

Navy foils human trafficking in Ctg

Seven traffickers, 15 fortune seekers held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh Navy foiled an attempt made by 15 fortune seekers to go to Malaysia illegally by two engine-run boats and held seven alleged human traffickers on the spot at the outer anchorage of Chittagong Port early yesterday.

Kazi Shahab Uddin, officer-in-charge of Patenga Police Station, said the Navy personnel handed the 22 over to police in the afternoon.

A case was filed with the police station in this connection, he added.



Bangladesh Navy held seven human traffickers and 15 fortune seekers at the outer anchorage of Chittagong Port early yesterday while the latter were trying to go to Malaysia illegally by two engine-run boats.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

HELPING ILLEGAL MIGRATION Why not file cases against offenders under migration act

HC asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday asked the government to explain in four weeks why it should not be directed to prosecute the people responsible for human trafficking and assisting overseas job seekers in their illegal migration under the Overseas Employment and Migration Act 2013.

Officials concerned, including secretaries to the foreign affairs ministry and the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry, have been made respondents to the rule, Deputy Attorney General Tapas Kumar Biswas told The Daily Star. He said the HC came up with the rule after hearing a writ petition filed by the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RAMRU).

Quoting the petition, Tapos said the cases are reportedly filed against the offenders of human trafficking and assisting illegal migration of overseas job seekers under the laws other than the Overseas Employment and Migration Act 2013. As a result, the proper punishment for the offenders is not ensured, he said, adding that the petitioner prayed to the HC to order the government to file the cases under this act.

Quoting newspaper reports, petitioner's lawyer M Asaduzzaman told The Daily Star that no case was filed against the offenders under the act after overseas job seekers were rescued while being trafficked specially to Malaysia and Thailand.

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Two more implicate Siraj in Bagerhat massacre

Another witness says Mahidur, Afsar torched over 40 houses in Chapainawabganj

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prosecution witness yesterday said he saw Razakars kill 19 villagers in Bagerhat following the order of Sheikh Sirajul Haque alias Siraj Master during the Liberation War, while another testified that he saw the detained victims but later heard about their slaying.

Mir Abdur Razzaque, a freedom fighter from Depara village of Bagerhat sadar upazila and the 27th witness, said Siraj himself stabbed the detainees before ordering their deaths.



Siraj Master

On Wednesday, the 25th witness said the war crimes accused killed his uncle by slitting his throat and his fellow Razakars hacked 18 others to death on June 18, 1971.

Razzaque told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that he went to Kandapara Bazar on the morning of June 18, 1971 and hid himself inside a bush by the market around 10:00am when 15-20 Pakistani troops and 20-25 Razakars including Siraj arrived there.

After some time, the Pakistani army men and Razakars went to nearby Beshargati village, and returned to the market with 20-22 detainees, around 12:00noon, he said.

"I saw accused Siraj Master stabbing the detainees with a knife beside the road and on the bank of a canal and ordering other Razakars to hurt them," said Razzaque, adding that then the Razakars shot and hacked to death the detainees and threw their bodies into the canal.

They also looted and torched 2-3 shops of pro-liberation people before leaving in the evening.

Before him, Soleman Halder, the 26th witness, also

hailing from Depara village, said he also saw the Pakistani troops and Siraj-led Razakars taking the same people towards Kandapara Bazar, and later heard that 18-20 people were killed on that day (June 18).

State-appointed defence counsel Abul Hasan cross-examined both the witnesses before the three-member tribunal led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim adjourned the proceeding until March 15.

Siraj and two other accused, Abdul Latif Talukder and Khan Akram Hossain, face seven charges of crimes including genocide committed in the southern district in 1971. However, only Siraj was charged with the specific incident. All three pleaded not guilty before the tribunal.

TRIBUNAL-2

A prosecution witness said Mahidur Rahman and Afsar Hossain alias Chutu looted and torched their village home in Chapainawabganj on a day of late Ashwin (September-October) in 1971.

Mohammad Khudi, the seventh witness, from Kabirajtola village of Shibganj upazila, said Razakars stormed their house around 12:30pm when he was home.

"Accused Mahidur, Chutu and Razakar Moazzem looted our entire house. At one point, Mahidur torched the house of my younger brother Badal and Chutu set fire to mine," he said.

The 70-year-old said the attackers torched 40 more houses of their village on that day and several others in neighbouring Biswastola village.

He said Mahidur and Chutu were acquainted to him in 1971, but he might not identify them now.

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Obituary

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur



Sultan Ahmed Hawlader died from illnesses while under treatment in Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Wednesday night. He was 65, and was buried at his Chitholiya village in Pirojpur Sadar upazila yesterday.

Doa mahfil

CITY DESK



A do mahfil for late SA Sikder, the founder secretary general of Bangladesh China People's Friendship Association, will be held today in Eskaton Garden Masjid of the capital after Asr prayers. He died on February 27 this year, says a press release.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 10th death anniversary of Farida Sarkar, wife of Jatiya Party lawmaker Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu. Special prayers will be offered at orphanages and food will be distributed among the residents, on the occasion.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Costly solar panels, battery recycling challenges

Nasrul Hamid tells workshop

UNB, Dhaka

There are two major challenges to promoting renewable energy particularly the solar home system (SHS) in Bangladesh, said State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid yesterday.

