



OBSERVERS FOR BANKS

BB appoints observers to four state-owned banks: Sonali, Janata, Rupali, Agrani

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'LOVE MAY FALL'

Emma Stone to star in an adaptation of Matthew Quick's novel

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DEATH, *no less*

Legal process complete as SC rejects petitions of war crimes convicts
SQ Chy, Mojaheed to review death penalty

ASHUTOSH SARKAR, WASIM BIN HABIB and SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

TUHIN

The long legal battles in the war crimes cases against Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed and Salauddin Quader Chowdhury have finally come to an end, drawing the two condemned war criminals closer to the gallows.

The Supreme Court yesterday dismissed their petitions for reviewing its verdict that upheld their death penalty given by two special tribunals in 2013.

Now the two former ministers are left with the last option of seeking presidential clemency by confessing to the crimes they committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

The SC orders paved the way for the government to execute Mojaheed, general secretary of the Jamaat-e-Islami, and Salauddin, a member of the BNP Standing Committee.

"Now, there is no legal bar to the execution of Mojaheed and Salauddin," Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said at his office following the SC orders.

Asked whether the jail authorities would have to wait for copies of the SC orders for executing the duo, he said it would not be necessary, as there was no stay order on their execution.

However, Chief Defence Counsel Khandker Mahbub Hossain contradicted the attorney general, and said the jail authorities could execute them only after receiving a short or full order from the SC.

Meanwhile, the Jamaat posted on its twitter page that its leader Mojaheed would not seek presidential mercy as "he didn't commit any crime".

Up till now, two war crimes convicts -- Jamaat leaders Abdul Quader Mollah and Muhammad Kamaruzzaman -- have been executed since the war crimes trial began in March 2010.

And in both cases, the prison authorities carried out the execution only after getting copies of the SC orders.

Quader Mollah was hanged hours after the jail authorities received a short SC order on his review petition on December 12, 2013, while Kamaruzzaman was executed on April 11 this year after the prison authorities got the full SC order on his review petition.

In both cases, the SC orders were first sent to the tribunals that tried the war criminals. The tribunals then

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INTERNET, MOBILE APPS

Sudden shutdown follows verdict

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

For the first time in its history, the government yesterday temporarily shut down the internet in Bangladesh, affecting businesses and services heavily dependent on the digital network.

The government said the internet was shut down "mistakenly".

The shutdown, which lasted for over 75 minutes, from 1:00pm to around 2:15pm, came shortly after the authorities blocked Facebook and online messaging and calling services WhatsApp and Viber.

Experts and entrepreneurs in the digital sphere said the shutdown had massively affected digital business, and its effect would be long-term.

Mustafa Jabbar, former president of Bangladesh

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THE VERDICT

DEATH PENALTY
on **4** charges

20-YEAR JAIL
on **2** charges

DEATH PENALTY
on **1** charge

5-YEAR JAIL
on **1** charge

5-YEAR JAIL
on **2** charges

ACQUITTED
of **1** charge

LIFE TERM JAIL
on **2** charges

ACQUITTED
of **1** charge

TIMELINE

ARREST: DEC 16, 2010

INVESTIGATION: JULY 2010 TO OCT 2011

CHARGE SHEET: NOV 14, 2011

CHARGE FRAMING: APR 4, 2012

TRIBUNAL VERDICT: OCT 1, 2013

SC VERDICT: JULY 29, 2015

REVIEW ORDER NOV 18, 2015

ARREST: JUNE 29, 2010

INVESTIGATION: JULY 2010 TO OCT 2011

CHARGE SHEET: JAN 16, 2012

CHARGE FRAMING: JUNE 21, 2012

TRIBUNAL VERDICT: JULY 17, 2013

SC VERDICT: JUNE 16, 2015

REVIEW ORDER: NOV 18, 2015

Jamaat calls hartal, BNP keeps mum

Bus torched in city

STAR REPORT

Alleged pro-hartal supporters set fire to a bus and vandalised one more in the capital's Jatrabari area last night, hours after a country-wide hartal was called by the Jamaat-e-Islami.

The party yesterday called the dawn-to-dusk hartal starting from 6:00am today, protesting the Supreme Court's disposal of Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed's review petition upholding his death penalty for war crimes.

The BNP, however, is yet to make any reaction to the SC verdict that upheld the death penalty for the party's standing committee member Salauddin Quader Chowdhury.

As the country had witnessed violence after verdicts against war criminals, especially Jamaat leaders, in the past, the law enforcement agencies were kept on high alert.

Additional police and Rab members were

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All his delaying, smear tactics come to nought

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY and WASIM BIN HABIB

He and his men used every means at their disposal to delay his case proceedings and to create controversy over the war crimes trial.

