

Annual Report 2023



SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

Annual Report 2023



SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH



Supreme Court of Bangladesh

ANNUAL REPORT

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National Flag of Bangladesh



Emblem of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh



Flag of the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh



Flag of the Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

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Supreme Court of Bangladesh At a Glance

Established	:	On 16 December, 1972 A.D. under article 94 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Commenced functioning on 18 December, 1972.
Authorized by	:	Part VI, Chapter I of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
Territorial Jurisdiction	:	Whole of Bangladesh
Location/Permanent Seat	:	Dhaka, the Capital of the Republic.
Area	:	<p>Floor Area:</p> <p>(i) Main Building 1,65,026.54 sft.</p> <p>(ii) Annex Building 83,684.00 sft.</p> <p>(iii) Old Building 7,881.83 sft.</p> <p>(iv) Three Administrative Buildings 1,57,000.00 sft.</p> <p>(v) Judges Sports Complex 10,800.00 sft.</p> <p>(vi) Bijoy 71 - 18,200.00 sft.</p> <p>55.05 Acres of Land.</p>
Composition of Court	:	As per article 94(2) of the Constitution, the Supreme Court, comprising the Appellate Division and the High Court Division, consists of the Chief Justice and such number of other Judges as the President may deem it necessary for each Division.
Appointment of Judges	:	<p>(i) The Chief Justice and the Judges of both the Divisions of the Supreme Court are appointed as per Article 95 of the Constitution;</p> <p>(ii) Additional Judges are appointed as per Article 98 of the Constitution.</p>
Maximum Number of Judges in each Division during the year of 2023	:	<p>(i) Appellate Division: 08 (Eight) Judges including the Chief Justice of Bangladesh.</p> <p>(ii) High Court Division: 91 (Ninety one) Judges.</p>
Tenure of Office of the Judges	:	<p>Until attaining the age of 67 years; unless</p> <p>(i) removed by the President of the Republic on the basis of the report of the Supreme Judicial Council; or</p> <p>(ii) resigns his office by writing under his hand addressed to the Honourable President of the Republic, (Article 96 of the Constitution)</p>
Jurisdiction	:	<p>(A) The Appellate Division has jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals from judgments, decrees, orders or sentences of the (i) High Court Division, (ii) Administrative Appellate Tribunal, (iii) International Crimes Tribunals. An appeal to the Appellate Division from a judgment, decree, order or sentence of the High Court Division lies;</p> <p>(a) as of right where the High Court Division-</p> <p>(i) certifies that the case involves a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution; or</p> <p>(ii) has sentenced a person to death or to imprisonment for life; or</p> <p>(iii) has imposed punishment on a person for contempt of that Division; and in such other cases as may be provided for by Act of Parliament; [article 103(1) and (2) of the Constitution]; and</p> <p>(b) by leave of the Appellate Division-</p> <p>(B) The Appellate Division also has advisory jurisdiction under article 106 of the Constitution.</p> <p>(C) The High Court Division has such original, appellate and other jurisdictions, powers and functions as are or may be conferred on it by the Constitution or any other law. (Article 101 of the Constitution)</p>
Court Rooms	:	<p>The Appellate Division : 04 (Main Building)</p> <p>The High Court Division : 21 (Main Building)</p> <p>: 35 (Annex Building)</p> <p>: 04 (Old Building)</p> <p>: 32 (Bijoy 71)</p> <p>Total= : 96</p>
Contact	:	<p>The Registrar General, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Shahbag, Dhaka-1000</p> <p>Phone : (+88 02) 223382785</p> <p>Fax : (+88 02) 223385058</p> <p>Website : www.supremecourt.gov.bd</p> <p>Email : rg@supremecourt.gov.bd</p>



Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
(31 December, 2021 - 25 September, 2023)



Supreme Court of Bangladesh



Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
(26 September, 2023 - 10 August, 2024)



Supreme Court of Bangladesh



Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
(Assumed office on 11 August, 2024)



Supreme Court of Bangladesh





FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF BANGLADESH

Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan
Supreme Court, Dhaka-1000

“The present is the past rolled up for action, and the past is the present unrolled
for understanding.”

— Ariel Durant

As we reflect on another year, we get reminded of the relentless flow of time and the significance of each moment passing by. Indeed, within the passage of time, we find inspiration in the stories of efforts, achievements, and self-discoveries that define our shared journey towards a meaningful life. I am deeply honoured to present the Annual Report of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh for the year 2023, the first of which I am privileged to present as the Chief Justice of Bangladesh.

The Constitution of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh proudly proclaims our nation as a secular and democratic State. Along with its unbending commitment to freedom of thought, speech and religion, and its vision of equal opportunities for all, this sacred document lays the foundation for justice. A transparent judicial system, characterised by fairness, accountability, and impartiality, is an indispensable pillar of any State governed by the rule of law- a principle held high by nations around the world. In keeping with this philosophical and practical framework, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, through the annual publication of this report, strives to promote transparency and accountability in the overall administration of justice in Bangladesh. We are confident that this report will provide a clear understanding and knowledge of the procedures and performance of the Bangladesh Supreme Court to a wide range of readers, including scholars, academics, judges, lawyers, litigants, law students and concerned individuals around the world. This knowledge will empower them to engage more meaningfully in legal and governance issues to ensure a robust and participatory justice system in Bangladesh.

The year 2023 marked a pivotal moment in my journey within the judiciary of Bangladesh. On 26 September, 2023, by the grace of the Almighty, I was sworn in as the 24th Chief Justice of Bangladesh. This appointment entails a profound responsibility that requires persistent dedication and commitment to ensuring justice in and across multifarious sectors.

Immediately after assuming the office of the Chief Justice of Bangladesh, I set about developing a long-term judicial plan. This comprehensive plan aims to address critical issues such as eliminating corruption within the judiciary, expediting court proceedings, conducting thorough research to improve the quality of judicial functions, upgrading the skills of judges as well as the court staffs, and establishing the required physical infrastructure for the judiciary.

The formulation of this plan involves a rigorous and meticulous process of collecting opinions and suggestions from all concerned stakeholders. Through exhaustive consultation, review and in-depth research, we will produce a coherent and comprehensive roadmap. This carefully curated plan will serve as a cornerstone for enhancing the capacity and dynamism of the judiciary at large. We believe that this plan will serve as a guiding framework for future generations, providing invaluable insights and directions for continued progress.

The year 2022 marked the convergence of two momentous anniversaries: the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and the 50th anniversary of the Constitution of the People’s Republic

of Bangladesh. The Supreme Court of Bangladesh as the guardian of the Constitution, embarked on a year-long celebration in 2022 to reaffirm our commitment to constitutional values and principles. These commemorative events— ranging from insightful discussion programmes, seminars and symposia to cultural celebrations- were graced by the presence of the Honourable President and other distinguished guests from home and abroad, culminated in November, 2023.

On 18 December, 2023, we hosted a significant programme at the Inner Courtyard of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh to commemorate the Supreme Court Day. We are deeply grateful to the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest. This event also marked the launch of a major research project, documented in a compelling book titled “উপমহাদেশের বিচারব্যবস্থার বিবর্তনঃ সংক্ষিপ্ত পটভূমি ও প্রতিষ্ঠার ইতিবৃত্ত” (*Upomohadesher Bicharbebosthar Biborton— Shongkhipto Potobhumi O Protishthar Itibritto*) which explores the evolution of the judicial system in the subcontinent. This pioneering research project, undertaken by the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, demonstrates its dedication and commitment to making meaningful contribution to the field of both judicial and academic knowledge-building.

The year 2023 also marked a period of significant activities for the Bangladesh Supreme Court. Throughout this year, the Court published a wealth of materials, including its 2022 annual report, a bulletin titled “আমাদের বিচারালয়” (*Amader Bicharaloy*), and a commemorative book titled “স্মরণিকা” (*Soronika*). As the Chief Justice of Bangladesh, I and my honourable predecessor, along with Justices from the Appellate and the High Court Divisions, actively participated in international conferences and discussions, fostering stronger ties with the global legal community. While I, as the Chief Justice of Bangladesh, conducted several visits to subordinate courts in various districts, the honourable judges of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh inspected courts and tribunals across the country in 2023.

A major accomplishment of the year was the successful initiation of a project for the Bangladesh Supreme Court Research & Training Institute. Upon construction, this pioneering facility will serve as a national center for legal research and training, and pave the way for making significant progress within Bangladesh's legal landscape.

The year 2023 also marked a significant milestone in our ongoing journey to enhance the infrastructures and services of the Judiciary. With the publication of this report, I am pleased to announce the successful completion of a major initiative, “*Naykunja*”, in the Supreme Court and all the District Courts across Bangladesh. The *Naykunj*as shall provide the much-needed respite and comfort to litigants, witnesses, and other recipients of judicial services. The *Naykunja* initiative also signifies a remarkable improvement in terms of accessibility and convenience for the litigants within our judicial system.

Furthermore, continuing our dedication to excellence and integrity, we are pleased to announce the completion of the selection process for the prestigious Chief Justice Awards. The selection committee has carefully reviewed the nominations and submitted its final report, thereby undertaking a thorough and thoughtful evaluation process. We look forward to honoring these distinguished members of the subordinate judiciary at a formal ceremony, recognizing their outstanding contributions to the administration of justice of Bangladesh. These awards not only highlight individual excellence but also underscore our collective commitment to upholding justice and the rule of law.

I extend my appreciation to the members of the Annual Report Committee for their tireless and unconditional hard work. This report is enriched by the insightful contributions of esteemed judges from both the divisions of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, as well as learned lawyers and eminent jurists. Their valuable insights and well-considered opinions provide invaluable guidance and thereby continue to sharpen our legal acumen. I must appreciate the officers of the Supreme Court Registry for their tremendous efforts and hard work in bringing this report to life.

The inclusion of various charts, tables and graphs makes this report an intricate data-driven yet easily accessible publication, allowing readers and enthusiasts to observe the performance and progress of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 2023.

As Rabindranath Tagore once expressed, “You can’t cross the sea just by looking at it”. This profound observation serves as our guiding principle. For us, the vast ocean represents the enormous responsibility we bear to ensure justice. Regardless of our achievements, there is no room for complacency. We ought to constantly reflect on the importance of self-assessment, a process greatly facilitated by the annual reports of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

May this report serve as a compass to guide our policies and activities. May it lay the foundation for a more prosperous, responsive, and efficient judiciary for all.



Justice Obaidul Hassan
Chief Justice of Bangladesh



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique is seen with the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin during his Farewell meeting on 21 September, 2023



Honourable Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan is being sworn in as the 24th Chief Justice of Bangladesh by the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin on 26 September, 2023



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan is at a meeting with the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin



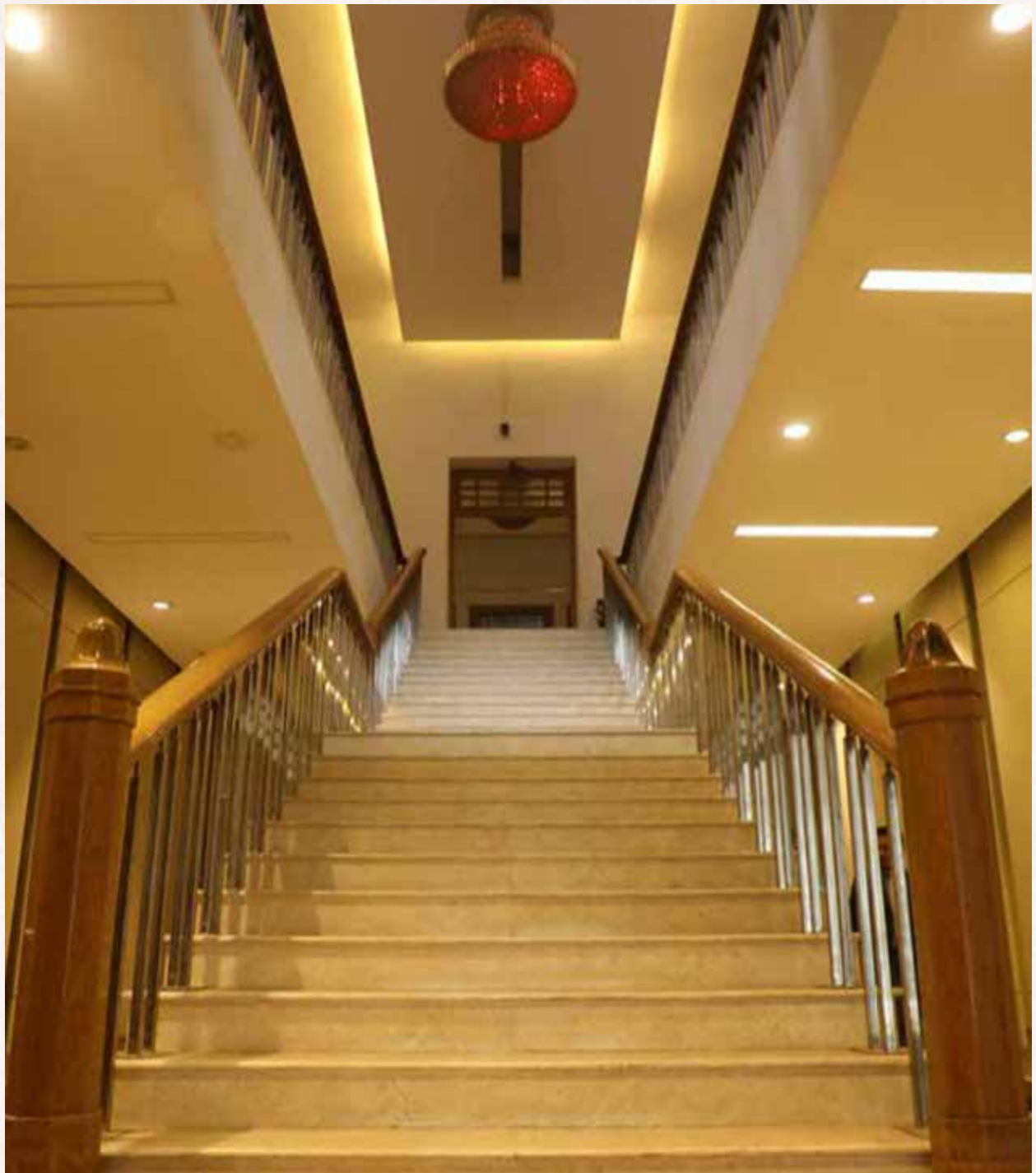
Honourable Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed is being sworn in as the 25th Chief Justice of Bangladesh by the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin



Editorial Committee of the Annual Report, 2023 of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (From Left) Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan, Madam Justice Naima Haider, Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam, Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim (Chairman of the Committee), Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam, and Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif (Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim is not in this photo)



Members of the Editorial Committee of the Annual Report, 2023 of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in a Committee meeting (Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim is not in this photo)



A staircase and landing of the Supreme Court Main Building



Court No. 1 of the Appellate Division and the Court Room of the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh



Court No. 2 of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh



Court No. 2 of the Annex Building

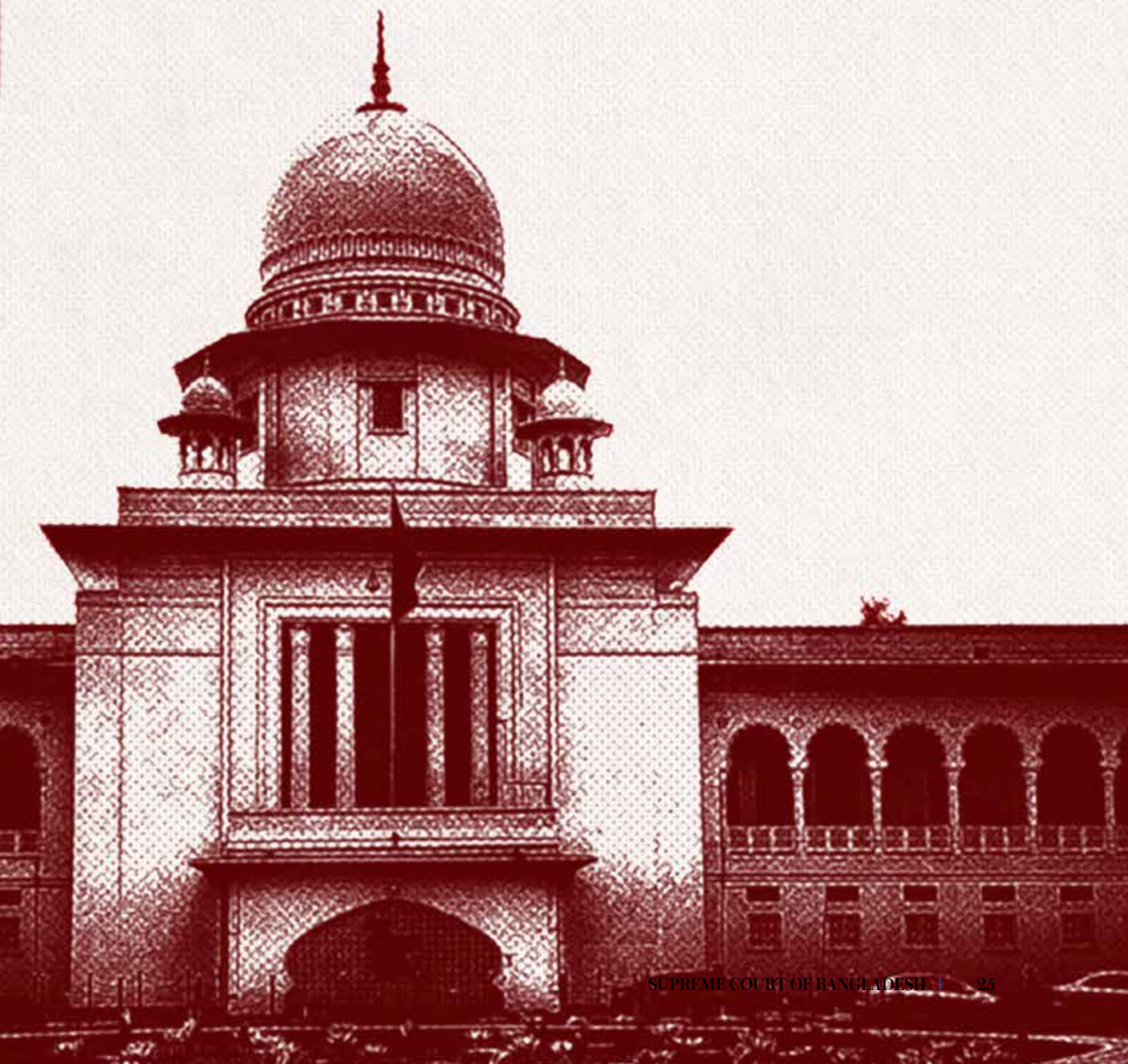


Court No. 1 of the Bijoy 71 Building



Supreme Court of Bangladesh

PROFILES OF THE
HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE OF BANGLADESH
AND THE
HONOURABLE JUDGES OF THE APPELLATE DIVISION OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH





Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique

Chief Justice of Bangladesh

(31 December, 2021 - 25 September, 2023)

Father's name : Late Abdul Gofur Mollah

Mother's name : Late Noorjahan Begom

Date of birth : 26 September, 1956

Obtained M.A., LL.B.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division on 21 August, 1981, 04 September, 1983 and 27 May, 1999 respectively. Acted as Legal Adviser to Khulna City Corporation, Kushtia Municipality, Jalalabad Gas Transmission Company and Chief Law Adviser of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Besides, he worked as Additional Attorney General for Bangladesh.

Elevated as Judge of the High Court Division on 25 March, 2009 and as a Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 31 March, 2013.

He assumed the office of the Chairman of Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission on 30 April, 2015.

Took oath as the 23rd Chief Justice of Bangladesh on 31 December, 2021.

Participated in the conference of South Asian Judges Regional Forum on Economic and Financial Crime held in Sri Lanka in 2011; South Asian Conference on Environmental Justice in Pakistan in 2012; International Conference on Environment held in New Delhi, India in 2015. He also attended in the 17th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World held in Lucknow, India in 2016, 2nd China Asian Justice Forum held in China in 2017.

He attended the ceremony on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Turkey and also participated in the symposium on "Interpretation of the Constitution in the Protection of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms" in 2022. On 27-30 October, 2022, he attended the 14th Convocation of the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata, India as the guest of honour. He visited South Korea from 28 May to 1 June, 2023, to participate in the 4th International Symposium of the AACC Secretariat for Research and Development.

He visited China, India, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Singapore, South Korea, Malaysia and Thailand.



Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan

Chief Justice of Bangladesh

(Assumed office on 26 September, 2023)

Father's name : Dr. Akhlaqul Hossain Ahmed

Mother's name : Begum Hosnara Hossain

Date of birth : 11 January, 1959

Obtained B.S.S. (Hons), M.S.S.(Economics) and LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Bangladesh Supreme Court on 18 March, 1986, 18 September, 1988 and 15 August, 2005 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 30 June, 2009 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 06 June, 2011. During 25 March, 2012 to 12 December, 2012 and 13 December, 2012 to 15 September, 2015 worked as Member and Chairman of International Crimes Tribunal-2, respectively.

Elevated as Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 03 September, 2020.

Took oath as the 24th Chief Justice of Bangladesh on 26 September, 2023.

Participated in an international conference held in Hong Kong (1991).

Participated in a training programme namely "Judicial Governance Programme" held in Singapore in July, 2015.

Attended an International Conference on "International Crimes/State Crimes" held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in August, 2015.

Also attended in a view exchange programme with the Judges of International Criminal Court (ICC) and International Crimes Tribunal for former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in the Hague, Netherlands in August, 2015.

Participated in "1st Regional Conference on Access to Legal Aid : Strengthening Access to Justice in the Global South" held in Delhi, India in November, 2023. Participated in an event organised by the Supreme Court of India to celebrate its Foundation Day and mark the commencement of its Diamond Jubilee.

Authored the book "Obornaniya Nirmomotar Chitra: Ekattorer Buddhijibi Hottakanda O Onnannya" (2020).

Visited China, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, France, Netherlands, Belgium, Argentina, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Maldives and USA.



Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed

Father's Name: Late Barrister Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed

Mother's Name: Late National Professor Dr. Sufia Ahmed

Date of Birth: 28 December, 1958

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) (First Class, First in order of merit), University of Dhaka, B.A. in Jurisprudence and M.A., Wadham College, University of Oxford, UK, M.A. in Law and Diplomacy and Ph.D. from Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, USA.

Was Ford Foundation Fellow in Public International Law at The Fletcher School.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court in 1984, 1986 and 2002 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 27 April, 2003 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 27 April, 2005.

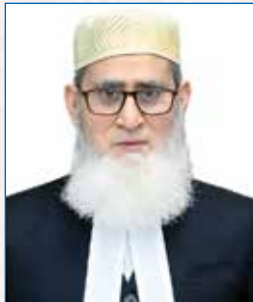
Has a number of publications to his credit and lectures as invited speaker extensively at home and abroad. His 2020 publication Digital Footprints: A Rights-Based Perspective has been published by the Bangladesh IP Forum/ Bangladesh Intellectual Property Academy (BIPA). His current research interest is focused on the rule of law within the Bangladeshi constitutional scheme and his write-up has appeared in a 2024 Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group, UK publication "A History of the Constitution of Bangladesh: The Founding, Development, and Way Ahead".

Has previously worked as a Lawyer in the City of London and with the UNHCR in Hong Kong and Washington, D. C.

Is Founder Member, Global Judicial Institute on the Environment, Brazil. He was instrumental in organizing the 2016 South Asia Judicial Conference on Environment and Climate Change, a milestone event held under the aegis of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in cooperation with the Asian Development Bank.

Participated in international Roundtables, Workshops, Conferences, Study Tours and Courses held in UK, Germany, Malaysia, The Philippines, India, Nepal, Italy, Singapore, Thailand, USA, Brazil, Myanmar and Bahrain. He notably spoke in November, 2021 as Distinguished Expert Speaker on the topic "Criminalizing Humanitarian Action- A Judicial Perspective" at a conference co-hosted by the School of Law, Zhejiang Gongshang University, Hangzhou, China and ICRC Regional Delegation for East Asia.

Visited Brazil, USA, UK, Ireland, The Netherlands, France, Monaco, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, The Vatican City State, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia, Macau, Hong Kong, and The Philippines.



Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman

Father's name : Late Hazi Md. Bazlur Rahman

Mother's name : Late Alhaj Amena Begum

Date of birth : 01 July, 1956

Obtained M.S.S. and LL.B. from the University of Dhaka. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 04 September, 1983 and 07 January, 1987 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 30 June, 2009 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 06 June, 2011.

Elevated as Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 09 October, 2018. Appointed as the Chairman of the Enrolment Committee of the Bangladesh Bar Council in October, 2018. The Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, on 23 January, 2012 nominated him as a Member of Search Committee (first of this type) for selection of the Chief Election Commissioner and the Commissioners of the Election Commission. The Honourable President also appointed him as a Member of the Judicial Service Pay Commission on 17 December, 2014 and as a Member of Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission.

Participated in Anti Corruption Laws seminar held in Hong Kong, 2011. Visited India, Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Thailand.



Mr. Justice Borhanuddin

Father's Name : Late Advocate Abdus Sabur

Mother's Name: Late Momtaz Sabur

Date of Birth : 28 February, 1957

Obtained LL.B. from the University of Chittagong.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court on 03 March, 1985, 16 June, 1988 and 27 November, 2002 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 16 November, 2008 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 11 November, 2010.

Elevated as Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 09 January, 2022.

Visited India, China, Kingdom of Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Bhutan, Myanmar, Federal Republic of Germany and Nepal.



Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim

Father's name : M. Abdur Rahim

Mother's name : Mrs. Nazma Rahim

Date of birth : 11 August, 1960

Obtained M. A. (Mass Communication and Journalism) and LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 30 October, 1986, 02 January, 1989 and 15 May, 2002 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 30 June, 2009 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 06 June, 2011.

Elevated as Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 09 January, 2022.

Worked as the Chairman of International Crimes Tribunal-1 from 24 February, 2014 to 15 September, 2015.

Appointed as Additional Attorney General for Bangladesh [January, 2009].

Elected as the Secretary of the Bar Association of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh [2005-2006] and Member of Bangladesh Bar Council from General Seat [2008]. Served as a Member of Board of Governors and Managing Committee of Bangladesh Open University and Dhaka Shishu [Child] Hospital respectively.

Participated in the International Seminars held in Hong Kong [2006] Cairo, Egypt [2009] and Manila, Philippines [2013], and Buenos Aires, Argentina [August, 2015]. Attended in a view exchange programme with the judges of International Criminal Court (ICC) and International Crimes Tribunals for former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in the Hague, Netherlands in August, 2015.

Visited India, Nepal, Malaysia, Singapore, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bhutan, United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Belgium & Indonesia.



Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam

Father's name : Late Justice A.K.M. Nurul Islam
Former Vice-President, People's Republic of Bangladesh

Mother's name : Begum Jahanara Arjoo (Ekushey Padak 1987)
A prolific poet of Bengali language and literature

Date of birth : 15 July, 1959

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka and F.I.C.P.S.(India).

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 1983 and 1985 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 27 August, 2003 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 27 August, 2005.

Elevated as Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 08 December, 2022.

Participated in Judicial Development Programme held in South Korea in 2011 and 3rd South Asia Chief Justices' Roundtable on Environmental Justice held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in August, 2014.

Visited International Criminal Court in Hague, The Netherlands and held discussion with its Judges in a delegation led by the Chief Justice of Bangladesh in 2017.

Visited USA, Canada, UK, China, France, Italy, India, Turkey, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium, The Netherlands, Czech Republic, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Myanmar, South Korea, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Slovenia, The Vatican City, Thailand, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, The United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Germany and Hungary.



Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique

Father's name : Late Dr. Kawsher Uddin Ahamed

Mother's name : Late Mrs. Majida Khatun

Date of birth : 02 January, 1959

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M from the University of Rajshahi.

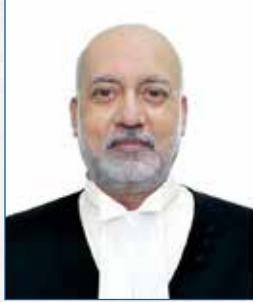
Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 1985 and 1998 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Elevated as Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 08 December, 2022.

Participated in the Judicial Development Programme in Seoul, South Korea, (2010).

Visited United Kingdom, USA, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, India, South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Nepal and Bhutan.



Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain

Father's name : Late Md. Abdul Latif

Heroic freedom fighter

Mother's name : Late Ms. Masuda Khatun

Date of birth : 31 December, 1959

Obtained M.com. (Management) and LL.B. under University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court on 31 October, 1986 and 31 December, 1991 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Elevated to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 08 December, 2022.

Served as one of the members of the International Crimes Tribunal No.1 during the crucial period from 29 August, 2012 to 15 September, 2015 and delivered judgements in significant cases involving genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other crimes under The International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973.

Played remarkable role in taking steps for disposal of a considerable number of cases and pioneered alternative dispute resolution in Supreme Court as the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee from 09 February, 2022 to 08 December, 2022. Had been successful in creating awareness regarding legal aid by paying visit to Dhaka Central jail, Children Rehabilitation Centre (male), Tangi, Gazipur and Children Rehabilitation Centre (female), Konabari, Gazipur and inaugurating the translated version of the legal aid related information in the mother tongue of the Chakma, Marma and Tripura tribes of the Chattogram Hill Tracts. Contributed in improving legal aid service by organizing seminars with the Court Officers and training of the legal aid enrolled lawyers.

Participated as a Bangladeshi delegate in SAARC Law Conference held in Delhi in 1995.

Visited Argentina in 2015 to attend an international conference held in Buenos Aires focusing on "international crimes/state crimes". Visited the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), International Criminal Court [ICC] and Appeals Chamber of International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in the Hague, Netherlands in 2015 and exchanged views with some renowned Judges and experts of ICTY, ICC and Appeals Chamber of ICTR.

Visited France, Belgium, Australia, UK, China, Nepal, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Singapore, Malaysia, Bhutan, Maldives, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Argentina, Netherlands and Saudi Arabia.



Honourable Judges of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (upto 25 September, 2023) (From Left) Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique, Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan, Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique (Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh), Mr. Justice Borhanuddin, Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaque Islam and Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain (Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman is not in the photo)



Honourable Judges of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (since 26 September, 2023) (From Left) Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain, Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam, Mr. Justice Borhanuddin, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh), Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim and Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique.



Supreme Court of Bangladesh

PROFILES OF THE
HONOURABLE JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURT DIVISION OF
THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH





Madam Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury

Father's name : Mr. Justice Chowdhury A.T.M. Masud

Mother's name : Mrs. Aminun Nesa Khatun

Date of birth : 13 December, 1957

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 22 August, 1981, 21 September, 1983 and 14 May, 1996 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 29 July, 2002 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 29 July, 2004.

Participated in the "Trial Advocacy Program" held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Completed Legislative Drafting Course, conducted by the Commonwealth Secretariat. Presented papers on "Muslim Family Laws relating to Women in Bangladesh" at an International Women Lawyers' Conference held at Lahore, Pakistan and on "Drug abuse and remedial measures in Bangladesh- a national report" at 23rd FIDA convention held at Brussels, Belgium. Attended the conference on Women, at the end of the Women decade, held in Nairobi, Kenya, as a Government delegate. After becoming a Judge, participated in several international conferences including workshops on Women and Islam, held in Kuala Lumpur, in Malaysia and at Jakarta, Cerabon and Yogyakarta, in Indonesia, along with the Islamic jurists of South East Asia. Participated at a regional conference on "Environmental Justice" held at Kathmandu, Nepal. Participated in International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) Conference held in London, U.K.

Participated in the workshop for SAARC Judges held in National Judicial Academy, Bhopal, India in February 2016.

Member of the Board of Trustees and Executive Council of the National Heart Foundation of Bangladesh.



Mr. Justice Muhammad Abdul Hafiz

Father's name : Al-haj Muhammad Abdul Jabbar

Mother's name : Rabeya Khanam

Date of birth : 01 June, 1957

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Dhaka District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in the year 1982 and 1985 respectively.

Elected as the Assistant Secretary and Secretary of the Supreme Court Bar Association of Bangladesh in the year 1991-1992 and 2002-2003 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 27 April, 2003 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 27 April, 2005.

Participated in a Judicial Training Programme in Korea.



Mr. Justice A.K.M. Asaduzzaman

Father's name : Late M. A. Samad

Mother's name : Majeda Khatun

Date of birth : 01 March, 1959

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 05 September, 1983, 05 September, 1985 and 25 October, 2001 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 27 August, 2003 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 27 August, 2005.

Attended the Commonwealth Secretariat South Asian Judges Regional Forum on "Economic and Financial Crime" at Colombo, Sri Lanka from 13-15 May, 2011.

Visited India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, Macao, Malaysia, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and USA.



Mr. Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury

Father's name : Late Justice A.F.M. Abdur Rahman Chowdhury

Mother's name : Begum Sitara Chowdhury

Date of birth : 18 May, 1961

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka, LL.M. in International Law (UK).

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 03 March, 1985 and 17 May, 1987 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 27 August, 2003 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 27 August, 2005.

Participated in International Conferences, Seminars, Training Programmes and Courses held in Brussels, Belgium (1988), at Prince Edward University, Canada, (1990), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in the years 2000, 2002, 2006, Quebec, Canada (2001), Singapore, (2007) and Nepal (2012).



Mr. Justice Md. Rais Uddin

Father's name : Late Md. Afsar Uddin

Mother's name : Mrs. Jobeda Khatun

Date of birth : 30 June, 1956

Obtained B.Sc. and LL.B.

Enrolled as an Advocate in the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 22 August, 1981 and 03 November, 1983 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Visited Saudi Arabia, India, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and United Kingdom.



Mr. Justice Md. Emdadul Haque Azad

Father's name : Late Advocate Abul Kalam Azad

Mother's name : Late Jainab Azad

Date of birth : 16 October, 1956

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Rajshahi District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 11 March, 1985, 13 April, 1987 and 27 February, 2001 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.



Mr. Justice Md. Ataur Rahman Khan

Father's name : Late Mr. Abdul Gaffar Khan

Mother's name : Late Mrs. Amena Khanam

Date of birth : 01 December, 1957

Obtained M.A., LL.B. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 05 March, 1984, 27 December, 1989 and 06 June, 1999 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Participated in the SAARC Law Conference, Delhi, India, 1994. Visited India, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, U.K, Thailand, France and Switzerland.



Mr. Justice Syed Md. Ziaul Karim

Father's name : Late Syed Abdul Malek

Mother's name : Late Anowara Begum

Date of birth : 12 December, 1957

Obtained B.Sc. (Hons) in Chemistry, LL.B., LL.M. and Ph.D.

Enrolled as an Advocate in the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 18 March, 1986, 18 April, 1988 and 28 November, 1996 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Participated in the SAARC Lawyers' Conference held in Sri Lanka in the year 1998.

Participated in South Asian Judges Regional Forum on Economic and Financial Crime held at Colombo, Sri Lanka, 13-15 May, 2011.

Visited Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, China, Macao, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Canada and Morocco.



Mr. Justice Md. Rezaul Haque

Father's name : Late Md. Tazimul Hossain

Mother's name : Mrs. Umme Kulsum Hossain

Date of birth : 24 April, 1960

Obtained M.A, LL.B. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 08 April, 1988 and 21 June, 1990 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Visited India, Nepal and Thailand.



Mr. Justice Sheikh Abdul Awal

Father's name : Late Sheikh Yousuff Ali

Mother's name : Late Saleha Begum

Date of birth : 04 June, 1960

Obtained M.A., M.S.S., LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 30 October, 1986 and 26 February, 1989 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Visited India, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Hong Kong, Macao, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.



Mr. Justice S.M. Emdadul Hoque

Father's name : Late Alhaj Mohammad Moslem Uddin Sarder

Mother's name : Late Zobeda Akhter

Date of birth : 07 November, 1963

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 07 October, 1990 and 26 November, 1992 respectively.

Founder principal of Liberty Law College (2000-2004).

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Visited India, Saudi Arabia , USA and Singapore.



Mr. Justice Mamnoon Rahman

Father's name : Late Advocate Rezaur Rahman

Mother's name : Late Afsari Rahman

Date of birth : 09 December, 1965

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 26 November, 1989, 29 May, 1990 and 25 October, 2001 respectively.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Participated in the International Conferences, Seminars and Study Session held in Strasbourg, France (1990), New Delhi, India (1997), Kolkata, India (2007), and London, UK (2009).

Visited Nepal, Pakistan, Malaysia, Singapore, Germany, Thailand, Indonesia, USA, UK, India, France and Canada.

Member of the Board of Trustees and Executive Council of the National Heart Foundation of Bangladesh.



Madam Justice Farah Mahbub

Father's name : Late Mahbubur Rahman

Mother's name : Late Feroja Mahbub

Date of birth : 27 May, 1966

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 15 September, 1992, 09 April, 1994 and 15 May, 2002 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 23 August, 2004 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 23 August, 2006.

Visited India, China, Pakistan, Thailand, Malaysia, Dubai, Germany, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, The Philippines and United Kingdom.



Mr. Justice Md. Moinul Islam Chowdhury

Father's name : Late Alhaj Nurul Islam Chowdhury

Mother's name : Late Alhaj Jahanara Chowdhury

Date of birth : 07 April, 1957

Obtained B.A. (Hons), M.A. (Philosophy), LL.B. from the University of Dhaka and LL.B. (Hons) from Essex, UK, and Barrister-at-Law from the Hon'ble Society of Lincoln's Inn, London, UK.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in the year 1984, 1986 and 2002 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 30 June, 2009 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 06 June, 2011.

Appointed as the Member of the Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission on 04 September, 2013 by the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Visited India, France, United States of America, Singapore, Malaysia, Nepal, Bhutan, United Kingdom and Middle East Countries.



Madam Justice Naima Haider

Father's Name : Late Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury
former Chief Justice of Bangladesh

Mother's Name: Mrs. Anwara Haider

Date of birth : 19 March, 1962

Justice Haider went to Holy Cross School and Holy Cross College. She obtained LL.B. (Honours), Master of Laws (LL.M.) from University of Dhaka and the second Master of Laws (LL.M.) from Columbia University, New York, USA.

Obtained Diplomas in International Cooperation in Criminal Matters from Christ Church College, Oxford University, in Alternative Dispute Resolution from the University of Berkeley, California, USA and attended Commonwealth Lawyer's Diploma under the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London. She also has to her credit a Diploma in International Humanitarian Law from the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, San Remo, Italy.

Justice Haider started her career as a Lecturer of the Department of Law of the Islamic University. She was also the Chairman of the Department. She, thereafter, joined the Faculty of Law of the University of Dhaka. She left her teaching career and joined the Bar in 1989 and was thereafter enrolled in the Appellate Division of Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Justice Naima Haider joined the Office of the Attorney General and served the office as an Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh. Justice Haider was elevated to the Bench as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 30 June, 2009 and was appointed Judge of the same Division on 06 June, 2011.

Justice Haider has attended International Visitor's Programme of the United States of America in 2001, was awarded the Chevening Scholarship by the British Council in 1995 and received the Javier Perez De Cuellar Award for academic excellence in 1992 while she was at the Columbia Law School, New York, USA.

Justice Haider has participated in International Roundtables, Study Tours, Courses and Workshops and presented papers at home and abroad. She has also written several articles published in different law journals and newspapers. Justice Haider has keen interest in access to justice, advancement and empowerment of women, juvenile justice, child rights, rights of refugee women and ethnic minorities, gender based violence against women.



Mr. Justice Md. Rezaul Hasan (M.R.Hasan)

Mr. Justice Md. Rezaul Hasan (M.R.Hasan)

Farther's name : Late Abul Kalam Azad (advocate).

Mother's name : Hosnara Begum.

Date of birth : 17 December, 1962.

Greatly inspired by his grandfather Mr. Sakhawat Ullah, a law graduate from the Presidency College and Baker Hostel, Kolkata, a pleader and the President of the greater Noakhali Bar Association, between 1972-1976 (while he was blind), Mr. Hasan has studied law and obtained LL.B (Hons) and LL.M. from the Department of Law, Law faculty, University of Dhaka.

He was enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, being a third generation lawyer, the High Court Division and the Appellate division of Bangladesh Supreme Court on 03 March, 1985, 17 June, 1989 and 21 July, 2004, respectively.

Before his elevation on 30 June, 2009, he was lawyer for the American Express Bank in Bangladesh (1991-1996) and some other Banking, Insurance and Lease Financing Companies. Besides, he was lawyer for all state owned oil marketing companies, namely Meghna Petroleum Ltd, Padma Oil Company Ltd, Jamuna Oil Company Ltd and of the Eastern Refinery Ltd and also of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation, and of its enterprises, namely the TSP Complex Ltd, the Chattogram Urea Fertilizer Ltd, the Chattogram Cement Clinker Ltd and the Osmania Glass Sheet Factory Ltd as well as for some other state owned enterprises under the BJMC, BSEC BSFIC, BTMC, located in Chattogram Zone. He was also lawyer for the Shaw Wallace Bangladesh Ltd, Lever Brothers Bangladesh Ltd, Reckitt Benckiser Ltd and the Chattogram Stock Exchange Ltd.

He was a lawyer for the Chattogram Stock Exchange Ltd (1996-2000) and also for Bangladesh Biman (before his elevation).

He was a Short Term Consultant in the World Bank, Dhaka office (2003).

He has also acted as a resource person for the World Bank Group (2009) by contributing to a treatise "Investing Across Borders 2010," published by World Bank, Group, from Austria.

He was invited, very often, as a visiting lecturer at the Dhaka University and the Chattogram University, and in the ICAB Chattogram region, 1994-1996, to give lectures on the corporate and business law.

He is Author of the "Index of Bangladesh Laws"; 1st edition 1992, and 2nd edition in 2004, and the 3rd edition published in 2014. copies of which are preserved in the libraries of the US Congress, of the US Supreme Court, of the Harvard Law School and some other Universities in the USA.

He has attended a conference on the 'Corporate Governance', held at Manila (2017), organized by ADB, and was a keynote speaker in a seminar on the 'Legal regime and Practice of Commercial Law in Bangladesh,' jointly organized by the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and the UNDP and in a number of national and international seminars and webinars.

He has contributed many articles on legal, social, human rights and economic issues in the journal section of the law reporters (since 1990 DLR, Journal Section, page 54) and in the reputed English and Bangla Dailies and weeklies, in the special issues of the Rapid Action Battalion on the eve of their 16th and the 20th raising days, in the Supreme Court Annual reports, in the journals of the Judicial Training Institute (JATI), and in many others.



Mr. Justice A.N.M. Bashir Ullah

Father's name : Late Alhaj Abdul Mazid Howlader

Mother's name : Late Mrs. Jamila Khatun

Date of birth : 31 March, 1956

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka. Enrolled as an Advocate of the Dhaka District Court in the year 1980.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 01 December, 1981 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 21 October, 1997.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Visited India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Saudi Arabia (KSA) and Thailand.



Mr. Justice Abdur Rob

Father's name : Late Din Mohammad Mia

Mother's name : Mst. Safia Khatun

Date of birth : 10 September, 1958

Obtained B.A. (Hons), M.A. in Political Science and LL.B. from the University of Chittagong.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 1987, 1990 and 2002 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.



Mr. Justice Quazi Reza-ul Hoque

Father's name : Late Quazi Azizul Haque

Mother's name : Late Fazilatnunesa Chowdhury

Date of birth : 28 November, 1958

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka, LL.M. in International Human Rights Law from Essex University, UK, MBA from American International University, USA and Ph.D. from Nottingham Trent University.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 06 October, 1985 and 06 April, 1989 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Has a number of publications to his credit.



Mr. Justice A.K.M. Zahirul Hoque

Father's name : Late Alhaj Abdur Rashid Howlader

Mother's name : Late Mrs. Safura Khatun

Date of birth : 31 January, 1959

Obtained B.Sc. and LL.B.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 07 October, 1984, 11 July, 1990 and 27 December, 2002 respectively.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed as a Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Participated in performing the Holy Hajj held in 2013 at Mecca and Medina of Saudi Arabia. Participated in the International Criminal Justice Conference at Sydney on 7-9 September, 2011, organized by Australian Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA); and also in the International Criminal Justice Conference held on 23-25 August, 2012 at Brisbane, Australia organized by AIJA.

Visited India, Sydney, Rockhampton and Brisbane of Australia.



Mr. Justice Sheikh Md. Zakir Hossain

Father's name : Late Kanchan Sheikh

Mother's name : Late Noorjahan Begum

Date of birth : 02 March, 1962

Obtained LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 05 October, 1988 and 17 July, 1993 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.



Mr. Justice Md. Habibul Gani

Father's name : Alhaj Jahurul Huq Chowdhury

Mother's name : Late Julekha Begum

Date of birth : 31 May, 1962

Obtained M.S.S. and LL.B. from the University of Chittagong.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 03 April, 1989 and 11 April, 1992 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Participated in the International Seminars, Symposia and Workshops on Law and Justice organized by World Peace Forum.

Visited Canada, Japan, Korea, China, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Singapore, Nepal, Bhutan, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Myanmar.



Mr. Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore

Father's name : Late Gurubar Tagore

Mother's name : Madhumala Tagore

Date of birth : 15 May, 1963

Obtained M.A. in Mass Communication & Journalism and LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 30 April, 1994, 29 September, 1996 and 13 December, 2009 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Visited the then Union of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR) in 1989, participated in 'Proclamation Ceremony of the Declaration on the Cessation of War and Achievement of World Peace' held on 14 March, 2016 in Seoul, South Korea and also visited India and Singapore.



Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif

Father's Name : Faizur Rahaman

Mother's Name: Hosne Ara Begum

Date of Birth : 20 April, 1967

Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif was elevated as the Judge of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, High Court Division in 2010. He has delivered various constitutionally important judgments and orders touching human rights, child rights, gender based violence, environmental issues and fiscal laws.

Justice Arif participated in various international conferences including the SAARC Law Conference, Dhaka in 1996, Bangladesh Human Rights Convention of 2005 held in London, UK, AIJA 'Child Protection Conference, Brisbane, Australia in 2011, Second International Summit of the High Courts at Istanbul, Turkey in 2013, the South Asia Judicial Conference on Environment and Climate Change, Dhaka in 2016, and the first South Asia Regional Judicial Colloquium on Reproductive Rights, Nepal in 2019, and made remarkable contributions through his research, deliberations and speeches. He takes special interest in child rights, gender based violence, human rights and climate change issues and, accordingly, delivers speeches on those issues in national and international seminars, symposium and conferences on a regular basis. He contributes, on regular basis, as a resource person in the training of judicial officers organized by the Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI), Dhaka. He is now serving as a member of the Special Committee of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on Child Rights and has been contributing in implementation of the UN Child Rights Convention (CRC) in Bangladesh. He is the editor of 'Supreme Court Online Bulletin (SCOB)', the only online law journal/ report published by the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Justice Arif did his LL.B and M.S.S from the University of Chittagong, LL.B (Honors) from the University of Wolverhampton, UK and Postgraduate Diploma in Professional and Legal Skills from the then ICCL, City University, London, UK before being called to the Hon'ble Society of Lincoln's Inn, London, UK as a Barrister-At-Law.



Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan

Father's name : Late A.F.M. Shamsuddin

Mother's name : Late Nur Mohal Begum

Date of birth : 10 January, 1968

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 10 May, 1992, 22 January, 1994 and 21 July, 2004 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 18 April, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 April, 2012.

Participated in the International Workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand and workshop for SAARC High Court Judges held in the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal, India.



Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus

Father's name : A F M Azizur Rahman

Mother's name : Rahela Khatun

Date of birth : 07 December, 1962

Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus was elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 04 November, 2010 and as a Judge thereof on 15 October, 2012.

Justice Quddus obtained Bachelor of Arts in English and Masters in Social Science from the University of Rajshahi, and Bachelor of Laws under the same University. He was elected as the General Secretary of Rajshahi University Central Students Union for consecutive two terms. He was enrolled with Bangladesh Bar Council as an Advocate on 19 April, 1993 and started law practice. He was permitted to practice in the High Court Division on 29 September, 1996 and the Appellate Division on 15 January, 2009. He was the Legal Adviser to Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST), a leading human rights and legal aid organization, and also to the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Rajshahi till his elevation. He was an active public interest litigant and General Secretary of the Association for Democratic and Constitutional Advancement of Bangladesh (ADCAB).

Justice Quddus participated in International conference, workshop, training and orientation programs on Human Rights, Public Interest Litigation and Police Reform held in India, Nepal and the USA. He represented the Supreme Court of Bangladesh as one of its two delegates in the 2nd China-ASEAN Justice Forum held on 6-10 June, 2017 in Nanning, China.



Mr. Justice Md. Khasruzzaman

Father's name : Md. Shamsul Haque

Mother's name : Saria Begum

Date of birth : 28 October, 1968

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 16 August, 1994 and 29 September, 1996 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 04 November, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 October, 2012.

Participated in the Training Programme on "Mutual Legal Assistance" Conducted by US Department of Justice.

Visited India, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia and Dubai. He has attended "Conference on Corporate Governance" held at Manila organized by the ADB. Besides, he has attended and spoke at important seminars on legal issues.

He has contributed many articles (on legal matters) in the journal section of the law reporters and in the reputed weeklies etc, from 1990 onward.



Mr. Justice Farid Ahmed

Father's name : Late Md. Mahar Ali

Mother's name : Late Bana Bibi

Date of birth : 01 January, 1960

Obtained B.A. and LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 17 October, 1985, 06 October, 1988 and 08 November, 2006 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 04 November, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 October, 2012.

Participated Common Wealth Young Lawyers Course (1993) held in UK and Regional Consultation held in Pakistan (2008).



Mr. Justice Md. Nazrul Islam Talukder

Father's name : Late Sajibuddin Talukder

Mother's name : Late Sahidan Bibi

Date of birth : 01 December, 1964

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 16 October, 1991, 21 August, 1993 and 12 May, 2008 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 04 September, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 15 October, 2012.

Participated in the International Training on Trans-border Money Laundering held in University of Wollongong, Australia in 2009.

Participated in the Launching Event of the Global Judicial Integrity Network, a platform to assist judiciaries in strengthening judicial integrity and preventing corruption within the Judicial system, held in Vienna, Austria in 2018.

Participated in the Exposure Visit Programme of the Supreme Court Special Committee on Child Rights to Sri Lanka in April-May 2018.

Visited India, Egypt, Libya, Qatar, Australia, Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Austria, France, Germany, Turkey and England.



Mr. Justice Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury

Father's name : Md. Belayet Hossain Chowdhury

Mother's name : Begum Shamsunnahar

Date of birth : 25 April, 1959

Obtained LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of Dhaka District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 26 October, 1987 and 30 October, 1989 respectively. Acted as Deputy Attorney General since 21 February, 2009 until elevation to the Bench.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 December, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 10 December, 2012.

Successfully completed the "Mutual Legal Assistance Training" conducted by the US Department of Justice, held in May-2009.

Visited India, Bhutan, Nepal and Saudi Arabia.



Mr. Justice Md. Ashraful Kamal

Father's name : Abdul Gofran

Mother's name : Ashraf Jahan Begum

Date of birth : 03 November, 1964

Obtained M. Com. in Management and LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 30 April, 1994, 26 September, 1996 and 24 August, 2010 respectively.

As a Lawyer of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Justice Kamal also participated in the 16th Edition of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers Congress in Paris, France in 2005 on the theme of "Law and Lawyers in the Service of the People for Peace, Justice and Development". He was the counsel in an International Arbitration Case at Karachi in 2005. Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 December, 2010 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 10 December, 2012. He has participated in a range of international colloquia including the Second Asian Judges' Symposium on Environment, on the theme of Natural Capital and the Rule of Law, held Manila, the Philippines in 2013. Much more recently, Justice Kamal participated in the Commonwealth Asia High Level Regional Dialogue in November, 2013, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on the issue of "Strengthening Equality and Equal Protection of the Law: Reforming Laws that Discriminate". Justice Kamal has also been invited for working visit to various courts in foreign jurisdictions, such as one to the Palace of Justice in Malaysia (which houses both the Malaysian Court of Appeal and the Federal Court) on the 21st of November, 2019, as well as a working visit to the Tripura High Court in India in 2013. Justice Kamal has delivered various constitutionally important judgements and orders regarding human rights, health rights, company law, trademark and patent law. His speciality is however constitutional law, with his most prominent landmark judgement being regarding the 16th Amendment in "Advocate Asaduzzaman Siddiqui and others v Bangladesh (Writ Petition Number 9989/2014)" where he gave the dissenting opinion, and environmental law regarding legal personhood of rivers in the case of "Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh v Bangladesh (Writ Petition Number 13989/2016)" where he was the author of the judgment. He also gave a significant judgement regarding Article 70 of the Constitution of Bangladesh.

Visited India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Malaysia, Singapore, England, Scotland, The Netherlands, Italy, France, Belgium, USA and the Philippines.



