, Beanibazar: 01714609339
 Moulvibazar: 01711271156, Chittagong: CDA Avenue: 01819-956976

Free nation of criminalisation

Says Prof Barakat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Political change is a must to eradicate criminalisation from the country's socio-economic and political sector, said noted economist Prof Dr Abul Barakat yesterday.

He demanded a congenial atmosphere that will ensure people's participation in politics with patriotism and profound human behaviour to get rid of the nation of all sorts of criminalisation.

Prof Barakat, also chairman of Janata Bank, made these remarks at the 43rd Annual Seminar of Bangladesh Itihas Parishad.

The Parishad organised the programme with the slogan "Bangladesh in four decades" at Teachers Students Centre on the Dhaka University (DU) campus.

This economist also said the gap between the rich and the poor should be minimized or removed by attaching the poor to all sorts of development programmes.

"A total of 14.90 crore impoverished people in the country have been struggling to get their rights against the 10 crore powerful people," he said.

All the governments, in the name of development of the mass people, only took initiatives for development of the rich and the powerful sector of the society, he added.

Prof Abu Ahmed of Department of Economics of DU said, despite 40 years of liberation, the nation is yet to achieve its expectation to fulfill the basic needs of the people, especially in the field of food security, health care and education.

He urged the bureaucracy to be more practical while making policies in a bid to reduce economic crisis in the country.

Historian and national Prof Dr AF Salahuddin Ahmed inaugurated the programme that was chaired by Bangladesh Itihas Parishad President Prof Habiba Khatun.

2 RU BCL men on remand

RU CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion on Friday arrested two activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Rajshahi University unit in connection with a murder case.

The two students were also taken on a five-day remand after police produced them before a Rajshahi court yesterday, Mobarak Hossain, officer-in-charge, Rajpara Police Station, said.

On the arrest of the BCL men, Rab-5 of Binodpur camp handed them over to Rajpara police early yesterday, said a press release of Rab.

Rakibul Hasan Rocky, fourth year student of philosophy, and Imtiaz Zaman alias Rocky, master's student of geography and environmental science of RU, were accused of killing Touhidul Islam, 38, of Jhikargasa upazila, Jessore.

We were having loads of fun, but little did we know what tricks Sourav had up his sleeve...

"For never-ending stories"

Use **"Long Talk"** Talk for 30 minutes at only BDT 7.50

To avail this offer type **START<space>LT** & SMS to 9999 (SMS charge is not applicable)

START<space>LT → **9999**

• Registration will be confirmed through a Confirmation SMS. The very first GP-GP call (including F&F) right after receiving the confirmation SMS will allow the subscriber(s) to talk for 30 minutes at BDT 7.50 • 15% VAT applicable • For more details see inner

Stay Close | **grameenphone**