

LIST OF PASSENGERS

Bangladesh: Ahmed Foysal, Shahreen Ahmed, Eakub Ali, Alifuzzaman, Almun Nahar Annie, Bilkis Ara, Begum Hurun Nahar Bilquis Banu, Akhtara Begum, Shahin Bepari, Nazia Afrin Chowdhury, Rezwanul Haque, Rokibul Hasan, Mehedi Hasan, Emrana Kabir Hashi, Kabir Hossain, Sanzida Huque, Hasan Imam, Mohammad Nazrul Islam, Akhi Moni, Meenaz Bin Nasir, FH Priok, Tamarra Prionmoyee, Md Motiur Rahman, SM Mahmudur Rahman, Tahira Tanvin Shashi Reza, Pias Roy, Sheikh Rashed Rubayet, Umme Salma, Saiyada Kamrunnahar Shwarna, Aniruddha Zaman, Nuruz Zaman, Rafiquz Zaman.

Nepal: Sila Bajgain, Algina Baral, Charu Baral, Sobindra Singh Bohara, Basanta Bohora, Samira Byanjankar, Prabin Chitrakar, Sajana Devkota, Princy Dhami, Gyani Kumari Gurung, Dinesh Humagain, Shreya Jha, Purnima Lohani, Meeli Maharjan, Neega Maharjan, Sanjaya Maharjan, Keshav Pandey, Prasanna Pandey, Binod Raj Paudyal, Hari Shankar Poudel, Sanjay Poudel, Ashish Ranjit, Sanam Shakya, Ashna Shakya, Saruna Shreshta, Hari Prasad Subedi, Dayaram Tamrakar, Bal Krishna Thapa, Shweta Thapa, Kishore Tripathi, Abadhesh Kumar Yadav, Krishna Kumar Sahani, Anjila Shrestha.

China: Zhang Ming.

Maldives: Rizana Abdulla.

Hasina seeks

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The Singaporean president praised Hasina for her leadership, particularly in women's emancipation and gender issue.

The foreign secretary said it has become clear through the discussion between the Bangladesh PM and the Singaporean president that the main basis of Bangladesh-Singapore relations is economic collaboration -- trade, business and investment.

At both the meetings, Hasina said seafarers were facing problems for movement in Singapore and urged the Singapore government to solve those.

The Singaporean president and its premier said they would consider the matter.

Hasina showed interest in getting Singaporean investment in food and fish processing, energy and energy-related sectors in Bangladesh.

The Singaporean prime minister expressed interest in investing in Bangladesh's special economic zones.

The Bangladesh PM sought Singapore's assistance in developing a deep seaport and make it operational.

Bangladesh also sought Singapore's support in favour of its initiative to be "Sectoral Dialogue Partner" of Asean. Singapore, however, said there was an embargo on it and the country would extend support to Bangladesh once the embargo is lifted.

About bilateral trade, Bangladesh

said there was a trade imbalance against it, and the Singaporean business community should invest heavily in Bangladesh to address the issue.

Hasina invited the Singaporean president and the PM to visit Bangladesh this year and both of them accepted the invitations.

The Bangladesh premier arrived in Singapore on Sunday afternoon on a four-day official visit to Singapore.

TWO MOU'S SIGNED

Bangladesh and Singapore yesterday signed two memorandums of understanding (MoUs) for collaboration in Public Private Partnership (PPP) and air services.

The deals were signed following the official meeting between the prime ministers of the two countries at the Istana.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Singaporean counterpart Lee Hsien Loong witnessed the signing ceremony.

PM VISITS PORT

Sheikh Hasina yesterday visited the Port of Singapore, one of the busiest ports in the world, reports BSS.

"The prime minister visited the port here this [yesterday] afternoon and witnessed its automation activities," PM's Press Secretary Ihsanu Karim said.

The port officials apprised the premier of its activities and expressed their interest in helping the Chittagong Port for automation, he added.

