

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday directed the prosecution to submit an investigation report, if there were any, on February 6 in a case filed against 13 Bagerhat men for allegedly committing crimes during the 1971 Liberation War.

Prosecutor Mukhlesur Rahman Badal sought the time. Earlier, he submitted a progress report.

The tribunal also allowed a prosecution's petition for interrogating arrestees Khan Akram Hossain, Sheikh Mohammad Ukil Uddin, Rustam Ali Mollah and Mokshed Ali Didar, Sheikh Edrish Ali, Sheikh Rafiqul Islam Babul, Md Maniruzzaman Hawladar, Hashem Ali Sheikh and Ajahar Ali Sikhdar are on the run.

Investigations began on June 4, 2015 and the probe officer already found their "involvement" in crimes, including murder and rape, in the district. The accused were involved with Muslim League and joined Razakar Bahini, the Pakistani occupation army's auxiliary force, she said.



Hawkers continue to encroach on footpaths in the capital's Gulistan yesterday, narrowing down the road, which leads to traffic congestion, and forcing pedestrians to take the dangerous alternative of walking down the road amidst oncoming traffic. The High Court on Monday had issued a contempt of court rule against officers in charge of Shahbagh, Bangshal, Sutrapur and Kotwali police stations for not complying with its directives asking them to free roads and footpaths from Zero Point to Sadarghat.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Finish graft case trials in 60 days: SC
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court administration has directed the lower courts concerned to finish the trial proceedings of the corruption cases in 60 days after taking cognisance of their charges.

The SC authorities issued a notification yesterday, which said divisional special judges' courts and special judges' courts have been formed to speedily settle the cases filed under the Anti-Corruption Commission law.

There is also a specific provision in the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1958 that these courts will finalise the corruption cases' trial proceedings in 60 days after taking cognisance.

The divisional special judges' courts or special judges' courts have also been ordered to dispose of the cases by giving priority within the fixed time.

Corruption cases have piled up as the special courts have been giving more emphasis on criminal cases since the enactment of the Special Court (Additional Charge) Act, 2003, ACC Director General (Legal and Prosecution) Moyeedul Islam told The Daily Star last month.

Identifying the problems, the ACC body wrote to the law ministry and the SC registrar general on September 8 for quick disposal of graft cases.

Eight diagnostic centres fined
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court of Rapid Action Battalion yesterday fined eight diagnostic centres Tk 12.85 lakh in Dhaka's Fakirapool for using expired medicines in pathological tests and conducting fake tests.

Medinet Medical Center was fined Tk 3 lakh, Desh Diagnostic Tk 1 lakh, Al Safa Medi Center Tk 1.1 lakh, Al Hamad Medi Center Tk 3 lakh, Best Diagnostic Medi Center Tk 1.5 lakh, Euroasia Diagnostic Center Tk 50,000, Bangladesh Diagnostic Center Tk 75,000 and Sohag Diagnostic Medi Center Tk 2 lakh.

Executive Magistrate Sarwoer Alam led the drive.

Shaheed Noor Hossain Day today
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shaheed Noor Hossain Day is being observed today by political parties, socio-cultural and professional organisations with due solemnity commemorating the pro-democracy activist's sacrifice.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia issued messages. "Zero Point" in Gulistan was renamed Noor Hossain Chatter (square) after the young man was gunned down near it by police on November 10, 1987.

He was taking part in a pro-democracy procession protesting HM Ershad's autocratic regime when a bullet pierced his body.

JOYPURHAT UP CHAIRMAN KILLING Rab arrests 'prime suspect' in Dhaka
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested the "prime suspect" of a Joypurhat union chairman killing case, in the capital's Turag area yesterday.

Munna Parvej was detained with a pistol and two bullets, according to a Rab-1 statement.

On June 4, Joypurhat's Vadsha UP Chairman Abul Kalam Azad was stabbed and shot allegedly by Munna and his associates over "political rivalry", in Gopalpur Bazar area. Azad died a week later.

He was a rebel candidate in the UP election, challenging Awami League nominee Hatem.

