

## INDIAN RUPEE HAUL Five placed on 5-day remand in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday placed five accused on a five-day remand each in a case filed in connection with the seizure of over 2.71 crore Indian rupees from inside a container in Chittagong Port on September 21.

The court of Chittagong Metropolitan Magistrate Naurin Akter Kakon passed the order after police produced the accused before it.

The accused are clearing and forwarding (C&F) firm Flash International Ltd Chairman ASM Sayem alias Shamim, its Managing Director Asad Ullah, another C&F Firm Nahar Trading Complex's Director Md Ahammad Ullah Talukder Rintu, the container's consignee UAE expatriate

Shaheduzzaman's younger brother Towhidul Alam and Sheikh Saber, a tea boy of the port dock.

"This is an organised crime and several syndicates of home and abroad might have links with the rupee smuggling," said Assistant Commissioner (Prosecution) Nirmolendu Bikash Chakraborty.

He added that they needed more time to collect information about the source and destination of the smuggled rupees.

On September 21, the officials of Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate sealed the container off after finding the Indian currency in four out of 165 packages in the container. On September 16, the container arrived in Chittagong Port from the UAE via Colombo.

UAE expatriate Shaheduzzaman, who is on the run, had sent the container to Chittagong declaring the container containing household commodities.



Coconut husks and rubbish litter the scenic Parki Beach in Chittagong's Anwara upazila. The spot draws a large number of visitors for being only 25-30km away from the port city and has potentials to draw more tourists. But carelessness of visitors and the authorities not only damages its beauty but pollutes the sea water. The photo was taken the day before Eid day.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

## Mirza Fakhrul gets bail in defamation case

COURT CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday secured bail in a defamation case filed for terming the ruling Awami League a "killer party" and its chief Sheikh Hasina a "killer" at a press conference at BNP Nayapaltan headquarters on August 24 last year.

Nur-e-Alam Siddique, vice-president of Awami Matsyaji League, a pro-A organisation, filed the suit against the BNP leader with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka on September 1, 2014.

Following a report submitted by Paltan police on December 18, the court issued summons against Fakhrul while another Dhaka court on January 22 issued arrest warrant against him as he did not appear before it.

Fakhrul was released on bail from prison on July 14, over six months after his arrest on January 6.

## 4 charges framed against 3 Habiganj 'Razakars'

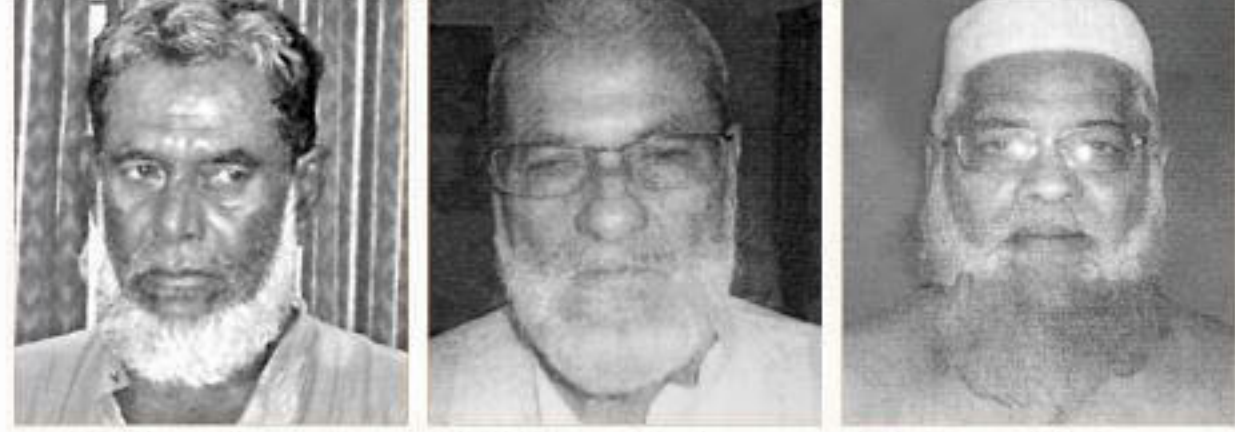
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday framed four specific charges against three "Razakars" from Habiganj for their alleged involvement in crimes against humanity committed in the district during the 1971 Liberation War.

The three were charged with killing two freedom fighters, raping two women, confining and torturing an unarmed civilian, and arson and looting of the house of Maj Gen (ret'd) MA Rob, the Liberation War's deputy commander-in-chief.

Muhibur Rahman alias Boromian, 65, his younger brother Mujibur Rahman alias Angur Mian, 60, and their cousin Abdur Razzak, 63, however, plead not guilty.

Muhibur is the former chairman of



Abdur Razzak Muhibur Rahman Mujibur Rahman

Khagaura union council of Baniachang upazila in Habiganj and Mujibur the incumbent.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Anwarul Haque with members Justice Md Shahinur Islam and Justice Md Shohrawardi fixed October 21 for starting trial with recording of the prosecution's opening statement and testimony of a prosecution witness.

