

21 AUG GRENADE ATTACK

Arguments start

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The prosecution yesterday started arguments on the cases filed over the grenade attacks on an Awami League rally at Bangabandhu Avenue on August 21 of 2004.

Syed Rezaur Rahman, chief counsel of the cases, opened the arguments citing different examples of killings and attacks of and on AL leaders and activists, including Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman since 1975.

The prosecutor said the aim of the attacks on the AL rally was to kill Sheikh Hasina and her party leaders and activists and to make the AL leaderless by lobbing Arges grenades on them.

He also said only the army men can use Arges grenades in an emergency period. But how did the militants get Arges grenades? Only Pakistan sells Arges grenades to the common people. So, the Arges grenades seized from different parts of Bangabandhu Avenue came from Pakistan, the prosecutor argued.

Syed Rezaur Rahman also argued that domestic and international militants were involved in the conspiracy.

Judge Shahed Nuruddin of the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka heard the arguments of the cases. The tribunal will hear the arguments today again.

The tribunal on October 11 completed recording statements of the prosecution and defence witnesses and fixed yesterday for hearing on arguments on the cases.

Pregnant girls more at risk of nutrition deficit: Experts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Adolescent girls getting married between the ages of 15 and 19 and experiencing early pregnancy are more vulnerable to nutrition deficiency than pregnant adults, experts told a discussion yesterday.

They urged more investment in nutrition and proper care of pregnant girls and women.

The experts said if a girl gave her first birth before 18, she put both her and her child's lives at risk.

Prof Dr Nazma Shaheen, director of Institute of Nutrition and Food Science of Dhaka University, said most married girls got pregnant at the age of 15 to 19; so the government should implement birth control packages to newly wedded adolescent couple and convince them not to take their first child before 18 for the good health of the mother

and the child.

The discussion titled "Nutrition investment in women and adolescence girl" was organised by the Bangla daily Prothom Alo at the newspaper's office in the capital.

Speaking on the occasion, Health and Family Welfare Minister Mohammad Nasim laid stress on ensuring nutrition for women and the need for increased budget allocation in the health sector.

Gazipur lawmaker Simeen Hussain Rimi said nutritious meals should be given to adolescent girls in primary schools.

She also highlighted the necessity of making pregnant women aware of nutrition deficit.

Joel Spicer, president and CEO of Nutrition International said nutrition needed to be considered both as an education investment and an economic investment.

Sabrina Rasheed, associate scientist of

icddr,b said the community-level healthcare providers of the government had much acceptance in their locality, but there was a need to assess how competent and capable these caregivers were to help pregnant women.

Nutrition International's country director for Bangladesh Zaki Hasan emphasised the need for a change in mentality when it came to nutrition.

Dr Zeba Mahmud, country manager of Bangladesh Alive & Thrive said girls in Bangladesh had a self-sacrificing mentality to give nutritious food for their brother, husband and father. However, it is also the responsibility of a man to take care of his pregnant wife and give nutritious food, she said.

Mahfuza Rifat, head of health, nutrition and population programme of Brac, said pregnant women should regularly take nutritious food.

SNAPS & snippets

Decision on 'SC Day' tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, who is performing the functions of the chief justice, yesterday convened a full court meeting of the Supreme Court judges tomorrow to take a decision to observe a "Supreme Court Day".

The meeting will be at 4:10pm at the Supreme Court Judges Lounge, SC sources told The Daily Star.

Judges of the Appellate and High Court Divisions of the SC will attend the meeting with Justice Wahhab in the chair.

Denmark's Tk 40cr aid for Rohingyas

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Denmark will provide an additional 32 million DKK (approx Tk 40 crore) to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support Rohingyas who fled Myanmar to Bangladesh.

Danish Minister for Development Cooperation Ulla Tornaes made the announcement at a donor conference hosted by European Union in Geneva yesterday.

Danish Ambassador in Dhaka Mikael Hemniti Winther said Denmark is scaling up its present activities in Cox's Bazar in partnership with central and local government agencies, and providing training to an additional 10,000 vulnerable farmers, said a Danish Embassy press release yesterday.

