

Ex-lawmaker Tipu sent to jail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sent former lawmaker from Barishal-3 Golam Kibria Tipu to jail after rejecting his bail petition in a case filed over the attack on motorcade of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at Moghbazar on February 8, 2018.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Sharifur Rahman passed the order after investigation officer Foyad Ahmed, a sub-inspector of Hatirjheel Police Station, produced Tipu before the court with an application to detain him until the investigation is completed.

The defence, however, argued that their client was not involved in the incident and was implicated in the case solely to harass him.

On November 8 this year, the case was filed against 65 people, including Jatiyo Party Chairman GM Quader and Tipu, with Hatirjheel Police Station.

Tipu, who was elected as an MP for the Barishal-3 constituency in 2008 on a JP ticket, later joined the Awami League.

Three held with firearms, crude bombs

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Coast Guard yesterday arrested three persons along with a firearm, 10 crude bombs and four local weapons in Bhola.

The arrestees are Mafiz Maal, 36, Md Mamun Maal, 22, and Md Shamim Maal, 19.

Lt Commander Khandaker Munif Taqi, media official at Coast Guard Headquarters, said a team from coastguard conducted a drive at Madanpur union in Daulatkhān upazila from 12:00am to 5:00am and arrested them.

He said the arrestees were handed over to Bhola Sadar Model Police Station.



These horses are a staple at the weekly haat bazar in Fulchhari Ghat of Gaibandha. Traders from various areas in the region arrive at the ghat early in the morning and off-load their products using these horse-driven carts. The photo was taken recently. PHOTO: MOSTAFA SHABUJ

FARIDPUR BUS TERMINAL

Two decades of neglect

SUZIT DAS, Faridpur

The Faridpur Municipal Bus Terminal, a critical transit hub located along the Dhaka-Barishal Highway in Faridpur's Goalchamot area, has been in a state of neglect since its construction 20 years ago.

Despite its heavy daily traffic – serving around 300 long haul buses and 250 mini-buses – the terminal has never undergone renovations, leaving passengers and bus staff to endure increasingly poor conditions.

The terminal's drains are clogged with garbage, causing the entire area to flood with even a light rain. The terminal building itself has developed cracks, allowing rainwater to seep in, and the structure has become so dilapidated that it poses a safety risk.

The bus terminal premises are riddled with potholes that turn into muddy puddles after rain, making it difficult for passengers to board or disembark without



stepping into murky water.

Reshed Sheikh, a driver for Akota Paribahan, said passengers and staff frequently fall into the muddy water.

Ashim Mia, a staff member of Malancha Paribahan, said buses are often damaged by the potholes, with bumpers breaking as they navigate the rough

ground.

Passengers such as Azaz Ahamed and Rahela Khatun have called for urgent renovations.

“Even though Faridpur municipality receives Tk 30 lakh for annual lease of the terminal, there has been no improvement. We reached out to everyone including the municipality

mayor, but they cited a lack of budget for the renovation work,” said Khandakar Abdur Rashed, secretary of Faridpur Bus Owners' Association.

Contacted, Chowdhury Rowson Islam, administrator of Faridpur municipality, said, “We will renovate the bus terminal if funds are allocated.”

No more burnt

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shopping bags has been started since November 3. Various activities have also been taken to stop the use of polythene in various shopping malls in the capital, she said.

The adviser said in January 2025, 10 roads of the capital Dhaka will be declared horn-free. Horn-free silent zones will be announced in phases across the country.

About the country's only coral island, St Martin's, the adviser said, the government has taken various initiatives and plans to protect St Martin's Island and the tourism industry.

She also said no one can build a military base on that soft land. Now those who are waging movement over St Martin's Island are ship and hotel owners. They are inciting the locals there, she said. “These confusions are political and ill-motivated,” she added.

She said the DCs had been asked to free at least one river from pollution in 64 districts within two months.

A supernatural scam!

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If she hesitated, they intimidated her with threatening voices.

