

Ctg canal

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water body today [Tuesday].
Some staffs of the Chittagong Port Authority were found sitting idle there.

One of them, seeking anonymity, said the oil-boom that was placed in the canal on Monday failed to yield the expected results due to heavy currents.

Certain amount of the oil has been washed away with the tides, locals said.
Meanwhile, people living on the banks of the Halda river yesterday claimed to have seen oil slick in the water.

Manzoorul Kibria, an associate Professor of Zoology Department of Chittagong University, said, the oil would pollute the surface water of the river.

He hoped that the heavy rainfall of the season might reduce the extent of damage to the biodiversity of the Halda.

Bangladesh Railway officials were busy in repairing the collapsed bridge yesterday.

Robber' killed

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back in retaliation, which triggered a gunfight," he said, adding that they recovered the bullet-hit body of Mamun from the spot but his cohorts managed to flee.

Two Rab members were injured in the "shootout", the Rab official claimed.
Abdus Salam Sarkar, a resident doctor at the Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Medical College Hospital, said some Rab men brought the dead body in a pick-up around 5:00am.

The body bore three bullet wounds, he added.
In Satkhira, an alleged drug peddler was injured in a "gunfight" between the police and his cohorts at Nabatakati village in Sadar upazila on Monday night.

The injured, Azharul Islam, 32, is a resident of Haraddah village in the upazila, reports UNB.
Emdad Sheikh, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station, said a police team conducted a drive in the village around 10:00pm after receiving a tip-off that some drug peddlers were staying there to sell drugs.

Sensing presence of the law enforcers, the gang members opened fire at them, prompting the police to retaliate, which triggered a gunfight, he said.
Azharul sustained bullet wounds in the shootout while his associates managed to flee the scene, he added.

He was admitted to Satkhira Sadar Hospital under police custody.
Police recovered a shutter gun, a sharp weapon, and a bullet from the spot.

Thailand wraps

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issued arrest warrants for 63.
Aek Angsanant, police deputy commissioner-general, called the probe "the biggest human trafficking investigation in Thailand's history".

Around 1,000 police officers, many of them based in southern Thailand, took part in the investigation, Aek said, without elaborating on any ongoing or future probes.

Police have sent 19 cases filled with more than 100,000 document sheets to the Office of the Attorney General which will have until July 24 to decide whether to file charges, Aek said.

"This government has shown its sincerity in solving this problem by seriously tackling human trafficking and by dealing with those involved," Aek told Reuters.

But rights groups, including the New York-based Human Rights Watch, said the investigation would not put an end to networks operating in the region.

"It is highly likely that if this investigation turns out to just be window dressing to defuse international pressure, then it will have no impact," Sunai Phasuk, Thailand researcher at Human Rights Watch, told Reuters.

"It will just put them under ground for the time being and then resurface again."

The crackdown in Thailand, a traditional transit point, made it too risky for traffickers to land migrants, Bangladeshis and Muslim Rohingya from Myanmar, prompting them to abandon thousands at sea with scant supplies of food and water.

The United Nations estimates 1,200 people are still at sea or unaccounted for while more than 3,000 have landed since May in Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Last year, Thailand was downgraded to the US State Department's lowest category - or Tier 3 - in its annual Trafficking in Persons Report, which assess how governments around the world have performed in fighting human trafficking.

The next TIP report is expected in mid-July.

"We hope the United States will consider to put our country, which is in Tier 3, to a better tier," Aek told Reuters.

Police in neighbouring Malaysia last month discovered 139 graves in jungle camps used by suspected smugglers and traffickers. They say some 12 officers are being investigated.

Trial of three

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against Siraj alone for the killing of more than 600 people, two against all of them for the killing of 47 people, and one against Khan Akram and Abdul Latif for killing a person.

Wrapping up its arguments, the prosecution sought capital punishment of the accused, claiming that they were able to prove all seven charges.

