Mojaheed addressed

of Ekattorer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, as his cross-examination continued at the tribunal for the seventh

Daily Azad published a photo on December 11, 1971, with the caption that read Al-Badr leader Mojaheedi [Mojaheed] addressing a street rally organised by Al-Badr threatening the people spreading rumours, he said.

Giving testimony on August 26, Shahriar said the Al-Badr, Razakar and Al-Shams, three collaborating forces of the Pakistan army, committed genocide and other crimes against humanity in 1971.

The Al-Badr force collaborated with the Pakistani occupation force in killing intellectuals and committing genocide during the none-monthlong war, as per prosecution documents.

Shahriar Kabir has meanwhile expressed discontent for the second time over lingering cross-examination by the defence terming it "torture" on him.

Shahriar's reaction came when defence counsel Mizanul Islam yesterday told the tribunal they need one more session to complete the first prosecution witness' cross-examination.

The rest of his crossexamination would be held after Shahriar's foreign tour, the tribunal said.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice ATM Fazle Kabir with members Justice Obaidul Hassan and Judge M Shahinur Islam recorded the crossexamination in the case against the Jamaat secretary general.

Mizanul Islam crossexamined Shahriar for two and a quarter hours and asked him around 50 questions before the court adjourned proceedings until September 20 when the second prosecution witness is expected to

The defence mostly asked the witness questions over the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, a book titled "Ekattorer Ghatak Dalalera Ke Kothai" edited among others by Shahriar Kabir, and trial under the Collaborators Act,

In his testimony Shahriar said Mojaheed on November 7, 1971 addressed a public rally organised by Al-Badr marking "Badr Day" and administered an oath to kill the "enemies of Islam and Pakistan as well as the Indian agents".

During yesterday's crossexamination, Mizanul said The Daily Pakistan in its report on November 8 over the programme neither mentioned "Al-Badr" nor "Al-Badr rally."

"The report mentioned Badr Day but not Al-Badr's rally or Al-Badr," Shahriar agreed. "But the report said the rally was organised by Islami Chhatra Sangha [the then student wing of Jamaate-Islami] which fully turned into Al-Badr," he added.

"Motiur Rahman Nizami [incumbent Jamaat ameer and another war crimes accused] was the chief of the force, while Ali Ahsan Mojaheed was the second in command," said the witness.

"Did any newspapers of 1971 and 1972 mention Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed as Al-Badr's leader or member or commander or organiser?" asked Mizanul.

"The name of the high command did not appear in the newspapers in 1971 as Al-Badr was a semi-secret organisation," said Shahriar, adding, Mojaheed as the Al-Badr leader addressed street rallies organised by Al-Badr and news of these programmes was published with photographs in 1971.

The following year, a number of news items were published in different newspapers over formation and high command of Al-Badr, he added.

'Is it true that no news was published between 1971 and 1978 mentioning Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed as the chief or member of Al-Badr?" asked Mizanul.

"It is not true. Daily Azad published a photo on December 11, 1971 with the caption that Al-Badr chief Mojaheedi [Mojaheed] addressing a street rally organised by Al-Badr threatening the people spreading rumours," replied Shahriar, adding, "There is a photo of Mojaheed in it.'

Mizanul said Mojaheed's

account with informed that it

has received an instruction

from NBR to freeze the

to freeze its account before the

The telecom regulator has

served a notice to Airtel

Bangladesh, asking why its

frequency allocation should

not be scrapped as the mobile

operator has been using

unauthorised spectrum in

Airtel has been told to give

On receiving the reply, the

Bangladesh

Telecommunication

Regulatory Commission will

decide what measure it

should take against Airtel, said

Giashuddin Ahmed, acting

Chris Tobit, chief executive

chairman of BTRC.

Rajshahi district.

its reply within 30 days.

receipt of verdict copy.

AIRTEL SERVED NOTICE

Citycell urged the NBR not

name was not mentioned as Al-Badr chief in the main story

"It was not necessary as it was mentioned in the cap-

As per the common practice of the newspapers, the adjectives used in the captions are generally also used in the main story, Mizanul suggested.