Mr. Justice K.M. Kamrul Kader

Father's name : Late Advocate K.M. Fazlul Kader

Mother's name : Bagum Aysha Kader

Date of birth : 09 June, 1964

Obtained LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi, LL.B. (Hons.) from University of Wolverhampton, U.K., Barrister-at-law, Lincoln's Inn, London, U.K.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 26 October, 1987 and 09 October, 1990 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 07 October, 2013.

Visited India, Nepal, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, The United Kingdom and The United Arab Emirates.



Mr. Justice Md. Mozibur Rahman Miah

Father's name : Late Md. Yusuf Ali Miah

Mother's name : Late Mst. Sharifa Khatun

Date of birth : 04 July, 1965

Obtained LL.B. (Hons.) and LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate at Dhaka Judge Court and the High Court Division of Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 09 February, 1992 and 24 April, 1993 respectively.

Performed as Deputy Attorney General from 09 February, 2009 till elevation to the Bench.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge to the same Division on 07 October, 2013.

Appointed Member of the International Crimes Tribunal-2 (ICT-2) on 13 December, 2012 and discharged function therein till 15 September, 2015.

Participated in SAARC Law Conference held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1996.

Also participated in the Mutual Legal Assistance Training Program as Deputy Attorney General held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2009 conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Attended in "the 20th International conference of Chief Justices of the world" organized by City Montessorie School Lucknow, India held in New Delhi and Lucknow, India from 6 November to 12 November, 2019.

Visited India, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Canada and USA.



Mr. Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam

Father's name : Late Muzaharul Islam

Mother's name : Rokeya Khaton

Date of birth : 10 February, 1968

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 19 May, 1991, 13 March, 1993 and 28 December, 2010 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 07 October, 2013.

Participated in SARRC Law conference, 1996, held in Bangladesh and in the Mutual Legal Assistance Training as Deputy Attorney General conducted by the U.S Department of Justice held in Bangladesh in 2009.

Participated in the Working procedure of Customs, VAT, and Income Tax under the National Board of Revenue in 2015.

Participated in the Bangladesh-United States Judicial education exchange programme in Washington D.C in 2016.

Participated in the South Asia Judicial conference on Environment and Climate Change, held in Bangladesh in 2016.



Mr. Justice Mohammad Ullah

Father's name : Late Shakhawat Ullah

Mother's name : Mst. Afrazunnessa

Date of birth : 18 March, 1970

Obtained LL. B. (Hons) and LL. M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 30 April, 1994, 12 August, 1995 and 13 January, 2011 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 07 October, 2013.

Participated in an international seminar "Bangladesh-US Legal Seminar-2003" on Operational Law held in Dhaka, Bangladesh 25-29 May, 2003.



Mr. Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar

Father's name : Alhaj M.A. Sattar Sarkar

Mother's name : Begum Asma Sattar

Date of birth : 01 March, 1972

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka and also further LL.B. (Hons) from the University of Northumbria, United Kingdom. Achieved the professional qualification of Barrister-at-Law from Gray's Inn.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 01 April, 1995, 07 March, 1996 and 24 August, 2010 respectively.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 07 October, 2013.

Visited USA, UK, Canada, Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Singapore, KSA, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Pakistan and Nepal.



Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim

Father's name : A.K.M. Rezaul Karim

Mother's name : Mst. Saleha Begum

Date of birth : 11 March, 1958

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 20 April, 1983 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 24 February, 2000.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 07 October, 2013. Participated in international level workshops on Human Rights held in the Philippines and Sri Lanka, 1999. Obtained Diploma on Human Rights and Environment Law from the American University in Washington D.C in 2000. Also participated in a number of International Seminars on law and justice in India, UK and the Netherlands and visited Canada and England to get acquainted with their legal aid activities.



Mr. Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain

Father's name : Late Dr. Md. Helal Uddin Hossain

Mother's name : Sakhina Begum

Date of birth : 01 February, 1959

Place of birth : Kishoregonj, Bangladesh

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif (Assistant Judge) on 22 February, 1984. Promoted as District & Session Judge on 28 April, 2009.

Worked as Joint District Judge, Additional District Judge and Judge of Artha-Rin Adalat, Judge of Nari-O-Shishu Nirjatan Daman Adalat, District and Session's Judge of Dhaka,

D.G (Director General) of Anti-Corruption Commission.

Worked as Regional Administrator and as Judge in the Court of (UNTAET) under United Nation's. While working as the Regional Administrator of East Timor, ran general administration of the region and supervised the functions of GO'S and NGO's working in the areas of development. Maintained liaison between relevant GO'S (Police, Army, Civil Administrator) of United Nations. Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 20 October, 2013. Foreign Training under (UNTAET) UN: Case Management and Court Administration, Juvenile Justice & UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Gender Issue and Human Rights and Rule of Law, Settlement of Minor Crimes thorough Diversion Process, Domestic Violence & Family Dispute; Fast Track Justice. Participated in the international seminars held in UN, Qatar, Bhutan and Nepal.

Visited France, England, Italy, Vatican, America, Canada, Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, East Timor and India.

Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain was recruited by United Nations through a World wide competitive process and deployed in East Timor to the position of Administrator and as the legal and judicial Affairs Officer. While working as the Regional Administrator of East Timor, responsibility was to run the general administration of the region and supervise the functions of GO'S and NGO's working in the areas of development, law & order and dispensation of justice. Used to liaison between relevant GO'S (police, army, civil officers) of United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET), on the one hand, International Agencies on the other.



Mr. Justice Abu Taher Md. Saifur Rahman

Father's name : Md. Abdul Jabber Sarker

Mother's name : Mrs. Umme Salma Khatun

Date of birth : 31 December, 1966

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M from the University of Dhaka and LL.B. (Hons) from University of Wolverhampton, UK & Barrister-at-law (Hon'ble Society of Lincoln's Inn, London, UK.)

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 19 May, 1991 and 12 December, 1992 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 20 October, 2011 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 07 October, 2013.

Visited UK, Australia, Malaysia and India.



Mr. Justice Ashish Ranjan Das

Father's Name : Late Jogesh Chandra Das

Mother's Name: Late Gayatri Das

Date of Birth : 29 January, 1958

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Joined Judicial Service as Munsif on 20 April, 1983 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 24 February, 2000.

Promoted and worked as Secretary (In-charge), Law and Justice Division, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (2011-2012).

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 14 June, 2012 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 June, 2014.



Mr. Justice Mahmudul Hoque

Father's Name : Late Noor Hossain

Mother's Name: Late Mabiya Khatun

Date of Birth : 13 December, 1958

Obtained M.A. and LL.B. from the University of Chittagong.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 26 September, 1984 and 08 January, 1987 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 14 June, 2012 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 June, 2014.

Visited India, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, United Arab Emirates and United States of America.



Mr. Justice Md. Badruzzaman

Father's Name : Late Md. Sadar Uddin Mondal

Mother's Name: Mrs. Sahar Banu

Date of Birth : 06 September, 1969

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 30 April, 1994 and 29 September, 1996 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 14 June, 2012 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 June, 2014.

Visited India, Nepal, UK, USA, UAE, Thailand and Singapore.



Mr. Justice Zafar Ahmed

Father's Name : Nazir Ahmed Bhuiyan

Mother's Name: Rokey Begum

Date of Birth : 04 January, 1970

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M from the University of Dhaka and LL.B. (Hons) from London Metropolitan University, UK & Bar Vocational Course (BVC), BPP Professional School, London, UK.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 1994 and 1995 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 14 June, 2012 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 June, 2014.

Participated in Continuing Legal Education Programme (CELP) organized and conducted by the Bangladesh Bar Council and achieved "Excellent" grade.

Visited The United Kingdom and The United Arab Emirates.



Mr. Justice Kazi Md. Ejarul Haque Akondo

Father's Name : Late Md. Ismail Hossain Akondo

Mother's Name: Most. Hasina Begum

Date of Birth : 24 May, 1971

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 01 April, 1995 and 30 October, 1997 respectively.

Acted as Deputy Attorney General from February, 2009 till elevation to the Bench.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 14 June, 2012 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 June, 2014.

Attended in the prosecution training workshop, organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat on "Investigation and Prosecution of Hi-Tech Crime-Technological Challenges and Practical Solutions", held in Male, The Maldives, in 2010.

Visited United Arab Emirates (UAE), The Maldives, India, Bhutan, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia.



Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam

Father's Name : Late Md. Serajul Islam

Mother's Name : Late Shamsun Nahar Islam

Date of Birth : 07 April, 1958

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) from the University of Rajshahi. Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 20 April, 1983 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 13 January, 2001 and worked as District and Sessions Judge in Narail, Habiganj and Member, Administrative Tribunal Dhaka. After serving as the Registrar of International Crimes Tribunal [ICT-BD] since April 2010 he was appointed Member of the second Tribunal (ICT-2) on 22 March, 2012.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 05 August, 2013, under article 98 of the Constitution and later on re-appointed as a Member of International Crimes Tribunal-2. Elevated as Judge of the High Court Division on 05 August, 2015, under article 95 of the Constitution. Since 11 October, 2017 he has been working as the Chairman of International Crimes Tribunal (ICT-BD). Participated a training course on 'economic development and regional development strategies' held in Seoul, South Korea [April 2001], '2nd biennial conference on war crimes' organized by IALS (Institute of Advanced Legal Studies), University of London, UK and SOLON [March, 2011]. He participated a regional expert symposium organized by the ICTJ, Asia Division on 'the challenges to prosecute war crimes' held in Jakarta, Indonesia [November, 2011]. He visited the ICTY, ICC, STL in The Hague, Netherlands and had discussion with some distinguished Judges and experts of ICTJ [October, 2011]. He also visited India. On 13-14 April, 2018 he attended conference on "Frontiers Prevention organized by the Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention [IGMAP], Binghamton University, NY, USA and presented a paper titled "Prevention Through Prosecuting International Crimes in a Domestic Tribunal: Bangladesh".

He also presented a paper titled "Militarization in Bangladesh: How it Endorsed a Culture of Impunity and Abused the Rule of Law" in an international conference in November, 2018 organised by the Institute for Asia Diasporas [IAAD], Binghamton University, NY, USA.



Madam Justice Kashefa Hussain

Father's Name : Late Justice Syed Muhammad Hussain

Received Swadhinata Padak, 1997 (Posthumous)

Mother's Name : Mrs. Suraiya Hussain

Date of Birth : 01 July, 1958

Obtained B.A. (Honors) and M. A. in English Literature from Department of English, University of Dhaka; LL.B. from University of Dhaka, LL.M. from University of London; Diploma in French Language from Alliance Francaise, Dhaka. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 12 October, 1995 and on 27 April, 2003 respectively. Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 05 August, 2013 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 05 August, 2015.

Visited USA, UK, France, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Spain, Sweden, Finland, Turkey, Bahrain, Japan, Thailand, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Vatican, India, Nepal, Uzbekistan, Hungary, Czech Republic, Austria and Portugal.



Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury

Father's Name : Late Aklakul Ambia Choudhury

Mother's Name: Late Jahanara Khanom Choudhury

Date of Birth : 24 November, 1959

Obtained B.A. and LL.B. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 18 March, 1986, 30 April, 1989 and 13 December, 2009 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 February, 2015 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 February, 2017.

Visited England, France, Belgium, Germany, Turkey, the Netherlands, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Singapore, Vietnam, United Arab Emirates, U.S.A., Canada and Sri Lanka.



Mr. Justice Razik-Al-Jalil

Father's Name : Late Justice Md. Abdul Jalil

Mother's Name: Late Syeda Hazera Jalil

Date of Birth : 22 November, 1962

Obtained BSS (Hons), MSS (Political Science) and LL.B. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 15 September, 1992 and 28 January, 1995 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 February, 2015 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 February, 2017.

Visited Russia, Singapore and India.



Mr. Justice Bhishmadev Chakrabortty

Father's Name : Keshab Chakrabortty

Mother's Name: Suniti Chakrabortty

Date of Birth : 02 July, 1967

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 11 October, 1993, 28 January, 1995 and 24 August, 2010 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 February, 2015 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 February, 2017.

Participated in "ADB-CITES Conference: Innovative Enforcement Strategies to Combat Wildlife Crime and Uphold the Rule of Law" held in Thailand in 2013; "Mutual Legal Assistance Training" conducted by the US Department of Justice at the Office of the Attorney General for Bangladesh in May, 2009.

Visited Thailand and India.



Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir

Father's Name : Dr. Md. Tojammal Hoque

Mother's Name: Most. Ayasha Khatoon

Date of Birth : 10 November, 1967

Obtained LL.M. from the University of Dhaka. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 10 May, 1992 and 24 January, 1995 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 February, 2015 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 February, 2017.

Acted as Principal of Dhanmondi Law College.

Visited India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Iran, Dubai, Kenya, Tanzania, Korea, the Philippines, Mexico, USA, Germany, Swaziland, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Finland, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, The Maldives, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Belgium, Myanmar and The Netherlands.



Mr. Justice Md. Salim

Father's Name : Late Md. Jamal Uddin

Mother's Name : Late Asiyeh Khanum

Date of Birth : 11 September, 1969

Obtained LL.B. (Hon's) and LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 31 August, 1996, 01 February, 1997 and 24 August, 2010 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 February, 2015 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 February, 2017. Participated in International Conference of "Hi-Tech Crime Technological Challenges and Practical Solution" conducted by Commonwealth Secretariat held in The Maldives, 2010. Participated in the International Conferences of BIMSTEC, held in 2013. Participated in Workshops on "Labour Law" conducted by (I.L.O) Department of Justice.

participated in Mutual Legal Assistance conducted by U.S Department of Justice. He also participated in Investigation and Prosecution of Financial Crimes Seminar conducted by U.S. Department of Justice.

He participated in South Asia Judicial Conference on "Environment and Climate Change", held in Dhaka, 2016.

Visited Canada, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Singapore, United Arab Emirates and USA.



Mr. Justice Md. Shohrowardi

Father's Name : Late Md. Edrish Ali

Mother's Name : Late Jumela Khatoon

Date of Birth : 05 December, 1970

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka. Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 16 August, 1994, 29 September, 1996 and 23 October, 2014 respectively.

Acted as Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh from 09 February, 2009 till elevation to the Bench. Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 12 February, 2015 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 12 February, 2017.

Worked as a Member of International Crimes Tribunal-1, Bangladesh from 10 September, 2015-11 October, 2017.

Participated in training programme on Mutual Legal Assistance conducted by U.S. Department of Justice and completed the 'Investigating Terrorist Incidents Course' organized by Bureau of Diplomatic Security, U.S. Department of State. He participated in 'Investigation and Prosecution of Financial Crimes' seminar held on 10-11 April, 2014, organized by United States Department of Justice.

He participated in the First SAARC High Court Judges' Conference held in Bhopal, India from 13-16 February, 2016.

He also participated Asia Pacific Judicial Conference on Environmental and Climate Change Adjudication held on 29-30 October, 2018, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Visited India, Singapore, Myanmar and Thailand.



Mr. Justice Md. Abu Ahmed Jamadar

He is a Freedom Fighter.

Father's Name : Alhaj Noor Hossain Jamadar

Mother's Name : Alhaj Ameena Khanam

Date of Birth : 16 June, 1957

Obtained M.Sc./LL.B. Degree.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Tangail Bar Association in the year 1983.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 22 February, 1984 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 06 October, 2008.

On 11 October, 2017 he was appointed as Member of the International Crimes Tribunal-1, Dhaka. On 31 May, 2018, he was elevated to the High Court Division as an Additional Judge. On 5 July, 2018 he was appointed again as Member of ICT-1 and subsequently on 30 May, 2020 he was appointed Judge of the High Court Division. He is continuing as a Member of ICT-1. Participated 23 days long training program on Parliamentary Committee System arranged by the German Federal Parliament, Bundestag, Germany in 1994 when posted at the Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat as Assistant Secretary (Law) on Deputation. Participated 7 days long training on Regional Food Security Program arranged by USAID, CARE, Thailand in 2010. Participated in the 2nd Meeting of Governing Board of SAARC Arbitration Council (SARCO) at Islamabad, Pakistan from 18 December to 23 December, 2011. Participated in a 6 days long training program on International Arbitration System arranged by IFC, Singapore International Arbitration Center, Singapore in 2012. Attended 15 days long exposure visit in United Kingdom on 'Improvement of the Real Situation of Overcrowding in prisons in Bangladesh' arranged by GIZ, United Kingdom in 2012.

He attended 12 days long Joint Study Mission in United Kingdom to look at rehabilitation of prisoners through sentence planning and skills development, restorative justice approaches by police and judiciary arranged by United Kingdom and German Development Cooperation (GIZ) in 2014.

Participated 9 days long 29th AAA/ICC/ICSID Joint Colloquium on International Arbitration in Washington DC, USA in 2012. As Head of the Delegation, he participated 5 days long South Asia Workshop on "Countering Use of Internet for Terrorist Purposes" arranged by UNODC, New Delhi, India in 2012.

Attended 5 days long 4th ICC International Conference on Mediation arranged by ICC, Paris, France in 2013. Attended 5 days long Study Tour on "To examine how the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) runs Corruption Prevention activities in Hong Kong" arranged by ICAC, Hong Kong in 2013. Attended 5 days long training program on 'Court Annexed and Court Referred Mediation' arranged by IFC, Hong Kong in 2014. Participated 8 days long IAACA 7th Annual Conference & General Meeting and 5th Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) arranged by UNCAC, Panama City, Republic of Panama in 2013. As Head of the Delegation, he attended 4 days long Regional Workshop for South Asian Countries on Promoting and Strengthening National Frameworks for the Support of Victims of Terrorism and Related Cooperation arranged by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Kathmandu, Nepal in 2014.

Justice Jamadar also visited the Netherlands, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

Technical Assistance (TA) Projects

(i) Justice Md. Abu Ahmed Jamadar was the National Project Director (NPD), Justice Reform and Corruption Prevention (JRCP) Project, German Development Cooperation, GIZ (ii) Justice Jamadar served as Chairman, Program Implementation Committee (PIC), Digitization of Deed Registration Program (iii) Justice Jamadar was the Chairman, Program Implementation Committee, ADR Mechanism (Mediation), BICF, IFC, World Bank Group.

He likes playing Carom and Chess.



Mr. Justice A.S.M. Abdul Mobin

Father's Name : Late A. Hye, Advocate

Mother's Name: Musammat Shamsunnessa Khanam

Date of Birth : 05 February, 1959

Obtained B.A., LL.B.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 08 March, 1985, 26 February, 1989 and 13 December, 2009 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Participated in the International Seminars and Training Programmes held in India, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, U.K., France, Switzerland and South Korea.

An article on criminal administration of justice was published in 48 DLR Journal 52.

Another article on Nari 'O' Shishu Nirjatan Daman (Bishesh Bidhan) Ain 1995 was published in 49 DLR Journal 55.



Mr. Justice Md. Mostafizur Rahman

Father's Name : Late Zainal Abedin

Mother's Name: Mrs. Monjuara Begum

Date of Birth : 13 February, 1959

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court on 26 September, 1984.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 15 January, 1985 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 08 September, 2011.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Participated in trainings, workshops and study tours held in India, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Malawi (Africa), England, Germany and Australia.

Visited Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Madam Justice Fatema Najib

Father's Name : Md. Abdul Basir Chowdhury

Mother's Name: Late Hosne Ara Begum

Date of Birth : 11 July, 1959

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) from the University of Dhaka.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 12 November, 1984 and gradually became District and Sessions Judge on 26 September, 2011 after serving all the tiers.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Participated in International Training in KOICA, Republic of Korea, participated in consultation Programmes 'on concept of violence against women' held in Netherland and India organized by 'International Association of Women Judges'.

Visited India, Korea, Thailand, the Netherlands, Hong-Kong, Indonesia, the Maldives, Macau, Saudi Arabia , Sri Lanka and Nepal.



Mr. Justice Md. Kamrul Hossain Mollah

Father's Name : Late Mizanur Rahaman Mollah

Mother's Name: Late Zebun Nesha Begum

Date of Birth : 01 January, 1960

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Obtained Bar Council Certificate from Bangladesh Bar Council in the year 1983.

Joined as Munsif on 22 February, 1984 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 28 April, 2009, Senior District & Sessions Judge on 28 April, 2014. During this period served at different stations as Munsif, Legal Advisor, DG Health, Sub-Judge, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Additional District Judge, Chairman, Court of Settlement, DG Anti-Corruption Commission, (ACC) and Metropolitan Sessions Judge, Dhaka.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Participated in an international seminar on Law and Justice organized by United Nations Organization (UNO) at New York, USA in the year 1999. Attended in a training Programme on United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in the year 2011. Participated in a different training program on Judicial System and Administrative Management System organized by Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI), Bangladesh.

Visited England, France, Germany, India, Italy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Singapore, Switzerland, Thailand, USA, UAE and Australia.



Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman

Father's Name : S M Hamiz Uddin

Mother's Name: Hamida Begum

Date of Birth : 12 August, 1960

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 22 February, 1984 and promoted as District & Sessions Judge on 09 October, 2006.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Worked as an international judge of the United Nations in East Timor during 2000-2002 and Legal Adviser of UNDP in Sudan during 2007-2010.

Participated in the International Seminars and Training Programmes held in India, Singapore, Turkey, Thailand, USA, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Sudan, East Timor, United Arab Emirates, Kenya, Canada and Malawi.



Mr. Justice Md. Atoar Rahman

Father's Name : Late Alhaj Minhaj Uddin

Mother's Name: Late Lutfun Nesa

Date of Birth : 04 May, 1961

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. in the year of 1983 and 1984 respectively from the University of Dhaka.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 22 February, 1984 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 09 October, 2006.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Participated in a study tour on 'Urban Management', organized by the Government of Thailand (2002).

Completed a course on 'Municipal Services Project' from the University of Malaya, Malaysia (2002).

Attended an international conference, organized by the Government and Judiciary of Malta as well as permanent Bureau of Hague Conference on 'Private International Law' in Malta (2009).

Participated in a training programme on 'Strengthening Subordinate Judiciary Management', organized by Western Sydney University, Australia (2018).

Visited Australia, India, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Malta (Europe), Singapore, Thailand and United Arab Emirates.



Mr. Justice Khizir Hayat

Father's Name : Shahid Abdul Kader Molla

Mother's Name: Late Jamila Khatun

Date of Birth : 24 January, 1967

Obtained B.S.S. (Hons), M.S.S. (Political Science), DU, M.Phil (Human Rights and Rule of Law) DU, LL.B. (DU) and Ph.D fellow from Dhaka University.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Dhaka District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 06 August, 1997 and 09 February, 2001 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Visited Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Malaysia and Abu Dhabi.



Mr. Justice Sashanka Shekhar Sarkar

Father's Name : Manindra Nath Sarkar

Mother's Name: Sushila Prova Sarkar

Date of Birth : 06 June, 1968

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Dhaka District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 15 September, 1992, 22 January, 1994 and 28 December, 2010 respectively.

Appointed as Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh on 09 February, 2009 and performed till 30 May, 2018.

Represented the Learned Attorney General for Bangladesh in BDR (Now BGB) Mutiny Trial at Rajshahi, Naogao, Chapainawabganj, Satkhira, Khulna and Jessore Sectors.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.



Mr. Justice Mohammad Ali

Father's Name : Mohammad Anwar

Mother's Name: Mrs. Badiuzzamel

Date of Birth : 15 December, 1969

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 16 August, 1994, 07 March, 1996 and 20 March, 2018 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Visited United Kingdom for study.

Also visited Indonesia and India.



Mr. Justice Mohi Uddin Shamim

Father's Name : Late Tofail Ahmed Miah

Mother's Name: Late Umdatun Nesa

Date of Birth : 19 May, 1970

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka, LL.B. (Hons), University of Wolverhampton, UK, Bar Vocational Course (BVC) from University of Northumbria, UK, Barrister-at-Law of Lincoln's Inn.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 01 April, 1995 and 20 April, 2005 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Visited UK, USA, Canada, Switzerland, India, Indonesia and Qatar.



Mr. Justice Md. Riaz Uddin Khan

Father's Name : Bazlur Rahman Khan

Mother's Name : Ummey Kulsum Anwara Begum

Date of Birth : 15 December, 1970

Done his primary education at his own village obtaining talent-pool scholarship in class Five. Then he studied at Barisal Zilla School and thereafter went to Barisal Cadet College where he studied from class Seven to class Twelve. He was selected as the Cultural Prefect of Hossain Shahid Suhrawardy House of Barisal Cadet College in 1987-88. He obtained LL.B (Honours) and LL.M degree from the University of Dhaka in 1993 and 1994 respectively.

Enrolled as an Advocate with the Bangladesh Bar Council on 01 April, 1995 and became the member of Dhaka Bar Association. Then was enrolled as an Advocate of the High Court Division and Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 29 September, 1996 and 12 May, 2011 respectively and since then practiced in both the Divisions of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh till the elevation as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division. A number of cases conducted by him have been reported in various law journals including DLR, BLC and BLD. He obtained special training on Human Rights and International Law, arranged by Humanist and Ethical Association of Bangladesh. Recently he explored an online course on The Art of Persuasive Writing and Public Speaking under Harvard University. Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 under Article 98 of the Constitution and appointed as Judge of the High Court Division on 30 May, 2020 under Article 95 of the Constitution. Presented Keynote papers on various subjects and also act as the Editor of the journal of Society for Legal Studies, a law research organization of Dhaka University.

Attended seminars and symposiums on "International Conference on Public Interest Litigation", "International Conference on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights" and "International Moot Court on Public Interest Litigation". Besides those he attended many national seminars, symposium and discussion meetings organized by various organizations.

Personally interested in Public International Law, Comparative Law, Constitutional Law, Environmental Law and Women & Human Rights. He likes to read books (both fiction and non-fiction), hear music, to travel, to engage social welfare activities and helping people in need.

Visited Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, India and Australia.



Mr. Justice Md. Khairul Alam

Father's Name : Md. Abdul Mazed Miah

Mother's Name: Mst. Sufia Khatun

Date of Birth : 15 November, 1971

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 03 March, 1997 and 30 October, 1997 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.



Mr. Justice S.M. Maniruzzaman

Father's Name : Late Kosim Uddin

Mother's Name: Late Aklima Begum

Date of Birth : 01 February, 1972

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 13 April, 1996, 30 October, 1997 and 01 March, 2018 respectively. Appointed as Assistant Attorney General and appointed as Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh on 20 April, 2009 and 10 April, 2011 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020. Awarded "Certificate of Merit" by the World Customs Organization for rendering exceptional service to the International Customs Community, 2014.

Participated in the International Legal Consortium Seminar on "Tobacco Control Legal Issue" held on 28-29 October, 2017, Bangalore, India.

Visited Nepal, Indonesia and India.



Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel

Father's Name : Late Justice Muhammad Ansar Ali

Mother's Name: Mrs. Raushan Ara Begum

Date of Birth : 13 March, 1972

Obtained B.Sc (Hons), M.Sc in Geography and Environment from the University of Dhaka, LL.B. (Hons) from University of Wolverhampton, UK, Barrister-at-law, ICSL, Lincoln's Inn, UK, Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Skills from City University, London, UK. He started his legal profession in 2002 in the United Kingdom in a Law Firm called 'Malik & Michael'. During that period he regularly appeared before various Tribunals and Courts in the UK. Thereafter, in Bangladesh after being enrolled as an Advocate, he started his practice before the Hon'ble High Court Division and later on before the Hon'ble Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh till elevation to the Bench. Elevated as Additional Judge of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020. Participated in many International Seminars, Workshops and Conferences held in United Kingdom on Human Rights, Legal Aid, Pro Bono Legal Services and on International Arbitration. Attended Rotary International Conference in Bhutan. Delivered speech as a Chief Guest on 19 September, 2018 in the 4th Advance Training on 'International Arbitration and Mediation' jointly organized by Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) and Kovise Foundation, India held in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Delivered speech as a 'Guest of Honour' in the International conference on 'Role of Mediation in Resolving Disputes' held in Dhaka, on 26 December, 2020 organized by BIMS. He has lectured on several occasions for 'Judges Training' of the subordinate judiciary on 'Introduction to International Mediation' and 'Forty (40) Hours Mediation Training' for Judges organized by (BIMS). Delivered speech as a Chief Guest in the 'International Conference on Mediation' on 25 November, 2023 organized by Africa-Asia Mediation Association (AAMA) held in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Received 'The Rotary Foundation District Service Award' from the Rotary Club of 'Dhaka Water Bridge'. Recognised as 'Paul Harris Fellow' by Rotary International Club, USA for contribution towards the welfare of the society.

Founder Secretary of 'British-Bangladesh Lawyers Association' UK. Elected as Executive Committee Member of 'Barristers Association of Bangladesh' in the year of 2006-2007. Written a good number of articles on different topics of law in particular on Cyber Crime, International Arbitration, Mediation, Environmental Law and on different legal problems relating to 'Judiciary'. All these articles were published in different law journals and also in National Newspapers.

Visited England and Wales, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Netherlands, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, India, Nepal and Bhutan.



Mr. Justice Sardar Md. Rashed Jahangir

Father's Name : Late Sardar Md Janangir

Mother's Name: Begum Rawshan Akter Banu

Date of Birth : 05 December, 1972

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 12 October, 1995, 10 July, 1999 and 29 March, 2018 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Participated in the Regional Meeting for South and South East Asian countries on effective Central Authorities for international Judicial cooperation in terrorist cases, including cases involving Foreign Terrorist Fighters, held in Kandooma, the Maldives on 7-9 November, 2017, organized by UNODC and CTED.



Mr. Justice Khandaker Diliruzzaman

Father's Name : Late Khandaker Habibur Rahman

Mother's Name: Late Nurjahan Khandaker

Date of Birth : 23 April, 1973

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 12 December, 1999 and 09 February, 2001 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020.

Participated in the Commonwealth Secretariat prosecution Training Programme Asia/ Pacific in May 2009.

Visited U.S.A., Australia and India.



Mr. Justice K.M. Hafizul Alam

Father's Name : K.M. Amir Hossain

Mother's Name: Hasina Begum

Date of Birth : 03 March, 1974

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M.; PhD

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 29 January, 2002, 27 April, 2003 and 29 March, 2018 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 May, 2018 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 30 May, 2020. Appointed as a Member of the International Crimes Tribunal, Dhaka on 14 October, 2021.

Visited United Kingdom, Malaysia, Thailand, India, Nepal and Qatar.



Mr. Justice Muhammad Mahbub Ul Islam

Father's Name : Alhaj Muzaffar Ahmad

Mother's Name: Zubaida Muzaffar

Date of Birth : 02 December, 1958

Obtained LL.B (Hons), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Dhaka District Court in the year 1982.

Joined the Judicial Service as Munsif on 22 February, 1984 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 04 March, 2009.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.

He is an enlisted Lyric Poet of Bangladesh Betar.

He has published numerous writings as 'বরাদ্দের শূন্য ভাঙে' Encounter with nothingness', 'ফারাক্কার ভাটি দেশে', 'কাঁটা মুড়ুর আতনাদ-- কাব্যগ্রন্থাদি সহ বিভিন্ন কবিতা এবং "মুক্তাব্দ"-- একটি ঐতিহাসিক প্রস্তাবনা ও প্রাসঙ্গিক কথা" আর্টিক্যালসমূহ।

Visited India, Saudi Arabia and Singapore.

He went to Balat of India, crossing border with his villagers and then to Tura in Meghalaya State of India, took guerrilla training and participated in the Liberation War of Bangladesh 1971 as Freedom Fighter and participated in direct fight at many places of the then Netrokona, Sunamgonj and Kishoregonj Sub-Division.



Mr. Justice Shahed Nuruddin

Father's name : Late Md. Abdul Jalil

Mother's name : Late Nurun Nahar Begum

Date of Birth : 01 February, 1960

Obtained LL.B (Hons.), LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Joined the Judicial service as Munsif on 20 April, 1983 and Promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 27 February, 2000

Elevated as additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.

Participated in an international Seminar on law and justice organised by United Nations Organization (UNO) at New York, USA in the year 1999.

Attended in a Judicial Conference on Judicial Education and Court Administration at Delhi Judicial Academy, Delhi India in the year 2013.

Visited Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Canada.

He likes Reading, gardening and music.



Mr. Justice Md. Zakir Hossain

Father's Name : Late Syed Ahamed

Mother's Name: Late Maymena Khatun

Date of Birth : 01 January, 1963

Obtained LL.B. (Hons), LL.M. and PhD from University of Dhaka; LL.M. in International Maritime Law with Distinction from International Maritime Law Institute, Malta and Field Training held in London. Obtained fellowship from International Maritime Organization (IMO), UK. Diploma on Equipment Procurement Management Course from International Training Centre of ILO, Turin, Italy. Participated in Training Course on Money Laundering from International Training Institute, ILEA, Bangkok, Thailand; Participated in Mediation Training Course conducted by Loyola Law School, California, USA. Participated in Training Course on Land Administration, Survey and Settlement, Election Laws and also participated in the Training Course at PATC and JATI. Stood 1st in 30th Judicial Administration Training Course at JATI securing outstanding marks.

Enrolled as an Advocate of Dhaka District Bar on 26 October, 1987. Stood 4th in order of merit in 8th BCS (Judicial) Examination and joined in the Judicial Service as an Assistant Judge on 20 December, 1989 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 04 March, 2014. Served on deputation as Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Deputy Director of Legal and Judicial Capacity Building Project, Director of Judicial Administration Training Institute, Additional Registrar, Registrar, Registrar General, Ex-officio Member of the Judicial Service Commission, Examiner of the Judicial Service Commission, Treasurer of the Supreme Court Judges' Welfare Foundation and Marshal of the Admiralty Court. Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021. Honorary Faculty, Examiner and Member of Examination Committee of Faculty of Law, University of Dhaka; Member-Secretary, Board of Directors of Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI); Editor, JATI Journal.

Visited and participated in different Seminars and Workshops in Malta, England, United States of America, Russian Federation, Japan, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Singapore, Turkey, Hong Kong, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, Thailand and India.

Has three major publications in his credit (1) Law of Writs: Constitutional Remedies, (2) Public Safety Law, and (3) Commentary on Society Registration Law.



Mr. Justice Md. Akhtaruzzaman

Father's Name : Late Rais Uddin

Mother's Name: Late Marium Khatun

Date of Birth : 01 January, 1966

Obtained Ph.D. in Law, M.Phil. in Law and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka; LL.B. (Hons) from the University of Rajshahi; Diploma in Refugee Law (Italy).

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court on 27 May, 1991. Joined the Judicial Service as Assistant Judge on 01 April, 1993 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 14 June, 2015.

Elevated as additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.

Participated in International Conferences and Seminars: Graduate, Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute held in Canada; Higher Training on Juvenile Justice Administration held in Nepal; Training on Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism in Financing held in USA; Training on Case Management and Court Administration held in Australia.

Visited USA, Canada, Australia, Italy, France, Austria, Vatican City, Monaco, UAE, Thailand, Nepal, India, Saudi Arabia and Singapore. Also visited the UN Head Quarters in 2014.

He has numerous publications on “বিকল্প বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তির ধারণা ও আইন এবং আইনগত সহায়তা প্রদান আইন”; “আইনের ব্যাখ্যা ও জেনারেল ক্লজেস্ অ্যাক্ট”; ‘Freedom of Press in South Asia’; “চেক ডিস্অনার ও মামলা দায়ের সংক্রান্ত আইন”; ‘Case Management and Court Administration in Bangladesh’; “লিগ্যাল ড্রাফটিং, কনভেন্স্যাপিং এবং প্রফেশনাল এথিক্স”; “দুর্নীতি দমন আইন, বিধি ও কার্যপদ্ধতি” এবং “মাদকদ্রব্য নিয়ন্ত্রণ আইন, বিধি ও কার্যপদ্ধতি”.



Mr. Justice Md. Mahmud Hassan Talukder

Father's name : Motiur Rahman Talukder

Mother's name : Monowara Begum

Date of Birth : 07 January, 1966

Place of Birth : Jamalpur, Bangladesh

Obtained M.A., LL.B. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 10 December, 1989 and 31 December, 1991 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.

Visited Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, England, New Zealand, America, Canada, Dominican Republic, Turkey, Abu Dhabi, Japan, Thailand and India.



Mr. Justice Kazi Ebadoth Hossain

Father's name : Kazi Mohammad Hossain

Mother's name : Late Golejan Begum

Date of Birth : 01 October, 1969

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Dhaka District Court and the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 19 April, 1993 and 27 April, 2003 respectively. He was former General Secretary of Bangladesh Law Association (2009-2010).

Performed as Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh till elevation to the Bench.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.



Mr. Justice K M Zahid Sarwar

Father's Name : Advocate M G Sarwar Husain

Mother's Name : Bilkis Romman.

Date of Birth : 01 January, 1971

Obtained LL.B (Hons) and LL.M from the University of Rajshahi.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 12 October, 1995, 30 October, 1997 and 29 March, 2018 respectively.

Performed as Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh from 09 February, 2009 till elevation to the Bench.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.

Participated in the prosecution training workshop, organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat on Investigation and Prosecution of Hi-Tech Crime-Technological Challenges and Practical Solutions held in Male, Maldives in 2010 and in the FATF/APG/EAG workshop for Judges and Prosecutors held in Shenzhen, China in 2018.

Visited India, United Arab Emirates, Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Thailand and China.



Mr. Justice A.K.M Zahirul Huq

Father's name : Late Md. Fazlur Rahman

Mother's name : Mrs. Samsun Naher

Date of Birth : 15 February, 1971

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 10 October, 1995, 10 July, 1999 and 29 March, 2018 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.

Visited Saudi Arabia, India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand.



Madam Justice Kazi Zinat Hoque

Father's name : Justice Kazi Ebadul Hoque (Ekushey Padak 2016)

Mother's name : Professor Dr. Sharifa Khatun (Ekushey Padak 2017)

Date of Birth : 14 October, 1974

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) (First Class) and LL.M. (First Class) from the University of Dhaka and LL.M. from the University of Cambridge, England. She obtained Distinction in Post Graduate Diploma in Law from South Bank University, London and Very Competent in Bar Vocational Course from Inns of Court School of Law, London. She obtained B1 Certificate in German Language from Goethe Institute, Dhaka. She was called to the bar as Barrister-at-Law from the Hon'ble Society of Middle Temple, London.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, High Court Division and Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 06 August, 1997, 18 June, 2000 and 20 December, 2015 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 21 October, 2019 and appointed Judge of the same Division on 19 October, 2021.

Participated in the course titled "Access to Justice: A Human Rights Based Approach" at National University of Ireland, Maynooth in June, 2008.

Visited United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, the United States of America, Singapore, India, Switzerland, Norway, France and the Maldives.

Justice Kazi Zinat Hoque along with Justice Kazi Ebadul Hoque authored the book "Important Decisions of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh", published by Hakkani Publishers in August, 2019.



Mr. Justice Mohammad Showkat Ali Chowdhury

Father's name : Mohammad Shah Alam Chowdhury

Mother's name : Nur Nahar Begum

Date of birth : 06 October, 1962

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court in 1986. Joined the Judicial Service as Assistant Judge on 15 February, 1988 and Promoted District and Sessions Judge on 12 October 2012. Worked as Judge, Nari- O- Shishu Nirjatan Daman Tribunal No 5, Dhaka, District and Sessions Judge in the Districts of Munshigonj, Tangail and Dhaka.

Underwent Training on Foundation Course (BPATC, Savar, Dhaka), Survey and Settlement Course (Directorate of Land Records & Survey, Tejgaon, Dhaka), Judicial Administration Training Course for the Judges from the JATI, Stood 2nd in Order of Merit in the Training Course for the Senior Assistant Judges and 1st in Order of Merit in the Training Course for the Joint District & Sessions Judges and Obtained Outstanding Marks in the Training Course for the District and Sessions Judges.

Visited WIPO Secretariat at Geneva, Switzerland in June, 2000 as one of the members of the delegation of Law Commission to Exchange Views with the WIPO Officials on Copyright, Patents and Trademarks.

Completed Post Graduate Specialization Course on Intellectual Property Laws in 2001 (University of Turin, Italy and WIPO Worldwide Academy, Geneva, Switzerland).

Participated in a Training Course on "Strengthening Subordinate Judiciary Management" at Western Sydney University, Australia.

Participated in many Training Courses on Public International Law, Environment Law, International Humanitarian Law, Juvenile Justice and Negotiations and Dispute Resolutions.

Completed the Capstone Course in 2016 from National Defense College, Mirpur, Dhaka.

Has a Publication on Law titled, "Artharin Adalat Ain, 2003 and Baboharik Karjaya Pronaly"(Money Loan Court Act, 2003 and Practical Procedure) to his credit, 1st edition, 2nd edition, 3rd edition and 4th edition.

Has a number of Articles to his credit on various Branches of Intellectual Property Laws, Published in the JATI and Bangladesh Judicial Service Annual Journals.

Written an Article titled, "My Memoir in Dhaka University 1981-1987", on Centenary of Dhaka University: Glory, Pride and Expectation, Published in VOL: I, 12 September, 2021 USA, Edited by Raquibuddin Ahmed, Former President and Secretary of Dhaka University Alumni Association (DUAA).

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.

Visited Australia, Bhutan, Italy, the Vatican City, India, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and The United Arab Emirates.



Mr. Justice Md. Atabullah

Father's Name : Late Md. Robiullah

Mother's Name: Late Manikjan Bibi

Date of Birth : 01 November, 1963

Md. Atabullah was born on 01 November, 1963 in village-Bhanua of Gazipur District. He passed S.S.C. from Cantonment Board High School, Gazipur and H.S.C. from Dhaka College, Dhaka. He obtained LL.B. (Hons.) in 1985 and LL.M. in 1987 from the University of Dhaka. Entered in the Bangladesh Judicial Service on 15 February, 1988 as an Assistant Judge. He served at different stations as Assistant Judge, Senior Assistant Judge, Joint District and Sessions Judge, Judge (Artha Rin Adalat), Chief Judicial Magistrate, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Judge, Nari-O-Shishu Nirjatan Daman Tribunal (District and Sessions Judge), Special Judge, Court No. 10, Dhaka (Senior District and Sessions Judge), Senior District and Sessions Judge in Habigonj, Narsingdi and Cumilla, District. Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.

He also worked as the Deputy Director (Administration and Training) in the Judicial Administration Training Institute, Dhaka and Deputy Project Director of DANIDA-JATI Project under Legal and Judicial Capacity Building Project.

On 11 May, 2020, during the period of corona pandemic, he disposed of a criminal case virtually for the first time in Bangladesh. He has successfully completed the "26th Judicial Administration Training Course for the District and Sessions Judges and Metropolitan Sessions Judges" and secured first position obtaining the highest marks.

Participated as team leader of a group of trainees comprising of 38th Judicial Officers in Judicial Training in India organized by National Judicial Academy, Bhupal, India. Worked on case management with the GIZ and members of GJG. Participated in different training programs held on Court Administration and Case Management and Judicial Administration organized by JATI. Participated in Revenue Training, Survey and Settlement Training organized by Directorate of Land Record and Survey, completed 7th Special Foundation Training Course, BPATC, Savar, Dhaka. Participated in Project Appraisal Template (PAT) training course under Planning and Development Academy, SISP Course on Training of Trainers of the Project Appraisal Template under Bangladesh Institute of Management, Planning and Project Management training course under Academy for Planning and Development under Ministry of Planning and many others and secured outstanding marks.



Mr. Justice Biswajit Debnath

Father's Name : Late Anil Kumar Debnath

Mother's Name: Prova Rani Debnath

Date of Birth : 01 April, 1963

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. degree from Rajshahi University.

Enrolled as an Advocate in Bangladesh Bar Council on 10 May, 1992. Enrolled as an Advocate in the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 01 February, 1997 and 01 March, 2018 respectively.

Performed as Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh from 08 February, 2009 to 30 July, 2022.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.



Mr. Justice Md. Aminul Islam

Father's Name : Late Abdus Sobhan Howlader

Mother's Name: Mrs. Nurjahan Begum

Date of Birth : 2 December, 1963

Obtained LL.B. from Dhaka University, M.S.S from Dhaka University, B.S.S.(Hon's) from Dhaka University

Enrolled as an Advocate on 15 September, 1992 with the Bangladesh Bar Council and got membership in Dhaka Bar Association on 22 October, 1992, High Court Division on 20 April, 2005.

Worked as Deputy Attorney General from 2017 to 2022.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.



Mr. Justice Md. Ali Reza

Father's Name : Late Md. Nowsher Ali (Advocate)

Mother's Name: Late Mrs. Meherun Nesa

Date of Birth : 23 January, 1964

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) from Rajshahi University and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Enrolled as an Advocate of the Jhenaidah District Court, the High Court Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court and Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in the year 03 April, 1989, 27 May, 1993 and 12 May, 2011 respectively.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.



Justice Md. Bazlur Rahman

Son of Md Sirajuddin Howlader and Chanboru

Born on 5 June, 1964 in a noble Muslim family of Nalchiti Upazila of Jhalakathi District.

Secured first division from humanities group in the SSC examination in 1979 and ninth position in the merit list of the HSC examination in 1981 under Jashore Board. Obtained LL.B (Hons) with 2nd class 4th position in 1985 and LL.M with 2nd class 3rd position in 1986 from the Dhaka University Law Department.

Enrolled as an advocate of the Dhaka District Bar Association in 1987.

Started judicial career as an Assistant Judge in 1989 and performed judicial responsibilities in multiple positions as Senior Assistant Judge, Joint District Judge, Additional District Judge and Chief Judicial Magistrate in various districts of the country.

Promoted to the position of District and Sessions Judge in 2014 and served as a Judge (District and Sessions Judge) of the Nari O Shishu Nirjatan Daman Tribunal in Barguna and Faridpur district and as District and Sessions Judge in Lalmonirhat, Pabna and Sylhet districts.

Also performed the functions on deputation as Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Councillor, National Parliament and as the Registrar General of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 31 July, 2022.

Secured outstanding position in the 8th Training Course for Senior Assistant Judges, 1st position in the 98th Training Course for Additional District Judges and 1st position in the 26th Training Course for District Judges.

Successfully completed the 4th Judicial Training Course on Alternative Dispute Resolution, 21st Judicial Administration Training Course for District and Sessions Judges, Special Training Course on Anti-Corruption Laws for Special Judges and District and Sessions Judges, 13th Foundation BPATC Training Course, UNICEF'S Policy Advocacy and Legislative Reforms for Children Project Training Course on Training of the Trainers (TOT), ICT, Case and Data Management seminar and Evidence, Trial and Witness Management seminar organized by US Department of State.

Obtained NDC Fellowship from National Defense College, Mirpur, Dhaka.

Participated as the Deputy Team Leader in the Special Training Program for Bangladeshi Judicial Officers at National Judicial Academy, India and as the Team Leader in the Training Course for Capacity Building of Law and Justice Division for Strengthening Subordinate Judiciary Management, Australia. Also, took part in the Administration of Justice Course in Malaysia.

Taught part-time as an adjunct faculty member at Stamford University, Southeast University, Northern University and Atish Dipankar University.

Besides, conducted many sessions as Resource Person in Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center (BPATC), Judicial Administration Training Institute, Survey and Settlement Course for BCS Officers and Police Traffic Training School, Dhaka.

Visited Malaysia, India, Singapore, Australia and Saudi Arabia.



Mr. Justice K.M. Emrul Kayesh

Father's name : Late Md. Layek Hossain Kazi

Mother's name : Late Saburronissa

Date of birth : 25 May, 1966

Obtained LL.B. (Hons) from University of Rajshahi and LL.M. from University of Dhaka. Joined Judicial Service as Assistant Judge on 25 April, 1994 and promoted as District and Sessions Judge on 14 June, 2015.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022 Visited: India, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Australia and U. K.



Madam Justice Fahmida Quader

Husband's name : Md. Maqbul Ahsan (Retired District Judge)

Father's name : Late Abdul Kader Talukder (Former Joint Secretary
Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs)

Mother's name : Late Maksuda Kader

Date of birth : 08 June, 1966

SSC-Agrani Balika Bidalaya Dhaka. H.S.C-Holy Cross College, Dhaka. Obtained LL.B. (Hons) and LL.M. from the University of Dhaka.

Appointed as assistant Judge on 11 December, 1991 and promoted as District Judge on 09 February, 2015. Worked as Chief Judicial Magistrate Sylhet, Divisional Special Judge Sylhet, District and Sessions Judge Sirajganj and Tangail.

Acted as Vice Chairman of Women Judge's Association of Bangladesh Elevated as additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.

Participated in International Conferences, Seminar, Training Programmes and Workshops held in USA, Srilanka, Thailand, India and Bangladesh.



Mr. Justice Md. Bashir Ullah

Father's Name : Hafez Saifullah

Mother's Name: Late Mabiya Khatun Milan

Date of Birth : 31 December, 1967

He obtained Ph.D. (Jahangirnagar University), M.Phil., M.S.S., LL.B. and Diploma in Human Rights and Legal Aid from Dhaka International University.

He was enrolled as Advocate on 31 August, 1996; Permitted to practice in High Court Division on 12 December, 2001 and Appellate Division on 29 March, 2018. He served as Assistant Attorney General from 20 April, 2009 to 21 May, 2013 and as Deputy Attorney General from 22 May, 2013 to 30 July, 2022.

He taught as part time lecturer in Dept. of Public Administration in Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka from 05 April, 2008 to 29 April, 2017 and Demra Law College, Dhaka. He wrote a book namely "Bichitra Doritri"..

He participated in Training, workshop, conference held at State Bar of Georgia, Atlanta, USA, International Bar Association, London, England, U.K., Queensland Law Society, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, Law Council of Australia, Canberra, Australia.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.

He visited Australia, Austria, Bhutan, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Korea, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Macao, Malaysia, The Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Qatar, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, U.A.E, U.S.A. and U.K., Vietnam.



Mr. Justice S M Masud Hossain Dolon

Father's Name : Abdul Mannan Miah

Mother's Name: Mrs. Rabeya Begum

Date of Birth : 01 January, 1973

Obtained LL.B. (Hon's) from University of Wolverhampton, UK, Post Graduate Diploma (Bar Vocational Course) from University of Northumbria, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK and Barrister-at-Law (The Hon'ble Society of Lincoln's Inn, London, UK).

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 05 August, 2003, 17 April, 2004 and 21 December, 2015 respectively.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.

Visited Saudi Arabia, India, The United Kingdom, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Germany, Italy, Spain and France.



Mr. Justice A.K.M. Rabiul Hassan

Father's Name : Md. Abul Kashem

Mother's Name: Mrs. Khushnahr Begum

Date of Birth : 30 October, 1974

Obtained LL.B. (Hon's) from University of Wolverhampton, UK, Post Graduate Diploma (Bar Vocational Course) from University of Northumbria, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK and Barrister-at-Law (The Hon'ble Society of Lincoln's Inn, London, UK).

Enrolled as an Advocate of the District Court, the High Court Division and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 05 August, 2003, 20 April, 2005 and 29 March, 2018 respectively.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the High Court Division on 31 July, 2022.

Visited Saudi Arabia, India, The United Kingdom, Malayasia, Singapore, Thailand and Srilanka.





Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique (upto 25 September, 2023) and Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan and Honourable Judges of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

WE MOURN

Appellate Division



Mr. Justice Md. Fazlul Haque
Died on : 16 November, 2023

High Court Division



Mr. Justice Md. Abdur Rashid
Died on : 24 October, 2023

JUDGES RETIRED IN 2023

Appellate Division



Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Suddique

23rd Chief Justice of Bangladesh
Retired on 25 September, 2023



Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman

Retired on 30 June, 2023

High Court Division



Mr. Justice Md. Rais Uddin

Retired on 29 June, 2023



Mr. Justice Md. Emdadul Haque Azad

Retired on 15 October, 2023



Mr. Justice A.N.M. Bashir Ullah

Retired on 30 March, 2023

THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

The Supreme Court established under the Constitution of Bangladesh is the highest Court of the Republic. It has two Divisions, namely, the Appellate Division and the High Court Division. The High Court Division has original, appellate and other jurisdictions, powers and functions conferred by the Constitution or by any other law. On the other hand, Appellate Division hears and disposes of appeals from judgments, decrees, orders or sentences of the High Court Division. The Appellate Division has power to issue such directions, orders, decrees or writs as may be necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it, including orders for the purpose of securing the attendance of any person or the discovery or production of any document. The Supreme Court is headed by the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh.

