

Journalist leader Shawkat Mahmud denied bail again in five arson cases

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka metropolitan magistrate's court rejected all five bail petitions of BNP

Chairperson Khaleda Zia's adviser Shawkat Mahmud in as many arson cases yesterday.

A former president of the Jatiya Press Club, he was arrested in the capital's Panthapath area on August 18 and then shown arrested in at least 24 cases filed in Dhaka.

The five arson cases were lodged with Khilgaon and Mugda police stations between January and March.

Since his arrest, Shawkat has been remanded for at least 10 days in separate cases.



Every Eid-ul-Azha brings some surprise, and this year it is probably Horini, an unusual breed of cow with some body features, especially the eye and the horns, resembling a deer's. This Horini, brought from Kushtia, is up for sale at Chittagong city's Sagorika market with the price set at Tk 8 lakh. The photo was taken on Monday.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Governance of migration process big challenge

IOM mission chief tells inter-ministerial consultation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Reinforcing governance in regulating Bangladesh's migration sector is a big challenge, observed the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Chief of Mission Sarat Dash at a programme yesterday.

"The irregular migration is an issue of concern for Bangladesh government. Lack of regular migration and insufficient scopes of legal channels sometimes prompt the people to take desperate journey to reach destination country," he told The Daily Star later.

The programme on "National Consultation for Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) 2015" was organised in the capital's Cirdap auditorium by the government's inter-ministerial committee on migration and development in association with IOM and UNDP.

Sarat Dash said the government must practically and effectively handle irregular migration like those over the Bay of Bengal.

While attending the 8th GFMD summit in Turkey next month, it should also focus on ensuring safe migration and protecting migrants' rights, he added.

Addressing as chief guest, Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Nurul Islam also highlighted the importance of legal migration channels and protection obligations for reducing migrants' vulnerabilities.

Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque highlighted the challenges of migration in the global context. "The challenge for us is how to keep the narrative associated with migration positive,

how to keep migrants safer, and how to ensure that migrants do not lose their rights in geo political turmoil," he mentioned.

Highlighting migration's integration into the development discourse, including the new Global Agenda 2030, Shahidul said the GFMD was coming at a critical time in history to shape the future of migration.

The consultation was focused on six themes: promoting migrants' rights, reducing international migration's human and financial costs, promoting fair recruitment practices, mainstreaming migration into the economy, harnessing migration's benefits for the Sustainable Development Goals. Bangladesh is scheduled to take over GFMD's chairmanship till the next summit in Dhaka in 2016.

Sreet dog finds abandoned newborn

Baby girl undergoing treatment at DMCH Neonatal ICU

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A one-day old baby girl wrapped in a polythene bag and cloths was rescued when a stray dog was pulling on the bag on the Old Airport runway in the capital yesterday.

The newborn was bleeding from her nose, face and two left hand fingers, and was rushed to Dhaka Shishu Hospital at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. She was later shifted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Tania Begum, a resident of the area who rushed the baby to the hospital, said she went to the scene hearing noise and found the baby already rescued by some locals. Quoting the children playing there, she said when the dog was pulling on the bag, the baby cried out and the kids informed locals of the incident.

Doctors said the baby might have sustained injuries from dog bites.

Kafrul police said they were yet to find how the baby was abandoned on the runway.

Bhasani's ideals needed to curb discrimination

Speakers say at launching of book about iconic political leader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Maulana Bhasani was a leader of social revolution and his ideology must be spread among the people in order to reduce discrimination, said speakers at a book launching programme yesterday.

"Maulana was not only our leader but also was a leader of discriminated people across the world as he fought against imperialism and capitalism; it was surprising that a leader of a poor country discovered the way to fight discrimination," said Professor Emeritus Serajul Islam Choudhury.

Moulana Bhasani Foundation, NY, USA and Adorn Books organised the event at the capital's Jatiya Press Club to launch "Moulana Bhasani: Leader of the Toiling Masses" edited by Anisuzzaman Chowdhury.

Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Zafrullah Chowdhury, Journalist Mahfuzullah, and the daily New Age Editor Nurul Kabir spoke among others.

Lambasting the left politicians of Bhasani's period, Serajul Islam said, "We are lucky that we got such a leader of mass people like Bhasani but this is our failure that we could not honour him or follow his ideology."

Criticising the government for its attempt to remove the biography of the leader from school books, speakers said it will ultimately be a great loss for the next generation.

They also said he showed the way of waging a tough movement without making any indiscipline. They also suggested politicians follow his ideology to build a better Bangladesh.

Too late an intervention

14yr old girl married off in Ctg city; Brac officials allege delayed response by cops

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

When Nurul Haque Chowdhury, headmaster of Paschim Madarbari City Corporation Balika Bidyalaya, heard that one of his students, 14-year-old Ishrat Jahan Eka, was getting married, he took immediate steps to stop the wedding, but the intervention came a little too late.