However, defence counsels claimed that the prosecution "simply failed to prove" the charges and sought acquittal of their clients. A defence counsel also accused the investigation officer of the case of adopting "pick and choose" policy to implicate his clients, and requested the tribunal to launch a probe against the investigator.

After hearing the closing arguments from both the prosecution and the defence, the three-member tribunal, led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim, kept the case waiting for verdict.
"PICK AND CHOOSE"

Prosecutor Syed Haider Ali placed rebuttal of defence arguments yesterday. When he was placing arguments on the seventh charge, the tribunal raised question over implicating Akram in the charge.

The charge was related to the killing of a freedom fighter allegedly by Akram, Latif and other Razakars.

According to the charge, Justice Enayetur Rahim said, the incident took place in Kachua but the prosecution did not bring the charge against the Razakars of Kachua Razakar camp, including the camp commander.

He said the prosecution brought the charge against Akram, who was allegedly the commander of Daibaggahati Razakar camp, which was far away from Kachua.

"Wasn't there any probability of local Razakars' involvement in the incident?" he asked.

Justice Rahim said a defence counsel had already raised a question about "pick and choose" of their clients by the investigator, which the prosecution could not deny.

Refuting the allegation of resorting to "pick and choose" policy by the investigator, prosecutor Haider Ali said eyewitnesses had testified that Akram was involved in the incident. "So there was no scope of such probability here," he added.

Justice Rahim said several prosecution witnesses, during their testimonies, told names of people who were allegedly involved in the crime, but the prosecution did not bring charges against them for the crime. The tribunal also expressed discontent over the issue.

Haider Ali said investigation was

going on against them [whose names surfaced] and they would be brought undertrail.

"When? After sending them [whose names surfaced] outside the border?" asked Justice Rahim.

He said the tribunal recently received a complaint which stated that the investigation agency launched a probe against a person (a war crimes suspect) one and a half years ago. But investigators did not submit the probe report against him, rather helped him leave the country, and later sought the tribunal's intervention in this regard.

Justice Rahim, however, did not elaborate on the matter.

Sarwar Hossain, who represented Akram and Latif, said his clients were placed at 86th and 105th positions in a list of 106 Razakars in Kachua submitted to the tribunal.

Apart from Latif and Akram, the prosecution did not bring charges against anyone, although many listed Razakars of the Kachua Razakar camp, including its commander, are still alive. This means that the investigator had taken the policy of "pick and choose", he said.

Referring to Akram's SSC certificate, Sarwar said the prosecution alleged that Akram was the commander of Daibaggahati Razakar camp but it was not "practical" since he was only 15 years and three months old in 1971.

Latif joined the Razakar Bahini towards the end of the Liberation War to save his life but did not commit any crime, Sarwar said, adding, "If Latif could be charged for this reason, every Razakar should then be charged."

He requested the tribunal to apply its "judicial activism" and carry out an investigation against the investigation officer of the case for his "pick and choose" policy.

Abul Hasan, the state-appointed defence counsel of Sirajul Haque, said the prosecution failed to prove the charges, and sought his client's acquittal.

BACKGROUND AND CHARGES
Sirajul Haque, son of Harejuddin Sheikh of Gotapara under Bagerhat Sadar upazila, was the deputy commander of Razakar Bahini in Bagerhat sub division in 1971, according to the prosecution.

Akram, son of Joyal Abedin Khan of Daibaggahati under Morelganj upazila, and Latif Talukder, son of Zender Ali Talukder of Solarkola under Kachua upazila of the district, joined the Razakar Bahini in 1971. They "committed" crimes against humanity and genocide during the war, prosecution said.

Are we still in dark age?

FROM PAGE 1
son comes back from school and complains about the discriminations. Tell me, which mother could bear such a pain? I feel ashamed but I can't do anything.

"Aren't we human beings?"
Children of the Rishi families get discouraged to go to school due to the discriminations. Two of them already dropped out.

"I stopped going to school as the teachers used to tell me to clean their toilets," said one of the dropouts.

The discrimination against children is just the tip of the iceberg. The Rishi families of the village have been dealing with such prejudices of the Hindu and the Muslim communities for ages.

