

MP Bodi

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Bazar. However, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal recently said Bodi's involvement was not found in any drug smuggling case.

Earlier on August 21, 2014, the ACC filed the case with Ramna Police Station on charges of amassing illegal wealth and concealing information in his wealth statement submitted to the anti-graft body.

According to the case statement, Bodi on March 20 last year informed the ACC that he along with his wife and children owned movable and immovable properties worth Tk 5.20 crore.

But his income tax return showed that they possessed properties worth Tk 16.06 crore till June 30 last year.

In his wealth statement, Bodi stated import business as his source of income, but he failed to produce any documents showing profit and loss of his business.

The lawmaker and his family members had only Tk 49 lakh in 2008 as per his wealth statement submitted to the Election Commission that year.

Man held

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As she screamed, neighbours caught Rouf. Later, they handed him over to police.

The woman and her daughter might have been strangled, said Mir Monir Hossain, assistant superintendent of police Kaliganj (circle).

Rouf was being interrogated, he added.

The bodies were handed over to the family after autopsies at the Sakhira Sadar Hospital morgue yesterday afternoon.

Jahanara filed a murder case against Rouf with Kaliganj Police Station.

'Bee' careful

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above sea level.

Photographs of the incredible bee hives show the wooden structures stuck to the cliff-face like bird's nest. They are densely packed on the cliff-face and, with the impact of weather, have started to blend into the background.

Local farmers were said to have built the hives with the aim of attracting more bees into the area, though it's not known why they chose a cliff-face rather than the ground.

According to reports on Chinese new site Xinhua.net, in China's north and north east, Chinese bees are already extinct. They have also been dwindling in numbers elsewhere.

The farmers thought that having a pre-established empty hive would encourage bees to move into the area and it seems to have had some success. Shennongjia Nature Reserve has already been dubbed the home of Chinese bees thanks to their initiative.

The nature reserve is unique in that its location in China allows it to have several climate zones. They are classed as subtropical, warm temperate, temperate and cold temperate.

These different climates reflect different areas in China, which in turn makes it possible for flora and fauna from different parts of China to grow in one place.

According to statistics, there's over 1,000 different species of plants growing in the area. There are also 54 different kinds of animals, including the rare Golden Snub-nosed Monkey, which can only be found in the temperate forests of central China.

For this reason, Shennongjia Nature Reserve is listed in Unesco's network of Biosphere Reserves.

Ex-MP Shakhawat

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of Bhalukghar Mollapara in Keshabpur upazila, Jessore. Of them, Ajihar and Akram are now in jail while the other is absconding.

Charges against whom were accepted are Shakhawat, former lawmaker from Jessore, who is now involved in Jatiya Party politics; Billal and Ibrahim Hossain of Nehalpur, Sheikh Md Mujibur Rahman and Kazi Ohidul Islam of Shekhpura, Aziz Sardar of Mominpur, Aziz Sardar of Boga, Lutfar Morol of Porchakra and Abdul Khaleq Morol of Altapol in Keshabpur upazila.

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 ordered the officer-in-charge of Keshabpur Police Station to submit a report within two weeks regarding the execution of arrest warrants issued earlier for the fugitives and fixed September 30 to pass the next order.

The prosecution on July 27 pressed charges against 12 people of killing two persons, raping one and torturing two others in Keshabpur of Jessore. All the incidents took place in the Bangla month of Ashwin (between mid-September and mid-October) during the Liberation War in 1971, according to the prosecution.

Shakhawat was a central committee member of Islami Chharta Sangha, the then student wing of Jamaat, and a commander of Pakistan army's auxiliary force Razakar Bahini at Chingra Bazar camp, prosecutors said, while the other accused were members of Razakar Bahini.

JS passes nuke power plant bill

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Parliament yesterday passed the Nuclear Power Plant Bill 2015 allowing the formation of a company to run the country's first nuclear plant.

The House passed the bill by voice vote rejecting the amendment motions moved by the opposition lawmakers.

Science and Technology Minister Yafes Osman placed the bill before parliament.

According to the bill, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) will be the owner organisation, while "Nuclear Power Plant Company Bangladesh Limited" will be formed as an operating company.

The bill proposed forming a board comprising at least seven and maximum 12 directors to run the company.

The science and technology ministry secretary will be the chairman of

the board.

The head office of the company will be in Dhaka while branch office, if necessary, will be set up elsewhere in the country after taking permission from the board.