Bar council removes lawyer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Bar Council has permanently removed a lower court advocate for committing misconduct by exposing himself as a barrister and a Supreme Court lawyer.

A three-member tribunal-1 of the licencing and regulatory body for lawyers passed the order against Parvez Ahmed on October 21 as the allegation brought against him was proved, said a bar council press release yesterday.

Barrister M Sarwar Hossain, an SC lawyer, lodged the complaint with the council, saying that Parvez is neither a barrister nor an SC lawyer.

But, he was attending television talk shows with such false identities and by doing so he committed frauds with people and misconduct, Sarwar said in his complaint, adding that Parvez also used visiting cards in support of the claims.

Rohingya crisis discussed in Finland

CITY DESK

Rohingya crisis was prominently discussed at a seminar on Bangladesh Rohingya problem and world peace in Finland recently.

As the chief speaker, Bangladesh-origin Shamsul Alam, also city councillor of Kerava, discussed the present situation of Rohingyas in Bangladesh at the seminar, organised by two retired persons' associations from Kerava and Järvenpää at Kerava Public Library, said a press release.

Shamsul Alam urged the retired people along with the Finnish government to help Bangladesh government deal with the Rohingya crisis.



Shamsul Alam, city councillor of Finland's Kerava, speaks at a seminar on Rohingya crisis.

Syed Ashraf's wife passes away

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shila Islam, wife of Public Administration Minister Syed Ashraful Islam, died at a London hospital yesterday. She was 57.

A retired school teacher, Shila had been suffering from cancer for many years. She died at University College London Hospital at 8:10am (Bangladesh time), a close aide of Ashraf, also Awami League presidium member, told The Daily Star.

She left behind her husband, and a daughter.

Born in London, Shila had been living there. She obtained bachelor and master's degrees from Metropolitan University and University of Nottingham in London respectively, reports BSS.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in separate messages, prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family.

Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Deputy Speaker M Fazley Rabbi Miah, Chief Whip ASM Feroz, AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader, Law Minister Anisul Huq, Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, and State Minister for Public Administration Ministry Ismat Ara Saidque condoled the death.



Unplanned development work continues to affect everyday life of residents in the capital. Clockwise from top, Wearing rubber boots, a woman crosses this waterlogged portion of a road in Dhakkin Kazla of Jatrabari while renovation of drainage system goes on nearby (not in picture); residents said the road has been in such deplorable condition for the last few months. Rickshaw vans carrying goods struggle to cross a puddle of stagnant water on this part of a road close to Jatrabari kitchen market. A bus gets stuck in a pothole mended by earth instead of concrete substance near Fakirapool intersection.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN AND SK ENAMUL HAQ

WAR CRIMES IN GAIBANDHA

Verdict on six men any day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 will deliver its verdict any day in a case filed against six Gaibandha men, including a former Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker, allegedly for committing crimes during Liberation War in 1971.

The accused are Jamaat's ex-MP Abu Saleh Md Abdul Aziz Mia, Ruhul Amin alias Manju, Abu Muslim Md Ali, Abdul Latif, Najmul Huda and Abdur Rahim Mia. Abdul Latif is now in jail while others are absconding.

The accused are facing three charges -- looting and killing of a Hindu man

at Moujamali village in Gaibandha Sadar upazila, killing of a Chhatra League leader, and killing of 13 chairmen and members of five unions in Sundarganj.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Md Shahinur Islam yesterday kept the verdict waiting after it completed rehearing the closing arguments from both the prosecution and the defence counsels.

Wrapping up their arguments Prosecutor Syed Hider Ali prayed for capital punishment saying that they have been able to prove all three charges brought against the accused while defence counsel Gazi MH

Tamim sought acquittal of the accused.

The tribunal kept the delivery of the verdict in waiting after closing the arguments in the case on May 9, but it reached an impasse following the death of its then chairman Justice Anwarul Haque on July 13.

The tribunal on October 12 decided to hear the closing arguments again as the tribunal was reconstituted with a new chairman and two members.

Meanwhile, tribunal registrar Md Salim Miah at a press briefing at his office said 33 cases are now pending with the tribunal while eight cases are at trial stage.