About a hundred of the Rishis had shown up at the yard of a temple and every one of them had a story to tell.

Nearly 900 Rishi families are living in Jessore and Magura and of them 385 families live in eight villages of Shalikhra upazila.

Ranjan (not his real name), a college student, said elderly people of the Rishi families also face severe discrimination from Hindus and Muslims.

No one invites them to any social programmes, he said.

Ranjan changed his last name fearing discrimination at the college he goes to in another district.

"They do not sell us tea, they don't sell us any food at restaurants of Hazrahati market ... even the local barber does not want to cut our hair," said Ranjan.

Following a news published in a newspaper, the local administration

instructed tea stall owners to sell tea to the Rishi people.

"Some tea stall owners have arranged 'special' cups for the Rishi people but most of the restaurant and tea stall owners are reluctant to serve them since others would not go to their shop if they do," said Ranjan.

When asked, a tea stall owner said Rishi people usually do not come to his stall and if they do come, he serves them tea in separate cups. Otherwise, other people would not come to his stall.

"They [Rishi people] have set up two tea stalls in the market. Actually they don't need to go to another shop," he said.

Ratan Biswas said he sells sweetmeats to the Rishi people but he does not allow them to eat that at his shop. "If I allow this, my business will be ruined."

Sribas Das said since barbers do not want to cut their hair, he learnt how to cut hair and changed his profession.

Ashok Das, general secretary of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad, said the government should intervene and stop such discriminations. He called for an anti-discriminatory law where these things would be treated as a criminal offence.

Mahbubar Rahman, deputy commissioner of Magura, said the upazila nirbahi officer had intervened and talked to local public representatives and shopkeepers over the matter.

"If necessary, we would take more steps to do away with such discriminations," said Mahbubar.

The teachers at Hazrahati Government Primary School could not

Hope for Razzak's return

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Triggering further outrage, they circulated photographs of Razzak in handcuffs on the social media. One of the photos showed him wearing a BCB shirt and a lungi. In another picture, blood clots were seen on his nose.

On Monday, Lt Col Zahid communicated thrice with BGP Battalion-1 Commanding Officer Kyaw Teyza for a flag meeting.

But the BGP laid down a condition that it will give back Razzak if Bangladesh takes in 550 boat people who were among the 727 rescued by the Myanmar Navy from the Andaman Sea.

Talking to journalists at the Secretariat yesterday, State Minister for Home Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said Myanmar was "going too far" and "asking for too much" by attaching a condition to the release of the abducted BGP jawan.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) also expressed concern and resentment over Razzak's captivity and delay in his return. "It's a clear violation of international law and human rights," read an NHRC statement.

Myanmar further violated human rights by circulating his photos on the social networking sites, it said.

Meanwhile in Natore, Razzak's family members with their nerves on edge have been waiting for his release from Myanmar's captivity.

His father Tofazzal Hossain said they were extremely worried hearing that Myanmar imposed a condition for the return of his son, reports our Natore correspondent.

Though BGP officials have assured them of Razzak's return, there is no positive result yet, he added.

Wall collapse

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Haque in the city's West Madarbari, police said.

Kusum was going to bring her son, a class six student, to home from a coaching centre around 10:00am while Sudhir, a labour of a transport company in the area, to his workplace, said Nasir Uddin, sub-inspector of Sadarghat Police Station.

Suddenly, two boundary walls of a local hotel and adjacent railway land collapsed on them at that time. Huge bricks piled up against the walls also fell on the duo, the police official added.

On information, members of fire service rushed to the spot. They first rescued Kusum and then Sudhir in a critical condition, said Abdul Malek, deputy assistant director of Fire Service and Civil Defence, Chittagong.

The victims were rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where on-duty doctors declared them dead on arrival, said Pankaj Barua, assistant sub-inspector of CMCH police camp.

The two boundary walls were very close and in a bad state, said SI Nasir Uddin. "Rain worsened the condition of the walls."