Earlier, Bangladesh signed an agreement with Russia for constructing a nuclear power plant at Rooppur in Pabna.

Russia will provide all assistance for setting up the plant, including providing the fuel and taking back the used fuel.

A total of 262 acres of land have been acquired to set up two units with a capacity of 2,000MW.

Each of the two units at Rooppur is expected to cost \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion. Bangladesh will bear 10 percent of the cost while Russia will provide the rest as loan.

The plant will be in operation for 60 years but its life can be extended by another 20 years.

Gunmen in Iraq kidnap deputy justice minister

AFP, Baghdad

Gunmen in Baghdad kidnapped an acting deputy justice minister of Iraq yesterday and wounded his driver, officials said.

A justice ministry official identified the man seized as Abdulkarim Fares, saying he is director general for financial and administrative affairs at the ministry as well as an acting deputy minister.

A police colonel said black-clad kidnappers in several vehicles stopped his car in the Binook area in the northeast of the city.

He said the driver was wounded by gunfire when he tried to intervene.

His "protection (force) was released, and now he is the only one kidnapped", interior ministry spokesman Brigadier General Saad Maan told AFP, without saying how many guards he had.

The kidnapping came just four days after gunmen abducted 18 Turkish employees of a major construction firm in Sadr City, south of Binook.

The identity of the kidnappers in

both cases is unknown.

Kidnappings for political reasons or money are a persistent problem in Baghdad, with Shiite militias or their affiliates seen as the main culprits.

Baghdad turned to mostly Shiite volunteer forces for support as the Islamic State group advanced towards the capital in June last year, and they have played a key role in halting and then reversing the jihadists' gains.

But in doing so, the government also further empowered Shiite militias, some with chequered human rights records, and spurred the creation of new ones, allowing them to act with near impunity despite their officially falling under government command.

IS has kidnapped thousands of people in Iraq and neighbouring Syria, and frequently targets Iraqi Shiites with bloody bombings in the capital.

But a daytime raid to seize a senior government official in a Shiite-majority area of Baghdad would be a sharp departure from its usual operations.

Coalition readies for battle in Yemen's north

AFP, Dubai

The Yemen war is entering a new and potentially decisive phase as Gulf nations build up ground forces to battle rebels in the country's north and rebel-held capital, analysts say.

After five months of air strikes by a Saudi-led coalition and ground combat between Iran-backed rebels and coalition-supported fighters, Yemen "is bracing for a new and more deadly phase of violence in the north", said April Longley Alley of the International Crisis Group.

"Both sides are gearing up for a major conflict in the north and especially in Sanaa."

Overnight and yesterday, coalition warplanes pounded rebel positions in Sanaa amid the build-up.

The Shiite Huthi rebels, who have long complained of marginalisation, swept down from their northern mountainous stronghold last year to seize Sanaa unopposed.

They advanced on second city

Aden in March, forcing President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi to flee to Saudi Arabia.

Riyadh then organised an Arab coalition aimed at restoring Hadi's internationally backed government.

Months of air strikes failed to dislodge the Huthis, however.

Then, in July, the rebels were hit by major setbacks after the coalition, according to military sources, sent in armour, troops and Yemeni fighters trained in Saudi Arabia.

Anti-rebel forces have since retaken Aden and four other southern provinces.

The coalition appears determined to recover yet more territory, especially since Friday's killing of dozens of coalition troops in a Tochka missile strike on their Safer base in Marib province east of Sanaa, Alleys said.

The death of 45 soldiers from the United Arab Emirates, 10 from Saudi Arabia and five from Bahrain was by far the greatest loss suffered by the coalition -- and highlighted

the extent of its involvement on the ground.

Marib has become a strategic location for reinforcements from Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the Gulf, according to media reports and Yemeni military sources.

The missile attack shocked the Gulf states, but the coalition vowed to press on.

Riyadh formed the Arab alliance in response to fears that the Huthis would take over all of Yemen and move it into the orbit of Sunni Saudi Arabia's Shiite regional rival Iran.

The Tochka attack was "a turning point", said Andreas Krieg, a consultant to the Qatari armed forces and a lecturer at King's College in London.

He said the coalition "will prepare a greater deployment of ground troops" to support local forces trained and equipped over the past six months.

"There will be a push from the north and the south towards Sanaa."

Muhith slams agitating

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they would continue their movement unless their four-point demands is met.

He also called upon for inclusion of a teachers' representative in the cabinet committee.

