

SQ CHY AT WAR CRIMES TRIAL Genocide charges against him proved

Insists prosecution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP leader Salauddin Quader Chowdhury was involved in the killing of the Hindus of Maddhaya Gohira, Sultanpur and Raizan of Chittagong during the Liberation War in 1971, the prosecution told the International Crimes Tribunal yesterday.

It was the second hearing of the arguments by the prosecutors in a war crimes case against Salauddin.

"We have been able to prove the act of genocide by Salauddin Quader Chowdhury beyond any doubt," prosecutor Sultan Mahmud Simon said, referring to the testimonies of the witnesses and documentary evidence submitted earlier to the court.

Salauddin is facing 23 charges of war crimes.

According to the third charge, SQ Chowdhury accompanied the Pakistan army to Kundeshwari Aushadhalaya of Gohira on April 13, 1971. On his

instructions, the army personnel shot the founder of the herbal medicine factory, Nutan Chandra Singha. While Nutan was writhing on the ground, SQ Chowdhury himself shot Nutan to confirm his death.

Bullets hit Nutan's face and chest on the left side, Sultan quoted the fourth prosecution witness in the case, Gouranga Chandra Singha, to have told the tribunal.

Seeing the army men, Gouranga, nephew of Nutan, took shelter in a nearby jungle on that day. Gopal Chandra Das, who was with Gouranga, at that time hid on the first floor of Nutan's house, from where he witnessed the shooting.

Gouranga later heard about the incident from Gopal.

Prof Anisuzzaman, first prosecution witness of the case, had also narrated before the court as to how SQ Chowdhury had been involved in the murder of Nutan.

Prosecutor Sultan also pointed to a report in the April 13, 1972 issue of the then

Bangla daily Banglar Kagoz, which described the involvement of SQ Chowdhury in the killing of Nutan.

He also argued over three other charges against SQ Chowdhury with reference to the evidence submitted to the court to prove them.

Charge no. 5 of the 23 charges reads: the accused and his accomplices led Pakistani army men to attack Hindu people at Bonicpara on April 13, 1971. Four people were killed in that incident.

The prosecution earlier produced Anil Baran Dhar, who lost his left hand in the attack.

During cross-examination by the defence, Anil had told the court that gangrene developed in his left hand, caused by bullet injuries, and that was why the hand had to be amputated.

Prosecutor Sultan yesterday said Anil's statements again proved that SQ Chowdhury had led the attack on the village.

The prosecution will continue its arguments today.

Cambodian opposition rejects election results

AFP, Phnom Penh

Cambodia's opposition yesterday rejected the results of closely fought weekend elections and called for an investigation into "serious irregularities", saying it was robbed of a victory over strongman premier Hun Sen.

Ingrigorated by the recent return from exile of its leader Sam Rainsy, the newly united opposition made significant gains in Sunday's polls, which independent monitors also criticised as flawed.

It was the worst election result for the ruling party since 1998.

Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) announced late Sunday it had taken an estimated 68 out of the 123 seats in the lower house, against an increased 55 for the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP).

Govt moves

He instructed the law enforcers to beef up security at the terminals and on the highways to ensure safe journey during the festival.

If necessary, plainclothes law enforcers will be deployed, Quader told the meeting.

Under the plan, 21 monitoring teams of roads and highways department will watch the highways and roads before and after the Eid.

"In case there are potholes on the highways, the teams will repair those," said Quader, adding that 5,000 Rab members will remain standby.

He said special bus, launch and train services would also be introduced.

Railway Minister Mujibul Haque, State Minister for Home Shamsul Hoque Tuku, secretaries and officials of different ministries and divisions and inspector general of police attended the meeting.

The 60-year-old premier - who has been in power for 28 years -- is regularly accused of ignoring human rights and muzzling political freedoms.

Shoe factory

College Hospital with 19 to 90 percent burn.

After visiting the spot, Station Officer of Lalbagh Fire Station Nasrin Sultana told The Daily Star that two fire engines had doused the flame immediately.

She said fire fighters had found the blown-up chemical drum, labelled as "Thinner", a solvent used to dissolve paints, outside the tinshed factory housed on the roof of a two-storey building.