After being informed that Eka was to get married on Monday, Nurul immediately informed officials of "Meyeder Jonno Nirapad Nagorikotto", a project run by Brac to protect girls from sexual harassment and stop child marriage, but they could not stop the wedding allegedly because police did not take timely action.

However, police did extract a bond from Eka's guardians that they would not formally give the girl away to her in-laws until she turns 18.

Talking to The Daily Star, Nurul said, "Some classmates of Eka informed me that she was crying as her parents were going to marry her off. I informed the matter to Brac officials."

Mehedi Hasan, sector specialist of the project of Brac, said they quickly went to Double Mooring Police Station and requested them to stop the wedding, but police said they could not do anything without a formal complaint.

He said they then contacted Rehana Begum Ranu, president of the Fight for Women Rights, and requested her to do something.

However, denying the allegation, ASM Nurul Alam Talukder, officer-in-charge of the police station, said Rehana informed the matter to them and they immediately instructed the police team deployed in Madarbari area to stop the wedding.

Rehana said she filed a general diary with the police station, adding that by the police reached the house it was too late.

She said they would monitor the situation so that the parents could not hold a formal marriage ceremony until Eka was 18.

NEWS IN brief

Boat capsized in capital kills 2 girls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two girls drowned after a boat carrying them capsized in a water body in the capital's Mugda yesterday morning.

The deceased were Sony, 14, and Morzina, 13.

The boat capsized all of a sudden after the girls with four others boarded on it for roaming, police said. Boatman Chan Mia and locals could rescue four of them immediately, but Sony and Morzina were traceless for a while. Later, the two were rescued in an unconscious state and declared dead at Mugda General Hospital, police added.

Workshop on staff training held at Southern University

CITY DESK

A daylong workshop on staff training was held at Southern University Bangladesh on Saturday.

The university and British Council jointly organised the workshop which focused on the need for skill development in speaking and writing.

Mirza Tarique Beg, trainer of British Council, was the facilitator of the workshop where around 25 staff took part.

Pro-Vice Chancellor of the university Sharifuzzaman inaugurated the workshop where Resource Centre Officer of Chittagong British Council Masudul Alam was present.

'DISCIPLINE VIOLATIONS' 2 Buet students lose residency

One of them suspended for a semester

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) yesterday cancelled the residential status of two students permanently and suspended one of them for one semester on the charge of "violating discipline".

The authorities said they kept "Islamic books" and made comments on Facebook.

However, both students can appeal against the punishment within 15 days, said Director of Directorate of Students Welfare Prof Md Delwar Hossain.

The disciplinary committee cancelled the residency of Md Noor Uddin, a first-year student of industrial and production engineering, and Abu Barakat Md Rafiqul Hasan, a second-year student of mechanical engineering, and suspended Noor for one semester. Their residential status was suspended on Friday after some activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League handed the two over to the provost, saying the two had "extremist views".

Prof Delwar said the two claimed themselves innocent, and had said they followed the Tablighi Jamaat, a movement to preach Islamic values, and had kept the books for just their interest and research purposes.

Missions of

FROM PAGE 3 International, the UK has been playing an active role in helping young people to develop, learn and achieve their potentials."

The workshops discussed some of the challenges and opportunities on embedding the principles of democracy; how the voices of under-represented groups such as women and young people can be better heard; and global experiences on democracy.



Participants at a toy collection event organised by Toys-R-URs at Mughal Kitchen in the capital's Gulshan recently as part of a campaign initiated by Ex-Cadet Forum, a global platform of former cadets from all the cadet colleges, against the backdrop of child abuse and subsequent deaths across the country. The collected old toys will be distributed among underprivileged children before the upcoming Eid.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

War crimes tribunal slams prosecution's sloppiness

Rejects review plea against clearing of 3 Jessore suspects

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criticising the prosecution for its sloppiness, International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday rejected its review petition to take into cognisance a war crimes charge against three persons of Jessore.

Moshiar Rahman and Ojiwar Morol of Chingra and Akram Hossain of Bhalukghar Mollapara in Keshabpur upazila, Jessore were cleared on September 8. It was a first for the war crimes trials.

However, charges were accepted against nine others, including former BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker Shakhawat Hossain.

As per court sources, Ojiwar's name had been left out from both the police's investigation report and prosecution's formal report.

Citing it a typo, prosecutor Tapas Kanti Baul yesterday apologised, saying witnesses had given statements testifying that the three had aided war crimes.

The charges can be taken into cognisance since the trial was at the initial stage, added Acting Chief Prosecutor Syed Haidar Ali.

A cynical Justice M Enayetur Rahim, leading the three-member tribunal, asked whether names of the remaining two had also been included mistakenly.

