

# KIBRIA MURDER CASE 9 more accused to be charged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nine more accused will be included in the fresh charge sheet in the murder case of former finance minister Shah AMS Kibria, Home Minister Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir said yesterday.

Criminal Investigation Department will submit the charge sheet against a total of 28 accused, including the nine, in the case, he told newsmen after a meeting of the ministry's monitoring cell on sensational cases.

Kibria was assassinated on January 27, 2005 in a grenade attack in Hagiganj.

The minister claimed that there had been some development in the investigation into journalist couple Sagar-Runi murder case, but he did not elaborate.

Sagar Sarowar, news editor at Maasranga

Television, and his wife Meherun Runi, senior reporter at ATN Bangla, were found murdered in their rented apartment in the capital's West Rajabazar on Feb 11.

Held at the home ministry, the meeting reviewed the probe into the murder case of garment workers' leader Aminul Islam.

On April 5 last year, the body of Aminul was found near a college in Ghatail, Tangail. He had been missing since the evening of the previous day.

The meeting also discussed the progress of investigations into 15 new cases and 10 old ones.

The new cases included bomb blasts at a CPB rally in the city's Motijheel in 2001, murder of Gaforgaon's freedom fighter Dr Rafiqul in 2010 and a bomb blast at a church in Baniachong in 2001.

## Home gives in to pressure

FROM PAGE 1

According to police records, on average 3,300 people were killed each year in the last decade due to reckless driving, lax enforcement of traffic laws and people's negligence to traffic rules.

The government yesterday also decided to waive the practical test of driving skills needed for renewing driving licences.

"The licence will be renewed based only on health fitness," Home Minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir said after a meeting with the leaders of truck and covered van owners and workers associations at the Secretariat.

He said the authorities had decided to review five road accident cases lodged under Section 302 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

With Communications Minister Obaidul Quader and Shipping Minister Shahjahan Khan in attendance, the meeting further decided in principle to allow trucks in the capital during the daytime hours

on Fridays and Saturdays.

The final decision in this regard would be taken upon discussion with traffic police officials, said the home minister.

The embargo on truck movements in the capital was imposed at the fag end of General Ershad's tenure in order to reduce traffic jam and road crashes, said Humayun Kabir, president of Bangladesh Truck and Covered Van Drivers' Union.

At yesterday's meeting, the association leaders demanded that no case be filed against drivers under Section 302, which is non-bailable and can fetch the death penalty.

The home minister assured them of steps in this regard.

"The offence in which somebody killed someone intentionally falls under Section 302. Killing in road accidents does not fit into this category," he told reporters.

According to Shipping Minister Shahjahan Khan, who is also the president of Bangladesh Road

Transport Workers' Federation, cases for killing in road accidents should be filed under Section 304.

The section deals with "culpable homicide not amounting to murder". One found guilty under this section may have to serve a life term as the highest punishment.

However, if the accused is found guilty in further investigation the case should be dealt with under Section 302, said the minister.

Contradicting the move, ARI's Hasan said, "Can we not term it an intentional offence when a driver hits the road with an unfit vehicle, violates traffic rules, like crossing speed limits, changing lanes abruptly, overtaking other vehicles frequently, resulting in deaths?"

Drivers are also tried under Sections 304 (A), 304 (B) and 279, all bailable. While one can be given five years under the first section, the offenders can be awarded the highest three years' jail in the

remaining two.

Records show at least one driver had been handed down punishment in absentia for reckless driving in October 2007.

In another rare judgment, the High Court on May 11, 2010 directed Bangladesh Beverage Industries Ltd to pay Tk 2.01 crore in compensation to the family of Mozammel Hossain Mintu, former news editor of the daily Sangbad who had been hit by a vehicle of the company on December 3, 1989 and died three days later.

Ilias Kanchan, chairman of Nirapad Sarak Chai movement, stressed the need for making the provision non-bailable.

He said, "Once reckless drivers get bail, they pay a hefty amount of bribe to local police for showing them absconding in courts, thus making the whole trial process linger. The victims meanwhile cannot keep up with the nexus between the police and accused and give up."

## Mueen had link

FROM PAGE 16

In his testimony on Tuesday, Aatur said he had found evidence about the "involvement" of the two alleged Al-Badr leaders in the killings of intellectuals between December 10 and 16, 1971.

During the 58-minute cross-examination, Tuny asked Aatur whether he had any documentary evidence that Mueen had attended any anti-liberation meetings or processions or given speeches against the independence of Bangladesh between 1969 and 1971.

"No, but I have found evidence that he was an active worker of Islami Chhatra Sangha at that time," replied Aatur.