This strange, coercive ritual continued for a year.

Tanjil Ahmed, a fraudster, splurged on a Honda Vezel and a Suzuki motorcycle with the money, while another Md Hashem, bought an 850 sq ft apartment in Mirpur and built a two storey home in his village with the money.

Both from Bhola's Lalmohon and Borhanuddin upazilas, the two fraudsters enjoyed a life of luxury at her expense, even dabbling in online gambling and business ventures.

But when she finally began to demand her money back, they turned hostile, warning her to keep quiet.

The gang dismantled their fraudulent setup, deleting their Facebook profiles, discarding SIM cards, and abandoning the “Dervish Baba” identity

they had crafted.

This information came to light when the woman filed a case with Mohammadpur Police Station on September 3 last year.

Following that, Criminal Investigation Department submitted a charge sheet to a Dhaka court on October 8.

The charge sheet also finds the involvement of Hasnain alias Hasan, an employee at Tanjil's office in Dhaka's Uttara.

They were arrested in September last year. Tanjil and Hashem secured bail from the High Court after spending seven to eight months in jail, while Hasan was granted bail four months after his arrest.

Regarding the matter, a CID official said, “Social media users must be aware of these exploiting gangs.”

After police submitted the charge sheet, the matter now rests with the court.

CGS event

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academics, diplomats, journalists, and business leaders.

This year's theme, “Bay of Bengal Conversation 2024: A Fractured World”, will focus on five critical areas: press freedom and misinformation, green energy and climate change, global trade and economic issues, geopolitics and global conflict, and human rights.

The third edition of the event takes place in a vastly transformed host country following the collapse of Sheikh Hasina's government and her subsequent flight after a mass uprising.

“With this change, Bangladesh has an opportunity to redefine regional divides,” said Zillur Rahman. “This platform addresses pressing global and regional issues, including democracy, politics, economy, and climate change,” he added.

CGS chairperson Munira Khan was also present at the event.

Private clinics

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now engaged in a HPV vaccine campaign for girls, so we cannot conduct drives at this moment, but will do so from next month,” he said.

Under Section 21 of the Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council Act, 2016, practising nursing, midwifery, or allied professions without registration is punishable by up to three years in jail, a Tk 1 lakh fine, or both.

There are 150 registered private clinics and diagnostic centres in the district, including 90 in the port city and 60 in 15 upazilas.

However, according to locals and sources in health services, around 400 private clinics and diagnostic centres have mushroomed in the district over the past four decades, including around 250 in the port city alone.

This means many private clinics and diagnostic centres are running without valid license and registration.

Dr Rezaul Karim Chowdhury, managing director of Parkview Hospital Private Limited, said there is a crisis for nurses in the country and hence many clinics are compelled to employ unregistered nurses.

He, however, claimed that those unregistered nurses are not untrained. “They pass HSC and get training in hospitals before joining the profession as full-time nurses,” he added.

Idle jute mills, rising

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might reconsider the leases if firms do not employ skilled mill workers and ramp up jute production as initially agreed.

BJMC's regional coordinator in Khulna, Golam Rabbani, said BJMC is following government directives, with two mills currently producing goods and six more in the commissioning stage.

One jute mill remains entangled in legal issues, delaying its handover, he said.

MOUNTING COSTS OF IDLE MILLS

Though production has ceased, BJMC continues to employ 2,347 officers and staff across Bangladesh, with 903 employees stationed in Khulna.

Monthly expenditure on these nine closed mills reaches Tk 4.47 crore, with Tk 3.81 crore allocated for salaries alone. Over the 50 months since the mills' closure, the government has spent Tk 224 crore to maintain basic operations,

11 hurt as masked

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According to local sources and the police, the injured are residents of a house known as the former home of Khayez Ahmed, a former chairman of Noapara Union Parishad.

The masked assailants reportedly targeted his son, Kamal Uddin, who is known as a follower of BNP central vice-chairman Gias Uddin Quader Chowdhury.