"High price of solar panels and recycling of lead batteries used in 3.5 million SHSs are the challenges," he told a workshop on 'Development of Sustainable Renewable Energy Power Generation at Bidyut Bhaban in the capital.

The Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (Sreda), in association with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), organised the workshop with Sreda Chairman Tapos Kumar Roy in the chair.

Nasrul Hamid said about 60,000 SHSs are being installed every month in off-grid rural areas. It's a big question that the people do not know whether these panels are efficient or not.

"But people are using these panels as these are changing their lifestyle very fast in different ways like it connects them with the rest of the world as they could watch TV."

He said when the batteries go out people

do not know how to recycle them. They just throw such batteries in the rivers, which finally pollute them.

The junior minister said the government has created Sreda as functional regulating body for development and control of the renewable energy sector. "So, Sreda has to control the quality of the panels."

The price of renewable energy is still high although the new technologies are coming up, he added.

Nasrul said the government is thinking of using clean coal for power generation using the best technology and also share the energy with the neighbouring countries so that a balance is created in the power production.

Power Secretary Monwal Islam said the government is emphasising generation of renewable energy and power generation through use of clean coal as part of its vision to become a middle income country.

He urged the officials to think about the use of school rooftops for solar panel installation across the country.

UNDP Country Director Pauline Tamesis and Sreda member Siddique Zobair also spoke at the workshop.

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LEGAL NOTICE
In the Supreme Court of Bangladesh High Court Division (Statutory Original Jurisdiction)
Company Matter No. 22 of 2015
Texeurop (BD) LimitedPetitioner
-Versus-
Registrar, Joint Stock Companies & FirmsRespondent.
Notice is hereby given for all concerned that an application u/s 12 read with Section 13 of the Companies Act, 1994 was moved before the High Court Division of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Bangladesh for confirmation of amendment to object clause of the Memorandum of Association of the petitioner Company. After preliminary hearing Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed was pleased to admit the same on 15.02.2015 and directed to post the matter in the daily cause list on 12.04.2015 for hearing.
Anyone interested to oppose the said application may appear in person or through his appointed lawyer before the Hon'ble Court.
Copies of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of costs.
Md. Osman Ghani Bhuiyan
Advocate, Bangladesh Supreme Court
Room # 14/2, Eastern Mansion
67/9, Pioneer Road, Kakrail, Dhaka
Mobile: 01716412232
C-156

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QULKHANI
Qulkhani of Mr. Zainul Abedin will be held at his Banani residence after Magreb today. At 91, he breathed last on March 2, 2015. Mr. Abedin joined the then central government in 1949, responsible for setting up industrial cities in Bangladesh. He later held important positions in EPIDC, IPSIC, TCB, Supply and Inspection, Investment Promotion and Supplies. He was chairman of National Dis-Investment Board and Lever Brothers Ltd. He worked for Ministry of Industry, Agriculture and also posted in diplomatic missions of Gov of Bangladesh. He was advisor to private companies and one of the Proposers of Bank Al Arafah. He was founder member of the Cancer Society of Bangladesh and founder president of Mashjid Shamaj. He was engaged in social work by being President of Barisal Zilla Samiti and Vice-President of Barisal Bibhag Shamiti for a decade. He was also founder of Chittagong Rifles Club. Mr. Abedin stood first class first in Chemistry from Dhaka University in 1945 and pursued further studies in Glasgow University, UK as an All Indian Scholar. He also studied Industrial Management from Stanford University, USA. Earlier, his education began with Patuakhali Jubilee School and later BM College, Barisal. He is survived by 1 daughter Rafeya Khan and 3 sons Ainul Abedin, Faizul Abedin and Azizul Abedin.

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Principal Dr. Mahbubur Rahman Mollah title as Peace Ambassador of HWPL South Korean International Peace Organization
A conference for the inauguration of Bangladesh WARP peace office under South Korean International organization HWPL (Heavenly Culture World Peace and Restoration of Light) was held at Shamsul Hoque Khan School & College auditorium on 27th February. Dr. Mahbubur Rahman Mollah who is a son of the soil of Matuail, the founder Chairman of Dr. Mahbubur Rahman Mollah College, the Principal of Shamsul Hoque Khan School & College was honored and declared as a peace Ambassador of HWPL in the conference. He was handed over the certificate signed by Man Hee Lee the chairman of HWPL. He expects the co-operation and blessings from all to materialize the aims and mission of HWPL at home and international level.

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Career Opportunity
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CARE Bangladesh invites applications from qualified candidates for the following positions for its OIKKO – United for translating rights into action NOW! project under Women and Girl's Empowerment Program, based in Dhaka. The duration of contract is up to January 31, 2018.
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The OIKKO is funded by the European Commission and Austrian Development Agency, aims to strengthen the capacity of labor rights actors and increase the voice and influence of female garment workers. For details, please visit and apply online through http://carebangladesh.org/why_join.php within March 14, 2015.
Note: CARE is seeking to increase diversity in its staff profile and looks forward to receiving applications from qualified women. We are committed to a workplace that is attractive and supportive of women.
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