At 1:15pm Justice Obaidul

plete the cross-examination in this session. I would require minimum one more session," the defence counsel replied.

"The defence has crossexamined me for the maximum time. I have said it seems to me that I am subjected to torture [by lingering the cross-examination]," the witness vented his discontent.

Shahriar gave his testimony in two hours and 40 minutes, while the defence has so far cross-examined him for 14 hours and 45 minutes in seven days.

On September 6, Shahriar expressed his discontent over the lengthy cross-

On June 21, the tribunal framed seven charges against Mojaheed in connection with murder, genocide and hatching conspiracy to kill intellectuals during the War. Mojaheed was produced before the tribunal yesterday.

Meanwhile, the same tribunal completed recording cross-examination of Amir Hossain Mollah, ninth prosecution witness in the war crimes case against another Jamaat leader Abdul Quader Mollah.

The tribunal adjourned the case proceeding until September 17 when the 10th prosecution witness is set to testify.

In his testimony on August 26, Amir Hossain, a wounded freedom fighter, said Quader Mollah along with the Pakistani army opened fire and killed around 400 people of Alubdi near Mirpur in the capital on April 24, 1971.

NBR goes tough on 3 telcos said one of the banks it has an

for six years.

FROM PAGE 20

If the operators do not pay the dues in 15 days, the banks will deduct the amount from the accounts and transfer it to the state coffers, according to an NBR order issued on Wednesday.

Robi was supposed to pay Tk 181.79 crore, Banglalink Tk 168.64 crore and Citycell Tk 47.6 crore in supplementary duty and valued-added tax on SIM for the period between August 2006 and March 2007.

Grameenphone also received such letter but avoided the punishment by paying Tk 348 crore to the tax

administrator. The operators did not pay SIM (subscriber identity module) tax during the period as the High Court issued a verdict against the imposition of SIM tax by the government

in June 2005. According to the NBR officer and managing direcletters, the government tor, Airtel Bangladesh, said, imposed Tk 900 tax on each "Airtel is compliant to all the SIM in 2005 but a telecom policies of the regulatory and analyst, Abu Saeed Khan, filed the government authorities as a writ petition with the HC

August this year.

know the details of the order.

certified copy of the judg-

Ahmed, chief financial officer

the judgment copy is still

he dues.

of Robi.

pending, he said.

we get the verdict copy."

corporate officer of Citycell,

per license conditions. against the move. "Currently this issue is The HC cancelled the order under discussion with BTRC in August 2006, but the and we remain committed to Appellate Division, after an follow any directives laid out appeal from the NBR in March by the government." 2007, reversed the HC order in

Using an unauthorised frequency is a punishable After the recent verdict, the offence according to NBR issued the letters to the angladesh operators asking them to clear Telecommunication Law, 2001, says the letter posted The officials of the three yesterday on the BTRC's mobile operators said they website. The punishment is at did not get the certified copies least 10 years' imprisonment of the verdict yet and do not

"We could not pay the Airtel has been using 200 amount as we did not get a kilohertz spectrum in two channels beyond the ment," said Mahtabuddin authorised 1,800 megahertz band at the police lines in Keshabpur of Rajshahi town. Robi urged the NBR in a BTRC detected this on June 22 letter to consider the matter as

or a fine of Tk 300 crore or

Zakiul Islam, senior directhe right and authority to tor (regulatory and legal cancel the assignment of the affairs) of Banglalink, said: frequency, fully or partially, "We requested NBR to refrain without prejudice to the right from issuing such letter until and authority to take any other lawful action," says the Mahfuzur Rahman, chief letter, referring to the telecom

operator.

in a joint inspection with the Star. The BCL activists apolo-"The commission reserves ning, he said.

gised on Wednesday eve-

the strike on Tuesday to press home their five-point demand, including punishment of the BCL men who attacked two of their fellows.

of the newspaper.

tion," the witness argued.

"It is not true. From my 40 years of experience in journalism, I can say there is no such hard and fast rule in this regard," Shahriar responded.

