

HC rejects Mosharraf's bail petition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday rejected a bail petition filed by former BNP state minister for energy AKM Mosharraf Hossain in connection with a corruption case.

Shahidur Rahman, assistant director of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), filed the case with Shabbag Police Station on February 12 accusing Mosharraf and Kashem Sharif on charge of taking bribe from Niko, a Canadian oil and gas exploration company.

According to the case statement, Mosharraf took a Land Cruiser Jeep worth about Tk 95.58 lakh as gift, and 5,000 Canadian dollars as bribe from Niko in 2005 in a bid to strike a contract between the government and Niko.

The HC bench of Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Hossain and Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore rejected the bail petition.



Journalists stage a demonstration before the Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday demanding arrest and immediate trial of the killers of slain journalist couple Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi. (Story on Page 1)

PHOTO: STAR

TORTURE ON TAJUDDIN'S GRANDSON  
Suspend two SIs

HC asks police

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the police authorities to suspend two sub-inspectors of Gulshan Police Station and transfer two other officers in connection with torture on Rakib Hossain, a grandson of the country's first Prime Minister Tajuddin Ahmed.

Sub-inspectors Soumen Barua and Mostafiz should remain suspended till completion of investigation into the incident, the court said, asking the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to investigate the incident and submit the report in 30 days.

Hearing a suo moto rule, the court directed the inspector general of police (IGP) and the commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) to transfer Assistant Commissioner of Gulshan zone Ashraf Azim Miah and Officer-in-Charge of Gulshan Police Station Shah Alam during the period of the investigation.

The HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim also kept the four police officers standing for about five hours in the courtroom for the third time yesterday, for their alleged involvement in the torture.

According to some news reports, SI Soumen and Mostafiz tortured Rakib when he along with a friend parked his car before a roadside restaurant in Gulshan on February 10.

Rokanuddin Mahmud appeared for the police officials and SM Rezaul Karim stood for Rakib's family.

**Court asks HR body to submit probe report in 30 days**

Traffic sergeant falls victim to reckless driving

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A traffic sergeant, who was hit by a recklessly-driven private car at Panthapath in the city on February 14, succumbed to his injuries at a city hospital yesterday.

The deceased, Riazul Islam Riaz, 40, was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with severe head injuries on the day of accident.

Later, he was shifted to the Neuro

Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Square Hospital where he died around 6:00pm yesterday, hospital sources said.

Police said Aliul Islam, 22, a private university student, was out to celebrate Valentine's Day with a female friend in his car on February 14 when the incident occurred.

Riazul, who was on duty near Bashundhara Shopping Mall, noticed the recklessly-driven car coming from Green Road around 10:00am and sig-

naled it to stop, said Sub-Inspector Abdul Jalil of Tejgaon Police Station.

The car, however, hit Riazul and tried to escape. Locals chased down the car some yards off the spot. Police detained the duo along with the car.

Asked, Aliul claimed that he had lost his driving licence.

Police said a case was filed with Tejgaon Police Station in this regard and Aliul was produced before a court that sent him to jail.

Int'l science seminar begins tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-day international symposium titled "Science for Society" will start in the city tomorrow on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Bangladesh-Japan diplomatic relationship.

Bangladesh-Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Alumni Association (BJSPSAA) is organising the symposium at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council in Farmgate, says a press release.

Eminent scientists and academics of both the countries will be present at the symposium to be inaugurated by Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid.

Papers on biotechnology and nanotechnology, climate change and natural disaster, environment and resource management, poverty alleviation and food security, e-society and society's perception towards science, and sustainable technologies in agriculture, health, energy and engineering will be presented at the symposium.

Japan is among the first few countries that recognised the newly independent Bangladesh in 1972.

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