2 | The Daily Star DHAKA FRIDAY JULY 5, 2019, ASHAR 21, 1426 BS

KARNAPHULI RIVER

Remove all illegal structures

HC again orders Ctg port authority

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday again directed the Chattogram Port Authority (CPA) chairman to remove all illegal structures along the Karnaphuli river in the port area and submit a report after complying with the order within three weeks.

It also asked the chairman to explain in three weeks as to why his office had not implemented its previous order over the removal of illegal structures.

The HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Ashraful Kamal passed the order while hearing a writ petition filed by Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) seeking a necessary order in this regard.

HRPB lawyer and its President Manzill Murshid told The Daily Star that the same HC bench on April 9 this year ordered the CPA chairman to immediately take necessary steps to remove illegal structures along the Karnaphuli river and submit a report before it after complying with the directive within 30 days.

The CPA chairman yesterday submitted a report before the HC through

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Still worth a fight

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From Bangladesh's perspective, it is not entirely inconsequential. It is skipper Mashrafe Bin Mortaza's last World Cup game, and they would want to win the match for their beloved captain. There is also the question of whether the 35-year-old would retire after the match. It has led to a lot of speculation because he has not clearly ruled it out or confirmed it over the last week or so. A win -- and a subsequent loss for Sri Lanka against India tomorrow -would see Bangladesh in fifth position. It would place them as the best of the rest, and that would be an honourable end for a team that impressed neutrals with their fighting performances in the World Cup. Injuries have once again thrown

open the team combination for the last game. Mushfiqur Rahim was hit on the elbow while batting in the nets yesterday and although an X-Ray revealed no fractures, his participation will only be determined on the day of the match. Mahmudullah Riyad missed the India game because he could not run comfortably after sustaining a calf muscle tear in the match against Afghanistan, and while he did sprint during practice yesterday, his participation is also a 50-50 chance. Mashrafe, who has been playing the World Cup with a hamstring injury, did not practise yesterday although he was present at the historic venue. With the tour of Sri

Lanka coming up later on this month,

A gang of 20

Asked, police officials in the district

said one group was tasked with

stopping pedestrians from walking

near the spot where the attack would

be carried out. Another group stood

guard near some parked motorbikes

so that the killers could flee on them

Investigators did not give the names

Earlier, police said they had

identified 13 suspects in the case filed

over the killing of 25-year-old Rifat

Sharif, who was hacked to death in

broad daylight in front of his wife

Nayan alias Nayan Bond, was later

killed in a so-called gunfight with

police. Another attacker Rifat Farazi is

Talking to The Daily Star, an

investigator said Waliaullah, one of

two arrested accused, confessed that

he took part in the attack on receiving

instructions on a Facebook messenger

group named "007". Waliaullah,

however, claimed that he was unaware

about the reason of the attack, the

Tanvir admitted that he too

received the same instruction on the

Asked, the investigator said

analysing the history of the group they

found that it had some 120 "active

members". The official, however, said

some members already left the group

near Barguna Government College.

went viral on social media.

now on a seven-day remand.

investigator said.

messenger group.

without any hassle after the murder.

of all the 20 for the sake of probe.

told The Daily Star yesterday.

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it remains to be seen how far the team management would risk their key players in this month.

Even with all this uncertainty and the obvious disappointment of not being alive as contenders anymore, the players were taken by the occasion of playing a match at cricket's most hallowed venue. Only Mashrafe, Shakib Al Hasan, Tamim Iqbal, Mahmudullah, Mushfiqur and Rubel Hossain have played here before. Many of the youngsters were seen taking selfies in the iconic dressing room balcony and posing for pictures taken by photographers with telephoto lens from all the way across the ground. Rhodes also said that they were awestruck when walking through the Long Room, and had eagerly surveyed the Honours Board, where Tamim and Shahadat Hossain have been immortalised for a century and five-wicket haul respectively in 2010.

"If we beat Pakistan, I think we've had a very good World Cup, even though we've not qualified," head coach Steve Rhodes said yesterday. "And I say that because the other teams, some of the big teams that we've played against, we've had close-ish games against them. We've pushed them. Australia we pushed. India we pushed. We had a not great game against England, apart from the magnificent 100 from Shakib. But generally the games we've played, we've been in the contest, and we've

showed a lot of fight."

"We are now keeping an eye on the group members, including those who left the group," the official added.

after its name surfaced in the media.

police officials in Barguna said they were still interrogating those arrested in connection with Rifat murder.

about unearthing the name of the mastermind soon.

their IT experts were working on the the case with utmost priority. We are

Footage of the attack, captured soon," he told this newspaper yesterday. Meanwhile, Shahida Akter, mother possibly on a mobile phone camera, of prime accused Nayan, demanded a fair investigation into killing of Rifat. The main accused, Sabbir Hossain

> yesterday, she requested the investigators to identify the people who were "responsible for making her son a gangster.

