

BANGLADESH UPDATE

214
New cases in 24hrs15,69,753
Total cases27,870
Deaths15,33,625
RecoveriesGLOBAL UPDATE
5,017,697
Deaths247,604,478
Total cases

Cut trial-time jail stay from total term

Apex courts rules

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday ruled that the tenure of any convict serving jail time during trial proceedings will be deducted from the total imprisonment handed down in the case by the court concerned.

The Appellate Division of the SC also asked the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to this effect.

A five-member full bench of the division, headed by Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain, passed the order while delivering a verdict on an appeal filed by a convict named Md Younus Ali challenging a High Court verdict that sentenced him to life imprisonment in a murder case.

Younus's lawyer Golam Abbas told this correspondent that Natore's Additional District and Sessions Judge's court had sentenced Younus Ali to death in a double murder case and the High Court in 2005 commuted his death sentence to life imprisonment in the same case.

Younus then filed an appeal with the SC seeking bail and release from jail claiming that he has already been in jail for 26 years, he said, adding that Younus will be released following orders from the apex court.

The SC in a verdict in the Ataur Mridha versus Bangladesh case said life imprisonment means 30 years in jail and a convict awarded such a sentence should get remission of seven and half years as per the laws.

"In Bangladesh, life sentences have become a complex patchwork of judicial and executive orders. A young person sentenced to imprisonment for life could theoretically serve many more years in jail than an older person. An older person has a significantly greater chance of serving the rest of their life in jail.

"Many prisoners serving life sentences will likely die in prison. The society should find a humane way of handling life sentences," the Appellate Division of the SC observed in the full text of the verdict released on July 15.

Interpreting the observations, lawyer Mohammad Shishir Manir told The Daily Star that prisoners who have been sentenced to life imprisonment will have to serve 30 years and will get the remission. It means, convicts awarded life imprisonment will have to remain behind bars for a total of 22 and a half years.

Deputy Attorney General Bishwajit Debnath told The Daily Star that according to Section 35A (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898, the tenure of any convict's serving in jail during trial will be deducted from the total imprisonment handed down by the court concerned to him or her in the case.

The section says, "Except in the case of an offence punishable only with death, when any court finds an accused guilty of an offence and, upon conviction, sentences such accused to any term of imprisonment, simple or rigorous, it shall be deducted from the sentence of imprisonment, the total period the accused may have

been in custody in the meantime, in connection with that offence."

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We are digging our own graves'

FROM PAGE 1

Echoing Greta Thunberg -- who is in Glasgow with thousands of other protesters -- he urged the summit against indulging in "blah blah blah."

If the leaders "fuff our lines or miss our cue," generations as-yet unborn "will not forgive us", the prime minister said.

"They will know that Glasgow was the historic turning point when history failed to turn."

US President Joe Biden pledged that his country will fulfill its climate goals.

The task of the COP26 conference was made even more daunting by the failure of the Group of 20 major industrial nations to agree ambitious new commitments at a weekend summit in Rome.

The G20 including China, India and Western nations committed on Sunday to the Paris goal of limiting global warming to 1.5C. They also agreed to end funding for new coal plants abroad without carbon capturing technology by the end of 2021.

But the precise pathway to 1.5C was left largely undefined and campaigners expressed disappointment with the group, which collectively emits nearly 80 percent of global carbon emissions.

At the G20, Biden singled out China and Russia, neither of which sent its leader to Glasgow, for not bringing proposals to the table.

Observers say the Glasgow gathering,

which runs until November 12, will be tough going.

Most nations have already submitted their renewed emissions cutting plans -- known as "nationally determined contributions", or NDCs -- in advance of COP26. But even these current commitments -- if followed -- would still lead to a "catastrophic" warming of 2.7 Celsius, according to the UN.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday announced that India's economy would become carbon neutral by the year 2070. India is the last of the world's major carbon polluters to announce a net-zero target, with China saying it would reach that goal in 2060, and the US and the EU aiming for 2050.

"Climate financing" could make or break the talks. The failure of rich countries to deliver \$100 billion annually to help climate vulnerable nations adapt to climate change might generate mistrust and reluctance among some developing nations to accelerate their emissions reductions.

The goal -- meant to be delivered last year -- has been postponed to 2023, exacerbating tensions between richer nations, responsible for global warming, and those poorer countries who are the victims of its effects.

Two days of speeches by world leaders will be followed by technical negotiations. Any deal may not be struck until close to or even after the event's Nov 12 finish date.

Observers say the Glasgow gathering,

Schoolchildren get Covid jabs

FROM PAGE 1

capital's Ideal School and College, Health Minister Zahid Maleque said there will be no crisis of Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine which is being given to the schoolchildren.

Eight vaccination centres have been set up in as many schools in the capital for jabbing schoolchildren. The government has a plan to expand the vaccination programme to 21 others districts soon.

"We will need around 3 crore doses of Pfizer vaccine to bring all 12- to 17-year-old schoolchildren under the vaccination coverage. We have about 1 crore doses in hand and another 1 crore jabs are in the pipeline. The World Health Organization has informed us that we will get more Moderna and Pfizer vaccines," Zahid said.

Vaccines will be administered from the eight centres from today, the minister said, adding that each centre will administer 5,000 doses a day, and the government plans to give the jabs against Covid-19 to 40,000 children in Dhaka a day.

He said the government will expand the student vaccination programme to 21 other districts.

"We are also considering rolling out the vaccine to all districts and if possible, to the upazila level. No child

will be left out," Zahid added.