Besides, the piling up of bricks against the walls by some local businessmen had made the walls more vulnerable, he said, adding that the height of the walls were around six feet.

Mainul Islam, officer-in-charge of Sadarghat Police Station, said police were investigating the incident.

The last ice

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family's trade -- passed on from father to son for centuries. At least once a week, the 68-year-old spends five hours hiking up Mount Chimborazo, Ecuador's highest peak.

He keeps going until he reaches the ice mine that has fed him and his family for generations.

Negotiating the steep 14,700-foot path is no joke, especially at Ushca's age. But he continues the family tradition of cutting ice from the cave and shaping it into blocks. He then transports the blocks, by mule, down to the nearest city of Riobamba, where they are sold.

Despite his age and his short stature (4ft 11in) Ushca can carry two 66-lb blocks of ice on his shoulders. And he's quite happy working on the mountain that he considers to be sacred. "This is a man's work," he said, proudly, "I am happy when I walk. Father Chimborazo looks after me."

Every Saturday, Ushca travels to Riobamba's markets to sell the ice at \$2.5 for an 80-pound block. He makes about \$25 a week selling ice.

Interestingly, Ushca's 'natural ice' is still in demand. People claim that it has healing properties, and it is still used to make traditional fruit juices and ice creams.

Ushca is a local celebrity, especially at the La Mercad market where he sells ice -- people flock around him asking to take pictures with him. Ushca's proudest moment though, was when he got to meet President Rafael Correa.

"My family is envious that I am a friend of President Correa," the humble man said. "I tell them, just come and do my work."

HC questions renewal, issuance of Tarique's passports

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the renewal of a passport and issuance of three others to BNP leader Tarique Rahman, who has been in London since 2008.

Hearing a writ petition, the court asked the foreign secretary to submit a report to it by July 27 on how Tarique's passport was renewed before the expiry of its tenure, Deputy Attorney General Tapas Kumar Biswas told The Daily Star.

The court passed the order after the foreign secretary had submitted a report to it saying that the passport that Tarique took to London had expired in 2013.

The passport was renewed one year ahead of its expiry.

According to the report, the four passports were issued to Tarique in between 2002 and 2004.

Yesterday, the HC asked the director general of the Department of Immigration and Passports to submit a report to it through the IGP of police by July 27 on how multiple passports were issued to the BNP senior vice-chairman.

The HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza Ul-Hoque and Justice Abu Md Saifur Rahman fixed July 27 for passing further order in this regard.

10 Cox's Bazar cops transferred

One suspended over yaba smuggling link

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Ten police officials, including officer-in-charge of Cox's Bazar Detective Branch (DB) of police, were transferred to other districts under Chittagong range yesterday.

Besides, Belal Hossain, sub-inspector of DB, was suspended as he stood accused in a yaba smuggling case filed with Feni Model Police Station, said Shyamal Kumar Nath, superintendent of Cox's Bazar police.

Of the transferred police officials, OC Dewan Abul Hossain of DB was closed to

Chittagong police headquarters.

Eight SIs and an ASI are among the transferred policemen.

The SP said the 10 police officials had been serving in the district for long. They were transferred elsewhere for bringing dynamism and transparency in the administrative activities.

Such transfers are common in the police administration, he added.

On June 20, Rab-7 members arrested ASI Mahfuzur Rahman of the Special Branch of police in Dhaka along with a large haul of yaba pills worth over Tk 27 crore in Feni.

Dhaka asks KL

FROM PAGE 16
Kuala Lumpur.

"It will be possible to manage employment opportunities for 1-2 lakh Bangladeshis in Malaysia within a year. The Malaysian employers have good demand for foreign workers in different sectors," a senior official at the Bangladesh mission told The Daily Star on Monday.

The two governments are exploring alternatives to speeding up recruitment of jobseekers following media reports on thousands of Bangladeshis' ordeals after they fell victim to human trafficking through the Bay of Bengal, the official added.

Bangladesh High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur Shahidul Islam said their main target was to ensure available jobs for the Bangladeshis in all sectors in Malaysia with nominal costs.