Chhatra Dal leader dies

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The court sent him to jail when detectives produced him before it after a three-day remand.

As the traffic slowed, Waliullah had a chance to ask Jakir whether he was being tortured.

"His face turned pale when I asked him that. Hours later, I learnt that my nephew died. They killed him."

Jakir's younger sister Sultana Rajia, who was also present at the morgue, alleged that Jakir died of tortures in remand. Police refuted the allegations.

"My brother was in good health before he was arrested. I do not know what could have happened to him in remand that he could not survive," she said.

Sultana said her family desperately asked detectives and officials at Shahabgh Police Station about Jakir's condition while he was on remand. But they were told nothing, she alleged.

Jamil Hasan, deputy commissioner of Detective Branch (south) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said, "He expired in the jail, not in police custody. The jail authorities had taken him in custody from police."

"Jail authorities never take custody of any accused if they are not fit. Since they took him into their custody, they found nothing wrong [with his health]."

Jakir, father of two girls, was arrested along with several other BNP men near Jatiya Press Club on March 6.

A case was filed on the same day with Shahabgh Police station accusing him and several others of obstructing police in their duties and attacking police with an intention to kill. Detectives were investigating the case.

Jakir's family members said they saw numerous bruises on his body. They also showed photographs of the marks to reporters.

However, an inquest report prepared by Executive Magistrate Palsah Kumar Basu concluded that there were no injury marks.

The body has been kept at DMC mortuary for an autopsy.

Eltutmish Sawdagar, a lawyer who represented the BNP men, told The Daily Star that Jakir complained of tortures and wanted to go to a hospital on Sunday.

Myanmar

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ensure they cannot return -- continues but has taken on new forms.

"The bulldozing of entire villages is incredibly worrying. Myanmar's authorities are erasing evidence of crimes against humanity, making any future attempts to hold those responsible to account extremely difficult," said Hassan.

AI said Myanmar authorities have launched an operation to rapidly expand security infrastructure across Rakhine State, including bases to house the military and Border Guard Police, as well as helipads.

Satellite imagery reveals how, in just a few months, new bases have been erected over torched Rohingya land, with whole villages and even nearby forests cleared to make room, it said.

The village of Ah Htet Nan Yar was burned to the ground during the early days of the post-25 August violence in 2017. By January 2018, a new road has been built directly on land where Rohingya homes had stood.

AI's analysis of satellite imagery has confirmed that at least three new security bases are being built in northern Rakhine State -- two in Maungdaw Township and one in Buthidaung Township. Construction appears to have started in January.

The largest of the new bases is in the village of Ah Lel Chaung in Buthidaung Township, where eyewitnesses said that the military forcibly evicted Rohingya people from certain areas to make way for construction. Many of the villagers saw no option but to flee into Bangladesh, AI added.

"People are in a panic. No one wants to stay because they are afraid of more violence against them," said a 31-year-old man who fled to Bangladesh in January when the military erected a new fence and security post close to his village.

Meanwhile, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, told the Human Rights Council yesterday that she was increasingly of the opinion that the events in Rakhine State bear the hallmarks of genocide.

Delivering her report to the Council in Geneva, Lee said that to date accountability for the crimes committed in Rakhine State following August 25 last year, and October 9, 2016, was elusive, adding that this must now be the focus of the international community's efforts to bring long-lasting peace, stability and democratisation to Myanmar.

"This must be aimed at the individ-

uals who gave the orders and carried out violations against individuals and entire ethnic and religious groups," said Lee. "The government leadership who did nothing to intervene, stop, or condemn these acts must also be held accountable."

Lee, also the UN independent investigator, called for a thorough, impartial and credible investigation to be conducted without delay and perpetrators to be held responsible for the alleged crimes that were committed in Rakhine State since October 9 in 2016 and August 25 last year, and for the violations that continue today.

She called for the establishment of a UN structure, based in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, for a duration of three years to investigate, document, collect, consolidate, map, and analyze evidence of human rights violations and abuses.