The eight vaccination centres are: Ideal School and College in Motijheel, Hurdo International School in Bashundhara, South Point School and College in Malibagh, Chittagong Grammar School in Banani, Dhaka Commerce College in Mirpur, Kakoli High School and College in Dhamondi, South Breeze School in Uttara and Scholastica school in Mirpur.

The health minister said during a trial run on October 14, the authorities administered the Pfizer Covid vaccine to 120 students from several schools in Manikganj. None of them showed signs of side effects.

He said children aged 12 to 17, who are out of school, will also get the vaccine.

Addressing the event, Education Minister Dipu Moni said steps will be taken so that preference is given to SSC and HSC examinees for the vaccination.

"We will be able to resume classes at educational institutions fully soon after completing the vaccination of students," she said.

Over two dozen countries have so far approved or started giving Covid shots to children below 18, according to media reports.

The seized arms and ammunition include a US-made shotgun, three pistols and a revolver made by Italy, Germany and US, and 301 rounds bullets including 10 of AK-47.

"We fear they have already sold many weapons and ammunition to various criminal groups. We also fear that the criminal groups ordered AK-47s. We are trying to find out to whom they wanted to sell AK-47 bullets. We suspect the criminal groups in the Chattogram Hill Tracts and Cox's Bazar may have contact with them."

Officials said Hossain is the kingpin of the illegal arms racket. He had been arrested earlier by a law enforcement agency and was in jail for long.

Nine were made accused in the case filed under the arms act with Jatrabari

Police immediately left the spot.

As this news spread, hundreds of locals besieged the police station. Some of them threw bricks targeting policemen inside. The mob also vandalised a few police vehicles there, said witnesses.

Police fired teargas canisters and rubber bullets to disperse the mob. Additional police members from Rangpur Metropolitan Police Lines rushed to the scene and brought the situation under control around

FROM PAGE 12

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NEWS

DHAKA TUESDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2021, KARTIK 17, 1428 BS

TRIAL/PROBE ONGOING		
	DATE OF KILLING	TRIAL GOING ON FOR
Sagar Sarowar and Meherun Runi, <i>Maasranga TV, ATN Bangla</i>	Feb 11, 2012	9yrs
Dipankar Chakrabarty, <i>editor, Durjoy Bangla, Bogra</i>	Oct 3, 2004	17yrs
Syed Farroque Ahmed, <i>editor, Pubali Barta, Sreemangal</i>	Aug 3, 2002	19yrs
Mohammad Quamruzzaman, <i>reporter, Neel Sagar, Nilphamari</i>	Feb 19, 1996	25yrs
Saiful Alam Mukul, <i>editor of Daily Runner, Jashore</i>	Aug 30, 1998	23yrs
Mashiur Rahman Utsho, <i>Juger Alo, Rangpur</i>	Dec 23, 2015	6yrs
Ihsan Ibn Reza Fagun, <i>subeditor, Priyo.com</i>	May 22, 2019	2yrs

CASES THROWN OUT		
	DATE OF KILLING	
SLAIN JOURNALISTS		
Nahor Ali, <i>correspondent, Daily Anirban, Khulna</i>	Apr 21, 2001	According to Committee to Protect Journalists, a total of 23 journalists have been killed in Bangladesh since 1992
Sheikh Harunur Rashid, <i>reporter, Daily Purbanchal, Khulna</i>	Mar 2, 2002	
Shukur Hossain, <i>reporter, Daily Anirban, Khulna</i>	July 5, 2002	

Police raided our house to threaten us

Says mother of victim of enforced disappearance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The mother of Sajedul Islam Sumon, a victim of enforced disappearance, yesterday said police raided their house in the capital's Shaheenbagh on Sunday afternoon and detained several people as she organised a programme demanding return of such victims.

"We are scared. We think police raided our house to threaten us since we hold programmes every year demanding return of the victims of enforced disappearance," Hazera Khuton told The Daily Star.

Hazera is the key organiser of "Mayer Dak", a platform of families who lost their loved ones to enforced disappearances. It holds programmes on different occasions, demanding return of the victims.

Around 50 cops raided Sumon's Shaheenbagh home on Sunday afternoon during a "Doa Mahfil". BNP leaders Amanullah Aman and Aminul Islam along with several other party men joined the programme, family members said.

"Police suddenly laid seize to our house.... At least 20 people were detained from the house," Sumon's sister Sanjida Islam Tuli claimed.

Police later released all but one detainee.

Md Shohidullah, deputy commissioner (Tejgaon Division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said they raided the house on information that several people accused in a case filed over the August 17 violence at the capital's Chandrima Udyan by BNP men gathered there.

He said they detained eight to 10 people from the house for interrogation. One of them, who is an accused in the case, was arrested while the others were freed on Sunday night, the DMP official said last evening.

The arrestee is Akhter Hossain, joint convener of the BNP's Dhaka city north unit. A Dhaka court sent him to jail yesterday after police produced him before it.

Sumon, general secretary of BNP's ward-38 unit in the capital, and seven others were allegedly picked up by the Rapid Action Battalion between 8:00pm of December 4 and 2:00pm of December 5 in 2013 from the city's Bashundhara and Shaheenbagh areas.

The Rab, however, dismissed the claim.

Buttler ton

FROM PAGE 1

Buttler smashed six fours and six sixes in his 67-ball knock and put on 112 with skipper Eoin Morgan, who made 40, to lift England after they were in trouble at 35-3.

The England opener, who hit an unbeaten 71 in the win over Australia, surpassed his previous T20 best of 83 and now leads the tournament batting chart with 214 runs.