In its verdict in war criminal Muhammad Kamaruzzaman's case, the tribunal had observed that Al-Badr was an "action section" and an "armed wing" of Jamaat and that it was formed mainly by the workers of Islami Chhatra Sangha [now Islami Chhatra Shibir].

"Did you find any documentary evidence about Mueen Uddin's links with

the Pakistani army?" Tuny asked Aatur, who is an inspector of police.

Aatur replied in the negative, saying he, however, had evidence that Mueen had links with the Jamaat-e-Islami high command in 1971.

At one point, the tribunal cautioned Sahidur Rahman, conducting prosecutor of the case, against helping the witness.

Meanwhile, the defence counsels for war crimes accused BNP leader Abdul Alim yesterday placed their closing arguments for the fourth day.

His counsel Ahsanul Huda Hena placed arguments of the sixth to 10th charge, referring to "contradictions" between the testimonies of prosecution witnesses and their documents.

The court asked the defence to complete their arguments by 3:00pm today and the prosecution to be ready for countering the arguments.

Alim, a former BNP lawmaker, is facing 17 charges for alleged involvement in genocide and other crimes against humanity during the war.

## Abul Hasan Chy among 3 charged

FROM PAGE 1

and Abul Hasan Chowdhury, a prominent lobbyist in Bangladesh.

Two lower-level SNC-Lavalin employees, Mohammad Ismail and Ramesh Shah, are already awaiting trial in Toronto facing similar allegations that they conspired to pay bribes to help SNC-Lavalin win a supervising contract worth \$50 million for the Padma Bridge mega project.

The scandal prompted an investigation by the World Bank, a major funder, which withdrew its support and earlier this year sanctioned SNC-Lavalin, citing misconduct on projects in Bangladesh and Cambodia. The bank barred the firm from bidding on its development projects for a decade after SNC agreed not to contest or dispute the sanctions.

Last spring, an investigation by CBC News and the Globe and Mail revealed that for years, Wallace's division, SLII, used a secret internal code "PCC" or "CC" to account

for hidden so-called 'project

consultancy costs' on projects outside of Bangladesh, in Nigeria, Zambia, Uganda, India and Kazakhstan.

Wallace's signature appears on many of the SLII cheques labelled "PCC" or "CC" that were obtained by CBC News, for projects across India and Asia.

"PCC, they interchangeably used the word," Mohammad Ismail, a former SLII engineer told CBC News in an exclusive interview last spring. "Sometimes it was 'project consultancy cost,' sometimes 'project commercial cost,' but [the] real fact is the intention is [a] bribe."

Ismail is one of the men already accused of attempted bribery in Bangladesh and awaits trial in Toronto. The evidence in his case is covered by a publication ban. However, he agreed to comment on the internal SLII documents from other countries that are not before the courts.

The company dismissed Kevin Wallace

from his post as SLII VP and general manager in December of 2012. Wallace declined comment last spring citing his ongoing claim of wrongful dismissal against the company.

The term PCC appears as SNC-Lavalin International budget line items and on cheques, like the one above. (CBC)

He was arrested, charged, and then released earlier this week, joining his two subordinates already accused of attempting to pay bribes in Bangladesh.

Scott Fenton, Wallace's lawyer, said Wednesday that the RCMP's decision to charge his client raises serious concerns.

"The investigation concluded 18 months ago and he was not charged," Fenton said in an email statement. "A preliminary inquiry has already concluded for those persons who were charged. No new evidence has come forward."

Mr. Wallace maintains that he is innocent and he will fight to clear his good name."

The move by the RCMP this week to charge two Bangladeshi men signals a change by the Mounties in their willingness to target foreign nationals in their anti-corruption investigations.

"The RCMP's National Division is mandated to focus on international corruption investigations. It represents a renewal of the RCMP's commitment to fighting this particular type of crime," said Assistant Commissioner Gilles Michaud in a media release Wednesday. "In some countries, bribes are still accepted as a necessary part of doing business. However, bribery raises serious moral and political concerns, undermines good governance."

Of the two foreign men accused, Abul Hasan Chowdhury is a former government official and influential lobbyist with ties to Bangladesh's ruling party. He was already publicly identified by the World Bank in a widely-published letter as having been named as a possible recipient of bribes tied to the Padma

Bridge project.

Reached by telephone Wednesday in Bangladesh, Chowdhury told CBC, "That's absurd," saying he had no idea that he'd been charged by Canadian authorities."

In an interview with CBC News in Dhaka, Bangladesh last spring, Chowdhury admitted that he was present during high-level meetings in May 2011 with SLII's Kevin Wallace and Ramesh Shah during the tendering process. But he flatly denied discussing bribes or communicating with Wallace that the company was to be selected to supervise the bridge construction.

