

No breach

FROM PAGE 1

matter of time now," said the minister.

Meanwhile, Mashir said if he was required to go on long leave because of any understanding between the government and the WB, he would do so.

Asked about his return to office on Thursday after a month's leave, he said, "It does not need any explanation. I took leave from the prime minister and I returned to work after the leave."

Mashir made the comments coming out of the Anti-Corruption Commission's office where he was quizzed in connection with the corruption allegations in the Padma bridge project.

He went to the ACC office in a car without any national flag.

Muhith told reporters, "I think the problem regarding the effectuation of the Padma bridge credit has been settled and I have no doubt or confusion about this."

He said Isabel Guerrero, WB vice president for South Asia Region, will arrive in Dhaka this month to discuss the effectuation of the loan.

The minister was talking to reporters after a meeting of the cabinet committee on economic affairs at the cabinet division.

He didn't give any direct reply to queries about Mashir's leave, and said Economic Relations Division Secretary Iqbal Mahmood, who was by his side, would give a statement later in the afternoon.

Wishing anonymity, a World Bank official said the Bank will closely monitor whether the government is

keeping its pledge.

Later, Mahmood read out a written statement issued by the finance minister at his office. The statement did not say anything about Mashir's leave.

In the statement, Muhith said a WB implementation team will arrive in Dhaka this month and hold talks with the project's other co-financiers.

"We firmly believe that visible work on the Padma bridge will start in the current fiscal year," Muhith said in the statement.

When reporters wanted to know about Mashir's leave, Mahmood said, "I have no official version of what he [Mashir] has said."

The journalists told him that the understanding between the government and the WB was that Mashir would not join office during the ACC probe into the corruption allegations against him. But he joined office.

In reply, Mahmood said, "It is not clear to me whether he has joined office... have you seen that he went to office?"

He said there was a condition that all officials against whom corruption allegations were raised will be on leave while the probe is on, and there has been no breach of it.

When the reporters again asked him about Mashir's leave, he said, "It is useless if you assume something. It's clear that the government's position has not changed. You have to understand."

In the evening, Mashir told journalists that he came to know about the WB's allegations from newspapers.

4 Bangladeshis shot by BSF

STAR REPORT

Four Bangladeshi cattle traders were shot by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) at Agrobhulat border in Benapole early yesterday.

The injured are Amir Hossain, 25, Sarif Hossain, 22, Raja Mia, 30, and Shawkat Ali, 34, of Agrobhulat village.

They were admitted to Jessore Medical College Hospital, reports our correspondent in Benapole.

Mosarraf Hossain, Agrobhulat camp commander of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), said BSF men of Jhoudanga camp in India fired at a group of Bangladeshi cattle traders around 4:30am.

The traders were entering Bangladesh from India with a large consignment of cattle, he said.

Against the backdrop of such border shooting, a four-day deputy director general (DDG)-level conference of BGB and BSF begins at a city hotel in Sylhet today.

The meeting will discuss trans-border issues, including killing incidents at the borders, smuggling of arms and contraband items, and illegal trespassing, reports our staff correspondent in Sylhet.

He said there are factors and forces beyond economic rationale that are inhibiting the implementation of the conditions agreed between the government and the WB.

"Such hiccups in the post-revival period may in the end seriously jeopardise the operationalisation of the loan to the detriment of the country's national development interests," said Bhattacharya.

Additional Superintendent of Police Matiur Rahman testified before the court and was cross-examined by the defence.

Even though the tribunal on Thursday had fixed defence counsels only one more session (each session has two and a half hours) to complete cross-examination of Matiur Rahman, it yesterday extended time and allowed another session after lunch.

Defence counsel Mizanul Islam asked Matiur whether he had any documentary evidence that the crimes committed during the Liberation War were done after consultation with Ghulam Azam.

"In one case I submitted a piece of evidence," he said.

Mizan then made a suggestion that the investigation officer avoided the word "documentary" to avoid the question and gave a different answer.

Matiur said it was not true.

In reply to another suggestion, Matiur said it was not true that there was no involvement of any political people in implementing and planning "Operation Search Light" in 1971.

QUADER MOLLAH
Yesterday Abdus Sobhan Tarafder, defence counsel of Quader Mollah, cross-examined Abdur Razzaque Khan until 1:00pm at the Tribunal-2.

