

1971 WAR CRIMES

Extradite Mueen, Ashrafuzzaman

Freedom fighters urge govt, protests UK court verdict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Efforts are underway to challenge the verdicts issued by the International Crimes Tribunal regarding genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War, said Sector Commanders' Forum-Liberation War '71.

The group in a statement yesterday called on the government to take decisive legal and diplomatic actions against a recent British Supreme Court ruling concerning Chowdhury Mueen Uddin, a convicted war criminal living in the UK.

In 2019, Chowdhury Mueen Uddin sued then British Home Secretary Priti Patel for £60,000 in libel charges after she shared a report on Twitter linking him to war crimes during Bangladesh's Liberation War in 1971.

Later, the British High Court dismissed the case. However, on June 20 this year, British Supreme Court took cognizance of the complaint and gave Mueen the opportunity to continue the case.

The Forum expressed concerns that such rulings could undermine Bangladesh's sovereignty and the integrity of International Crimes Tribunal.

They reiterated demands for the extradition of Mueen and Ashrafuzzaman Khan, both convicted of war crimes. The two have been living abroad evading justice.

Abdul Mabud, joint secretary general of the Forum, said Khan resides in the US, while Mueen became a British citizen in 1984.

Robbery at freedom fighter's house

A CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

A gang of robbers has looted valuables, including jewellery and a licensed rifle, from the house of a freedom fighter in Debhata, Satkhira.

The incident took place at the house of Subhash Chandra Ghosh, 62, at Jagannathpur village early Friday, said the victims.

Police recovered the firearm from the house premises yesterday.

Subhash Chandra, president of the district Pujia Uddjan Committee, filed a case against six to seven unnamed people with Debhata Police Station regarding the robbery.

According to the case, a gang looted various items, including 27 tolas of gold ornaments, a licensed gun, two mobile phone sets, Tk 6 lakh in cash, a motorcycle, a bank check book, and a passport at gunpoint.

Subhash said police personnel stayed at their house from Friday morning till late night. He did not understand how the robbers left the stolen gun at the house, he added.

Debhata Police Station OC Mahmud Hossain said they could not arrest anyone the incident as of yesterday.

Collapsed bridge affects 300 families

KONGKON KARMAKER, Dinaipur

Residents of Purba Nazirdah in Haragachh union of Rangpur's Kaunia upazila are facing severe hardship after a 140-foot bamboo bridge over the Manas river collapsed due to heavy rainfall and flooding.

The bridge, which served as the sole connection for locals to cross the river, deteriorated over time and collapsed recently amid rising water levels from the Teesta river.

Local Rumel Mia said the bamboo bridge, initially built by the union parishad to facilitate crossing, became unsafe and collapsed multiple times in the past.

Efforts to replace it with a new wooden bridge stalled despite repeated pleas from locals.

Visiting the area recently, this correspondent saw a part of the broken bamboo bridge lying in the middle of the river, while locals were crossing the river either treading



the water or using the broken bridge amid risks.

"Around 300 families live on the river bank areas in the village. The collapsed bridge has caused much inconvenience to the people. Children are scared to go to schools using the broken bridge. No one has even come to inspect or take any steps to address the issue yet," said Abdul Momin of the village. Hamida Begum of the village

echoed him.

Aziz, a local farmer, said, "My crop fields lie on both sides of the river. As the bridge has collapsed, I have a hard time transporting my produce from crop fields. Also, it has become arduous to travel an additional five kilometres on the alternative route to reach upazila headquarters and other areas."

Chairman Raju Ahmed of Haragachh union parishad urged the authorities to build a concrete bridge.

Asked, upazila engineer Asaduzzaman Jemi said a wooden bridge would be constructed soon.

15 houses gutted in Kurigram fire

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

At least 15 houses of nine families were burnt to ashes in a fire in the Puratan Post Office area of Kurigram town on Friday night.

The fire might have originated from an electric short circuit around 11:30pm, said the fire service. No casualties were reported as the residents managed to escape.

The firefighters brought the blaze under control in two hours.

The affected families told The Daily Star that they lost everything to the fire and are now staying under the open sky.

Shariful Islam, senior station officer of Kurigram Fire Service, said they rushed to the spot upon receiving information. They had to struggle to douse the fire as there was no water source nearby, he added.

