

IRREGULARITY IN HIRING ACC sues Padma Oil MD

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Anti-Corruption Commission, Chittagong office yesterday sued 91 employees of the state-run Padma Oil Company Limited, including its managing director, on charge of illegally hiring workers.

Morshed Alam, deputy director of ACC, Chittagong filed three cases with Sadarghat Police Station in this connection.

The accused are Padma Oil Company Limited's Managing Director Abul Khayer, General Manager Helal Ahmed Chowdhury, Assistant General Manager Rafiqul Hasan and the 88 illegally employed workers, said Md Ferdous, sub-inspector of Sadarghat Police Station.

The 88 employees were illegally appointed to different posts in the company between 2009 and 2010. The appointments were not made as per the company rules, said Morshed Alam.

The accused, in collusion with each other, harmed the company for their financial benefits, he said. The cases were filed after an ACC probe team found proof regarding the allegation, he added.

DOMESTIC, INT'L LAWS IN WAR CRIMES TRIAL ICT act preferable Amicus curiae tells SC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Eminent lawyer Ajmalul Hossain yesterday told the Supreme Court that the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973 would get priority to try the 1971 crimes against humanity, if there was any conflict between this act and the customary international laws.

Fundamental issues of the customary international laws prevail in the ICT act since the act was formulated on the basis of those laws, he said.

Ajmalul, who holds the status of Queen's Counsel (QC), placed his opinions as an amicus curiae (friend of court) before the Appellate Division during hearing of the appeals about the war crimes trial verdict against Jamaat-e-Islami leader Abdul Quader Mollah.

The senior counsel said the customary international laws might be acceptable, if there was any ambiguity or gap in the ICT act. The constitution protects the act, he added.

The apex court earlier questioned whether the customary international laws are applicable to the International Crimes Tribunals constituted under the ICT act and whether the amendment to the ICT act, which cleared the way for challenging inadequate sentences of convicts, is applicable to the case of Quader Mollah.

Ajmalul Hossain is expected to place further arguments on the amendment to the ICT act on Sunday, till when the court was adjourned.

Earlier three other amici curiae--Mahmudul Islam, Rafique-Ul Huq and M Amir-Ul Islam--opined before the SC that the amendment to the ICT act was applicable to the case of Quader Mollah.

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 on February 5 jailed Quader Mollah for life for committing five crimes during the country's Liberation War.

The government on March 3 filed an appeal with the SC seeking death penalty for Mollah, while the convict filed a separate appeal with the same court on March 4 seeking acquittal from the charges.

TI corruption allegations against judiciary unclear: SCBA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) yesterday said the Transparency International's (TI) survey report on corruption in the judiciary was not clear.

Making wholesale allegations of corruption against the judiciary is not fair, SCBA Secretary AM Mahubb Uddin Khokon told a press briefing at SCBA office in the capital.

According to the TI survey, political parties and police are the most corrupt institutions followed by the judiciary, parliament and government administration in Bangladesh.

Khokon said some incidents of corruption, nepotism and politicisation were taking place in the judiciary, as the government had appointed judges on political consideration.

He said wholesale corruption allegations were being made against the judges due to allegations of financial transactions of a few of them.

If there is any specific allegation against a judge, it has to be disclosed, he said.



Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel carries out a fire drill in conjunction with a National Fire Brigade team in the capital on Monday as part of its ongoing safety and security measure.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Provide affordable healthcare for RMG workers Urges Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ready-made garment (RMG) workers should be provided with healthcare at affordable rates in recognition of their contribution to the country's economy, said Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury yesterday.

"This is because a study (of International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh conducted earlier this year) shows that a Bangladeshi citizen has to bear 64 percent of his health expenses, which can be a burden," he said.

Thus, RMG workers should be given certain concessions, he told a workshop, "It is the state's responsibility to reduce people's expenses in accessing healthcare", organised by Shasthaya Andolon, a health activists' collective, in the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

RMG workers will be able to afford healthcare if diagnosis, surgery, treatment and physiotherapy are cost-free

and expensive tests like colonoscopy and sigmoidoscopy, computed tomography for the head, or Magnetic Resonance Imaging discounted, said Dr Zafrullah.

He said such considerations would also make RMG workers access health insurance, costing them Tk 1,500 a year and each of their family members Tk 1,000.

A World Bank study shows that 44 percent of financially insolvent patients take advice from salesclerks at pharmacies because they cannot afford the lengthy, expensive process of seeking expert consultations, said Dr Zafrullah.

Prof Maj (ret) Dr Laila Arjumand Banu of Labaid Hospitals said medical expenses also made people neglect minor illnesses without realising that those may be symptoms of bigger diseases. "They also seek expensive private medical advice because they get better service and a better value for their money," she added.

KU life science students end fast-unto-death

Term finals to be held July 24

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Students of Khulna University's Life Science School yesterday withdrew their fast-unto-death programme after the school authorities announced that the term finals will be held on July 24.

The students began their programme on Sunday demanding that teachers hold classes and final examinations. Some teachers of the school have been boycotting all academic activities to protest the appointment of Prof Samir Kumar Sadhu as the dean of the school.

Meanwhile, responding to a writ petition filed by 31 KU teachers, the High Court ordered the KU authorities to hold the final examinations within the next three weeks. The HC bench of Judge Mirza Hossain Haider and Judge Khorsheed Alam also asked the KU authorities to explain the appointment of Prof Samir within the same period, said KU Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Fayequzzaman.

৪ বছর মেয়াদী ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং প্রোগ্রাম

মেরিন ও অ্যারোনটিক্যাল-এ ভর্তি চলছে

❖ মেরিন টেকনোলজি ❖ শিপ বিল্ডিং টেকনোলজি
❖ অ্যারোস্পেস ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ❖ এভিওনিক্স ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং

ভর্তি যোগ্যতা: ৪র্থ এস সি/এস এস সি বিজ্ঞান/বিজ্ঞান বিভাগ থেকে স্নাতক জিপিএ ৩.০০/৩.৫০

বিশেষ সুবিধা: নামকরা প্রতিষ্ঠানে ইন্টারমিডিয়েট প্রিন্সিপাল ও টিচার, জব প্রেসেন্টেশন, নিম্ন হোস্টেল সুবিধা

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বাড়ি-১, রোড-২, ব্রক-বি, সেকশন-৬, মিরপুর, ঢাকা. ০১৭৬৭১৭০৫০-৫৬, ০১৯৩৬০০৫৮১৬-৮

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