

# 12 to testify for Ghulam Azam

**FROM PAGE 20**  
 prosecutor Zead Al Malum appealed to the tribunal to quash the witnesses' list submitted by the defence.

On July 1, defence counsel Tajul Islam submitted a list of 2,939 witnesses for Ghulam Azam.

In his submission on Monday, Malum drew the tribunal's attention saying there were some names repeated in the list five to six times. The defence also didn't say in which matter the witnesses would give deposition, Malum added.

Mentioning that the trial of Ghulam Azam is in the middle stage, Malum said, "At this stage, it will hamper the proceedings."

Referring to another war crimes case against Jamaat leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee in which the defence produced one witness per day until Monday, Malum added it would take three and a half years if 2,939 witnesses were allowed in the trial of Ghulam Azam.

Defence counsel Tajul Islam in his submission said five different persons could hold the same name. "Since we did not give name of their parents, how could he [Malum] say the persons are same?" he added.

On behalf of his client, Tajul said, "I have been linked in all the rapes, killings and looting which took place during the Liberation

War in 1971." Seemingly excited Tajul claimed they did not know about the charges in advance and that is why they submitted the long list. "We won't bring all the witnesses. The witnesses who are not required won't be produced," he added.

The tribunal chairman then threw a question to the defence counsel, "Did you give the list upon guess? Don't you know what they will say?"

At one point, tribunal member Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim cautioned the defence as Tajul repeatedly hit out at the tribunal members on Monday during his submission against the

petition. **SAYEDEE'S CASE**  
 The tribunal yesterday in another order allowed the defence to produce members of the investigation agency as defence witnesses on some conditions.

The tribunal gave the order following submission of the defence on Monday on a petition. In his submission, Barrister Abdur Razzaq sought investigation agency's members as their witness to prove authentic their documents on "staying of 15 absentee witnesses at safehouses".

The tribunal recorded statements of the 15 absentee witnesses as evidence against Sayedee.

Claiming the absentees were kept at safe houses on June 3, the defence submitted logs of safe house and prayed to the tribunal not to take their statements as evidence.

On July 12, the tribunal rejected the prayer and in an order asked the defence to prove the authenticity of the logs saying they failed to prove its authenticity.

In the short order, Justice Nizamul Huq yesterday said the defence could produce members of investigation agency as their witnesses but not exceeding 20 in number which was fixed for Sayedee earlier by the tribunal.

The tribunal chairman also conditioned the defence to bring the witnesses complying section 8 (1) of the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973.

Justice Huq also said the tribunal will not give summons to produce them (members of the investigation agency).

The defence have already produced 11 witnesses for Sayedee until yesterday.

Two defence witnesses -- Anwar Hossain and Golam Mostafa -- yesterday gave deposition for Sayedee who was produced before the tribunal.

**CASE AGAINST KAMARUZZAMAN**  
 Meanwhile, the International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday allowed eight additional prosecution witnesses including seven women to give testimony in the war crimes case against Jamaat-e-Islami leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice ATM Fazle Kabir with members Justice Obaidul Hassan and Judge M Shahinur Islam also allowed four, out of the eight additional witnesses, to give their statements behind closed doors.

On Monday, the prosecution filed two petitions -- one for allowing eight additional witnesses in the case and another for recording testimony of all the eight witnesses behind closed doors.

During yesterday's hearing, prosecutor AKM Saiful Islam said as per section 9 (4) of the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, they sought the tribunal's permission to allow the additional witnesses to testify.

Opposing the petition, defence counsel Ehsan A Siddiq said once the investigation is completed, there is no law to bring additional witnesses. "Intention of

bringing additional witnesses at this stage of trial is malafide," he added.

Section 9 (4) of the Act says: "The submission of a list of witnesses and documents under sub-section (3) shall not preclude the prosecution from calling, with the permission of the Tribunal, additional witnesses or tendering any further evidences at any stage of the trial."

After lunch break, the tribunal passed the order allowing eight additional witnesses to testify.

On another petition, Saiful Islam said seven of the eight additional witnesses are victims of rape violence, while another witness is a dignified person of the society, who wanted to give their testimony without revealing their identities.

Ehsan A Siddiq argued that as no charge was framed in connection with rape, there is no need to bring witnesses of rape victims.

Refuting the defence's claim, Saiful Islam said incident of rape was mentioned in the third charge.

On June 4, the tribunal framed seven specific charges against Kamaruzzaman including murder and torture of unarmed civilians and com-

licity in other crimes against humanity during the war.

Later the tribunal passed the order mentioning that testimony of only four out of the eight additional witnesses will be held "in camera."

The tribunal also said three lawyers from the prosecution and the defence each would be allowed in the courtroom during recording of the testimony.

Accused Kamaruzzaman could also be produced before the tribunal, but no other individuals or the press would be allowed, the tribunal said.

The tribunal also said the lawyers, who would be allowed in the courtroom, would have to agree to a non-disclosure agreement about the witnesses' identities and the content of the testimony.

The tribunal adjourned the case proceedings until tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the same tribunal recorded cross-examination of Nurul Islam, third prosecution witness in the war crimes case against Abdul Alim.