On Thursday, the tribunal asked Sobhan to finish the cross-examination of Razzaque, the 12th and last prosecution witness in the case, within half an hour yesterday. But the tribunal allowed more time as he could not finish.

Razzaque gave his testi-

mony on October 8.

Earlier, the defence of the assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami submitted a list of 965 witnesses to defend their client.

Mohammad Ali, the conducting prosecutor of the case, told The Daily Star yesterday that they filed a petition on October 18 seeking rejection to the "huge list" of defence witnesses and for a direction on them to submit a fresh list not exceeding half the number of prosecution witnesses examined.

"We summoned Kala mainly to gather information on his son's past as well as about his whereabouts," he said.

Earlier, the home ministry had announced a bounty of Tk 10 lakh for Humayun.

Sagar Sarowar, news editor at the private TV station Maarsanga, and his wife Meherun Rumi, senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the small hours of February 11 at their rented apartment in the capital's West Rajabazar.

Hailing from Moulvibazar, Kala, 56, arrived at the Rab headquarters around 10:30am and left the office around 12:45pm.

Jamaat told

Additional Superintendent of Police Matiur Rahman testified before the court and was cross-examined by the defence.

Even though the tribunal on Thursday had fixed defence counsels only one more session (each session has two and a half hours) to complete cross-examination of Matiur Rahman, it yesterday extended time and allowed another session after lunch.

Defence counsel Mizanul Islam asked Matiur whether he had any documentary evidence that the crimes committed during the Liberation War were done after consultation with Ghulam Azam.

"In one case I submitted a piece of evidence," he said.

Mizan then made a suggestion that the investigation officer avoided the word "documentary" to avoid the question and gave a different answer.

Matiur said it was not true.

In reply to another suggestion, Matiur said it was not true that there was no involvement of any political people in implementing and planning "Operation Search Light" in 1971.

SANGRAM REPORTER REBUKED
Tribunal-2 yesterday rebuked a reporter of daily Sangram for a report published on November 2 regarding tribunal's proceeding of last Thursday.

Cautioning the reporter, it asked him to be more serious in writing court proceedings, otherwise action would be taken against him.

"It was my mistake. I apologise for it. I will remain alert while writing court proceedings," said the reporter.

Razzaque gave his testi-

mony on October 8.

Earlier, the defence of the assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami submitted a list of 965 witnesses to defend their client.

Mohammad Ali, the conducting prosecutor of the case, told The Daily Star yesterday that they filed a petition on October 18 seeking rejection to the "huge list" of defence witnesses and for a direction on them to submit a fresh list not exceeding half the number of prosecution witnesses examined.

"We summoned Kala mainly to gather information on his son's past as well as about his whereabouts," he said.

Earlier, the home ministry had announced a bounty of Tk 10 lakh for Humayun.

Sagar Sarowar, news editor at the private TV station Maarsanga, and his wife Meherun Rumi, senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the small hours of February 11 at their rented apartment in the capital's West Rajabazar.

Hailing from Moulvibazar, Kala, 56, arrived at the Rab headquarters around 10:30am and left the office around 12:45pm.

Jamaat told

Additional Superintendent of Police Matiur Rahman testified before the court and was cross-examined by the defence.

Even though the tribunal on Thursday had fixed defence counsels only one more session (each session has two and a half hours) to complete cross-examination of Matiur Rahman, it yesterday extended time and allowed another session after lunch.

Defence counsel Mizanul Islam asked Matiur whether he had any documentary evidence that the crimes committed during the Liberation War were done after consultation with Ghulam Azam.

"In one case I submitted a piece of evidence," he said.

Mizan then made a suggestion that the investigation officer avoided the word "documentary" to avoid the question and gave a different answer.

Matiur said it was not true.

In reply to another suggestion, Matiur said it was not true that there was no involvement of any political people in implementing and planning "Operation Search Light" in 1971.

SANGRAM REPORTER REBUKED
Tribunal-2 yesterday rebuked a reporter of daily Sangram for a report published on November 2 regarding tribunal's proceeding of last Thursday.

Cautioning the reporter, it asked him to be more serious in writing court proceedings, otherwise action would be taken against him.

"It was my mistake. I apologise for it. I will remain alert while writing court proceedings," said the reporter.

Razzaque gave his testi-

mony on October 8.

Earlier, the defence of the assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami submitted a list of 965 witnesses to defend their client.