History of Higher Judiciary in the Territory of Bangladesh

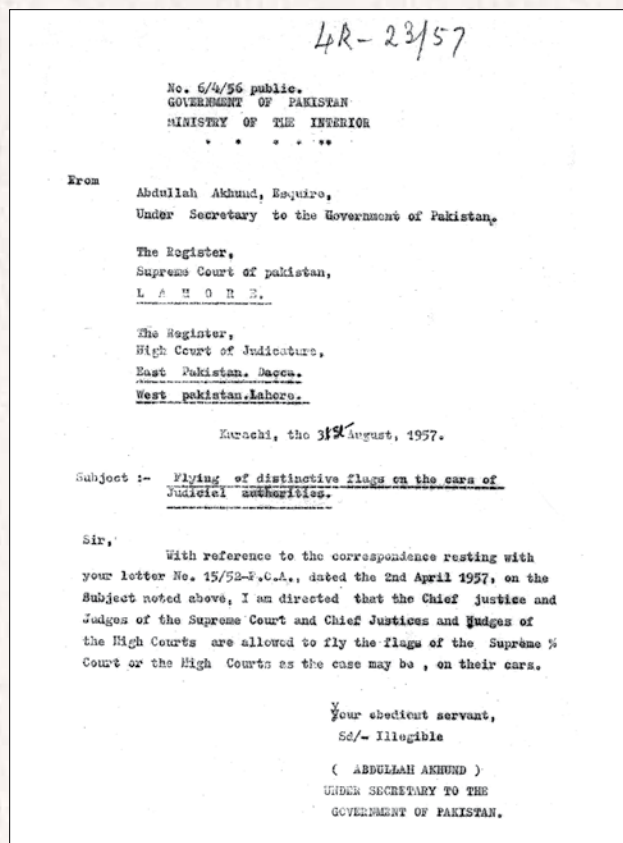
The territorial area of Bangladesh originally being a part of the then Indian Sub-continent, the history of its legal system may be traced back to 1726, when King George-I issued a Charter changing the judicial administration of the Presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, through which the Civil and Criminal Courts, as established, started deriving their authority from the King. During the Mughal Empire, the East India Company by taking settlement from the Emperor created the three presidency towns namely Madras, Bombay and Calcutta and introduced the English legal system for administration of the presidency towns and thus, the English Judicial System got entry into the Sub-continent.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, along with the Editorial Committee of Annual Report, 2022 submitting the Annual Report, 2022 of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh to the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin on 8 June, 2023

The filing of appeals from the then India to the Privy-Council in England was introduced by the Charter of 1726 and thereafter to bring about change in the management of the then East India Company, the East India Company Regulating Act, 1773 was introduced to place the East India Company under the control of the British Government and provision was made for establishment of a Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William, Calcutta, through Charter or Letters Patent. The Supreme Court of Judicature

at Fort William in Bengal was established by Letters Patent issued on 26 March, 1774, which as a Court of Record had power and authority to dispose of all complaints against the Majesty's subjects in respect of any crime, suit or action within the territory of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa by an Act passed in 1833 the Privy-Council was transformed into an Imperial Court of unimpeachable authority, which played a great role as a unifying force for establishment of rule of law in the Indian Sub-continent. The judicial system of the then India was re-organized by introducing the Indian High Court's Act 1861 by which High Courts were established, abolishing the Supreme Courts at Fort William Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, and the High Courts established were conferred with Civil, Criminal, Admiralty, Testamentary, Matrimonial Jurisdictions with Original and Appellate Jurisdiction. In 1937, a Federal Court was established under the Government of India Act, 1935 as the highest Court of British India. With the transfer of power from the British Parliament to the people on division of the then India, the High Court of Bengal (Order) 1947 was promulgated under the Indian Independence Act, 1947, and the High Court of Judicature for East Bengal at Dhaka was established as a separate High Court for the then East Pakistan and the said High Court was commonly known as the Dhaka High Court vested with all Appellate, Civil and original jurisdictions. With the enforcement of the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan in 1956, the Supreme Court of Pakistan was established as the apex Court of the country, consisting of East Pakistan and West Pakistan, in place of Federal Court, with the appellate jurisdiction to hear the decisions of the High Courts established in the provinces of Pakistan. The Dhaka High Court had the jurisdiction to issue writs in the nature of Habeas Corpus, Mandamus, Prohibition, Quo-warranto and Certiorari, with further authority to declare any law promulgated violating the provisions of the Constitution as void.



Letter dated 1 August, 1957 issued by the then Central Government in the Ministry of Interior vide memo no. 6/4/56 Public, regarding the use of flag by the Judges of the Supreme Court. (Courtesy by: Honourable Mr. Justice Quamrul Islam Siddique)

Use of Distinctive Flag by Judges

The Judges of the then High Court of Judicature East Pakistan in Dhaka had been using flag on their cars pursuant to a letter dated 1 August, 1957 issued by the then Central Government in the Ministry of Interior vide memo no. 6/4/56 Public.

No sooner had we achieved independence, the judges of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh started using flag on their cars inscribing the official emblem of the Supreme Court with an additional word "Justice". "Scales", the official emblem of the Supreme Court, signifies "Rule of Law" which the judges are oath bound to establish. The flag used by the judges on their cars, with the efflux of time, has become a great heritage. The judges carry this heritage while in office. This heritage will continue from generation to generation.

Supreme Court under the Constitution of Bangladesh

Initially after liberation, the apex Court was named as High Court of Bangladesh set up under the President's Order No.5 of 1972 (High Court of Bangladesh Order, 1972) and after the framing of the Constitution and adoption thereof by the Constituent Assembly on 04 November, 1972 with effect from 16 December, 1972, the "Supreme Court of Bangladesh" has been established under Chapter-I Part-VI of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh, with the judges and the Chief Justice of Bangladesh, is the repository of all judicial power and final interpreter of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh as well as the defender of the Constitution and rule of law in the country. Part-VI of the Constitution relates to jurisdiction of the Courts. It contains 3 chapters of which Chapter-I provides for power and authority of the Supreme Court, Chapter-2 for Sub-ordinate Courts and Chapter-3 for Administrative Tribunal.

Appointment and Removal of Judges

Chapter-I contains articles 94 to 113. Article 94 relates to the setting up of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh comprising the Appellate Division and the High Court Division. The Supreme Court consists of the Chief Justice of Bangladesh and such number of other judges, as the President may deem it necessary to appoint in each of the Divisions. The Constitution provides for one Chief Justice for both the Divisions. The Chief Justice and the judges of the Appellate Division sit in the Appellate Division, whereas the judges of the High Court Division sit in the High Court Division. The Chief Justice is known as the Chief Justice of Bangladesh. Article 95 of the Constitution provides that the Chief Justice and other judges shall be appointed by the President and a person shall not be qualified for appointment as a judge unless he is a citizen of Bangladesh and has acquired the required qualifications as enumerated in Article 95. Article 97 provides for temporary appointment for performing the functions of the Chief Justice, as and when necessary, if his office becomes vacant on account of his absence, illness or any other cause, to the next most senior judge of the Appellate Division. Article 98 provides for appointment of Additional Judge(s) in the Supreme Court for any period not exceeding two years and a judge of the High Court Division may be required to sit in the Appellate Division for a temporary period as an ad-hoc judge. Normally, a judge is appointed on regular basis under article 95 of the Constitution. Article 100 of the Constitution provides that the permanent seat of the Supreme Court shall be in the Capital. However, judges of the High Court Division may be required to sit at such other place or places as the Chief Justice may, with the approval of the President, from time to time appoint.

Functions of the Supreme Court

Articles 101 and 102 provide for the jurisdiction and power of the High Court Division in exercising its judicial functions and Articles 103, 104 and 105 provide for the jurisdiction and power of the Appellate Division in exercising its judicial functions. The Appellate Division is also given the advisory jurisdiction to give opinion to any question of law relating to such national and public importance as may appear to the President, which may be referred to by him under Article 106. Article 107 provides for the rule making power of the Supreme Court and the authority of the Chief Justice in constituting Benches of any Division. Article 108 empowers the Supreme Court to order investigation and award punishment for any contempt. Article 111 declares the binding effect of law declared by the Appellate Division on all authority of the Republic and the Courts including the High Court Division and the binding effect of the law declared by the High Court Division upon all authority of the Republic and the Subordinate Courts. Article 112 requires all authority, executive and judicial, in the Republic to act in aid of the Supreme Court. Article 107 provides for the Supreme Court to make rules for regulating, practice and procedure of both the Divisions of the Supreme Court or any Sub-ordinate Court, subject to the approval of the President, and article 113 gives the authority to the Chief Justice or such other judge or officer, as he may direct, for appointment of staff of Supreme Court in accordance with the rules framed with previous approval of the President, and such appointment and service condition of the Supreme Court staff are guided by the rules framed by the Division concerned. The power to issue writs to redress the violation of fundamental rights detailed in Part-III of the Constitution and the authority to declare any law promulgated inconsistent with the rights guaranteed under Part-III of the Constitution, as void have been exclusively vested with the High Court Division under the provisions of Articles 44 and 102 of the Constitution. Article 109 has given the High Court Division the power and authority of superintendence and control over all Courts and Tribunals, subordinate to it. Article 110 authorizes the High Court Division to withdraw any case from any Court subordinate to it which involves a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution, or a point of general

public importance, the determination of which is necessary for disposal of the case and to determine the question of law and return the case to the Court from which it has been withdrawn and to transfer it to any other subordinate court. Article 114 provides for establishment of Courts sub-ordinate to the Supreme Court and normally the sub-ordinate Courts under civil jurisdiction are set up under the provisions of the Civil Courts Act, 1887 and those of criminal jurisdiction are set up under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh has 8 (Eight) judges including the Chief Justice of Bangladesh and the High Court Division has 91 (Ninety one) judges up to 31 December, 2023.

JURISDICTION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh has been provided for in the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Article 94(1) of the Constitution provides that there shall be Supreme Court for Bangladesh comprising the Appellate Division and the High Court Division. These two Divisions of the Supreme Court have separate jurisdictions. The sources of the jurisdiction, apart from the Constitution, are general laws (Acts of Parliament) of the country.

Jurisdiction of the Appellate Division

The Constitution has conferred on the Appellate Division the following jurisdictions:

- a. **Appellate Jurisdiction:** Article 103 of the Constitution provides that the Appellate Division shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals from judgments, decrees, orders or sentences of the High Court Division. An appeal to the Appellate Division shall lie as of right where the High Court Division- (a) certifies that the case involves a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution; or (b) has confirmed a sentence of death or sentenced a person to death or to imprisonment for life; or (c) has imposed punishment on a person for contempt of that division; and in other cases if the Appellate Division grants leave to appeal and also pursuant to Acts of Parliament.
- b. **Issue and Execution of Processes of Appellate Division:** Under Article 104, the Appellate Division shall have power to issue such directions, orders, decrees or writs as may be necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it, including orders for the purpose of securing the attendance of any person or the discovery or production of any document.
- c. **Power of Review:** Article 105 provides that the Appellate Division shall have power, subject to the provisions of any Act of Parliament and of any rules made by the Division, to review any judgment pronounced or order made by it. Part IV, Order XXVI of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Rules, 1988 deals with the power and procedural matters of review of the Appellate Division.
- d. **Advisory Jurisdiction:** Article 106 of the Constitution provides that if at any time it appears to the President that question of law has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer the question to the Appellate Division for consideration and the division may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report its opinion thereon to the President.
- e. **Rule Making Power of the Supreme Court:** Under Article 107, subject to any law made by the Parliament, the Supreme Court may with the approval of the President, make rules for regulating the practice and procedure of each Division of the Supreme Court and of any Court subordinate to it.

Jurisdiction of the High Court Division

Article 101 of the Constitution provides that the High Court Division shall have such original, appellate and other jurisdictions, powers and functions as are or may be conferred on it by the Constitution or any other law.

- a. **Original Jurisdiction:** Original jurisdiction of the High Court Division means that jurisdiction whereby it can hear a case or suit as the Court of first instance. The Constitution has conferred on the High Court Division special original jurisdiction under Article 102 of the Constitution, under which the High Court Division can enforce fundamental rights guaranteed in Part III of the Constitution and can also exercise its power of judicial review. There are some other ordinary laws (Acts of Parliament) namely, the Companies Act, 1994; the Admiralty Court Act, 2000; the Bank Companies Act, 1991; Wills and Probate under the Succession Act, 1925; the Divorce Act, 1869; the Representation of the People Order, 1972; Bangladesh

Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1983; the Contempt of Courts Act, 1926 etc. which fall under the ordinary/original jurisdiction of the High Court Division. Further jurisdiction of the High Court Division is guided by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and The Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules, 1973.

- b. **Appellate Jurisdiction:** Any law may confer appellate jurisdiction in any matter on the High Court Division. The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898; the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908; Section 42 of Value Added Tax Act, 1991; Section 196D of the Customs Act, 1969 etc and the High Court Division Rules, 1973 have also conferred appellate jurisdiction on the High Court Division.
- c. **Revisional Jurisdiction:** (a) Section 115 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 has conferred on the High Court Division the revisional jurisdiction. The High Court Division may examine the decisions of the Courts subordinate to it.
(b) Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 has conferred on the High Court Division the revisional jurisdiction as to criminal matters of the courts subordinate to it. Furthermore, the High Court Division has inherent power under section 561A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, to make such orders as may be necessary to give effect to any order under that Code or to prevent abuse of the process of any Court or otherwise to secure the ends of justice.
- d. **Review Jurisdiction:** Section 114 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 has conferred on the High Court Division the review jurisdiction. The High Court Division Rules, 1973 Part II, Chapter X and Order XLVII of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 deal with the procedural matters of review.
- e. **Jurisdiction as to Superintendence and Control over Courts Subordinate to it:** Article 109 of the Constitution provides that the High Court Division shall have superintendence and control over all Courts and Tribunals subordinate to it. As part of its supervisory power over the subordinate judiciary during the long vacation of the Supreme Court Honourable Judges, appointed by the Honourable Chief Justice, inspected many Courts and Tribunals in subordinate judiciary.
- f. **Transfer of Cases from Subordinate Courts to the High Court Division:** Under Article 110 of the Constitution, if the High Court Division is satisfied that a case pending in a Court subordinate to it involves a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution, or on a point of general public importance, the determination of which is necessary for the disposal of the case, it shall withdraw the case from that Court and may- (a) either dispose of the case itself; or (b) determine the question of law and return the case to the Court from which it has been so withdrawn (or transfer it to another subordinate Court) together with a copy of the judgment of the Division on such question, and the Court to which the case is so returned or transferred shall, on receipt thereof, proceed to dispose of the case in conformity with such judgment.

Apart from the above, section 113 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 gives jurisdiction to the High Court Division to give opinion and order on a case referred to it by any subordinate Court by way of reference. Under the Income Tax Act, 2023 the High Court Division is empowered to hear income tax references. Section 24 of the Code of Civil Procedure provides for transfer of cases of the civil Courts and section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure provides for transfer of cases under criminal jurisdiction of the subordinate Courts.

Lawazima Court

The Lawazima Court is presided over by the Registrar General. This Court deals with the procedural matters for making the cases ready for hearing under Chapter II of the Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules, 1973.

LONG-TERM PLAN FOR THE JUDICIARY OF BANGLADESH: PROPOSALS FOR A TRANSFORMED JUSTICE SYSTEM

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh is set to propose a transformative long-term judicial plan aimed at enhancing the efficiency, integrity, and overall efficacy of the judiciary. This ambitious proposal targets several critical areas: eliminating corruption, accelerating judicial processes, promoting research to improve judicial effectiveness, building the capacity of judges and support staff, and developing infrastructure and ICT interventions within the justice system. The 24th Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan, in his felicitation speech on 08 October, 2023 expressed his willingness to propose a Long Term Judicial Plan. To set a comprehensive proposal, the Chief Justice of Bangladesh along with the other Judges of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court has held several consultation meetings with the senior Advocates of Bangladesh Supreme Court, Attorney General office and Judicial Officers. For crafting a comprehensive long term Judicial Plan, the Supreme Court wishes to consult with other relevant stakeholders, which is poised to address longstanding challenges and modernize the judiciary of Bangladesh.

Major areas where the Proposed Long Term Plan will address

1. Ensuring Transparency

To restore public trust and ensure fair justice, the long term plan will include several measures to ensure transparency within the judiciary:

1. **Transparent Case Management System:** The plan will propose the establishment of a transparent case management system. This system would track the progress of cases and provide public access to certain judicial processes, thereby ensuring citizen-centric justice system for all.
2. **Strengthened Oversight Mechanisms:** It might propose to create independent oversight bodies dedicated to monitor judicial conduct and investigating corruption allegations. These bodies would be empowered to impose sanctions on those found guilty, ensuring accountability across the judiciary.
3. **Ethics and Conduct Training:** The plan will include comprehensive training programs focused on ethics and professional conduct for judges and court staff. Regular workshops and seminars would reinforce the importance of integrity and provide tools to resist corrupt influences.
4. **Whistleblower Protections:** The proposal will call for robust whistleblower protection laws to encourage the reporting of corrupt activities without fear of retaliation, thereby promoting transparency and accountability.

2. Speeding Up Judicial Functions and Activities

Addressing the backlog of cases and delayed judicial processes will be a key component of the proposed plan:

1. **Advanced Case Management System:** The proposal will include the implementation of an advanced case management system designed to streamline case flow and ensure timely processing. This system would prioritize cases based on urgency and complexity, helping to reduce delays.
2. **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR):** The plan will promote ADR mechanisms, such as mediation and arbitration, to resolve disputes outside traditional courtroom settings. This approach would reduce the burden on courts and provide faster resolutions for parties involved.
3. **Specialized Courts:** Establishing more specialized courts for specific types of cases would be highly demanding. These courts would have dedicated judges with expertise in their respective fields, leading to more efficient adjudication.

4. **Judicial Performance Metrics:** The proposal will suggest implementing performance metrics for judges to assess their efficiency and effectiveness. Regular evaluations based on these metrics would identify areas needing improvement and encourage better performance.

3. Fostering Research Activities to Improve Judicial Efficacy

The proposed plan will emphasize the importance of research in enhancing judicial efficacy:

1. **Supreme Court Research Institute:** The proposal includes the establishment of Supreme Court judicial research and training institute to conduct in-depth studies on various aspects of the judiciary. This institute would collaborate with universities, legal experts, and international organizations to produce high-quality research.
2. **Data-Driven Decision Making:** Encouraging the use of data analytics to identify trends and patterns in judicial processes is a key aspect of the plan. This data-driven approach would inform evidence-based policies and reforms.
3. **Publication and Dissemination:** The plan will propose the regular publication and dissemination of research findings among judicial officers, legal practitioners, and policymakers. This would ensure that research insights are utilized effectively to improve judicial practices.
4. **Continuous Learning:** Promoting a culture of continuous learning among judges and court staff through regular participation in research activities, seminars, and conferences to be placed as a major component of the judicial plan.

4. Capacity Building of Judges and Support Staff

Building the capacity of judges and support staff is essential for a competent and efficient judiciary. The proposal may include several initiatives aimed at enhancing their skills and knowledge:

1. **Comprehensive Training Programs:** Developing and implementing comprehensive training programs for judges and support staff is a key to the proposal. These programs would cover various aspects of judicial work, including legal knowledge, case management, ethical standards, and the use of technology.
2. **Mentorship and Exchange Programs:** It is highly recommended to introduce mentorship and exchange programs to facilitate knowledge transfer and professional development. Experienced judges could mentor newer judges, and exchange programs with other jurisdictions would expose them to different judicial practices and innovations.
3. **Professional Development Workshops:** Organizing regular workshops and seminars on emerging legal issues and judicial trends will be proposed to provide opportunities for continuous learning and professional growth.
4. **Performance Incentives:** Establishing performance-based incentives to motivate judges and court staff must be included in the plan. Recognizing and rewarding commendable performance would encourage a culture of excellence and dedication within the judiciary.

5. Infrastructure Development and ICT Interventions

Modernizing infrastructure and incorporating ICT interventions are critical components of the proposed plan. These advancements will improve accessibility, efficiency, and transparency in the justice system:

1. **Court Infrastructure:** Upgrading and expanding court facilities to accommodate the growing needs of the judiciary is a key proposal. Modern courtrooms equipped with necessary amenities would enhance the working environment and facilitate smoother judicial processes.
2. **E-Court System:** The plan will include the implementation of an e-court system that allows for electronic filing, case tracking, and virtual hearings. This system would significantly reduce the time and cost associated with traditional court procedures and improve access to justice, especially in remote areas.

3. **Digital Case Management:** Developing a digital case management system to streamline administrative tasks and improve case flow will be placed as a central proposal. This system would provide real-time updates on case status, ensuring transparency and accountability.
4. **Online Legal Resources:** Creating a comprehensive online repository of legal resources, including laws, regulations, case law, and legal literature, is of utmost importance. This repository would be accessible to judges, lawyers, and the public, promoting informed decision-making and legal research.
5. **Cybersecurity Measures:** Implementing robust cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive judicial data and ensure the integrity of digital systems would be a crucial aspect of the proposal. Regular security audits and updates would safeguard against cyber threats and data breaches.

6. Collaboration and Implementation

The success of any long-term judicial plan depends on effective collaboration between stakeholders and meticulous implementation. The Chief Justice of Bangladesh has initiated discussions with senior advocates of the Supreme Court, the Office of the Attorney General, and judicial officers to ensure a unified approach:

1. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engaging with all stakeholders, including legal practitioners, government officials, and civil society organizations, to gather input and build consensus on the proposed reforms is a key aspect of the plan. This collaborative approach would ensure that the plan addresses the needs and concerns of all parties involved.
2. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establishing a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to track the progress of the judicial plan and measure its impact is crucial. Regular assessments would identify successes and areas needing improvement and ensuring continuous refinement of the plan.
3. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Conducting public awareness campaigns to inform citizens about the reforms and their benefits will be proposed. Educating the public about the changes in the judicial system would enhance transparency and build trust in the judiciary.

Conclusion

The initiative of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh to propose long-term judicial plan represents a comprehensive and strategic effort to transform the judiciary into a more efficient, transparent, and effective institution. By focusing on the elimination of corruption, speeding up judicial functions, fostering research, building capacity, and modernizing infrastructure and ICT interventions, this plan will aim to address the longstanding challenges facing the judiciary.

The proactive engagement by the Chief Justice with the senior advocates, the office of the Attorney General, and judicial officers underscores the commitment to a collaborative and inclusive approach. Through meticulous planning, stakeholders' engagement, and phased implementation, the judiciary of Bangladesh is poised to embark on a new era of justice delivery, marked by integrity, efficiency, and public trust.

The successful realization of this long-term plan will not only enhance the performance but also reinforce the fundamental principles of justice, ensuring that every citizen of Bangladesh has access to a fair, transparent, and timely judicial process.

FUNCTIONS OF THE FULL COURT AND THE COMMITTEES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

Full Court Meeting

Two Full Court Meetings of the Supreme Court for the year 2023 were held on 14 June, 2023 and 22 November, 2023 wherein decisions were taken on various issues including consideration of recommendations from the General Administration Committee (G.A. Committee) in respect of promotion, suspension and imposition of punishments to the Judges of the subordinate judiciary. Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh presides over the Full Court Meetings.

Different Committees of the Supreme Court: Different Committees of the Supreme Court comprising of Honourable Judges of both the Divisions and of the Officers of the Supreme Court were formed, reconstituted and convened to accomplish different functions necessary for smooth running of the Courts and administration in the year 2023. Some of the Committees and their composition, along with the task assigned to them have been discussed below:

- (i) **Annual Report, 2023 Editorial Committee:** The Committee prepared the Annual Report 2023 (Reformed on 10 October, 2023) which is published by the Supreme Court. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
 - 1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Chairman
 - 2. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaque Islam - Member
 - 3. Madam Justice Naima Haider - Member
 - 4. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
 - 5. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Member
 - 6. Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim - Member
 - 7. Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam - Member
- (ii) **General Administration Committee (G.A. Committee):** The G.A. Committee consists of the Chief Justice and not more than three Judges as the Chief Justice may appoint from time to time. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
 - 1. Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique (till 25 September, 2023) - Chairman
 - Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
 - Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (from 26 September, 2023) - Chairman
 - Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
 - 2. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir (from 03 October, 2023) - Member
 - 3. Mr. Justice A.S.M. Abdul Mobin (till 03 October, 2023) - Member
 - 4. Mr. Justice Md. Mostafizur Rahman - Member
 - 5. Madam Justice Fatema Najib - Member

The Committee looks after the administration of Subordinate Judiciary as provided in the Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules. As per Chapter IA, rule 2 of the Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules, 1973, general powers of G.A. Committee are as follows:

- 1. The G.A. Committee shall be in charge of the superintendence and control over the affairs of all Courts and Tribunals subordinate to the High Court Division, so far as such superintendence and control are exercised otherwise than judicially.
- 2. The G.A. Committee shall have power, without reference to the Full Court
 - a. To dispose of all correspondence relating to its business, urgent in its nature and not of general importance;
 - b. To make recommendations for posting, disciplinary action including imposition of penalty upon, grant of leave to, and suspension and promotion of judicial officers;

but recommendations of the G.A. Committee with regard to promotion of and imposition of penalty on, a judicial officer shall be placed before the Full Court for approval;

- c. To formulate general guidelines for the purpose of exercising its power under clause (b)
3. The Chief Justice may at any time direct that the powers conferred on the G.A. Committee under sub-rule (2) above shall be exercised by one or more Judge(s) of that Committee and such Judge(s) may apportion the duties of the Committee among them, subject to the approval of the Chief Justice.

(iii) **Committee for observance of Golden Jubilee of the Constitution and Supreme Court of Bangladesh:** The committee oversaw successful commemoration of Golden Jubilee of the Constitution and Supreme Court of Bangladesh. The Committee consists of following honourable members:

1. Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique (till 25 September, 2023) - Chairman
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
- Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan - Chairman (from 26 September, 2023)
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh - Member (till 25 September, 2023)
2. Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman (till 30 June, 2023) - Member
3. Mr. Justice Borhanuddin - Member
4. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Member
5. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaul Islam (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
6. Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique - Member
7. Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain - Member
8. Madam Justice Naima Haider - Member
9. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
10. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Member
11. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus - Member
12. Mr. Justice K. M. Kamrul Kader - Member
13. Mr. Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar - Member
14. Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam - Member
15. Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury - Member
16. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member
17. Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman - Member
18. Mr. Justice Khizir Hayat - Member
19. Attorney-General for Bangladesh - Member
20. President, Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association - Member
21. Registrar General, Supreme Court of Bangladesh - Member

(iv) **Backlog of Pending Cases Monitoring Committee (High Court Division):** The Committee monitors the backlog of cases in the High Court Division and recommends measures to overcome it. The Committee consists of following honourable members:

1. Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman (till 30 June, 2023) - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Borhanuddin (from 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 3. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Member
- (v) **Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts:** The Committee monitors the backlog of cases in the subordinate courts and tribunals and recommends measures to overcome it. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Md. Habibul Gani (from 30 October, 2023) - Member
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury (from 30 October, 2023) - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Zafar Ahmed - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Bhishmadev Chakraborty (from 30 October, 2023) - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Md. Mostafizur Rahman (from 30 October, 2023) - Member
 8. Mr. Justice Md. Kamrul Hossain Mollah - Member
 9. Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman - Member
 10. Mr. Justice Mohammad Ali (from 30 October, 2023) - Member
 11. Mr. Justice Shahed Nuruddin - Member
 12. Mr. Justice Md. Zakir Hossain - Member
 13. Mr. Justice Md. Akhtaruzzaman - Member
- (vi) **Committee for Civil Rules and Orders' (Volume I and II) necessary amendment:** The Committee works on bringing necessary amendments to the Civil Rules and Orders (Volume I and II). The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Madam Justice Naima Haider - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam - Member
 3. Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman - Member
- (vii) **Committee for Taking Measures in Relation to Ensuring Security of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh:** The Committee reviews security measures taken in the Supreme Court and recommends new measures for the same. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice K.M. Kamrul Kader (from 15 October, 2023) - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim (till 15 October, 2023) - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Mohi Uddin Shamim - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Md. Riaz Uddin Khan (from 15 October, 2023) - Member
- (viii) **Committee for Establishing A CNG Re-fueling Station, A Vehicle Pool and A Modern Printing Press in the Supreme Court Premises** consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Sheikh Md. Zakir Hossain - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Khizir Hayat - Member

- (ix) **Committee for Taking Measures in Relation to Ensuring Best Usage of Collected Resources in Admiralty Cases:** The Committee gives direction to use the collected resources in admiralty cases in an appropriate way. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan - Chairman
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
 2. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar - Member
- (x) **Committee for Chief Justice Award:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Borhanuddin - Chairman
 2. Madam Justice Farah Mahbub - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Shahinur Islam - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Fatema Najib - Member
- (xi) **Criminal Rules and Orders' Amendment Committee** consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam - Chairman
 2. Madam Justice Kashefa Hussain - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Zakir Hossain - Member
- (xii) **Judges' Library Committee (Appellate Division):** The Committee looks after the procurement of books for Appellate Division Library. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (till 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim (till 10 October, 2023) - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaque Islam (from 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 4. Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
- (xiii) **Judges' Library Committee (High Court Division):** The Committee takes measures regarding improvement of the Libraries and procurement of books. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Md. Rezaul Haque - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Zafar Ahmed - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Md. Zakir Hossain - Member
- (xiv) **Judges' Privileges Committee:** The Committee is entrusted with the duty to submit reports time to time to the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh identifying admissible privileges to the Judges of the Supreme Court. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Sheikh Md. Zakir Hossain - Member

3. Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Kamrul Hossain Mollah - Member
- (xv) **Supreme Court Judges' Foundation Executive Committee:** The Supreme Court Judges' Foundation was registered in 2016 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Judges' Foundation Executive Committee oversees the welfare, facilities and benefit of the Judges of the Supreme Court. The Committee supervises the activities of the Judges Corner Committee. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique (till 25 September, 2023) - Chairman
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan - Chairman
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh (from 26 September, 2023)
- Vice-Chairman (From 10 July to 25 September, 2023)
- Member (till 9 July, 2023)
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman (till 30 June, 2023) - Vice-Chairman
 3. Mr. Justice Borhanuddin (from 11 October, 2023) - Vice-Chairman
 4. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique (from 05 January, 2023) - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain (till 4 January, 2023) - Member
 8. Madam Justice Salma Masud Chowdhury - Member
 9. Mr. Justice Md. Moinul Islam Chowdhury (till 11 October, 2023) - Member
 10. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
 11. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Secretary
 12. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus - Member
 13. Mr. Justice Md. Khasruzzaman (from 05 January, 2023) - Member
 14. Mr. Justice Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury (from 11 October, 2023) - Member
 15. Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury (from 05 January, 2023) - Member
 16. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member
 17. Mr. Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman - Member
 18. Mr. Justice A.K.M. Abdul Hakim - Member
- (xvi) **Judges' Corner Committee:** This Committee serves as a cornerstone for fostering fellowship, professional development, and overall well-being among the judges of the Supreme Court. This committee is dedicated to organizing a wide array of activities and programs that cater to the personal needs of judges. Social and recreational activities are meticulously planned, offering judges opportunities to relax and connect with peers through annual retreats, sports events, and cultural programs. The committee also places a strong emphasis on health and well-being, promoting physical and mental health through wellness programs, fitness classes, and stress-relief workshops. Through these comprehensive efforts, the Bangladesh Supreme Court Judges' Corner Committee creates a supportive and enriching environment, promoting

professional growth, personal well-being, and a strong sense of community among judges. The Committee consists of following honourable members:

1. Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique (till 25 September, 2023) - Chairman
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
- Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (from 26 September, 2023) - Chairman
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
2. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Vice-Chairman
(till 15 October, 2023),
- Executive Vice-Chairman
(from 15 October, 2023)
3. Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique (till 15 October, 2023)- Member
4. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam (from 15 October, 2023) - Member
5. Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain (till 15 October, 2023) - Member
6. Mr. Justice Md. Rezaul Haque (till 15 October, 2023) - Vice Chairman
7. Madam Justice Naima Haider (from 15 October, 2023) - Vice-Chairman
8. Mr. Justice Sheikh Md. Zakir Hossain - Member
9. Mr. Justice Md. Habibul Gani - Member
10. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
11. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Secretary
12. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus - Vice-Chairman
(from 15 October, 2023)
13. Mr. Justice Md. Mozibur Rahman Miah - Member
14. Mr. Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam - Joint Editor
15. Mr. Justice Mohammad Ullah - Member
(from 15 October, 2023)
16. Mr. Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain - Member
17. Mr. Justice Bhishmadev Chakraborty - Member
18. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member
(from 15 October, 2023)
19. Mr. Justice Md. Khairul Alam - Member
(from 15 October, 2023)

(xvii) **Museum Committee:** This Committee recommends measures for increasing the collection of the museum of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. The Committee consists of following honourable members:

1. Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (till 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
2. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif (from 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
3. Mr. Justice Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury - Member
(from 10 October, 2023)
4. Madam Justice Kashefa Hussain - Member
5. Mr. Justice Mohammad Ullah - Member
6. Mr. Justice Zafar Ahmed (from 10 October, 2023) - Member

7. Mr. Justice Sardar Md. Rashed Jahangir (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 8. Mr. Justice K M Zahid Sarwar (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
- (xviii) **Supreme Court Online Bulletin (SCOB) Editorial Committee:** The committee is responsible for publishing online law reports of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh comprising of judgments from both Divisions. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Editor
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Zakir Hossain - Editor
- (xix) **Special Committee for Judicial Reforms:** The Committee looks after the ongoing judicial reforms in the Judiciary, development of information technology (IT) and other related matters. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (till 15 October, 2023) - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim (from 15 October, 2023) - Chairman
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam (from 15 October, 2023) - Member
 4. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Member
 5. Mr. Justice A.S.M. Abdul Mobin (from 15 October, 2023) - Member
 6. Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman - Member
- (xx) **Special Committee for Child Rights:** The Committee looks after the implementation of the Children Act, 2013. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Chairman
 2. Madam Justice Naima Haider - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Nazrul Islam Talukder - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury - Member
- (xxi) **Supreme Court Day Observance Committee:** This Committee takes measures to observe Supreme Court Day in each year. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (till 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim (from 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
 5. Mr. Justice K.M. Kamrul Kader - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar (till 10 October, 2023) - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 8. Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury - Member
 9. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member
- (xxii) **Supreme Court of Bangladesh (High Court Division) Rules Committee:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Madam Justice Farah Mahbub - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Member

3. Mr. Justice Md. Mozibur Rahman Miah - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Shahidul Karim - Member
 5. Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman - Member
- (xxiii) **Supreme Court Mazar and Mosque Administration Committee:** The committee is responsible for taking necessary actions for the smooth functioning of administration of the High Court Mazar, Mosque and Madrasa. Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh is the Chief Adviser of the Supreme Court Mazar and Mosque Committee. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafor Siddique - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Habibul Gani - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Khasruzzaman - Member
 5. Mr. Justice K. M. Kamrul Kader - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Shahed Nuruddin (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 7. Mr. A. M. Amin Uddin (Attorney-General for Bangladesh) - Member
- (xxiv) **Supreme Court Jame Mosque Committee:** Supreme Court Jame Mosque Committee looks after the Supreme Court Jame Mosque situated in the Supreme Court premises. The Committee takes necessary measures for the maintenance of the mosque and provides necessary supports for facilitating five time prayers, Jumma prayer and other religious events. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim (till 28/12/2023) - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain (from 28/12/2023) - Chairman
 3. Mr. Justice Sheikh Md. Zakir Hossain (till 28/12/2023) - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Ashraful Kamal - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Md. Mozibur Rahman Miah (from 28/12/2023) - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Mohammad Ullah - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir (from 28/12/2023) - Member
 8. Mr. Justice Md. Mostafizur Rahman - Member
 9. Mr. Justice Md. Khairul Alam (from 28/12/2023) - Member
- (xxv) **Supreme Court Judges Medical Allowance Committee:** The Committee consists of following honourable members :
1. Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman (till 30 June, 2023) - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan (till 10 October, 2023) - Member
 3. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim (from 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Abu Taher Md. Saifur Rahman (from 10 October, 2023) - Member

- (xxvi) **Vehicles Purchase Consultative Committee:** The Committee supervises the purchase of all vehicles for the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim (till 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 1. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam (from 10 October, 2023) - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Mamnoon Rahman (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury (till 10 October, 2023) - Member
 4. Mr. Justice S.M. Maniruzzaman - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Sardar Md. Rashed Jahangir - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Khandaker Diliruzzaman (from 10 October, 2023) - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Md. Mahmud Hassan Talukder - Member
- (xxvii) **Judges' Committee for Scrutinizing Supreme Court of Bangladesh High Court Division (Officer/Staff) Recruitment Rules, 2014:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Md. Habibul Gani - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus - Member
 3. Madam Justice Fatema Najib - Member
 4. Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Md. Zakir Hossain - Member
- (xxviii) **Judges Committee for Residents in Bicharpoti Bhaban:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Justice Syed Md. Ziaul Karim - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice A.N.M. Bashir Ullah (till 30 March 2023) - Member
 3. Justice J. B. M. Hassan - Member
 4. Justice Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury - Member
 5. Justice Md. Badruzzaman - Member
 6. Justice Md. Salim - Member
- (xxix) **Judges Committee for Residents in Judges Complex:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Borhanuddin - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Muhammad Abdul Hafiz - Member
 3. Mr. Justice S.M. Emdadul Hoque - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam - Member
 6. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member Secretary
 7. Mr. Justice Md. Khairul Alam - Member
- (xxx) **Judges Committee for Establishment of a 10-Bed Full-Fledged Medical Center in the Bangladesh Supreme Court:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Member

3. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Mostafizur Rahman - Member
- (xxxi) **Judges Committee for the Construction of a Judicial Officers' Guest House for Subordinate Courts:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Md. Habibul Gani - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Quddus - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Khasruzzaman - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Md. Akram Hossain Chowdhury - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member
- (xxxii) **Bangladesh Supreme Court Research Institute Implementation Committee:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan - Chairman
Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh
 2. Mr. Justice Borhanuddin - Member
 3. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Member
 4. Madam Justice Naima Haider - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
 6. Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan - Member
 7. Mr. Justice Zafar Ahmed - Member
 8. Mr. Justice Bhishmadev Chakraborty - Member
 9. Mr. Justice Md. Iqbal Kabir - Member
 10. Mr. Justice Md. Mostafizur Rahman - Member
 11. Mr. Justice S M Kuddus Zaman - Member
- (xxxiii) **Special Committee for Giving Opinion on Conducting Preliminary Inquiry on Complaints Against Subordinate Court Judges:** The Committee consists of following honourable members:
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Member
 2. Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed - Member
- (xxxiv) **Committee for appointment and engagement of Law Clerks in Appellate Division:**
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Chairman
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaul Islam - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam - Member
 4. Madam Justice Naima Haider - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif - Member
- (xxxv) **The Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Rules Committee:**
1. Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim - Member
 2. Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaul Islam - Member
 3. Mr. Justice Md. Abu Zafar Siddique - Member
 4. Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain - Member
 5. Mr. Justice Md. Shahinur Islam - Member

STATISTICS ON FILING OF NEW CASES, DISPOSALS AND PENDING CASES IN THE APPELLATE DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

1. Statement of Filing of New Cases, Disposals and Pending Cases from 01 January, 2023 to 31 December, 2023

1.1. Petitions

Cases	Carried Over	New filing	Total	Disposal	Pending on 31 December, 2023
Civil	8986	4011	12997	1524	11473
Criminal	3386	3047	6433	881	5552
Civil Review	739	476	1215	270	945
Criminal Review	173	71	244	43	201
Jail Petition	40	2	42	0	42
Grand Total	13324	7607	20931	2718	18213

1.2. Miscellaneous Petitions

Cases	Carried Over	New filing	Total	Disposal	Pending on 31 December, 2023
Civil Misc Petition	995	1242	2237	931	1306
Criminal Misc Petition	2203	2684	4887	1385	3502
Contempt Petition	132	81	213	33	180
Grand Total	3330	4007	7337	2349	4988

1.3. Appeals

Cases	Carried Over	New filing	Total	Disposal	Pending on 31 December, 2023
Civil	2442	166	2608	265	2343
Criminal	750	100	850	17	833
Jail	82	58	140	0	140
Grand Total	3274	324	3598	282	3316

1.4. Consolidated Statement of Cases (from 01 January, 2023 to 31 December, 2023) in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Cases	Carried Over	New filing	Total	Disposal	Pending
Petition	13324	7607	20931	2718	18213
Misc. Petition	3330	4007	7337	2349	4988
Appeals	3274	324	3598	282	3316
Grand Total	19928	11938	31866	5349	26517

**Consolidated Statements of All Cases from
01 January, 2023 to 31 December, 2023**

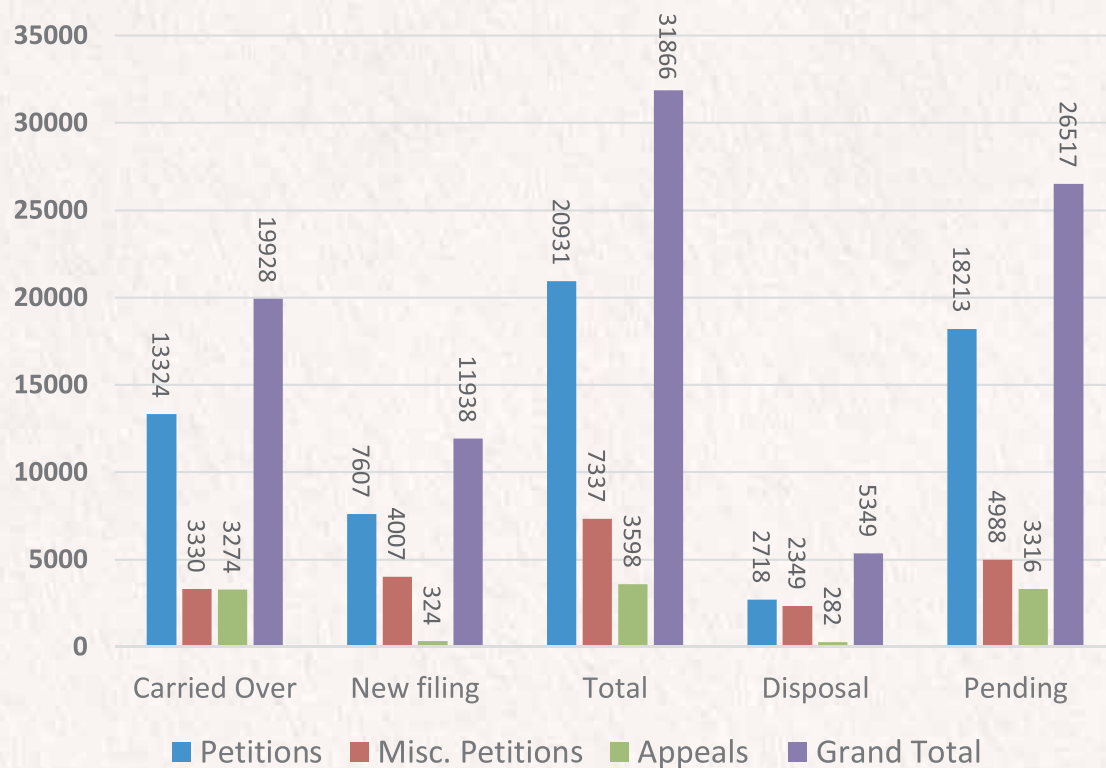


Figure 1: Vertical Bar Chart showing new filing, pendency and disposal of all cases in the year 2023 in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

STATISTICAL DATA ANALYSIS FOR THE APPELLATE DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

2. Year-wise Filing of New Cases, Disposal and Pendency of Cases from the Year 1972 to 2023

Years	New filing	Disposal	Pending
1972	14	11	4056
1973	113	91	4062
1974	185	153	4094
1975	168	150	4112
1976	257	224	4145
1977	471	386	4230
1978	530	400	4360
1979	540	400	4535
1980	454	372	4790
1981	683	583	4870
1982	723	596	4909
1983	663	565	4875
1984	635	565	4802
1985	531	469	4706
1986	492	444	4736
1987	373	334	5064
1988	474	424	5255
1989	662	597	5214
1990	625	575	5440
1991	556	497	5802
1992	801	709	6254
1993	859	765	6462
1994	1161	1070	6433
1995	973	850	7511
1996	1041	970	8410
1997	1928	1746	8751
1998	1869	1649	9330
1999	1987	1918	10929
2000	2228	2116	11816
2001	3517	2819	8997
2002	3003	2789	4781
2003	3212	2587	5406
2004	3021	2690	5737
2005	3405	2372	6770
2006	3855	1501	9124
2007	4093	6146	7071
2008	5041	5220	6892
2009	4403	6035	5260
2010	5464	1583	9141
2011	4749	1449	12441
2012	6036	1830	16647
2013	5989	8298	14338
2014	6919	5911	15346
2015	8007	9992	13361
2016	9945	9634	13672
2017	11484	8591	16565
2018	10572	6695	20442
2019	9478	6303	23617
2020	6958	15350	15225
2021	7806	6859	16172
2022	9162	5406	19928
2023	11938	5349	26517

3. Some visible trends

3.1. Trend of filing of new cases, disposal and pendency from the year 1972 to 2023

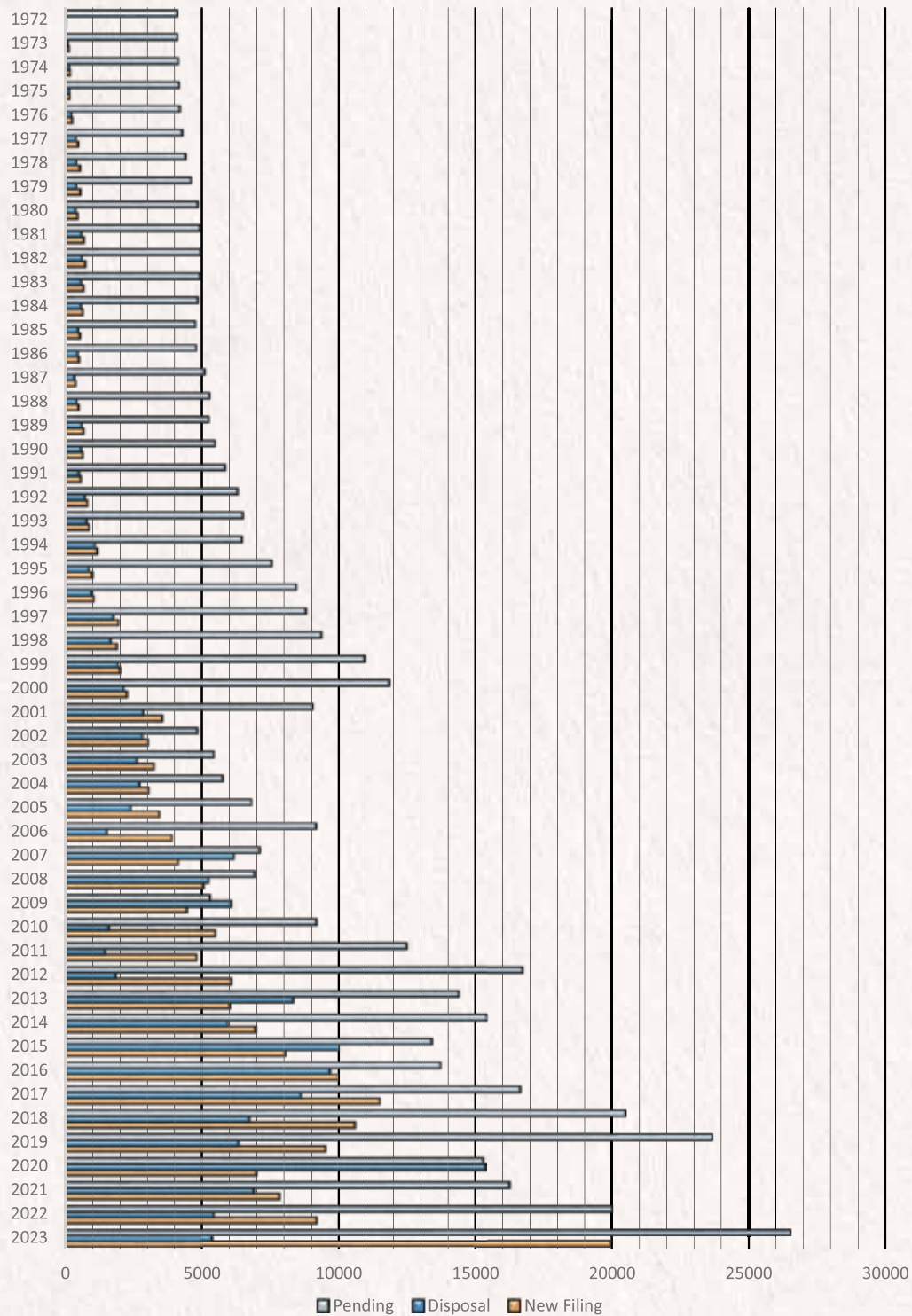


Figure 2: Horizontal Bar Chart of filing of new cases, disposal and pending cases in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh from 1972 to 2023