ACC suspends its official

Arrests 5 Sonali Bank officials, employees for Tk 1.97 crore scam

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday suspended one of its assistant directors for concealing income source in his income tax file regarding ownership of land worth Tk 1.75 crore and Tk 12.86 lakh in bank account.

The suspension order, issued by Commissioner Dr Nasiruddin Ahmed, of the ACC reads that the activities of Amirul Islam, an assistant director, are detrimental to the interests of the public.

An inquiry on June 30 in 2016 has found Tk 12,86,844 in his account with Sonali Bank Segunbagicha branch, whereas in his wealth statement of 2016-17, he mentioned zero balance in his bank account.

In the income tax file Amirul showed that he and his wife own 1.3 acres of land with a current market value of Tk 1.75 crore in Gazipur and Tangail. He did not disclose the

source of the money to purchase the property, nor did he seek the authority's approval for the purchase, according to the order.

"Amirul will experience consequences similar to a corrupt person. There won't be any exception," said Muhammad Munir Chowdhury, director general of ACC.

They launched the inquiry after a victim filed a complaint against Amirul, he also said.

Last October, the ACC suspended another of its assistant directors for "misusing power" as he did not file cases against encroachers of public land in Mymensingh.

FIVE SONALI BANK STAFF ARRESTED

The ACC yesterday arrested five officials and employees of the state-run Sonali Bank in connection with a case filed over misappropriating about 1.97 crore from the bank.

All of them were arrested at Maizdi in Noakhali.

Faridpur road crashes kill 2

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

A toddler was killed and 17 other people were injured when a bus of Diganto Paribahan veered out of control and fell into a ditch beside Dhaka-Khulna highway at Joybangla in Nagarkanda upazilayesterday.

The deceased was Jannati Akter, 10-month-old daughter of Fardous Mia of Kakratoli village in Bagerhat. The injured were admitted to Muksupur Upzila Health Complex.

Meanwhile, a senior teacher of Faridpur Muslim Mission Madrasa, Abdul Mojid, 55, of Purarpar village in Saltha upazila, died as a three-wheeler ran him over while he was crossing Dhaka-Khulna highway at Komorpur in Faridpur Sadar upazila yesterday.

উন্নয়নের অক্সিজেন রাজস্ব

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সম্মানিত করদাতার জন্য জরুরি তথ্য: ০৭

আপনি ব্যবসা বা পেশার মালিক হলে আপনার নিয়োগকৃত কর্মীদের ১২-ডিজিট টিআইএন (e-TIN) গ্রহণ নিশ্চিত করুন

সম্মানিত করদাতা, দেশের উন্নয়নের জন্য যে রাজস্ব প্রয়োজন তার বড় অংশ আসে আপনার দেয়া আয়কর থেকে। তাই একজন করদাতা হিসেবে আপনি দেশের উন্নয়নের গর্বিত অংশীদার।

কোন ব্যবসা/পেশায় ব্যবস্থাপনা বা প্রশাসনিক পদে বা উৎপাদনের সুপারভাইজারী পদে নিয়োজিত কোন বেতনভোগী কর্মীর বেতন-ভাতাদি যা-ই হোক না কেন, তার জন্য ১২-ডিজিট টিআইএন (e-TIN) গ্রহণ বাধ্যতামূলক। এ বিধানটি ১ জুলাই ২০১৬ হতে কার্যকর হয়েছে। ১২-ডিজিট টিআইএন থাকা বাধ্যতামূলক অথচ টিআইএন গ্রহণ করেননি এমন কাউকে পরিশোধিত বেতন ভাতা সংশ্লিষ্ট কর বছরের কর নির্ধারণের সময় নিয়োগকর্তার অনুমোদনযোগ্য খরচ হিসেবে বিবেচিত হবে না। এতে করদায় বেড়ে যাবে।

অথবা অতিরিক্ত করদায় যাতে সৃষ্টি না হয় সে জন্য আপনার ব্যবসা/পেশায় ব্যবস্থাপনা বা প্রশাসনিক পদে বা উৎপাদনের সুপারভাইজারী পদে নিয়োজিত সকল বেতনভোগী কর্মীর ১২-ডিজিট টিআইএন থাকা নিশ্চিত করুন।

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