The tribunal also asked the prosecution to supply to the defence before the date all the documents they intend to

rely upon. It directed the defence counsels to submit their documents and a list of defence witnesses, if any, on or before the date.

The prosecution on May 16 pressed the charges against Muhibur and Mujibur. Later, Razzak was implicated as the investigation officer found his involvement.

According to the prosecution, Muhibur, son of Daras Uddin of Kumurshana under Baniachang, was a "strong follower" of Syed Kamrul Ahsan, a local leader of Nejam-e-Islami, an anti-liberation political party.

Muhibur and Mujibur sided against the Liberation War and joined the local Razakar Bahini, said the prosecution.

Muhibur's elder brother Kalamdhar, who passed away, was the chairman of

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## Holland shows interest in building seaports

NRBs in UK also want to invest in different sectors; Hasina requests more Japanese investment

BSS, New York Dhaka

The Netherlands has shown its interest in construction of seaports in Chittagong and Paira in Patuakhali.

At another meeting between Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, the former requested more investment in the Special Economic Zone allocated for Japan.

Meanwhile, non-resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) in the United Kingdom have showed interest to invest in Bangladesh in different sectors, including IT and pharmaceuticals.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte expressed interest in the construction during a meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the sidelines of the 70th UN General Assembly in New York on Monday.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim said the two leaders discussed various issues relating to mutual interests.

Sheikh Hasina said Paira area is very suitable for a deep seaport and the government was interested to start construction of the port as soon as possible. She said the Netherlands can cooperate with Bangladesh in the areas of river dredging, land reclamation, flood control and natural disaster management.

The two prime ministers also discussed progress in preparing the "Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100" which is being formulated in cooperation with the Dutch government.

Sheikh Hasina informed Mark Rutte that she would visit the Netherlands very soon. The Dutch premier highly appreciated

Bangladesh's impressive progress in the socioeconomic field and efficiency in flood control.

JAPAN The Japanese prime minister noted that the cooperation between the two countries has been enhanced further at bilateral and multilateral levels following his visit to Bangladesh.

Lauding Bangladesh's progress in achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), he said Bangladesh and Japan would work together to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The two prime ministers also discussed the progress of the mega projects being implemented in Bangladesh with the support of Japan.

NON-RESIDENT BANGLADESHIS The Bangladeshis expressed the interest when a delegation of Conservatives Friends of Bangladesh (CFOB) led by chair of All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) Bangladesh, Anne Main, made a courtesy call on President Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday.

During the meeting, the president said a huge number of Bangladeshis regularly visit the UK and the visa was processed from New Delhi, which was time consuming, the president's press secretary, Joynal Abedin, told the news agency.

Abdul Hamid urged the delegation to take steps so that the visa could be processed from Bangladesh.

Both the president and the head of the delegation underscored the need for exchanging business delegations between

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President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Saber Hossain Chowdhury, left, Austrian President Heinz Fischer, centre, and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a luncheon hosted by Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon on Monday in New York for world leaders attending the general debate of the 70th session of the UN General Assembly.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

## SUBSIDISING RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION

# Delay may discourage potential investors

Say industry insiders

UNB, Dhaka

Although large renewable energy projects, especially solar schemes, are being taken in both public and private sectors in line with the government's power sector mega plan, the delay in introducing "feed-in tariff" or FIT may discourage potential investors, according to industry insiders.

They feel that FIT was essential for creating confidence among investors for the sector's development or else they may pull out at one stage.

FIT is a kind of subsidy provided to reduce renewable energy production costs. Under an FIT, eligible renewable electricity generators, including homeowners, business owners, farmers and private investors, are paid a cost-based price for the renewable electricity they supply to the grid.

This was first introduced in Germany to

encourage investors to produce solar energy. So far, 80 countries have introduced FIT, but Bangladesh lags behind though it is encouraging green energy.

The government has planned to generate at least 10 percent of the required power from renewable energy by 2020. It now produces 165MW of power from renewable energy sources, which is about 2.2 percent of the total electricity produced in Bangladesh.

The Power Division is now in a process to award contracts to set up 220MW solar power plants in private sector, according to official sources.

They said Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (Berc) recently finalised the draft of a law to introduce FIT as a mandatory provision for the renewable energy producers and electricity distribution agencies.

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## BDR CARNAGE CASE APPEALS

# HC likely to start hearing arguments on November 1

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The High Court is likely to start hearing arguments on the BDR carnage case on November 1 since the court has finished hearing the death reference and documents related to the appeals of most convicts.

A total of 255 appeals were filed, both individually and collectively, by the 567 people who were either sentenced to death or jailed in the country's biggest ever criminal case, in terms of the number of accused persons and convicts.

A three-member special bench of the HC on September 10 adjourned the proceedings till November 1 as one of its judges, Justice Md Abu Zafar Siddique, went on leave for performing Hajj and the court has also been on a 44-day annual vacation since September 17.

The bench will resume proceedings when the court reopens on November 1, Deputy Attorney General AKM Zahid Sarwar Kazal told The Daily Star.

Following filing of the appeals, the state counsels started presenting the first information reports (FIRs), charge sheets, confessional statements, evidences, testimonies of

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