

HC summons forensics head of DMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday summoned the head of Dhaka Medical College Hospital's (DMCH) forensics department to appear before it on April 1 for not releasing the autopsy report in a Gazipur murder case in more than 16 months.

The court asked him to appear before it to explain why his office has failed to give the report on postmortem of Al Amin, who was killed in November 2019, to the investigation officer.

The bench of M Enayetur Rahim and Md Mostafizur Rahman issued the summons while hearing a bail petition by Habibur Rahman, an accused.

Deputy Attorney General Sarwar Hossain Bappi said Al Amin was killed on November 7, 2019.

His autopsy was conducted at DMCH the following day. A murder case was filed with on November 8, 2019 against Habibur and others.

The IO informed HC that he applied for the postmortem report thrice, but to no avail, said Sarwar.



Vehicles that carry overflowing heavy load don't just take up extra space on the road, they're also dangerous for pedestrians and vehicles that follow them. This photo was taken yesterday from the apital's Airport Road, near Kakoli.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Tk 2,000CR MONEY LAUNDERING CASE Decision on charges against Babar, nine others on Apr 1

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court will decide on April 1 whether to accept charges against 10 people, including Khandaker Mohtesam Hossain Babar, brother of former minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, in a Tk 2,000 crore money laundering case.

After receiving the case dockets and other relevant documents, Judge KM Emrul Kayesh of the Senior Special Judge's Court of Dhaka yesterday set the date, court sources said.

The judge also asked the jail authorities to produce the accused, now in jail, before his court on that date.

The other accused include Sajjad Hossain Barkat, former general secretary of Faridpur town Awami League unit, and his brother Imtiaz Hasan alias Rubel, former president of Faridpur Press Club; Khandaker Mosharraf's assistant personal secretary and former convener of Faridpur district Jubo League AHM Fuad, former Faridpur town Jubo League president Khandakar Nazmul Islam Levi, former general secretary of Faridpur town unit Jubo League Ashiqur Rahman Farhan, general secretary of Faridpur district Swachhshabak League Fahad Bin Wazed Fahim, former joint convener of Faridpur town Jubo League Kamrul Hasan David, district Jubo League joint convener Mohammad Ali Minar and Faridpur town Jubo League joint convener Tariqul Islam Nasim.

Of them, Barkat, Rubel, Levi and Farhan are now in jail. Barkat was expelled from the AL after his arrest. Barkat and Rubel amassed Tk 2,535.11 crore beyond their sources of income, said the case documents.

Babar, now vice president of Faridpur district Awami League, Fuad, Fahim, David, Minar and Nasim were shown fugitive accused in the charge sheet. The names of Babar and five others were included as Barkat, Rubel, Farhan and Levi named them in confessional statements to magistrates.

Uttam Kumar Biswas, assistant superintendent of police of the CID and also the investigation officer (IO), on March 3, submitted the charge sheet to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka. The IO appealed to the court to exonerate 10 others earlier arrested in connection with the case, as they were not found to be involved in the money laundering.

Janakantha journo seek PM's intervention

Demand stop to wholesale termination, wage board implementation and salary increment

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A group of journalists of daily Janakantha yesterday demanded intervention of the prime minister in stopping wholesale termination and implementation of wage board at the newspaper.

Under the banner of "Janakantha Sangbadik Oikya Parishad", they made the demand at a press conference held at the office of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ).

Rajan Bhattacharya, senior reporter and chief of DUJ Janakantha unit, read out a statement, where he said wholesale termination at the newspaper has started.

Authorities of Janakantha prepared a list of 60 journalists on Monday, the first day of the termination, and issued the termination letter to 26 of them through email, he said.

As DUJ started to protest in front of Janakantha Bhaban since Monday afternoon, they did not issue any more termination letter, he said. Rajan said they held the movement from 4pm to 2am, where many journalists took part.

He said since the last eight years there's been no promotion or increment at Janakantha and most journalists of the newspaper are not under the wage board.

Rajan said they asked the newspaper

authorities to implement a wage board for all as well as promotion and salary increment following trade union law. But the authorities terminated them instead of realising their demands, he added.

Rajan said they had met the home minister under the leadership of DUJ president Quddus Afrad and general secretary Sajjad Alam Khan Tapu on Monday night and the home minister spoke with the information minister several times over phone in this regard.

"We were informed that a tripartite meeting among the government, owner [of Janakantha] and DUJ will be held on March 20 to resolve the issue. We have stopped our movement until then," he said.

