

Stranded crew

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ownership of the vessel had been changed and Malta-based FIMBank, a cross-border trade finance bank, had handed over salary cheques to the crew.

The crew -- 24 in total, of whom five are Pakistanis -- had seven months' salaries due. The Pakistanis left the ship for home yesterday.

Habibur said he was handed over a cheque of \$40,000, which is worth around his salary for six months.

The move to rescue the

crew came after The Daily Star had run a report on February 27 on the crew running out of supplies in the ship detained at outer anchorage of the Indian port.

With the publishing of the report, the authorities gave the ship permission to enter the port the following day and supplied food and water immediately, said Captain Habibur Rahman.

The ship was detained for not complying with safety rules and its owner company Silvia Ship

Management's dues to Indian and Sri Lankan companies.

The captain however could not give any details about the ship's ongoing paperwork.

On February 26, wife of the ship's captain said owner of Silvia Ship Management Mujib Rahman Milon had stopped keeping contact with the crew almost two months ago. Lately, the ship had run out of supplies, she added.

Built in Japan in 1981, MV Fatahpur Rahman had

started from Myanmar with timber and anchored at Visakhapatnam on October 4, 2012.

The ship's owner company owes \$2 lakh to a fuel company in Colombo and has dues with a bank, a fuel company and a workshop in Mumbai. They together filed the case with a Mumbai High Court.

The authorities earlier verbally informed the crew that a case had been pending with the Admiralty court of Mumbai High Court, which had issued the ship's detention.

Hartal impacts on kitchen markets

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agri-produce from all over the country, but that figure has come down to 50-60, and that too from nearby places such as Comilla, Narsingdi and Tangail.

Since Sunday, trucks and covered van owners have stopped operating their vehicles, especially in Bogra, Rajshahi, Joypurhat and Rangpur, fearing arson attacks.

At Shyambazar, supply of essential items was also hit hard due to the ongoing violence.

Farm producers bring goods to Shyambazar by river and road, said Mohammad Sayed, president of Shyambazar agri-product shop owners association.

Around 2,000-3,000 trucks come from Chittagong to Dhaka a day, said Rustam Ali, general secretary of Bangladesh Truck-Covered Van Owners' Association.

"But the route is not at all safe now. Not even a single truck has braved the hartal," he informed.

The inadequate supply has already caused prices of vegetables to spiral in

the city markets.

Potatoes were selling at Tk 16 a kg yesterday at Pallasya Bazar, up from Tk 14-15 a week ago. Onion prices rose to Tk 45 a kg from Tk 40 a week ago.

Each piece of cauliflower was selling at Tk 25 yesterday at Karwan Bazar kitchen market, up from Tk 15-20 a week ago. Carrot was selling at Tk 15 a kg, which was Tk 12 a week ago.

Presence of customers was also very thin at the city's kitchen markets yesterday.

Education left in the lurch

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nationwide hartals enforced by Jamaat-e-Islami. Another shutdown enforced by some Islamist parties on February 24 forced the authorities to reschedule the exams for that day.

Moreover, the main opposition BNP is enforcing a dawn-to-dusk strike today, resulting in yet another deferral of exams.

Most of the postponed exams have been rescheduled for weekends.

Talking to The Daily Star, examinees, teachers and guardians expressed deep frustration over the recurrent strikes and urged the political parties not to announce any more hartal during public examinations.

"I am already dispirited by recurrent hartals. I had good preparations for one subject, but that exam was

postponed and I had to apply full concentration on another subject," said Anik Rahman Oni, an SSC examinee of Badda area in the capital.

Student of Lalmatia Mahila College, Naima Sultana said, "Once an examination is postponed, we lose our interest in that subject as we are compelled to make preparations again."

Mahfuzur Rahman, whose daughter is taking the SSC exams from Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, said, "We are gravely concerned about the situation. If it goes on like this, we don't know when the exams will be over and the results will be published."

Political parties should consider the students' plight before announcing any such programme as the students are held hostage to these programmes, he observed.

Manju Ara Begum, acting principal of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, said hartals make it difficult for educational institutions to complete the syllabus within the academic year.

"It will not be possible to publish the results in time if the examinations are delayed frequently," she added.