3.2. Trend of New Filing of Cases from the Year 1972 to 2023

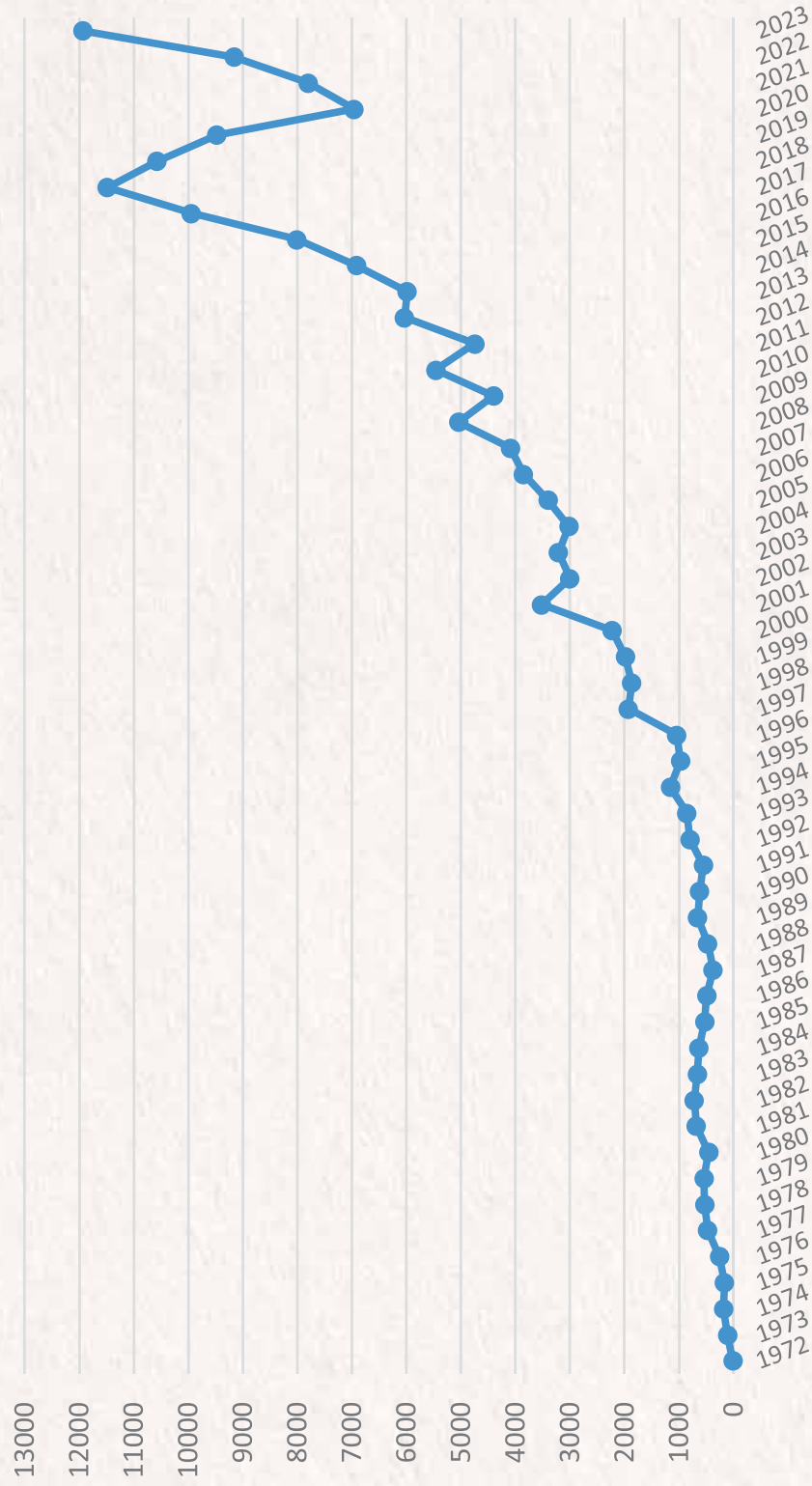


Figure 3: Line graph of filing of new cases from the year 1972 to 2023

3.3. Trend of disposal of cases from the year 1972 to 2023

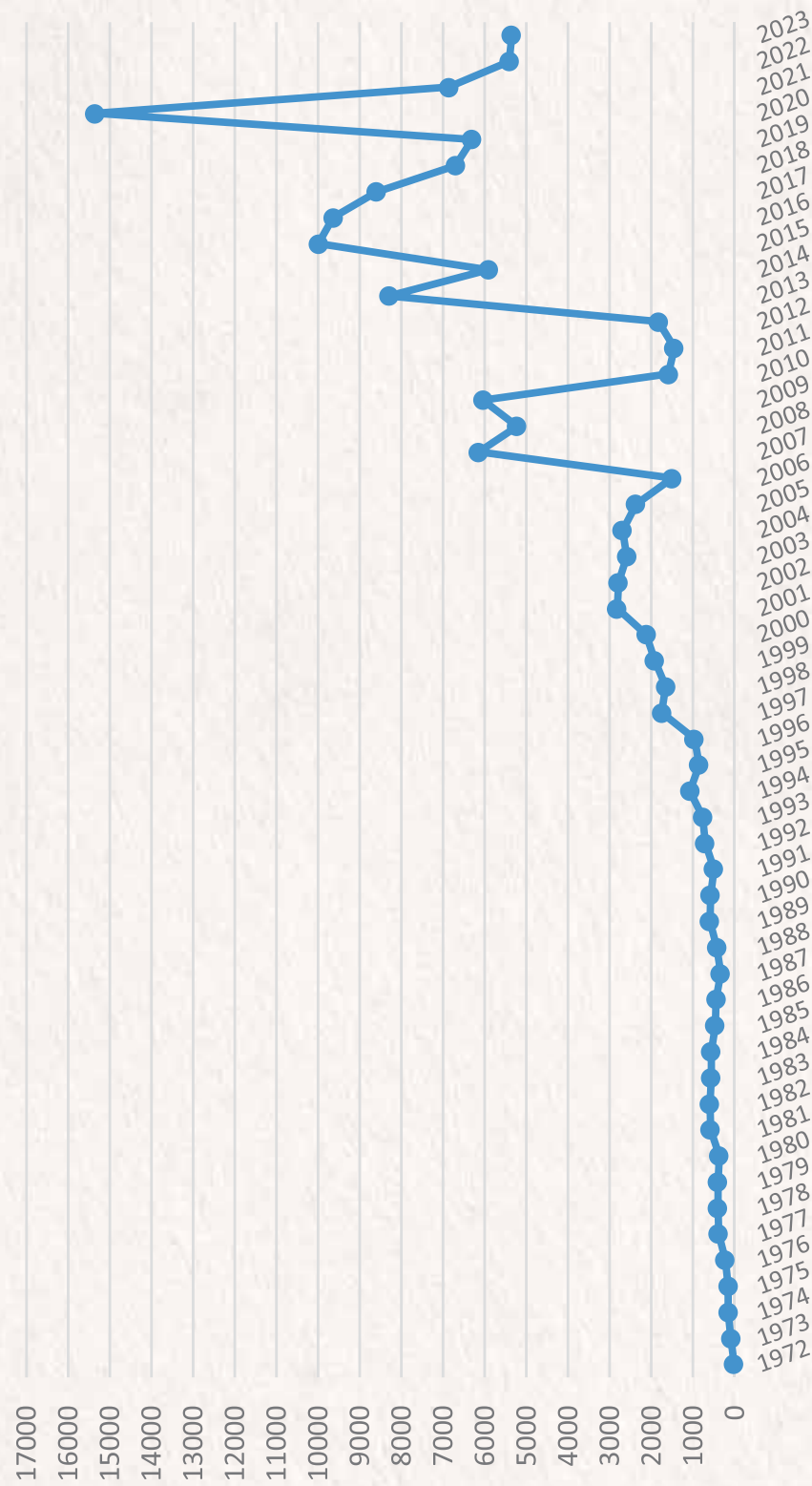


Figure 4: Line graph of disposal of cases from the year 1972 to 2023

3.4. Trend of pending cases from the year 1972 to 2023

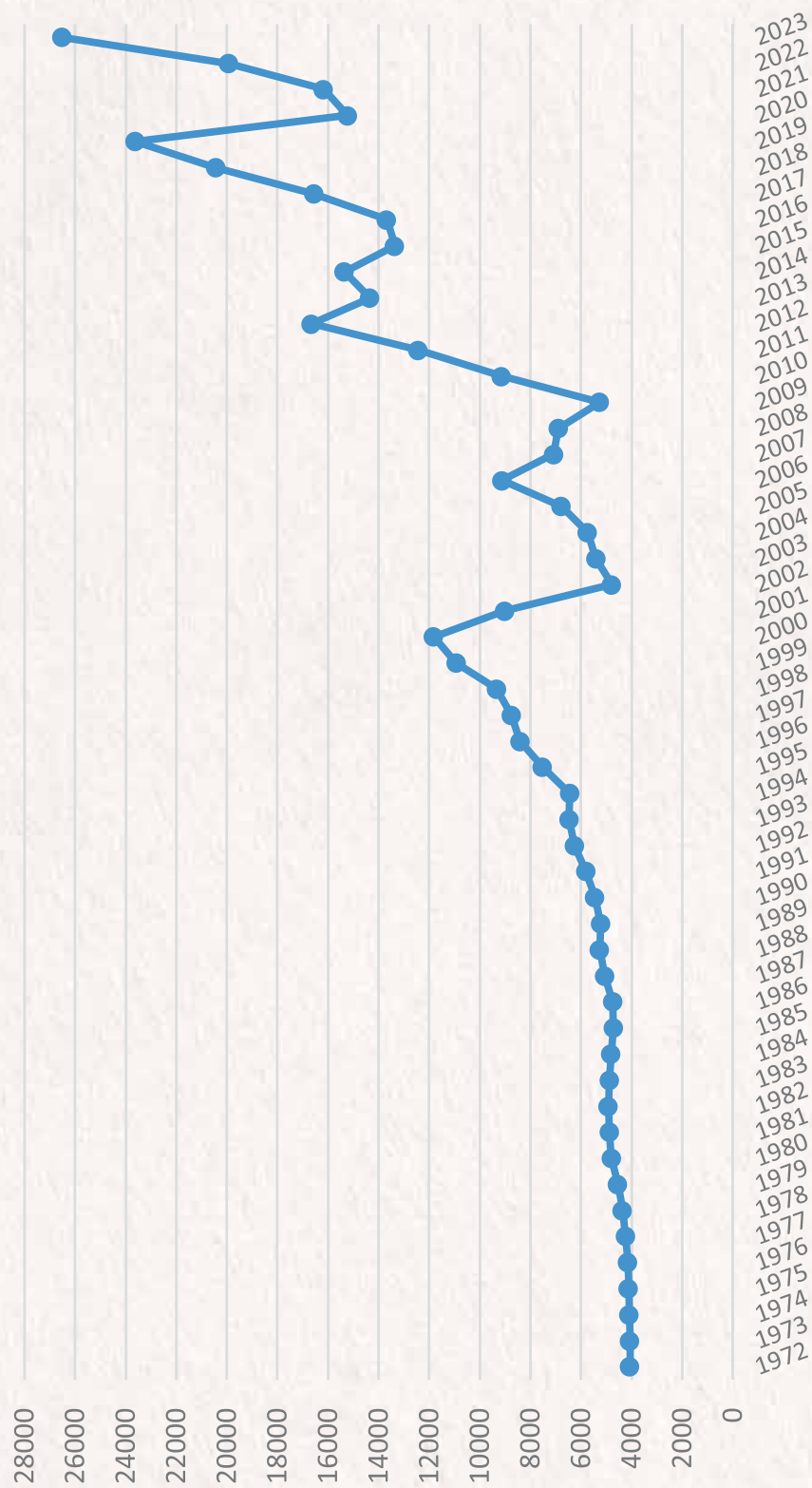


Figure 5: Line graph of pending cases from the year 1972 to 2023

3.5. Comparative Chart of filing of new cases, disposal and pending cases from the year 1972 to 2023

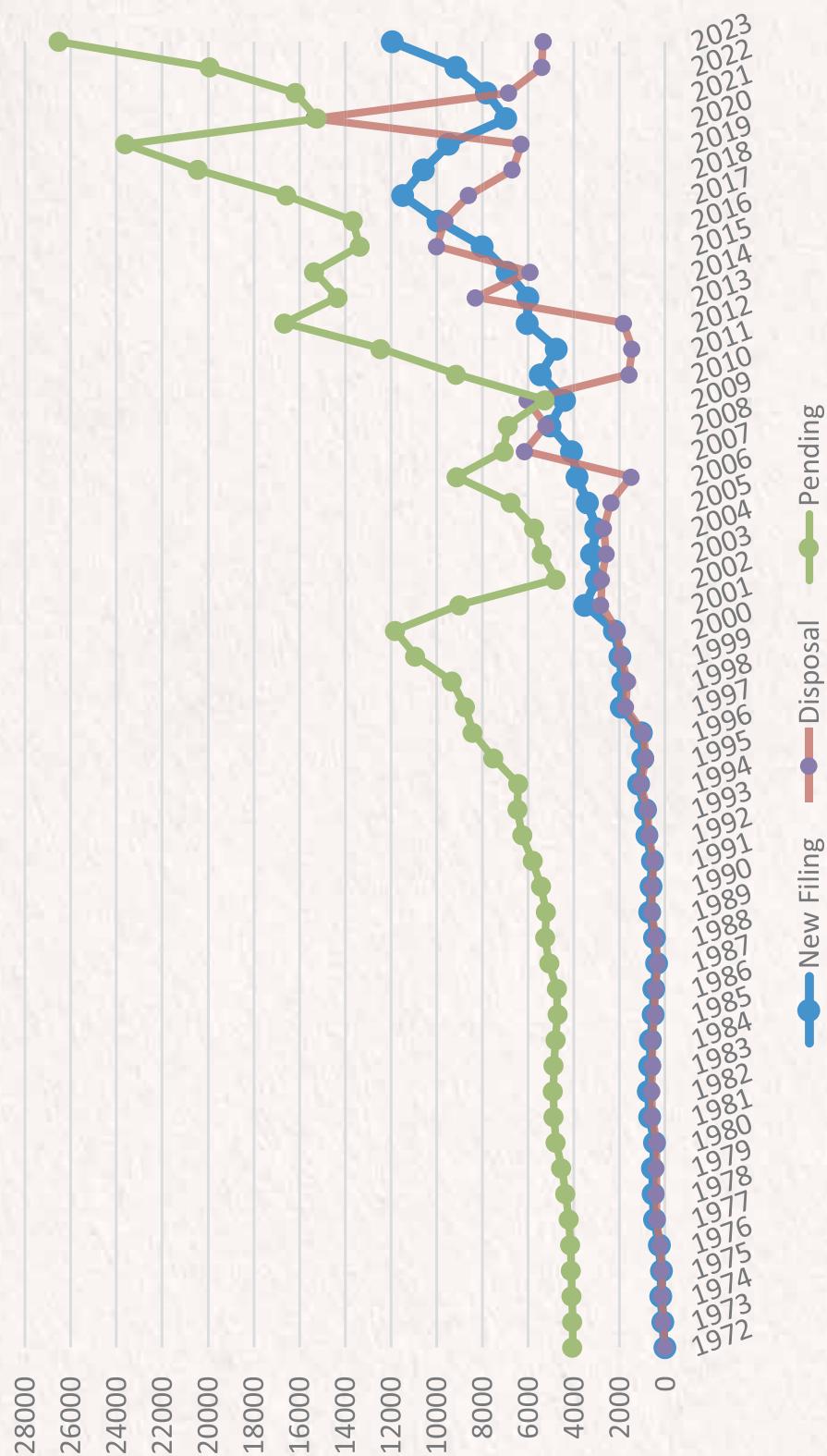


Figure 6: Line graph of pending, disposals & new filing of cases from the year 1972 to 2023

4. Analysis of the pending cases of the Appellate Division in 2023

The number of pending cases for the year 2023 is 26517, while the number of pending Petitions is 18213, that for Misc. Petitions is 4988 and Appeals is 3316.

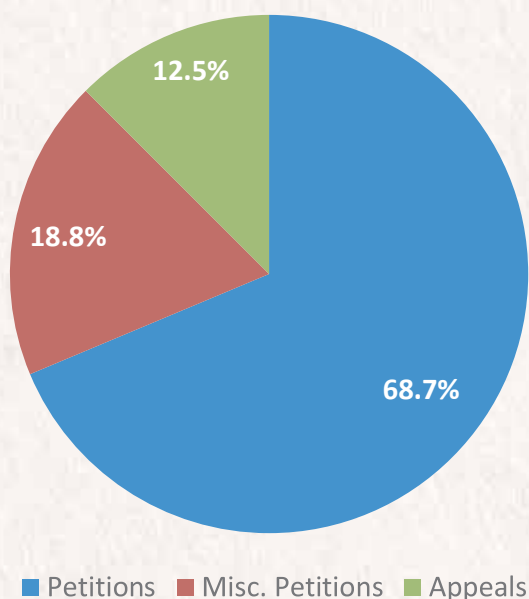


Figure 7: Pie Chart of all pending cases in the Appellate Division of Supreme Court of Bangladesh in the year 2023. There are 68.8% Petitions, 18.8% Misc. petitions and 12.5% Appeals of all the pending cases.

4.1. Pending Petitions

Carried over	New Filing	Total	Disposal	Pending for Disposal
13324	7607	20931	2718	18213

4.2. Pending Miscellaneous Petitions

Carried over	New Filing	Total	Disposal	Pending for Disposal
3330	4007	7337	2349	4988

4.3. Pending Appeals

Carried over	New Filing	Total	Disposal	Pending for Disposal
3274	324	3598	282	3316

5. Filing of new cases, disposal and pendency of cases in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh from 1972 to 2023

5.1. Petitions

Year	Opening Balance	Filing of new cases	Total	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
1972	2284	0	2284	0	2284
1973	2284	88	2372	72	2300
1974	2300	106	2406	98	2308
1975	2308	141	2449	135	2314
1976	2314	214	2528	195	2333
1977	2333	329	2662	297	2365
1978	2365	360	2725	325	2400
1979	2400	348	2748	315	2433
1980	2518	310	2828	289	2539
1981	2711	433	3144	410	2734
1982	2741	482	3223	420	2803
1983	2768	440	3208	425	2783
1984	2696	447	3143	427	2716
1985	2624	353	2977	325	2652
1986	2570	355	2925	335	2590
1987	2560	271	2831	253	2578
1988	2783	325	3108	306	2802
1989	2865	476	3341	443	2898
1990	2794	388	3182	365	2817
1991	2983	372	3355	352	3003
1992	3187	554	3741	515	3226
1993	3498	556	4054	495	3559
1994	3672	826	4498	793	3705
1995	3601	671	4272	598	3674
1996	4225	720	4945	689	4256
1997	4819	1222	6041	1102	4939
1998	5096	1283	6379	1147	5232
1999	5288	1279	6567	1265	5302
2000	6235	1339	7574	1296	6278
2001	6872	2212	9084	1583	7501
2002	5289	1933	7222	1833	5389
2003	2704	2098	4802	1778	3024
2004	3024	2154	5178	1741	3437
2005	3437	2345	5782	1651	4131
2006	4131	2435	6566	1070	5496
2007	5496	2743	8239	2982	5257
2008	5257	3324	8581	4786	3795
2009	3795	3085	6880	4736	2144
2010	2144	3586	5730	1300	4430
2011	4430	3072	7502	820	6682
2012	6682	4155	10837	1122	9715
2013	9715	3907	13622	4333	9289
2014	9289	4355	13644	3969	9675
2015	9675	4964	14639	6001	8638
2016	8638	6072	14710	8110	6600
2017	6600	7148	13748	6511	7237
2018	7237	7114	14351	3786	10565
2019	10565	6346	16911	3405	16506
2020	13506	4043	17549	7555	9994
2021	9994	5133	15127	4899	10228
2022	10228	5779	16007	2683	13324
2023	13324	7607	20931	2718	18213

5.2. Misc. Petitions

Year	Opening Balance	Filing of new cases	Total	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
1972	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1973	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1974	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1975	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1976	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1977	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1978	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1979	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1980	1392	0	1392	0	1392
1981	1392	108	1500	95	1405
1982	1348	96	1444	85	1359
1983	1318	51	1369	48	1321
1984	1339	55	1394	45	1349
1985	1361	69	1430	58	1372
1986	1367	67	1434	56	1378
1987	1416	64	1480	52	1428
1988	1463	105	1568	87	1481
1989	1503	99	1602	89	1513
1990	1541	137	1678	125	1553
1991	1581	127	1708	102	1606
1992	1685	165	1850	132	1718
1993	1791	206	1997	192	1805
1994	1838	238	2076	208	1868
1995	1892	239	2131	205	1926
1996	2260	262	2522	242	2280
1997	2464	573	3037	555	2482
1998	2495	446	2941	407	2534
1999	2731	586	3317	545	2772
2000	2895	643	3538	610	2928
2001	2988	709	3697	695	3002
2002	2293	703	2996	687	2309
2003	699	654	1353	639	714
2004	714	600	1314	727	587
2005	587	776	1363	503	860
2006	860	1199	2059	187	1872
2007	1872	1039	2911	2512	399
2008	399	1327	1726	264	1462
2009	1462	547	2009	811	1198
2010	1198	1500	2698	47	2651
2011	2701	1440	4141	482	3659
2012	3659	1633	5292	567	4725
2013	4725	1803	6528	3754	2774
2014	2774	2220	4994	1654	3340
2015	3340	2406	5746	3367	2379
2016	2379	2946	5325	943	4382
2017	4382	3697	8079	1687	6392
2018	6392	3167	9559	2632	6927
2019	6927	2584	9511	2754	6757
2020	6757	2137	8894	7267	1627
2021	1627	2374	4001	1792	2209
2022	2209	3181	5390	2060	3330
2023	3330	4007	7337	2349	4988

5.3. Appeals

Year	Opening Balance	Filing of new cases	Total	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
1972	361	14	375	11	364
1973	364	25	389	19	370
1974	370	79	449	55	394
1975	394	27	421	15	406
1976	406	43	449	29	420
1977	420	142	562	89	473
1978	473	170	643	75	568
1979	568	192	760	85	675
1980	625	144	769	83	686
1981	687	142	829	78	751
1982	781	145	926	91	835
1983	823	172	995	92	903
1984	840	133	973	93	880
1985	817	109	926	86	840
1986	769	70	839	53	786
1987	760	38	798	29	769
1988	818	44	862	31	831
1989	887	87	974	65	909
1990	879	100	979	85	894
1991	876	57	933	43	890
1992	930	82	1012	62	950
1993	965	97	1062	78	984
1994	950	97	1047	69	978
1995	940	63	1003	47	956
1996	1026	59	1085	39	1046
1997	1127	133	1260	89	1171
1998	1160	140	1300	95	1205
1999	1311	122	1433	108	1325
2000	1799	246	2045	210	1835
2001	1956	596	2552	541	2011
2002	1415	367	1782	269	1513
2003	1378	460	1838	170	1668
2004	1668	267	1935	222	1713
2005	1713	284	1997	218	1779
2006	1779	221	2000	244	1756
2007	1756	311	2067	652	1415
2008	1415	390	1805	170	1635
2009	1635	771	2406	488	1918
2010	1918	328	2246	236	2010
2011	2010	237	2247	147	2100
2012	2100	248	2348	141	2207
2013	2207	279	2486	211	2275
2014	2275	344	2619	288	2331
2015	2331	637	2968	624	2344
2016	2344	927	3271	581	2690
2017	2690	639	3329	393	2936
2018	2936	291	3227	277	2950
2019	2950	548	3498	144	3354
2020	3354	778	4132	528	3604
2021	3604	299	3903	168	3735
2022	3735	202	3937	663	3274
2023	3274	324	3598	282	3316

6. Maximum number of Judges at a time during the years from 1972 to 2023 in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Period	Number of Judges including Chief Justice
1972	3
1973	4
1974	5
1975	5
1976	5
1977	5
1978	4
1979	5
1980	5
1981	5
1982	5
1983	5
1984	5
1985	4
1986	5
1987	5
1988	5
1989	5
1990	5
1991	5
1992	5
1993	5
1994	5
1995	4
1996	5
1997	5
1998	5
1999	6
2000	5
2001	5
2002	5
2003	7
2004	8
2005	7
2006	7
2007	6
2008	7
2009	11
2010	8
2011	10
2012	7
2013	10
2014	9
2015	8
2016	9
2017	9
2018	7
2019	7
2020	9
2021	7
2022	9
2023	8

STATISTICS ON FILING OF NEW CASES, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES IN THE HIGH COURT DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

1. Statement showing new filing, disposal & pendency of cases (from 01 January, 2023 to 31 December, 2023)

1.1. Statement for all cases from 01 January, 2023 to 31 December, 2023 in the High Court Division of Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Cases	Opening Balance	New Filing	Restored	Total	Disposal	Current Pendency	Remarks
Civil	91192	9189	40	100421	5368	95053	Increased by 3861
Criminal	305816	71965	01	377782	55218	322564	Increased by 16748
Writ	102595	17188	12	119795	12899	106896	Increased by 4301
Original	17071	3056	0	20127	793	19334	Increased by 2263
Grand Total	516674	101398	53	618125	74278	543847	Increased by 27173

Consolidated statement for all cases from 01 January, 2023 to 31 December, 2023

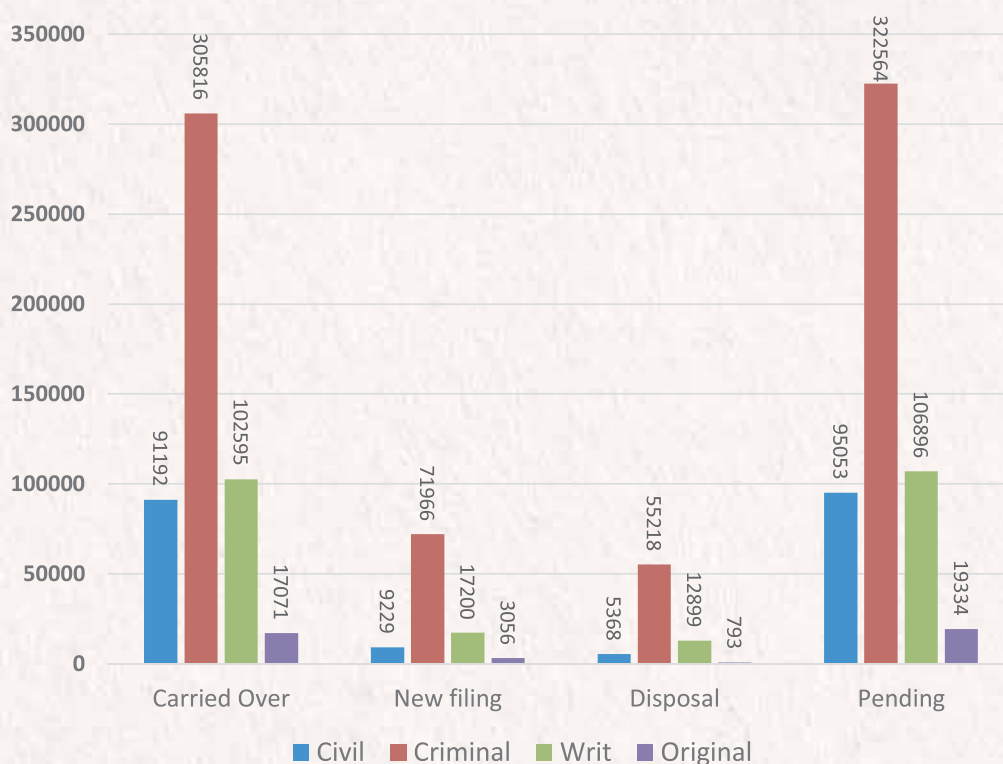


Figure 1: Vertical Bar Chart of pendency, new filing and disposal of all cases in the year 2023 in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

2. Statistical data analysis for the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

2. 1. Year-wise new filing, disposal and pendency of all cases from 1972 to 2023

Years	New Filing	Disposal	Pending
1972	2461	3873	20567
1973	5654	3657	24063
1974	8844	6402	28186
1975	4896	5190	29545
1976	4515	7241	28287
1977	5656	8195	26676
1978	5765	7309	26620
1979	5145	7597	24716
1980	4026	7032	22779
1981	5054	6950	21652
1982	919	3615	21061
1983	1550	5456	19115
1984	1891	3556	21159
1985	2960	3529	22460
1986	3558	3360	24468
1987	5187	3272	28810
1988	8220	3564	33289
1989	11381	6099	37739
1990	11583	9789	39261
1991	12809	5565	45681
1992	14098	6543	51764
1993	13775	7799	57749
1994	15061	8401	64281
1995	17326	10844	70990
1996	21045	11526	79457
1997	23838	12337	88388
1998	23909	13744	97574
1999	24143	11863	108323
2000	27931	11049	122178
2001	32328	16014	135879
2002	45627	22048	154168
2003	37734	20331	168447
2004	34217	15581	184811
2005	42900	16894	208389
2006	48056	13839	240483
2007	47555	16578	262345
2008	53220	21664	293901
2009	53155	21485	325571
2010	57470	69306	313735
2011	45084	68425	279923
2012	56732	38437	297731
2013	50010	24295	323446
2014	60069	22477	361038
2015	70940	37753	394225
2016	70647	39878	424994
2017	87252	35496	476750
2018	88801	49035	516652
2019	107568	135275	489068
2020	64013	34192	452963
2021	83216	23654	512576
2022	91498	87474	516674
2023	101451	74278	543847

2.2. Some Visible Trends

2.2.1. Trend of new filing, disposal and pendency (1972 to 2023)

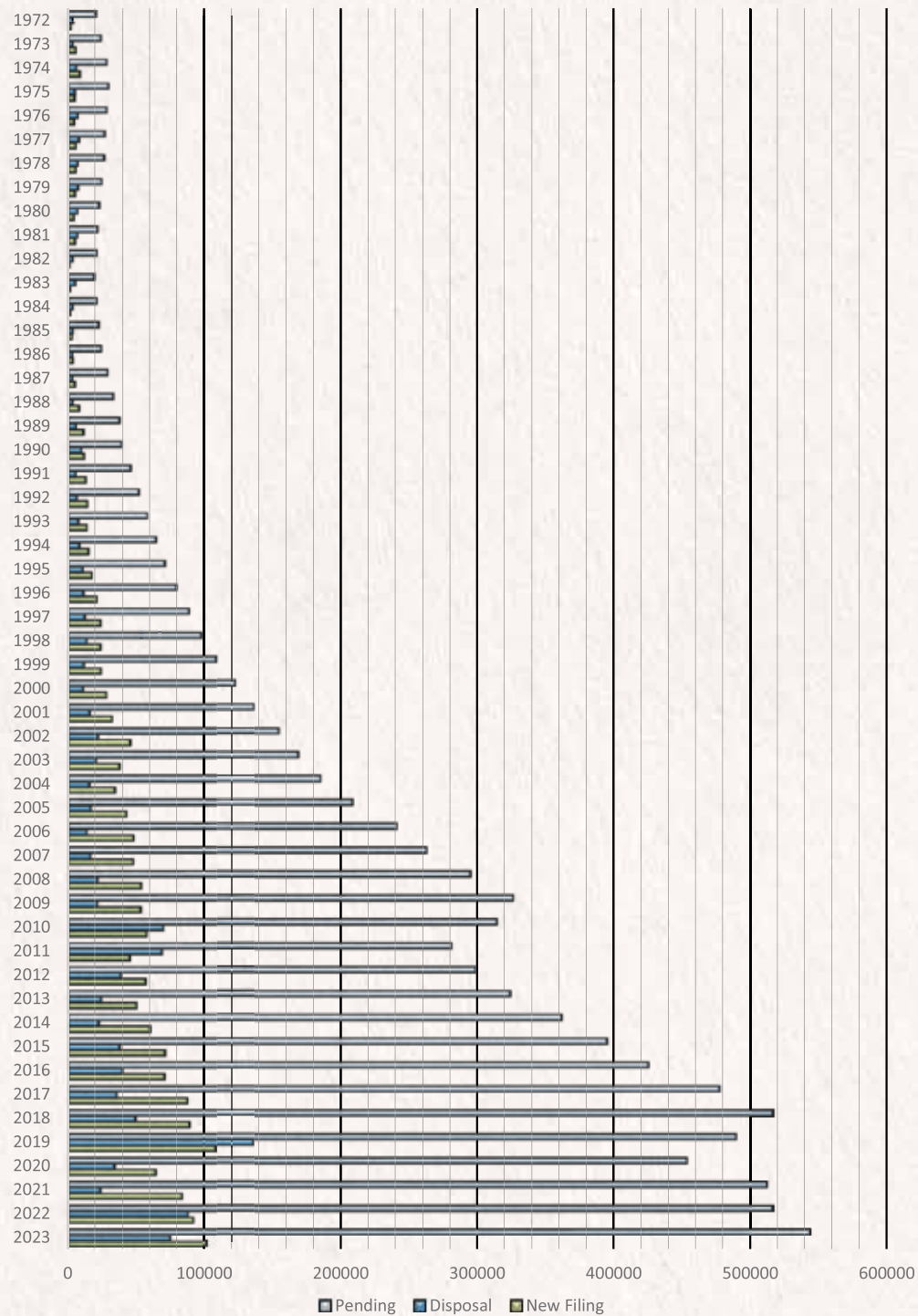


Figure 2: Horizontal Bar Chart of new filing, disposal and pending cases in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh from the year 1972 to 2023

2.2.2. Trend of new filing of cases from the year 1972 to 2023

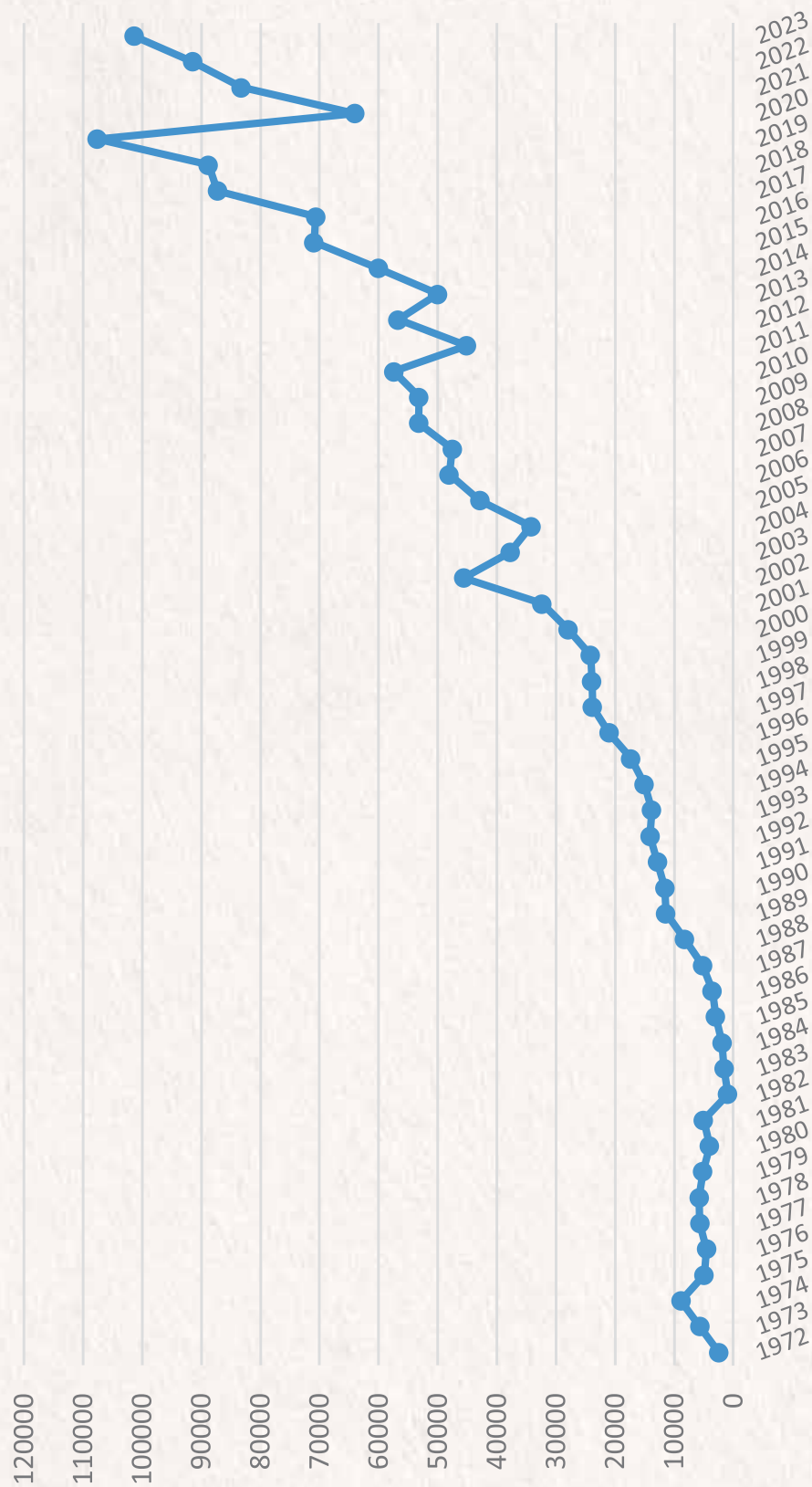


Figure 3: Line graph of filing of new cases from the year 1972 to 2023

2.2.3. Trend of disposal of cases from the year 1972 to 2023

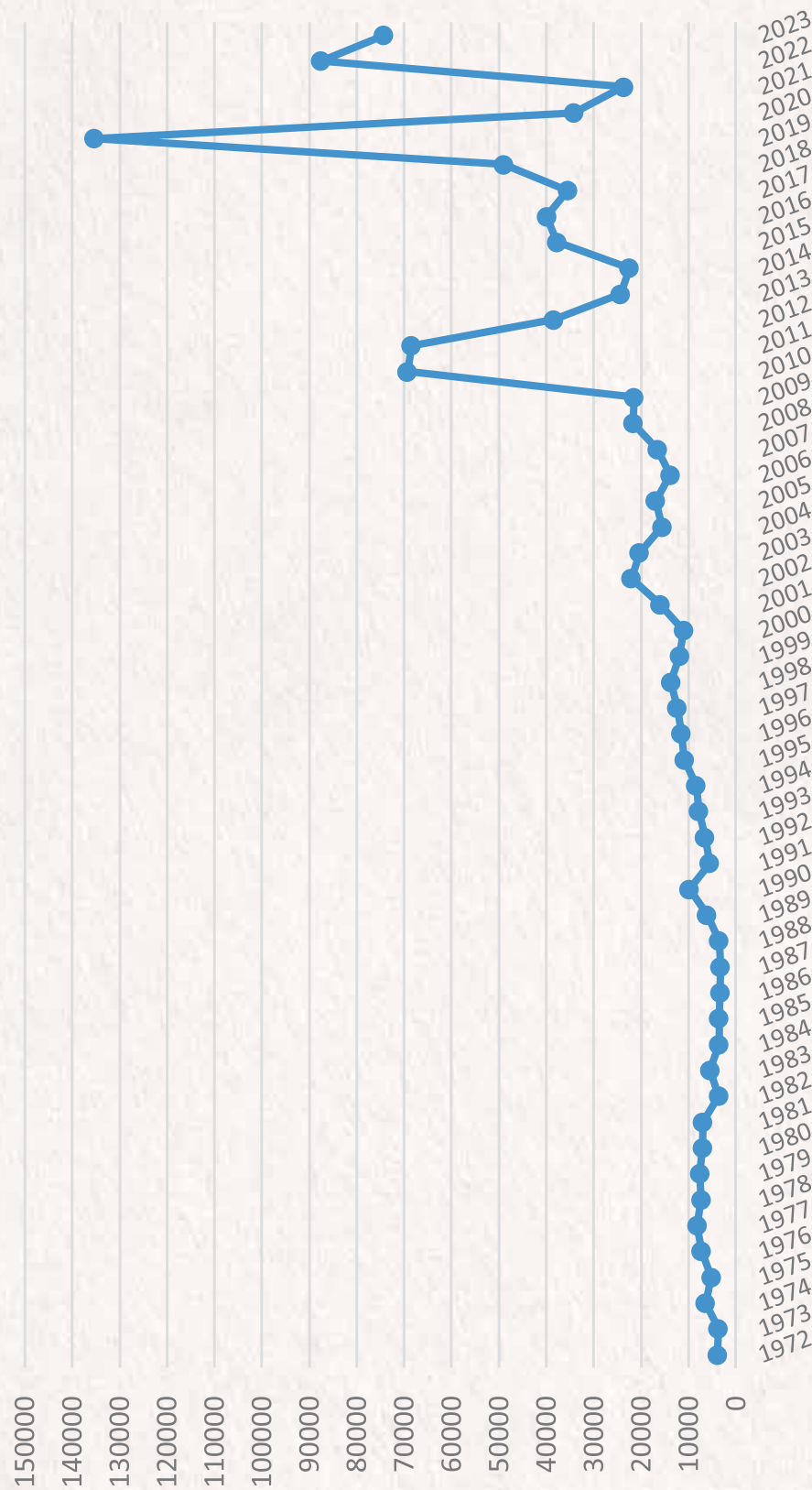


Figure 4: Line graph of disposal of cases from the year 1972 to 2023

2.2.4. Trend of pending cases from the year 1972 to 2023

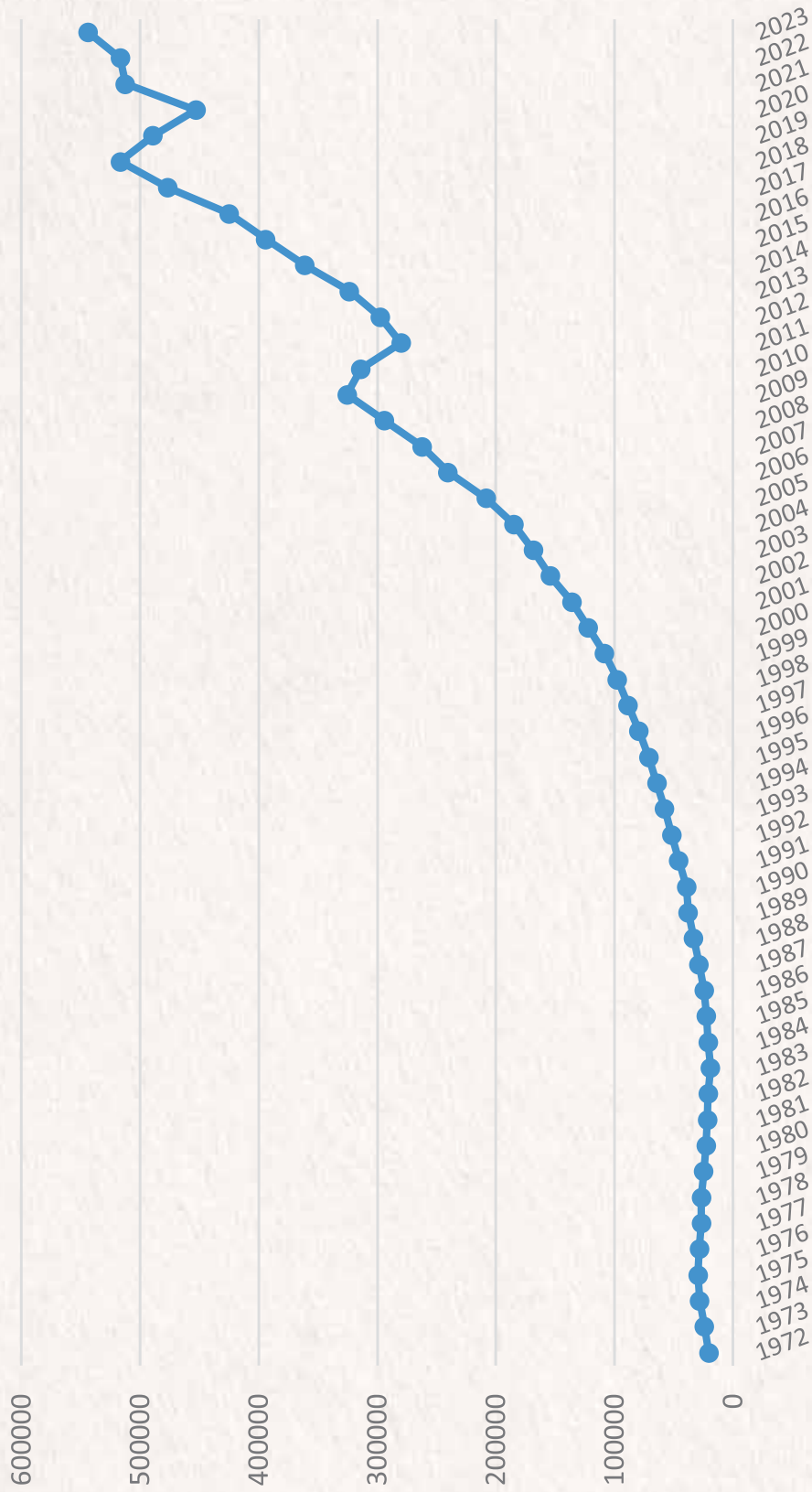


Figure 5: Line graph of pending cases from the year 1972 to 2023

2.2.5. Comparative Chart of new filing, disposal and pending cases from the year 1972 to 2023

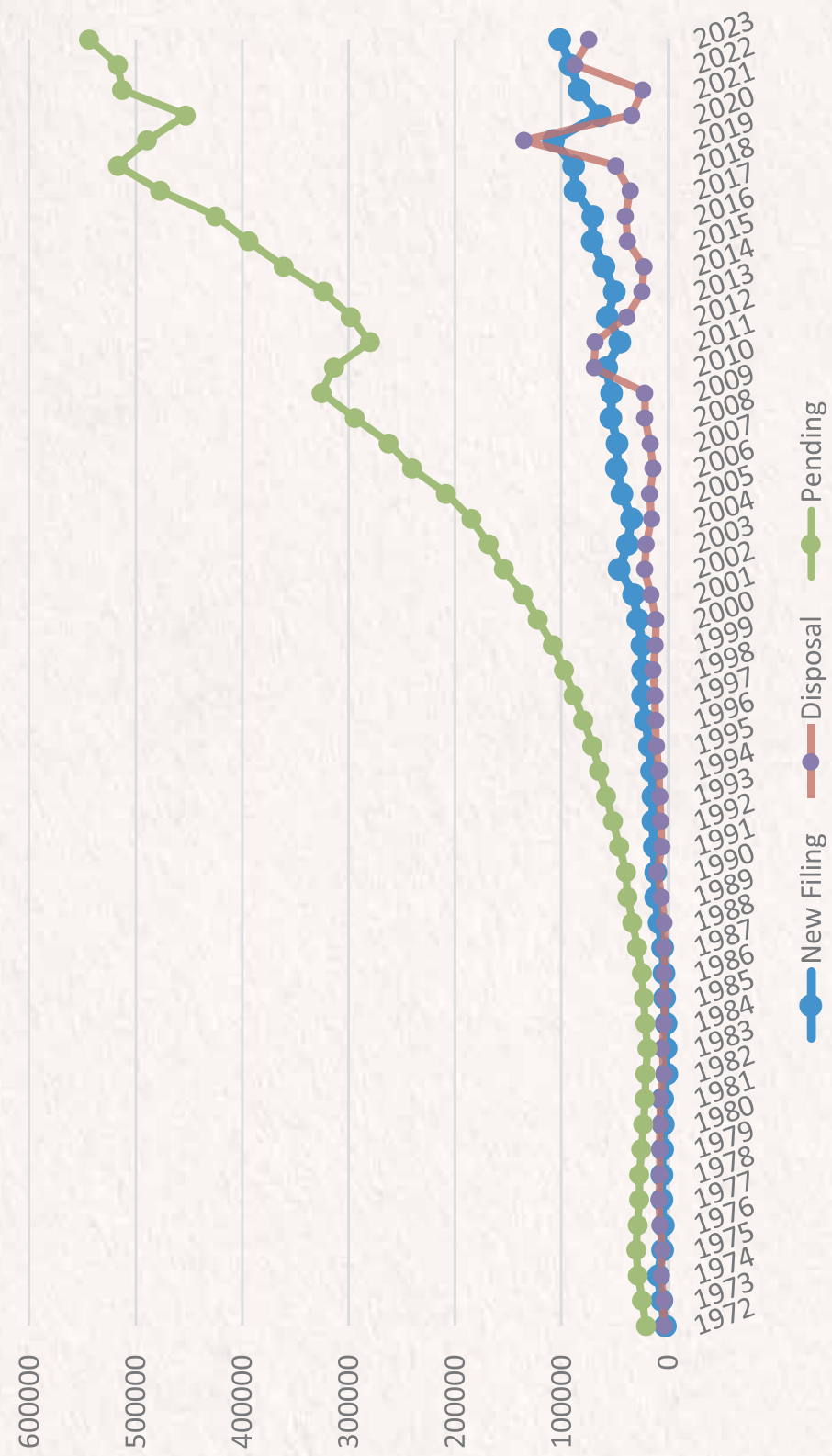


Figure 6: Line graph of pending, disposal & filing of new cases from the year 1972 to 2023

3. Analysis of the pending balance for the High Court Division in 2023

The number of all pending cases for the year 2023 is 543847, while the pending balance for Civil Cases is 95053, that for Criminal Cases is 322564, for Writ is 106896 and for Original Cases is 19334.

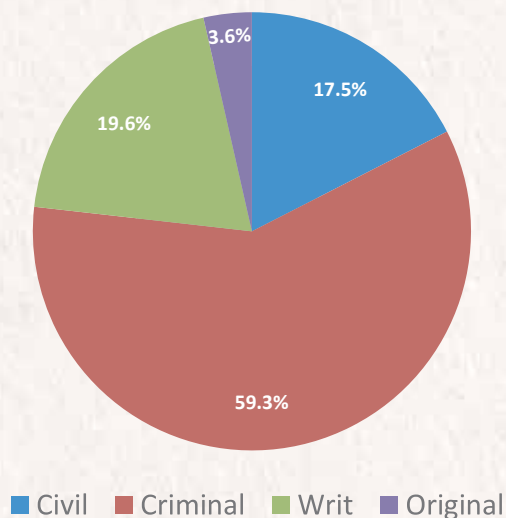


Figure 7: Pie Chart of all pending cases in the High Court Division in the year 2023.

There are 59.3% Criminal cases, 17.5% Civil cases, 19.6% Writ and 3.6% Original cases of all the pending cases.

3.1. Pending Civil Cases

Carried over	New Filing and Restoration	Total	Disposal	Pending for Disposal
91192	9229	100421	5368	95053

3.2. Pending Criminal Cases

Opening Balance	New Filing and Restoration	Total	Disposal	Pending for Disposal
305816	71966	377782	55218	322564

3.3. Writ

Opening Balance	New Filing and Restoration	Total	Disposal	Pending for Disposal
102595	17200	119795	12899	106896

3.4. Original

Opening Balance	New Filing and Restoration	Total	Disposal	Pending for Disposal
17071	3056	20127	793	19334

4. Filing of new cases, disposal and pendency of cases in the High Court Division from 1972 to 2023

4.1. Civil Cases

Year	Carried over	New Filing	Total	Disposal	Pending
1972	15517	1615	17132	752	16380
1973	16380	2771	19151	798	18353
1974	18353	3884	22237	3498	18739
1975	18739	2593	21332	1955	19377
1976	19377	2775	22152	2323	19829
1977	19829	2652	22481	3933	18548
1978	18548	2769	21317	3550	17767
1979	17767	2391	20158	3391	16767
1980	16767	1268	18035	2755	15280
1981	15280	2656	17936	3819	14117
1982	14117	489	14606	783	13823
1983	13823	667	14490	2325	12165
1984	13823	1044	14867	864	14003
1985	14003	1359	15362	873	14489
1986	14489	1534	16023	606	15417
1987	15417	2750	18167	750	17417
1988	17417	1575	18992	998	17994
1989	17994	4284	22278	2467	19811
1990	19811	4595	24406	4033	20373
1991	20373	4595	24968	2033	22935
1992	22935	4435	27370	2289	25081
1993	25081	5017	30098	2850	27248
1994	27248	5884	33132	3935	29197
1995	29197	6440	35637	3137	32500
1996	32500	5942	38442	3340	35102
1997	35102	6839	41941	5078	36863
1998	36863	7540	44403	4314	40089
1999	40089	7589	47678	3428	44250
2000	44250	8565	52815	2384	50431
2001	50431	9348	59779	4185	55594
2002	55594	9020	64614	6400	58214
2003	58214	7447	65661	4656	61005
2004	61005	7908	68913	3801	65112
2005	65112	7253	72365	3723	68642
2006	68642	6867	75509	3693	71816
2007	71816	7721	79537	4881	74656
2008	74656	6257	80913	5275	75638
2009	75638	6716	82354	6565	75789
2010	75789	6667	82456	4597	77859
2011	77859	6662	84521	5118	79403
2012	79403	6418	85821	5233	80588
2013	80588	5691	86279	3472	82807
2014	82807	6471	89278	4862	84416
2015	84416	7088	91504	4194	87310
2016	87310	6603	93913	3665	90248
2017	90248	6431	96679	3505	93174
2018	93174	6471	99645	4021	95624
2019	95624	6013	101637	4021	97616
2020	97616	3702	286470	2686	87282
2021	87282	4371	91653	3276	88377
2022	88377	7564	95941	4749	91192
2023	91192	9229	100421	5368	95053

4.2. Criminal Cases

Year	Carried over	New Filing	Total	Disposal	Pending
1972	3391	544	3935	1016	2919
1973	2919	1964	4883	784	4099
1974	4099	3349	7448	826	6622
1975	6622	1767	8389	1041	7348
1976	7348	1093	8441	2720	5721
1977	5721	1876	7597	2051	5546
1978	5546	1881	7427	1678	5749
1979	5749	1718	7467	2058	5409
1980	5409	1597	7006	2006	5000
1981	5000	1397	6397	1076	5321
1982	5321	320	5641	674	4967
1983	4967	663	5630	985	4645
1984	4645	595	5240	490	4750
1985	4750	748	5498	486	5012
1986	5012	1248	6260	529	5731
1987	5731	1264	6995	371	6624
1988	6624	3950	10574	289	10285
1989	10285	4487	14772	1579	13193
1990	13193	4664	17857	3053	14804
1991	14804	4679	19483	1399	18084
1992	18084	4822	22906	1879	21027
1993	21027	6170	27197	2507	24690
1994	24690	6189	30879	2131	28748
1995	28748	7786	36534	5417	31117
1996	31117	8279	39396	5978	33418
1997	33418	8560	41978	4927	37051
1998	37051	11508	48559	7021	41538
1999	41538	10881	52419	5910	46509
2000	46509	12445	58954	5790	53164
2001	53164	15092	68256	9219	59037
2002	59037	27000	86037	13192	72845
2003	72845	21363	94208	13300	80908
2004	80908	18297	99205	9332	89873
2005	89873	25179	115052	10760	104292
2006	104292	27747	132039	7833	124206
2007	124206	27779	151985	9035	142950
2008	142950	34492	177442	7071	170371
2009	170371	36725	207096	8096	199000
2010	199000	39631	238631	56705	181926
2011	179698	25573	205271	52149	153122
2012	153122	31258	184380	24108	160272
2013	160272	30137	190409	12414	177995
2014	177995	39301	217296	7745	209551
2015	209551	47870	257421	19457	237964
2016	237964	45353	283317	25836	257481
2017	257481	59491	316972	19337	297635
2018	297635	63623	361258	31923	329335
2019	329335	83688	413023	120594	292429
2020	292429	47170	286457	24682	261775
2021	261775	62929	324704	12034	312670
2022	312670	64097	376767	70951	305816
2023	305816	71966	377782	55218	322564

4.3. Writs

Year	Carried over	New Filing	Total	Disposal	Pending
1972	799	8	807	10	797
1973	797	751	1548	474	1074
1974	1074	1461	2535	293	2242
1975	2242	438	2680	322	2358
1976	2358	538	2896	508	2388
1977	2388	975	3363	1049	2314
1978	2314	1027	3341	490	2851
1979	2851	923	3774	1431	2343
1980	2343	1057	3400	911	2489
1981	2489	899	3388	1220	2168
1982	2168	0	2168	0	2168
1983	2168	0	2168	0	2168
1984	2168	0	2168	0	2168
1985	2168	567	2735	57	2678
1986	2678	494	3172	252	2920
1987	2920	890	3810	102	3708
1988	3708	1745	5453	1560	3893
1989	3893	2490	6383	2361	4022
1990	4022	2015	6037	2917	3120
1991	3120	3142	6262	2567	3695
1992	3695	4455	8150	3356	4794
1993	4794	2244	7038	2097	4941
1994	4941	2639	7580	2174	5406
1995	5406	2745	8151	1830	6321
1996	6321	6490	12811	3042	9769
1997	9769	7988	17757	4539	13218
1998	13218	4362	17580	2958	14622
1999	14622	5078	19700	3162	16538
2000	16538	6345	22883	5349	17534
2001	17534	7256	24790	4614	20176
2002	20176	8782	28958	7292	21666
2003	21666	7722	29388	5127	24261
2004	24261	7192	31453	4276	27177
2005	27177	9628	36805	4433	32372
2006	32372	12693	45065	4129	40936
2007	40936	11166	52102	11122	40980
2008	40980	11589	52569	8915	43654
2009	43654	8848	52502	6370	46132
2010	46132	10330	56462	7303	49159
2011	40916	11587	52503	10924	41579
2012	41579	18003	59582	8028	51554
2013	51554	13013	64567	7473	57094
2014	57094	12861	69955	8688	61267
2015	61267	14347	75614	13457	62157
2016	62157	17026	79183	9857	69326
2017	69326	19563	88889	12119	76770
2018	76770	17234	94004	12560	81444
2019	81444	16415	97859	10006	87853
2020	87853	11930	97667	6471	91196
2021	91196	13853	105049	7970	97079
2022	97079	16871	113950	11355	102595
2023	102595	17200	119795	12899	106896

4.4. Original Cases

Year	Carried over	New Filing	Total	Disposal	Pending
1972	310	294	604	133	471
1973	471	168	639	102	537
1974	537	150	687	104	583
1975	583	98	681	219	462
1976	462	109	571	222	349
1977	349	153	502	234	268
1978	268	88	356	103	253
1979	253	113	366	169	197
1980	197	104	301	291	10
1981	10	102	120	74	46
1982	46	110	266	176	103
1983	103	220	355	163	137
1984	137	252	423	218	238
1985	238	286	520	185	281
1986	281	282	564	239	400
1987	400	283	1350	164	1061
1988	1061	950	1181	289	1117
1989	1117	120	1426	64	713
1990	713	309	1106	713	964
1991	964	393	1350	142	967
1992	967	386	1311	383	862
1993	862	344	1211	449	870
1994	870	349	1225	341	930
1995	930	355	1264	295	1052
1996	1052	334	1503	212	1168
1997	1168	451	1667	335	1256
1998	1256	499	1851	411	1325
1999	1325	595	1901	526	1026
2000	1026	576	1658	875	1049
2001	1049	632	1681	609	1072
2002	1072	825	1897	454	1443
2003	1443	1202	2645	372	2273
2004	2273	820	3093	444	2649
2005	2649	840	3489	406	3083
2006	3083	749	3832	307	3525
2007	3525	889	4414	655	3759
2008	3759	882	4641	403	4238
2009	4238	866	5104	454	4650
2010	4650	842	5492	701	4791
2011	4791	1262	6053	721	5332
2012	5332	1053	6385	1068	5317
2013	5317	1169	6486	936	5550
2014	5550	1436	6986	1182	5804
2015	5804	1635	7439	645	6794
2016	6794	1665	8459	520	7939
2017	7939	1767	9706	535	9171
2018	9171	1609	10780	531	10249
2019	10249	1575	11824	654	11170
2020	11170	1273	13063	353	12710
2021	12710	2114	14824	374	14450
2022	14450	3040	17490	419	17071
2023	17071	3056	20127	793	19334

5. Maximum number of Judges at a time during the years from 1972 to 2023 in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Period	Number of Judges
1972	10
1973	8
1974	12
1975	12
1976	13
1977	18
1978	17
1979	16
1980	19
1981	18
1982	18
1983	18
1984	24
1985	24
1986	21
1987	25
1988	29
1989	29
1990	29
1991	28
1992	25
1993	31
1994	38
1995	35
1996	30
1997	36
1998	36
1999	39
2000	43
2001	48
2002	55
2003	48
2004	54
2005	72
2006	71
2007	68
2008	67
2009	78
2010	94
2011	98
2012	101
2013	95
2014	90
2015	97
2016	95
2017	89
2018	95
2019	100
2020	97
2021	92
2022	97
2023	91



BOOK LAUNCH ADDRESS*

Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed

High Court Division
Supreme Court of Bangladesh

It is a truism that a State should try so far as possible to govern through a coherent set of principles whose benefit it extends to all citizens. The judiciary's role as an organ of the State is to declare the true and legal content of such principles. That, in my opinion, is the essence of rule of law and hence constitutionalism.