The attackers are reportedly followers of Chattogram North District BNP convener Golam Akbar Khandaker, according to local sources.

Police said the attack was led by Muhammad Mamun, identified as a follower of Khandaker.

Contacted, Khandaker said, “I have heard about the incident. Such actions are unacceptable in any form. If anyone from the party is found to be involved, appropriate action will be

taken.”

Raozan Police Station Officer-in-Charge Mir Mahabubur Rahman said there has been a long-standing conflict between two BNP factions in Raozan.

A group of 20-25 armed attackers, led by Muhammad Mamun – an accused in several cases – attempted to attack Kamal Uddin, son of Khayez Ahmed, on Thursday night.

When locals intervened, the assailants fired indiscriminately, injuring 12 to 15 bystanders.

The OC said this was not the first time the attackers had targeted Kamal Uddin's house; they had previously opened fire there multiple times.

Following the incident, police seized an abandoned motorcycle and several homemade weapons left by the attackers.

He also said no case has been filed yet.

Bangladesh falls

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analyst for Bangladesh at the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), highlighted the contrast between Bangladesh and Vietnam's policy environments.

“The Vietnamese government offered an attractive tariff for rooftop solar projects— \$0.838 per unit of rooftop solar production. This rate was announced with a planned reduction after 2020, which triggered a significant surge in rooftop solar installations,” he said.

He said high import duties on solar equipment in Bangladesh further hinder growth.

However, he expressed hope for a positive outcome from the government's recent decision to provide a full tax exemption for 10 years to promote renewable energy development in Bangladesh.

BARRIERS TO PROGRESS
Experts identified unclear guidelines, limited financial returns, and complex approval processes as key barriers to expanding rooftop solar in Bangladesh.

“The net metering policy

is underdeveloped, with no clear compensation mechanism and capacity limitations on individual systems, making the investment less profitable,” said M Zakir Hossain Khan, chief executive of Change Initiative and an adviser to JETnet-BD.

Zakir advocated for expanding Bangladesh's net metering system and streamlining approval processes to encourage urban households and businesses to adopt rooftop solar.

SREDA Chairperson Munira Sultana pointed out that a lack of awareness among users is a major reason behind the poor maintenance of rooftop solar systems.

“These systems are easy to maintain and can meet electricity demands. However, many remain unused due to a lack of awareness,” she said.

Experts believe that with proper standards, financial incentives, and private sector engagement, Bangladesh could still harness its rooftop solar potential. However, this requires a shift in mindset and a robust policy framework.

NOTICE
In the Supreme Court of Bangladesh
High Court Division
(Statutory Original Jurisdiction)
Company Matter No. 1264 of 2024
Muhammed Humayun Kabir — Petitioner.
—Versus—
Sundarban Courier Service (Pvt.) Ltd. and others. — Respondents.
Notice is hereby given to all concerned that an application under section 233, of the Companies Act, 1994 praying for protection as minority shareholder of the Respondent No.1-Company, namely “Sundarban Courier Service (Pvt.) Ltd” was moved before the Hon'ble High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on behalf of the Petitioner and Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel was pleased to admit the said application on 04.11.2024. The respondents were further ordered to show cause within two weeks of receiving this order as to why an Independent Auditor should not be appointed, as per the agreement dated 11th February 2023 and the Hon'ble Appellate Division's order dated 20th February 2023, to conduct an audit for the financial years from 2020 to till date.
Any one desirous of opposing the matter may appear before the Hon'ble Court either personally or through Advocate on the date fixed. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of necessary charges.
Omar Sadat, LL.M (Cantab), Barrister-at-Law
Advocate, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
Sadat Sarwat & Associates
Chamber: House No. 28, Road No. 23, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212, Phone: 8824852, 9850355

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PRAYER TIMING
NOVEMBER 16
Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 5-05 12-45 3-45 5-21 7-00
JAMAAT 5-40 1-15 4-00 5-24 7-30
SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

World Health Organization
Bangladesh
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