The agitations by the teachers apparently irked Muhith.

"I want to find out where their dignity was not upheld," he said.

While speaking to reporters, the minister at one point brought allegations of irregularities against teachers.

"They [teachers] are given promotions as per their will. And that is what I am going to look at in the cabinet committee," he said, adding: "such practices should be controlled."

"I am extremely saddened by the teachers' behaviour," he said. According to Muhith, no proportion is maintained when it comes to the promotion of teaching staff. He said the number of

lecturers was fewer than that of professors.

"The number of professors is not equal to the total number of other employees.

The system needs a reform," he claimed.

The remarks by Muhith, however, was criticised by a number of public university teachers on the social media.

Some even demanded that the minister resigns.

Contacted, AJM Shafiqul Alam, a member of Dhaka University Teachers' Association, said the minister's remarks were impolite and baseless, and that had intensified the teachers' grievances.

He said for becoming a professor a DU teacher needs a minimum service of 12 years, apart from having enough publications and a PhD degree.

Khandakar Shariful Islam, vice president of FBUTA, said the minister made "irresponsible" remarks

which were "unexpected".

According to the new scale, he said, the professors are in grade-3 whereas the secretaries in grade-1. "It is discrimination," he claimed.

The teachers have been waging movements since May 14 and observed work abstention on different occasions after the secretary-level committee submitted a review report on the pay commission's proposal.

They had rejected the proposed structure, terming it "disgraceful and discriminatory".

Their four-point demands include formation of a commission to initiate an independent pay scale for the public university teachers, immediate revision of the 8th national pay scale, keeping senior professor and senior secretaries on the same pay scale and at an equal level of payment and benefits as enjoyed by the same grade government officials.

Won't give in to terrorists, says Erdogan

AFP, Ankara

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday vowed not to abandon the country to "terrorists" after deadly attacks by the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK).

"We did not and will not abandon the nation's future to three or five terrorists," Erdogan said in a speech in Ankara, after 30 Turkish soldiers and police were killed in two separate attacks carried out by the Kurdish militants over the last three days.

"In this country, the burial mound for martyrs has never remained empty. It appears it will never remain empty," said Erdogan.

But he promised that "with God's permission, Turkey, which has overcome plenty of crises, will get over the plague of terror."

Erdogan said the security forces' operations against the PKK caused "serious damage" to the separatist group at home and abroad.

The spike in violence has left a 2013 truce between the PKK and the Turkish state in tatters.

Erdogan held the PKK responsible for "blocking a path to settlement" and said "after this moment, the only solution that can be given consent by the state and people is for the terrorist organisation to end its acts and lay down arms."

Nearly 8,000 killed since start of Ukraine conflict: UN

AFP, Geneva

Nearly 8,000 people -- including civilians, soldiers and militia members -- have been killed since the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine, the United Nations human rights office (OHCHR) said yesterday.

"Since the conflict began in eastern Ukraine in mid-April 2014, a total of at least 7,962 people ... have been killed," and at least 17,811 have been injured, the rights office said in its latest report.

Covering the period from May 16 to August 15, the report noted a particular rise in the number of civilians killed or injured.

More safeguards before India uranium exports: Australia review

AFP, Sydney

Australia should not sell uranium to India until the South Asian giant establishes an independent nuclear regulator, a parliamentary committee recommended yesterday, as it called for more safeguards on a landmark energy deal between the two countries.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott and his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi inked a long-awaited pact for Australia to sell uranium to India in September last year, in a bid to ease the country's power crisis and help provide clean energy to its population.

Australia is the world's third-biggest uranium producer and the parliamentary report said the domestic sector would enjoy a huge boost if the agreement is ratified, with the industry and the number of people employed in it doubling in size.

Export revenue would also increase by an estimated Aus\$1.75 billion (US\$1.22 billion), the report said.

But the treaties committee, which has a majority of members from the

governing Liberal-National coalition, added that certain measures should be implemented to strengthen safeguards and nuclear non-proliferation.

The recommendations include Canberra helping India to "make genuine disarmament advances, such as signing the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty".

It also noted that recent checks by renowned bodies indicated that nuclear safety standards in India were "not as high as they should be".

"Because of this, the committee has recommended that Australian uranium not be sold to India until the Indian government has established a nuclear regulator with statutory independence and safety inspections of Indian nuclear facilities that meet best practice standards," the committee said.