Dhaka Education Board will not be able to finish the exams and distribute the answer sheets among the examiners as per schedule.

Preferring anonymity, a senior official of the board said, "We had published the results of SSC and HSC exams within 60 days of the completion of exams. But this time around, it would be tough to maintain the time frame."

The examinees under the National University (NU) faced a similar ordeal.

Already, several examinations have been postponed due to shutdowns. If the situation goes on, it might see the university plunge into a severe session jam, feared NU officials.

Currently, examinations in different courses of honours 2nd year, and masters are going on.

"We need to hold exams round the year and if an examination is postponed, it affects the entire academic calendar of the university. We already have session jam in the university and if the exams are not finished in due time, it would definitely worsen the situation," said Badruzzaman, controller of examinations at NU.

Request For Proposal

For Provision of customs clearance and freight forwarding services for air and sea shipments on Long Term Agreement (LTA) basis

Reference: RFP-BD-2013-007



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The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is seeking qualified clearing companies/firms to provide customs clearance and freight forwarding services on long term agreement (LTA) basis. All interested companies may download the Bidding documents (RFP) from http://www.undp.org.bd/proc_more.php through a formal registration process that will register bidders into the participants list, so any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and respective answers can be sent to all bidders.

Submission of Proposal: The envelope should state the tender subject mentioned above and should be submitted to the **UNDP-Registry**, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Thursday, 14th March, 2013, 13:00 Hours local time.**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

for
PROVISION OF CONFERENCE AND HOTEL SERVICES
Ref: EOI-BD-2013-003



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UNDP Bangladesh is seeking to develop a database of venues and hotels to provide **Conference and Hotel Services** to UN Offices and their Affiliated/ Administered Projects/ Offices. All interested companies may collect the Bidding documents (EOI) from http://www.undp.org.bd/proc_detail.php?id=448 through a formal registration process that will register bidders into participants list, so any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and respective answers can be sent to all bidders.

Submission of Proposals: Sealed envelopes should state the tender subject mentioned above and should be submitted to the **UNDP-Registry**, IDB Bhaban, 12th Floor, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **17 March 2013, 04.30 p.m. Local Time.**

Govt wraps up

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the tribunal could know which ones to take into judicial notice.

Ghulam Azam is facing five charges, based on 61 incidents, in connection with planning war crimes, hatching conspiracies, inciting people against the Liberation War, murder and torture, and complicity in crimes against humanity.

Prosecution produced 17 witnesses and submitted 530 documents as evidence.

Malum later claimed before journalists, "He [Ghulam Azam] is 90 years old but it will not be considered in the verdict. His age during the Liberation War would be considered," he said.

Following completion of argument by the prosecution, the tribunal asked defence lawyer Abu Bakkar Siddique to begin their closing argument.

Siddique told the tribunal that senior lawyers could not show up in court due to personal reasons. He sought adjournment for a week.

Tribunal-1 Chairman Justice ATM Fazle Kabir partially accepted his prayer and adjourned the proceeding until Thursday.

The defence would begin its arguments on that day.

The case would be closed awaiting verdict delivery once the defence finishes its closing arguments.

Meanwhile, the International Crimes Tribunal-1 also fixed

March 25 for two journalists of The Economist -- Chief Editor Rob Gifford and South Asia Bureau Chief Adam Roberts -- to respond to a notice issued against them by the tribunal.

In the morning, barrister Mustafizur Rahman, counsel for the journalists, prayed the tribunal to allow two weeks' time to submit the reply as he was yet to receive their response on the matter.

Allowing their prayer, the tribunal fixed the date.

Former Tribunal-1 chairman Justice Md Nizamul Huq served the notice upon the journalists on December 6, 2012.

On that day, Justice Huq said his email and Skype accounts had been hacked and The Economist had in its possession the correspondence between him and a Brussels-based legal expert.

The Tribunal-1 asked the duo to reply within three weeks as to why proceedings under 11 (4) of International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, should not be carried against them.

The Tribunal on February 3 gave them one month's time to respond.

The tribunal yesterday also adjourned the war crimes case against BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury until March 12.

Prosecutor Malum in his submission said he could not produce the 21st witness due to unavoidable circumstances and sought adjournment.

SC to hear govt

FROM PAGE 1
crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War.