He has been victimised," she said.

Yesterday, posters with photos of 12 "killers" of Rifat were pasted on walls in different areas of Barguna town, calling for capital punishment for the killers.

and Md Hassan -- gave confessional their involvement in the killing, said Barguna SP Maruf Hossain.

to the report

Asked about the mastermind, top

They said they were hopeful

Barguna Sadar Police Station

Inspector Humayun Kabir, also the investigation officer of the case, said messenger group. "We are investigating hopeful about arrest of all the culprits

While talking with this newspaper

"My son was a very bright student.

Meanwhile, two accused -- Chandan statements last night. With them, four suspects have now confessed to

[M Jahirul Islam Jewel, our Jhalakathi correspondent, contributed

DHL-Star Business

The annual event honours the movers

and shakers of the corporate world. This year, two individuals and two companies will be awarded in the categories of Outstanding Woman

in Business, Business Person of the

Year, Best Financial Institution, and Enterprise of the Year.

DHL Express, a global logistics company, and The Daily Star, the leading English-language newspaper of Bangladesh, introduced the awards in 2000 to recognise the achievements and positive contributions of business houses and individuals who have not only grown but have contributed to the

economic development of the country. It also aims to create an environment for excellence and competitiveness that would drive members of the business community to achieve greater productivity, efficiency, and good governance.

Over the years, the awards shaped up into the most prestigious event in Bangladesh's business community.

Some notable awardees include business leaders Samson H Chowdhury of Square Group, Syed Manzur Elahi of Apex Group, Amjad Khan Chowdhury of Pran-RFL Group, M Anis Ud Dowla of ACI, and Sufi Mohammad Mizanur

Enterprises such as BSRM, MM Ispahani, Bengal Plastic Industries Concord, Meghna Group of Industries, Rahimafrooz, as well as financial institutions like EBL, Mutual Trust Bank, Brac Bank, City Bank, and IDLC Finance were also awarded.

Rahman of PHP Family.

Lifetime achievement awards were also bestowed on those who have made a difference through their works. Previous winners include M Matiul Islam, the country's first finance secretary, Nasir A Choudhury, founding managing director of Green Delta Insurance, late MA Samad of Bangladesh General Insurance Company, Laila Rahman Kabir of Kedarpur Tea Company, and Mahbubur Rahman, president of the

International Chamber of Commerce,

Bangladesh.

police and Rab, ASK said in its halfyearly report. Only last month, the UK voiced

Of them, 193 were killed in so-



People in Beijing yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

China to press Myanmar

the displacement of the Rohingyas from their homes in Myanmar affects the peace and stability in the region. Mentioning that the Rohingya crisis

would worsen with the passage of time, she said it needed to be resolved quickly. "The return of the Rohingyas to their homeland is the solution to the crisis." The PM said Bangladesh engaged

in bilateral arrangements and made all sorts of efforts for the repatriation of Rohingyas, but they do not want to return to Myanmar as they are afraid.

In this context, she said China can play a role in creating a congenial environment in Myanmar for ensuing safety, dignity, and citizenship of the displaced Rohingyas and their access to their land and property in Myanmar to remove their fears.

Talking about economy and trade, the Chinese PM said the China-Bangladesh trade volume grew by 16 percent last year.

Hasina stressed the need for addressing the trade imbalance between the two countries as the trade growth is in favour of China. "So, China should make investment in Bangladesh, develop factories, and industries with the buyback guarantee.'

Mentioning that Bangladesh is setting up 100 special economic zones, she urged China to invest in those zones.

Li Keqiang said they want balanced trade relations and assured Hasina of working to reduce the trade imbalance.

Noting that 97 percent Bangladeshi products now enjoy duty-free access to Chinese market, the Chinese PM said they will try to allow duty exemption to the rest of the goods. "China is closely monitoring the outcomes of the FTA feasibility study," he added.

About the implementation of projects, Hasina said during the Chinese president's visit to Bangladesh in 2016, Dhaka had signed a number of agreements and MoUs with Beijing to implement projects in Bangladesh. She put emphasis on expediting

the project implementation process. Hasina urged China to ease the terms and conditions of loan

agreements and take necessary

measures for timely disbursement

of fund for implementation of the

"Nayan Bonds can't be created

overnight. Someone must have

patronised them, sheltered them.

They [people like Nayan] were turned

in the routine work of the executive.

