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Revoke Natore teacher's suspension order: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A High Court bench yesterday said there were 22 "Awami Razakars" in the Khandaker Mushtaque Ahmed-led cabinet, formed after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's assassination on August 15, 1975.

The ghost of razakars, who had collaborated with Pakistani forces during the Liberation War in 1971, still looms, the bench of Justice KM Kamrul Kader and Justice Mohammad Showkat Ali Chowdhury said.

The High Court bench made the remark while hearing a writ petition challenging the legality of suspension of one Md Masudur Rahman.

Masudur, an assistant teacher of Dorikachhikata Government Primary School in Natore's Gurudaspur upazila, was suspended for allegedly

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina along with a group of children at an event marking the 60th birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's youngest son Sheikh Russel. The programme was held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

PHOTO: PID

## 'Some political parties trying to create chaos'

Liberation War affairs minister tells law and order meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque yesterday said some political parties are attempting to deteriorate the country's law and order situation ahead of the upcoming national polls.

"The inclination to engage in illegal arms possession, subversive activities, religious provocation, and a disregard for discipline is noticeable within certain political parties. To address these issues and ensure public safety, law enforcement agencies must remain vigilant," said Mozammel, also chairman of the cabinet committee on law and order.

He made the remarks after a meeting at the secretariat.

"To maintain law and order, we have entrusted the home ministry's senior secretary with the responsibility to coordinate with various agency chiefs to ensure safety."

"The role of law enforcement agencies is not to meddle in the activities of political parties. However, if public safety is compromised, they will step in as needed," he said.

Regarding the upcoming election, the minister said the Election Commission has hinted at announcing the schedule in mid-November. During this period, only essential tasks will be carried out on a limited scale, as an interim government will assume its duties during the polls.

He said, "Directives have been issued to law enforcement agencies, including the Border Guard Bangladesh, to remain vigilant and prevent illegal arms smuggling."

## 'Ensuring polls nomination for Tk 300 crore'

Rab says the arrestee used to identify himself as PM's relative

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A man, who pretended to be a relative of the prime minister, was arrested by the Rapid Action Battalion for scamming people with promises of nominations in the upcoming polls and government jobs.

The arrestee is Abu Hanif Tushar alias Hanif Mia, 39. He was held from the capital's Bashundhara Residential Area on Tuesday night.

Rab also seized firearms along with edited photos and videos featuring the fraudster with government officials and other important people, said Khandaker Al Moin, director of Rab's Legal and Media Wing, at a press briefing yesterday.

"He used to demand Tk 200-300 crore on false promises of arranging nomination for various parliamentary constituencies," Moin said.

Rab said he used to edit pictures of himself with the PM's family members and send them to the targeted person to gain credibility.

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## DHAKA, BENAPOLE CUSTOMS DEPOTS Of stolen gold and clueless cops

MOHAMMAD JAMIL KHAN and MOHSIN MILON

Police said the AROs, mainly Saidul Islam Saheed, and Shariful Islam, and the guards, primarily one Niamat Howlader, brought out small portions of gold from the warehouse over the last eight months and sold it in the local market. They did not touch any other valuables kept in the vault of the warehouse, police said.

What is even more concerning is the assistant revenue officers, and the customs staffers meant to safeguard these valuable possessions, are usually the ones involved in such heists.

Take the case of the Dhaka Customs House warehouse at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport where 55.5kg gold was stolen in September this year. Four assistant revenue officers (AROs) and four security guards of Dhaka Customs are currently behind the bars for their alleged connection with the crime.

Meanwhile, five AROs and two temporary office staffers of Benapole Customs House warehouse have been suspended for their alleged robbery of 19.31kg of gold on November 7, 2019.

In connection with the gold stolen from the capital's customs warehouse, a case was filed with the Airport Police Station on September 3.



**The AROs and the guards brought out small portions of gold from the warehouse over the last eight months and sold it in the local market. They did not touch any other valuables kept in the vault of the warehouse.**

The Detective Branch of DMP was investigating the case.

The case has been transferred to the Police Bureau of Investigation.

"We have received the case documents, and now we are analysing it and will start the investigation soon," PBI chief Banaj

Kumar Majumder, also an additional inspector general of police, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Meanwhile, on September 12, the Customs House authority suspended four AROs -- Saidul, Shariful, Masud Rana and Akram Sheikh in this connection.

A day later, detectives took eight persons, including the four AROs, on a five-day remand for interrogation.

The four others are security guards Mozammel Haque, Niamat Howlader, Rezaul Karim, and Afzal Hossain.

Getting information from the arrestees, the detectives so far managed to recover 9.4 tola gold (around 1 kg), but the remaining is still untraced as of filing this report yesterday.

On the other hand, the Benapole heist took place three years ago, when thieves broke into the warehouse, located on the second floor of the old building at Benapole Customs House sometime between 8:00pm and 8:00am, and stole 19.31kg gold.

All the stolen gold is still untraced.

Like in Dhaka, the thieves did not take any other items.

It was also discovered that the CCTV cameras were not working at the time of the theft.

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Family members look on as several BNP leaders and activists are being brought to a Dhaka court on a prison van yesterday. The BNP men were arrested from their residences, several entry points to the capital, and various hotels around the party's Nayapaltan office earlier in the day. While the party's senior joint secretary general Ruhul Kabir Rizvi alleged that the arrests were made prior to the party's rally to obstruct it, Awami League general secretary Obaidul Quader claimed the arrestees were accused in various cases. The court later sent them to jail.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

PRAYER  
TIMING  
OCTOBER 19  
আরাম মুসলিম মিনার

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha  
AZAN 4-50 12-45 4-00 5-38 7-15  
JAMAT 5-25 1-15 4-15 5-41 7-45

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