WAR CRIMES

Six Netrakona men indicted for trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday framed seven specific charges against six Netrakona men over their alleged crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Anwarul Haque also fixed June 12 for starting the trial of the case with the opening statement of the prosecution.

The accused are Sheikh Abdul Majid alias Majid Maulana, 66; Abdul Khaleque Talukder, 67; Kabir Khan, 70; Salam Begh, 68; and Nuruddin alias Raddin, 70; and Abdur Rahman, 70.

Of the six, only Abdur Rahman is now in jail while the rest are on the run.

The investigation agency of the tribunal on March 16 last year said to have found evidence of war-time crimes against seven Netrakona men.

The seven were "involved" with Razakar Bahini -- an auxiliary force of the Pakistani occupation army, and abductions, torture, lootings, arsons, rape and murders in 1971, the agency said.

But, the prosecution on May 22 last year pressed seven charges against six men as another accused Ahmmad Ali, 78, died in Dhaka Medical College Hospital on October 28, 2015, during investigation.

Yesterday, the tribunal in its order, said, "The formal charge and the statement of witnesses prima facie demonstrate that the accused persons enthusiastically sided with the policy and plan of the Pakistani occupation army and

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

A tangle of cables belonging to Internet and cable TV service providers lies on the road at Zindabazar point in Sylhet after the authorities concerned cut off the lines around nine days ago. But the wires are yet to be removed, posing risks to commuters and pedestrians. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

CU Chhatra Front leader 'beaten' by BCL men

CU CORRESPONDENT

A Samajtantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) leader of Chittagong University unit was beaten allegedly by some activists of the university unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) as he obstructed them while they were trying to abduct a female student yesterday.

Fojle Rabby, convener of the unit and a masters student of chemistry, was admitted to the university medical centre.

Rabby alleged that a group of BCL activists led by Rimon Shikdar, loyal to CU BCL President Mohammad Alamgir Tipu, were verbally abusing the girl, a student of Bangla, at a tea stall in front of the arts faculty around 2:10pm yesterday.

"They snatched her mobile phone and tried to abduct her. When I obstructed them, they swooped on me," he added.

Later, senior BCL leaders rescued Rabby, he said.

The girl alleged that Rimon was stalking her for a couple of months. Yesterday he verbally abused her and tried to kidnap her as she rejected his love proposal earlier.

She lodged a verbal complaint with CU Proctor's office in this regard.

CU Assistant Proctor Liton Mitra said they will take steps after getting a written complaint.

Issuing a press release, CU BCL said Rimon was suspended for violating organisational discipline. The release was signed by both the president and the general secretary of the unit.

Rimon could not be contacted over the phone despite repeated attempts.

Meanwhile, leaders of Progotishil Chhatra Jote condemned the attack.

Protesting the incident, Chittagong city unit SCF brought out a procession in the city and CU unit SCF will bring out a protest rally on CU campus today.

PM lays foundation stone of chancery in Thimphu

UNB, *Thimphu (Bhutan)*

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday unveiled the foundation stone of Chancery of Bangladesh Embassy at Hejo in the Bhutanese capital.

Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and Bhutanese Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay were present during the unveiling ceremony.

Later, the national flag of Bangladesh was hoisted and national anthem was played during the time.

Earlier, an agreement on land allotment for Bangladesh Embassy at Hejo was signed between the two countries.

Through the agreement, the Bhutanese government granted the Bangladesh government a 65,340 square-feet land for the construction of Bangladesh Embassy premises in Bhutan.

In 2014, the Bangladesh government granted Bhutan a 321.895 square-metre land at Baridhara diplomatic enclave in Dhaka for the construction of the Bhutanese Embassy premises in Bangladesh.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina unveils the foundation stone of Chancery of Bangladesh Embassy at Hejo in Thimphu, Bhutan, yesterday. Bhutanese King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and Prime Minister Dasho Tshering Tobgay were present at the ceremony.

PHOTO: PMO

ACC arrests 2 impersonators

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday arrested two people in a case filed for allegedly swindling Tk 2.72 lakh by falsely introducing themselves as ACC officials.

ACC arrested Mohammad Nazrul Islam alias Nayeem and Khorshed Alam Khan in the capital.

According to the case statement, introducing them as ACC's Deputy Director Jahangir Alam, the duo over the phone sought money from Navana Pharmaceuticals, General Pharmaceuticals, Julfar BD Ltd and Kumudini Trust for a magazine of ACC.

They also emailed letters with fake signatures of ACC Commissioner AFM Aminul Islam to these organisations.

The organisations sent Tk 2,72,162 to personal accounts of Nazrul and Khorshed at two private banks from December 2016 to April 4, 2017 which they misappropriated.

The case was filed with Rampura Police Station yesterday.

CLASH OVER SWIMMING POOL CONSTRUCTION

BCL activists sued for assault, vandalism

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, *Ctg*

Two cases were filed against activists of Bangaldesh Chhatra League yesterday following a clash between police and BCL activists when the latter went to protest the initiative of building a swimming pool at the port city's outer stadium on Tuesday.

Sub-inspector Mohiuddin Ratan of Kotwali Police Station filed one of the cases against five named and 400 to 450 unnamed persons. The case (no-45) was filed for assaulting police. However, no top BCL leaders were accused in the case.

The other case (no-46), filed by Shafiqul Islam Shwapan, supervisor of the swimming pool construction project, was filed against 59 named BCL leaders including its Chittagong city unit president Emran Ahammed Emu and general secretary Nurul Azim Rony. Besides, 400 to 500 other unnamed persons were accused in the case.

The allegations brought against the accused are attempt to murder, theft, trespassing and vandalism of properties.

"None of the accused could be arrested," said OC Jashim Uddin of the police station. He claimed they were under various political pressure and declined to reveal any information regarding the cases.

Terming the allegations baseless, BCL GS Nurul Azim said, "We want to save the stadium. Also, to avoid public sufferings, we wanted to hold a rally inside the stadium when police barred our entry and swooped on us."

"We have also submitted a memorandum to the commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police in this regard," he said.

He also said the Chittagong city unit of BCL yesterday postponed a rally they called protesting the police action. The rally was postponed as per a direction of the police headquarters that prohibited any meeting and rally in the city.

Meanwhile, when asked about the future

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3