



President Abdul Hamid poses for a photograph with some family members of killed Bangladeshi peacekeepers in the city's Bangabandhu International Conference Centre yesterday. The programme was organised marking the International Day of UN Peacekeepers. PHOTO: PTI

Stuck with smell of rotten shrimps

Locals of Chandpur's Ichli have to live close to cold storage full of degrading shrimps for months

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chandpur

Residents of Ichli area are being subjected to the peculiar suffering of having to live in the vicinity of a huge storage of rotten shrimps for the last five months.

About Tk 3 crore worth of shrimps and prawns kept in a cold storage of Sea Food Corporation in Chandpur town have rotted away after the electricity supply to the storage was cut off in December last year for non-payment of bills.

Shahidur Rahman Chowdhury, owner of Sea Food Corporation, took out a loan of Tk 20 crore from Sonali Bank Chandpur branch. He did not pay back the loan. He wined up his business and secretly moved to the USA in April 2016 selling off his house. The loan, including interest, now stands at Tk 31 crore.

The bank authorities twice tried to auction the shrimps and prawns but failed.

Meanwhile, power supply to the cold storage was disconnected in December after the unpaid bills

reached around Tk 5.5 lakh. The shrimps worth about Tk 3 crore began to rot away.

Locals said the foul smell from the storage has made their lives unbearable and they could not do anything about it.

Chandpur municipality and others concerned have been informed of the matter but no action was taken, they said.

Bangladesh Coast Guard officials said their staffers, who live nearby, also filed complaints.

The cold storage owner could not be contacted.

Chandpur Municipality Mayor Nasir Uddin Ahmed said they got complaints but he thinks the matter should be settled by the owner and the bank together. He said, "We have informed the bank authorities to take prompt action. If they fail, we will take steps".

Abdul Matin, general manager of Sonali Bank Chandpur branch, said they have obtained permission from higher authorities to file a case against the owner.

He said if the court issued an order, they could remove the rotten shrimps.

SC stays

FROM PAGE 2
cases as the incidents of torching vehicles and their vandalism happened at her instruction and instigation.

Khaleda's lawyer Khandker Mahbub Hossain opposed the government's petitions, saying that there was no specific allegation against his client and her name was not mentioned in the first information reports of the cases.

Besides, most of the accused in the cases have already secured bail from the HC. So, Khaleda too should get bail, he argued.

The lawyer told The Daily Star that Khaleda could not be out of jail even if the apex court upheld her HC bail orders tomorrow, as she is arrested in other cases.

In another development, the HC yesterday fixed tomorrow for passing orders on two petitions filed by the BNP chief seeking bail in two other cases lodged in Dhaka in 2016 on charges of observing "fake" birthday and "demeaning" the national flag.

After hearing the petitions, the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Shahidul Karim fixed the date.

During the hearing, Khaleda's lawyer Khandker Mahbub prayed for her bail, saying that she was ill and 74-year-old and the cases were filed under "bailable sections".

Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin opposed the bail petitions, saying that Khaleda could not get bail from the HC as she did not seek the bail from the trial courts concerned.

He told this correspondent that the HC would pass orders on the bail petitions tomorrow after hearing arguments from the attorney general.

One of the two cases was filed by Gazi Zahurul Islam, former joint general secretary of Dhaka Union of Journalists, on August 30, 2016, with a Dhaka court against Khaleda for allegedly celebrating her "fake" birthday on August 15 every year.

Another case was lodged by AB Siddique, president of Bangladesh Jananetri Parishad, a pro-Awami League organisation, with a Dhaka court on November 3 that year, accusing Khaleda and her late husband and former president Ziaur Rahman of "undermining" the country's map and national flag.

On May 16, the apex court upheld an HC order that granted bail to Khaleda for four months in the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case in which she was sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

But she could not walk out of prison despite the judgment as she was

Minister's

FROM PAGE 14
Explaining his comment to Prothom Alo later in the day, Kamal said, "They [Mashrafe and Shakib] are good human beings, they have huge contributions for the country. I made those comments [earlier in the day] thinking they might run in the election. So I spoke about supporting them."