"Categorically I have nothing to do with it," he said. "Absolutely banal and bogus! In my presence, nothing of the sort was discussed."

"No, definitely not," he told the CBC's Terence McKenna.

None of the accused has yet had an opportunity to formally respond to the charges.

FROM PAGE 16

documentary on helicopters on the National Geographic Channel nearly three months ago.

"After watching the documentary on TV at night, I returned to the workshop and started designing a helicopter," he told The Daily Star.

He built a miniature helicopter with iron bars, motor and batteries of an auto-rickshaw about a month ago. The rotor blades were made from aluminium plates he purchased from Nawabpur in Dhaka. The dummy helicopter weighed about 28 kilograms.

"As I powered up the helicopter, it flew more than two feet and then fell because the

blades were not strong enough."

"I would say it was a success, as the helicopter took off." And it inspired him to try to make a fully developed helicopter.

Al-Amin, locally known as "Malinga" for his resemblance to the Sri Lankan cricketer, said he is now making a helicopter with the engine of his 100CC motorbike.

"The most important part now is the rotor blades and the control system," he said.

He is looking for support from the government or any organisation that can provide him with rotor blades and a control system.

Al-Amin said he had already spent Tk 3.5 lakh, and

that he needed help to make his dream come true.

"Though we are poor, I have dreamt of doing something extraordinary from my childhood. My parents have always encouraged me in my venture."

An optimistic Al-Amin was sure that his model of the helicopter would be able to fly with three to four persons.

His engineering talents have drawn huge attention from locals, many of whom had flocked to the Pirojpur stadium to see his dummy helicopter a month ago.

Parvin Jahan Lubna, a lawyer in Pirojpur, said, "I am astonished by Al-Amin's talents. I think we all should help him."

## Bravo, Mr minister

FROM PAGE 16

he spotted the sinking car and ordered his convoy to stop.

Around 7:00am, the minister's MUV was near Beguavalli, 20km from Thiruthahalli, when a white Maruti Swift car overtook it. About 15 minutes later, as Kimmene's car approached the Beguavalli lake, the minister noticed the same Swift sinking in the lake.

Kimmene, his gunman Halsaamy, driver Chandrashekar and escort vehicle driver Krishnamurthy jumped into the water. The four men

swam to the sinking car, whose trapped occupants were flailing their hands from the windows.

Chandrashekar opened a rear door and pulled out three children and with the help of his men and brought them safely to the shore. The four then returned to the car, which had by now settled on shallow lake bed, and rescued the other three occupants, including a 55-year-old woman. The man in the driver's seat by then was unconscious.

A doctor called by the minister treated Uday

Kumar, 40; his wife Suma, 35; his mother Geetha, 55; sons aged 14 and 8; and a three-year-old nephew of Uday. The minister called his friends and arranged breakfast and medicines for them. He also gave Uday his clothes before resuming his journey to Bangalore.

Uday, owner of an electrical goods shop, was driving back from Karkala, his wife's nativeplace.

"I don't know how to thank minister Kimmene Ratnakar. It's because of his efforts that we are alive," he said.

## Quader Mollah

FROM PAGE 16

Manir said they were ready to submit the petition praying to the SC to stay the execution process until a review petition against the verdict was settled.

And they will file the review petition challenging the apex court verdict after they get its full text, they added.

Tajul and Shishir also said they had already applied to the SC authorities for the certified copy of the full text verdict Tuesday afternoon since Mollah could file the review petition only after getting the copy.

Sources in the SC said the signed copy of the short verdict was not released yet.

**REVIEW OR NO REVIEW** Talking to The Daily Star, two prominent legal experts said the SC would now decide whether Quader Mollah was allowed to seek review of the SC verdict since a legal debate had begun over this issue.

Any of the state and defence sides can seek the apex court's view in this regard, the experts said on condition of anonymity.

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam and

some legal experts told journalists on Tuesday that Mollah would not be able to file a review petition against the judgment as he had been tried under a special law -- the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act 1973 -- which did not have such provisions. According to them, the government can go ahead for the execution of the verdict after receiving the certified copy of the SC judgment.

A section of SC lawyers, including the defence counsels, however, said Quader Mollah had legal rights to file a review petition as per the constitution. Mollah's chief counsel Abdur Razzaq said his client would file the review petition within 30 days after receiving the copy of the full verdict as per the SC rules and the constitution.

**NOT YET IN CONDEMNED CELL** Jahangir Kabir, senior jail superintendent at Kashimpur-2 central jail, last night said they were yet to receive the copy of the SC verdict.