Meanwhile, Mollah, seeking acquittal, yesterday filed an appeal with the apex court challenging the imprisonment handed down to him.

Yesterday, Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain, chamber judge of the Appellate Division, sent the government appeal to the full bench following an application filed earlier in the day by the government for fixing a date for the hearing.

The court authorities in the afternoon listed the appeal as item-27 in today's hearing list of the apex court.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star that the apex court may hold hearings on both the appeals together.

The Appellate Division would have to dispose of the appeals within 60 days of their filing.

The government on Sunday appealed seeking death penalty to Mollah for each of the six charges he faced at Tribunal-2. The tribunal convicted the 65-year-old on five wartime criminal offences out of six he was charged with.

After delivery of the verdict, youths gathered at Shahbagh in the capital demanding capital punishment to all war criminals. The unprecedented sit-in demonstration led to the parliament amending the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, with

a provision that allowed the state to file an appeal with the Supreme Court against any inadequate sentencing of the tribunals.

In Mollah's case, the tribunal awarded him life sentence (30 years) for two of the five acts of crimes against humanity in which at least 350 Bangladeshis were killed and a girl was raped.

He also got 15 years' imprisonment for complicity in three other criminal offences in which six people were killed.

He was acquitted of the sixth charge of killing hundreds of people at Keraniganj during the Liberation War.

The appeal also sought Mollah's death penalty on the above charge.

Earlier yesterday, Quader Mollah filed his appeal through his lawyers, claiming himself innocent. He cited 85 grounds for his acquittal.

Mollah's lawyers, led by Tajul Islam and Farid Uddin Khan, submitted the 90-page appeal along with 3,000 pages of documents. Jamaat Assistant Secretary General Mollah in the appeal said the Tribunal-2 verdict against him was wrong since it had convicted and sentenced him based on hearsay witness statements.

Mollah was in Faridpur, not in Dhaka, during the nine-month Liberation War but the offences, for which charges were brought against him, took place in Dhaka, claimed his appeal.

Bangladesh Computer Council

Pilot Program for Establishment of Virtual Desktop Computing Network Lab

(Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal Division)

BCC Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207

Invitation for Tenders(Multiple Lot)

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1	Ministry/Division:	Ministry of Information & Communication Technology
2	Agency:	Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC)
3	Procuring Entity Name:	Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC)
4	Procuring Entity Code:	Not used at present
5	Procuring Entity District:	Dhaka
6	Invitation For:	Goods
7	Invitation Ref No.:	56.111.018.00.1962.2013-372
8	Date:	03-March-2013
9	Procurement Method:	NCT , Open Tendering Method(OTM)
10	Budget and Source of Funds:	Revenue Budget (GoB)
11	Development Partner:	N/A
12	Project/Programme Code:	-
13	Project/Programme Name:	Pilot Program for Establishment of Virtual Desktop Computing Network Lab (Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal Division)
14	Tender Package No.:	01 of FY 2012-13
15	Tender Package Name:	Supply and Installation of Personal Computer, Laptop Computer, Terminal Device, Monitor, Keyboard, Mouse, LAN Accessories, Printer, UPS, USB Mobile Modem, Multimedia Projector, Furniture and Training
16	Tender Publication Date:	04- March-2013
17	Tender Last Selling Date:	01- April-2013
18	Tender Closing Date and Time:	02- April -2013 at 2:00 PM
19	Tender Opening Date and Time:	02- April -2013 at 02:30 PM
20	Name & Addresses of the Offices :	Selling Tender Document: Room# 211, 1 st Floor, BCC Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207 Receiving Tender Document: Conference Room, 1 st Floor, BCC Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207 Opening Tender Document: Conference Room, 1 st Floor, BCC Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207
21	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional):	18-March-2013, at 10:30 AM, Conference Room, 1 st Floor, BCC Bhaban, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka 1207
22	Eligibility of Tenderer:	Renowned Manufacturer/Distributor/Agent
23	Brief Description of Goods or Works:	Supply and installation of 170 nos. Personal Computer, 170 nos. Laptop, 1360 nos. Terminal Device, 1530 nos. (Monitor, Keyboard & Mouse), 170 sets LAN Accessories (16 port Switch, UTP Cable, RJ