Speaking on a project that was approved at the Ecne meeting, Kamal said Mashrafe may vie for the election.

"He is a good human being. Vote for him," said the former Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president.

Asked whether Mashrafe would compete in the polls and for which party, the minister said, "Whatever party he would get nominated by, do cooperate with him."

Asked about Shakib, he said Shakib had also matured enough to contest in the elections.

Reporters then queried how they could participate in the elections with the 2019 World Cup coming up. The minister instead asked what was wrong in that.

"I also participate in elections, and at the same time I am with cricket," he said.

Retired from T20, Mashrafe, more popularly known as the "Narail Express", has been known to be engaged in social activities for quite some time. His next assignment as ODI captain will be the tour of West Indies in July.

Shakib AL Hasan did not travel with the Bangladesh team, now in Dehradun, where the Tigers would be playing a three-match T20 international series against Afghanistan. Shakib is expected to leave for Dehradun on May 31 to join the team.

When contacted, several Awami League leaders denied making any comment in this regard.

"Only Party Parliamentary Board or our president Sheikh Hasina has the authority to give nomination and she will take the final decision," a top AL leader told the Daily Star wishing anonymity.

Family demands

FROM PAGE 1
years. He was also the commissioner of Ward No-3.

After the "gunfight", Rab claimed that Akram was a top-listed drug dealer. But family members, relatives and locals who had known him for years vehemently rejected the claim and said Akram was a prominent voice against narcotics in Teknaf.

Talking to The Daily Star, Akram's elder brother Nazrul Islam said, "My brother had been doing politics for the people. He had a C&F business and despite his financial hardship, he was never involved in drug dealing or any other illicit business."

"My brother was vocal against drug. Three days before his death, he set a local 'drug den' near our house afire," he added.

Locals and family members said there was tension between the family of Akram and local Awami League (AL) leader Abdur Rahman Bodi.

Nazrul, who is also a C&F businessman, said, "My brother was not blessed by the MP, as he did not like Akram. But there was no visible conflict over the issue."

"We [the brothers] don't like the current [system of] politics but Akram did as people were happy with him and obeyed him. Now we have paid the price through losing him."

CALL BY INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES

Talking to this correspondent, Akram's wife Ayesha Begum claimed, "From the morning, personnel of an intelligence agency had phoned him repeatedly on the day of the killing. Akram left the house after 9:00pm."

"When I asked him where was he going, he told me that a high official of the agency called him as they wanted to buy a piece of land," said Ayesha.

"My daughter called him after half an hour and he told her that he was along with the officials who had called him and later cut the line," said Ayesha.

Ayesha said she felt suspicious and so called him again. This time, while the phone was answered, no one spoke. "I just heard a few gun shots," she said.

Ayesha said she went to the office of an intelligence agency and the police station but no one could inform her of Akram's whereabouts.

She heard about the so-called gunfight right after returning home, she said.

"If they [Rab] have information against my husband, they should verify and justify it but they didn't," said Ayesha, with tears rolling down her face.

Enhance

FROM PAGE 14
Bangladesh in the global peacekeeping force, he said, "The United Nations has particularly focused on female representation. Currently, 157 women from Bangladesh are engaged in peacekeeping activities. The photos of Flight Lieutenant Nayma Haque and Flying Officer Tamanna-e-Lutfi on the UN website highlighted the position of our women peacekeepers."

The president said peacekeepers have to earn respect from fellow colleagues for their professional skills. "At the same time, you [peacekeepers] must attain the love of local people apart from bringing peace. The foreign currency, you are earning, is playing a significant role in our economy."

"It is the outcome of your courage, heroism, unparalleled professionalism and skill which has turned Bangladesh as one of the largest contributors to UN peacekeeping operations compared to other countries. You have to keep this pride and respect unhurt."