"The external review should assess whether the UN and international community could have prevented or managed the situation differently that occurred regarding the Rohingya and in Rakhine State, and make recommendations for accountability if appropriate," she said.

Lee, whose access to Myanmar was denied last year, also expressed concerns that as the world's attention was drawn to the recent crisis in Rakhine State, scant attention had been afforded to continued and escalating violence in Kachin, Shan and other conflict affected states in the country.

She said against this background, the peace process appeared to be losing its momentum.

Lee said she hoped to make official visits to India and China as part of her preparation to report to the General Assembly later this year, and said she remained hopeful that the Myanmar government would revisit its decision and grant her access.

Vacation ends

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the intensive care unit of a local hospital.

Shubhas Acharya, another Nepali student of the medical college, said he was also supposed to board the US-Bangla flight but could not confirm his ticket in on time.

While visiting a dormitory of the college, our Sylhet correspondent met four Nepali students -- in distress and trying to contact their families. All of them were planning to fly to Nepal to spend the vacation.

The college announced three days of mourning from today.

Khaleda gets 4 months' bail

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sentenced Khaleda to five years' rigorous imprisonment in the graft case.

The court also jailed her elder son Tarique Rahman, now acting chairman of the BNP, and four others for 10 years and fined them Tk 2.1 crore, saying all the six convicts would have to pay the fine in equal amounts.

The Anti-Corruption Commission filed the case with Ramna Police Station in July 2008, accusing the six of misappropriating over Tk 2.1 crore that came from a foreign bank as grants for orphans.

The HC bench yesterday granted her bail considering the quantum of punishment and the facts that she is 73 and suffering from various diseases, she faced trial proceedings at lower court while on bail in the case and the case records have reached the HC.

It also directed the office concerned to prepare the paper book of the case within the next four months for hearing the appeal she filed against her conviction in the case filed by the ACC.

A paper book contains all the details of a case, trial proceedings, statements, evidence, verdict and other documents. The HC needs it for hearing and disposal of an appeal.

After the HC passed the order, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam prayed to the court to hold up the bail order for two days so that the government can move a petition before the Appellate Division against the HC order.

The court, however, rejected the prayer.

ACC's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told this newspaper that the commission will move a petition before the Appellate Division today seeking stay on the HC order on bail.

The lawyers for Khaleda will also submit two separate petitions to the courts concerned in Dhaka today seeking withdrawal of the production warrants issued against her in connection with Boropukuria coalmine and Gato corruption cases, Zainal Abedin Mesbah, a lawyer for the BNP chief, told this newspaper.

Two Dhaka courts had issued the warrants in the two graft cases, asking

the prison authorities to produce Khaleda on separate dates.

Hours after the HC passed the bail order, eminent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain issued a statement saying, "Former prime minister Khaleda Zia has been granted bail by the High Court today. This needs to be done on a regular basis in this type of case though getting bail order in this case has been delayed for a few days."

"Under the rule of law, an independent judiciary makes neutral application of laws. All have to realise the importance of an independent judiciary. It benefits the country as well as the people."

During the HC proceedings yesterday, Justice Enayetur Rahim asked advocate Zainul Abedin whether he will place any arguments on the bail petition of Khaleda.

Advocate Zainul said they would not place any arguments as the HC had earlier concluded hearing on the bail petition and they were waiting for an order from the court.

He also said they would come up with replies if the state counsels tell anything to the HC on this issue.

At one stage, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said this was a sensational case and the trial court sentenced Khaleda to only five years' imprisonment considering her age and social status.

He said the HC may order the authorities to prepare the paper book for hearing the appeal, filed by Khaleda on February 20 challenging the trial court verdict.

This is a corruption case where allegation of misappropriating the money for orphans has been brought, he said.

Citing the example of former president HM Ershad's conviction and sentence in the Janata Tower corruption case, the attorney general said the former dictator had been in jail for three and a half years.