Hassan asked Mizanul how much time he would need to complete the crossexamination. "It is not possible to com-

examination by the defence.

BTRC has the authority to cancel the frequency allocation of any company for non-

compliance or violation of Mohammad Hossain and its license conditions. The operatwo directors Gofranul Huq tors are allowed to provide and Syed-ur Rahman. service using the allocated On August 6, they were frequency only, it reads. granted bail after surrender-Earlier, the regulator rear ing to Magistrate Erfan Ullah ranged the 1,800 MHz specof CMM Court. trum band among the mobile

until then. BTRC also directed the operators to use only allocated spectrums.

operators in May as they had

been using random frequency

Scam-hit Sonali

FROM PAGE 1

Atiur Rahman said at the meeting that the instance of fraud due to serious lapses in corporate governance and lending discipline has tarnished the overall image of the country's banking sec

Nurul Amin, chairman of the Association of Bankers Bangladesh (ABB), told the press briefing that any private bank would have been in serious financial crisis in

case of such a swindle. "Since Sonali Bank is a big bank, it is not feeling the pinch yet, and no crisis of trust in its deposit has taken

The ABB chairman, however, said Sonali Bank should make all-out efforts to recover the money.

CMCH interns

during their duty on Tuesday formally apologised.

The interns withdrew their strike around 12:00 noon as most of their demands were met, Golam Kibria Chowdhury, president of the Intern Doctors' Association, told The Daily

Interns of CMCH called

The 7 new ministers



Of the seven new faces in the **Integral Energy Limited ONLINE POLL**

(39%)

(58%)

The Daily Star

Yes

No ____

No Comments

TOTAL VOTES: 421

TODAY'S POLL

How do you look at Awami

League leader Tofail Ahmed and

Workers Party President Rashed

Khan Menon's decision not to

join the cabinet?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT

facebook.com/dailystarnews

Worker killed

breaking yard

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A ship-breaking worker

was killed after falling from

the ship at Bhatiary in

Chittagong on Wednesday

The deceased was iden-

Officer-in-Charge

tified as Ershadul Hug, of

Samiul Alam of Sitakunda

Police Station said

Ershadul all of a sudden fell

down to the platform while

he was working at Sayed

Steel Ship Breaking Yard

Critically injured Ershad

was rushed to Chittagong

Medical College Hospital

where doctors declared

This year, eight such

accidents have recurred in

ship-breaking yards, in

which eight people have

While last year, 11 work-

ers had died in similar

Bail cancelled

Court gave bail to the accused,

although it has no jurisdiction

to deal with money launder-

The ACC on July 31 filed

two cases with Kalabagan

Police Station against the five

for laundering Tk 3,285 crore

The accused are Destiny

Group Managing Director

Rafiqul Amin, Director Lt Gen

(retd) M Harunur Rashid,

Destiny 2000 Chairman

The Anti-Corruption

Commission on August 13

turned to the Senior Special

Judge's Court, challenging the

bail order. The court of Dr

Akhteruzzaman cancelled the

bail upon hearing two peti-

Akhteruzzaman is a

replacement of Zahirul

Haque, who regularly runs the

Senior Special Judge's Court

and also performs the duty of

a judge of the BDR carnage

trial at Bakshibazar every

Yesterday, when Zahirul

came to the court, the lawyers

of the Destiny Group filed a

plea for a stay on the bail

petition, the counsels argued

that Akhteruzzaman was an

acting judge of the court

Wednesday and he cancelled

the bail without following

They claimed the

Opposing the defence,

Public Prosecutor Mosharraf

Hossain Kajol said the order

was legal and Akhteruzzaman

had discharged duties as an

acting judge. So, any order

issued by Akhteruzzaman

would be considered as

Akhteruzzaman was

cancelled, all bails, revisions

and appeal orders passed by

him in absence of Haque

would automatically be

upheld the bail order of the

Akhteruzzaman was facing

tremendous pressure from

the government high-ups

soon after he cancelled bail of

the five Destiny men, who

included a former leader of

the highly influential Sector

However, Zahirul Haque

said

cancelled, added the PP.

lower CMM Court.