The judiciary passes orders only when

there are deviations by the executive

branch, said the HC bench of Justice

FRM Nazmul Ahasan and Justice KM

Along with other human rights

have been a major concern in the

country over the last 10 years. Rights

organisations in and outside the

country have long been calling on the

government to stop this. They say such

killings severely hamper the rule of

have fallen victim to such killings -

according to Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK).

called shootouts, mostly involving

law and the course of justice.

extrajudicial killings

The judiciary does not interfere

into criminals," the court observed.

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Kamrul Kader.

violations,

country would consider the matter. The Bangladesh PM sought Chinese

Her Chinese counterpart said his

assistance for implementing the Delta Plan 2100, setting up a Climate Adaptation Centre, and mobilising resources in implementation of the Teesta River Comprehensive Management and Restoration project.

She also urged China to expedite the implementation of Dhaka-Chattogram-Cox's Bazar high-speed train service project.

About visas, the PM said Bangladesh

provides preferential visas to Chinese nationals under the umbrella of "on arrival visa" arrangements. But a similar treatment is not offered to Bangladeshi nationals travelling to China. She hoped that China would ease

the visa process for Bangladeshi passport holders, students, and businessmen in particular.

About the BCIM economic corridor, the two prime ministers highlighted its importance and potentials to connect markets of the region and agreed that it should be implemented quickly.

The foreign secretary said the Chinese PM termed Bangladesh a partner of China in South Asia. "We value our relationship with Bangladesh and would like to take it to a higher level... we've a strategic partnership and we hope that it'll be deepened and strengthened further, Li Keqiang said.

Bangladesh Ambassador to China Md Fazlul Karim and PM's Speech Writer Md Nazrul Islam were present at the briefing.

Nationa Chairperson of Advisory Committee for Autism and Neurodevelopment Disorders Saima Wazed Hossain, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen, PM's Private Industry and Investment Adviser Salman F Rahman, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam, and Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Foreign Affairs Ministry Muhammad Faruk Khan were present, among others, during the talks.

After the meeting, Hasina joined a banquet hosted by her Chinese counterpart at the Great Hall of the People.

Earlier, on her arrival at the venue around 10:45am (local time), she was welcomed by the Chinese PM and

concerns over the increasing allegations

accorded a state reception. NINE INSTRUMENTS SIGNED

Bangladesh and China yesterday signed nine instruments for further strengthening cooperation on power, water resources, culture, and tourism sectors as well as providing 2,500 tonnes of rice for the displaced Rohingyas.

The instruments, including two loan deals, were signed in presence of the two prime ministers after their meeting. Of the instruments, four were signed

between the Economic Relations

Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque

Division (ERD) of Bangladesh and the Ministry of Commerce of China,

told reporters.

The four deals are Framework Expansion and Agreement of Strengthening of Power System Network under DPDC Area; Framework Agreement of Power Grid Network Strengthening Project under PGCB Project; Agreement on **Economic and Technical Cooperation** between the two governments; and Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of Investment Cooperation Working Group.

The ERD also inked two loan agreements with the Export-Import Bank of China.

The two agreements are Government Concessional Loan Agreement of Expansion and Strengthening of Power System Network under DPDC Area Project; and Preferential Buyer's Credit Loan Agreement of Expansion and Strengthening of Power System Network under DPDC Area Project.

Besides, an MoU on provision of Hydrological Information of Yaluzhangbu/Brahmaputra River and its Implementation Plan was signed between the water resources ministries of the two countries.

Another MoU on Cultural and Tourism Exchange Programme was signed by Ministry of Culture of China and Ministry of Cultural Affairs of Bangladesh.

A Letter of Exchange (LOE) on the Rohingya Refugees Rice Aid was signed by the disaster management and relief ministry of Bangladesh and China International Development Cooperation Agency.

Under the LoE, China will provide 2,500 tonnes of rice as assistance for the displaced Rohingyas who have taken shelter in Bangladesh.

Ershad on life support His condition deteriorates

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad was placed on life support yesterday as his condition deteriorated at the Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka. He was put on life support at

4:10pm, Khandaker Deloar Jalali, the JP chief's deputy press secretary, said in a statement. Earlier on Monday, Health Minister Zahid Malik told reporters that

Ershad was put on life support as his condition turned critical. Ershad's brother and acting JP chairman GM Quader, however, refuted the minister's claims the next

day, saying that Ershad was only given oxygen as he had been suffering from respiratory problems. Yesterday afternoon, after visiting his 89-year-old brother at the CMH, Quader told reporters that

deteriorating. remained condition unchanged over the last four days. But today, it is deteriorating," he said. "Many of his organs are not

Ershad's health condition had been

working properly. His lungs and kidneys are not properly functioning, due to which he is suffering from respiratory and excretory problems. "Now we have nothing to do except

pray for him." Speaking to journalists, Ershad's Raushan Ershad,

who accompanied Quader at the CMH, said most of her husband's organs have become weak. "The doctors at the CMH have

been treating HM Ershad with utmost sincerity," she said. Speaking at a press conference at JP

chairman's Banani office, Quader said Ershad's drowsiness has increased and he remains asleep most of the time. "Doctors are not considering this to be a good sign."