WILL NOT WRITE FOR JANAKANTHA: GAFFAR CHOWDHURY

Showing solidarity with the journalists of Janakantha, eminent journalist and columnist Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury yesterday announced that he will not write any column for the daily if its authorities do not withdraw the termination of the journalists.

He made the remark through an email sent from London on Monday.

SAVAR SCHOOLBOY MURDER

Youth who escaped custody arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Rapid action battalion (Rab) in a drive early yesterday arrested a youth accused in the murder case of Savar schoolboy Rohanul Islam Rohan. He was arrested earlier in a drive on Saturday, but he fled custody after attacking police officers.

Besides, Rab also arrested two others on charges of attacking police.

The arrestees were identified as Rokibul Islam Rocky (27) of the area, Rubel Ahmed (26) and Amirul Islam alias Amir (25) of Moziampur area. Of them, Rocky is accused in Rohan's murder case.

Tahmidul Islam, sub-inspector of Savar Model Police Station and investigation officer of the murder case, confirmed the matter to The Daily Star.

He said, based on a tip-off, Rab conducted a drive at Bank Colony area early yesterday in cooperation with police and detained them. Later, Rab handed the arrestees over to police.

Tahmidul said, earlier, some associates of Rocky helped him escape police custody by attacking the officers, after he was detained in a drive on Saturday. Soon after, law enforcers detained three youths in connection with the attack and filed a case with the police station.

So far, seven, including Rocky, have been arrested out of 35 named accused in the case statement. Five were arrested in connection with the attack on police, Tahmidul added.

On February 6, Rohan was brutally stabbed to death by a group of youths when he went to a restaurant at Savar's Bank Colony area with three people, according to the case statement.

Girl hacked to death in Sylhet

Youth arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

An 18-year-old was hacked to death allegedly by a youth at Balinga village of Beanibazar upazila in Sylhet yesterday afternoon.

The deceased is Nazmin Akther.

The accused youth -- Nazim Uddin (23) -- was arrested from Angarjur village of Beanibazar around 7pm, hours after the murder, said Hilloil Roy, officer-in-charge of Beanibazar Police Station.

Abul Kalam Sheikh, member of Shewla Union Parishad, said, "The youth entered her house while the teenager was watching TV."

"He proceeded to hack her with a sharp weapon and then fled, leaving Nazmin dead on the spot," the IUP member added.

The reason behind the attack is unknown, he said.

The OC said, "The girl's body was sent to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital for autopsy."

Hafiza Begum passes away

CITY DESK

Hafiza Begum, a patron of education, social worker and founder of A Rafet Biswas Mohabiyalaya in Mirpur, Kushtia, passed away at a hospital in Dhaka on Monday. She was 86, said a press release.

She left behind four sons and three daughters to mourn her death.

Hafiza's eldest child is Abdullah Hil Kafi, CEO of JAN Associates.

She was buried beside the grave of her husband Abdul Rafet Biswas in their family graveyard at their native village in Kushtia yesterday.

Her qulkhwan will be held at her residence on Friday.



Mujibur Rahman no more

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Brig Gen (ret'd) Mujibur Rahman, a freedom fighter, died after suffering from cardiac arrest and Covid-19 at the Combined Military Hospital on March 14.

He was 80 years of age.

Mujibur -- from Muksudpur upazila in Gopalganj -- left behind his wife, a son and a host of friends and relatives to mourn his death.

He was buried at Banani Military Graveyard, said Maruf Khan, nephew of Mujibur Rahman.



Dr Yunus

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from home due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and are getting salaries, the lawyers said.

Senior counsel, Rakanuddin Mahmud, prayed to the HC bench to exempt his clients from personal appearance before the court.

Petitioners' lawyer Md Yousuf Ali told the HC that the compliance report given by Dr Yunus and Ashraf is not true as his clients (petitioners) are not being allowed to work for the office.

The HC on February 18 summoned Dr Yunus and Ashraf to virtually appear before the bench yesterday to place an explanation over not complying with its order to reinstate 38 employees in the organisation.

The court also issued a rule upon the defendants to explain why contempt of court proceedings should not be brought against them.

The HC bench came up with the order and rule following a contempt of court petition filed by Md Kamruzzaman, one of the 38 terminated employees, on February 8.

DSA formulated

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is being kept in confinement for months. Had there been any rule of law in the country, such thing would not be happened," she said.

"Even after the 50 years of Liberation we are holding protest for the right of freedom of expression. What else can be more shameful than this?" said Mirza.

She said though the country's economy has made tremendous progress, poor people and farmers are not getting its benefit.

