

# Skype hacking

FROM PAGE 20

Huq and Ahmed Ziauddin, a Belgium-based Bangladeshi legal expert, was published in a Bangla daily earlier this month, the defence had claimed Justice Huq copied the formal charges from the latter.

The attorney general appealed to the tribunal to reject the defence prayers for reinitiating the trial against former Jamaat chief Ghulam Azam and another Jamaat leader Sayeedee.

Upon completion of the defence submission, Alam, on behalf of the prosecution, placed his arguments at the International Crimes Tribunal-1.

Reading out the formal charges and the defence-submitted copy, the attorney general said, "The formal charge is absolutely different."

What Ghulam Azam had done during the Liberation War in 1971 is well known and Ziauddin might have added some dates, he argued.

Once the members of the tribunal sign a paper, it becomes the property of the tribunal, not property of anyone else, he explained.

Earlier in the morning, defence counsel Mizanul Islam claimed the former chairman had copied the formal charge, which was sent from abroad.

At this point, Justice Kabir, who was a member of the tribunal-1 at that time, said, "I can clearly remember that Zaheer [former member of the tribunal-1 Judge AKM Zaheer Ahmed] and I made the draft."

The tribunal chairman also said the language and structure followed in the formal charge were common in the sub-continent and was not followed in the west.

Justice Kabir also said he did not know whether Justice Huq mailed it to anyone.

"Since you said you did it, we can assume you must have made the draft. But you did not know whether he [Justice Huq] had communication with anyone," Mizanul argued.

The attorney general said

in the petition it is seen the hacked Skype conversation had been recorded from the end of August this year.

"Someone had been employed to record the conversation or they might have bought Ahmed Ziauddin," he said, adding, that means they were aware of the alleged conversation long before but did not disclose it earlier.

They disclosed it at a moment when Sayeedee's case was awaiting verdict, he added.

Alam prayed to the tribunal to issue a rule upon the defence as to from where and how the alleged conversation was collected.

Saying hacking is a crime he prayed to the tribunal not to show sympathy to the petitioners.

The attorney general made his arguments on two grounds.

Quoting some sections of the Information and Communication Technology Act, 2006, he said hacking is a crime and such petition based on hacking is illegal and should be nullified.

He added through the hacking the fundamental rights of the former chairman were violated as per the constitution.

The article (43) of the constitution says every citizen shall have the right, subject to any reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interests of the security of the State, public order, public morality or public health - (a) to be secured in his home against entry, search and seizure; and (b) to the privacy of his correspondence and other means of communication.

Defence counsel Abdur Razzaq had pointed out orders on some cases in India regarding public interest saying the hacked conversation had public interest.

The attorney general countered the defence counsel's claim showing India's constitution.

He said the part-3 of India's constitution which protects fundamental rights does not have any provision like the constitution of

the tribunal's proceedings.

in the parliamentary elections, scrutinising their applications.

The AL council has also empowered newly elected President Sheikh Hasina and General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam to choose other members of the AL central committee, which is supposed to be comprised of members elected by councillors as members of the board.

"Another three or four members will be included in the board to complete its formation."

AL president and general secretary are ex-officio members of the parliamentary board. They also act as its president and general secretary respectively.

The parliamentary board nominates party candidates

added.

AKM Mozammel Huq, who was an election commissioner at the council, said the council elected some leaders, including Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, Amir Hossain Amu, Tofail Ahmed, Suranjit Sengupta and Obaidul Quader as members of the board.

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for "clemency" to the accused, the minister said it is not possible for her government to keep any request from any one for clemency to any war criminal.

The oil tanker was headed for Chandpur with diesel and kerosene loaded from Jamuna Oil Company near the port area.

The CPA secretary said the spill could not spread much since the hole was soon repaired, although temporarily.

Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority has sent another oil tanker to the spot to have the oil transferred from the damaged one.

## Power tariff

FROM PAGE 1

recommended the hike after evaluating the arguments of both parties in the hearing," said newly-appointed BERC Chairman Mohammad Imdadul Haque.

He said if power prices are increased in line with the committee's recommendation, it will eventually add to the sufferings of common people, especially farmers in the next Boro season.

But it will be difficult for the PDB to maintain uninterrupted electricity supply if power prices are not increased to reduce its losses, he said.

"That is why the committee recommended a power price hike, which is rational." And the BERC will give its decision soon, said Haque.

Earlier, the present government increased power prices for the sixth time from September 1 by 15 percent at retail level.

## Bus crash

FROM PAGE 1

Identity of two other deceased could not be known immediately.

Nazrul Islam, a sergeant of Narsingdi Highway Police, said ten of the microbus passengers died on the spot while two others succumbed to their injuries on the way to Narsingdi District Hospital and Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Of the injured, 16 took treatment at local clinics and hospitals while two others were admitted to DMCH and Narsingdi District Hospital.

The condition of the lone surviving microbus passenger was critical, said the police official quoting doctors at Narsingdi District Hospital.

KM Firoz, officer-in-charge of Shibpur Police Station, told The Daily Star that the bodies were sent to Narsingdi Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsies.

Meanwhile, war crimes accused Salauddin Quader Chowdhury yesterday filed a petition with the tribunal seeking an order whether any member of the tribunal or its current chairman is or has been privy to the conversations and the criminally collusive actions related to the tribunal's proceedings.

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The jetty was damaged due to the collision.

Farhad added that an oil-cleaning vessel, Bay Cleaner-2, of the CPA hurried to the spot and cleaned the oil slick by afternoon.

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The CPA secretary said the spill could not spread much since the hole was soon repaired, although temporarily.

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Sultan, among others, might return as members on the next committee.

Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, outgoing organising secretary, however said he does not think there is any such possibility of bringing them back.

Many of the councillors said they were happy to elect Hasina as the party chief again. They think there is no alternative to her in the party. But several councillors expressed negative views on Syed Ashraful Islam being re-elected as the general secretary.

She is the daughter of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Rahman. She has immense potential to contribute to the country as well as the party. We are happy to have her elected again," said councillor Abdur Rashid from Mymensingh.

However, a councillor said they would not come to the council had they known Ashraf would be re-elected. Many others echoed the same.

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Shahriar Mahmud Adnan, prime minister's press secretary made a similar claim.

The press secretary, Abul Kalam Azad, went on to claim that while some of the attackers identified by the media had in the past link with BNP or Jamaat-Shibir politics, the family members of some other suspects had or still have connection with the opposition party.

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