"We are constantly holding talks with the Malaysian authorities to figure out ways to speed up recruitment of Bangladeshis. They [Malaysian authorities] are very sincere in this matter," he told The Daily Star on Monday.

Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain is scheduled to visit Kuala Lumpur today to discuss the recruitment issue.

Since the launch of G2G system in April 2013, only around 7,000 Bangladeshis have so far got plantation jobs in Malaysia, although around 1.4 million jobseekers registered that time.

Malaysia opened only plantation sector for the Bangladeshis following a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Dhaka and Kuala Lumpur in November 2012.

Under the MoU, migration cost has

declined sharply from Tk 3 lakh to only Tk 45,000 for each jobseeker on average.

But the system has failed to deliver as Bangladesh could not ensure available jobs for its people under the G2G system.

Recruitment brokers and human traffickers have meanwhile started taking advantage of the government's failure and deceiving the poor jobseekers and luring them into taking perilous sea journey.

Although there are no accurate figures as to how many jobseekers have reached Malaysia through the Bay, more than one lakh Bangladeshis are believed to have crossed the sea since 2012, according to the UN agency UNHCR.

Several hundred have lost their lives in the sea and at the human trafficking camps in Thailand and Malaysia, it mentions.

Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira) President Mohammad Abul Bashar told The Daily Star that the government could not resolve the human trafficking problem unless available jobs were ensured for the Bangladeshis.

"Around 50,000 Bangladeshis would be able to find jobs in Malaysia every month if private recruiters are involved," he observed.

Earlier in 2009, the Malaysian government imposed a ban on recruiting workers from Bangladesh, allegedly for massive irregularities by the recruiting agencies.

After four years of the ban, the governments of Bangladesh and Malaysia resumed the manpower export through the G2G system in

Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU)
Invitation for Re-Tender (IFT)

Invitation Reference Memo. No. CVASU/ED/DU/IFT/08 Date: 22-06-2015

1	Name of Ministry	: Ministry of Education
2	Agency & Procuring Entity name	: Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU)
3	Procuring Entity District	: Chittagong
4	Invitation for	: Works
5	Procurement Method	: Open Tendering Method (NCB)
6	Budget & Fund Source	: GOB (Development)
7	Programme Name	: Development of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University
8	Tender Package No.	: PWD-7
9	Tender Publication date	: 22-06-2015
10	Tender Last Selling date	: 07-07-2015 up to 5:00 pm
11	Last Date & Time of submission of Tender	: 08-07-2015 up to 1:00 pm
12	Tender Opening Date and Time	: 08-07-2015 at 4:00 pm
13	Name and Address of the Offices selling tender documents	: Principal: Office of the Director, (Finance & Accounts), Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4225 Other: Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong.
14	Receiving Tender Document	: (i) Office of the Chief Engineer, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4225 (ii) Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong.
15	Place of Tender Opening	: Conference Room (new), Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong-4225
16	Brief Description of Works	: Construction of RCC column, beam, plaster, tiles work, brick work, painting, electrical and plumbing etc work.
17	Eligibility of Tenderer	: Tenderers enlisted in any government, semi-government or autonomous organization having similar work experience at least taka 300.00 lacs in a single work order during last five years.

Name, description, location and price etc. of tender document					
Package No.	Name of work	Location	Price of tender document in Taka	Tender security in Taka	Completion time (Days)
18	PWD-7 Vertical Extension of Student hall (Female-3rd, 4th & 5th floor) at CVASU (Re-tender)	Khulshi Chittagong	5000.00	11,00,000.00	330

19 Name, Designation and Address of the Official inviting tender	Shah Md. Zillur Rahman, Chief Engineer, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Khulshi, Chittagong 4225. Phone No. 031-2566625, Fax no. 031-659620.
20 Tender Security is to be submitted in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft/Bank Guarantee (Form PW3-6) of any scheduled bank in favour of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University	
21 The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

22/06/2015
Chief Engineer