"We've seen that the government has shut down 26 state-run jute mills. Workers of these jute mills are passing days in inhumane condition due to the shutdown," she said, adding that the jute mills were shut down due to unbridled corruption.

Among others, President of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front Masud Rana and President of Bangladesh Chhatra Federation Mitu Sarker spoke.

They demanded withdrawal of cases against seven student leaders, release of labour leader Ruhul Amin, abolishment of DSA and justice for the death of Mushtaq and torture on Kishore.

Students and activists of different progressive student organisations began marching from TSC to secretariat via the Central Shaheed Minar, but were obstructed by police in front of the secretariat.

Journalist

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He was also the Bangladesh correspondent of US-based news agency International News Service (INS) and a contributor to non-profit news agency The New Humanitarian.

In 2019, he became the first Bangladeshi to receive the Gold prize for the "Prince Albert II of Monaco and UNCA Awards for coverage of Climate Change".

After he was named as a winner, INS Editor Keith Nuthall wrote, "Abu (Anas) has demonstrated again and again in his work for INS his ability and determination to dig deeper for important facts and analysis. He has applied these skills to this environmental reporting and has been rightly awarded this prize."

"We are delighted that he has been honoured in this way," Keith Nuthall further said.

In his 20-plus-year career, he also worked for English dailies the Independent and the New Nation. He held a master's in English language and literature.

He was also a permanent member of the Jatiya Press Club and the Economic Reporters' Forum.

His first namaz-e-jezanah was held at the Jatiya Press Club premises at 3:30pm, while the second one was held at Panthapath Jame Masjid after Asr prayers.

He was buried at the Azimpur graveyard, said S M Jahangir, chief reporter of The Financial Express.

Anas left behind his wife, two children, and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

Tension mounts

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Asked how many followers of Mohiuddin have been elected councillors this time, he said the number is not less than 35.

Meanwhile, councillor (Ward-20/Dewan Bazar) Chowdhury Hasan Mahmud Hasni said he would vie for the panel mayor post. "I had been elected panel mayor twice...I think councillors would consider that and vote for me," he said.

He, however, said there was no such issue of polarisation amid the councillors. Hasni is known to be a follower of AIM Nasir Uddin.

"There is no rivalry among us over the issue [of election]. Any councillor can declare their candidacy," he said. "It's not important who is a follower of whom... we are public representatives...The eligible candidates will be elected, I think," he added.

Contacted, councillor (Ward-32/Anderkilla) Jahar Lal Hazari said, "I'm an experienced councillor, and I think I am eligible for the panel mayor post." Known as a follower of Mohiuddin, Hazari also said there's no rivalry over the panel mayor elections.

Asked what is the role of a panel mayor, AF Kabir Ahmed Manik, a former councillor, said panel mayors do not have any executive or financial power.

"If the mayor goes abroad, he may entrust a panel mayor to look after the routine works of the city corporation. But the panel mayors do not have any decision-making power," said Manik.

When asked -- then what could be the reason behind this so called polarisation or rivalry, Manik said the post of panel mayor could be vital when the mayor falls in trouble.

For example, if the mayor is arrested and sent to jail, the government then can appoint a panel mayor to continue the duty of the mayor. "Otherwise, they do not have any power, and at best, they can introduce themselves as a panel mayor to people," he said.

Gearing up

FROM PAGE 3

For the last two years, the Boimela took place on an 800 sq ft area. This has been increased by another 700 sq ft. This is mostly due to the need for social distancing in the times of coronavirus. To thwart its threat, masks have been declared mandatory, while there will be sanitiser available at the gates, they added.

There will also be four different entrances to the Boimela, along with parking facilities.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Hereby JSC ASE EC notifies on conduction of open proposals request for the right to sign a contract for execution of construction and erection works for lot:17692-648-RUP-21* Power Unit No. 1,2. Sites No. 3, 4, 5 for operation of crawler crane Liebherr LR11350 (10UJA, 10UMA, 20UJA)* Rooppur NPP (lot 6407). The documentation can be found on State Corporation Rosatom's official website http://zakupki.rosatom.ru, procurement number No. 210315/0536/282.

 **World Health Organization**
Bangladesh

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- National Consultant – Essential Drugs and Medicines

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মহাবাবস্থাপক (প্রশাসন)
বাংলাদেশ শিপিং কর্পোরেশন
বিএসসি ভবন, সন্টগোলা, চট্টগ্রাম
ফোন নংঃ ০৩১-৭২৪৮৩২

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