Sources

Commanders Forum.

If the order of

Wednesday's order was ille-

During the hearing of the

Monday and Wednesday.

cancellation.

legal provisions.

Zahirul Haque's.

tions of the anti-graft body.

through cheating investors.

accidents, sources said.

him dead, the OC added.

around 4:30pm.

died.

FROM PAGE 1

ing cases.

afternoon.

Kurigram.

in Ctg ship

council of ministers, five are lesser-known figures as they Do you think the main are either local level leaders or opposition BNP's decision to relatively new in politics. boycott the current parliament Ministers AH Mahmood session is justified?

Ali and Mostafa Faruque Mohammad joined politics after they retired from the foreign service more than a decade ago. They were elected lawmakers for the first time in 2008.

State Minister Omor Faruk Chowdhury switched to the AL from the BNP in 2000. He is also a new member of parliament. Minister Hasanul Haque

Inu is a seasoned politician and president of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, while Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir is a bureaucrat-turned politician. Before becoming minister, Inu was chairman of the Jatiya Sangsad standing committee

body on public accounts. Earlier this year, Alamgir obtained permission to set up a commercial bank.

on the post and telecommu-

nications ministry and

Alamgir was the chief of the JS

About Abdul Hyee, a new state minister, several politicians complained to The Daily Star that he had been engaged in irregularities in sending people abroad.

Law enforcers seized

Hyee's passport at the erstwhile Zia International Airport (now Shahjalal International Airport) when another person was trying to go abroad by using it. A case was file in this connection. Despite making repeated

efforts, The Daily Star could not reach Hyee over the phone for his version of the incident.

Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir

He was born in Kochua upazila of Chandpur. According to his affidavit submitted to the Election

MK Alamgir, Mujibul Haque,

Mostafa Faruque

Mohammad and AH

Mahmood Ali; and the two

state ministers are Omor

Faruk Chowdhury and Abdul

But all eyes were on vet-

eran Awami League leader

Tofail Ahmed and Workers

Party President Rashed Khan

Menon, both of whom were

offered posts in the cabinet

which they declined. Their

refusal is unprecedented in

the country's political history.

Hasina to replace them with

two little known diplomats-

turned-lawmakers Mostafa

cabinet, Tofail and Menon

have upset Hasina, also the AL

president, and other senior

party leaders, 14-pary insiders

prime minister discussed

with them their inclusion in

the cabinet, the situation

Tofail said he did not want to

be a minister, adding: "At the

moment, I am not mentally,

politically or socially prepared

Banani residence, he said: "It

doesn't matter whether I join

the cabinet or not. I don't have

any frustration and anger

towards my party or any mis-

understanding with the prime

Earlier, Tofail told The Daily

Star that he wanted to "work

for the party". According to

him, the party was more

decision to Hasina, meeting

her in parliament in the

Explaining the expansion

to the media, the prime minis-

ter said, "In the parliamentary

system of government,

expanding the cabinet is a

She added that by includ-

ing seven new members in the

cabinet she had in fact "hon-

oured the voters" of the

would be regarded as break-

ing party discipline, Hasina

said, "I did not phone him.

Had I called him and offered

the post and he refused, only

then the question of breach-

ing discipline could have

ever, have told this correspon-

Several AL leaders, how-

Asked if Tofail's rejection

respective constituencies.

evening, sources said.

normal process.'

arisen."

He also explained his

important than ministership.

minister.

Talking to reporters at his

to take office as a minister."

Clarifying his decision,

would have been different.

They added that had the

Having refused to join the

Faruque and Mahmood Ali.

Their rejection compelled

FROM PAGE 1

Hyee.

No, thanks!

Commission, Alamgir is an economist and earns pension.

city

During the tenure of the last caretaker government, the Anti-Corruption Commission had filed several cases against him on charges of corruption.

Hasanul Haque Inu



Born in 1946, Inu completed his education from Buet. A freedom fighter, he

ing general secretary of Jatiyo Krishak League by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1972. He soon left the AL, how-

ever, to be part of the group of young politicians who formed the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal in the same year.