"He [Mollah] was still in a general cell, but we have stepped up our vigilance on the cell," added Jahangir.

## Pentagon chief holds talks with Egypt army chief

AFP, Washington

US Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel urged Egypt's interim authorities to "advance the political roadmap" in a phone call with the country's army chief on Tuesday, a Pentagon spokesman said.

Hagel and General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi also discussed Egypt's efforts "to maintain security" on the Sinai peninsula and "to secure and rebuild Coptic Christian communities" hit by violence, Pentagon press secretary George Little said in a statement.

Hagel "urged Minister Al-Sisi to continue to take steps to demonstrate the interim government's commitment to advance the political roadmap," he said.

Relations between Washington and Cairo have come under strain since Sisi led a July 3 coup against President Mohamed Morsi, the country's first elected leader, followed by a violent crackdown against his supporters in the Muslim Brotherhood.

Hagel's phone conversation came after the United States last week renewed calls for Egypt to lift a state of emergency in force since August, and amid more arrests of Morsi supporters.

Office of the Superintending Engineer		
CERS, PDB, Tongi, Gazipur		
Memo No: CERS/A-7/2013/2555	Date: 14/09/2013	
<b>Invitation for Tender</b>		
1 Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Power Division.	
2 Agency	: Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).	
3 Name of the office	: Superintending Engineer, CERS, BPDB, Tongi, Gazipur.	
4 Procurement method	: Open Tendering Method.	
5 Budget and source of funds	: BPDB's Revenue Budget.	
6 Tender package No.	: PG-16 & PG-05 (FY 2013-2014).	
7 Tender package name	: A) Supply of Electrical & Sanitary Goods for CERS, PDB, Tongi, Gazipur. B) Supply of LT Lead, HT Lead, LT Cabling & HT Cabling for Repair & Maintenance of Transformer.	
8 Invitation Ref. No. and date	: CERS/A-7/2013/2555 Date: 14/09/2013	
9 Procuring entity code	: Not used at present.	
10 Procuring entity district	: Gazipur.	
11 Completion time	: 30 (thirty) days from signing of contract.	
12 Eligibility criteria of tenderer	: Enlisted contractors of BPDB/bonafide manufacturer or supplier of similar goods. The contractors having experience Supply of LT Lead, HT Lead, LT Cabling & HT Cabling, Electrical & Sanitary Goods, valid trade licence, VAT registration, up-to-date tax certificate (TIN), bank solvency certificate (minimum 8 (eight) lakh liquid asset from authorised person of any schedule bank [Bank statement is required for a period of 15 (fifteen) days prior to the date of submission of the tender].	
13 Price of tender document Tk.	: Tender package A) 500.00 (five hundred) only, & B) 1000.00 (one thousand) only non-refundable. To be paid in the form of Bank Draft or Pay-Order in favour of Deputy Director (Accounts), RAO, PDB, Tongi, Gazipur from any schedule bank.	
14 Selling tender documents	: a) Chief Engineer (Services), PDB, Biddiut Bhaban, Dhaka. b) Superintending Engineer, CERS, BPDB, Tongi, Gazipur.	
15 Last date & time of selling	: 07/10/2013 up to office time.	
16 Last date & time of submission tender documents	: 08/10/2013 up to 1200 hrs.	
17 Place & address of receiving tender documents	: Superintending Engineer, CERS, BPDB, Tongi, Gazipur.	
18 Date, time & place of opening tender documents	: 08/10/2013 up to 12:30 hrs. Office of the Superintending Engineer, CERS, BPDB, Tongi, Gazipur.	
19 Tender validity	: 90 days from tender opening date.	
20 Tender security (Taka)	: Tender package A) 13,000.00 (thirteen thousand) only, & B) 35,000.00 (thirty-five thousand) only, refundable. To be paid in the form of Bank Draft or Pay-Order in favour of Deputy Director (Accounts), RAO, PDB, Tongi, Gazipur from any schedule bank.	
21 Special instruction/conditions	: a) The tenderer should obey Public Procurement Regulation-2008 & follow the instruction of schedule & BPDB's rules & regulations. b) The tenderer shall write unit & total price in word & mathematically. c) The tenderer should sign in every page of submitted tender documents. d) The tenderer must be submitted sample with tender document. If any tenderer fail to submit sample with tender document the respective tender shall be rejected. e) The authority shall preserve the right to increase or decrease the amount of goods. f) If the last date of tender receiving date is govt. declared holiday then next day is the last date of receiving & opening tender. g) The authority shall preserve the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without any explanation.	
22 Specification of goods	: Described in schedule.	
Engr. Amal Krishna Basu Superintending Engineer CERS, BPDB, Tongi, Gazipur-1710		