Nurul Islam is set to face further cross-examination today.

## Khaleda visits India

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 Shamsheer Mobin Chowdhury told The Daily Star, "Discussions are still on with the Indian side about the chairperson's visit. The date will be finalised soon."

BNP standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan, on return from India yesterday, said he had met the Indian prime minister and the security adviser, and the two were looking forward to the BNP chairperson's India visit.

BNP leaders have always labelled the ruling Awami League as "pro-Indian." The party chairperson has also accused the present government of serving India's interests.

The party strongly

opposed the government move to provide India with transit facilities. It also strongly criticised India over the killings of Bangladeshi nationals by the BSF on the border and the Tipaimukh dam issue.

The BNP chairperson is expected to leave for China on October 14 on a weeklong visit before going to India.

Analysts said it was a positive move from both the Indian side and the BNP, as the two sides realised the importance of deepening bilateral ties further.

They said the visit was very significant ahead of the general election in Bangladesh.

Indian Prime Minister

Manmohan Singh invited Khaleda to visit India during his Dhaka tour in September last year. Later, the then Indian Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee and the external affairs minister met Khaleda and communicated the Indian government's invitation.

The Indian leaders told Khaleda that India wanted to build good relations with all political actors in Bangladesh, not with any specific party.

"We want to reach out to all the people and all the political parties in Bangladesh," said the Indian prime minister during his Dhaka visit.

Sources at the Indian High Commission say

Khaleda would leave Dhaka for New Delhi on October 28 and hold a series of meetings with top Indian leaders, deliver a lecture on India-Bangladesh relations and visit Ajmer Sharif. She will return to Dhaka on November 3.

Nearly half a dozen top BNP leaders would accompany Khaleda, they said.

The BNP chairperson will call on Indian President Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. She will also hold discussions with Sonia Gandhi, the president of Indian Congress Party and chairperson of the UPA, and other opposition leaders in India, sources said.

## Workers still in danger

**FROM PAGE 20**  
 professionals, officials of government and non-governmental organisations and leaders of trade unions.

Workers told HRW that most of the tanneries did not provide them with appropriate or sufficient protective equipment or training on how to use chemicals and operate machinery.

Children as young as 11 years old are engaged in dangerous activities like soaking hides into chemicals, cutting them with razor blades and operating machinery.

HRW in the report quoted Jahaj, 17, who has been working in a leather factory since he was 12, as saying that the acid-mix water used at the factory burned his skin.

"When I'm hungry, acid doesn't matter -- I have to eat [using the hands with acid on it]."

He is now suffering from asthma, rashes, itches and acid burns.

Women and girls told HRW that they were paid less compared to men.

Some managers refuse to grant sick leave and compensation to the workers who have fallen sick or sustained injuries on duty and that is a violation of the law of the country, the report says.

The industries release chemicals like sulphuric acid, chromium, sodium chloride, formaldehyde, azo colorants, and pentachlorophenol, which are harmful to people. These chemicals mix with the air of the areas nearby and are dumped into the rivers in and around Dhaka.

HRW also cited complaints from Hazaribagh dwellers of fever, skin diseases, respiratory problem and diarrhoea caused by air,

water and soil pollution due to the release of the chemicals.

Speaking of foreign remittances the sector earns, HRW said Bangladesh exported processed leather and luxurious leather goods worth \$663 million between June 2011 and July 2012. The foreign markets include China, South Korea, Japan, Italy, Germany, Spain and the United States.

The report also mentions the government move to relocate the tanneries but at the same time criticises the government for not implementing workers' right to

health and for the violation of a High Court order.

The HC in June 2009 directed the government to relocate the tannery industries from Hazaribagh to Savar by February 2010.

The government later sought time extension on several occasions for implementing the order.

Finally, it gave a work order to a Chinese company in March this year for installing the Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) in Savar leather estate by the end of 2013.

Until June no progress was seen in the construction of the CETP.

## Duty-free access to boost export

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 killing. Any killing is bad," Saran told journalists of The Daily Star at its office yesterday, adding, "In all such cases, there is an investigation."

He noted that such an investigation was going on in the case of the killing of teenage girl Felani and strict punishment would be given to the BSF staff responsible.

Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam moderated the discussion, in which the Indian envoy spoke on a host of issues like the increase of Bangladeshi export to India with zero duty on all goods, water sharing, land boundary agreement, Teesta agreement and other issues. He also answered questions on India's relationship with the US and China.

The Indian envoy emphasised development of infrastructure like ports, roads and railways between the two countries considering increase of trade. He said export from Bangladesh had increased in manifolds since the Indian government had allowed duty free access of Bangladeshi products.

Talking about a positive change in the mindset of India and Bangladesh to address all outstanding bilateral issues, the High Commissioner pointed out that his government was trying its best to bring to the next parliament session a bill to amend the constitution so that it could ratify the Protocol on 1974 Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) that it had signed with Bangladesh last year on September 6.

Pankaj Saran noted that

the root cause of border killings was illegal cattle trade.

He described the measures the BSF took to bring down border killings to zero. "The BSF has introduced non-lethal weapons in many outposts and it imposes curfew at night. Forces of the two countries jointly patrol many areas in a coordinated way," he said.