Illegal sand lifting puts school at risk

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

Illegal sand lifting near Dobariya Government Primary School in Kachua upazila of Bagerhat has sparked an outcry among locals.

The activity threatens to weaken the school building's foundation, thereby putting it in risk of collapse or damage.

The sand is being extracted for the construction of a road in Dobariya area, said locals.

"The illegal activity has endangered the lives of the students besides disrupting the school's academic activities," said a parent fearing safety of his children.

While visiting the area to report on the situation yesterday, this correspondent encountered threats from unidentified individuals, highlighting the risks faced by those attempting to bring the issue to light.

Contacted, Rakhi Banerjee, UNO of Kachua upazila, said she informed the upazila engineer of the Local Government Engineering Department in this regard.

Md Sharifuzzaman, executive engineer of LGED in the upazila, said, "We are looking into the matter urgently. Steps will be taken to stop the illegal sand lifting and damage caused to the school's foundation will be assessed."

Contacted, Bagerhat's Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Khalid Hossain said a mobile court has one accused Tk 50,000 in this regard under the Balumahal and Soil Management Act, 2010.

A dredger machine was also removed from the spot during a drive, he added.



Two killed, 10 hurt in road accidents

STAR REPORT

Two people were killed and 10 injured in road accidents in two districts yesterday.

In Sirajganj, the helper of a truck driver was killed when the vehicle hit a tree beside Hatikumrul-Bonpara highway at Horinchora Bazar.

The truck fell into a roadside ditch as the driver lost control over the steering, said Hatikumrul Highway Police Station Officer-in-Charge Md Abdul Wadud.

Md Morsalin Islam, 20, from Baliadangi in Chapainawabganj, died on the spot after he went under the vehicle, said the OC.

The driver of the truck managed to escape, said the police officer.

Highway police salvaged the truck.

In Mymensingh, the driver of a bus was killed and 10 of its passengers were injured after the vehicle hit a sand-laden truck from behind on Dhaka-Mymensingh highway at Dhalibari in Bhaluka upazila.

Swapon Hossain, 55, from Rajapur in Jhalakathi, died on the spot, said police.

Pilot pay parking project starts in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattogram's first pilot project of "smart pay parking" is being introduced in Agrabad Commercial area from today to ease traffic congestion.

Chattogram City Corporation Mayor Rezaul Karim Chowdhury will inaugurate the experimental paid parking project.

The move comes to improve the civic facilities of the city corporation area and free the citizens from the severity of traffic congestion, said CCC officials.



Legal recourse for cybercrimes still a far cry

FROM PAGE 3
survey titled "CCAF Cyber Crime Research Report 2024", conducted by the Cyber Crime Awareness Foundation.

The survey interviewed 132 victims of cybercrime from April 2023 to April 2024.

According to the report, nearly 59 percent of victims are women.

Social media and online account hacking is the most common crime, making up 21.65 percent of cases, followed by online threats at 8.6 percent.

The report also found that 78.78 percent of the victims were aged 18 to 30, which is an increase from 75 percent a year ago.

The survey highlights the dissatisfaction of victims with legal resources available at their disposal. Many, like Falguni, thought

they wouldn't get justice from the existing system.

The study found that cybercrimes make up 11.85 percent of total crimes, including personal information spreading, job scams, and online gambling.

Pornography-related crimes increased in 2023, affecting 11.35 percent of victims, with 50 percent of them experiencing cyber bullying.

Nearly 48 percent of victims face social disgrace, 40 percent suffer financial losses, and almost all endure mental anguish.

Only 12 percent sought legal recourse in 23-24, which was 21 percent in a similar CCAF study in 22-23.

CCAF attributed this decline to the lack of trust among victims in legal resources.

Among those who chose the legal path, 87.50 percent said they did not achieve satisfactory results.

The study mentioned that 70 percent of the victims were unaware of the cybercrime act.

The study recommended not clicking or sharing anything without verification, being cautious with digital transactions, and checking security measures before sharing personal information.

It also urged the government to coordinate public-private partnerships for public awareness, protect personal data, enhance law enforcement training, inform

citizens about laws, and decentralise the Cyber Police Center for grassroots service.

The study was conducted by Obydullah

Al Marjuk, a senior lecturer in the Social Science and Humanities Department at Independent University, Bangladesh, with research assistants from CCAF.