Mujibul Haque



He was born in 1947 in Chauddagra m upazila of Comilla. Anincome

tax lawyer by

profession, Mujibul contested national polls in Comilla-11 constituency and defeated Jatiya Party candidate former prime minister Kazi Jafar Ahmed.

Mostafa Faruque Mohammad



was born i n Jhikargachha upazila of Jessore in 1942. He re-

ceived honours and masters degrees from Dhaka University, standing first class second and first class first respectively.

dent that after the 2008 elec-

tion, Tofail had been sidelined

because of his "cosy relation-

ship" with the 2007-08 care-

taker government and his

proposals about reforming

Tofail would reject such a

proposal at the fag end of the

government tenure, they

added, preferring not to be

Menon feel that the govern-

ment has failed to deliver in

many sectors and paid no

heed to many of their sugges-

tions on issues like the share

market scam and Sonali Bank

want to be part of that failure,

"They obviously did not

Some others inside the

party see Tofail's refusal as a

challenge and a "heavy blow"

to the party and the govern-

got a negative message about

the government," one senior

leader said on condition of

the cabinet before meeting

the president on Monday. On

Wednesday, the premier

talked to a number of minis-

ters about her plan and asked

two ministers -- Obaidul

Quader and Suranjit

Sengupta -- to talk to Tofail

and Menon sensing they duo

tried till vesterday afternoon

to convince the two but failed,

sources close to the ministers

politburo meeting yesterday

observed that the govern-

ment had failed in many areas

and thus had become isolated

from the people. So it would

be "imprudent" for Menon to

join the cabinet, party sources

not support the idea of his

why Hasina wanted to expand

the cabinet with barely a year

of her government remaining.

Also, the expansion comes at a

time when criticism has been

mounting about several

ministers performing badly

implausible answer is offered

by Agriculture Minister Matia

expanded the cabinet to bring

more dynamism in the gov-

The simplest and yet most

"The prime minister has

over the last few months.

Chowdhury.

being a minister at this stage.

Menon said his party did

Questions also swirl as to

The Workers Party at its

Quader and Suranjit both

Hasina decided to expand

anonymity.

might not join.

told this paper.

"From this, the public has

scam, party leaders say.

one senior leader said.

Moreover, Tofail and

It was only "natural" that

the party.

named.

Mostafa joined the Pakistan foreign service and served in its embassy in Japan in 1968. He later worked in favour of the Liberation War. Before retiring from the diplomatic service, he was high commissioner to India.

AH Mahmood Ali

He worked as v i c e consular in the Pakistan consulate in New York till April 1971. Quitting the post, he joined

LiberationWar. Ali was Bangladesh's ambassador to Germany and Nepal as well as high commis-

the campaign in favour of the

sioner to the United Kingdom He joined the Bangladesh Awami League in 2001.

Omor Faruk Chowdhury

During his student life, Chowdhury was involved with the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, the pro-BNP student organi-

sation. His mother Manjura

Begum Chowdhury Usha is a "Rukon" and key leader of the women's wing of the Rajshahi city unit Jamaat-e-Islami.

Abdul Hyee

Born in 1952 in Shailkupa upazila of Jessore, Hyee passed the SSC exams in 1967 and

joined the Bangladesh Chhatra League during his college life.

In 1969, he was elected VP of KC College Chhatra Shangsad. He joined the Liberation War in 1971. He was elected MP in 2001 and

ernment and serve more

people better," said Matia,

the new faces, except MK

Alamgir, has any track record

of getting any berth in the

tions nearing, the AL wants to

have ministers from some

districts from where no one

has been in the cabinet

Jhenidah, Jessore, Rajshahi

and Comilla are four such

districts and the new recruits

have been picked from these

were quite vocal about the

government's failure. So the

prime minister wanted to

include them in the cabinet

and have them shut up, insid

None of the new cabinet

members, however, has been

given portfolios. "It will be

done on Monday," Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina told

might be given charge of the

railways ministry. The govern-

ment is planning to split the

post and telecommunica-

tions ministry into two and

give charge of any of them to

According to the sources, a

After the AL's landslide

victory in 2008 election

Hasina formed her cabinet

with 31 members -- 23 minis-

On January 24, 2009, she

ters and eight state ministers.

included six more fresh faces

a minister and five state

ministers -- in the council o

ministers and reshuffled 10

her cabinet on November 28,

2011 by inducting Suranjit

Sengupta, now minister with-

out portfolio, and Obaidul

Quader, minister for commu-

nications and railways.

the prime minister, is 51.

ernment taking office.