Eye witness Arif Hossain, worker of an adjacent factory who was the first to respond to the accident, said: "Sparks on to the chemical drum from a nearby welding work originated the fire. At that time, workers were spraying the soles. The sprayers soon caught fire and spread the blaze."

Arif said another fire had broken out in the same factory on the third day of this Ramadan injuring three people.

Defence

finding him guilty of five of the seven charges brought against him.

On June 6, Kamaruzzaman appealed to the SC against the verdict and sought acquittal.

Earlier in the day, defence counsel Abdur Razzaq prayed to the bench to give him two weeks' time for submitting the statement after the court reopens on September 15.

Deputy Attorney General Ekramul Haque Tutul told The Daily Star that the government had already submitted a concise statement on the appeal to the SC on July 9.

GB commission to defend

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The government established the commission in May last year to review Grameen Bank's governing structure and its relations to the 48 associated companies founded by Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus.

"The associated organisations did not supply the commission with adequate information and documents that it had sought. Their line of reasoning was that they do not have any connections with Grameen Bank."

The commission, however, has unearthed some links, according to Hossain.

"We have got some evidence that Grameen Bank has set up the associated organisations. We have seen that they were given direct and indirect financial assistance."

The commission would make recommendations such that Grameen Bank receives benefits from these organisations for financial assistance during their establishment.

The lawyer admitted that due to lack of time the commission could not look into the accounts of

the associated organisations to verify the flow of money to and from Grameen Bank. Recommendations, therefore, would be made in this regard.

"If the government establishes that Grameen Bank has extended financial support to those organisations, it's only right that benefits come to it, too."

Prof Yunus, however, has always maintained that the organisations are legally independent and have no connections with the bank.

In its interim report in February this year, the commission said that the original licence for Grameenphone, the country's biggest mobile operator, was obtained illegally.

The report calls for Grameenphone's licence to be immediately suspended, or for Telenor to relinquish 16 percent of Grameenphone to Grameen Bank, which was set up to provide credit to poor, rural women.

"The 16 percent that was supposed to go to Grameen Bank from Grameenphone has not been transferred. But, it would not be wise to suspend the licence as it is an

operational organisation," Hossain said, adding that the report would elaborate on the issue.

He said some legal changes should be brought to run the bank more efficiently, but did not give any specifics.

The commission has also found out some deficiencies in the central bank's inspection of the microcredit organisation.

"When any report is submitted to the ministry, actions are not taken -- we will highlight the issues."

It also noted the absence of any substantial regulatory role from the government or Bangladesh Bank in the functioning of Grameen Bank since changes to the Ordinance in 1990.

"So, the commission might recommend a separate regulatory body for the bank," Hossain added.

The commission's final report is yet to be handed in, although the deadline for submission has expired on July 20.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith said the report might be submitted before the Eid vacations, due to start from next week.

Extortionists on the prowl

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dead by criminals in Rampura after he staged a rally in the area against extortion.

An RMG official in Mirpur sustained bullet injuries in the abdomen and right leg on July 9 after he refused to provide a group of criminals with jhut (garment waste).

In the press briefing, Monirul said the complainants did not need to disclose their identities while

informing police about the extortion by criminals over the phone.

He also cautioned people about the criminal activities of many gangs involved in mugging, pick-pocketing and doping.

Saying that the incidents of mugging have taken an alarming rise before the Eid, he suggested the passengers to become extra cautious while riding on a CNG or taxicab.

CNG or taxicab drivers may attempt to stop their

vehicles in a comparatively quiet area to get the passengers mugged, he added.

Monirul also said they had tightened security in the capital's snatching-prone places, and the number of plainclothes police team had also been increased.

"People should also inform police through the hotline numbers or lodge complaint at their nearest police station if they are harassed by fake law enforcers," he added.

Modified brinjal

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pest-resistant genes -- which could see a drastic fall in the use of harmful pesticides in the crop.

Of all vegetables produced in the country, brinjal tops the list in terms of pesticide use.

Fruit and shoot borer, considered the most devastating pest in South and Southeast Asia, ravages brinjal fields and can cause loss of the crop by as much as 70 percent unless a heavy dose of pesticide is used.