Mohammad Ali, the conducting prosecutor of the case, told The Daily Star yesterday that they filed a petition on October 18 seeking rejection to the "huge list" of defence witnesses and for a direction on them to submit a fresh list not exceeding half the number of prosecution witnesses examined.

"We summoned Kala mainly to gather information on his son's past as well as about his whereabouts," he said.

Earlier, the home ministry had announced a bounty of Tk 10 lakh for Humayun.

Sagar Sarowar, news editor at the private TV station Maarsanga, and his wife Meherun Rumi, senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the small hours of February 11 at their rented apartment in the capital's West Rajabazar.

Hailing from Moulvibazar, Kala, 56, arrived at the Rab headquarters around 10:30am and left the office around 12:45pm.

Jamaat told

Additional Superintendent of Police Matiur Rahman testified before the court and was cross-examined by the defence.

Even though the tribunal on Thursday had fixed defence counsels only one more session (each session has two and a half hours) to complete cross-examination of Matiur Rahman, it yesterday extended time and allowed another session after lunch.

Defence counsel Mizanul Islam asked Matiur whether he had any documentary evidence that the crimes committed during the Liberation War were done after consultation with Ghulam Azam.

"In one case I submitted a piece of evidence," he said.

Mizan then made a suggestion that the investigation officer avoided the word "documentary" to avoid the question and gave a different answer.

Matiur said it was not true.

In reply to another suggestion, Matiur said it was not true that there was no involvement of any political people in implementing and planning "Operation Search Light" in 1971.

SANGRAM REPORTER REBUKED
Tribunal-2 yesterday rebuked a reporter of daily Sangram for a report published on November 2 regarding tribunal's proceeding of last Thursday.

Cautioning the reporter, it asked him to be more serious in writing court proceedings, otherwise action would be taken against him.

"It was my mistake. I apologise for it. I will remain alert while writing court proceedings," said the reporter.

Razzaque gave his testi-

mony on October 8.

Earlier, the defence of the assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami submitted a list of 965 witnesses to defend their client.

Mohammad Ali, the conducting prosecutor of the case, told The Daily Star yesterday that they filed a petition on October 18 seeking rejection to the "huge list" of defence witnesses and for a direction on them to submit a fresh list not exceeding half the number of prosecution witnesses examined.

"We summoned Kala mainly to gather information on his son's past as well as about his whereabouts," he said.

Earlier, the home ministry had announced a bounty of Tk 10 lakh for Humayun.

Sagar Sarowar, news editor at the private TV station Maarsanga, and his wife Meherun Rumi, senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were killed in the small hours of February 11 at their rented apartment in the capital's West Rajabazar.

Hailing from Moulvibazar, Kala, 56, arrived at the Rab headquarters around 10:30am and left the office around 12:45pm.

Jamaat told

Additional Superintendent of Police Matiur Rahman testified before the court and was cross-examined by the defence.

Even though the tribunal on Thursday had fixed defence counsels only one more session (each session has two and a half hours) to complete cross-examination of Matiur Rahman, it yesterday extended time and allowed another session after lunch.

Defence counsel Mizanul Islam asked Matiur whether he had any documentary evidence that the crimes committed during the Liberation War were done after consultation with Ghulam Azam.

"In one case I submitted a piece of evidence," he said.

Mizan then made a suggestion that the investigation officer avoided the word "documentary" to avoid the question and gave a different answer.

Matiur said it was not true.

In reply to another suggestion, Matiur said it was not true that there was no involvement of any political people in implementing and planning "Operation Search Light" in 1971.

SANGRAM REPORTER REBUKED
Tribunal-2 yesterday rebuked a reporter of daily Sangram for a report published on November 2 regarding tribunal's proceeding of last Thursday.

Cautioning the reporter, it asked him to be more serious in writing court proceedings, otherwise action would be taken against him.

"It was my mistake. I apologise for it. I will remain alert while writing court proceedings," said the reporter.

Razzaque gave his testi-

mony on October 8.

Earlier, the defence of the assistant secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami submitted a list of 965 witnesses to defend their client.

Mohammad Ali, the conducting prosecutor of the case, told The Daily Star yesterday that they filed a petition on October 18 seeking rejection to the "huge list" of defence witnesses and for a direction on them to submit a fresh list not exceeding half the number of prosecution witnesses examined.

"We summoned Kala mainly to gather information on his son's past as well as about his whereabouts," he said.