"They (investigation officer) gave you the report and you submitted it accordingly. Then what is the prosecution's job?" he said.

"Before the order (clearing the three), we have asked (prosecutor) Zead Al Malum whether their names are mentioned in the Razakar's list. He replied in the negative," he said, adding that only then had the three been discharged.

Prosecution sources say that Jessore District Muktiyoddha Command Council prepared a list in 2010. Justice Enayetur recommended that the prosecutors focus on proving the charges against the nine. The prosecution pressed five

charges, over the killing of two persons, rape of one and torture on two others in Keshabpur during the 1971 Liberation War, against the 12 on July 27.

TAHER AND NONI'S CASE

The 18th prosecution witness, Subodh Chandra Dev Roy, testified how his maternal uncle was shot dead by a group of Razakars led by war crimes accused Obaidul Haque alias Taher and Aatur Rahman alias Noni in Netrakona during the Liberation War.

Subodh said Taher, Noni and the other Razakars arrived in their village in the morning of November 15 and tied up seven persons, including his uncle Ramchandra Talukder Lebu.

Ramchandra was shot dead immediately while the rest were taken to Netrakona town and tortured in a bungalow. One banker was released but the rest shot dead, he said, adding that he had heard it from three witnesses.

One war crimes court made inactive

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday made one of two International Crimes Tribunals dormant, and brought some changes in the positions of the other tribunal judges.

Now, a single tribunal will hear the cases relating to the crimes against humanity and war crimes committed during the country's Liberation War in 1971.

The law ministry yesterday issued a gazette notification in this regard.

Law Minister Anisul Huq told The Daily Star that Justice Anwarul Haque, who was a member of the International Crimes Tribunal-1, was appointed chairman of the present tribunal and Justice Md Shahinur Islam, and Justice Md Shohrowardi were made members.

Justice Md Shahinur Islam was working as member of the ICT-2 and Justice Md Shohrowardi was working for the HC.

ICT-1 Chairman Justice M Enayetur Rahim, ICT-2 Chairman Justice Obaidul Hassan and their members Justice Jahangir Hossain and Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah have been brought back to the High Court, the minister said. All the chairmen and members of the ICTs are originally the judges of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court. The law minister said the initiative was taken as there were only four cases pending with the tribunal now.

DHAKA TODAY

Workshop	Seminar
National Institute of Ophthalmology and Hospital (NIOH) and other will organise a workshop on "Diabetic Retinopathy Screening." Venue: Krishibid Institute of Bangladesh, Farmgate. Time: 9:00am	Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) and other will organise a seminar on "Bangladesh and the Plurilateral Trading Arrangements." Venue: BISS auditorium, Time: 10:00am

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
কৃষি মন্ত্রণালয়

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয় : "বঙ্গবন্ধু জাতীয় কৃষি পুরস্কার ১৪২০" মনোনয়ন আহ্বান

বঙ্গবন্ধু জাতীয় কৃষি পুরস্কার তহবিলের ট্রাস্টি বোর্ডের সভার সিদ্ধান্ত অনুযায়ী "বঙ্গবন্ধু জাতীয় কৃষি পুরস্কার ১৪২০" প্রদানের নিমিত্তে মনোনয়নপত্র আহ্বান করা হয়েছে।

মনোনয়নপত্র দাখিল ও বাছাইয়ের তফসিল নিম্নরূপ-

কার্যক্রম	অনুমোদিত সময়সীমা
উপজেলা কমিটি নিকট মনোনয়ন ফরম দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	২৫ অক্টোবর ২০১৫
উপজেলা কমিটি কর্তৃক মনোনয়ন বাছাইয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	০৫ নভেম্বর ২০১৫
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জেলা কমিটি বাতীত সরাসরি মনোনয়ন প্রদানকারীপন কর্তৃক মন্ত্রণালয়ে মনোনয়ন প্রেরণের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	১২ নভেম্বর ২০১৫
জেলা কমিটি কর্তৃক কৃষি মন্ত্রণালয়ে মনোনয়ন দাখিলের সর্বশেষ তারিখ	১৯ নভেম্বর ২০১৫

নিয়মাবলী ও মনোনয়ন ফরম কৃষি মন্ত্রণালয়ের ওয়েবসাইট www.moa.gov.bd, কৃষি তথ্য সার্ভিসের ওয়েবসাইট www.ais.gov.bd ও সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলা প্রশাসক, উপ-পরিচালক, কৃষি সম্প্রসারণ অধিদপ্তর, উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসার এবং উপজেলা কৃষি অফিসারের কার্যালয়ে পাওয়া যাবে।

প্রচারে : কৃষি তথ্য সার্ভিস কৃষি মন্ত্রণালয়