This SOAS South Asia Institute (SSAI) Book Launch event provides a platform for this new publication on the history of the constitution to bring forth ideas and recommendations at a significant juncture for the nation.

The publication is a critical analysis of the current state of constitutionalism in Bangladesh as probed into by 14 chapters in the book which is an honest and bold effort to take the Constitution to the world.

The objective is to provide a prognosis of constitutionalism in the years and decades ahead through a holistic consideration of the present state of the Constitution, a document, which stands out for its resilience over the past half-a-century or so.

There is a common thread binding the chapters or essays in this book – and that is the belief that the Constitution is a living document permitting of perpetual reinvention. In this, much reliance is placed on the competence, authority and power of an independent judiciary to undertake the progressive interpretation of the Constitution. Indeed, this is key to the survival of the Constitution itself.

That is where my modest contribution to the book becomes relevant. Purely jurisprudential and autobiographical in nature, my chapter on the rule of law sifts through judgments from the perspectives of positivism and realism and the take away for the reader from it will, I hope, be that the *“enthronement of the law”* (to borrow a phrase from Sir Thomas Bingham, Former Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales) clearly places the independent judicial function of interpreting and applying the law at the forefront of the separation of powers under the Bangladeshi constitutional régime. That in turn is the essence of the notion of rule of law as is readily discernible in the Bangladeshi context in the constitutional supremacy clause i.e. article 7 which declares the Constitution as the solemn expression of the will of the people. As a realist I believe that it would be a folly to treat such popular will to be static and not mutable. Accordingly, the spirit of the Constitution over and beyond merely the letter of the Constitution must stay abreast of such popular will. Failure to do so places constitutionalism itself at risk.

In my opinion, the primacy given to popular will lies latent in the very genesis of the Constitution as a social contract aiming for the establishment of a democratic society free from exploitation through limited government. In the annals of the liberal tradition of political thought this best corresponds to John Locke's narrative of the relation between the *‘Sovereign State’* and the *‘Sovereign People’* in the context of the people being recognized as the legitimate source of the State's powers. In that sense, a constitution as a compact is basically a license to a limited government upon express conditions attached marking, in Locke's vision, the essential transitory device from a state of nature to that of regulated governance.

David Held thinks that transition to limited government becomes necessary on account of inadequate regulation of guarantees to life, liberty, and property and the resultant conflicts arising in the state of nature. The device adopted to oversee this transition is a social compact to organize into an independent

* Speech by Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed on Wednesday, 25 October, 2023 at SOAS, University of London, United Kingdom at the launch of "A History of the Constitution of Bangladesh: The Founding, Development, and Way Ahead" (Routledge, 2023)

society that gives up certain facets of its autonomy to a civil association to govern in a manner that ideally best serves the governed. The citizenry organised in a civil-political society retains the power as final arbiter of the quality of governance and of resultantly ushering change in the instrument and mode of governance. Locke presciently opined that in return for legislative and executive rights so relinquished by the citizenry, the social compact significantly made the citizenry the repository of “sovereign power” or capacity to determine the beneficial use of such rights. Such consent given, actively and directly, to establish a governmental structure led to such consent being deemed to be expressed through the people’s representatives to govern as trustees as per the social compact.

Constitutionalism broken down into its core components of democratic governance, human rights, and rule of law presupposes too the existence of an independent judiciary. The concept of judicial independence is a complex one and the quest for attaining and maintaining such independence is equally daunting.

I would, therefore, be remiss if I, as a stakeholder in the judiciary, did not reflect here on the issue as has a bearing on the judiciary in the ultimate analysis remaining a functional and relevant, if not an indispensable, organ of the State.

The starting point here must, as the *UN Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary* declare, be the ability and authority of the judiciary to-

“decide matters... impartially,... without any restrictions, improper influences, inducements, pressures, threats or interferences, direct or indirect, from any quarter or for any reason.”

The terms ‘influences’, ‘pressures’ and ‘interference’ as are so inextricably linked with the independent functioning of any judiciary are correlative to forces *external* to the judiciary and the extent to which they may bear on the discharge of judicial functions. These determine the *extent* to which the judiciary may act impartially free of bias, prejudice, fear and other extra-judicial compulsions and constraints. Indeed, the three organs of the State – the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary – in an ideal constitutional structuring are intended to operate as checks and balances on each other as governed by an overarching aim of ‘*separation of powers*’. That view entails the necessity for each branch or organ to discharge its functions “*responsibly and (with) restraint*”. Experience shows that such restraint is often elusive requiring concerted and deliberate efforts at regulating such separation. Indeed, that objective, as is the bedrock of a constitutional democracy founded on the rule of law, is best exemplified in our jurisdiction by article 22 of the Constitution as enjoins upon the State to ensure the separation of the judiciary from the executive organ of the State. Nowhere is that intent, however, better put to the test than in the mechanisms adopted for judicial appointments. In the Bangladeshi context, half-a-century into the adoption of the Constitution, we find ourselves still aspiring to putting together a full-proof system in that regard. What therefore remain our aspirations in these circumstances?

Well, to highlight yet another truism, institutional independence demands that the mode of appointment, regulation of tenure of service and the disciplining of judges be free of executive and legislative interference. This is complemented by the universally accepted standards of accountability which endorse “*a Code of Ethics and Conduct*” devised and implemented by the judiciary to gauge accountability (for example, through establishment of “*a credible, independent judicial ethics review committee*”) and to enforce disciplinary measures through bodies or tribunals as are “*independent and impartial.*” Here, the preferred mode of oversight and regulation is one of collegiate authority in the form of a judiciary council with majority representation from the judiciary. While lay representation on such bodies or councils - as are assigned independent and deliberative powers of appointments and discipline - remains almost universally recommended, the degree of political representation therein is either envisaged to be minimal or indeed emphatically reduced to none at all.

To this end, the *Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct* provide additional context to the *UN Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary* in providing primary objectives for the judiciary, two of which are:

- Provide a framework to judges and the judiciary for ethical judicial conduct; and
- ensure that judges remain accountable for their conduct to appropriate institutions as are themselves independent and impartial.

Indeed, within the Bangladesh Constitution, the elements of the rule of law are readily discernible

in the supremacy of the Constitution “as the solemn expression of the will of the people” (declared in article 7), as well as the separation of the judiciary from the executive (endorsed in article 22). These provisions clearly attest to an independent and autonomously functioning judiciary submitting only to the popular will reflected in the Constitution itself while sitting in judgment over legislative, executive and quasi-judicial actions, decisions and orders. The republican moorings of the Constitution are therefore undeniable as is its potential for aiding a better understanding of judicial independence and autonomy under our constitutional dispensation. All that is needed now is the harnessing of political and judicial will to translate that into reality through clearly formulated laws and regulations. Pending such action, we in our jurisdiction would, however, be unduly complacent and myopic in indefinitely nurturing a straitjacketed view of achieving and sustaining judicial independence and autonomy.

Jurisdictions around the world today are also readily adapting to altered realities, burgeoning expectations and self-realizations at serving not only as an organ of State but as a relevant one. To that end, visionaries continue to guide the strengthening of the judiciary by robustly renegotiating its relationships with the other competing organs and engaging more beneficially with its constitutional and natural constituency, the general public. The options are many and varied here and range from judges and judicial officers acting as innovators and technopreneurs devising justice delivery products within a system that prides itself on efficiency and cost-effectiveness (the Singaporean experience comes readily to mind here) to factoring in Ai in making sentencing recommendations.

I take a pause to highlight a Bangladeshi success story here- i.e., the setting up of virtual courts that saw us through two years of the pandemic. (The man who oversaw the devising, implementation, and successful run of the virtual courts is happily present here today, - Justice M. Imman Ali).

Overall, however, in the Bangladeshi and the larger South Asian context and given the region's socio-economic realities, judicial activism and creativity and the progressives and beneficial interpretation of the Constitution have become the bywords for what I would term broadly as *beneficent or welfare constitutionalism* [as evident in the proliferation of Public Interest Litigations or PILs in South Asian jurisdictions].

Completing a full circle from where I began a while ago, two basic requirements, i.e.,

- respect for the sovereign will of the people;
- belief in the organic nature of the Constitution

become fundamental for upholding the rule of law. This publication marking the 50 years of the Bangladesh Constitution indicates the pathways through which this may be fully achieved armed with the tools found largely in the Constitution itself.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to leave you with a quote in Bangla which is an affirmation of the reinforcing roles of welfare constitutionalism, the rule of law and an independent “activist” judiciary as I have tried to place before you. This is extracted from an essay penned by Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh to mark Constitution Day, 2000 but which still resonates with us today.

আমরা যেহেতু এখানে অনেকেই বাংলা ভাষাভাষি আমার মনে হয়েছে যে সংবিধান দিবস উপলক্ষে লেখা একটি প্রবন্ধের (যা ২০০২ সনে লেখা হয়েছিল) উপসংহারে বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট এর সিনিয়র এডভোকেট সৈয়দ ইস্তিয়াক আহমেদ এই বক্তব্যটি রেখেছিলেন যা আজকের এই অনুষ্ঠানের জন্য তাৎপর্যপূর্ণ বলে আমি মনে করি। প্রবন্ধের সেই অংশটি আমি এখন পড়ে শুনাই:

“সব সংবিধানই একটি শাস্ত ও জীবন্ত দলিল। স্বল্প পরিধির ভিতর রাষ্ট্রীয় শাসনের নীতি ও পদ্ধতি সন্নিবেশিত করা হয় এই দলিলে। সংবিধানের ব্যাখ্যার দায়িত্ব উচ্চতর আদালতের আর সেই ব্যাখ্যা যদি কাল ও সময়ের প্রয়োজন মেটাতে সক্ষম না হয় তাহলে সংবিধান হয়ে দাঁড়ায় এক *dead letter* যা জীবন্ত গাছ থেকে বারে পড়ে শুকনো পাতার মত। তাই উচ্চতর আদালতে আসীন বিচারকদের প্রাথমিক ও মহান দায়িত্ব হল অনাগত ভবিষ্যতের সমাজব্যবস্থার প্রয়োজন মেটাতে সক্ষম, সংবিধানের এমন এক প্রগতিশীল ব্যাখ্যা দেয়া। এ দায়িত্ব পালন আমাদের মত অনুন্নত দেশে “*Judicial Activism*” এর মাধ্যমেই সম্ভব। সাংবিধানিক আইন ব্যাখ্যার ক্ষেত্রে আমাদের বিচারব্যবস্থাকে অগ্রণী ভূমিকা পালন করতে হবে। এই প্রক্রিয়া সাংবিধানিক ঘাত-প্রতিঘাতে এবং গণতান্ত্রিক ব্যবস্থার অবর্তমানে ব্যাহত হয়েছে। কিন্তু গত ১০ বছর ধরে একটানা ভাবে সাংবিধানিক ব্যবস্থা কয়েম আছে। এই সময়কালে সাংবিধানিক আইন ও ব্যাখ্যার ক্ষেত্রে আমাদের উচ্চতর আদালত কখনো কখনো বলিষ্ঠ ভূমিকা পালন করলেও “*Judicial Activism*” বা “*Creativity*” এর স্পষ্ট অথবা উৎকর্ষতার ধারাবাহিকতার অভাব অনুভব করা যায় বললে অতুক্তি হবে না। মানুষের মৌলিক অধিকারগুলো রক্ষা এবং বলবৎ করবার ক্ষেত্রে সর্বোপরি যারা দুর্বল, দরিদ্র এবং অসংগঠিত তাদের অধিকার রক্ষার জন্য বিচারের ক্ষেত্রে এবং সুষ্ঠু এবং প্রগতিশীল মনোভাব এবং চিন্তাধারায় উদ্বুদ্ধ বিচারকরা এই পথ ধরে অগ্রগামী হবেন এ আশা আমরা অবশ্যই করতে পারি। আর এই প্রক্রিয়ার একটি সুস্পষ্ট সূচনা হবে আমাদের জন্য একান্ত সময়োপযোগী এক বিরাট পদক্ষেপ।”

Thank you!



UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS: THE CONCEPT AND THE RELEVANCE*

Mr. Justice Md. Rezaul Hasan (M.R. Hasan)

High Court Division
Supreme Court of Bangladesh

If the community of the states had a common religion, then that could have been the 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, in the sense that each of the signatories have expressed their allegiance to this declaration, UDHR, in brief. These are the collection of some rights inherent in each human being, which are fundamental to their survival with dignity. Perhaps, we also know that, the dignity of a human being survives his death.

The UDHR, as evident from its preamble and the contents, is a mutual pledge, belief and understanding of the international community and this provides a common platform for all nations to peacefully co-exist, to co-operate as well as to grow and survive as a mankind.

The basic legal instrument, that records the human rights, is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, on 10 December, 1948, ratified by all 193 members of the United Nation.

All democratic states have, by now, incorporated these basic human rights, described either as the fundamental rights or as the bills of rights, in their respective constitutions, so that any violation can be redressed by the respective domestic courts.

The European countries, on their part, have founded the Council of Europe, CoE, in 1949, with 46 member states. The UK and other members of the CoE have signed the European Convention of Human Rights, in 1950, in addition to their ratifying the UDHR, earlier in 1948. Moreover, to ensure implementation of these rights, the CoE has established the European Court of Human Rights, in 1959. Since 1 November, 1998, this is a full time court situated in France (known as the 'Strasbourg Court'). The individuals of any member state can apply directly to this court.

The UK, however, has also passed the Human Rights Act, 1998 (HRA), in the same year when the ECHR has started functioning. This is a British domestic law and this has come into force on 2 October, 2000. Thenceforth, this forum is available to the citizens of the U.K. to complain about the violations and to redress the grievances under the HRA

Long before the UDHR, 1948, the Constitution of the United States was approved on 17 September, 1787 and it has become effective on 21 June, 1788. By several amendments made thereafter, between 1791-1992, the USA has incorporated these basic human rights into their constitution and has been the first, amongst the states, to guarantee these basic human rights, the human dignity and fair treatment to all her people. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are recognized in the Declaration of Independence of the USA, 4 July, 1776 as the three inalienable rights given to all human by their creator.

These basic human rights have also been incorporated in the 1972 Constitution of the newly independent Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, under chapter III, described as "Fundamental Rights", in the Articles 27 to 44. Most importantly, Article 44 of the Constitution makes the right to 'enforce the fundamental right' as a fundamental right in itself.

The democratic countries of the west have, by now, conspicuously shown that these countries hold

* This article was published on 11 December, 2023 in the Daily Star, in observance of the international Human Rights Day.

an uniform value about the human rights philosophy. They consider the democracy as one side of the coin, while the human rights as another. They have also demonstrated a strong will to zealously guard, promote and support these rights, although there are serious allegations of human rights violation or, at least, indulging in human rights violation, against some of them, particularly, on the issue of Israel's unlawful occupation of Palestine's land and rampant violations of human rights of the Palestinian peoples, termed as 'genocide' by some observers .

The human rights situation is, nowadays, a basic norm used in rating the countries. Besides, in this age of information technology, the human rights issues have become a matter of interest and great concern to the international community, particularly to the western world. The observations and the reports made on a country, by the watchdogs, may create 'good' or 'bad' perception about it. So, the importance of 'human rights' issues need not be over emphasized.

Notably, Bangladesh has shown an unprecedented respect to the human rights and the human dignity by rehabilitating, with her own limited resources and with the support of the UN and other friendly countries including the USA, about 1,000,000 Rohingya refugees by now.

Notably, issues of human rights are not at all an academic issue, nor are these any political rhetoric in Bangladesh. Article 11 of Bangladesh Constitution, as one of the fundamental Principles of State Policy affirms that, 'the Republic shall be a democracy in which fundamental human rights and freedoms and respect for the dignity and worth of the human person shall be guaranteed'.

In addition to guaranteeing these fundamental rights in Chapter III of the Constitution, the Republic has walked further to protect, preserve and defend these rights. Hence, Article 26(1) declares that, all existing law (pre-constitutional law) inconsistent with the fundamental rights shall become void on the commencement of the Constitution. While Article 26 (2) puts an embargo on the state in making any law that may be inconsistent with such rights and also mandates that the law so made shall be void to the extent of such inconsistency. Moreover, Supreme Court has been vested with jurisdiction, under Article 102, to entertain writ petitions and to strike down or to declare void any acts of the executives or of any statutory authority or of a tribunal and even an Act of Parliament, if done or made in violation of Chapter-III, guaranteeing these fundamental rights in the Constitution. Similarly, the court can, by an appropriate order, compel or prohibit the authorities, to do or not to do any act, as the case may be, to uphold these rights, on any application made to it.

Apparently, the values and the scheme, as regards the 'democracy' as one side of the coin and the 'human rights' as the another, as envisioned in Article 11 of the Constitution, are in harmony with those of the western democracies and their allies.



SPEECH AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MEDIATION*

Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel
High Court Division
Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Hon'ble Guest of Honour, Chairperson of Africa-Asia Mediation Association (AAMA), Ms. Madeline Kemei, International Arbitrator and Mediator.

Ms. Virginia Pardo, Professor, University of Valencia, Spain.

Mr. S.N. Goswami, Senior Advocate of Bangladesh Supreme Court & Chairman of Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS).

Dr. George Yeusu Vedha Victor, Chairman of Bangladesh and India Mediators Forum.

Ms. Yousra I.O. Hasona, Director of BIMS, Middle East.

Dr. Apoorva Patel, Associate Professor of Gujarat National Law University, India.

Mr. K.S. Sarma, International Arbitrator & Mediator.

Distinguished Guests, Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen.

A very good morning to all of you.

At the very outset, I consider it a great honour and privilege for me to address before you as a Chief Guest of the Inaugural Session of Conference on Mediation organized by Africa-Asia Mediation Association. Thank you very much for inviting me to this Conference in the midst of the galaxy of International Arbitrators and Mediators from different countries of the world. Let me start by expressing my gratitude to everyone involved in organizing today's event. A seemingly impossible task has been made possible through everyone's hard work and support. To this end, let me appreciate and congratulate everyone present today in this symposium.

Dear Participants,

I know, you have already started your training for 'Accredited Mediators' (40 hours mediator training) organized by BIMS. The distinguished trainers have already discussed about mediation and other related issues on mediation and will discuss more until 28 November, 2023. However, I would like to give you some of the tips on mediation very precisely that might help you to understand the concept of Mediation. In modern world, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) has become very popular as an alternative route for reaching a speedier and less expensive mode of settlement of disputes. It includes Mediation, Arbitration, Negotiation and Conciliation etc. Mediation is not something new in this subcontinent. Like India, Nepal, Bangladesh had also for ages utilized the system called the 'Panchayat' system. This type of traditional mediation continues to be utilized even today in villages, which is called 'Salish'. Also, in pre-British India, impartial and respected businessmen called 'Mahajans' used to resolve disputes using an informal procedure, which combined both mediation and arbitration.

Conflicts are unavoidable in any society for a variety of reasons- political, economic, social, cultural and religious. And with conflicts, there is also the need to develop mechanisms for conflict resolution. Bangladesh, and numerous Asian countries, have a long and rich tradition of collaborative and amicable settlement of disputes. In Islam, the Prophet Muhammad (S) has always asked Muslims to settle the disputes between their believer brothers amicably. A true Muslim does not nurture conflicts

* Speech by Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel at the International Conference on Mediation organized by Africa-Asia Mediation Association (AAMA) held on 25 November, 2023, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

but rather attempts to solve them. The great Indian epic Mahabharata provides an example of an early attempt at mediation as a conflict resolution tool, where Lord Krishna attempt to mediate the dispute between the Pandavas and Kauravas. It may be worthwhile to recall that the failure of mediation led to disastrous consequences. We can say that, the culture of alternate dispute resolution is older than any other legal instruments, we have at our hand today.

In a very simple term 'Mediation' is a process where a neutral and independent third person (a mediator) helps the parties in a dispute to reach their own solution. In the words of Professor Hazel Genn 'Mediation as a voluntary process where a neutral mediator attempts to help the disputing parties to reach an agreement that is acceptable to both sides and that will bring the dispute to an early conclusion without having to go to court'. In mediation mediator does not decide who is right or wrong, but rather helps the parties to come to a mutually acceptable agreement. In fact, mediator acts as a 'shuttle diplomat' between the parties and exchanges offers and counter offers between them. The parties usually agree who will be the mediator for their dispute, except in Court-annexed mediation. The beauty of mediation is that in mediation each party has the opportunity to voice their own point of view. The mediator helps the parties to focus on the real issues of the dispute and explore options to resolve these. They do not take sides. The mediator does not impose a solution or give tactical advice. The parties have ultimate control over the outcome of mediation. The parties and not the mediator are the focal point of the mediation process. If the parties resolve their dispute at the mediation, they may make a written agreement and have orders made by the Court to finalize the case. Those orders have the same standing as orders made by a Judge, and can be enforced, if necessary. In contrast to court proceedings, which are open to the public, the mediation process is private and confidential. Anything said or produced as evidence at a mediation session, cannot be used in later hearing, except in exceptional circumstances. It is the duty of all the parties to the mediation, to participate in good faith.

There is no strict requirement who can be a mediator, however, usually mediators come from various professional backgrounds and have undergone training in mediation skills and techniques. A mediator is not an adjudicator. He must possess certain qualities such as highest standard of honesty and integrity in conduct and behavior, maintain neutrality, objectivity and not judgmental. He must have patience, persistence and perseverance, good communication skills, open mindedness and flexible in nature. Mediator is infact a guide who helps the parties to find their own solution to the dispute and he works as a peacemaker.

It is known to all that, law is not the only key to ensure justice. Where the law failed to ensure justice, then equity came to "fill up the gap". Mediation as an 'Alternative Dispute Resolution' (ADR), is an equitable process, which ensures easy access to justice. There are many advantages of mediation rather than going for a prolonged litigation. In mediation, the parties have control over the mediation process in terms of its scope and outcome i.e., the right to decide whether to settle or not and the terms of settlement. Mediation is participative, parties get an opportunity to present their case in their own words and directly participate in the negotiation. The process is voluntary and any party can opt out of it, at any stage, if he feels that it is not helping him. The self-determining nature of mediation ensures compliance with the settlement reached. The procedure is speedy, efficient and cheaper. It is simple, flexible and time bound. The process is conducted in an informal, cordial and conducive environment. It is a fair process and preserves peaceful relationships between the parties. The mediator is impartial, neutral and independent. The process is confidential, which is the big advantage for both the parties. The main focus in mediation is on resolving the dispute in a mutually beneficial settlement. It allows creativity and promotes finality. The disputes are put to rest fully and finally, as there is no scope for any appeal or revision and further litigation as per Section 89A of the Code of Civil Procedure. Refund of Court fees is permitted as per the rules in the case of settlement in court referred mediation. Further, it is 'without prejudice' that is what is said by you or by the party, will not be used against you as evidence, if your case proceeds to trial. Finally, it helps to reduce pressure on judiciary. It is like win-win situation, for both the parties, which creates peace among the parties and a way forward for development. Any settlement reached in a case that is referred for mediation during the course of litigation is required to be reduced to writing, signed by the concerned parties

and filed in Court for passing of an appropriate order. A settlement reached at a pre-litigation stage is a contract, which is binding and enforceable between the parties. In the event of failure to settle the dispute, the report of the mediator does not mention the reason for the failure. The report will only say “not settled”. The mediator cannot be called upon to testify in any proceeding or to disclose to the court as to what transpired during the mediation.



Hon'ble Justice Ahmed Sohel, distributing certificates among the newly qualified 'Accredited Mediators'.

International organizations have been influential in promoting mediation internationally. The United Nations General Assembly adopted a Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation in 2002 aimed at encouraging use of mediation to resolve trade disputes. The World Bank also requires mediation be used to resolve public sector project disputes before the initiation of arbitration or litigation proceedings. Regional developments have also supported growth in mediation. The European Union issued a Directive on Mediation in 2008 to provide common rules and establish mediation in cross-border civil and commercial disputes. The ASEAN countries adopted Regional Guidelines on Court Connected Mediation in 2017 to guide integration of mediation programs with court processes among Member States.

Mediation has slowly gained prominence in Bangladesh since the year 2000 as an alternative dispute resolution process. With extremely backlogged courts and often complex, adversarial litigation procedures, mediation adoption was viewed as an important access to justice reform. With over 4 million cases pending in courts, Bangladesh suffers from a severely over-burdened legal system.

There are number of legislations in Bangladesh that have specifically provided for the provisions relating to ADR particularly mediation and arbitration in civil matters, which are: The Contract Act 1872 (Section 28), The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908; The Muslim Family Laws Ordinance, 1961; The Family Courts Ordinance, 1985; The Arbitration Act, 2001; The Artha Rin Adalat Ain, 2003; The Income Tax ordinance, 1984; The Value Added Tax Act, 1991; The Customs Act, 1969; The Conciliation of Disputes (Municipal Areas) Board Act, 2004; The Village Courts Act, 2006; The Labour Act, 2006; The EPZ Trade Union and Industrial Relation Act, 2004; The EPZ Trade Welfare Society and Labour Industrial Relation Act, 2010 and Real Estate Development and Management Act, 2010.

In Bangladesh, the Legislature incorporated Mediation and Arbitration provisions into the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 by way of amendments in Section 89A to 89E of the Code. I hope that all of you, will go through it properly. The amended Act of 2003 introduces the court-annexed mediation and arbitration as integral part of the civil proceedings in Bangladesh. However, at that time it was the discretionary power of the court to explore the scope of mediation. Later on, the Act went through another amendment in 2006 that introduced the provision of mediation even at the appellate stage, (Section 89C of CPC) the Code was amended in 2012 that made the mediation system mandatory in civil proceeding and it was again amended in 2017 that made provision to refer the dispute or disputes to the concerned Legal Aid Officer. The main advantage of this section is that it restricts the time frame to 60 days from the day on which the Court is so informed, or a mediator is appointed by the court, as the case may be, within which the mediation process must be concluded. The court may, however, on its own motion or upon a joint request preferred by the parties extend the time period for another 30 days. So, in total 90 days+7 days time for passing necessary order according to Order 23 rule 3 of the CPC. The parties will always have the option to get back to the stage of formal judicial process from which the dispute has been sent for mediation. In case of court initiated mediation the same court shall not hear and dispose the suit, if the court continues to be presided over by the same judge. The parties will get back the entire amount of money paid as court fees during the institution of the suit and the court will issue a certificate to that effect. Once an agreement is reached and executed by the parties, the same is considered to be final and no party will be permitted to reopen the same either by way of a fresh suit or by way of appeal or revision.

Now, in criminal jurisdiction, mediation has not been yet widely introduced in Bangladesh. However, Section 345 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 enacts provision for compromise in the compoundable offences. Section 345(1) provides the list of offences which can be compounded without the permission of the Court and Section 345(2) provides the list of offences which can be compounded only with the permission of the Court. In this connection, I would like to refer a decision of 1983, the case of *Md. Joynal and others v. Md. Rustam Ali and others*, reported in 36 DLR (AD) 240, our former Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Late Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury, said that-

"That they encourage settlement of dispute either by Panchayet or by Arbitration or by way of compromise and if it is a Criminal offence, the offence can be compounded within the limit of section 345 of Code of Criminal Procedure".

So, we have limited scope for compromise in criminal litigation in Bangladesh.

The provisions relating to ADR were incorporated into the Legal Aid Act in 2013 by inserting Section 21A to the Act. This Act has mentioned the ADR provisions in the form of mediation and empowers the Legal Aid Officer, appointed under Section 21A(1) to act as the mediator, in cases of disputes that come to him either in the form of application for legal advice or by reference by any competent court or tribunal. In the Legal Aid Act, it is encouraged to resolve this dispute via mediation before filing a case with the help of Government Legal Aid. My expectation is that Legal Aid Office will be a hub for mediation which will help to curb the backlog of cases of our judiciary in Bangladesh.

Peace and development are interrelated. Development may come in different forms, politically, socially, culturally, educationally, economically, etc. Increased commercial activities also bring about economic development. The various forms of development need a peaceful environment to sustain them. Therefore, to resolve the disputes it must be applied swiftly in order to restore peace and development. Methods of dispute resolution like mediation becomes imperative and inevitable. International mediation in violent national conflict has long been undertaken by the United Nations (UN), the African Union (AU) and other multilateral organizations. In Africa alone, over the past three decades mediators have laboured to end deadly conflict in Angola, Burundi, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of Congo(DRC), Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe. So, we can see that mediation has vital role to resolve deadly national conflict between the countries. Even, for the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, I believe mediation is the best possible option to end the war. In this way, mediation is becoming a more peaceful and internationally accepted solution in order to end international conflict.

Now, in the context of Bangladesh, I have identified the reasons for declining mediation here, which are non-cooperation of the lawyers, ignorance and absence of trained mediators, lack of Mediation Centers, change of mentality, and no specific law for Mediation like Arbitration Act 2001, etc. It is a fact, that in our country, the lawyers do not want to cooperate with the court about mediation, due to fear of losing their income. My suggestion is that a standard amount of fees for the lawyers may be set consensually for mediation for a better result. Public awareness need to be created for promoting mediation. To that effect, special programmes on mass media like radio, TV channels and newspapers may be featured. Social media like Facebook may also be of tremendous help. Additionally, Legal Aid Office in the District Court can also work as a cell, in informing people about the benefits of mediation. We need to build Mediation Centre in every district. Recently, Supreme Court Mediation Centre has been established where you are getting your training right now. Adequate training for mediators and arbitrators should be arranged from time to time. More steps should be taken to train the lawyers, then they will be encouraged to be a professional mediator in addition to their legal practice. Also, the subject of ADR should be made a part of the curriculum for the law students familiarize them with the benefits, so that when they step into their profession they can understand the reality of the necessity of mediation

Now, let me tell you something about online mediation which has become very popular in the western countries. Since 2020, due to pandemic, whole world was in crisis. The functioning of the Courts have been particularly hindered all over the world. Although, Courts were functioning virtually in Bangladesh however, methods of alternative dispute resolution like mediation, can provide better result in that situation. The western countries are increasingly using different forms of technology and online dispute resolution (ODR) platform for mediation, which allow the parties to negotiate remotely, maintaining social distancing by virtually using smart phone, tablet, computer or other similar technology, practically from any location.

Delay in disposal of cases has become common culture in our court system. It is also to be kept in mind that mediation is not going to solve all the problems of formal adjudication system as a panacea, but it is true that, if properly utilized to its proper sense and spirit, it can significantly help to reduce the backlog of cases. Bangladesh is a party to the 'New York Convention'. In the early days after independence, arbitrations in Bangladesh were governed by Arbitration Act, 1940. In order to rectify its shortcomings, Bangladesh enacted the Arbitration Act, 2001, based on the UNCITRAL Model Law. However, now, for practical reasons, arbitration is not working properly in Bangladesh. Most of the arbitration took around 7 to 10 years to come to a conclusion. Another problem is that, arbitration award is not final, as against this, there is provision to challenge the arbitration award and it can go up to the Appellate Division. Contrary to arbitration, as you know that no appeal or revision lies against the compromised decree or order, which has been resolved through mediation. So, it is like win-win situation, less formal, less expensive and time bound by law. Therefore, considering the above advantages, in the context of Bangladesh, I believe mediation would be the best possible option to overcome the backlog of cases.

Our economy is developing very rapidly, bringing its businesses into close contact with the outside world. Many foreign companies are now investing in Bangladesh. Therefore, effective steps towards alternative dispute resolution is needed to make Bangladesh an investment oriented country. I believe that the Bangladesh Government will continue to strongly support the use of mediation and arbitration and encourage efforts to develop the field of mediation through research, studies and training and will help to create a better business friendly environment by establishing an 'International Mediation Academy' in Bangladesh. Also, I think it is the high time for Bangladesh to be a signatory of 'Singapore Convention.' The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on 20th December, 2018. It is known as the 'Singapore Convention' on Mediation and also the first UN treaty to be named after Singapore. The Singapore convention will provide a more effective way of enforcing mediated settlements of corporate disputes involving businesses in Bangladesh and other signatory countries. Till date, the Convention has 54 signatories, including India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, China and USA as well. It will ensure that a settlement reached by the parties becomes binding and enforceable in accordance with a simplified and streamlined procedure. The Singapore Convention ultimately

aims to facilitate international trade by rendering mediation in efficient and entrusted method for solving Cross border disputes, alongside with arbitration and litigation.

Regarding ADR, our former Late lamented Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Hon'ble Justice Mustafa Kamal, said "ADR is a non-formal settlement of legal and judicial disputes as a means of disposing of cases quickly and inexpensively. It is not a panacea for all evils but an alternative route to a speedier and less expensive mode of settlement of disputes. It is voluntary and cooperative way, out of impasses".

I would also like to quote Robert A. Baruch Bush: Written in his book Mediation and Adjudication, Dispute Resolution and Ideology: An Imaginary conversation. Wrote in his book that "Mediation is less traumatic, more humane, and far more capable of healing and reconciliation than adjudication."

Recently, in the India-Singapore Mediation Summit, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Singapore Mr. Justice Sundaresh Menon, Supreme Court of Singapore said that 'Mediation is the way forward.' i.e. it ensures peace and development.

We know that judiciary of Bangladesh is over burdened with nearly 4(four) million cases and the number is mounting day by day with institution of fresh cases. Due to a number of factors including inadequate number of judges in terms of pending cases, procedural formality and complexity, poor logistic support and corruption are the main reasons for backlog of cases in our country. In this backdrop, we can easily understand the importance of promoting mediation in our judiciary, to reduce the huge backlog of cases.

The Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who wanted a change in the traditional Judicial system of Bangladesh by introducing Alternative Dispute Resolution and thereby, promote ADR successfully. In this way, we can show our respect to him by fulfilling his dream.

Dear participants,

You have already heard from Ms. Madeline Kemie about alternative dispute resolution spectrum, Ms. Yousra, about Mediation in Middle East, and from Dr. Apoorva Patel, Mr. K.S. Sarma, Dr. George Victor and others about Mediation—the appropriate system of dispute resolution. Also, I have gone through the booklet of the training programme which seems to me well structured and its curriculum is maintaining the international standard for becoming an 'Accredited Mediator'. So, my advice to you that, as you are going to be the accredited mediators, you should bear in mind that after being qualified as an Accredited Mediator, you have to act fairly, impartially, independently and maintain the confidentiality. Further, you have to honour party autonomy, avoid conflict of interest, act in accordance with the agreed principles and rules by applying judicial mind, in particular, maintaining utmost integrity and sincerity and should have the intention to do justice.

Every citizen is entitled to have access to Justice. Delayed justice even sometimes fails to give proper remedies to a winning party. So, my opinion is that mediation is a tested mechanism and its role in building up an efficient dispute resolution system is undisputed. Thus, mediation should be part and parcel of our judiciary and considering the huge backlog of cases, we should encourage litigant people to go for mediation, not for litigation. Litigation should be the last resort.

Now, before I wrap up, considering the advantages of mediation in the legal field, it has been rightly said by Joseph Grynbaum that "An ounce of mediation is worth a pound of arbitration and a ton of litigation". Also, in the famous words of the US President Abraham Lincoln, emphasizing the profound significance of Mediation, said that "Discourage litigation; persuade your neighbours to compromise whenever you can, point out them the nominal winner is often a real loser, in fees, expenses and waste of time".

In conclusion, my suggestion is that three organs of the state i.e. Executive, Legislature and Judiciary should also walk shoulder to shoulder to make mediation a popular way forward to achieve United Nations (SDG) 16. Pursuing SDG 16 globally has drawn attention to the institutional deficiencies of traditional adversarial legal systems for delivering inclusive justice. Litigation can be complex, lengthy

and costly, creating barriers for large swathes of the world's population to uphold basic rights. Mediation on the other hand offers advantages of affordable simplicity, shorter resolution timeframes, more control and win-win outcomes. Hence, policy and legal reformers globally have increasingly embraced mediation to accelerate the progressive realization of SDG 16's access to justice vision.

Further, to encourage mediation, a committed role is required to be played both by the Bench and the Bar in order to create awareness and faith in the mediation system.

With these remarks, I conclude my speech and express my sincere thanks to the guests from overseas for their valuable speeches and heartfelt gratitude to the organizers of AAMA, especially Chairperson of AAMA, Ms. Madeline Kemie and for BIMS, for arranging such a fruitful conference. Also, special thanks to Mr. S.N. Goswami, Chairman of BIMS, who is the torchbearer of Mediation in Bangladesh, trying his level best to promote mediation in our judiciary.

I hope all of you are enjoying the training programme.

Long live 'Africa- Asia Mediation Association' and best wishes for all of you.

Once again thank you for listening to me with great patience.



AN OVERVIEW OF THE TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE: INQUEST OF EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE WORLD NEW TRADE LAW

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Abstract

This paper endeavors to focus and highlights the notion, importance and protection of the **Traditional Knowledge (TK)** under the WTO's **Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPs Agreement)** and **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** and **UPOV Convention** and making devise of equitable sharing of benefits and sustainable development of TK. The discussion is divided under the heads as narrated hereinafter in this paper.

Key Words

WIPO, WTO, TRIPs Agreement, UPOV Convention, CBD, Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources, Disclosure of Origin, Sui Generis, Bio-piracy, Sustainable Development.

2. Corner Stones

(i) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO):

The **WIPO** which is located in Geneva, Switzerland, was established by a convention establishing the WIPO which was concluded at Stockholm in 1967 and which entered into force in 1970. The origin of the Organization, however, go back to the nineteenth century when the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property was concluded in 1883 and the Berne Convention for the Protection of the Literary and Artistic Works was concluded in 1886. **WIPO** became a specialized agency of the **UN** in **1974**. Under the Agreement between the WIPO and the United Nations, the WIPO is responsible for taking action for promoting creative intellectual activity and for facilitating the transfer of technology to the developing countries in order to accelerate their economic, social and cultural development.

(ii) The World Trade Organization (WTO):

The WTO is the only international body dealing with the rules of the trade between nations. At its heart are the WTO agreements, negotiated and signed by the bulk of the world's trading nations. Although negotiated and signed by governments, the goal is to help producers of goods and services, exporters and importers conduct their business. One of the WTO's most important functions is to serve as a forum for trade negotiations. The most harmonious way to settle these differences is through some neutral procedure based on an agreed legal foundation. That is the purpose behind the dispute settlement process written into the WTO agreements. The WTO and its Agreements now cover trade in services, and in traded inventions, creations and designs (intellectual property). The agreements deal with: agriculture, textiles and clothing, banking, telecommunications, government purchases, industrial standards, food sanitation regulations, intellectual property, and much more.

(iii) The International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV):

The UPOV convention was signed in Paris in 1961 and entered into force in 1968. It was revised in Geneva in 1972, 1978 and 1991 and finally entered into force on 24 April, 1998. We should notice that the obligations under the UPOV system, is not the part of the WTO obligations. The use of "**sui generis**" instead of UPOV system has been mentioned in Article 27(3) (b) of the Agreement on TRIPs. The purpose of the UPOV convention is to "ensure that the member States of the Union

acknowledge the achievements of breeders of new plant varieties, by making available to them an exclusive property right, on the basis of a set of uniform and clearly defined principles.”

(iv) The TRIPs Agreement:

After prolonged negotiations in 1994 the Uruguay Round Negotiations culminated in the signature of an agreement called **in short, the TRIPs agreement** which formed Annex IC of the Agreement constituting WTO. The TRIPs agreement came into force on 1 January, 1995 which establishes a uniform global minimum substantive standard in the field of intellectual property. For the protection of the IPRs installing same size jackets for all members in different stages of development strongly opposed by the LDCs and developing countries during negotiations which results insertion of transitional arrangements for TRIPs application (except national treatment and most favored nation treatment) for LDCs and developing countries.

(v) Convention on CBD:

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992 is the only treaty that recognizes the significance of traditional knowledge for enhancing the conservation and use of natural resources. Among other relevant provisions in the CBD, its objectives are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of the genetic resources. The Convention recognizes the principle of sovereign right of its Contracting Parties to exploit such resources and specifically obliges the Parties to take necessary measures to share in a fair and equitable way the results of research and development and the benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources with the Party providing such resources, on mutually agreed terms. This states that the authority to determine access to genetic resources rests with national governments and is subject to national legislation and that access, where granted, shall be on mutually agreed terms and shall be subject to the prior informed consent of the Contracting Party providing such resources. Article 16(5) of the CBD states that Contracting Parties, recognizing that patents and other intellectual property rights may have an influence on the implementation of this Convention, shall co-operate in this regard, subject to national legislation and international law in order to ensure that such rights are supportive of and do not run counter to its objectives. The Convention establishes principles of respect, require and maintain, along with the ethical issues like equitable sharing of benefits with the creators and holders of TK. For the protection of TK, the IGC is undertaking formal negotiations with WIPO members to develop a uniform legal instrument.

3. Notion and Importance of the Traditional Knowledge

The concept of traditional knowledge is not a static, but dynamic one. It is not meant to merely conserve traditions but should further develop them. The Traditional Knowledge (TK) commonly known as to be collective property owned by the whole community. It is shaped by the contribution of several people over a long period of time. It refers to knowledge or practices passed down from generation to generation that form of the traditions or heritage of indigenous communities. TK is deeply rooted in local and regional knowledge and in cultural traditions of indigenous people over Millenia and composed of intellectual knowledge that is expressed through language, artistic expression, dance, music, names, medicines, remedies, stories and so on. Traditional knowledge systems in the fields of medicine and healing, biodiversity conservation, the environment and food and agriculture are well known. Other key components of traditional knowledge are the **“artisan”** (i.e. designs, textiles, plastic arts, crafts, etc.) of a people. The **“WIPO”** provides the definition of traditional knowledge as, **“It is Knowledge, know-how, skills and practices that are developed, sustained and passed on from generation to generation within a community, often forming part of its cultural or spiritual identity.”** In general, there are as many as **20 different terms catalogued for traditional knowledge among them are “local knowledge”, “indigenous knowledge”, “traditional ecological knowledge”, “folklore”, “Cultural property and others”**. All of these terms in principle both focus on a concept of knowledge that has long been known in a particular community group, while the difference lies in the orientation of the intended community. **The WIPO itself classifies Traditional Knowledge into 06 (six) fields, namely: agricultural knowledge scientific knowledge environmental knowledge of medicines,**

medicines knowledge, knowledge related to biodiversity, folk expression in the fields of music, dance, song, handicrafts, elements of language and moving cultural objects. The Secretariat of CBD defines **traditional knowledge** as follows: “Traditional knowledge refers to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities around the world. Developed from experience gained over the centuries and adapted to the local culture and environment, traditional knowledge is transmitted orally from generation to generation. All traditional knowledge is indigenous knowledge. It is important in the sense that it provides problem solving strategies for local communities, especially the poor and represents an important component of global knowledge on development issue. Based on the traditional knowledge, there are trade and businesses at home and abroad of local clothes, potteries and households, decorative pieces, handicrafts, indigenous foods, and herbal medicines.

4. Genetic Resources

Genetic resources (GRs), genetic material of plant or animal, are often connected to traditional knowledge and practices. GRs include plants (including trees), animals and crops, preparation or process i.e. techniques of using them for a final outcome, method of growing, harvesting, extracting, preparing, or applying them.

5. Bio-diversity

The terminology, “**biodiversity**” means and includes each and every phase of plant and animal life from DNA to Biomes. Diversity encompasses variation among genes, individual species and the total ecosystem. It plays a crucial role in the daily life of mankind. Genetic diversity occurs at the gene level (the molecular level), the individual level, the population level, the species level and the ecosystem level. Species come in all shapes and sizes, from organisms so small they can only be seen with powerful microscopes to huge redwood trees. The basic need of mankind such as food, medicine, clothing are based on biodiversity. Degradation of biodiversity needs to be halt.

6. TK in Bangladesh

(i) Rich Heritage:

Bangladesh has a rich heritage of traditional knowledge, such as, land exploitation, medicinal, agriculture, livestock and forests and has very rich in genetic resources, bio-diverse and has its very own traditional farming systems like production systems, fishing and local environmental management practices. It is also endowed with a vast knowledge of cultural traditions like handicrafts, songs, dances, ceremonies and tales, and most of them are not documented. This is because of the copying, selling, or using this traditional knowledge by unauthorized third parties. The following traditional knowledge have been commonly found in Bangladesh, such as, Nakshi Kantha (embroidered quilt) Jamdani a fine cloth of muslingroup, Khadi of Cumilla, traditional handloom cloth is a kind of hand-woven or handspun textile primarily made out of cotton.

(ii) Savory Foods:

In Bangladesh savory products having traditional varieties, may include aromatic varieties of rice, like Govindabhog, Kataribhog, Kalijira and Chinigura. Naogaon district are widely used to produce delightful traditional foods very rich in varieties of foods bearing traditions of each locality; Biryani and Bakorkhani of old Dhaka, Mejbani beef of Chattagram, Chingri brain bhuna of khulna, Chuijhal beef of Khulna, Satkora beef of Sylhet, Sholka and Shidol of Rangpur, Kalai Ruti of Chapai Nawabganj, Balish Mishti (Pillow Sweet) of Netrokona, Khir Mohan of Kurigram, Pantua sweets of Sirajgonj, Monda of Muktagachha, Mymensingh, Chomchom of Porabari, Tangail, Jamtala Sweet of Jessore, Urkhirmohohan, Ram Bilash's Uttam Sweets of Dinajpur and others could be named.

(iii) Traditional Medicine:

The rural communities of Bangladesh are dependent on traditional medications for illnesses, such as, fever, cold, cough, dysentery, and headache. Ayurvedic and Unani medicines although still popular but facing threats due to the loss of forest cover from which medicinal plants are often purchased as practitioners' traditional occupations. Bangladesh has tried to develop, protect and promote the practice of Unani and Ayurvedic Medicine. The Unani and Ayurvedic

Practitioners Council formed under the Unani Practitioners and Ayurvedic Ordinance 1983 and the Drug Control Ordinance, 1982 have taken different steps for the development of alternative medicine. The Unani and Ayurvedic Act 1983 established two formularies, namely, the National Formulary for Unani Medicine and the National Formulary for Ayurvedic Medicine. The traditional practitioners commonly use medicinal plants, Ashwagandha (*Withania somnifera*), Amlaki (*Embelica officinalis*), Arjun (*Terminalia arjuna*), Bael (*Aegle marmelos*), Gulancha (*Tinospora cordifolia*), Miers, Shatomuli (*Asparagus racemosus*) and Grit Kumari (*Aloe indica*) etc. Unani and Ayurvedic medicines in traditional and alternative medicinal practices like Unani and Ayurvedic systems. The Kaviraj in Bangladesh use medicinal plants for various formulations to treat ailments, collected and identified at the Bangladesh National Herbarium. A 119 plant species belonging to 64 families are used by the traditional medical practitioners for treatment of various ailments and diseases. The most frequently used families were Asteraceae with six species followed by Moraceae, Solanaceae and Apocynaceae with five species. Most plants were used to alleviate complaints related to cold, cough, fever, asthma, diarrhea and dysentery, diabetes, skin disease and other diseases.

(iv) Traditional Cultural Expressions:

It includes traditional songs i.e. Maizbhandari, Bhatiali, Baul, Marfati, Murshidi, and Bhawaiya, Jari, Sari, Pala Gan, Gambhira, Lalon Geeti, Gajir Geet, Hasan Raja song, traditional folk dance i.e. Manipuri, Jatra (Folk Drama) and tribal dance, BIJU festival of the tribes etc.

7. Knowledge on Agricultural Practices

Farmers are used to producing crops, collecting and preserving seeds by using their own knowledge from time immemorial. In most of the cases, farmers cannot afford pesticides and chemical fertilizers. They rely on the diversity within species and they are able to produce more diverse crops, which require low external input. For example, our farmers are used to putting bamboo twig for grasshopper in relative crops field instead of using insecticide as insectivorous grasshopper is used to devour insects. As a result, crops are protected from insects. This environment supporting culture is important evidence in our bio-diversity. The typical features of agricultural systems in developing and least developed countries include; small land holdings traditional practices; use of simple tools; seeds saving from their harvest for further propagation; selling and exchange of seeds; Traditional farmers do not confine themselves to replanting the same seeds from one crop to the next in their own farm. They also engage in what is known as seeds exchange across the fence from one neighbor to other, this practice which takes place within the same community and is cooperative rather profit-oriented – is essential to preserve the vitality of the crops across their different generation and contributed to genetic diversity. Seeds saving from harvest of farmers for further propagation, selling and exchanging of seeds is common practice in developing countries.