Ishfaq Ahmed, additional deputy commissioner of Police at the CTC Unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said most sections of the Cyber Security Act 2013 are bailable, making it difficult to bring offenders to justice.

He also mentioned that delayed complaints from victims hinder legal protection and that child pornography is increasing through social media.

CCAF President Brig Gen Kazi Mustafizur Rahman said increasing individual awareness can reduce cyber crime and the responsibility for awareness must be shared collectively.

Invitation to loan artworks of Artist Professor Nasreen Begum for a retrospective exhibition at Bangladesh National Museum

It is with great pleasure that Bangladesh National Museum and Artist Professor Nasreen Begum will jointly organise a month-long (From 1st to 30th November, 2024) retrospective exhibition of Nasreen Begum at Nalinikanta Bhattasali Gallery, Bangladesh National Museum. An edited volume of the artist's lifetime artworks and various writings will be published in an exclusive book. You are requested to loan artworks of Nasreen Begum from your personal or institutional collection for the aforementioned exhibition. If you are agreed to loan the artwork for the exhibition and book, the artist and the curator of the exhibition will take appropriate security measures from the collector to bring and return the artworks as soon as possible after the exhibition. You are kindly requested to contact the undersigned for the loan of artworks.

(Professor Dr. Malay Bala)
Curator of the exhibition
Mobile: +8801716056515,
Email: malaybala@du.ac.bd

(Professor Nasreen Begum)
Artist of the exhibition
Mobile: +8801714294310
Email: shilpi.nasreen@gmail.com

Corruption

FROM PAGE 3
black money with minimal taxes, suggesting higher tax rates to deter tax evasion effectively.

He also slammed the power sector for its excess generation capacity. Despite increased production capacity, about 15,000 MW of power remains unused, leading private owners to incur substantial rental or capacity charges in foreign currency.

He questioned the accuracy of the country's reserve figures, expressing skepticism towards official statements from the Bangladesh Bank.

GM Quader concluded by saying the budget fails to address fundamental economic issues.

Corruption

FROM PAGE 3
expenditures instead of subsidy reductions.

Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, chief moderator of EquityBD, suggested that stopping the \$25 billion income tax evasion could double the social safety net for the poor or quadruple per capita health spending.

He advocated for reinstating annual wealth statements for civil servants and imposing capital punishment for corruption.

Eastern Bank PLC.

HEAD OFFICE, 100 GULSHAN AVENUE, DHAKA-1212

RE-TENDER NOTICE

Eastern Bank PLC. (EBL) invites sealed bids from bona fide/eligible suppliers for the Supply, Integration, Implementation, Data Migration, Commissioning, and Post Implementation Maintenance of Document Management System (DMS).

Interested bidders are requested to collect the RFP document electronically by sending an email from their official email address to bidit@ebi-bd.com mentioning lot & item names, name of the company and the authorized contact person, mailing address, telephone & mobile phone numbers on or before Wednesday, 10 July 2024. Queries to be mailed by Sunday, 21 July 2024.

Bids prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the RFP document must be submitted in two separate envelopes, clearly marking 'Technical' and 'Financial' offers on the envelopes to the Office of the Chairman, Purchase Committee, Head Office, Eastern Bank PLC., 100 Gulshan Avenue, Dhaka-1212 on or before Tuesday, 30 July 2024.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department

Office of the Executive Engineer

District: Shariatpur

www.lged.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার মুদ্রিত
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo. No. 46.02.8600.000.07.001.23-1552

Date: 27-06-24

e-Tender Notice No. 63/2023-2024/Tender (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of

SI No.	Tender/ Proposal ID	Name of Scheme with Package No.	Last selling date and time of tender document	Last date and time for submission tender
1	999489	DDIRWSP/Shariatpur/Goshairhat/23-24/RD-07 Widening and Strengthening of Nagerpara GC (Daptoribari)-Kasherhat Road (Goshairhat Portion) from Ch.00-3090.00m (Effect Length 3090m), under Upazila Goshairhat, Dist: Shariatpur (Road ID: 386362006). (Salvage Cost: 669877.00)	29-Jul-2024 16:00	30-Jul-2024 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline / hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 29-Jun-2024 15:00.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd) and also for e-mail: xen.shariatpur@lged.gov.bd or call to: 02478815310.

S. M. Rafeul Islam
Executive Engineer
Tel: 02478815310
Email: xen.shariatpur@lged.gov.bd