



SEVEN-POINT HC RECOMMENDATIONS

BGB members should not carry out any programme like Operation Dal Bhat which hurts their pride and self-respect

BGB should not take up any programme that gradually results in degeneration of soldierly attitude and behaviour of BGB members

The home ministry and the authorities should provide fast decision/response to all problems of BGB members

BGB has to mitigate all grievances of its members, if any, still there among officers and other members.

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"The incident is an unprecedented event in the history of crimes. By that carnage, the nation has lost some promising, bright, distinguished, luminous and outstanding army officers and it will take a long time to fill up the vacuum."

SAYS THE HIGH COURT VERDICT

BDR CARNAGE 2009

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE WHO WERE THE VICTIMS



Gallows only recourse

Says HC highlighting necessity of the highest punishment while upholding death penalty for 139 in BDR carnage case; 185 others get life term

ASHUTOSH SARKAR and WASIM BIN HABIB

The High Court has confirmed death penalty for 139 of the 152 accused who were awarded capital punishment by a lower court for their involvement in the massacre during the BDR mutiny in 2009.

Terming the offenders "most brutal" and "cold-blooded" murderers, a three-member special bench pronounced the verdict yesterday in the biggest-ever criminal case in the country's history in terms of number of accused and people convicted.

"The most brutal, cold-blooded murderers who committed murders/crimes showing a vicious and wanton disregard for innocent human life, such individuals, by their actions, have unequivocally demonstrated that they are a threat to other members of

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	LOWER COURT VERDICT	HIGH COURT VERDICT
Death sentence	152	139
Life term	160	185
Jail term	256 (1-14 years)	200 (3-10 years)



In this file photo taken on the morning of February 26, 2009, some BDR personnel are seen taking position inside the Pilkhana headquarters during the mutiny. Yesterday, the High Court upheld death sentence for 139 people for their involvement in the carnage that left 74, including 57 army officers, dead at Pilkhana.

Intelligence failure still puzzling

HC calls for probe

SHARIFUL ISLAM

The High Court yesterday asked Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) to form a probe body to investigate why the intelligence unit of then BDR failed to detect the impending 2009 mutiny.

A three-member bench of the High Court while delivering the verdict on death references and appeals in the sensational BDR carnage case advised the authorities to make the probe report public as soon as possible.

The recommendation came around nine years after the gruesome carnage in the headquarters of the then Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) on February 25-26. A total of 74 people, including 57 high- and mid-ranking army officers, were killed.

Days before the mutiny and the carnage, the rebel BDR jawans had distributed leaflets inside and outside the Pilkhana headquarters in which they raised various demands.

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Operation Dal-Bhat in spotlight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Once again "Operation Dal-Bhat" came in the spotlight as the High Court in its verdict yesterday recommended prohibiting activities that belittle the pride and self-respect of the members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

Justice Md Nazrul Islam Talukder placed a seven-point recommendation while delivering the verdict.

The HC also recommended forbidding any activity or programme that "gradually degenerates"

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REVISITING BDR CARNAGE

Shots ring out, hell descends

74 PEOPLE INCLUDING 57 ARMY OFFICERS WERE BRUTALLY KILLED

WASIM BIN HABIB

The Satmasjid Road at capital's Dhanmondi was buzzing with usual morning rush hour traffic around 9:00am on February 25, 2009. Shops were already busy handling customers; parents hurrying to schools to drop off their children and make it to their offices in time.

All of a sudden, a loud burst of gunfire in the Pilkhana headquarters of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR), later named as Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), pierced through the hustle and bustle.

The gunshots baffled the neighbourhood. Initially,

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RESTRUCTURING FARMERS BANK

MK Alamgir made to quit as chairman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Farmers Bank Chairman Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir yesterday resigned from its board after Bangladesh Bank asked him to quit.

The bank's Audit Committee Chairman Md Mahabubul Haque Chisty also stepped down from the board.

The central bank asked the two directors last week to resign over their alleged involvement in financial scams. If they had not stepped down, the BB would have removed them from the board of the troubled bank under the Bank Company Act 1991, a BB official told The Daily Star yesterday seeking anonymity.

In line with the BB directives, the Farmers Bank, established four years ago, restructured its audit, risk management and executive committees yesterday.

In a statement yesterday, the BB said the restructuring of the board would help the Farmers Bank restore confidence of the depositors who have been withdrawing funds due to its deteriorating financial health.

Despite repeated attempts, Alamgir, Awami League lawmaker and former home minister, could not be reached over his mobile phone yesterday. He is also chairman

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MUHITH DEFENDS LICENCE FOR 2 NEW BANKS -- B1

ROHINGYA CRISIS

Pope Francis in Myanmar amid calls for action

PORIMOL PALMA

Pope Francis faces a diplomatic test as he began his visit to Myanmar and Bangladesh, countries that attracted global attention following the Rohingya refugee crisis stemming from atrocities committed by Myanmar's army since late August.

The UN has accused Myanmar of ethnic cleansing against the Rohingyas, while US, France and a number of rights groups termed the incident "crimes against humanity" and even "genocide" owing to Myanmar's

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