8. Experiences of Indigenous Communities Knowledge from Some Jurisdictions:

(i) In Bangladesh:

The ethno-botany in Chittagong Hill Tracts also plays a vital role to conserve bio-diversity, which is an interdisciplinary science for documentation of indigenous knowledge and interactions between people and plants. Chittagong region comprises three districts namely-Kagrachari, Rangamati and Bandarban and there are at least 19 ethnic communities viz. Chakma, Marma, Tripura, Chak, Lushai, Bom, Bonzogi, Pankho, Khyang, Murang, Tanchangya, Mro, Kkumi, Bawm and Garo (living in Mymensingh, Tangail and Jamalpur districts) who bear different culture and life style. These ethnic communities are centered around the hills and their resources. They are dependent on the wide variety of plants and animals of the hill forests for their dwelling, food, clothing, healthcare, festivals and other activities. In this region, women have much knowledge about food plants, aromatic plants and plants of hair and skin care. These tribes have knowledge of agriculture and medicine, traditional dances and songs.

(ii) In central America,

The indigenous communities of Guatemala and Panama, e.g. the skills and techniques of healing are transmitted orally, through an initiation process that can start early in life, and the knowledge is supposed to be revealed or transmitted in exchange for money.

(iii) In Indonesia,

Cameroon and Nigeria where some traditional healers may receive a token of one bottle of palm oil for their service and no more. They believe that their healing powers are divine and that payment for their services would strip them of their healing powers. Under the canopy of an association of grassroots innovators, fifteen traditional healers from India did intend to collectively file patent for a veterinary medical kit consisting entirely of natural plant medicines and compiled from their traditional practices and formulation. The fifteen healers, it is said, were named in the patent application as inventors and the association the applicant. The collective filing allows the healers who individually could not afford the patent filing fee, to share the cost of the filing application, the research on commercialization possibilities and the risk of disclosure in case of rejection of the application and patent was granted.

(iv) In Vembur village,

Tamil Nadu, India, there is a man by the name of Thiru Palchamy Gounder who has been curing animals since he was sixteen. Developing his trade under guidance of his guru, Kandavilswamy, this traditional veterinarian has gained fame within his region for being able to cure a variety of bovine ailments. Using medications developed from local plants, he is able to treat such common maladies as fractures, abscesses, broken horns, swollen tongues, swollen faces, and headaches. What is not said, however, is whether the application satisfied the requirements for patentability provided in Article 27(1) of the TRIPs Agreement (new, inventive step, capable of industrial application and whether there was an enabling disclosure attached with the application) and whether or not, eventually the patent was granted.

9. Impact of New Global Trade Law: TRIPS and UPOV

The TRIPs Agreement is intended to provide private property rights over production and processes, be they bio-diversity based or not, in order to ensure that corporate interests are safeguarded equally worldwide. Ignoring the collective rights of the people, the TRIPs agreement neglects the biological resources and agricultural practices of developing countries. TRIPs Agreement requires the application of either patents or an effective '*sui generis*' (i.e. unique) system to protect plant varieties at the national level. But *sui generis* option for plant varieties under TRIPs means, "The developing countries to provide some form of IPRs on food and medicinal bio-diversity for the first time. Seed prices will be tough in LDCs and the seeds will be personalized by TNCs in the related market, interests in agrochemical processing and trade. Patented seeds destroy our heritage. Farmers will be deprived to use and sell their seeds, using their own knowledge and tradition because patented seeds have taken possession in the same place of traditional seeds. Farmers' access to diversity, their choice of planting material and options for management systems will be significantly curtailed. The restrictions imposed by **UPOV 1991** on farmers for saving, exchange and selling of seeds may adversely affect their livelihood as well as cooperative practices which have been plain and important role in traditional agriculture systems for centuries. The right to sell seeds is totally excluded under **UPOV 1991**, this exclusive provision in this respect of **UPOV 1991** is quite similar to that granting patents to plant breeders. The **UPOV convention** provides the only internationally recognized '*sui generis system*' for protection of plant varieties. However, farmers in developing countries are hesitant to accept the **UPOV** convention readily in view of their experiences in some innovative activities, which had been introduced in the past particularly in the field of agriculture. The **UPOV** provides more benefits to breeders as against farmers whose rights have been severely restricted. Once the genes, found in the South, are identified and patented in the North, the tropical countries will not be allowed to use them. The developing and least developed countries afraid patent protection for pharmaceutical products and processes under the TRIPs regime and it will create friendly situation for MNCs to reduce or even eliminate competition from generic production of medicines. Domestic manufacturing of medicines in

the developing and least developed will be at the waterfronts and bound to come at a standstill. Then the prices of patented medicines will go up several times. Devising parallel import of patented products provisions on international exhaustion of right and compulsory license in the TRIPS Agreement will provide some kind of **safety valve or an escape route** for the LDCs and developing countries to beat monopoly tendencies in the market. Bangladesh in domestic legislation skillfully has provided the above provisions in Patent Ain, 2022 in compliance with the TRIPS Agreement and accordingly the issue of high cost of medicine will possibly be addressed.

10. Impact of Using Chemical Fertilizer

Traditional Knowledge, such as, Agriculture and Herbs are protected state until now still maintains traditional agriculture but the introduction of modern rice varieties, **productivity has doubled, many other benefits and blessings also** but some problems have also arisen in agriculture, namely, the loss of soil fertility; low content of organic matter in the soil; reduced content of Phosphorus, Zinc, Sulfur and etc. Many traditional plants are being destroyed due to the introduction of modern plant varieties. The farmers who comprise the community are entitled to the following Farmer Rights in addition to the rights stipulated in the Law on the Protection of Biodiversity and Community Knowledge, and the above and above benefit sharing. Any Communities involved in food production, whether living in forests, flood plains, or anything else in the agroecological zone, or members of such Communities, women and/or men, will be considered as farmers having the right one of which receives support from the government in the conservation, development and improvement of local, native or wild plant varieties and/or the reintroduction of traditional varieties.

11. Bio-Piracy

The present system of protecting industrial information leads to what is called bio-piracy, as one aptly describes it by way of example:

“In a village in the eastern province of Kenya, some individuals came to the village and collect barks and leaves of the *Acacia nilotica* trees. These trees belong to the farmers, they are growing in their fields. Many months later, the same individuals claiming to be researchers, come back to the village, which some final products like lotions, ointments etc. They say that these products are from the barks and the leaves of *Acacia nilotica* trees, and they are now their products, and in the process of being patented”. From the above, it is perfectly understandable that developing countries and ecological movement remain critical about the role of intellectual property, not generally, but certainly in the context of genetic resources. The land mark case is **Moore v. Regents of the University of California wherein Supreme Court of California held** that exploitation based upon tissue, and therefore genetic resources, extracted from an individual does not create property right. In another landmark case, **the Supreme Court of the Republic of the Philippines recognized in Juan Antonio et al. Vs. Fulgencio S. Factoran jr.** the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology, including a responsibility for future generations. So, case law has started to contribute to the evolution of the new field.

12. Examples of Unauthorized Use of Traditional Knowledge

Once the genes, found in the south, are identified and patented in the North, the tropical countries will not be allowed to use them. A good number of examples in this respect may be cited. Mexican enola beans, Bolivian quinoa, Amazonian ayachuasca, Peruvian yacon, Andean nuna bean, West African sweet genes, South Asian basmati and neem all have been subject to patent regime which is predatory on the traditional knowledge and genetic resources of indigenous and farming communities for centuries. In Mexico farmers are being shut out from the US market for apparently infringing patent rights of a small US seed company, which took germplasms from Mexico.

13. Examples of Benefit Sharing Experiences

Example may be cited the agreement between Costa Rica and Merck, a multinational pharmaceutical company. In 1991, the Company entered into a bio-prospecting agreement with the Costa Rican Association (INBIO) a non-profit organization. Under the agreement, over a two-year period, Merck received 10,000 plant samples. The samples were supplied with information about their traditional

use. Merck paid a reported US\$ 1.35 million for the 10,000 samples and agreed to pay a royalty of between 2%-3%. In the recent past three of the drugs that Merck sells earn over US\$ 1 billion each. If one of the 10,000 samples becomes a billion-dollar drug then Merck has agreed to pay 20-30 million dollars in royalties. From this episode, it appears that Costa Rica could earn royalties from the 10,000 samples well in excess of US\$ 100 million per annum. A number of countries like Andean Community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) Brazil, Costa Rica, India, Peru, Philippines, Some African countries (based on Model OAU LAW) are either providing or proposed to provide protection to TK through combination of various systems. Now many countries are taking effort for conservation and sustainable development of biodiversity. A number of countries have started to design national legislation on biodiversity, implementing the convention and entailing rules on jurisdiction, bioprospecting contracts, prior informed consent and export controls.

In Kani tribe of Kerala (India) case, benefit sharing partnership evolved. In that case, Kani tribe has the traditional knowledge (TK) of the anti-fatigue immuno-enhancing herbal formulation named Jeevani properties of wild plant *Trichopus Zeylanicus*, and the Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI) developed the drug, named Jeevani, after getting the knowledge from the tribe, and licensed it to a pharmaceutical company for rupees/million for a period of 7 years and a royalty of 2% on ex-factory price. It shares 1:1 of the license fees as well as royalty with the kani tribe. Although the model worked out in early 1994 in full consultation with kani tribe, it took almost 3 to 4 years to affect this model mainly because of the inherent inability of the kani tribe of Kerela to gain the benefit.

14. Protection of Traditional Knowledge

Communities from across the world have been demanding a global legal instrument that will provide equal rights for their traditional knowledge. This protection is possible under sui generis system. WIPO recognizes innovations based on Traditional Knowledge can take advantage of the protection of patents, trademarks, copyrights and geographical indications, or be protected as trade secrets, sui generis system and so on, as well as protection in non-legal forms, namely, protection given to traditional knowledge that is not binding, including a Code of Conduct. The weakness in developing the protection system is the absence of an appropriate and adequate protection system. Protection of traditional knowledge may be devised as defensive protection of TK set of strategies to ensure that third parties do not take unfounded IP rights over TK, as positive right acknowledge control of custodians over TK benefit sharing mutually agreed terms. In Bangladesh protection can be seen in several laws, including Bangladesh Biodiversity Act, 2017, the Plant Varieties Protection Act, 2019, Practitioner Unani and Ayurvedic Ordinance 1983 and Drug Control Ordinance, 1982.

15. The Steps of WIPO

The WIPO has taken steps in the collection of data and identification of traditional medicine. Various Committees were set up by WIPO with the task of making a report on the state of traditional knowledge as state of prior art. This includes, inter alia, the Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCIT) and Committee of Expert of the Union of International Patent Classification (IPC). The former since 1999 has in various Sessions adopted the creation of traditional knowledge databases as well as traditional knowledge Digital Libraries with a view to assisting in the identification of prior art. The later on February 19-22, 2001, set up a special Union which considered a draft of Traditional Knowledge Resource Classification (TKRC) in order to take a decision concerning its proper relationship to the IPC. This includes classifying traditional medicines, as well. The TRIPS Council recommends to the Trade Negotiations Committee that it takes a decision to the effect that the TRIPS Agreement should be amended in order to provide that Members shall require that an applicant for a patent relating to biological materials or to traditional knowledge shall provide, as a condition to acquiring patent rights: disclosure of the source and country of origin of the biological resource and of the traditional knowledge used in the invention; evidence of prior informed consent through approval of authorities under the relevant national regimes; evidence of fair and equitable benefit sharing under the relevant national regimes.

16. TRIPs vs. CBD: Interface between the Two

The convention on CBD recognizes the contribution of local communities to the enhancement, diffusion and conservation on bio-diversity, acknowledges the collective rights of the local communities in developing countries, who are the sources of bio-diversity of traditional knowledge. From the objectives of the TRIPs and the CBD texts, it appears that there is a substantial interface between the two regimes. The CBD stipulates that protection of IPRS as a means to achieving the end of sustainable development while the TRIPs considers strengthening of IPRs as an end itself. Under the CBD paradigm any use of genetic material requires "**Prior Informed Consent (PIC)**" of **States or the local communities** who have identified as custodian of the biodiversity. Under the TRIPs platform patents holder need not disclose the source of genetic materials on which a patent may have been granted. Use of genetic material must be accompanied by the sharing of benefit between the stakeholders. Sustainable development is the key objective of the CBD. In the CBD, the notion of transfer of technology to developing countries genetic material on terms to be decided by mutual consent. The pressure made by the developed countries on the developing and least developed countries with a view to take benefit from the bio-resources without paying any royalty to the countries from whom they would take. TRIPs are intended to provide private property rights over production and processes, be they bio-diversity based or not, in order to ensure that corporate interests are safeguarded equally worldwide. CBD requires signatories to protect and promote the rights of communities, farmers, indigenous people vis-a-vis their biological resources and knowledge system. But TRIPs require the application of either patents or an effective '*sui generis*' (i.e. unique) system to protect plant varieties at the national level. "*Sui generis*" option for plant varieties under TRIPs means, "The developing countries to provide some form of IPRs on food and medicinal bio-diversity for the first time. Varieties further selected by farmers from those with IPRs will be considered genetic derivations falling under the extensive legal ownership of the original IPRs holder. Corporations will be able to secure legal ownership of plant varieties which contain genetic information obtained from farmers' own fields in the South, which they then sell back to them with an added royalty charge.

Currently, the TRIPs Agreement contains no provisions preventing biopiracy acts, in which a person may claim patent rights in one country over genetic resources that are under the sovereignty of another country. In particular, the TRIPs Agreement contains no provisions ensuring the prior informed consent of the owners of the biological resources used in the invention. The Agreement also contains no provisions allowing a Member's claims to enforce its national regimes for fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the patenting of its own genetic resources in another country. This heralded a sharp battle on bio- resources between developed and developing countries whose role in conservation is now universally acknowledged as fundamental.

17. Minimizing Conflicts between TRIPs and CBD

The TRIPs Agreement and the CBD should be mutually supportive and promote the sustainable use of resources. Modifications in the TRIPs Agreement are necessary to ensure that it will not run counter to the objectives of the CBD. Necessary steps should be taken so that the country that supplied the genetic resources will have the right to use the genes and gain the benefits. By this method the ownership of genetic resources will also be respected. Patenting and bio-diversity are complex issues. So, the apparent interface between the CBD and the TRIPs Agreement should be minimized. A provision relating to access to biological resources and benefit sharing should be included after Article 27.3(b) of the TRIPs text. As regards access the breeders have to furnish information on the geographical location from where genetic material has been taken for development of the new variety. A patent must not be granted unless the application for patents fails to state the location of the use of bio-resources in the invention. Access to bio-resources and benefit sharing model have been devised in some jurisdictions. India is pioneering legislation entailing registration of traditional knowledge and the establishment of a national Community Gene Fund, intended to support the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for the long-term benefit of farming communities.

Conclusion

Traditional Knowledge of the community is associated with natural, genetic and bio-resources and the said knowledge is required to be protected for the benefits of poor in the developing and the LDCs under the global legal Instruments. Sustained legitimacy of IPRs protection for biotechnology cannot be achieved without effective and long- term protection of traditional knowledge and genetic resources. In the absence of clear provisions in TRIPS providing for a mutually supportive relationship of that Agreement with Members's obligations under the CBD, implementation of the TRIPS Agreement may allow for acts of biopiracy and thus result in systemic conflicts with the Convention. Pursuant to Article 16 of the CBD, several countries today are putting in place their domestic legislation to regulate access to genetic resources, many of which contain intellectual property-related provisions. In many cases, such countries include requirements to disclose the origin of the source of the genetic materials used in biotechnological inventions and the related traditional knowledge used in the invention, as well as requirements of evidence of benefit sharing and prior informed consent from the relevant national authorities. Digital library and registration of TK must be done for claiming the traditional knowledge. The global trade should look for sustainable development of TK keeping in mind the human rights. We are hopeful that the WTO's TRIPS Council will take necessary steps to address the issues of protection of traditional knowledge and use of genetic resources for equitable sharing of benefits and sustainable development under the world new trade law. Ultimate goal of the mankind of the Universe is to lead a happy life and it is true and final.

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MAJOR ACTIVITIES INVOLVING THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH IN 2023

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh is mandated by the Constitution as the highest judicial authority of the country and guardian of the Constitution. This court is to protect the rights of the people and interpret and defend the Constitution of the Republic. Under article 109 of the Constitution the High Court Division of the Supreme Court is also entrusted with the authority to exercise the superintendence and control over all courts and tribunals subordinate to it. In 2023 the Supreme Court of Bangladesh undertook a number of new initiatives to strengthen the capacity of the Judges of the subordinate judiciary, reduce the case backlog and improve justice delivery system. Apart from day to day judicial works, the Supreme Court observed and celebrated different national programmes.

1. Training organized by the Supreme Court in collaboration with National Judicial Academy of India for the Judges and Judicial Officers

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh, in collaboration with Government of Bangladesh and India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Judicial Academy of India (NJA) situated at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India to train the Judges of the subordinate Judiciary of Bangladesh for increasing their capacity and honing their skills. The training aimed at not only enhancing the legal skills of the judges but also improving the managerial skills of them for effective Court administration. In 2022 two batches of Judicial Officers comprising of 98 Judges and in 2023 six batches of Judicial Officers comprising of 297 Judges of the subordinate judiciary participated in the training program at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal and at Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy (16th batch); Chandigarh Judicial Academy (17th batch); Rajasthan State Judicial Academy (18th batch); Maharashtra Judicial Academy, Mumbai (19th batch); Judicial Academy Jharkhand (20th batch); Judicial Training and Research Institute, Lucknow (21st batch); Chandigarh Judicial Academy (22nd batch) and at Tripura Judicial Academy, Agartala (23rd batch).

2. Distribution of Computers and Laptops among the Judges of the Subordinate Judiciary

The government is committed to building a digital Bangladesh where all services to the people will be delivered digitally as much as possible. Keeping in view the above goal in 2023 many desktop computers and laptops were distributed to the Honourable Judges of the High Court Division. The Supreme Court of Bangladesh procured and distributed a number of Laptops and Computers of high configuration among the Judges of the subordinate Courts also. As a result of this initiative, the performance of the judges and the rate of speedy disposal of cases have increased to a significant extent.

3. Organizing DC Conference at the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh in collaboration with the Cabinet Division organized a DC Conference at its auditorium on 25 January, 2023. Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique addressed the DCs working in 64 districts on various issues and inspired them to work for the betterment of the people.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique addressing at the DC Conference

4. Saraswati Puja 2023

The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with other Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court attended an occasion of observing Saraswati Puja on 26 January, 2023.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with other Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court at the Saraswati Puja occasion

5. Observing "Shaheed Dibos" and International Mother Language Day

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh observed "Shaheed Dibos" and International Mother Language Day on 21 February, 2023. Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with the Honourable Judges of both the Divisions of the Supreme Court and Judicial Officers of the Supreme Court Registry working on deputation marching with procession in bare feet paid homage to the Language Martyrs by placing floral wreaths at the altar of Central Shaheed Minar in the morning of 21 February, 2023.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with other Honourable Judges placing floral wreaths at the altar of Central Shaheed Minar

6. Inauguration of "Supreme Court Food Park"

The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique inaugurated a Food Park on 9 March, 2023 at the Supreme Court premises. The aim of this initiative is to facilitate the staffers of the Supreme Court in having quality food at a low cost.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique inaugurating the Food Park

7. Tree plantation program

The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with other Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court planted different trees at the Supreme Court premises.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with other Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court planting trees on the occasion of celebrating the birthday of the Father of the Nation and National Children's Day

8. Observing Legal Aid Day 2023

On 18 May, 2023 the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with other Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court took part in a discussion session at the Supreme Court Auditorium in observance of National Legal Aid Day 2023 (which is 28 April) organized by the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee. The Session was presided over by Honourable Justice Naima Haider, the President of the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique addressing at the discussion session in observance of Legal Aid Day 2023

9. Inauguration of “Refurbished Medical Center” at the Supreme Court

On 21 June, 2023 the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with other Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court inaugurated the Refurbished Medical Center of the Supreme Court. This Medical Center has improved facilities for the patients with specialist doctors.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique inaugurating the Refurbished Medical Center of the Supreme Court

10. Inauguration of Bangladesh Supreme Court Mediation Center and Court Technology innovated by the Supreme Court and handing over of “Scanning and Digitization of Case Files from Calendar Year 2000 to 2020 for Mission Digital Court 2021”

On 29 August the Supreme Court of Bangladesh organized an inaugural ceremony of Bangladesh Supreme Court Mediation Center and Court Technology innovated by the Supreme Court and handing over of “Scanning and Digitization of Case Files from Calendar Year 2000 to 2020 for Mission Digital Court 2021”. The program was graced by the presence of Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh.

11. Oath taking by the new Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan

On 26 September, 2023 as the 24th Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan was sworn in at Bangabhaban by the Honorable President. After taking oath the new Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh along with Judges of both the Divisions of the Supreme Court visited National Memorial at Savar and paid homage there.

12. Closing ceremony of Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Constitution of People’s Republic of Bangladesh and the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and observance of Constitution Day 2023

On 4 November, 2023 Supreme Court of Bangladesh organized a discussion at its inner garden for conclusion of golden jubilee of coming into force of the Constitution of People’s Republic of Bangladesh and golden jubilee of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh programmes and observing Constitution Day 2023. Chief Justice of the Maldives UZ Ahmed Muthasim Adnan was present at the program as the Chief Guest. Law Minister Anisul Huq MP was also present there as the special guest. Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan presided over the event.

13. Inauguration of Retired Judges' Lounge

On 17 December, 2023 Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan inaugurated the Retired Judges Lounge at the ground floor of the Main Building of the Supreme Court. This lounge is to be used by non-practicing retired judges of the Supreme Court who often visit the court premises for various reasons.



Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan inaugurating the Retired Judges' Lounge at the Supreme Court

14. Observing the Supreme Court Day 2023

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 18 December, 2023 observed the Supreme Court Day with pomp, ceremony and jubilation. The Honourable President of the Republic Mohammed Shahabuddin graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan presided over the event.

15. Training on Computer, Information and Communication Technology

A number of training programmes on Computer, Information and Communication Technology were organised by the Supreme Court Administration throughout the year. The target groups for the training were the staff members of the Supreme Court at various levels. The training aimed to improve the computer skills of the employees of the Supreme Court who work in the Benches and the Sections of the Supreme Court. The successful completion of the training resulted in enhanced performance of the staffers of the Supreme Court.

16. Various Activities of the Judges' Welfare Foundation

The Supreme Court Judges' Welfare Foundation organized and undertook a number of events, including cultural programmes, family day programmes, sports events for the Judges of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 2023.



STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

Supreme Court of Bangladesh has adopted a five-year strategic plan in 2017. Followings are some of the core features of the Strategic Plan of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh:

1. Vision Statement

As a constitutional organ of the state, the Supreme Court is primarily accountable to the people of Bangladesh. Its Vision is:

The people continue to place trust, confidence, and respect in the Supreme Court.

2. Mission Statement

Guided by its constitutional mandates and the stated Vision, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh considers its Mission as preserving, protecting and defending the Constitution and the laws of Bangladesh, securing rule of law and serving the people through timely dispute resolution.

3. Values

While pursuing the stated Vision and Mission, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh plans to institutionalize a set of Values, which will shape its external and internal behaviour.

- a) In relation to other organs of the State
 - Independence: With the honourable Judges, the Supreme Court will remain free from any interference from anywhere while exercising its constitutional duties.
- b) In relation to conflicting parties and citizens
 - Impartiality: The honourable Judges and the staff will not favour any party in conflict and respect them equally in the justice delivery process.
 - Accessibility: The parties will have equal access within the decorum of the law and the Court system.
 - Fairness: The Judges and the staff members will explore a balanced view in the exercise of justice.
 - Responsiveness: The honourable Judges will be articulate and dutiful enough to address revealed societal pains as far as the application of laws and justice are concerned.
 - Transparency: Judicial process must be transparent, consistent, and predictable and the proceedings occur in open Courts, where all concerned shall have unhindered access.
- c) In relation to the SC itself
 - Technology-friendly: The SC will embrace modern technologies in its operations to achieve the highest level of efficiency of the honourable Judges, judicial officers, and staff members.
 - Propriety: Irrespective of position and strata, everyone will strictly follow the Rules and Procedures.
 - Innovation: The Supreme Court will encourage a working environment that fosters creativity and generation of new ideas to improve the Court environment and the quality of justice.

Goals, Strategies and Activities

The Goals of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh are embedded in five areas as listed below:

- Judicial Administration of the Supreme Court
- Justice Delivery at the Supreme Court
- Monitoring of Subordinate Courts

- Justice sector as a whole
- e-Judiciary

Goal 1: The Office of the Registrar General (ORG) to meet the emerging needs, is restructured and rejuvenated.

Strategy 1: Classify the existing Sections into four clusters of services in the ORG as follows:

- a) Court/Case related: Bench Office, Judicial Records, Paper Book, Certified Copy, Filing, Stamp Reporter, and Dispatch related to the Court
- b) General Administration and Logistics: Human Resource Management (HRM) for Judicial Officers, HRM for SC & Subordinate Staff, Dispatch, Keeping, Security & Store
- c) Technical: Budgeting, Accounting, Procurement, Store, Transport and Medical Centre
- d) Overarching/Crosscutting: Planning, Monitoring, Research and Reporting, IT and Training

Strategy 2: Rejuvenate the sections with selected work/activities

Strategy 3: Establishment of new Sections, with specific mandate, as follows:

- a) Planning, Monitoring, Research and Reporting Section
- b) Human Resource Development (Training) Section
- c) Monitoring Support Section (to follow up the activities of the Subordinate Courts)
- d) Public Relations Section
- e) International Judicial Collaboration

Goal 2: All Sections/Units/Cells of the Office of the Registrar General are effectively practicing relevant and more advanced modern office management system and procedures.

Strategy 1: Introduce more technology based office management systems and procedures for the effective coordination and quality management among and within the Sections.

Activities

- Forms and Stationaries: Inventory Management System as practiced in business houses
- Purchasing Section: Template based requisition issuing, processing and approval system
- Transport Section: Basic Repair and Maintenance Policy versus outsourcing policy in major cases
- Court Keeping Section: Requisition and follow up/tracking system for all services, and inter-building accessibility, effective space management policy (interior design analysis)
- Human Resource Management 1: Human Resource Management Policy (Filing system, Posting, Transfer, Appraisal, Promotion, Leave, Sickness, Dismissal, Pension Policy) for all Judicial Officers. The policy will build in the aspect of compliance with the Values in the ACR system.
- Human Resource Management 2: Human Resource Management Policy (Filing system, Recruitment based on required skill sets, Posting, Transfer, Appraisal, Promotion, Leave, Sickness, Dismissal, Pension Policy, gender policy) for the staff members
- Paper Book: Introduction of OCR (optical character recognition) software
- Records Section: Space-effective filing and safe storage system, and effective pest management, formatting policy (use of font, both sided)

- Budgeting System: Real-time Budget Control System
- Accounting Section: Modern Accounting System (use of basic accounting software for bookkeeping and reporting)
- Library: Auto-generated borrowing status and issuance of clearance and access to e-library
- The Secretariat of the Office of the Registrar General (ORG): Modern Coordination System (Tracking system for internal and external coordination, auto-generated reporting system)
- Subordinate Courts Section: Online reporting system
- Bench Office: Effective communication with the Subordinate Courts and Records Section
- HRD 1: Needs assessment, workshop design, delivery of training/outourcing of training/self-learning for the Honourable Judges and judicial officers, training impact evaluation).
- HRD 2: Needs assessment, training design, and delivery/outourcing/self learning for staff members, training impact evaluation.
- Cause List: Daily publication of cause lists and results
- Nojir (Precedent) : Modern store keeping (space management, storage and filing)
- Stamp Reporter: Modern payment system
- ICT: Repair, Maintenance, and Replacement Policy; Audience-sensitive staff development policy; LAN management policy
- Research: Connectivity with relevant Sections for auto-generated reporting on selected indicators, interpretation practices and recommendations for changes

Strategy 2: Equip the Sections with necessary skills, materials, and equipment.

Goal 3: The Supreme Court and the Subordinate Courts gradually possess the number of Judges at internationally recognized 'Citizens to Judges' ratio.

Strategy 1: Approach the Government to recruit more Judges of the Supreme Court, particularly for the High Court Division, based on performance, practical experience, and skills the Judges have demonstrated in the Subordinate Courts.

Strategy 2: Approach the Government to recruit new judicial officers based on the mix criteria of demands (quantitative and subject-specific) and disposal rate (cases per Judge).

Strategy 3: Introduce internships with the HC Benches for the recent law graduates and newly appointed judges with good academic and research records.

Strategy 4: Introduce portfolios of areas for the Benches to specialize in certain areas of law and capitalize on the background and experience of the honourable Judges.

Strategy 5: Expand the quantitative capacity of the justice delivery at the Supreme Court through an increase in vacation benches and shortening of the vacation.

Goal 4: The Courts progressively shifts to an effective Case Flow Management practice

Strategy 1: Allocate staff members (BO, ABO, PO) with required skill sets

Strategy 2: Introduce DCM approach for new cases

Activities

- 1) Undertake classification of the old cases for Differentiated Case Management (DCM), which

may include a Last-In-First-Out approach, and suo motto initiatives by the honourable Judges in lieu of the First-In-First-Out principle as an instrument for case flow management for old cases (classification of cases).

- 2) Introduce a key logistics package for the offices of Judges (materials, equipment, IT & internet package) for internal and external communication (Subordinate Courts, the Police, respective lawyers) aiming at a faster serving of notices/summons and tracking of the progress.

Goal 5: The Judges of Supreme Court gain access to reference materials, knowledge banks and capacity enhancing initiatives.

Strategy 1: Finalize the automation of the existing borrowing services.

Strategy 2: Establish e-library for common access (both demand and supply-driven) to legal literature from internal and external sources.

Strategy 3: Periodically arrange interactive workshops with experts on selected and emerging areas of laws and justice sector management (at home or abroad)

Goal 6: All Subordinate Courts function according to the standards set by the Supreme Court.

Strategy 1: Establish a dedicated office under the District and Sessions Judge to function as a bridge to the Supreme Court for effective communication (notices/summons, records) between Courts of the Supreme Court and those of the Subordinate Courts.

Activities

1. Appoint a JDJ/SAJ for the Liaison Office (to be established) JDJ/SAJ as Designated Officer and provide with adequate staff support (at least 4 staff) and other logistical supports, with provisions on how to forward statements to the Supreme Court and monitor communications, and on backup support in case of a temporary vacancy.

Strategy 2: Introduce an effective case-flow management policy for criminal and civil cases

Activity 1: Develop a case flow management policy. A recent workshop has proposed a classification of cases for better management. Additional consultations and workshops may pave the way for further detailing of the process from filing to disposition.

Activity 2: Provide capacity building to the Judges to implement the policy through training at JATI and national level workshops.

Strategy 3: Introduce a uniform, IT-driven and on/off-site monitoring system for the Subordinate Courts using electronic communication between the subordinate Courts and the SC. The District and Sessions Judge/CJM/CMM will monitor the progress and collect information on the challenges faced by his or her associate officers on a monthly basis. The proposed office mentioned earlier will perform the functions mentioned in this strategy.

Strategy 4: Review the experience of JSF/JUST project and seek introduction of the core recommendations for ICT.

The following Activities may be implemented under this strategy:

Activities

1. Establish an IT office in each District Court
2. Organize a national level consultation to discuss the progress of implementations of the recommendations, and develop a time-bound agenda for the implementation of E-communication between justice sector agencies, such as the Courts, police, prison etc.
3. Organize IT training for the judges and staff members.

Strategy 5: Advocate with the Government to further develop the subordinate Courts with an adequate number of judges, staff, and physical facilities and to support work processes with suitable amendments in laws, rules, and orders.

Activities

- a) Seek an increase of the number of Courts in each district with judges, staff members, courtrooms, and logistical supports depending on the history of the situation of cases the District Courts have to deal with and considering the standard judges to population ratio the justice sector has to achieve in the long-run. A flexible approach is suggested as not all districts have the same case burden, and a fair distribution of the workload is advisable.
- b) Seek amendment of laws in cooperation with the Law Commission and the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs to avoid that the same victim files a case with multiple Courts – e.g. Family Court, in the magistrate Court (dowry case) and in the special tribunal (Nari O Shishu Nirjatan Daman Tribunal). Another example is that banks may file cases in the Money Loan Court and simultaneously they can file cases under the NI Act for the same money. Sometimes they also file cases under sections 406 and 420 of the Penal Code.
- c) Introduce a differentiated distribution of time a District Judge should commit to administrative and judicial function as opposed to other judges, as the DJ has more administrative responsibilities than others.

Goal 7: All other justice sector institutions work together with the Supreme Court for the implementation of the strategies as well as for the overall development of the justice sector.

Strategy 1: Organize workshops/seminars/internships/trainings ensuring participation of key players from other justice sector institutions and other relevant institutions.

Strategy 2: Seek effective representation of the Supreme Court in any initiative (projects, programmes) relating to the overall coordination and management within the Justice Sector.

Strategy 3: Establish effective communication with other justice sector institutions (e.g. BJSC, Bangladesh Bar Council, Supreme Court Bar Association, JATI, Law Commission, NLASO, Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Office of Attorney General) for sharing of information of common interest and online access to resources (e.g. Library facilities, archives).

Strategy 4: Seek pro-active engagement of the Bar Council in supporting efforts related to effective case management (increasing use of ADR, positive response to the activism of the Judges).

Strategy 5: Establish effective communication with selected institutions (NHRC, Parliament Secretariat, Ministry of Finance, Office of Accountant's General etc.) for sharing information and the development of the justice sector.

Goal 8: The Office of the Registrar General progressively uses IT-systems in all of the operations of the Supreme Court and seeks the same from the Subordinate Courts, other judicial and affiliated institutions.

Strategy 1 (short-term):

The short-term strategies are based on the assumption that a comprehensive e-judiciary concept and its endorsement would evolve over time and certain preliminary steps can be initiated.

- a) Develop, test and introduce sub-system-based IT-solutions for operational efficiency, transparency and Accountability of the Sections by replacing manual workflow system into automation, e.g. ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) solution for the management of Human Resources, Accounting, Store Keeping, Procurement, all types of inventory, disbursement and noting of file through e-filing).

- b) Undertake infrastructure development, including the capacity enhancement for IT Section of Supreme Court and Training of Administrators and Supervisors and other office assistants.

Strategy 2 (long-term):

- a) Develop, test, and introduce unified IT-driven systems for connectivity among related Sections, with the Subordinate Courts, other judicial and affiliated institutions. Capitalizing the benefits of a) and in line with e-Judiciary initiatives. (e.g. Integration with Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS), Electronic Case Filing, Tracking and Monitoring through the Dashboard from a top management position, E-Court Room, Introducing various e-Services for Judges, Lawyers, witnesses and Litigants and introducing ERP solution for the whole judiciary).
- b) Undertake infrastructure development, including building nationwide connectivity with the Supreme Court, capacity enhancement for IT Section of Supreme Court by categorizing the responsibilities of IT personnel and Training of Administrators and Supervisors and other office assistants.
- c) Undertake large-scale procurement of hardware and accessories depending on periodic evaluation.

NEW LIBRARY INAUGURATED AT SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

On 10 September, 2023, a significant event was celebrated in the Supreme Court of Bangladesh with the inauguration of a new library on its premises. This momentous occasion was adorned by the presence of esteemed legal personalities, highlighting the importance of this new facility in the legal landscape of the country.

The event was graced by former Chief Justice A.T.M Afzal, who officially inaugurated the library. Alongside him, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique graced the event, symbolizing the ongoing commitment to enriching the legal resources available to the judiciary.



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique along with former Chief Justice A.T.M. Afzal, who inaugurated the new library, other former Chief Justices, judges of the Appellate Division and others present at the inauguration



The inauguration moment



The ribbon-cutting moment - a new beginning



A tour of the new library



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, along with the former Chief Justices of Bangladesh who attended the event, and the judges of the Appellate Division

The ceremony was also advanced by the participation of other notable figures from the legal fraternity, including former Chief Justices of Bangladesh- Mr. Justice Md Ruhul Amin, Mr. Md. Justice Tafazzal Islam and Mr. Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain.



A special moment from the event

The Honourable Justices of the Appellate Division- Mr. Justice Obaidul Hasan, Mr. Justice Borhan Uddin, Mr. Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Mr. Justice Md Abu Zafar Siddique- were also there in attendance, representing the judiciary's active involvement in this new initiative. Former Justices of the Appellate Division- Madam Justice Zinat Ara, Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman, and Madam Justice Khrisna Debnath- were also present at the event.



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, along with the former Chief Justices of Bangladesh who attended the event, the judges of the Appellate Division and other distinguished attendees including family members of former Chief Justices of Bangladesh



New Library of Appellate Division

One of the most significant contributions to the library came from one of the most eminent jurists of Bangladesh, Senior Advocate Barrister Rakanuddin Mahmud, who donated approximately 4,000 books. These books, collected over his long and illustrious career in law, provide a rich resource for legal professionals and scholars. Barrister Mahmud's donation reflects his dedication to the legal field and his desire to see continuous improvement and accessibility of legal knowledge.

The library, established on the ground floor of the Supreme Court's main building, boasts state-of-the-art facilities. It is designed to provide a modern and efficient environment for legal research and study.

OBSERVING 50 YEARS OF THE CONSTITUTION AND SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH: CLOSING CEREMONY

Adorned by several national and international figures, coupled with unique sequence of events, decorum and splendour, the Closing Ceremony of 50 years observation of the Supreme Court and the Constitution of Bangladesh marked a successful conclusion of a historic celebration that spanned across 2022 and 2023.



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Obaidul Hassan and the Honourable Chief Justice of Maldives, Ahmed Muthasim Adnan



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh handing over crest to the Honourable Chief Justice of Maldives



Address at the closing ceremony by the Honourable Chief Justice of the Maldives

The closing ceremony was held on 4 November, 2023, on the Constitution Day of 2023. The ceremony began at 3 p.m. sharp with the arrival of the honourable guests. This was followed by recitations from the Holy Scriptures. The welcome address was delivered by Mr. Justice Borhanuddin, Hon'ble Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh addressing the gathering at the closing ceremony.

This was followed by speeches of Mr. Md. Momtazuddin Fakir, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association and Mr. Abu Mohammad Amin Uddin, the Attorney General for Bangladesh.



Cultural Programme marking the end of closing ceremony

Honourable Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Anisul Huq, MP, graced the ceremony as its special guest. His valuable speech was followed by the unveiling of cover of the book commemorating the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and adoption of the Constitution of Bangladesh.

The Chief Guest of the event, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Maldives, Mr. Justice Ahmed Muthasim Adnan, then delivered his speech. After the Chief Guest's speech, the curtain came down on the 50th anniversary celebrations programme with the speech of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan, who presided over the ceremony.

Later in the evening, a cultural event and dinner program was graced by the presence of Honourable Speaker of the House of the Nation, Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury MP. Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, in a short speech after the cultural program, thanked and acknowledged everyone's efforts to make the entire 50 years celebration program a successful and beautiful one. Honorable Justices of Bangladesh Supreme Court, along with their spouses, attended the dinner.

AWARDING CERTIFICATES TO NEWLY ENROLLED SENIOR ADVOCATES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

For the first time in the history of the Supreme Court, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bangladesh awarded certificates to the newly enrolled senior advocates of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. On 16 November, 2023, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan, presented the certificates to 27 (twenty seven) such newly enrolled senior advocates in a ceremony at the Supreme Court Judges' Lounge. Honourable Justices of the Appellate Division, Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim, Mr. Justice Md. Ashfaquul Islam, Mr. Justice Jahangir Hossain, and officials of the Supreme Court Registry were also present at the event.



Honourable Judges of the Appellate Division



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan, addressing the audience at the event



All attendees of the event in one frame

In his speech, Hon'ble Chief Justice emphasized the arduous responsibilities of a senior advocate in the development of jurisprudence. He said if a senior advocate does not properly fulfill his/her responsibilities and does not participate in important hearings including review hearings, litigant people suffer immensely. He reminded them of their responsibility in realizing independent judiciary and urged them to serve as role models for junior advocates.

Mr. Justice M. Enayetur Rahim expressed his appreciation for taking up such initiative to award certificates to newly enrolled senior advocates for the first time. He called upon the senior advocates to uphold the dignity and prestige of judiciary and to enhance their professional standards.



THE SUPREME COURT DAY 2023

In the realm of justice, 18 December holds a special significance in the heart of every Bangladeshi citizen. It marks the Supreme Court Day, a day dedicated to honoring the institution that upholds the pillars of law and order in the country. On this auspicious occasion, the corridors of justice resonate with the spirit of integrity, fairness, and the tireless pursuit of truth.

This year, the celebration of Supreme Court Day was adorned with distinguished guests, illustrious personalities, and a fervent display of cultural richness. The Honorable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, adding prestige and solemnity to the event.



The distinguished guests of the event

Former Chief Justices of Bangladesh, Judges from both Divisions of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, distinguished jurists, cabinet members and bureaucrats, representatives from civil society, members of the press from both print and electronic media were present in the august gathering.

The day commenced with solemn ceremonies, paying homage to the founding principles of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. It served as a moment of reflection, reminding everyone of the solemn duty bestowed upon the judiciary to safeguard the rights and liberties of every citizen. The speeches delivered by eminent legal luminaries echoed the ideals of justice, equality, and the rule of law, reaffirming the unwavering commitment of the judiciary to serve the people with integrity and impartiality.



Address of the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr Justice Obaidul Hassan

As the proceedings unfolded, the discourse delved into the challenges and triumphs encountered in the pursuit of justice. From landmark judgments that have shaped the legal landscape to the ongoing efforts to ensure access to justice for all, the discussions encapsulated the multifaceted nature of the judiciary's role in a vibrant democracy.



The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr Justice Obaidul Hassan handing over the new book to the Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin



The Honourable President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Mohammed Shahabuddin addressing the gathering of the event

Amidst the intellectual deliberations, the cultural program added a touch of vibrancy and diversity to the proceedings. With captivating performances showcasing the rich tapestry of Bangladeshi heritage and music, the cultural segment served as a poignant reminder of the nation's cultural resilience and unity in diversity.



The distinguished guests of the event



Cultural Programme of the event

Beyond the pomp and grandeur, Supreme Court Day serves as a solemn reminder of the enduring values that underpin the judicial system – integrity, independence, and accountability. It is a day to reaffirm the solemn oath to uphold justice without fear or favor, to protect the rights of the marginalized and vulnerable, and to ensure that the principles of democracy are upheld in letter and in spirit.



Distinguished gathering at the cultural programme



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan addressing the gathering at the cultural event

As the festivities drew to a close, the echoes of Supreme Court Day resonated far beyond the confines of the courtroom. It served as a clarion call to all citizens to uphold the principles of justice in their daily lives, to stand up against injustice and inequality, and to strive towards building a society where the rule of law reigns supreme.

In commemorating Supreme Court Day 2023, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh not only celebrates the institution of justice but also reaffirms its commitment to the principles enshrined in its constitution – justice, liberty, and equality for all. It is a day to honor the past, celebrate the present, and envision a future where the beacon of justice illuminates every corner of society, guiding us towards a more equitable and inclusive tomorrow.

FORMER CHIEF JUSTICES AT 19 HARE ROAD, THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF BANGLADESH

A wave of nostalgia swept over a gathering of former Chief Justices of Bangladesh during a tree plantation programme at the official residence of the Chief Justice of Bangladesh on December 17, 2023. The event, organized by the Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan, marked the 53rd Victory Day of Bangladesh and coincided with the house warming of his official residence at 19 Hare Road, Dhaka.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan with Honourable former Chief Justices of Bangladesh



The former Chief Justices of Bangladesh with the Chief Justice of Bangladesh in one frame



The former Chief Justices of Bangladesh who attended the programme along with the current Chief Justice of Bangladesh, current judges of the Appellate Division, the Attorney General for Bangladesh and distinguished lawyers



Conversation of the former and the current Chief Justice of Bangladesh



The tree plantation programme captured

The programme was graced by the participation of 10 former Chief Justices of Bangladesh by planting mango saplings of different variants. The esteemed attendees included Mr. Justice A T M Afzal, Mr. Justice K M Hasan, Mr. Justice Syed J R Mudasser Husain, Mr. Justice Md Ruhul Amin, Mr. Justice Md Tafazzul Islam, Mr. Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim, Mr. Justice A B M Khairul Haque, Mr. Justice Md Muzammel Hossain, Mr. Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain, and Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddque, all former Chief Justices of Bangladesh, as hosted by the present Chief Justice.



The tree plantation programme captured



Supplication (Munajat) after the tree plantation programme

As they gathered, the former Chief Justices reminisced about their time as residents of the historic house, sharing memories that highlighted an array of heartwarming stories during their stay. The event was further enriched by the attendance of five judges of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. A number of senior lawyers, including Mr. Muhammad Jamiruddin Sircar, Dr. Kamal Hossain, Mr. A F Hassan Ariff, Mr. Kamal ul Alam, and Mr. M K Rahman, were also present in addition to the Attorney-General for Bangladesh Mr. A M Amin Uddin and other notable legal personalities who made the occasion a significant one.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan with Honourable former Chief Justices of Bangladesh

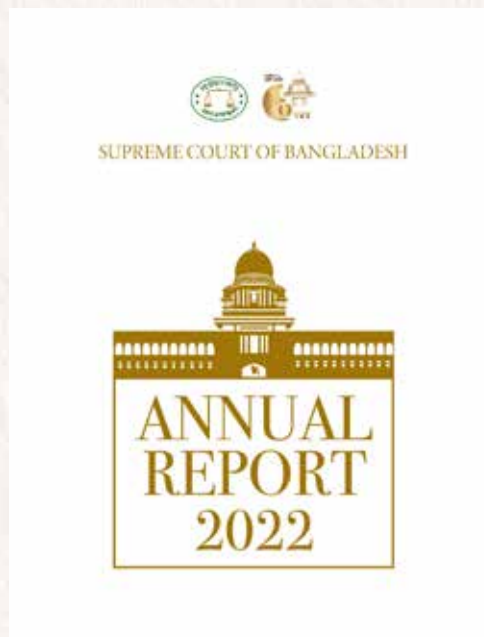


PUBLICATIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH IN 2023

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh published a number of notable and commemorative publications in 2023 that have had a significant impact on the legal landscape of Bangladesh. These include:

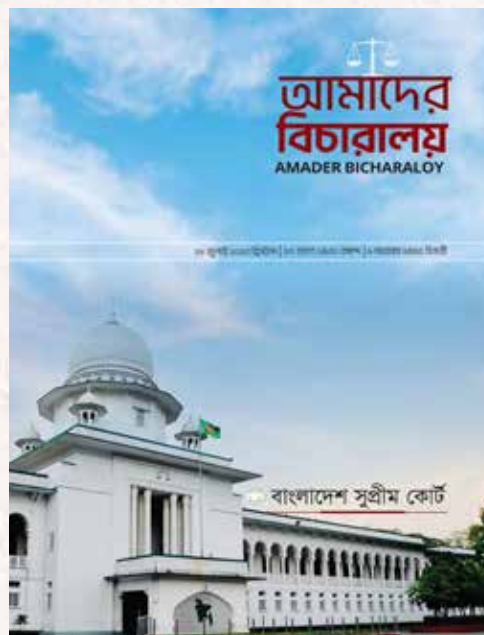
Annual Report 2022

The Annual Report is a regular publication of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Like in previous years, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh published its Annual Report for the year 2022.



Amader Bicharaloy

“Amamder Bicharaloy” was published as a bulletin of the Judiciary of Bangladesh. It contains news and information of events, initiatives and case statistics of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and of the Subordinate Courts.



Commemorative publication

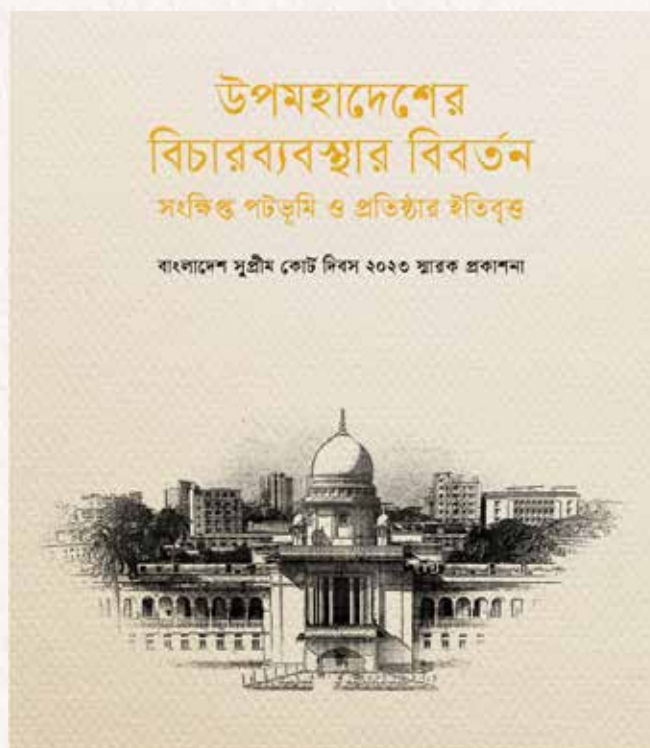
In 2022-2023, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh celebrated the 50th anniversary of the adoption and implementation of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. At the same time, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh has also observed its Golden Jubilee celebrations.

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh has come up with a commendable commemorative book titled "Smoronika" on 4 November, 2023, compiling all the speeches and images of the entire events.



Supreme Court Day Publication

On the occasion of Supreme Court Day, 2023, the book titled "Upomohadesher Bicharbyabosthar Biborton" was launched. This book has the historic narration of development of Judiciary in this Subcontinent.





INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Supreme Court always continues to attract international interest from judges and officials of the many countries of the world. The honourable Judges of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh travel many countries to attend international conferences, symposiums and discussions. These International visits provide opportunities for judges to meet with their counterparts in other countries, as well as government officials, legal professionals, and academics. Like previous year, Judges, legal scholars and legal luminaries of foreign countries visited the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. These relationships can help facilitate future cooperation and collaboration on legal issues.

These include following:

Justice Hasan Foez Siddique, the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Justice Hasan Foez Siddique, the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, visited South Korea from 28 May to 1 June, 2023, to participate in the 4th International Symposium of the AACC Secretariat for Research and Development. During the symposium, he delivered a speech on "Constitutional Rights Ensuring Access to Justice" and chaired sessions focused on Individual Access to Constitutional Justice. He met with Mr. Yoo Nam-seok, the Honourable President of the Constitutional Court of Korea.



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique with Mr. Yoo Nam-seok, the Honourable President of the Constitutional Court of Korea



Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique addressing at the 4th International Symposium of the AACC Secretariat for Research and Development

Justice Obaidul Hassan, the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh,

The National Legal Services Authority, India (NALSA), with support from the Government of India, in collaboration with the International Legal Foundation (ILF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) hosted the first regional conference on Access to Legal Aid at New Delhi, India on 27-28 November, 2023 with the goal to address the challenges in ensuring access to quality legal aid services in the countries of the Global South. The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan attended the conference upon the invitation of the Honourable Chief Justice of India Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and participated Chief Justices' Roundtable on Equal Access to Justice for All in the Global South. The Roundtable chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India brought together 21 Chief Justices and senior judges from 15 countries in the Global South.



Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan at the First Regional Conference on Access to Legal Aid at New Delhi, India with the Honourable Chief Justice of India Mr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud



Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Obaidul Hassan with the Honourable Chief Justice of India Mr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud

Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed, Honourable Judge of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed participated as a panel speaker at a book launch on 25 November, 2023. The event, titled "A History of the Constitution of Bangladesh," took place at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) of the University of London, UK. The discussion session was chaired by Professor Matthew J. Nelson, head of the Politics and International Studies department at SOAS. Additionally, the panel featured former Justice Mohammad Iman Ali of the Appellate Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh.



Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed at the book launch event at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), United Kingdom

Justice Md. Nuruzzaman, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique was pleased to nominate Honourable Justice Md. Nuruzzaman, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, to attend the Regional Symposium on Forest and Protected Areas Legislation, which was held on 27–29 April, 2023, Kathmandu, Nepal.



Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman at the Regional Symposium on Forest and Protected Areas Legislation, Kathmandu, Nepal

Justice Naima Haider, Honourable Judge of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh virtually attended the 5th Congress of the AACC, which was held from 18-21 August, 2022 at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Her ladyship also attended National Association of Women Judges Conference on 19-22 October, 2022, which was held in Detroit, Michigan.



Madam Justice Naima Haider at the National Association of Women Judges Conference on 19-22 October, 2022, at Detroit, Michigan, United States

Justice Habibul Gani, Honourable Judge of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh Justice Md. Habibul Gani of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, attended the 24th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World. The conference, which focused on Article 51 of the Constitution of India, was held from 1-7 November, 2023, in Lucknow, India. His Lordship delivered speech in the event.

Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif, Honourable Judge of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif, Honourable Judge of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Member of the Supreme Court Special Committee for Child Rights participated in the first-ever Regional Consultation Conference for Child Rights Institutions of South Asia in the Maldives on 19-20 June, 2023 which was hosted by the Children's Ombudsperson's Office in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).