"But there are illegal activities on both sides that need to be traced," he added.

He pointed out that words had spread that the BSF was using non-lethal weapons. Criminals in groups were now ambushing the BSF, sometimes in a life threatening manner. However, India would carry on its policy to go for zero killing at the border, he added.

On the issue of the Teesta river agreement, the High Commissioner said "Of course we should have an agreement, but unfortunately it could not be signed during the PM's [Manmohan Singh's] visit due to lack of political consensus in India." However, he pointed out that the Teesta river water was flowing unhindered and uninterrupted and there were no structure excepting two in Dalia and Gajaldoba points in India. "We are committed to signing the Teesta River Water Sharing deal and to do so we are building consensus in India."

He noted India would not take any action on the Himalayan rivers (which flow into Bangladesh) that would adversely affect Bangladesh.

Referring to LBA, the Indian envoy said India and Bangladesh concluded the deal after massive survey. "Now the fact is that India needs to ratify it. Bangladesh has done its part. It is being delayed because of some complexities on the Indian side. I can assure you that India is fully committed to the early ratification of the agreement and efforts are going on to place the issue in parliament."

On a question about smuggling of phensidyl to Bangladesh, Pankaj said the

Indian government was extending all-out cooperation on intelligence sharing and seizure of phensidyl had increased greatly in India. "We are seriously cooperating with Bangladesh in curbing phensidyl considering it as a humanitarian issue."

Pankaj Saran said India was happy as Bangladesh had seriously addressed its security concern and the two countries had developed confidence in each other, which led to greater cooperation.

Asked about India's

stance on Bangladesh's move to construct a deep seaport, he said India had not taken any position since it had not received any proposal from Bangladesh regarding the deep seaport.

"In general, I can say India will help Bangladesh in the development of its infrastructure."

He said India was conducting a feasibility study on the development of Ashuganj river port. A company would be selected in the next couple of months to conduct a detail survey and

prepare a plan for the project for consideration by Bangladesh.

About congestion in the Benapole-Petrapole border that handled majority of trade, worth \$5.4 billion, in fiscal 2011-12, he said infrastructure needed to be developed significantly.

But the High Commissioner said both countries should reduce dependence on this land border and look for alternative routes. "Let us use alternative routes including waterways," said Pankaj.

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**TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed Quotations are hereby invited from the bonafide, well experienced & Technically sound Suppliers/Importers/Engineering Firms of Electronic/IT goods for supplying & installation of Digital Close Circuit Television (CCTV) system of latest model (Japan, German, UK, USA, Australia, Taiwan, Malaysia, Korea origin) with modern facilities for installation at different Bank branches of Uttara Bank Ltd. located at different areas of Bangladesh.

Intending any individual Firm having prerequisite qualification and at least 7(seven) years' practical experience & having capacity of providing back-up service may apply on or before **21.10.2012** during office hours on their letter head pad along with the attested copies of requisite work completion certificates, upto date IT clearance certificate, VAT Registration Certificate, valid Trade Licence for purchasing of Tender Documents. Tender Documents will be available from the office of the undersigned on cash payment of **Tk. 3,000/-** (Non-refundable) per set on or before **22.10.2012** during office hours. Firms having no working experience for supply and installation of CCTV System and successful maintenance thereof at least in 2(two) Organizations (any Govt. Bank or private Bank, Govt./Semi-Govt. Department/Division, Autonomous Body, Private Organization) valued not less than Tk.40.00 lac for each Organization in a single work order within the **last 3 years** need not submit any application.

Tenders will be received upto **2-30 P.M.** on **23.10.2012** in the Tender Box placed at the office of the undersigned. Tenders will be opened on the same day at **03-00 P.M.** in presence of the tenderers or their representatives, if any. Other details will be available in the Tender Document. For any further details anybody may contact the undersigned during office hours.

The Uttara Bank Limited reserves the right not to accept the lowest Tender and to reject any Tender or part thereof or all Tenders without assigning any reason what so ever.

**Engr. M.A. Awal**  
 GENERAL MANAGER

**EDCL ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED**  
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**INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE**

EDCL invites International Tender for Supply & Installation of a New Boiler having capacity 500 kg/hr. for EDCL, Bogra Plant C&F© Chittagong By Sea on urgent basis :-

S.L No.	Tender No. Date	Name of the Item	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & opening
01.	IMP / Boiler / SEM/15 2012-2013 dated 08/10/2012	Supply & Installation of a New Boiler having capacity 500 kg/hr. for Bogra Plant (As per Specification of Tender Schedule)	Tk. 1,250.00/set Equivalent to US\$ 18.00 Non-refundable	Closing : <b>22/10/2012</b> at 11.00 AM Opening : <b>22/10/2012</b> at 11.15 AM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of **Essential Drugs Company Limited**, Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The tender will be accompanied by an amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above in the form of Bank Draft / Pay Order / Bank Guarantee from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of **"Essential Drugs Co. Ltd."** without which the tender will be considered as non-responsive.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**(Md. Ali Mukarram)**  
 Manager, Planning & Procurement  
 For : Managing Director.