Our Joypurhat correspondent reports that Munna is an elected member of the same union and president of Vadsha union Jubo League.

He was paid Tk 2 lakh by former chairman of the union, Hatem, to kill the newly elected chairman Azad, said the Rab statement.

It added that Munna's two associates -- Saikat and Saddam -- confessed to court that Munna and his aides had killed the chairman.

RHD official held over bribery
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday caught red-handed an official of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) taking Tk 15,000 as bribe.

A case was filed against Assistant Law Officer Johurul Haque with Tejgaon Police Station, said an ACC officer. One Salauddin filed a complaint saying some 30-35 RHD officials including Johurul went to his Mirupur residence on October 24 and served an eviction notice. Johurul demanded Tk 45,000 to stop the eviction. Johurul was arrested when he went to receive the first installment.

Meanwhile, the ACC arrested former chairman of Jagoron Textile Mills Ltd Jahangir Alam Miyaji from Segunbagicha for misappropriating Tk 3.46 crore of Sonali Bank. Jahangir opened a back-to-back LC for exporting clothes, which he did not.

The ACC also arrested a former sub-post master of BRTA office in Mirpur Sirajul Islam from Dhaka for not depositing Tk 10.3 lakh in the government's treasury, collected as motor vehicle tax.

A former supervisor of Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank, Motiur Rahman, and general secretary of the bank's grain warehouse Aminul Islam were arrested from Lalmonirhat for misappropriating Tk 4.41 lakh,

DEATH OF GAIBANDHA SANTALS
Judicial probe demanded
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing concern, rights activists yesterday demanded a judicial probe into police firing and killing of two santals on November 6 over land dispute in Gaibandha.

In a statement, they also sought exemplary punishment for those involved.

Advocate Sultana Kamal, chairperson of Transparency International Bangladesh; Khushi Kabir, coordinator, Nijera Kori; Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director, TIB; Syeda Rizwana Hasan, chief executive, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association; and Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary, Bangladesh Adivasi Forum, among others, signed it.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Adivasi Forum also protested and demanded return of the lands to the santals, a separate land commission for plainland indigenous people and punishment for the perpetrators.

In another statement, Badaruddin Umar, president of Anti-fascism and Anti-imperialism National Committee, demanded rehabilitation of evicted santals and punishment for those involved in arson, looting, vandalism and opening fire on santals.

A clash between santals and police erupted when mill workers of Rangpur Sugar Mill with hired workers started harvesting sugarcane on the land acquired through displacing ethnic minority communities.

Hefajat protests B'baria attacks, Rohingya persecution
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cig

Hefajat-e Islam Bangladesh yesterday demanded exemplary punishment for those who instigated and carried out attacks on Hindus in Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar upazila last month centring a Facebook photograph deemed insulting to Islam.

The qawmi madrasa-based organisation also urged the government and the international community to put pressure on the Myanmar administration so that it stops persecuting the minority Rohingya Muslims in its Rakhine state.

"We are not asking the government to declare war against Myanmar but to create diplomatic pressure for the recent attacks on Rohingya Muslims," said Hefajat Secretary General Junaid Babunagari.

Its joint secretary general, Mohiuddin Ruhi, urged the government to give shelter to Rohingyas as refugees.

They made the call at a press conference, organised at Chittagong Press Club, to protest "Muslim Genocide in Arakan [Rakhine]".

Hefajat declared to hold a rally on November 18 near Anderkillah Shahi Jame Mosque in Chittagong city and another on November 25 in Cox's Bazar town, protesting the mass murder, rape, and oppression of Rohingyas.

The organisation also threatened to lead a long march towards the Rakhine state.

Stop Violations of Human Rights on Indigenous Peoples
Stop Killing of Indigenous Human Rights Defenders
Indigenous Peoples Development Services - IPDS



Bangladesh Adivasi Forum forms a human chain in front of Bangladesh National Museum in the capital yesterday protesting the two deaths in Sunday's clash between police, labourers and Santal community people in Shahebganj of Gaibandha's Gobindaganj over a land dispute.

PHOTO: STAR

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