Contacted, Farida Akhter said yesterday they filed the writ apprehending that release of the GM crop would cause loss of biodiversity and create "biological pollution" in the environment.

Dr Md Rafiqul Islam Mondal, director general of Bari, told this correspondent yesterday an additional attorney general would defend the case on behalf of the government. He insisted that the process of release of Bt brinjal would go through all biosafety regulatory

processes, and those opposing its release would have a fair chance to raise their voice during "public consultation" before the government takes a final decision in this regard.

Once the crop is released, Bangladesh will join a group of 28 countries which grow GM crops. Though it will be the country's first home-grown GM crop, consumers have long been exposed to GM foods through consumption of imported GM soybean oil.

Confidence

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candidates in the recent elections to five city corporations, he said the EC could not take strong steps as per the electoral law to stop it.

Rashed Khan Menon, chief of Workers Party, which is a part of the AL-led alliance, said the EC lacked efficiency and guts. "They should work independently."

Anisul Islam Mahmud, presidium member of the Jatiya Party, another component of the ruling alliance, said people would lose confidence in the EC over its "controversial" move not to retain the authority to cancel one's candidacy in the parliamentary polls for electoral law violation.

Amid disapproval of the BNP-led opposition, Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad and his team took office in early February last year.

The government, however, has all along been taking credit for the formation of the EC led by Rakibuddin through a search committee.

It was expected that the EC under the leadership of Rakibuddin would take forward the good practices introduced by his predecessor ATM Shamsul Huda.

But its decision not to retain the sweeping authority to cancel one's candidacy in the polls confounded all as to whether the EC was working to make itself weaker.

The current EC also rejected some crucial electoral reform proposals, including restoration of the armed forces' authority to arrest anybody without warrant for maintaining a peaceful atmosphere at the parliamentary polls. The proposals were drafted by the Huda-led commission.

The present situation has disappointed the ex-CEC. In his view, the current EC is not on the right track.

"They must hold talks with the main stakeholders to determine their course of action regarding electoral law reforms," Huda told The Daily Star yesterday.

A former caretaker government adviser, M Hafizuddin Khan, echoed the same view. He said the EC was taking a path opposite to what had been expected of it. "The way the commission is working is making it weaker."

He said the EC could not perform efficiently in holding the recent city polls.

HSC results

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will formally announce the results through a press briefing at his ministry at 1:00pm," Shubodh told The Daily Star.

Examinees will get results from their respective centres and websites of their boards.

They can also get the results by sending SMS from any mobile operators.

Board officials said they had to face difficulties in maintaining government-fixed timeframe of 60 days for publishing the results due to hartals during and after the exams.

The shutdowns forced the authorities to reschedule exams of 30 subjects.

The exam began on April 1 with 10,12,581 students registered to take it. The written exams were scheduled to end on May 28, but some examinations were held in June due to hartals.

Hajj pilgrims

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of the decision.

It also issued a rule upon the government to explain in four weeks why the decision should not be declared illegal.

The writ petition was filed yesterday by Abdul Kabir Khan, vice president of Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh; Sheikh Abdullah, its secretary general; and Rezaul Islam, a pilgrim.

They argued that the decision of the ministry was unconstitutional, arbitrary and against the spirit of the competition law, which seeks to prevent the control of a business activity by one or two companies.

Mahbub Shafique and KM Hafizul Alam represented the petitioners while Deputy Attorney General Mokhlesur Rahman the government.



CONFIDENCE CEMENT LIMITED
Office of the Managing Director
Ispahani Building, Agrabad, Chittagong

Invitation for Tenders

IFT No- CCL/Unit-03/02/2013 Date : 25-07-2013

CONFIDENCE CEMENT LIMITED	
1	Employer
2	Procurement Method
3	Tender No.
4	Tender Name
5	Brief Description of the Work
6	Time for Completion of the Works
7	Eligibility of Tenderers
8	Price of Tender Document
9	Amount of Tender Security
10	Address of the Offices selling Tender Documents
11	Address of the Office Receiving and Opening Tenders
12	Last Date and Time for Selling Tenders
13	Last Date and Time for Submission of Tenders
14	Date and Time for Opening of Technical Tenders
15	Place , Date and Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)
16	Contact detail of the Official Inviting Tender
17	The employer reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the Tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

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