From filing of dozens of petitions to submitting a list of over a thousand defence witnesses to sacking his lawyer and reappointing him thrice to vainly trying to hire foreign lawyers, Salauddin Quader Chowdhury employed every ploy and made every attempt to delay the trial proceedings, prosecutors said.

His family members and others allegedly leaked the draft of his verdict of a war crimes tribunal and launched an online campaign to create contro-

versy over the trial. Even yesterday, Salauddin tried to benefit from submitting a "fake certificate" that he was a student of Punjab University in Pakistan in 1971, they said.

But nothing worked out.

The convicted BNP leader will walk to gallows as the SC yesterday rejected his petition to review its verdict that upheld his death penalty for committing crimes against humanity and genocide during the Liberation War in 1971. He's now left with the only option of seeking presidential clemency.

"He [Salauddin] has played all possible tricks to delay his case proceedings and to create a negative impression on the trial nationally and internationally ... But ultimately nothing paid off.

Only the truth prevails," said Tureen Afroz, a prosecutor of the tribunal.

Echoing Tureen, Sultan Mahmud Simon, another prosecutor, said even forged documents were used to influence the verdict in his favour.

"On several occasions, prosecution witnesses had been threatened to stall the trial," he told The Daily Star last night.

With his lips always drawn up in a sneer, he violated rules of court decorum wilfully and laughed at the judges and lawyers. He was confident of getting freedom with the change of government and he threatened to bring the prosecutors to book. His controversial comments often hogged media headlines.

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JS body wants end of TIB

Decides to ask NGO Bureau for cancelling watchdog's registration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary committee will recommend to the NGO Affairs Bureau that the registration of Transparency International Bangladesh be scrapped for not apologising yet for making "derogatory comments" on parliament.

"I have no alternative to making the recommendation," Suranjit Sengupta, chief of the parliamentary standing committee on the law ministry, said during a briefing at the Jatiya Sangsad Media Centre yesterday.

"We had given TIB three days to apologise to the nation for its derogatory comments on parliament. But it hasn't done it yet, which is tantamount to arrogance," he told reporters.

The Bangladesh chapter of Germany-based anti-graft watchdog in a study on October 25 pointed to a "low-level of participation" of MPs in lawmaking, question-answer sessions and discussions on important notices in the current parliament.

Only six percent of 388 working hours had been spent on formulation and passage of 30 laws in 14 months, said the

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PHOTO: KONGKON KARMAKAR

Italian national Piero Parolari being stretchered on to an air force helicopter in Dinajpur. The pastor-cum-physician was shot by unidentified gunmen yesterday.

Italian doctor comes under gun attack

Flown to Dhaka from Dinajpur

STAR REPORT

Yet another foreigner came under attack by unidentified assailants in Dinajpur yesterday, around one and a half months after two others were shot dead in the capital and Rangpur.

Piero Parolari, 57, an Italian doctor and pastor, was shot in the back of his head near the BRTC bus terminal in Dinajpur town around 8:30am when he was riding a bicycle towards Dinajpur Medical College Hospital, said witnesses.

The physician serves the hospital as a volunteer. The terminal is about 400 yards away from his home on Mirzapur Catholic Church compound.

The victim was flown to Dhaka in the afternoon and admitted to Combined Military Hospital.

Earlier on October 5, pastor Luke Sarkar of a Pabna church survived an attempt on his life by three youths who

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Anonymous group shows how to find IS online

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Anonymous has released a guide to catching Islamic State (IS) extremists, and claims that it has already found thousands of extremists online.

The group launched its operation against IS in the wake of the attacks on Paris over the weekend.

Much of Anonymous's work involves finding the

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French police move in on the apartment where a female suicide bomber blew herself up. At least one other suspected militant was killed and eight people were detained during the deadly raid on the building in Saint-Denis. PHOTO: MAIL ONLINE

Gunshots rattle Paris suburb

2 killed during massive police raid; confusion over fate of Friday attack 'mastermind'; female suicide bomber blows herself up; eight arrested

AGENCIES

A woman suicide bomber blew herself up in a police raid that sources said had foiled a jihadi plan to hit Paris's business district, days after attacks that killed 129 across the French capital.

Police stormed an apartment in the Paris suburb of St Denis in a hunt for Abdelhamid Abaaoud, a Belgian Islamist militant accused of masterminding the bombings and shootings, but more than 15 hours later it was still unclear if they had found him.

Heavily armed officers entered the building before dawn, triggering a massive firefight and multiple explosions. Eight people were arrested and forensic scientists were working to confirm if two or three militants died in the violence.

"A new team of terrorists has been neutralised," Paris Prosecutor Francois Molins told reporters, saying police had fired 5,000 rounds of munitions into the apartment,

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TOP QUOTE

"We are facing a third world war against humanity and this is what brings us all together."

JORDAN'S KING ABDULLAH II

IN THE WAKE OF THE PARIS ATTACKS AND FIGHT AGAINST ISLAMIC STATE