

Indian court again defers charge framing against Nur

A CORRESPONDENT, Kolkata

A Barasat court yesterday deferred to August 24 charge framing against Nur Hossain, the prime accused in Narayanganj seven-murder case, over trespassing into India.

The court also issued an arrest warrant against one of two associates of Nur, Khan Sumon, who did not appear in the hearing yesterday and the day before, said Anup Ghosh, Sumon's lawyer.

Charges against Nur are yet to be framed in India although over one year has passed since his arrest for intruding into the country following the murders.

Earlier, the charges were not framed due to lawyers' work abstention and absence of two other accused during hearings.

However, Nur and his another associate Wahuduzzaman Shamim, who is now on bail, was present yesterday.

Baguiati police on August 18 submitted the charge sheet against Nur before the Barasat court accusing him of trespassing.

A day into Nur's arrest by Kolkata police on June 14, 2014, an Indian court put him and his two associates on an eight-day remand.

The order came after Baguiati police filed a case against them on the charge of infiltration, gambling and possessing firearms.

Nur had been in Indian jail for around 171 days. Seven people including Narayanganj City Corporation councillor Nazrul Islam and senior lawyer Chandan Sarker were abducted in April last year. Later, their bodies were found floating in the river Shitalakkhya of the district.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with the Special Security Force officials at SSF Officers' Mess in the capital yesterday on the occasion of the 29th founding anniversary of the force.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Climate alarm leads

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And I do not think the people understand that the human activity in the other part of the world is going to make lives very difficult in Bangladesh, he said.

Describing Bangladeshi people as very hospitable and cordial, the scientist said, "It's like the world's best people are suffering; that makes me upset the most."

When asked about his message to the world after visiting this country, Daniel said Bangladesh was a perfect example of how severely people might get affected by climate change.

According to him, addressing climate change is maybe more of a question of humanity now. "Millions of people will be homeless if the sea level rises further; there is no room for people in this country. Where will those coastal people go if the sea level rises?" he asked.

Sea level rise is a slow process and those people would have to move to either in Dhaka or in Chittagong but there is no room here for those extra people, he said.

"So I would urge the world community, firstly to cut carbon emissions as fast as possible. Because every single day we wait, the faster the problem is going to happen in Bangladesh."

"Secondly, they have to commit significant funding to help Bangladesh because people will be displaced and they have nowhere to go." Regarding the upcoming climate change deal, Dr Price said what happened to Paris would dictate significantly what was going to happen in Bangladesh in the future.

"The only thing missing is political stability. So we need a political statement to support the action which is required."

Price believes the "Pole to Paris" initiative will inspire leaders to reach an ambitious, binding agreement to address the risks of climate change in the Conference of Parties (COP) 21.

Price and another climate scientist, Erlend Moster Knudsen, who works on Arctic in the North Pole, undertook the bicycle journey.

Knudsen will start off on his bicycle from Norway in early August and will meet Price in Paris in December.

"Climate change is a very slow process. It does not affect the day to day lives of western people. So it is very difficult to engage people in this process," Price said. "So we thought it's a new way to express the story. "As we both are scientists, we have credibility to talk about the climate change issue." Daniel will fly to China from Dhaka. From there he is expecting to reach Paris on December 5 through Central Asia.

CMCH staff beat up patient's three sons

Hand them over to police terming them miscreants; one victim needs two stitches in head

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

They first termed the three brothers miscreants, then gave them a good beating, and finally handed them over to police.

The brothers took their sick mother to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) yesterday where they were beaten up by the hospital's class IV employees following an altercation.

Before they were handed over to police, The Daily Star talked to the brothers.

"My mother was groaning in pain due to an abscess since Wednesday evening, and we took her to the emergency department of the hospital around 11:30pm. The duty doctor prescribed some medicines and advised her to undergo an operation in the surgery outdoor the next morning if the pain was not reduced," said Md Russell.

As she was still in pain, the brothers took her to the surgery outdoor but there was a long queue of patients.

"My elder brother requested the assistant to consider her sufferings and let her see the doctor first but the assistant misbehaved with him," said Russell, adding, "As my brother protested, he pushed him to the floor."

"I could not stand such an insult to my eldest brother and caught the hand of the assistant when he was about to push my brother again," said the youngest brother Jobaidul Islam. "Then

some five to six staff of CMCH instantly came there with wood sticks." "They called us miscreants and started clobbering us with the sticks," he said. "When my mother came to save us, they also hit her with the stick."

The eldest brother, Md Kashem, suffered cuts in the head and needed two stitches. He was treated at CMCH before being taken to Panchlaish Police Station. His two brothers Russell and Jobaidul, who own a clothing business in Cox's Bazar, were also at the station.

Their mother Hosne Ara Begum, 56, went back home without treatment, said Joyanal, a cousin of the three siblings.

Director of CMCH Brig Gen Khondakar Shahidul Ghani said three "miscreants" started vandalising the surgery outdoor around 1:45pm. "We caught them and handed them over to police."

However, this correspondent saw no sign of vandalism at the scene.

When asked about it, the CMCH director ducked the issue and alleged that the detainees beat up the hospital staff as he declined to let them jump the queue.

President of CMCH Class IV Employees' Association Ratan Ali said the three brothers beat up their colleague Bappi Das without instigation, so the director called in police.

Sub-inspector Rabiul Islam of Pnanchlaish said he did not know what the allegations against the brothers were.

Govt to install 22.8 lakh prepaid gas meters

BSS, Dhaka

The government has decided to install 22.8 lakh prepaid gas meters in the country, aimed at preventing the wastage of natural gas.

"The government under different projects will install prepaid gas meters to prevent wastage of gas during its use at different holdings," Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary Abubakar Siddique told the news agency yesterday.

He said consumers of the natural gas under these projects would get more financial benefits by using the prepaid meters, compared to their use in the previous system.

Officials said 15 lakh prepaid gas meters would be installed in areas of the Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited, while 4.60 lakh others in areas of the Karnaphuli Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited.

Jalalabad Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited will introduce 1 lakh prepaid gas meters, while Bakhraabad Gas Distribution Company Limited will install 2.2 lakh.

Besides, they said, projects are being implemented to install 2 lakh prepaid gas meters for the residential consumers in the Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited areas in Dhaka and 60,000 others in the Karnaphuli Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited in Chittagong.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) has provided finance for implementation of the two projects.

Meanwhile, the officials said, Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited has already installed 9,100 prepaid meters under a pilot project in the Titas areas.

They said the government has installed prepaid meters in different areas on a pilot basis.

Energy and Mineral Resources Division under the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources took the project.

The primary proposal of the project is now under scrutiny, an official said.

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Interested owners of properties meeting the above basic specifications are requested to submit their proposals per the established Expression of Interest (EOI) template on or before 14:00hrs on 30 July 2015.

The EOI template can be downloaded from the 'Announcement' section of the WHO Country Office website (<http://www.searo.who.int/bangladesh/en/>)

Proposals should be marked as "Sealed EOI for Building Rental" addressing to WHO Representative to Bangladesh. The sealed envelopes have to be dropped in the tender box at the WHO Country Office located at House-CWN(A) 16, Road-48, Gulshan-2, Dhaka - 1212.

After the review of received EOIs shortlisted proposals will be invited for further clarifications/discussion/inspection of the premises by the WHO Review Committee.

In case of questions regarding completion of EOI please contact Mr Norbu Wangchuk, WHO Administrative Officer, norbhu@who.int

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