Mr. Justice Sheikh Hassan Arif at the Regional Consultation Conference for Child Rights Institutions of South Asia held in the Maldives

Justice Ahmed Sohel, Honourable Judge of the High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh attended the International Conference on Mediation organized by Africa- Asia Mediation Association, held on 25 November, 2023, Dhaka, Bangladesh.



From left Ms. Madeline Kemei, Chairperson of AAMA, Mr. Veeraraghavan Inbavijayan (India), Hon'ble Justice Ahmed Sohel, Dr. George Victor (India) and Ms. Yousra I.O. Hasona (Bahrain), the distinguished guests of the International Conference on Mediation organized by Africa- Asia Mediation Association, held on 25 November, 2023 in Dhaka, Bangladesh

INSPECTION OF THE SUBORDINATE COURTS AND TRIBUNALS

The Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh embarked on a series of visits to various Courts in different districts. During his visits, the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh interacted with judges, lawyers, and Court staff, and assessed the infrastructure and facilities of the Courts. He discussed issues related to the backlog of cases, efficiency of Court processes, and implementation of judicial reforms to ensure fair and timely justice for the people of Bangladesh.

Article 109 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh provides that the High Court Division shall have superintendence and control over all Courts and Tribunals subordinate to it. This provision gives the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh the authority to supervise and control the functioning of all courts and tribunals under its jurisdiction. The High Court Division inspects subordinate Courts and Tribunals regularly to ensure that they are functioning efficiently and effectively.

As part of its supervisory power over the subordinate judiciary, during the long vacation of the Supreme Court (which started on 03 September, 2023 and ended on 05 October, 2023) eleven Honorable Judges of the High Court Division, appointed by the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh inspected all Courts and Tribunals in 18 districts.

The table below shows the names of the districts in which District and Sessions Judge Courts (including Chief Judicial Magistrate Courts)/Metropolitan Sessions Judge Courts (including Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Courts) and various tribunals were inspected by the Honourable Judges of the High Court Division in long vacation.

SI	Name of the Honorable Judges	Name of Districts
01	Mr. Justice Md. Nazrul Islam Talukder	Rangpur and Nilphamari
02	Mr. Justice Md. Ashraful Kamal	Shatkira and Jhenaidah
03	Mr. Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain	Khulna and Bagerhat
04	Mr. Justice Mahmudul Hoque	Panchagarh and Thakurgoan
05	Mr. Justice Khizir Ahmed Choudhury	Dinajpur
06	Mr. Justice Bhishmadev Chakraborty	Khagrachari and Cumilla
07	Mr. Justice A.S.M. Abdul Mobin	Habiganj
08	Mr. Justice Md. Mostafizur Rahman	Rajbari and Gopalganj
09	Mr. Justice Md. Kamrul Hossain Mollah	Brahmanbaria
10	Mr. Justice Md. Ataur Rahman Khan	Joypurhat
11	Mr. Justice Shahed Nuruddin	Borguna and Bhola

These inspections of different courts across the country are important for maintaining the independence and integrity of the judiciary, as well as for fostering transparency and accountability in our legal system. The High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh through the inspection assesses the state of the judiciary, identifies challenges, and provides guidance to improve the administration of justice in Bangladesh.

LANDMARK DECISIONS OF APPELLATE DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH IN THE YEAR OF 2023

1. Jotilal Chowdhury Vs Suruchi Bala Singha, XX ADC 1

A deity, established for 'puja' or other religious purpose being a jurist person, and being a perpetual minor cannot be a 'Benamder' and any transaction detrimental to the interest of a deity is void, illegal and non-est in the eye of law. In the instant case by virtue of the deed, exhibit-4 right, title and interest has been conferred/vested upon the deities. Once property vests or confers upon the deity by dedication, gift or otherwise, the deity acquires its right, title and interest.

It is well settled that a 'Nadabi-Patra' or 'Muktinama' being merely a deed of disclaimer disclaiming any interest in the property transferred by an earlier sale deed is not a deed of transfer.

2. Government of Bangladesh Vs Sinku Akramuzzaman, XX ADC 78

According to the Ordinance, 1985 the government cannot enlist any property as abandoned after 31st October, 1988, but the disputed property has been enlisted as abandoned on 18.11.2007.

As per Article 2(1) of the P.O. No.16 of 1972 abandoned property denotes property owned by a person who is either (i) not present in Bangladesh, or (ii) whose whereabouts are not known, or (iii) who has ceased to occupy, supervise or manage in person his property.

3. Md. Khokon Vs The State, XX ADC 144

In general terms, it may be stated that the length of period spent by a convict in the condemned cell is not necessarily a ground for commutation of the sentence of death. However, where the period spent in the condemned cell is not due to any fault of the convict and where the period spent there inordinately long, it may be considered as an extenuating ground sufficient for commutation of sentence of death.

4. Milon @ Md Milon Vs State, 75 DLR (AD) 164

When more than one person are being tried jointly for the same offence and a confession made by one of such persons affecting himself and some other of such persons is proved, the Court may take into consideration such confession as against such other of such persons as well as against the person who makes such confession. .

5. Barrister Muhammad Jamiruddin Sircar Vs State, 75 DLR (AD) 99

The parliament secretariat will be responsible only to the Parliament through the Controller and Auditor-General over the matter of expenditure of the financial allocation in the yearly budget and nobody else can raise any question as to the use of such budget. But in the cases in hand, those provisions of the Act, will not give any protection to the appellant since the Anti-Corruption Commission brought allegation against the appellant and other accused persons as to the mode of approval of medical bills in doing which the Speaker was not authorized to approve without the sanction of the Prime Minister. Neither the ACC nor any authority does have power to raise question about the authority of the Speaker in approving bills.

6. Hazrat Ali Vs State, represented by the Deputy Commissioner, 75 DLR (AD) 40

Conviction of an accused can safely be based on the solitary evidence of an eye-witness, if evidence is found full, complete and self-contained and further, the testimony of the solitary eye-witness could not be shaken in any manner by the defence in cross-examination.

7. Dr. Miah Md Mohiuddin vs State, 75 DLR (AD) 8

The act of recording a confession is a very solemn act and section 164 of the Code lays down certain precautionary rules to be followed by the Magistrate recording a confession to ensure the voluntariness of the confession. In such a case, the accused being placed in a situation free from the influence of the police is expected to speak out the truth being remorseful of what he has committed.

A confession can be acted upon if that passes two tests in the assessment of the court. The first test is its voluntariness. If a confessional statement fails to pass the first test, the second test is immaterial. If he does not disclose his complicity in an alleged crime voluntarily, court cannot take into consideration the confessional statement so recorded, no matter how truthful an accused is. (40)

8. Manager, Rupali Bank Limited Vs Md. Abdur Rahman and others, XX ADC 406

Rupali Bank Limited is a public limited company and it has a specific department to appoint the competent officials. All the officers and labour of the bank got appointment after complying the standard rules of appointment through a competitive written and viva voce examination and the proper authority to appoint the officials is the board of the bank or any other authority duly authorized by the board in that purpose. It is also settled that five conditions are to be satisfied in case of getting appointment with the bank which includes advertisement of vacancies, written examination, viva voce examination, appointment letter and joining letter. But the writ petitioners-respondents No.1 and 2 could not produce any appointment letter, joining letter and any approval order from the competent authority appointing them in the branch in any of the permanent or temporary post. In a writ petition court cannot pass direction on the basis of imagination of the existence of some documents.

9. Md. Ali Akram Hossain Vs Md. Mostafizur Rahman and others, XX ADC 451

In order to pass a decree in a suit for specific performance of contract following matters should be looked into: (i) the express terms of the agreement; (ii) nature of the property; (iii) surrounding circumstances; (iv) intention of the parties and (v) reciprocal promise of executing, sale deed. There is no averment in the pleading as to the offer and acceptance or refusal to accept the consideration which are the criteria to get a decree for specific performance of contract, the High Court Division most illegally treated the alleged agreement as an agreement for sale and, thereby, erroneously set aside the judgment and decree of the courts of facts below. This was not a fit case in which specific performance of contract should be enforced by the Court.

10. Md Shamim Vs The State, XX ADC 489

It is to be observed that a dying declaration, although a piece of substantive evidence has always been viewed with some degree of caution as the matter is liable to cross-examination. A dying declaration, however, otherwise stands on the same footing as any other piece of evidence and has to be judged in the light of surrounding circumstances and common human experience. When there is a record of such statement of the deceased the court has to satisfy itself, in the first place, as to the genuineness of the same keeping in view all the evidence and circumstances in which the statement of the deceased was said to have been recorded.

11. Shishubar Dhali Vs Chitta Ranjan Mondol, 75 DLR (AD), 125 SCOB

A Hindu male governed by the Bengal School of Hindu Law, dies leaving a widow and a brother. On A's death, the widow succeeds as his heir. The widow then dies leaving a daughter's daughter. The widow's stridhana will pass to the daughter's daughter as her stridhana heir, but the property inherited by her from her husband A will pass to the next heir of her husband, namely his brother.

12. Azizul Hague Sarker Vs Md. Wazed Ali, XX ADC 568

The leasehold right being admittedly heritable and transferable, the Government cannot cancel the allotment order without cancelling the lease deed as the petitioner's right in the land finally accrued on the lease deed.

The ADC (Revenue) had no authority to cancel the registered settlement deed duly executed by the Deputy Commissioner.

13. Terab Ali Vs Syed Ullah, XX ADC 353

The ex-parte decree passed in Title Suit No. 22 of 1983 on 15.04.1989 and the execution case has been filed on 20.10.1993 which is beyond the period of 3 years as codified by the article 182 of limitation Act, 1908.

As per Article 182 of the Limitation Act, 1908 the very first execution case must be filed within 03 (three) years of the date of decree. And admittedly as well as documentarily the Title Execution case in question bearing no. 03 of 1993 was filed on 20.10.1993 where as the original Title Suit no. 22 of 1989 was decree ex-parte on 15.04.1989 which makes the Title Execution case no. 03 of 1993 hopelessly barred by limitations for at least 01 and half years. We surprising observed that all the courts below missed the clear and unambiguous provisions of law.

14. Mostafa Shahriar Vs Mostafa Ahmed, XX ADC 256

The Vested Property Authority issued notice on 31.08.1978 in VP Case No. 22 of 1978-79 claiming the entire land as vested property, but, after production of the necessary papers by the appellants that notice withdrawn. However, the Court of Appeal did not consider these aspects of the case rather, the High Court Division also committed error in failing to find out the said error of the Court of appeal below and there- by committed error in affirming the decision of the Court of appeals.

15. Mukhtar Khan Vs Government of Bangladesh, XX ADC 584

The suit land has been recorded in S.A Khatian No. 19 in the name of Gyanda Sundari. But subsequently the suit land was taken over by the Government as per section 92 of the State Acquisition and Tenancy Act. Since, the plaintiff has completely failed to prove that Gyanda Sundari was living in this country around 1972-73, it can be assumed that Gynda Sundary, wife of Purna Chandra Chowdhury left this country.

Every entry in a record-of-rights prepared or revised under section 144 shall be evidence of the matter referred to in such entry, and shall be presumed to be correct until it is proved by evidence to be incorrect.

16. IDRA Vs Ms. Shaila Akhter, XX ADC 561

Mere wording of 'temporary' used in the appointment letter cannot be the basis for categorizing the employee as temporary appointee in the absence of any fraction period or certain period mentioned in the appointment letter itself. The writ petitioner [respondent No.01] was appointed initially on 01.08.2011 and subsequently after considering her good performance by office order dated 04.01.2012 her monthly salary has been increased to Tk. 12000/-with effect from 01.01.2012. It further appears that she got appointed in the post of Junior Officer on temporary basis. But the appointment letter of the writ-petitioner [respondent No. 01] does not contain any fraction period or certain period for which she was appointed and as such she could not be termed as temporary appointee.

17.The Registrar, BMOC Vs Shah Md. Arman, XX ADC 248

It is a well established principle that fraud vitiates everything. Legal maxim Nullus commodum capere potest de injuria sua propria' has a clear mandate of law that, a person who by manipulation of a process frustrates the legal rights of others, should not be permitted to take advantage of his wrong or manipulations. Fraud and justice never dwell together. (Franc et jus nun- quam cohabitant) is a pristine maxim which has never lost its temper over all these centuries. No judgment of Court, no order of a Minister can be allowed to stand if it has been obtained by fraud, for, fraud unravels everything.

18. Mriganka Mohan Dhali & ors Vs Chitta Ranjan Mondol & ors., 18 SCOB AD 20

In case of Stridhan property, it reverts back to the nearest heir of the female who is the owner of that property: The guiding 'Principle of Law of Inheritance' under the Dayabhaga School of Law, which prevails in Bangladesh, is the doctrine of religious efficacy. Religious efficacy means capacity to confer special benefit upon the deceased person. Succession is the mode of devolution of property under the Dayabhaga system. The general Rule of inheritance is that once a property is vested upon any one, it will not be divested. But in case of Hindu woman, getting limited ownership in the property is contradictory to this general Rule as the property will revert back to the heir of the owner. Only in case of Stridhan property, it reverts back to the nearest heir of the female who is the owner of that property. It is to be noted that succession of the 'Stridhan property' is held absolutely by a female.

When a daughter inherits Stridhan of her mother, she takes it absolutely like a son: When a daughter

inherits Stridhan of her mother, she takes it absolutely like a son because son and daughter inherit "EQUALLY" and not even - a single line of "The Dayabhaga" suggests it to become her "widow's estate" or anything like that.

19. Md. Zahangir Alam & ors Vs The State, 18 SCOB AD 45

Article 105 of the Constitution and Rule 1 of Order XXVI of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Rules, 1988: The core question for consideration is whether there is error apparent on the face of the record which calls for interference of the impugned judgment. It is an established jurisprudence that a review is by no means an appeal in disguise whereby an erroneous decision is reheard and corrected, but lies only against patent error of law. Where without any elaborate argument one could point to the error and say that here is a substantial point of law which stares one in the face, and there could reasonably be no two opinions to be entertained about it, a clear case of error apparent on the face of the record would be made out. It is only a clerical mistake or mistake apparent on the face of the record that can be corrected but does not include the correction of any erroneous view of law taken by the Court.

20. Bangladesh & ors Vs Sk. Md. Abdullah Faruque & ors., 18 SCOB AD 54

Article 102 of the Constitution and Chapter XIA of the Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules, 1973: The High Court Division erred in law in travelling beyond the scope/terms of the Rules Nisi: The person who wants to invoke article 102 must be an aggrieved person and must specify the relief in his prayers. Chapter XIA of the Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules, deals with preparing and filing of writ petition under article 102 of the Constitution. It provides that the aggrieved person must specifically set out the relief sought for. So, the writ petitioner must have specific claim in the form of prayer against such persons who are respondents, following which the Court can grant relief, if favourable, in accordance with law. In the present cases, the High Court Division has delivered the impugned judgment and order basing on the "জাতীয়করণকৃত কলেজ শিক্ষক ও অশিক্ষক কর্মচারী আত্মীকরণ বিধিমালা-২০১৮" by which the earlier Rules of 2000 has been repealed and thereby directed the writ respondent-leave petitioner herein to absorb the writ petitioners-respondents herein as Lecturers in their concerned Government Colleges despite of the fact that the writ petitioners did not make any such claim in the form of prayer in the writ petition asking absorption under the aforesaid absorption Rules of 2018 nor the Rules Nisi were issued at that effect. As such, the High Court Division erred in law in travelling beyond the scope/terms of the Rules Nisi in both the writ petitions in giving relief to the writ petitioners while passing the impugned judgment and order.

21. State Vs Nurul Amin Baitha, 75 DLR (AD) 187

The appellate Court has wide power to alter and amend the charges which may have been erroneously framed earlier.

Joint trial of different offences under different enactments does not vitiate proceedings in the absence of prejudice to the accused, particularly when the special enactment authorizes the Court to try different offences jointly where a charge is framed for one offence but offence committed is found to be some other than the one charged, provided, the same facts can sustain a charge for the latter offence, the accused can be convicted for such an offence.

The High Court Division as an appellate Court has the jurisdiction to convert conviction under section 11(Ka)/30 of the Ain to one under section 302/34 of the Penal Code as appeal is the continuation of an original case. An appellate Court has the same power as that of the trial Court i.e. the tribunal and therefore, as an appellate Court the High Court Division is competent to convert the conviction to secure the ends of justice.

22. Government of Bangladesh Vs Syed Fazle Elahi Obhi, 75 DLR (AD) 93

A Judicial Officer has every right to pass any order within the ambit of law and if, anyone is aggrieved by the same he has legal remedy before the higher Court in appropriate forum. But, the manner the writ-petitioner brought unfounded allegation against the concerned Magistrate, is highly objectionable.

During investigation of a case there is no scope to come to a definite conclusion that an accused is to be harassed and humiliated on mere apprehension and surmises.

23. State Vs Omit Hasan @ Azmir, 75 DLR (AD) 113

An order of stay takes effect from the moment it is passed and the knowledge of the court or others concerned is immaterial. The information of the existence of such a prohibiting order must be communicated in any way to the courts below for the purpose of proceedings to be taken against any person for contempt of the authority of the higher Court. But the operation of the order is not in any way postponed till it has been communicated to the subordinate Court or the party intended to be affected by it.

In absence of any solid-concrete evidence as to that the High Court Division passed the impugned order with conscious defiance of the higher courts our considered view is that the order was passed in ignorance of the order of stay and it may be said that there was no willful disobedience of the order. It is highly expected that courts below including the High Court Division should maintain cautiousness in the matters.

24. Court of Settlement & Anr Vs Moulavi Syed Karim, 31 BLT (AD) 31

The issue is being raised, for the first time, at the time of hearing of the case before us which, according to us, cannot be permitted to be raised for the first time for the simple reason that the issue that is being urged now is not only a question of law but is a mixed question of law and facts. The said facts were required to be urged evidentially before the courts below. Unless such a factual foundation is available it is not possible to decide such a mixed question of law and facts. Therefore, such a mixed question of law and facts should not be allowed to be raised at the time of final hearing of appeal before this Division.

25. Commissioner of Customs, VAT & Excise & Ors. Vs Abul Khair Steel Mills LTD, 31 BLT (AD) 152

The Spirit of law is that the date for the purpose of calculating the value of the goods and the date for determining the rate of duty should be the same. Therefore, we have no hesitation to hold that there is no justification for taking one date for one purpose and another date for another purpose. - the principle enunciated in the cited case there seems no plausible way to conclude that Section 79 is referring to Ex-Bond document and consequently it is clear that the value of goods and the rate of duty shall be the one prevailing at the time of presenting the In- Bond Bill of Entry and not the Ex-Bond Bill of Entry document and once the In- Bond Bill of Entry is submitted any subsequent development in case of determination of value or any redetermination of rate of duty or taxes, shall not affect the value of the concern goods or the rate of duty for the purpose of payment of duties and charges.

26. Khandakar Nuria Islam Vs Deputy Commissioner, Panchagarh, 20 ADC 169

It is a cardinal principle of administration of justice that no result of any judicial proceeding should be allowed to receive judicial approval from any Court of law whenever it is obtained by practicing fraud upon the court; reason being fraud demolishes the very foundation of sanctity of such judicial proceeding. It is also well established principle of law that fraud vitiates all judicial proceedings. Thus contravention of the provision of law cannot be a valid ground for allowing an order obtained by fraud to stand. When the trial Court itself on consideration of the materials on record was satisfied that a fraud had been committed in obtaining the ex parte decree it was the duty of the trial Court to set aside the ex parte decree. The failure of the trial Court in the performance of its legal obligations ought not to have been maintained by the High Court Division in affirming the finding of the trial Court.

27. Kanchon Ali Khan Vs Ali Akbar Khan, 20 ADC 231

The suit for partition is incompetent if all the co-sharers are not included as parties to the suit, as no effective decree can be passed in the absence of any one of them. It is true that under Order-I, Rule-9 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, no suit shall be defeated by reason of miss-joinder and non-joinder of parties but there can be no doubt that if the parties who are not joined are not only proper but also necessary parties to it, the infirmity in the suit is bound to be fatal.

The general Rule that a partition suit should embrace all the joint properties of the parties concerned is indeed a Rule of convenience. If properties are left out in a partition suit it brooks further litigation. It is true that this Rule is relaxable. But there are specific situations calling for relaxation. They are generally (a) where different portions of the property lie in different jurisdictions, or (b) when some portion of the property is at the time incapable of partition, or (c) when the property from its nature is importable, or (d) When property is held jointly with strangers who cannot be joined as parties to a general suit for partition, or (e) where cotenants, by mutual agreement, decide to make partition of a part of the joint property retaining the rest in common.

The finding of fact whether concurrent or not, arrived at by the lower appellate court is binding on the High Court, both as second appellate court and a revisional court, except in certain well-defined exceptional circumstances.

28. M.A. Majid Vs Shahab Uddin, 20 ADC 524

The right of pre-emption can be waived or relinquished at an earlier date than on date of actual completion of the sale under the law. This position is deduced on the concept that although the right of pre-emption becomes enforceable only when there is a sale, but the right exists antecedently to the sale inasmuch as such right is indispensable for avoiding inconvenience and disturbances arising out of introduction of a stranger into the land.

It is true, the right of pre-emption accrues after transfer of the land and statutory right of pre-emption cannot be taken away by mere verbal assurance of the person having such right unless other facts and circumstances clearly make out a case of acquiescence or waiver. 'Acquiescence' arises when a person, knowing that he is entitled to enforce some right, neglects to do so for such a long time that the other person opposing such right may fairly infer that he has waived or abandoned it. It is failure to object to certain transaction or Act. "Waiver" means simply abandonment of any claim or right.

29. Government of Bangladesh Vs Md. Abdul Jalil, 20 ADC 557

In view of the facts and circumstances of the case, it appears that the delay caused in filing the revisional application was due to the exhaustion of the official formalities and as such, the same is beyond the control of the defendant petitioners and moreover, the aforesaid delay of 403 days is not an inordinate one and as such, if the same is not condoned the defendant leave petitioners shall be led to irreparable loss and injury.

30. Md. Zahangir Vs The State, 20 ADC 655

In Order that an error may be a ground for review, it is necessary that it must be one which is apparent on the face of the record, that is, it must be so manifest, so clear that no Court could permit such an error to remain on the record. It may be an error of fact or of Law, but it must be an error which is self-evident and floating on the surface, and does not require any elaborate discussion or process of ratiocination. The contention that the exposition of the Law is incorrect or erroneous, or that the Court has gone wrong in the application of the Law to the facts of the particular case: or that erroneous inference have been drawn as a result of appraisal or appreciation of evidence, does not, constitute a valid ground for review. However, an Order based on an erroneous assumption of material fact, or without advertent to a provision of Law, or a departure from an undisputed construction of the Law and the Constitution may amount to an error apparent on the face of the record. At the same time if the judgment under review or a finding contained therein, although suffering from an erroneous assumption of facts, is sustainable on other grounds available on the record then although the error may be apparent on the face of the record, it would not justify a review of the judgment or the finding in question. In other words, the error must not only be apparent, but must also have a material bearing on the fate of the case. Errors of inconsequential import do not call for review.

SELECTED CIRCULARS ISSUED BY THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH IN 2023

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০১/২০২৩

জে,

তারিখ: ২১ পৌষ ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ
০৫ জানুয়ারি ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: দেশে করোনা ভাইরাস (কোভিড-১৯) সংক্রমণ, ডেঙ্গু ও চোখের সংক্রামক ব্যাধির প্রকোপ চলমান থাকার কারণে বার্ষিক গোপনীয় অনুবেদন ফর্মে স্বাস্থ্য পরীক্ষা প্রতিবেদন হতে অব্যাহতি প্রদান প্রসঙ্গে।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, দেশে বিদ্যমান করোনা ভাইরাস (কোভিড-১৯) সংক্রমণ, ডেঙ্গু ও চোখের সংক্রামক ব্যাধির প্রকোপ চলমান থাকার কারণে অধস্তন আদালতের বিচার বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তাগণের ২০২২ সনের বার্ষিক/আংশিক গোপনীয় অনুবেদন ফর্ম দাখিলের ক্ষেত্রে স্বাস্থ্য প্রতিবেদন গ্রহণের আবশ্যিকতা হতে অব্যাহতি প্রদান করা হলো।

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ২/২০২৩

জে,

তারিখ: ২ মাঘ ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ
১৬ জানুয়ারি ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: অধস্তন সকল আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালের সার্বিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিতকরণ প্রসঙ্গে।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অধস্তন সকল আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালের সার্বিক নিরাপত্তার বিষয়ে বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় গভীরভাবে উদ্বিগ্ন। বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট হতে ইতোপূর্বে একাধিকবার দেশের প্রত্যেক আদালতের সার্বিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করার বিষয়ে প্রয়োজনীয় পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হয়েছিল।

২। অধস্তন দেওয়ানী আদালতে মোকদ্দমাসমূহের নথিতে বিচারপ্রার্থী জনগণের মূল দলিল/ডকুমেন্টসহ বিভিন্ন ধরনের গুরুত্বপূর্ণ কাগজপত্র থাকে। আদালতের হেফাজতে থাকা এসব দলিলাদি ও গুরুত্বপূর্ণ কাগজপত্র চুরি/নষ্ট হলে আদালতের ভাবমূর্তি ক্ষুণ্ণ হবে। অধস্তন সকল আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালের সার্বিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করার লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে নিম্নোক্ত নির্দেশনা প্রদান করেছেন:

- (ক) আদালত ও বিচারকগণের বাসভবনের সীমানা প্রাচীর সুসংহত করা;
- (খ) আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালের এজলাস, বিভাগ, প্রতিটি ফটক ও আদালতের বাহিরে সিসিটিভি স্থাপন করা;
- (গ) আদালত ভবনের বাইরে ও ভিতরে নিরাপত্তা প্রহরী দ্বারা সার্বক্ষণিক পাহারা দেওয়া;
- (ঘ) আদালত ভবনের দরজা ও জানালাগুলি গণপূর্ত বিভাগ কর্তৃক পরীক্ষা করে গ্রিল আরও মজবুত করা এবং ভঙ্গুর দরজা ও জানালাগুলি নতুন করে স্থাপন করা;
- (ঙ) আদালত চত্বরে পর্যাপ্ত বৈদ্যুতিক বাতির ব্যবস্থা করা;
- (চ) মামলা সংশ্লিষ্ট নথিপত্রের নিরাপদ সংরক্ষণের যথাযথ ব্যবস্থা করা;
- (ছ) আদালতে ব্যবহারের নিমিত্ত মানসম্মত ফার্নিচার/লকার নিশ্চিত করা;
- (জ) আদালত সীমানার চারিদিকে সিকিউরিটি পোস্ট স্থাপন করা;
- (ঝ) জরুরি ভিত্তিতে সারাদেশের আদালত এলাকায় রাতে সার্বক্ষণিক পুলিশের টহল জোরদার করা;
- (ঞ) অবকাশকালীন সময়ে আদালত ভবনের বিশেষ নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিতের জন্য যথাযথ পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করা;
- (ট) প্রত্যেক আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালের কর্মকালীন সময়ে পর্যাপ্ত পুলিশ প্রহরার ব্যবস্থা করা।

৩। এমতাবস্থায়, উপরিউক্ত নির্দেশনাসমূহ আবশ্যিকভাবে প্রতিপালন করতঃ দেশের প্রত্যেক আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালের সার্বিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করার বিষয়ে প্রয়োজনীয় পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে নির্দেশক্রমে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

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বিষয়: অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনাল হতে মামলার বিভিন্ন ডকুমেন্টের সার্টিফাইড কপি (জাবেদা নকল) ব্যতিত কোন ধরনের ফটোকপি সরবরাহ নাকরণ প্রসঙ্গে।

সম্প্রতি অত্র কোর্টের গোচরীভূত হয়েছে যে, অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালের কর্মচারীগণ কর্তৃক মামলার বিভিন্ন ডকুমেন্টের ফটোকপি বিধিবিহীনভাবে সরবরাহ করা হচ্ছে। অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনাল হতে মামলার বিভিন্ন ডকুমেন্টের সার্টিফাইড কপি (জাবেদা নকল) ব্যতিত ফটোকপি মামলার পক্ষগণ বা বিজ্ঞ আইনজীবীগণ উক্ত আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনাল হতে সংগ্রহপূর্বক তা বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের কোনো কোনো বেঞ্চের শুনানীর সময় উপস্থাপন করছেন। এই বেআইনি কার্যক্রমের ফলে অনাকাঙ্ক্ষিত পরিস্থিতির সৃষ্টি হচ্ছে।

২। এমতাবস্থায়, অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনাল হতে মামলার বিভিন্ন ডকুমেন্টের সার্টিফাইড কপি (জাবেদা নকল) ব্যতিত বিধিবিহীনভাবে কোনো ধরনের ফটোকপি সরবরাহ না করার জন্য নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হলো।

৩। একইসাথে অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনাল হতে বিধিবিহীনভাবে মামলার ডকুমেন্টের ফটোকপি সরবরাহ ও সংগ্রহ না হয় সে বিষয়ে প্রয়োজনীয় পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হলো।

মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতির সানুগ্রহ আদেশক্রমে

স্বাক্ষরিত

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বিষয়: অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের সহায়ক কর্মচারীদের বদলি প্রসঙ্গে।

সম্প্রতি লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের সহায়ক কর্মচারীগণ এক জেলা হতে অন্য জেলা বা মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকার যে কোনো আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালে কিংবা এক মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকা হতে অন্য মেট্রোপলিটন এলাকার বা জেলার যে কোনো আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালে সমপদে, সমক্ষেলে অথবা উচ্চতর পদ হতে নিম্নতর পদে ও নিম্নতর পদ হতে উচ্চতর পদে বদলির জন্য অত্র কোর্টে আবেদন করেন। অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের সহায়ক কর্মচারীগণের বদলির বিষয়ে কোনো নীতিমালা না থাকায় প্রায়শই কর্মচারীগণের বদলির বিষয়ে সিদ্ধান্ত প্রদানের ক্ষেত্রে অসুবিধার সম্মুখীন হতে হয়।

২। বর্ণিতাবস্থায়, বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের সহায়ক কর্মচারীদের বদলির আবেদন এবং নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ ও নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের মতামত অত্র কোর্টের বিবেচনার জন্য প্রেরণ করার পূর্বে নিম্নলিখিত নির্দেশনাগুলো অনুসরণ করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে নির্দেশ প্রদান করেছেন:

(ক) জেলা জজ ও অধস্তন আদালতসমূহ এবং বিভাগীয় বিশেষ জজ আদালতসমূহ (কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারী) নিয়োগ বিধিমালা, ১৯৮৯ এবং জুডিসিয়াল ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটসী ও মেট্রোপলিটন ম্যাজিস্ট্রেটসীর আদালতসমূহ (সহায়ক কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারী) নিয়োগ বিধিমালা, ২০০৮ সহ অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের জন্য প্রযোজ্য বিধিবিধান আবশ্যিকভাবে অনুসরণ পূর্বক বদলির আবেদন নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ ও নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের মতামতসহ অত্র কোর্টে প্রেরণ করতে হবে;

(খ) অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের সহায়ক কর্মচারীগণ রাজস্ব খাতে নিয়োগ এবং চাকুরি স্থায়ীকরণ ব্যতীত বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন না;

(গ) জেলা ও দায়রা জজ/মহানগর দায়রা জজ আদালতের নাজিরের শূন্য পদ বিধিমোতাবেক পদোন্নতির মাধ্যমে পূরণ করতে হবে। পদোন্নতির মাধ্যমে শূন্য পদ পূরণ করা না গেলে সেক্ষেত্রে জেলা ও দায়রা জজ/মহানগর দায়রা জজ আদালতে নাজির পদে কর্মরত কর্মচারীগণ কেবল জেলা ও দায়রা জজ/মহানগর দায়রা জজ আদালতে নাজির/সমপদে আন্তঃজেলা বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন। তবে চীফ জুডিসিয়াল ম্যাজিস্ট্রেট/চীফ মেট্রোপলিটন ম্যাজিস্ট্রেট আদালতে নাজির, স্টেনোগ্রাফার, উচ্চমান সহকারী, স্টেনোটাইপিস্টসহ টেকনিক্যাল অন্য যে কোনো সমপদে কর্মরত সহায়ক কোন কর্মচারী জেলা ও দায়রা জজ/মহানগর দায়রা জজ আদালতের নাজির পদে বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন না;

(ঘ) জেলা ও দায়রা জজ আদালতের সেরেস্তাদারের শূন্য পদ বিধিমোতাবেক পদোন্নতির মাধ্যমে পূরণ করতে হবে। পদোন্নতির মাধ্যমে শূন্য পদ পূরণ করা না গেলে সেক্ষেত্রে জেলা ও দায়রা জজ আদালতে সেরেস্তাদার পদে কর্মরত কর্মচারীগণ কেবল জেলা ও দায়রা জজ আদালতে সেরেস্তাদার/সমপদে আন্তঃজেলা বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন। তবে ট্রাইব্যুনালে অথবা চীফ জুডিসিয়াল ম্যাজিস্ট্রেট/চীফ মেট্রোপলিটন ম্যাজিস্ট্রেট আদালতে বেষ্টসহকারী বা অন্য যে কোনো সমক্ষেলভূক্ত পদে কর্মরত সহায়ক কোনো কর্মচারী জেলা ও দায়রা জজ আদালতের সেরেস্তাদার পদে বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন না;

(ঙ) বার্ষিক বেতনবৃদ্ধি বা উচ্চতর গ্রেড প্রাপ্ত হয়ে উচ্চতর পদের সমান মূলবেতন প্রাপ্ত হলেও কোনো সহায়ক কর্মচারী নিম্ন পদ হতে উচ্চতর পদে বেতন সমতার দাবীতে বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন না;

(চ) ড্রাইভার/স্টেনোটাইপিস্ট/কম্পিউটার অপারেটর/স্টেনোগ্রাফার প্রভৃতি টেকনিক্যাল পদে কর্মরত কর্মচারী নন টেকনিক্যাল পদে বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন না। তদ্রূপ নন টেকনিক্যাল পদে কর্মরত কোনো কর্মচারী টেকনিক্যাল পদে বদলির আবেদন করতে পারবেন না;

(ছ) কোনো সহায়ক কর্মচারী একই নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের অধীনস্থ আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের এক পদ হতে অন্য কোনো সমপদে বদলির আবেদন অত্র কোর্টে প্রেরণ করবেন না;

(জ) অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের সহায়ক কর্মচারীগণের বদলির আবেদন নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ ও নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ আবেদনপ্রাপ্তির ১৫ (পনের) কর্মদিবসের মধ্যে নিষ্পত্তি করবেন;

(ঝ) নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে অগবর্তীকরণ পত্র ব্যতীত অত্র কোর্টে সরাসরি কোনো আবেদন গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না;

(ঞ) আন্তঃজেলা বদলির ক্ষেত্রে অত্র কোর্টে যে কোনো তদবির উক্ত কর্মচারীর অসদাচরণ হিসেবে গণ্য করা হবে।

৩। এছাড়া, নিয়োগকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ/নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক বিদ্যমান নিয়োগ বিধিমালা/বিধি অনুসরণ না করে তাঁর অধীনস্থ কোনো সহায়ক কর্মচারীকে তাঁর অধীনস্থ আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালের এক পদ হতে অন্য পদে পদায়ন করতে পারবেন না।

৪। এমতাবস্থায়, উপরি-উক্ত নির্দেশনাসমূহ আবশ্যিকভাবে প্রতিপালন করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে নির্দেশক্রমে নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হলো।

৫। উল্লেখ্য, অত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির নির্দেশনাসমূহ কোনোভাবেই বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ কর্তৃক প্রশাসনিক কারণে অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের সহায়ক কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীদের আন্তঃজেলা/অভ্যন্তরীণ বদলির ক্ষমতা ক্ষুণ্ণ করবে না।

মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতির সানুগ্রহ আদেশক্রমে

স্বাক্ষরিত

(এসকে.এম. তোফায়েল হাসান)

রেজিস্ট্রার (বিচার)

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ০৬/২০২৩

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তারিখ: ২১ চৈত্র ১৪২৯ বঙ্গাব্দ
০৪ এপ্রিল ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: দেশের ৬৪টি জেলার লিগ্যাল এইড অফিসারদের কার্যক্রমকে আরো গতিশীল ও নিবিড়ভাবে পর্যবেক্ষণসহ প্রয়োজনীয় দিক-নির্দেশনা প্রদানের নিমিত্ত হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের একজন মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়কে মনোনয়ন প্রদান করতঃ 'Monitoring Committee for District Legal Aid Officers' গঠন প্রসঙ্গে।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অত্র কোর্টের গত ২৭.০১.২০২২ তারিখের ০৫/২০২২নং বিজ্ঞপ্তিমূলে বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় দেশের ৮টি বিভাগের প্রত্যেক বিভাগের জন্য হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের একজন মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়কে মনোনয়ন প্রদান করতঃ পৃথক পৃথক ৮ (আট)টি Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts গঠন করেছেন। উক্ত Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts কর্তৃক দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত বিভাগের অন্তর্ভুক্ত জেলার বিভিন্ন আদালতের বিচারকগণসহ জেলা লিগ্যাল এইড অফিসারগণকেও প্রয়োজনীয় দিক-নির্দেশনা প্রদান করেছেন। কিন্তু সারাদেশের ৬৪টি জেলার লিগ্যাল এইড অফিসারদের কার্যক্রমকে আরো গতিশীল ও নিবিড়ভাবে পর্যবেক্ষণসহ প্রয়োজনীয় দিক-নির্দেশনা প্রদানের লক্ষ্যে ৬৪টি জেলার লিগ্যাল এইড অফিসারদের জন্য একটি পৃথক Monitoring Committee গঠন করা আবশ্যিক।

২। বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় দেশের ৬৪টি জেলার লিগ্যাল এইড অফিসারদের কার্যক্রমকে আরো গতিশীল ও নিবিড়ভাবে পর্যবেক্ষণসহ প্রয়োজনীয় দিক-নির্দেশনা প্রদানের নিমিত্ত বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের মাননীয় বিচারপতি ও বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট লিগ্যাল এইড কমিটির চেয়ারম্যান মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব নাইমা হায়দার মহোদয়কে মনোনয়ন প্রদান করতঃ 'Monitoring Committee for District Legal Aid Officers' গঠন করেছেন। উক্ত কমিটিকে সাচিবিক সহায়তা প্রদানের নিমিত্ত সুপ্রীম কোর্ট লিগ্যাল এইড অফিসার (অতিরিক্ত জেলা জজ) জনাব ফারাহ্ মামুন-কে দায়িত্ব প্রদান করা হয়েছে।

৩। এমতাবস্থায়, 'Monitoring Committee for District Legal Aid Officers' গঠনের বিষয়টি সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য প্রেরণ করা হলো।

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১৬ এপ্রিল, ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: অত্র কোর্টের বিগত ২২ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৯ খ্রিস্টাব্দের সার্কুলার নং-০৪ জে, এ প্রদত্ত বিচার বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তাগণ কর্তৃক সামাজিক যোগাযোগ মাধ্যম ব্যবহারের অনুসরণীয় নির্দেশনাসমূহ আবশ্যিকভাবে প্রতিপালন প্রসঙ্গে।

সম্প্রতি লক্ষ্য করা যাচ্ছে যে, কতিপয় বিচার বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তা সামাজিক যোগাযোগ মাধ্যম ব্যবহারের ক্ষেত্রে অত্র কোর্টের বিগত ২২ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৯ খ্রিস্টাব্দের সার্কুলার নং-০৪ জে, এ প্রদত্ত নির্দেশনাসমূহ প্রতিপালন করছেন না। কোনো কোনো বিচার বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তা বিচারিক কর্মঘণ্টায় সামাজিক যোগাযোগ মাধ্যম ব্যবহার করছেন, সামাজিক যোগাযোগ মাধ্যমে তাঁদের চেম্বার অথবা কর্মক্ষেত্রে দায়িত্বরত অবস্থায় তোলা ছবি বা ভিডিও আপলোড করাসহ নিজের ব্যক্তিগত গোপনীয়তা ও নিরাপত্তা ভঙ্গকারী ছবি পাবলিক পোস্ট হিসেবে আপলোড করছেন, অন্যের আপলোড করা ছবি, ভিডিও বা কন্টেন্ট শেয়ার বা তাতে অপ্রয়োজনীয় মন্তব্য করছেন। এছাড়াও রাজনৈতিক ও ধর্মীয় স্পর্শকাতর বিষয়ে মন্তব্য/শেয়ার করছেন এবং ইউটিউব বা অন্যকোনো মাধ্যমে নিজ বা ছদ্মনামে চ্যানেল খুলে ভিডিও আপলোড করাসহ অপ্রয়োজনীয় ও গুরুত্বহীন অনুষ্ঠানের ছবি সামাজিক যোগাযোগ মাধ্যমে আপলোড করছেন। কতিপয় বিচার বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তার এরূপ কর্মকাণ্ডের ফলে বিচার বিভাগ সম্পর্কে জনমনে নেতিবাচক ভাবমূর্তি সৃষ্টি হচ্ছে, যা অপ্রত্যাশিত।

২। এমতাবস্থায়, বিচার বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তাগণ কর্তৃক সামাজিক যোগাযোগ মাধ্যম ব্যবহারের ক্ষেত্রে অত্র কোর্টের বিগত ২২ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৯ খ্রিস্টাব্দের সার্কুলার নং-০৪ জে, এ প্রদত্ত নির্দেশনাসমূহ আবশ্যিকভাবে প্রতিপালন করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে আদিষ্ট হয়ে নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হলো।

সংযুক্তি : অত্র কোর্টের বিগত ২২ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৯ খ্রিস্টাব্দের সার্কুলার নং-০৪ জে,

স্বাক্ষরিত

(এসকে.এম. তোফায়েল হাসান)

রেজিস্ট্রার (বিচার)

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ

ফোন: ০২২২৩৩৫৮৭৮০

ইমেইল: registrar.judicial@supremecourt.gov.bd

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(বিচার শাখা)
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স্মারক নং-৪১৬৪

জে,

তারিখ: ২৮ বৈশাখ ১৪৩০ বঙ্গাব্দ
১১ মে ২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের এজলাস কক্ষে প্রদত্ত কাচের বেটনি পরবর্তী নির্দেশনা না দেওয়া পর্যন্ত খুলে রাখা সংক্রান্ত।

সূত্র: (১) বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের গত ২০.০৭.২০২০ তারিখের ৩২৪২ জে, নং স্মারক।
(২) বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের গত ০৬.১০.২০২০ তারিখের ৪৭৬৪ জে, নং স্মারক।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয় ও সূত্রের প্রেক্ষিতে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বিশ্ব স্বাস্থ্য সংস্থা (ডবিউএইচও) কোভিড-১৯ এ বৈশ্বিক জনস্বাস্থ্যে জরুরি অবস্থার সমাপ্তি ঘোষণা করায় করোনাভাইরাস (কোভিড-১৯) এর বিস্তার রোধকল্পে সূত্রোক্ত স্মারকপত্রে উল্লিখিত দেশের সকল অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহে স্বাস্থ্যবিধি অনুসরণ নিশ্চিতকল্পে এজলাস কক্ষে প্রদত্ত কাচের বেটনিসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট অবকাঠামো অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালের প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী পরবর্তী নির্দেশনা না দেওয়া পর্যন্ত খুলে রাখা আবশ্যিক।
উল্লেখ্য, অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহে কাচের বেটনির কারণে তীব্র গরমে আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের কার্যক্রম পরিচালনায় অসুবিধা হচ্ছে।

এমতাবস্থায়, অধস্তন আদালত/ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী এজলাস কক্ষে প্রদত্ত কাচের বেটনিসহ সংশ্লিষ্ট অবকাঠামো পরবর্তী নির্দেশনা না দেওয়া পর্যন্ত খুলে রাখার প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য আপনাকে বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

স্বাঃ/-

(এসকে.এম. তোফায়েল হাসান)

রেজিস্ট্রার (বিচার)

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ

ফোন: ০২২২৩৩৫৮৭৮০

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অফিস আদেশ নং- ২০

-এ,

তারিখঃ ০৬/০৮/২০২৩ খ্রি.

বিষয়ঃ অত্র কোর্টের এক শাখা থেকে অন্য শাখা/কোর্টে/চেম্বারে নথি প্রেরণ ও গ্রহণের ক্ষেত্রে প্রেরণ ও গ্রহণকারী কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীর পূর্ণনামসহ সীল ও স্বাক্ষর প্রদান সংক্রান্ত।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ের প্রেক্ষিতে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অত্র কোর্টের এক শাখা হতে অন্য শাখা/কোর্টে/চেম্বারে এবং কোর্ট হতে শাখায় নথি প্রেরণের ক্ষেত্রে প্রেরণ ও গ্রহণকারী কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীর পূর্ণনামসহ সীল ও স্বাক্ষর না থাকায় পরবর্তীতে কে বা কার মাধ্যমে নথি প্রেরণ বা গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে তা নির্ণয় করা সম্ভব হয় না বিধায় প্রায়ই নথি খুঁজে পাওয়া কষ্টকর হয়।

এমতাবস্থায়, অত্র কোর্টের এক শাখা থেকে অন্য শাখা/কোর্টে/চেম্বারে এবং কোর্ট হতে শাখায় নথি প্রেরণ ও গ্রহণের ক্ষেত্রে প্রেরণ ও গ্রহণকারী কর্মকর্তা/কর্মচারীর পূর্ণনামসহ সীল ও স্বাক্ষর প্রদানের নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হলো।

স্বা/-

(মোঃ মিজানুর রহমান)
ডেপুটি রেজিস্ট্রার
(প্রশাসন ও বিচার)
ফোনঃ ০২২২৩৩৮১৮৬৫

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অফিস আদেশ নং- ২১

-এ,

তারিখঃ ০৯/০৮/২০২৩ খ্রি.