It said other concerns -- such as the tracking and accounting of nuclear material so it would not be diverted for military use -- had been addressed by the government's safeguards agency ANSO, which monitors the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Freedom of speech

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High Court rejection of a plea challenging the legality of section 57.

According to section 57, if any person deliberately publishes or transmits false, obscene and derogatory information in a website or in any other electronic form, he or she will be sentenced to seven to 14 years' imprisonment and fined up to Tk 1 crore.

The section has triggered widespread criticism and outcry as legal experts have termed the provision going against article 39 of the constitution, which guarantees freedom of speech, expression and the press.

However, a HC bench on September 1 questioned the legality of section 57, issuing a rule upon the government to explain in four weeks as to why the section should not be declared unconstitutional.

Speaking at the programme, Prof Mizanur said it was unacceptable in a democratic and civilised society that people's rights have been curbed only for the sake of state security.

He said the bigots posed a threat to freedom of expression.

An atmosphere has been created where the word "blogger" is taken as a synonym of atheism, said Mizanur.

"Even if we take that a blogger is an atheist, it could be tolerated. But the problem is atheism is being treated as anti-Islamic. This is where the threat lies," he said.

Critical of the state's role in this regard, the NHRC chief claimed that the state did not protest and play a role expected by the people.

He further said by providing facts the media, including online news portals, could play a role in creating space for freedom of speech.

Speaking as special guest, Prof Ahmed Kamal of the department of History at Dhaka University said a successful newspaper is the one that successfully interacts with its readers.

Eliash Uddin Palash, editor of Shampratik Doshkal, SAM Showket Hossain, governor of Rotary International District-3281, and Nasser Shahrear Zahedee, chairman of Radiant Publications Ltd also spoke at the programme.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Coordinator
SACOSAN-VI Secretariat
Local Government Division
DPHE Bhaban, Kakrail, Dhaka

Memo No: 24/LGD/SACOSAN-VI Sec.

Date: 06/09/15

Invitation for Tender (NCT) Tender No: 01/(2015-2016)

1	Ministry/Division	Local Government Division.		
2	Agency	Local Government Division.		
3	Procuring entity name	Coordinator, SACOSAN-VI Secretariat, Dhaka.		
4	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.		
5	Invitation for	Tender	Goods	
6	Invitation ref. No. & date	Memo No. 46.017.028.00.016.214-807, LGD	Date: 09/08/2015	
7	Procurement method	National Competitive Tender (NCT)	Open	
8	Budget and source of funds	Revenue	Government/Contribution	
9	Development partners	Multiple Development Partners.		
10	Project name	N/A		
11	Tender package No.	G-01		
12	Tender package name	Supply of Conference Materials for SACOSAN-VI, Dhaka.		
13	Tender last selling date & time	4 October 2015, 5:00pm.		
14	Tender last receiving date and time	5 October 2015	Up to 1:00pm	
15	Tender opening date and time	5 October 2015	3:00pm	
16	Selling tender documents (principal)	SACOSAN-VI Secretariat, DPHE Bhaban, 8th Floor, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000		
16	Selling tender documents (others)	Office of the Executive Engineer, DPHE, Dhaka-Division.		
16	Receiving & opening tender document	SACOSAN-VI Secretariat, DPHE Bhaban, 8th Floor, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000.		
17	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Not applicable.		
18	Eligibility of tenderer	As stated in TDS.		
19	Brief description of works			
	Package No.	Identification of package	Location	Tender security (Tk)
	G-01	Supply of Conference Materials for SACOSAN-VI, Dhaka (Lot-01)	Dhaka	20,000/-
		Supply of Conference Materials for SACOSAN-VI, Dhaka (Lot-02)	Dhaka	10,000/-
		Supply of Conference Materials for SACOSAN-VI, Dhaka (Lot-03)	Dhaka	3,000/-
		Supply of Conference Materials for SACOSAN-VI, Dhaka (Lot-04)	Dhaka	18,000/-
20	Price of tender document	500/- per lot.		
21	Name & designation of official inviting tender	Coordinator, SACOSAN-VI Secretariat, Dhaka.		
22	Address of official inviting tender	Coordinator, SACOSAN-VI Secretariat, DPHE Bhaban, 8th Floor, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000.		
23	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 02-9361956 E-mail: sacovi2015@yahoo.com		
24	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceedings.			
		Coordinator SACOSAN-VI Secretariat DPHE, Dhaka		

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