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali and UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh Mia Seppo, Chief of Army Staff Gen Abu Belal Muhammad Shaiful Huq, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Mohammad Nizamuddin Ahmed, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Abu Esrar and secretaries concerned to the president were present.

A one-minute silence was observed during the programme to show respect to the peacekeepers who laid down their lives.

A video documentary titled "Bangladesh in Global Peace" was displayed during the ceremony.

Drug addict

FROM PAGE 2
Brahmanbaria Sadar Model Police Station's officer-in-charge, Md Nabir Hossain confirmed the death and said the body was kept in the hospital morgue. He said no complaint had been filed as yet.

Police were searching for the alleged killer on the run.

Europe's oldest

FROM PAGE 14
disembarked on English shores for the first time.

The tree was recently discovered by researchers from the University of Tuscia who conducted an exhaustive four-year field survey within the Pollino National Park in southern Italy.

The 1,230 year-old tree is a Heldreich's pine, which are common in the harsh Pollino landscape.

Italus has survived a number of different weather conditions over the last millennium, including a colder period in Medieval times, and warmer temperatures more recently.

It is already clear that recent global warming hasn't been a setback for the ancient trees, like Italus.

The millennium-old pine has seen a recent surge in growth.

Researchers noted that after laying down smaller rings in its trunk for the last few centuries, the ancient pine has grown more substantial rings, which indicates better environmental conditions.

Gianluca Piovesan of the University of Tuscia believes there are multiple reasons behind this new-found growth spurt.

Temperatures have remained cooler in the high mountains, which may have saved Italus from the stunted growth observed in recent decades in trees around in the Mediterranean Basin.

Elsewhere, Piovesan and his team believe a decrease in pollution thanks to recent European laws could have played an important role.

He said: "It's difficult, because there are few studies about the impact of warm periods on Mediterranean boreal ecosystems."

Italus' location on the slopes of the remote mountains likely helped the Heldreich's pine escape past logging efforts and any wildfires that spread across the region over the centuries.

Gunman kills 2 cops

FROM PAGE 14
prosecutor Philippe Duliou told a news conference.

"He continued on foot, attacking a parked vehicle where he opened fire on a 22-year-old man in the passenger seat. The young man died."

"He then continued and entered the Leonie de Waha school. He took a woman working there as hostage. Police intervened, he came out firing on the police officers, wounding several before he was killed."

Eric Van Der Sypst, spokesman for the Belgian federal prosecutor's office, told AFP there were "elements that point in the direction that this is a terrorist act", while police confirmed that both officers killed in the attack were women.

According to Belgian broadcaster RTBF, the shooter was released from prison on Monday and was only known for minor infractions with no known links to extremism.

Liege, a major city in Belgium's former industrial heartland, was the scene of another bloody shootout in 2011 when a former convict armed with grenades and an automatic rifle killed six people and wounded more than 120.

COWARDLY VIOLENCE
Prime Minister Charles Michel denounced what he called "cowardly and blind violence".

"All our support for the victims and their loved ones. We are following the situation with the security services and the crisis centre," Michel tweeted.

There was support from other European countries, with French President Emmanuel Macron condemning the incident as a "terrible attack" and expressing the "solidarity of the French people".

British Prime Minister Theresa May said the UK "stands resolute with our Belgian allies against terror".

Belgian Interior Minister Jan Jambon said Belgium's Federal Crisis Centre was monitoring the situation.

"Our thoughts are with the victims of this horrible act. We are in the process of establishing an overview of exactly what happened," Jambon wrote on Twitter.

A major security cordon was set up around the area, while panicked parents came to collect their children from the school complex.

The governor of Liege province said all the children and staff were safe and unhurt.

"All the children are fine, those of the primary and kindergarten saw nothing, they were evacuated through the back of the school," Julie Fernandez, mother of a 7-year-old child at the school, told AFP.

"They were cared for by staff and psychologists and high school students were cared for in a nearby park," added Fernandez, who is also an MP.

TERROR ALERT
Belgium has been on high alert since the smashing of a terror cell in the town of Verviers in January 2015 that was planning an attack on police.