He said the uric acid levels in Ershad's blood had risen, which was causing the drowsiness, adding that

doctors were trying to bring it under control. "The CMH doctors have been providing the former president with world-class treatment in consultation

with specialist doctors from home and abroad." "If necessary, we'll bring doctors from abroad," he said, adding, "But as per the advice given by doctors from

Singapore, he is not fit to fly." Quader said the infection in his brother's lungs was not healing as per expectation and his kidneys were not

functioning properly either. He urged all the people to pray for Ershad's quick recovery this Friday in

their respective religious institutions. The former military dictator, now the leader of the opposition in parliament, was admitted to the CMH on June 26 after his health condition worsened.

He had been suffering from various old age complications, including low haemoglobin, high bilirubin and liver problems, and severe knee pain.

6.4-magnitude quake hits California

AFP, Los Angeles

A 6.4 magnitude earthquake hit Southern California yesterday at 10:33am (17:33GMT) near the Searles Valley in San Bernardino County, the United States Geological Survey said.

The shallow quake struck at a depth of 5.4 miles (8.7 kilometers) in the vast desert region, lasting multiple seconds with residents as far away as Los Angeles saying they felt the tremor.

It is not yet clear if the earthquake caused major damage, but USGS seismologist Rob Graves said that "this earthquake is large enough that the shaking could have caused damage."

The San Bernardino County Fire Department reported no injuries on Twitter, but stated that "buildings and roads have sustained varying degrees of damage."

It added that there were multiple "buildings with minor cracks; broken said, adding that some law enforcers water mains; power lines down; rock slides on certain roads. No injuries/

"We will continue having a lot of aftershocks," CalTech seismologist Lucy Jones told a press conference, adding that dozens had already occurred and that some may be as strong as magnitude five.

Los Angeles International Airport said that runways were unharmed, with operations continuing as normal.

The city's police reported on Twitter that they had not "received any reports of damage or calls for service within the City of Los Angeles related to the #earthquake." While California is the most-

populous state in the US, the quake was located in a sparsely populated portion of the Mojave Desert. Jones added that there is a small

possibility that this quake was the prelude for a larger tremor. "There is about a one-in-20 chance

that this location will be having an even bigger earthquake within the next few days, that we have not yet seen the biggest earthquake of the sequence," she said.

Cops must be more careful

of extrajudicial killings in Bangladesh. were injured in the incident. The number of reports of Two issued at land, air and sea ports and bordering areas so the other suspects

Watch urged the government to order Duringyesterday's court proceedings,

superintendent of police (SP) and the deputy commissioner (DC) of Barguna before the HC bench. Citing the SP's report, the DAG

arrested five accused and four suspects in connection with Rifat murder. Prime accused Nayan has been killed in a gunfight with the law enforcers. He said police went to arrest Nayan on a tip-off, but the accused

indiscriminately at the law enforcers. The law enforcers fired back in self-defence.

extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances during the "war on drugs" from May to July last year supported allegations that the security forces continue to be able to act with impunity, said the report by the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office. In June last year, the Human Rights

an independent investigation into the allegations of extrajudicial killings during its "war on drugs". the DAG placed two reports from the

told the HC that law enforcers already

Since January, at least 204 people that's more than one death every day, and his accomplices started firing

on social media and triggered public outrage, with many condemning the bystanders for not coming forward to Nayan was killed at one stage, he save Rifat.

have accused given confessional statements before the magistrate while red alert has been

cannot flee the country, he said. Citing the DC's report, Bashar said the administration ensured security to Rifat's family, including his widow. After hearing the reports, the HC

gave a warning about extrajudicial

killings and said it would pass an order on the issue later, if necessary. In a suo moto order on June 27, the court asked the SP and the DC to furnish reports on their actions

following Rifat's killing.

Rifat, an internet service provider, was attacked by Nayan and Rifat Farazi and several others with machetes in front of his wife Ayesha Siddika Minni on June 26. She desperately tried to save her husband, but she was overpowered by the attackers. Rifat

later died in a hospital. A video clip of the attack went viral