

2 SHARIATPUR WAR CRIME ACCUSED Charges of genocide, rape, torture pressed Court fixes Nov 25 for framing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International Crimes Tribunal-1 fixed November 25 to decide whether to frame the four specific charges involving genocide, killings, rape, torture and confinement, the prosecution pressed through the registrar's office yesterday against two Shariatpur sadar upazila men for crimes committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

Receiving the formal charges and other documents, it also fixed the date to pass order on a bail petition moved by Gazi MHTamim, representing Sulaiman Mollah, and opposed by prosecutor Hrishikesh Saha yesterday mainly over health and old age grounds.

Sulaiman, 84, is from Kashipur Muslimpara. Edris Ali Sarder alias Gazi Edris, 67, from Mahmudpur (Pachim Kashabhog), is on the run.

The tribunal's investigation agency on October 29 submitted a report and other documents finding "sufficient evidence".

It says Sulaiman was a Muslim League leader who in 1971 formed Peace Committee and Razakar Bahini in Shariatpur.

Edris was a leader of Islami Chhatra Sangha, the then student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, and

joined Razakar Bahini in 1971, it added.

CHARGES

The first charge says Sulaiman and Edris, along with 100 to 150 Pakistani army men, attacked Angaria, Kashabhog, and Modhyapara in Palang upazila (now Sariatpur sadar) on May 22, killed around 200 Hindus and one Abdus Samad Sikder, and looted and burnt all houses.

The next day, the accused along with 100 Pakistani army men attacked Malopara and Rudrakar villages and shot dead a priest before looting and burning all the houses, says the second charge.

They forcibly took around 20 women and 10 to 15 men from the villages to a Pakistani army camp in Madaripur where the women were raped for three days before being released and the men shot dead, the second charge adds.

According to the third charge, the duo along with eight to 10 Pakistani army men attacked and looted the home of one Shailendra Krishna Paul in the upazila in June and killed two Hindu guards.

The fourth charge says, the accused and the Pakistani army intimidated around 1,500 people into leaving Bangladesh between March 25 and December 10.

Road crashes kill cop, student

CITY DESK

A JSC examinee was killed and two people were injured in a head-on collision between two motorcycles on Barisal-Patherghata Highway in Balaibari area of Rajapur in Jhalakathi yesterday.

The deceased -- Shijda, 13, daughter of Badal Hossen of Nijgalua village -- was

going to her exam hall in Rajapur. She was a student of SK High School in Galua village.

In Gazipur, an on-duty police constable of Mawna Highway Police Station was killed when a covered-van hit him avoiding his signal to stop at a check post on Dhaka-Mymensingh Highway in MC Bazar area of Sreepur upazila on Sunday. The deceased was Rohul Amin, 38, of Mymensingh.

Families of slain cops renew call for justice

FROM PAGE 3

No-one was arrested yet in connection with the attack that left another cop critically injured.

"I am shell-shocked but at the same time proud that my son sacrificed his life for the country," he told The Daily Star. He expects his another son, Jisan, to be recruited into the force.

Referring to the future of her six-year-old daughter and two-year-old son, ASI Ibrahim Mollah's wife Khairunnisa urged the government to give her a job to help run the family.

Ibrahim was stabbed to death at Gabtoli on October 22.

Though police arrested several people, the man who stabbed him is on the run.

Nasima Akter, wife of ASI Sujaul whose body was found on October 5, a day after he went missing, told The Daily Star, "I want exemplary punishment for those who killed him and made my only son fatherless."

Talking to reporters, IGP Shahidul Hoque said the criminals behind the incidents were identified, and law enforcers arrested some of them and were trying to catch the rest.

He said a vested quarter was targeting general people and innocent police personnel to spread panic, destabilise the country, and affect the police morale.

When asked about the many innocent people being arrested in the latest nationwide crackdown,

the police chief said they were conducting raids only to arrest criminals and troublemakers.

He also said the police force was alerted after the recent attacks in the country and in Paris.

Replying to another query on the security of writers, bloggers, publishers and eminent persons, the IGP said it was not possible to give security to individuals but they were brought under the security blanket.

"Police are keeping contact with them," he added.

Correction

In a news report with the headline "Muhibur, Mujibur helped Pakistani rape woman", published on November 15, 2015 it was inadvertently stated that the victim's brother testified that his sister later committed suicide. Actually he did not make any such statement although the charge sheet says so. We regret the error.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLLS

JS body for partisan chairmen, mayors

Zila parishad (amendment) bill withdrawn for further scrutiny

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday recommended allowing only chairman and mayoral candidates to use registered political parties' parliamentary electoral symbols in union and upazila parishad and city corporation and municipality elections.

However, it recommended the LGRD ministry to further look into whether the same could be done for chairman and member candidates at zila parishads, each of which has at least three to four constituencies, as MP's and the chairmen may engage in controversy over their jurisdiction.

Against this backdrop, the zila parishad

(amendment) bill, placed in parliament on November 11, was withdrawn from the House and standing committee on the ministry by LGRD Minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain.

Initially, the city corporation (amendment), union parishad (amendment) and upazila parishad (amendment) bills sought elections to all posts, including that of councillors and members, under political banners while the municipality (amendment) bill only the mayoral posts.

Till date, the parties could only support the candidates but their participation was all but official since their local machinery was used for campaigns.

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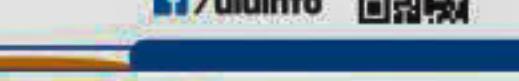
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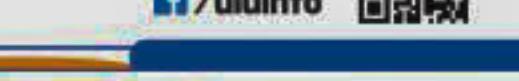
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