The cell also had links to Abdelhamid Abaaoud, the mastermind of the November 2015 Islamic State attacks on Paris that killed 130 people.

Belgium further raised its terror alert level after the Paris attack and placed the capital Brussels on lockdown for a week.

The country was then hit by its own IS suicide attacks on Brussels airport and a metro station, which killed 32 people in March 2016.

In August that same year, a machete-wielding man shouting "Allahu Akbar" (God is greatest) attacked two policewomen in the industrial town of Charleroi before being shot dead.

Padma Oil Company Limited
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
Strand Road, Sadarhat, Chattogram

Re-Tender Notice

Construction of 03 (three) Storied Office Building at Chandpur Depot of Padma Oil Company Limited.				
1. Ministry/division	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Energy and Mineral Resources Division.			
2. Agency	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).			
3. Procuring entity name	Padma Oil Company Limited.			
4. Procuring entity district	Chattogram.			
5. Invitation for	National tender			
6. Invitation Ref No.	E&P/CAPEX/18/F-25/P-39/17-18			
KEY INFORMATION				
7. Procurement method	NCT			
	Single Stage, Two Envelope			
FUNDING INFORMATION				
8. Budget and source of funds	Own Fund of Padma Oil Company Limited.			
9. Development partner (if applicable)	None			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
10. Project name	Construction of 03 (three) Storied Office Building at Chandpur Depot of Padma Oil Company Limited.			
11. Invitation for tender Ref No.	E&P/CAPEX/18/F-25/P-39/17-18			
12. Tender last selling date	02/07/2018 up to 1400 hrs			
13. Tender closing date and time	Date (dd/mm/yyyy) Time			
	03/07/2018 1200hrs			
14. Tender opening date and time	03/07/2018 1500hrs			
15. Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Address(s) Date and Time			
	N/A N/A			
16. Name & address of the Office(s)	Address(s)			
-Selling tender document (Principal)	a) Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarhat, Chattogram. b) DGM (Dhaka)'s Office, 6, Panbagh, Dhaka.			
-Selling tender document (others)	N/A			
-Receiving tender document	a) Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, BSC Bhaban, Saitgola, Chattogram. b) Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarhat, Chattogram.			
-Opening tender document	Padma Oil Company Limited, Strand Road, Sadarhat, Chattogram.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
17. Eligibility of tenderer	a) The minimum number of years of general experience of the tenderer in the construction works shall be 05 (five) years. b) The minimum specific experience in construction works of at least 02 (two) Nos contract(s) of Building Construction/similar works successfully completed within the last 05 (five) years, each with a value of at least Tk. 65 (sixty-five) lac. c) The required average annual construction turnover shall be greater than Tk. 50 (fifty) lac over the last 03 (three) years. d) The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderer shall be Tk. 25 (twenty-five) lac.			
18. Brief description of work	As per tender schedule.			
19. Tender document price	BDT 5000/- per tender schedule (non-refundable).			
20. Type of payment for tender price	On cash payment.			
21. Type of payment for security amount	In the form of PO or DD in favour of Padma Oil Company Limited.			
LOT INFORMATION				
22. Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount in Taka	Completion time in weeks/months
N/A	N/A	Padma Oil Company Limited, Chandpur Depot.	2,50,000.00 (two lac fifty thousand)	12 (twelve) months from the date of handing over the site.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
23. Name of official inviting tender	Engr. Md. Nurul Amin.			
24. Designation of official inviting tender	Deputy General Manager (E&P).			
25. Address of official inviting tender	Strand Road, Sadarhat, Chattogram, Bangladesh.			
26. Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone:	031-633243	Fax:	031-612668, 031-618312, Email: aminpod@yahoo.com
27. Due to any unavoidable circumstances, it is not possible to receive and open the tender, will be received and opened the same on the next working day.				
28. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without showing any reason whatsoever.				

Engr. Md. Nurul Amin
DGM (E&P)
Telephone: +88 031 633243

GD-1454