Mahbubey Alam said Khaleda Zia cannot be granted bail as she was in jail for only two months (including around one month during the rule of the military-backed caretaker govern-

ment) in this case.

In response to the argument from the attorney general, Justice Enayetur Rahim wanted to know for how long Ershad was in jail.

The attorney general said Ershad was then 65-year-old.

Justice Enayetur noted that Ershad was physically fit and he got married after walking out of jail and later was blessed with a baby boy.

ACC lawyer Advocate Khurshid Alam Khan told the HC that Khaleda should not be granted bail because of her short sentence.

And no medical certificate has been submitted to the HC in support of the illness of Khaleda Zia, he further said.

AJ Mohammad Ali, another lawyer for Khaleda, told the court that she is unable to move due to her illness.

At one stage, advocate Zainul Abedin told the HC that this court had earlier granted bail to an accused convicted and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment in a corruption case.

The HC bench on February 25 heard the bail petition and said it would pass an order after receiving the case records. The same bench on February 22 ordered the trial court to send the case records to it in 15 days.

Officials on March 11 brought the case records to the office concerned of the HC as per its February 22 order.

The officials of the criminal section of the HC produced the 5,373-page case records to the HC bench around 1:00pm yesterday.

AL PRESS CONFERENCE

Road Transport and Bridges Minister and Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader said Khaleda has got bail from the court as the country's judiciary is completely independent during this government's rule.

"Khaleda's bail again proves that the country's judicial system is completely independent," he told a press conference at the AL president's Dhanmondi political office here yesterday evening.

"The country's judiciary and the courts are working independently. There is no interference from the government there."

Drones help clear up UK beaches

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"It is estimated that we eat up to 11,000 pieces of microplastics a year and, if nothing is done to tackle the issue of plastic in our oceans, it's estimated that there will be 80 million metric tonnes of plastic going in to the sea a year by 2025."

"The good thing though is everyone has the opportunity to be part of the solution."

"Helping identify rubbish on The Plastic Tide site will be one invaluable way of helping to keep our beaches clean."

The citizen science initiative is being launched in line with the British Science Association, based in London, and British Science Week.

Ivet Modinou, head of engagement at the British Science Association, said: "Everyone can get involved in science, and British Science Week is the perfect way for people of all backgrounds, ages and interests to take part in a project like The Plastic Tide and make a difference."

"We encourage everyone to put their scientist hat on today and start tagging."

The Plastic Tide used drones to fly over beaches, taking thousands of images which are then uploaded to a website.

Here, people can browse the pictures and tag bits of litter they see.

The information from the public is used to teach a machine-learning algorithm how to spot litter from the drone images, to build a much clearer picture of how bad plastic pollution is.

According to the new project, the most common items of rubbish found on UK beaches are plastic rope and pieces of net.

ROAD SHOW FOR INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING (IPO) OF STAR CERAMICS LIMITED UNDER BOOK-BUILDING METHOD

All eligible investors, as per the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Issue) Rules, 2015, are invited to participate in the road show for the forthcoming Initial Public Offering (IPO) of STAR CERAMICS LIMITED under book-building method.

ELIGIBLE INVESTORS	SCHEDULE FOR ROAD SHOW
(i) Merchant Bankers and Portfolio Managers; (ii) Asset Management Companies; (iii) Mutual Funds and Collective Investment Scheme (CIS); (iv) Stock Dealers; (v) Banks; (vi) Financial Institutions; (vii) Insurance Companies; (viii) Alternative Investment Fund Managers; (ix) Alternative Investment Funds; (x) Foreign Investors having account with any Securities Custodian registered with the Commission; (xi) Recognized Provident Funds, Approved Pension Funds and Approved Gratuity Funds; and (xii) Other Institutions as approved by the Commission.	Date Thursday, 29 March 2018 Time 6:30 p.m. Venue Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden Grand Ball Room Lobby Level Airport Road, Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka-1206.
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