

'Confiscate the assets of Hasina, Kamal without delay'

ICT chief prosecutor urges home ministry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal's Chief Prosecutor Md Aminul Islam yesterday requested the home ministry to take control of all movable and immovable properties belonging to ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina and former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan.

In a letter sent to the home ministry's senior secretary, Aminul said ICT-1, in its November 17, 2025 verdict, sentenced Hasina and Kamal to death and ordered the confiscation of their properties in a crimes against humanity case linked to the July 2024 uprising.

The tribunal also directed that proceeds from the assets be distributed as compensation to victims and the families of those killed during the uprising, the letter said.

The letter warned that the fugitives could sell or transfer their assets before

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Prime Minister Tarique Rahman pays a courtesy call on President Mirza Fakhrul Islam at Bangabhaban yesterday, briefing him on his recent visit to Japan, including his meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and discussions with leading Japanese organisations. They also discussed bilateral agreements and MoUs signed during the visit, as well as issues of national interest. PHOTO: PMO

IN FOCUS

LPG price hike aims at 'long-term welfare'

Says Zahed, warns govt's subsidy capacity is shrinking

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The LPG price hike was made keeping long-term welfare in mind, said Zahed Ur Rahman, information and broadcasting adviser to the prime minister.

The government's capacity to provide subsidies is steadily declining, he also said at a press conference at the Secretariat yesterday.

Zahed said the government understands the pressure fuel price hikes, particularly those of cooking gas like LPG, put on the public.

"If I may put it this way, this price hike was also done keeping long-term welfare in mind," he said.

The government plans to provide Tk 48,000 crore in subsidies to the power and energy sector in the current fiscal year. However, it had to pay half of that amount -- Tk 24,000 crore -- within two and a half months, he said.

"We are now buying liquefied natural gas (LNG)

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261 women, girls faced violence in October

Says HRSS report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 261 women and girls faced violence across the country last month, according to the monthly report of the Human Rights Support Society (HRSS).

Of them, 82 were raped, including 42 children. Five rape victims were murdered, and one died by suicide.

Another 72 women and girls faced sexual harassment, while nine were killed over dowry-related violence. Domestic violence left 47 women dead and 21 dead by suicide.

Additionally, 38 children were killed, and 163 were subjected to abuse.

The rights organisation also reported that at least 12 people -- 10 from BNP and two from Awami League -- were killed and 334 injured in 70 incidents of political violence in October.

Internal BNP feuds accounted for half of the incidents, leaving nine people dead and at least 185 injured.

The report was compiled using information from 16 national media outlets and the organisation's own fact-finding, HRSS said.

Released yesterday, it also said 33 incidents of mob beatings over allegations of theft, robbery and mugging left at least

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Financing barriers deter private climate investment

Speakers call for lending reforms, longer-term loans and govt guarantees at roundtable by SNV Bangladesh, Star

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bankers, business leaders and climate experts yesterday called for reforms in lending rules, longer-term loans and government-backed guarantees to attract private investment in climate adaptation.

They cited uncertain returns, foreign exchange risks and poor project preparation as barriers to financing agriculture, water supply and municipal services.

They spoke at a roundtable, titled "Pre-COP Dialogue: Unlocking Private Investment in Climate Adaptation", jointly organised by SNV Bangladesh and The Daily Star at The Daily Star Centre ahead of COP31.

Mazed Hossain Mahin, business origination adviser at SNV Bangladesh, said the National Adaptation Plan estimated investment needs of $230 billion by 2050, or $8.5 billion annually, across 113 actions.

"These priorities still need to become projects that financiers and investors can actually assess and support," he said.

Ali Azam Al Azad, director (deputy secretary) at the PPP Division of Invest Bangladesh, said the government had developed small-scale public-private partnership (PPP) guidelines with SNV's support and incorporated climate considerations into procurement rules.

The guidelines allowed up to 40% viability gap funding for PPP projects, he said, calling for changes to collateral requirements, single-borrower limits and long-term lending rules.

Molla Karimul Islam Tuhin, head of the Sustainable Finance Department at City Bank PLC, estimated annual financing needs at Tk 1 lakh crore for adaptation and Tk 1.3 lakh crore for mitigation.

Banks disbursed about Tk 30,000 crore annually, with the government



Participants at the roundtable organised by SNV Bangladesh and The Daily Star at The Daily Star Centre yesterday. PHOTO: STAR

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Uphold spirit of 1971 war, protect people's rights

Says Dr Kamal Hossain

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prominent jurist Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday called for an independent judiciary, free and fair elections, and freedom of expression to uphold the fundamental principles of the constitution.

"The constitution is the product of our nation's struggle. Through the Liberation War, we dreamt of building an exploitation-free and democratic state. Nationalism, socialism, democracy and secularism are the four fundamental principles of the 1972 Constitution. The people are the source of all state power," he said.



"The struggle to protect people's rights is not yet over. We must ensure an independent judiciary, free, and fair elections, and freedom of expression. No discrimination should be allowed on the grounds of religion, community, gender, race or political identity. Let us all work together to build a democratic and discrimination-free Bangladesh," he added.

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4 NAT'L LEADERS

Security concerns force postponement of exhibition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Liberation War Museum yesterday postponed a special exhibition commemorating the four national leaders following security concerns raised by law enforcement agencies.

Museum trustee Sarwar Ali told The Daily Star that law enforcers had requested the postponement, citing concerns about the prevailing security situation.

"Law enforcement agencies considered the situation somewhat worrying and requested that the programme be postponed. We decided to postpone it considering overall security," he said.

Several police personnel were also deployed at the museum in Dhaka's Agargaon area.

Asked about the deployment, Monirul Islam, officer-in-charge of Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Police Station, said police had received confidential information about a potential security threat.

"The situation in the country is not good. We also received confidential

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Without protective gear, labourers break stones in Banglabandha, Tentulia, Panchagarh, yesterday, exposing themselves to health risks. Female workers earn Tk 300-500 a day, while their male counterparts get Tk 700-1,000. PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

TAHSIF'S DEATH

Dip on fresh 3-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday placed Ahmed Shahriar Reza Dip on a fresh three-day remand in a case filed in connection with the death of former Bangladesh Air Force officer KM Tahsif Souri.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Hasan Shahadat passed the order after police sought a seven-day remand for further interrogation, said Additional Public Prosecutor Muhammad Shamsud Doha Sumon.

In a forwarding report, investigation officer Firoz Uddin, an inspector at the Tongi river police outpost, said Dip had provided some important information during interrogation, which investigators were verifying.

The report said Dip and Tahsif had visited several places together, sometimes accompanied by their friend Jarika Tasnim Disha, 19.

Disha returned home at one point, while Dip and Tahsif later went to a field beside the Turag river in the early hours of October 28, it added.

The IO said investigators had found information suggesting that Dip and Disha were the last people seen with Tahsif before his death and that evidence indicated their possible involvement in the incident.

Police are examining the information as part of the investigation.