The premier last expanded

portfolios.

small-scale reshuffle in the

cabinet is also possible.

Sources said Mujibul

Tofail, Menon and Inu

districts.

ers say.

reporters.

to Sheikh Hasina.

cabinet in the past.

Full verdict FROM PAGE 1

chief justice, said court sources.

text of the verdict will be made public after the six other judges of the SC sign it.

On May 10 last year, a seven-member bench of the Appellate Division of the apex court delivered a short verdict

on majority (4:2:1) vote. declared illegal and unconstitutional the 13th amendment to the constitution, which had

government system in 1996. The judgment also said the voided system may be practised for another two parliamentary elections for the safety of the state and its peo-

Sources close to Justice Khairul told The Daily Star that he has written 342 pages of his part of the judgment in Bangla, while the others have

The former chief justice has explained the reasons behind allowing the voided caretaker government system for two more terms and has put the onus on parliament to

Justice Khairul has made necessary suggestions for establishing true democracy in the country. Incumbent Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain,

Hossain in their opinions have agreed with the former chiefjustice. Justice MA Wahhab Miah and Justice Nazmun Ara Sulatana had declared the

However, the decision of Justice M Imman Ali could not

In a prompt move, parliament on June 30 last year scrapped the caretaker government system by adopting the 15th amendment to the

sition BNP and its allies have been demanding restoration of the system.

FROM PAGE 1

windows of security offices outside the embassy and burned cars. Afp reports Yemeni police

yesterday shot dead a proquarters is that with the electester and wounded five others when they opened fire on a crowd attempting to storm the US embassy in Sanaa, a security official said.

In Egypt, protesters hurled stones at a police cordon around the US embassy in central Cairo after climbing into the embassy and tearing down the American flag. The state news agency said 13 people were injured in violence which erupted on Wednesday night after pro-

Islamist gunmen staged a military-style assault on the US consulate and a safe house refuge in Benghazi, eastern Libya on Tuesday. The US ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans died in the assault, carried out with guns, mortars and grenades. Eight Libyans

fell ill on opening a suspicious envelope.

'DISGUSTING' Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is sharpen-

ing her criticism of an anti-Islam video that provoked protests in the Arab world, reports The Huffington Post online. Hillary says the film is

their religious beliefs.

never stop Americans from expressing their views, no matter how distasteful. And she says the film is no justification for violence or attacks on US diplomatic facilities and

The around 800-page full

In the verdict, the court introduced the caretaker

English.

continue the system. He has suggested strengthening the Election Commission for holding future polls in a very fair manner under political govern-

Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha

and Justice Sved Mahmud

caretaker government system

be known.

constitution. Since then, the main oppo-

who is regarded as being close US missions

But this statement does not cut much ice as none of

fortified compound in eastern Sanaa. Earlier, they smashed

One of the explanations now on offer from different

tests on Tuesday.

were injured. US President Barack Obama vowed to "bring to justice" those responsible and the US military moved two navy destroyers towards the Libyan coast, in what a US official said was a move to give the administration flexibility for any future action against

Libyan targets. Obama said security was being increased at US diplomatic posts around the globe and vesterday the US consulate in Berlin was partially evacuated after an employee

Following yesterday's expansion, the number of "disgusting and reprehensicabinet members, including ble." She calls it a cynical attempt to offend people for

Syed Abul Hossain resigned recently over his But she says the US would alleged involvement in the

Padma bridge project corruption while Tanjim Ahmad Sohel Taj voluntary resigned as minister of state for home within six months of the govpersonnel.

written their portions in