বিষয়ঃ অত্র কোর্টের সকল কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীদের জন্য অফিস ত্যাগের রেজিস্টার সংরক্ষণ করা প্রসঙ্গে।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, অত্র কোর্টের কর্মকর্তা ও কর্মচারীগণ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে কর্তৃপক্ষের অনুমতি না নিয়ে বিভিন্ন অজুহাতে অফিসের বাহিরে চলে যাচ্ছেন। আকস্মিক (Sudden) পরিদর্শনকালে তাদের অফিসে পাওয়া যায় না যা শৃঙ্খলা পরিপন্থী ও অফিসের কাজে বিঘ্ন ঘটায়।

২। এ বিষয়ে সরকারি কর্মচারী (নিয়মিত উপস্থিতি বিধিমালা, ২০১৯ এর ৪-এ উল্লেখ আছে যে, উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষের পূর্বানুমতি ব্যতিরেকে কোনো সরকারি কর্মচারী অফিস চলাকালীন অফিস ত্যাগ করিতে পারিবেন না:

তবে শর্ত থাকে যে, জরুরি প্রয়োজনে কোনো সহকর্মীকে অবগতকরণপূর্বক অফিস ত্যাগ করা যাইবে এবং এই বিধিমালায় তফসিল অনুযায়ী সংরক্ষিত রেজিস্টারে এইরূপ অফিস ত্যাগের কারণ, সময়, তারিখ, ইত্যাদি লিপিবদ্ধ করিতে হইবে।

(২) উপবিধি (১) এর বিধান লঙ্ঘন করিলে উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্মচারীকে কারণ দর্শাইবার যুক্তিসংগত সুযোগ প্রদান করিয়া এইরূপ প্রতি ক্ষেত্রের জন্য উক্ত কর্মচারীর ১ (এক) দিনের মূল বেতনের সমপরিমাণ অর্থ কর্তন করিতে পারিবে।

৩। উক্ত তফসিলের বিধি (৪) এর উপবিধি (১) অনুযায়ী:-

অফিস ত্যাগের রেজিস্টার
.....শাখা
মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ, ইত্যাদি

ক্রমিক নং	কর্মচারীর নাম ও পদবি	অফিস ত্যাগের কারণ	অফিস ত্যাগের সময় ও তারিখ	সম্ভাব্য আগমনের সময় ও তারিখ	অবগত সহকর্মীর নাম	কর্মচারীর স্বাক্ষর	মন্তব্য
(১)	(২)	(৩)	(৪)	(৫)	(৬)	(৭)	(৮)

এমতাবস্থায়, অত্র কোর্টের সকল কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীগণ অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে জরুরি প্রয়োজনে অফিসের বাহিরে গেলে উল্লিখিত ছক অনুযায়ী অফিস ত্যাগের রেজিস্টার সংরক্ষণ এবং উক্ত রেজিস্টারে তথ্য লিপিবদ্ধ না করে অফিস ত্যাগ না করার জন্য নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হলো।

আদেশক্রমে

স্বা-

(মোঃ গোলাম রব্বানী)

রেজিস্ট্রার জেনারেল

বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট।

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-৬৭০

-এ,

তারিখ: ২৫ আশ্বিন ১৪৩০ বঙ্গাব্দ
১০ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

এতদ্বারা নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্টের ভাবগাম্ভীর্য ও পবিত্রতা রক্ষার্থে বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট আইনজীবী সমিতি ভবন সহ বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট প্রাঙ্গণে পূর্বানুমতি ছাড়া ব্যানার, পোস্টার লাগানো সমীচীন নয়। বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট প্রশাসনের পূর্বানুমতি ব্যতিত বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট প্রাঙ্গণে (আইনজীবী সমিতি ভবন সহ) সকল প্রকার পোস্টার ও ব্যানার লাগানো সম্পূর্ণরূপে নিষিদ্ধ করা হলো। ইতোমধ্যে কোন ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠান বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট প্রাঙ্গণে পোস্টার ও ব্যানার লাগিয়ে থাকলে সেই ব্যক্তি বা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে আগামী ৩ (তিন) দিনের মধ্যে তা অপসারণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

স্বা-
(মোঃ গোলাম রাব্বানী)
রেজিস্ট্রার জেনারেল
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স্মারক নং-৯৪৭১

-এ,

তারিখ: ০৬ কার্তিক ১৪৩০ বঙ্গাব্দ
২২ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: অধস্তন আদালতে কর্মরত বিচারকগণের পরিচয়পত্র প্রস্তুতের নিমিত্ত প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্য প্রেরণ প্রসঙ্গে।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্টের জেনারেল এ্যাডমিনিস্ট্রেশন (জি.এ.) কমিটি কর্তৃক অনুমোদনক্রমে বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্টের উদ্যোগে অধস্তন আদালতে কর্মরত বিচারকগণের পরিচিতি নম্বর উল্লেখসহ (সার্ভিস আইডি) প্রোডেশন তালিকা ০১ ফেব্রুয়ারী ২০২৩ খ্রি. তারিখ প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে। অধস্তন আদালতে কর্মরত বিচারকদের পরিচিতি নম্বর উল্লেখসহ (সার্ভিস আইডি) পৃথক পরিচয়পত্র (আইডি কার্ড) না থাকায় বিচারকগণ দাপ্তরিক কাজে ও সরকারী আচার-অনুষ্ঠানে বিবিধ অসুবিধার সম্মুখীন হচ্ছেন। অধস্তন আদালতে কর্মরত সকল বিচারকদের উক্ত সার্ভিস আইডি উল্লেখপূর্বক পরিচয়পত্র (আইডি কার্ড) প্রস্তুত ও বিতরণের বিষয়ে বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় সানুগৃহ অভিপ্রায় জ্ঞাপন করেছেন।

এমতাবস্থায়, অধস্তন আদালতে কর্মরত বিচারকগণের পরিচিতি নম্বরসহ (সার্ভিস আইডি) প্রস্তুতের নিমিত্তে আগামী ০৫/১১/২০২৩ খ্রি. তারিখের মধ্যে https://tools.bdcourts.gov.bd/id_cards/ লিংকে উল্লেখিত তথ্য পূরণক্রমে অফিসিয়াল ছবি আপলোড করার জন্য নির্দেশিত হয়ে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

স্বাঃ/-

(এসকে. এম. তোফায়েল হাসান)

রেজিস্ট্রার (বিচার)

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ

ফোন: ০২২২৩৩৩৫৮৭৮০

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ১৮/২০২৩

জে,

তারিখ: ১৪ কার্তিক ১৪৩০ বঙ্গাব্দ
৩০ অক্টোবর ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: The Supreme Court of Bangladesh (High Court Division Rules), 1973 অনুযায়ী Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts পুনর্গঠন সংক্রান্ত।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় দেশের ৮টি বিভাগের জন্য নিম্নোক্তভাবে পৃথক পৃথক ১৩ (তের)টি Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts গঠন করতঃ প্রত্যেক Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts এর জন্য হাইকোর্ট বিভাগের একজন মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়কে মনোনয়ন প্রদানপূর্বক মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়গণকে তাঁদের নামের পার্শ্বে বর্ণিতভাবে উল্লিখিত জেলাসমূহের দায়িত্ব প্রদান করেছেন:

ক্রমিক নং	মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়ের নাম	দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত বিভাগের নাম	দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত বিভাগের জেলাসমূহের নাম
১.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ হাবিবুল গনি	রাজশাহী-২	বগুড়া, জয়পুরহাট, পাবনা, সিরাজগঞ্জ
২.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ আকরাম হোসেন চৌধুরী	বরিশাল	বরিশাল, ভোলা, পটুয়াখালী, ঝালকাঠি, পিরোজপুর, বরগুনা
৩.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোস্তফা জামান ইসলাম	ঢাকা-১	ঢাকা, নারায়ণগঞ্জ, গাজীপুর, মানিকগঞ্জ, মুন্সীগঞ্জ, নরসিংদী, টাঙ্গাইল
৪.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ জাহাঙ্গীর হোসেন	খুলনা-১	খুলনা, বাগেরহাট, সাতক্ষীরা, যশোর, নড়াইল
৫.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব জাফর আহমেদ	খুলনা-২	কুষ্টিয়া, মেহেরপুর, চুয়াডাঙ্গা, ঝিনাইদহ, মাগুরা
৬.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব ভীষ্মদেব চক্রবর্তী	ঢাকা-২	কিশোরগঞ্জ, ফরিদপুর, রাজবাড়ী, গোপালগঞ্জ, শরিয়তপুর, মাদারীপুর
৭.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ মোস্তাফিজুর রহমান	চট্টগ্রাম-১	চট্টগ্রাম, কক্সবাজার, রাঙ্গামাটি, বান্দরবান, খাগড়াছড়ি
৮.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ কামরুল হোসেন মোল্লা	চট্টগ্রাম-২	নোয়াখালী, ফেনী, লক্ষ্মীপুর, কুমিল্লা, ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া, চাঁদপুর
৯.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব এস এম কুদ্দুস জামান	রাজশাহী-১	রাজশাহী, চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ, নওগাঁ, নাটোর
১০.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোহাম্মদ আলী	রংপুর-২	দিনাজপুর, ঠাকুরগাঁও, পঞ্চগড়, নীলফামারী
১১.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব শাহেদ নূরউদ্দিন	রংপুর-১	রংপুর, গাইবান্ধা, কুড়িগ্রাম, লালমনিরহাট
১২.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ জাকির হোসেন	ময়মনসিংহ	ময়মনসিংহ, জামালপুর, শেরপুর, নেত্রকোনা
১৩.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ আখতারুজ্জামান	সিলেট	সিলেট, সুনামগঞ্জ, মৌলভীবাজার, হবিগঞ্জ

বর্ণিত প্রত্যেক Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts-এর মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়কে সাচিবিক সহায়তা প্রদানের নিমিত্ত বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্টে প্রেষণে কর্মরত নিম্নলিখিত বর্ণিত বিচার বিভাগীয় কর্মকর্তাগণকে নিম্নরূপে মনোনয়ন প্রদান করেছেন:

ক্রমিক নং	মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়ের নাম	দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত বিভাগের নাম	দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত বিভাগের জেলাসমূহের নাম	সাচিবিক সহায়তা প্রদানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম, পদবী ও ই-মেইল
১.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ হাবিবুল গনি	রাজশাহী-২	বগুড়া, জয়পুরহাট, পাবনা, সিরাজগঞ্জ	জনাব মোঃ ওমর হায়দার সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmcrajdiv2@gmail.com

ক্রমিক নং	মাননীয় বিচারপতি মহোদয়ের নাম	দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত বিভাগের নাম	দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত বিভাগের জেলাসমূহের নাম	সাচিবিক সহায়তা প্রদানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম, পদবী ও ই-মেইল
২.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ আকরাম হোসেন চৌধুরী	বরিশাল	বরিশাল, ভোলা, পটুয়াখালী, ঝালকাঠি, পিরোজপুর, বরগুনা	বেগম মেফতাহুল জাহ্নাত সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmcbardiv@gmail.com
৩.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোস্তফা জামান ইসলাম	ঢাকা-১	ঢাকা, নারায়ণগঞ্জ, গাজীপুর, মানিকগঞ্জ, মুন্সীগঞ্জ, নরসিংদী, টাঙ্গাইল	জনাব সৈয়দ মোস্তফা রেজা নূর ডেপুটি রেজিস্ট্রার scmcdhkdiv@gmail.com
৪.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ জাহাঙ্গীর হোসেন	খুলনা-১	খুলনা, বাগেরহাট, সাতক্ষীরা, যশোর, নড়াইল	বেগম সেলিনা খাতুন সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmckhudiv@gmail.com
৫.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব জাফর আহমেদ	খুলনা-২	কুষ্টিয়া, মেহেরপুর, চুয়াডাঙ্গা, ঝিনাইদহ, মাগুরা	জনাব রাগিব মাহতাব সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmckhudiv2@gmail.com
৬.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব ভীষ্মদেব চক্রবর্তী	ঢাকা-২	কিশোরগঞ্জ, ফরিদপুর, রাজবাড়ী, গোপালগঞ্জ, শরিয়তপুর, মাদারীপুর	জনাব সিরাজুম মুনিরা সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার (রিসার্চ ইউনিট) scmcdhkdiv2@gmail.com
৭.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ মোস্তাফিজুর রহমান	চট্টগ্রাম-১	চট্টগ্রাম, কক্সবাজার, রাঙ্গামাটি, বান্দরবান, খাগড়াছড়ি	জনাব শোভন শাহরিয়ার সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmcctgdiv@gmail.com
৮.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ কামরুল হোসেন মোল্লা	চট্টগ্রাম-২	নোয়াখালী, ফেনী, লক্ষ্মীপুর, কুমিল্লা, ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া, চাঁদপুর	জনাব মোঃ মঈনউদ্দিন কাদির সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার (রিসার্চ ইউনিট) semcetgdiv2@gmail.com
৯.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব এস এম কুদ্দুস জামান	রাজশাহী-১	রাজশাহী, চাঁপাইনবাবগঞ্জ, নওগাঁ, নাটোর	বেগম সাদিয়া আফরীন সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmcrajdiv@gmail.com
১০.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোহাম্মদ আলী	রংপুর-২	দিনাজপুর, ঠাকুরগাঁও, পঞ্চগড়, নীলফামারী	জনাব মোঃ হাসিবুল হোসেন লাবু রেজিস্ট্রার জেনারেল এর একান্ত সচিব scmcrandiv2@gmail.com
১১.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব শাহেদ নূরউদ্দিন	রংপুর-১	রংপুর, গাইবান্ধা, কুড়িগ্রাম, লালমনিরহাট	জনাব রাশেদুর রহমান সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmcrandiv@gmail.com
১২.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ জাকির হোসেন	ময়মনসিংহ	ময়মনসিংহ, জামালপুর, শেরপুর, নেত্রকোনা	জনাব মোঃ হায়দার আলী সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmcmyndiv@gmail.com
১৩.	মাননীয় বিচারপতি জনাব মোঃ আখতারুজ্জামান	সিলেট	সিলেট, সুনামগঞ্জ, মৌলভীবাজার, হবিগঞ্জ	জনাব আকরামুল ইসলাম সহকারী রেজিস্ট্রার scmcsyldiv@gmail.com

এমতাবস্থায়, Monitoring Committee for Subordinate Courts পুনর্গঠনের বিষয়টি সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য প্রেরণ করা হলো।

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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ২০/২০২৩

জে,

তারিখ: ২৯ কার্তিক ১৪৩০ বঙ্গাব্দ
১৪ নভেম্বর ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: প্রধান বিচারপতি পদকের জন্য আবেদন প্রেরণ প্রসঙ্গে।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্টের গত ১০ আগস্ট, ২০২২ খ্রিস্টাব্দ তারিখের ১২/২০২২ জে, নং বিজ্ঞপ্তিমূলে 'প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক নীতিমালা, ২০২২' এবং প্রধান বিচারপতি পদকের আবেদন ফরম সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতি ও প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য প্রেরণ করা হয়।

২। 'প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক' নীতিমালা, ২০২২ এর বিধান ৯ (গ) অনুসারে জেলা ও মহানগর বাছাই কমিটি গঠন করতঃ কমিটির সদস্যদের নাম ও পদবীসহ তালিকা সরাসরি অথবা ডাকযোগে "রেজিস্ট্রার জেনারেল, বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট (দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ: সাচিবিক সহায়তা প্রদানকারী কর্মকর্তা, প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক নীতিমালা প্রণয়ন ও বাছাই সংক্রান্ত জাজেস কমিটি)" বরাবরে এবং উক্ত কমিটির সফট্ কপি chiefjusticeaward@gmail.com-এই ই-মেইল অ্যাড্রেসে আগামী ২০ নভেম্বর, ২০২৩ খ্রি. তারিখের মধ্যে প্রেরণ করতে হবে। সফট্ কপি প্রেরণের ক্ষেত্রে ই-মেইলের সাবজেক্ট অবশ্যই "Committee <ইংরেজিতে জেলার নাম>"-এই ফরম্যাটে থাকতে হবে। প্রধান বিচারপতি পদকের আবেদন ফরম বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্টের ওয়েবসাইট হতে ডাউনলোড করে নিতে হবে;

৩। 'প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক নীতিমালা, ২০২২'-এ উল্লিখিত আবেদন প্রক্রিয়া অনুযায়ী এবং 'প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক' বিষয়ক নীতিমালা প্রণয়নসহ বাছাই কমিটির সিদ্ধান্ত অনুযায়ী-

(ক) জেলা জজ ও সমপর্যায়ের 'প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক' এর ক্ষেত্রে জেলা জজ পদমর্যাদার বিচারক এবং দলগত পর্যায়ে 'প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক' এর ক্ষেত্রে সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলার জেলা ও দায়রা জজ/মহানগর দায়রা জজ-কে আগামী ৩০ নভেম্বর, ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ তারিখের মধ্যে সুপ্রীম কোর্ট জাজেস কমিটির নিকট আবেদন দাখিল করার জন্য;

(খ) ব্যক্তি পর্যায়ে (অতিরিক্ত জেলা জজ/সমপর্যায়ের, যুগ্ম জেলা জজ/সমপর্যায়ের, সিনিয়র সহকারী জজ/সমপর্যায়ের, সহকারী জজ/সমপর্যায়ের) 'প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক' এর ক্ষেত্রে চাকরিতে স্থায়ীভাবে নিযুক্ত বিচারকগণ-কে আগামী ৩০ নভেম্বর, ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ তারিখের মধ্যে জেলা কমিটির নিকট আবেদন দাখিল করার জন্য; এবং

(গ) জেলা পর্যায়ের কমিটি কর্তৃক আবেদন বাছাই ও চূড়ান্তকরণান্তে সুপারিশ বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্টে আগামী ১৫ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রেরণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

৪। উল্লেখ্য, প্রধান বিচারপতি পদকের জন্য আবেদনপত্রের হার্ডকপি অত্র কোর্টে সরাসরি অথবা ডাকযোগে রেজিস্ট্রার জেনারেল, বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট (দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ: সাচিবিক সহায়তা প্রদানকারী কর্মকর্তা, প্রধান বিচারপতি পদক নীতিমালা প্রণয়ন ও বাছাই সংক্রান্ত জাজেস কমিটি)" বরাবরে এবং স্ক্যান কপি chiefjusticeaward@gmail.com-এই ই-মেইল অ্যাড্রেসে প্রেরণ করতে হবে।

বাংলাদেশের প্রধান বিচারপতির আদেশক্রমে

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বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট
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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ৭২৬

তারিখ: ২০/১১/২০২৩ খ্রি:

নির্দেশিত হয়ে সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বিনা প্রয়োজনে বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট প্রাঙ্গণে প্রবেশ না করার জন্য বলা হলো। জরুরি প্রয়োজনে কেউ প্রবেশ করলে স্ব স্ব জাতীয় পরিচয়পত্র অথবা পাসপোর্ট সাথে রাখার জন্য বলা গেল। বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট প্রশাসন ও সুপ্রীম কোর্ট আইনজীবী সমিতি কর্তৃক সরবরাহকৃত নির্ধারিত স্টিকার ছাড়া গাড়ি প্রবেশ নিষিদ্ধ করা হলো। অন্যথায় অবৈধ অনুপ্রবেশকারী গণ্যে আইনানুগ ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণ করা হবে।

স্বাঃ/-
মুন্সী মোঃ মশিয়ার রহমান
রেজিস্ট্রার
বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট
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বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট
হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ, ঢাকা।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং- ৭২৬ (ক)

তারিখ: ২০/১১/২০২৩ খ্রি.

নির্দেশিত হয়ে সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সুপ্রীম কোর্টের নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিতকরণের লক্ষ্যে সুপ্রীম কোর্টে আগত বিজ্ঞ আইনজীবী, আইনজীবী সহকারী, বিচারপ্রার্থী জনগন এবং সুপ্রীম কোর্টে কর্মরত কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীদের সুপ্রীম কোর্টে প্রবেশকালে স্ব স্ব পরিচয়পত্র সাথে রাখার পরামর্শ প্রদান করা হলো। নিরাপত্তার স্বার্থে আইন শৃঙ্খলা রক্ষাকারী বাহিনীর চাহিদামত এনআইডি কার্ড/পাসপোর্ট/অফিসিয়াল পরিচয়পত্র প্রদর্শন করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা গেল।

স্বাঃ/-

মুন্সী মোঃ মশিয়ার রহমান

রেজিস্ট্রার

বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ, ঢাকা।

বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট
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স্মারক নং- ১১১১০

-এ,

তারিখ: ২০ অগ্রহায়ণ ১৪৩০ বঙ্গাব্দ
০৫ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: সারা দেশের সকল আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনাল এবং বিচারকগণের গাড়ি ও বাসভবনে সার্বিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিতকরণ প্রসঙ্গে।

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ে নির্দেশিত হয়ে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সম্প্রতি মহানগর দায়রা জজ আদালত, ঢাকা ও জেলা জজ আদালত, খুলনায় বোমা হামলা হয়েছে। ইতোপূর্বে কুমিল্লা আদালতে বিচারকের খাস কামরায় বিচারপ্রার্থীকে হত্যার ঘটনা ও সম্প্রতি ঘটে যাওয়া ঘটনাগুলিতে সারা দেশের বিচারকগণ চরমভাবে উদ্বেগ, আতঙ্কিত ও নিরাপত্তাহীনতায় ভুগছেন। দেশের বিচার ব্যবস্থা সুষ্ঠুভাবে পরিচালনার জন্য দেশের সকল আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনাল প্রাঙ্গন, বিচারকদের বহনকারী গাড়ি এবং বাসভবনের নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করা অতীব জরুরি।

বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতি মহোদয় সারা দেশের সকল আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনাল প্রাঙ্গন এবং বিচারকগণের বহনকারী গাড়ি ও বাসভবনের পর্যাপ্ত নিরাপত্তা বৃদ্ধির নির্দেশনা দিয়েছেন।

এমতাবস্থায় সারা দেশের সকল আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনাল প্রাঙ্গন, বিচারকদের বহনকারী গাড়ি এবং বাসভবনে সার্বক্ষণিক পুলিশ প্রহরা ও পর্যাপ্ত পুলিশ ফোর্স প্রদানসহ সার্বিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিতকরণের প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য আপনাকে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

স্বাঃ/-

(মুসী মোঃ মশিয়ার রহমান)

রেজিস্ট্রার

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ

ফোন: ০২-৯৫১৪৬৪৬

ই-মেইল: registrar_hcd@supremecourt.gov.bd

বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট
হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ
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বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-২১/২০২৩

জে,

তারিখ: ০৫ পৌষ, ১৪৩০ বঙ্গাব্দ
২০ ডিসেম্বর, ২০২৩ খ্রিস্টাব্দ

বিষয়: অধস্তন আদালত ও ট্রাইব্যুনালসমূহের বদলিকৃত সহায়ক কর্মচারীদের জ্যেষ্ঠতা নির্ধারণ প্রসঙ্গে।

অত্র কোর্টের গোচরীভূত হয়েছে যে, অধস্তন আদালত এবং ট্রাইব্যুনালের এক নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের অধীনস্থ কর্মচারী বদলি বা পারস্পরিক বদলি হয়ে অন্য নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের অধীন কোনো আদালত বা ট্রাইব্যুনালে যোগদান করলে যোগদানকৃত স্থানে সমপদ ও সমক্ষেলে পূর্ব থেকে চাকরিরত কর্মচারীদের সাথে তার পারস্পরিক জ্যেষ্ঠতা নির্ধারণের ক্ষেত্রে জটিলতা সৃষ্টি হচ্ছে। এ বিষয়টি নিরসণের জন্য অত্র কোর্ট নিম্নোক্ত নীতি অনুসরণের নির্দেশ প্রদান করেছে:

আবেদনের প্রেক্ষিতে বদলি বা পারস্পরিক বদলির ক্ষেত্রে সংশ্লিষ্ট কর্মচারীর পূর্বের চাকরি (বেতন, পেনশন ও ছুটির ক্ষেত্রে) গণনা করা যাবে, তবে জ্যেষ্ঠতার ক্ষেত্রে তা গণনা করা যাবে না। নতুন যোগদানকৃত কর্মস্থলের জনবল কাঠামোতে পদোন্নতির শৃঙ্খলা ও জ্যেষ্ঠতা অক্ষুণ্ন রাখার স্বার্থে আবেদনকারী কর্মচারী যে নতুন নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের অধীনে যোগদান করবেন সেই নিয়ন্ত্রণকারী কর্তৃপক্ষের অধীনে পূর্ব থেকে কর্মরত সমপদ ও সমক্ষেলের কর্মচারীদের সর্বনিম্ন ক্রমিকে তার জ্যেষ্ঠতা নির্ধারিত হবে।

২। উল্লেখ্য, প্রশাসনিক কারণে বদলিকৃত কর্মচারীগণের ক্ষেত্রে বর্ণিত নীতি প্রযোজ্য হবে না।

৩। এমতাবস্থায়, উপরি-উক্ত নির্দেশনাসমূহ আবশ্যিকভাবে প্রতিপালন করার জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলকে আদেশক্রমে নির্দেশ প্রদান করা হলো।

৪। এই নির্দেশনা অবিলম্বে কার্যকর হবে।

মাননীয় প্রধান বিচারপতির সানুগ্ধ আদেশক্রমে

স্বাক্ষরিত

(এসকে.এম. তোফায়েল হাসান)

রেজিস্ট্রার (বিচার)

হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ

ফোন: ০২২২৩৩৫৮৭৮০

ইমেইল: registrar.judicial@supremecourt.gov.bd

FORMER CHIEF JUSTICES OF BANGLADESH

SL. No.	Name	Duration
1.	Mr. Justice Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem*	16.12.1972 — 05.11.1975
2.	Mr. Justice Syed A.B. Mahmud Husain*	18.11.1975 — 31.01.1978
3.	Mr. Justice Kemaluddin Hossain*	01.02.1978 — 11.04.1982
4.	Mr. Justice F.K.M. Munim*	12.04.1982 — 30.11.1989
5.	Mr. Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury*	01.12.1989 — 01.01.1990
6.	Mr. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed*	14.01.1990 — 31.01.1995
7.	Mr. Justice M.H. Rahman*	01.02.1995 — 30.04.1995
8.	Mr. Justice A.T.M Afzal	01.05.1995 — 31.05.1999
9.	Mr. Justice Mustafa Kamal*	01.06.1999 — 31.12.1999
10.	Mr. Justice Latifur Rahman*	01.01.2000 — 28.02.2001
11.	Mr. Justice Mahmudul Amin Choudhury*	01.03.2001 — 17.06.2002
12.	Mr. Justice Mainur Reza Choudhury*	18.06.2002 — 22.06.2003
13.	Mr. Justice K.M. Hasan	23.06.2003 — 26.01.2004
14.	Mr. Justice Syed J.R. Mudassir Husain	27.01.2004 — 28.02.2007
15.	Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Amin	01.03.2007 — 31.05.2008
16.	Mr. Justice M. M. Ruhul Amin*	01.06.2008 — 22.12.2009
17.	Mr. Justice Md. Tafazzul Islam	23.12.2009 — 07.02.2010
18.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim	08.02.2010 — 29.09.2010
19.	Mr. Justice A.B.M. Khairul Haque	30.09.2010 — 17.05.2011
20.	Mr. Justice Md. Muzammel Hossain	18.05.2011 — 16.01.2015
21.	Mr. Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha	17.01.2015 — 10.11.2017
22.	Mr. Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain	03.02.2018 — 30.12.2021
23.	Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique	31.12.2021 – 25.09.2023

* Deceased.

FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF HIGH COURT OF BANGLADESH

SL. No.	Name	Duration
1.	Mr. Justice Ruhul Islam*	13.08.1976 — 22.10.1978

* Deceased.

FORMER JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

SL. No	Name	Date of elevation to the HCD	Date of elevation to the AD	Date of retirement
1.	Mr. Justice Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem *		16.12.1972	05.11.1975
2.	Mr. Justice Syed A. B. Mahmud Husain *	18.01.1972	18.12.1972	31.01.1978
3.	Mr. Justice Kemaluddin Hussain *	18.01.1972	13.08.1976	11.04.1982
4.	Mr. Justice F. K. M. Abdul Munim *	18.01.1972	13.08.1976	30.11.1989
5.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Abdullah Jabir *	18.01.1972	17.08.1972	30.06.1975
6.	Mr. Justice A. F. M. Ahasanuddin Chowdhury *	18.01.1972	30.01.1974	01.12.1977
7.	Mr. Justice Dabesh Chandra Bhattacharya *	21.01.1972	13.08.1976	30.09.1979
8.	Mr. Justice Ruhul Islam *	21.01.1972	23.01.1978	01.01.1983
9.	Mr. Justice Kazi Mahabubus Subhan (Justice K.M. Subhan) *	21.01.1972	22.02.1978	16.06.1982 **
10.	Mr. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed *	21.01.1972	16.04.1981	31.01.1995
11.	Mr. Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury *	26.01.1972	22.08.1978	01.01.1990
12.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Nurul Huda *	28.08.1972		28.02.1977
13.	Mr. Justice Chowdhury A. T. M. Masud *	19.06.1973	21.04.1982	01.04.1986
14.	Mr. Justice Syed Md. Mohsen Ali *	19.06.1973	17.01.1983	01.01.1985
15.	Mr. Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury *	24.11.1973		01.09.1983
16.	Mr. Justice A. R. M. Amirul Islam Chowdhury *	24.11.1973		01.03.1996
17.	Mr. Justice Syed Mohammad Hussain *	19.06.1974		08.01.1984
18.	Mr. Justice A. S. Faizul Islam Chowdhury *	24.06.1974		01.06.1982
19.	Mr. Justice Fazlay Hossain Mohammad Habibur Rahman *	20.12.1975		13.12.1993
20.	Mr. Justice Ranadhir Sen *	30.01.1976		01.07.1984
21.	Mr. Justice Abdul Wadud Chowdhury *	02.03.1976		01.11.1984
22.	Mr. Justice Siddiq Ahmed Chowdhury *	02.03.1976		03.03.1979 □
23.	Mr. Justice Abdul Momit Chowdhury *	02.03.1976		03.03.1979 □
24.	Mr. Justice M.H. Rahman *	08.05.1976	26.12.1985	30.04.1995
25.	Mr. Justice Abdul Matin Khan Chowdhury *	08.05.1976		01.12.1989
26.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Abdul Khaliq *	08.05.1976		02.01.1983
27.	Mr. Justice A. T. M. Afzal	15.04.1977	26.12.1985	31.05.1999
28.	Mr. Justice Sultan Hossain Khan *	13.03.1978		01.01.1990
29.	Mr. Justice Abdul Malek *	13.03.1978		05.02.1980 **
30.	Mr. Justice Mustafa Kamal *	09.04.1979	01.12.1989	31.12.1999
31.	Mr. Justice Rafiqur Rahman	09.04.1979		01.11.1979 **
32.	Mr. Justice Latifur Rahman *	21.11.1979	15.01.1990	28.02.2001
33.	Mr. Justice Md. Altaf Hossain *	21.11.1979		23.10.1985

SL. No	Name	Date of elevation to the HCD	Date of elevation to the AD	Date of retirement
34.	Mr. Justice Anwarul Hoque Chowdhury *	22.04.1980		01.11.1994
35.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Abdur Rouf	29.01.1982	08.06.1995	01.02.1999
36.	Mr. Justice Aminur Rahman Khan*	29.01.1982		02.06.1990
37.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Quddus Chowdhury *	18.01.1983		01.09.1991
38.	Mr. Justice Dalil Uddin Ahmed *	15.07.1983		01.02.1990
39.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Abdul Mottalib *	15.07.1983		14.07.1985 ■
40.	Mr. Justice Syed Mohammad Ali *	15.07.1983		01.08.1993
41.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Ismailuddin Sarker *	30.12.1983	08.06.1995	20.01.1996 □□
42.	Mr. Justice Nurul Hoque Bhuiyan *	30.12.1983		01.10.1990
43.	Mr. Justice Syed Misbah Uddin Hossain *	30.12.1983		01.01.1992
44.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Moksudor Rahman *	30.12.1983		26.12.1985 **
45.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Sohrab Ali *	30.12.1983		20.10.1990 □□
46.	Mr. Justice Abdul Bari Sarker *	30.05.1984		01.06.1992
47.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Jalil *	30.05.1984		01.05.1994
48.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Abdul Wahab	30.05.1984		29.05.1986 ■
49.	Mr. Justice Bimalendu Bikash Roy Chowdhury *	02.07.1985	11.05.1996	01.11.2000
50.	Mr. Justice A. M. Mahmudur Rahman *	26.12.1985	01.02.1999	14.12.2000
51.	Mr. Justice Syed Fazle Ahmmed *	26.12.1985		01.01.1994
52.	Mr. Justice Mahmudul Amin Chowdhury *	27.01.1987	28.06.1999	17.06.2002
53.	Mr. Justice A. K. M. Sadeque *	27.01.1987		30.01.1995
54.	Mr. Justice D. M. Ansaruddin Ahmed *	27.01.1987		01.07.1995
55.	Mr. Justice Md. Mozammel Haque *	27.01.1987		01.12.2000
56.	Mr. Justice Quazi Shafi Uddin *	27.01.1987		01.11.2001
57.	Mr. Justice Habibur Rahman Khan *	21.01.1988		01.12.1995
58.	Mr. Justice Md. Budruzzaman *	21.01.1988		01.02.1996
59.	Mr. Justice Naimuddin Ahmed *	21.01.1988		04.04.1996
60.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Ansar Ali *	21.01.1988		05.07.1995 □□
61.	Mr. Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury *	29.01.1990	08.11.2000	22.06.2003
62.	Mr. Justice Kazi Ebadul Hoque*	29.01.1990	19.01.2000	01.01.2001
63.	Mr. Justice Badrul Islam Chowdhury	29.01.1990		01.02.1998
64.	Mr. Justice Abdul Hasib *	29.01.1990		28.01.1992 ■
65.	Mr. Justice Habibul Islam Bhuiyan	29.01.1990		19.03.1990 **
66.	Mr. Justice K. M. Hasan	13.07.1991	20.01.2002	26.01.2004
67.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Karim *	13.07.1991		01.08.1999

SL. No	Name	Date of elevation to the HCD	Date of elevation to the AD	Date of retirement
68.	Mr. Justice Muhammad Abdul Mannan*	13.07.1991		21.12.1999
69.	Mr. Justice Md. Ruhul Amin	18.02.1992	11.01.2001	31.05.2008
70.	Mr. Justice Syed J. R. Mudassir Husain	18.02.1992	05.03.2002	28.02.2007
71.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Gholam Rabbani*	18.02.1992	11.01.2001	10.01.2002
72.	Mr. Justice Mahfuzur Rahman *	18.02.1992		01.02.2000
73.	Mr. Justice Md. Sirajul Islam *	18.02.1992		03.03.2000
74.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Fazlul Karim	01.11.1992	15.05.2001	29.09.2010
75.	Mr. Justice Abu Sayeed Ahammed	01.11.1992	05.03.2002	23.08.2003
76.	Mr. Justice M. M. Ruhul Amin *	10.02.1994	13.07.2003	22.12.2009
77.	Mr. Justice Md. Tafazzul Islam	10.02.1994	27.08.2003	07.02.2010
78.	Mr. Justice Kazi A. T. Monowaruddin *	10.02.1994	25.06.2002	15.07.2002
79.	Mr. Justice Md. Fazlul Haque*	10.02.1994	17.07.2002	30.06.2003
80.	Mr. Justice Hamidul Haque *	10.02.1994	29.06.2003	20.12.2003
81.	Mr. Justice Md. Asaduzzaman *	10.02.1994		09.02.1997 ■
82.	Mr. Justice Md. Nurul Islam *	10.02.1994		01.06.2002
83.	Mr. Justice Md. Bazlur Rahman Talukder *	10.02.1994		10.02.1997 ■
84.	Mr. Justice Syed Amirul Islam*	10.02.1994		13.01.2007
85.	Mr. Justice M. A. Aziz	01.06.1996	07.01.2004	30.09.2006
86.	Mr. Justice Amirul Kabir Chowdhury *	01.06.1996	26.02.2004	30.06.2007
87.	Mr. Justice Md. Joynul Abedin	01.06.1996	24.08.2006	31.12.2009
88.	Mr. Justice Md. Hassan Ameen	01.06.1996	21.03.2007	03.07.2008
89.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Matin	01.06.1996	19.09.2007	25.12.2010
90.	Mr. Justice Shah Abu Nayeem Mominur Rahman	01.06.1996	08.03.2009	12.05.2011 **
91.	Mr. Justice Md. Iftekhar Rasool *	01.06.1996		06.06.2000 □□
92.	Mr. Justice A. K. Badrul Huq *	01.06.1996		02.03.2008 **
93.	Mr. Justice Gour Gopal Shaha *	24.02.1997		26.12.2003
94.	Mr. Justice Md. Ali Asgar Khan	24.02.1997		13.01.2008
95.	Mr. Justice Md. Awlad Ali	24.02.1997		26.01.2008
96.	Mr. Justice Zakir Ahmad *	24.02.1997		17.07.1998 □□
97.	Mr. Justice A.B.M. Khairul Haque	27.04.1998	16.07.2009	17.05.2011
98.	Mr. Justice Md. Muzammel Hossain	27.04.1998	16.07.2009	16.01.2015
99.	Mr. Justice (Alhaj) Md. Abdul Aziz *	27.04.1998	08.03.2009	31.12.2009
100.	Mr. Justice B.K Das *	27.04.1998	16.07.2009	10.04.2010
101.	Mr. Justice Md. Latifur Rahman	27.04.1998		01.07.2006 **

SL. No	Name	Date of elevation to the HCD	Date of elevation to the AD	Date of retirement
102.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Quddus *	27.04.1998		15.01.2009
103.	Mr. Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha	24.10.1999	16.07.2009	10.11.2017 **
104.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Wahhab Miah	24.10.1999	23.02.2011	02.02.2018
105.	Mr. Justice Muhammed Mamtaz Uddin Ahmed	24.10.1999	16.05.2011	31.12.2011
106.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdur Rashid*	24.10.1999		26.01.2009
107.	Mr. Justice Khademul Islam Chowdhury	24.10.1999		17.04.2009
108.	Mr. Justice Sikder Maqbul Huq	24.10.1999		18.01.2010
109.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdus Salam *	24.10.1999		11.01.2010
110.	Mr. Justice Md. Arayes Uddin	24.10.1999		31.01.2010
111.	Madam Justice Nazmun Ara Sultana	28.05.2000	23.02.2011	07.07.2017
112.	Mr. Justice N. K. Chakravartty *	28.05.2000		27.05.2002 ■
113.	Mr. Justice A. K. M. Shafiuddin	28.05.2000		27.05.2002 ■
114.	Mr. Justice A. F. M. Mesbahuddin	28.05.2000		27.05.2002 ■
115.	Mr. Justice Munsurul Haque Chowdhury	28.05.2000		27.05.2002 ■
116.	Mr. Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain	22.02.2001	23.02.2011	30.12.2021
117.	Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique	22.02.2001	31.03.2013	25.09.2023
118.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Imman Ali	22.02.2001	23.02.2011	31.12.2022
119.	Mr. Justice Md. Shamsul Huda	22.02.2001	16.05.2011	02.11.2012
120.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Hye (M.A. Hye) *	22.02.2001		13.12.2011
121.	Mr. Justice Faruque Ahmed *	22.02.2001		30.12.2011
122.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Marzi-ul-Huq *	22.02.2001		23.09.2012
123.	Mr. Justice Altaf Hossain Khan *	22.02.2001		10.07.2002 □□
124.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdur Razzaque *	22.02.2001		01.09.2014
125.	Mr. Justice Mohammad Anwarul Haque	03.07.2001	31.03.2013	09.04.2014
126.	Mr. Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury	03.07.2001	31.03.2013	02.10.2015
127.	Mr. Justice Mirza Hussain Haider	03.07.2001	08.02.2016	28.02.2021
128.	Mr. Justice Md. Nizamul Huq	03.07.2001	08.02.2016	15.03.2017
129.	Mr. Justice Bazlur Rahman *	03.07.2001	08.02.2016	01.01.2017 □□
130.	Mr. Justice Sheikh Rezowan Ali	03.07.2001		31.01.2013
131.	Mr. Justice Nozrul Islam Chowdhury	03.07.2001		13.12.2015
132.	Mr. Justice Syed Muhammad Dastagir Husain	03.07.2001		17.09.2018
133.	Mr. Justice Khondker Musa Khaled	03.07.2001		02.03.2013
134.	Mr. Justice Siddiqur Rahman Miah	29.07.2002	31.03.2013	02.06.2013
135.	Mr. Justice Tariq ul Hakim	29.07.2002	03.09.2020	19.09.2020

SL. No	Name	Date of elevation to the HCD	Date of elevation to the AD	Date of retirement
136.	Mr. Justice Mir Hashmat Ali	29.07.2002		01.10. 2012
137.	Mr. Justice Mashuque Hosain Ahmed *	29.07.2002		30.11. 2012
138.	Mr. Justice A.K.M. Fazlur Rahman *	29.07.2002		14.01.2013
139.	Mr. Justice Abdul Awal	29.07.2002		19.08.2013
140.	Mr. Justice Sharif Uddin Chakladar	29.07.2002		19.01.2016
141.	Mr. Justice Md. Mizanur Rahman Bhuiyan *	29.07.2002		07.09.2017
142.	Mr. Justice Syed A.B. Mahmudul Huq	29.07.2002		31.12.2017
143.	Mr. Justice Abdus Salam Mamun	29.07.2002		13.02.2005 ■
144.	Madam Justice Zinat Ara	27.04.2003	09.10.2018	14.03.2020
145.	Mr. Justice Afzal Hossain Ahmed	27.04.2003		09.05.2012
146.	Mr. Justice A.F.M. Ali Asgar	27.04.2003		01.01.2015
147.	Mr. Justice Farid Ahmed	27.04.2003		03.01.2017
148.	Mr. Justice Shamim Hasnain	27.04.2003		24.04.2017
149.	Mr. Justice A. F. M Abdur Rahman	27.04.2003		04.07.2018
150.	Mr. Justice Md. Abu Tariq	27.04.2003		10.09.2019
151.	Mr. Justice Syed Shahid-ur -Rahman	27.04.2003		20.04.2004 □
152.	Mr. Justice A.T.M. Fazle Kabir	27.08.2003		01.01.2014
153.	Mr. Justice Md. Miftah Uddin Choudhury	27.08.2003		25.07.2022
154.	Mr. Justice Syed Abu Kowser Md. Dabirush-Shan*	23.08.2004		31.12.2011
155.	Mr. Justice Shahidul Islam	23.08.2004		01.09.2015
156.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdul Hye	23.08.2004		31.01.2016
157.	Mr. Justice Quamrul Islam Siddique *	23.08.2004		30.05.2017
158.	Mr. Justice Md. Fazlur Rahman*	23.08.2004		31.01.2018
159.	Mr. Justice Nirmolendu Dhar *	23.08.2004		22.08.2006 ■
160.	Mr. Justice A. B. M. Hatem Ali *	23.08.2004		22.08.2006 ■
161.	Mr. Justice Faisal Mahmud Faizee	23.08.2004		12.07.2007 **
162.	Mr. Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury	23.08.2004		08.01.2020
163.	Mr. Justice Md. Emdadul Huq	23.08.2004		30.09.2020
164.	Mr. Justice Md. Rais Uddin	23.08.2004		29.06.2023
165.	Mr. Justice Md. Emdadul Haque Azad	23.08.2004		15.10.2023
166.	Mr. Justice Md. Delwar Hossain	16.11.2008		15.11.2010 ■
167.	Mr. Justice Md. Azizul Haque	16.11.2008		15.11.2010 ■
168.	Mr. Justice Md. Abdus Samad	16.11.2008		15.11.2010 ■
169.	Mr. Justice A.K.M. Abdul Hakim	16.11.2008		18.12.2021

SL. No	Name	Date of elevation to the HCD	Date of elevation to the AD	Date of retirement
170.	Madam Justice Syeda Afsar Jahan	16.11.2008		15.11.2010 ■
171.	Mr. Justice Abu Bakar Siddiquee	30.06.2009	09.10.2018	28.07.2021
172.	Mr. Justice Md. Nuruzzaman	30.06.2009	09.10.2018	30.06.2023
173.	Mr. Justice M. Moazzam Husain	30.06.2009		31.01.2018
174.	Mr. Justice Soumendra Sarker	30.06.2009		31.10.2020
175.	Mr. Justice Md. Faruque (M. Faruque)	18.04.2010		31.12.2019
176.	Mr. Justice Md. Shawkat Hossain	18.04.2010		10.01.2020
177.	Mr. Justice F.R.M. Nazmul Ahsan*	18.04.2010		04.02.2022 □□
178.	Mr. Justice A.N.M. Bashir Ullah	18.04.2010		30.03.2023
179.	Madam Justice Krishna Debnath	18.04.2010	09.01.2022	09.10.2022
180.	Mr. Justice Bhabani Prasad Singha	12.12.2010		08.08.2020
181.	Mr. Justice Anwarul Haque*	12.12.2010		13.07.2017 □□
182.	Mr. Justice S. H. Md. Nurul Huda Jaigirdar	20.10.2011		29.11.2018
183.	Mr. Justice A.K.M. Shahidul Huq	20.10.2011		28.12.2022
184.	Mr. Justice A.B.M. Altaf Hossain	14.06.2012		13.06.2014 ■
185.	Mr. Justice S.M. Mozibur Rahman	12.02.2015		11.07.2022
186.	Mr. Justice Farid Ahmed Shibli	12.02.2015		11.02.2017 ■
187.	Mr. Justice Amir Hossain*	12.02.2015		24.08.2021 □□
188.	Mr. Justice J.N. Deb Choudhury*	12.02.2015		15.12.2016 □□ ■

* Deceased. ** Date of resignation. □ Date of termination. □□ Date of Death while in office. ■ Performed as Additional Judge.

THE REGISTRY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

Under Article 113 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, with previous approval of the President, may make rules providing for the appointment of officers and staff of the Court and for their terms and conditions of employment. Accordingly, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Officer and Staff Appointment Rules, 2000 and the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (High Court Division) Officer and Staff Appointment Rules, 1987 have been framed.

Composition

The Registry of the Supreme Court provides administrative services to the Court to facilitate its day to day judicial function smoothly in accordance with the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Rules, 1988 and Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules, 1973. The total function of the Registry has been divided into various categories and the work assigned to one of these categories is known as "Section". Transaction of all administrative works relating to the conditions of service and conduct of Court's employees is regulated under direct and overall supervision of the Registrar General who renders such duty under the direction of the Chief Justice of Bangladesh.

Organizational setup

In the area of organizational setup, the Registry consists of the following position:

Names of the post	Number of post		Remarks
	Appellate Division	High Court Division	
Registrar General	1		For both Divisions appointed from Judicial Service (on deputation).
Registrar	1	2	For both Divisions appointed from Judicial Service (on deputation).
Additional Registrar	1	3	For both Divisions appointed from Judicial Service (on deputation).
Special Officer		1	Appointed from Judicial Service (on deputation).
Deputy Registrar	2	10	For Appellate Division 1 from Judicial Service (on deputation) and 1 from employees of Supreme Court through promotion; For the High Court Division appointed 5 from Judicial Service (on deputation) 5 from employees of Supreme Court through promotion.
Assistant Registrar	3	15	For Appellate Division appointed from employees of Supreme Court through promotion; For the High Court Division appointed 9 from Judicial Service (on deputation) 6 from employees of Supreme Court through promotion.
Research & Reference Officer	1		Appointed from Judicial Service (on deputation).
Secretary to the Chief Justice	1	1	Appointed from employees of Supreme Court through promotion/appointed from Judicial Service (on deputation).
PS to Registrar General	1		Appointed from Judicial Service (on deputation).
Other employees of different level	140	2099	Employees appointed by the Supreme Court.

Functions

In rendering administrative service to the Court for carrying out its judicial functions in accordance with the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Rules, 1988 and the Supreme Court (High Court Division) Rules, 1973, the Registry also carries out the following functions:

1. to prepare the cause list in order to intimate the parties and the Advocates about the fixation of their case for hearing or other matter for fixing before a bench;
2. to provide the necessary assistance and information to the Court processing for cases pending before the Court;
3. to require any petition of appeal, petition or other matters presented to the Court to be amended in accordance with the practice and procedure of the Court;
4. to fix the dates of hearing of appeals, petitions or other matters and issue notices thereof;
5. to settle the index in cases where the record is to be prepared under the supervision of the Registry;
6. to ensure that necessary documents are included and all legal and procedural formalities have been complied with before a case made ready for hearing;
7. to direct any formal amendment of record;
8. to make an order for change of Advocate-on-Record with the consent of the Advocate-on-Record;
9. to grant leave to inspect and search the records of the Court and order to grant of copies of documents to parties to proceedings;
10. to allow from time to time on a written request any period or periods not exceeding twenty-eight days in aggregate for furnishing information or for doing any other act necessary to bring the plaint, appeal, petition or other proceeding in conformity with the rules and practice of the Court;
11. to implement Court judgments and orders ;
12. to maintain the records;
13. to maintain the record of senior Advocates of the Supreme Court, Advocates and Advocate-on-record; and
14. to perform any other functions subject to any general or special order, issued by the Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh.

NAMES OF THE REGISTRARS GENERAL

SL. No.	Name	Duration
1.	Mr. Syed Aminul Islam	14.06.2015-22.10.2017
2.	Dr. Md. Zakir Hossain	04.03.2018-20.10.2019
3.	Mr. Md. Ali Akbar	30.10.2019-28.02.2022
4.	Mr. Md. Bazlur Rahman	03.03.2022-31.07.2022
5.	Mr. Md. Golam Rabbani	06.10.2022-(Onwards)

NAMES OF THE REGISTRARS

SL. No.	Name	Duration
1.	Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed	31.09.1967-20.01.1972
2.	Mr. Mohammad Abdul Khaleque	22.02.1972-20.07.1973
3.	Mr. Abdul Mumit Chowdhury	20.07.1973-02.03.1976
4.	Mr. Md. Abdul Ahad	19.04.1976-06.12.1976
5.	Mr. Mohammad Ali Khan	06.12.1976-05.10.1977
6.	Mr. K.F. Akbor	05.10.1977-29.01.1980
7.	Mr. Sheikh Khorshed Ali	08.05.1980-03.01.1981
8.	Mr. Khondker Badruddin Ahmed	05.01.1981-06.07.1982
9.	Mr. Naimuddin Ahmed	01.09.1982-21.01.1988
10.	Mr. Md. Hamidul Huq	03.02.1988-15.05.1990
11.	Mr. Md. Nurul Islam	15.05.1990-15.04.1992
12.	Mr. Kazi Golam Rasul	15.04.1992-30.04.1994
13.	Mr. Md. Ali Asgor Khan	30.04.1994-24.02.1997
14.	Mr. Md. Abdul Jalil	16.03.1997-30.12.1999
15.	Mr. Mohammad Marzi-ul-Huq	05.01.1999-21.02.2001
16.	Mr. Quamrul Islam Siddiqui	27.02.2001-22.08.2004
17.	Mr. Md. Fazlul Karim	07.09.2004-12.01.2007
18.	Mr. Ikteder Ahmed	08.03.2007-31.07.2008
19.	Mr. Abu Bakar Siddiquee	22.09.2008-29.06.2009
20.	Mr. Md. Shawkat Hossain	09.08.2009-17.04.2010

SL. No.	Name	Duration
21.	Mr. Md. Ashraful Islam	19.05.2010-07.06.2011
22.	Mr. A.K.M. Shamsul Islam	07.06.2011-10.09.2014
23.	Mr. S.M. Kuddus Zaman	04.12.2014-02.02.2015
24.	Mr. Farid Ahmed Shibli	02.02.2015-12.02.2015
25.	Mr. Syed Aminul Islam	15.02.2015-14.06.2015
26.	Mr. Abu Syed Diljar Hussain (High Court Division)	16.06.2015-22.10.2017
27.	Dr. Md. Zakir Hossain (Appellate Division)	16.06.2015-04.03.2018
28.	Mr. Md. Golam Rabbani (High Court Division)	31.10.2017-06.10.2022
29.	Mr. Md. Badrul Alam Bhuiyan (Appellate Division)	11.04.2018-12.05.2022
30.	Mr. Munshi Md. Moshir Rahman (High Court Division)	In office since 13.10.2022
31.	Mr. Mohammad Saifur Rahman (Appellate Division)	In office since 12.05.2022
32.	Mr. Sk.M.Tofayel Hasan (Judicial)	In office since 08.02.2023

THE SUPREME COURT LEGAL AID OFFICE

Fundamental principal of Natural Justice is that “Nobody should be condemned unheard”. That is, before condemning a person, the judge must give the party a fair opportunity of answering the case against him/her. Article 27 of the Bangladesh Constitution guarantees that all citizens are equal before law and are entitled to have equal protection of law.

Legal aid means the assistance in the legal matters both inside and outside the courts to the poor and indigent litigants. Legal aid is a system of government funding for those who cannot afford to pay for legal advice, assistance and representation. Legal professionals use the phrase ‘legal aid’ to mean-counseling on any legal issue, giving honorarium to any pleader/ conciliator/ arbitrator, providing monetary aid to bear expenditure of the case, defending a person in a court of law.

Legal aid is the provision of assistance to people otherwise unable to afford legal representation and access to the court system. Legal aid is regarded as central in providing access to justice by ensuring equality before the law, the right to counsel and the right to a fair trial.

With a view to providing legal aid to the poor and under privileged litigants the government has enacted the Legal Aid Act in 2000; it was not possible to provide service to the justice seekers due to the absence of required rules on providing legal aid at the highest court of the land. In 2010, National Legal Aid Service Organization provided legal aid only for Jail Appeal to the people who are socially and financially vulnerable. The Legal Aid Regulation 2015 created the scope of a new beginning on the way of providing legal aid at the highest court of the land.

Finally, on 8 September, 2015 Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh officially inaugurated the Supreme Court Legal Aid Office.

Supreme Court Legal Aid Office aims to provide legal aid to all the poor and distressed litigants. Any eligible applicant can now access free legal aid by submitting an application to the Supreme Court Legal Aid Office. After reviewing the application, a lawyer is appointed to represent the applicant free of cost. The government will pay the honorarium directly to the advocate. The Supreme Court Legal Aid Office is now providing legal aid for Civil, Criminal appeals, Jail appeals and others.

The Supreme Court Committee was comprised of 14 members and Honorable Madam Justice Naima Haider is the Chairman of the Committee now.

The committee provides the following aid to the persons

1. F.A (First Appeal) & Civil Revision.
2. Criminal Appeal & Criminal Revision
3. Jail Appeal
4. Writ Petition
5. Leave to Appeal and CP filing of the cases

Supreme Court Legal Aid office is also providing the following Services

1. Legal advice
2. Filling and dealing cases
3. Expert opinion on the merit of the case
4. Bearing the actual cost

Panel Advocates: Appellate Division-12
High Court Division-73

Various events

On 6 February, 2023 Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee organized discussion meeting with the Panel Lawyers for successful implementation of Government Legal Aid Services. Honorable Madam Justice Naima Haider presided over the meeting.

On 18 May, 2023, Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee organized a discussion meeting with the

participation of Panel Lawyers at the occasion of National Legal Aid Day-2023. Honorable Chief Justice of Bangladesh Mr. Justice Hasan Foez Siddique was present as the chief guest, Honorable Judges of Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Attorney General for Bangladesh Mr. AM Amin Uddin was present as special guest. Honorable Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee Madam Justice Naima Haider presided over the meeting.

On 6 June, 2023 Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee organized seminar on how to improve the quality of Government Legal Aid Services in the Supreme Court with the participation of Penal Lawyers. Honorable Madam Justice Naima Haider presided over the seminar.



Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee organized discussion meeting with the Panel Lawyers for successful implementation of Government Legal Aid Services.



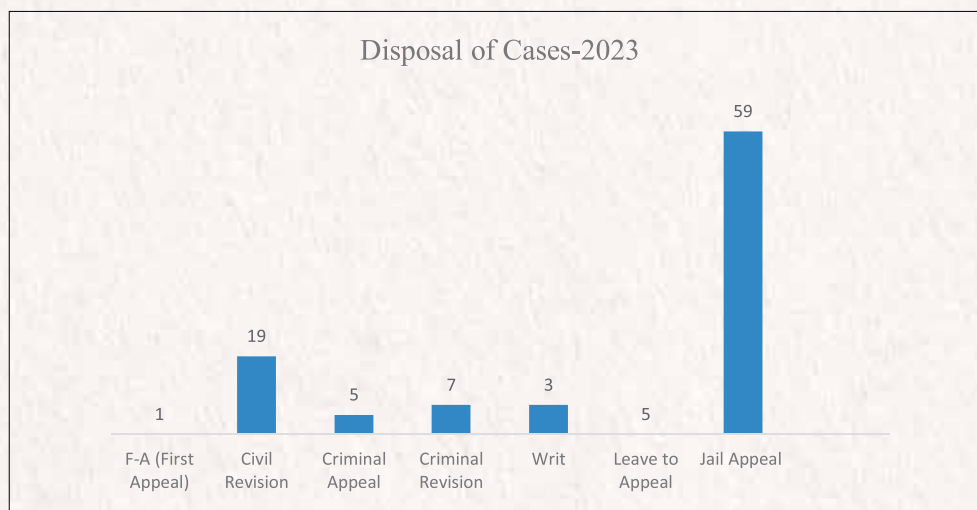
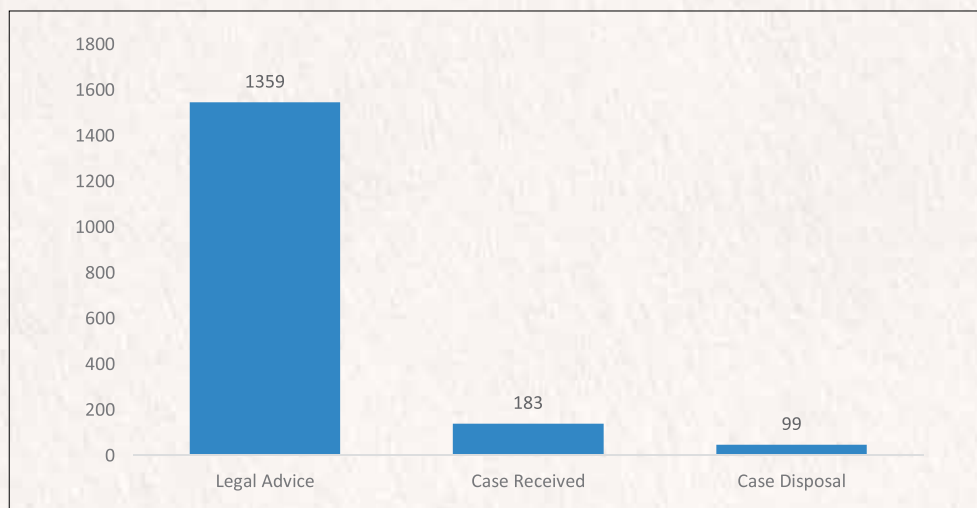
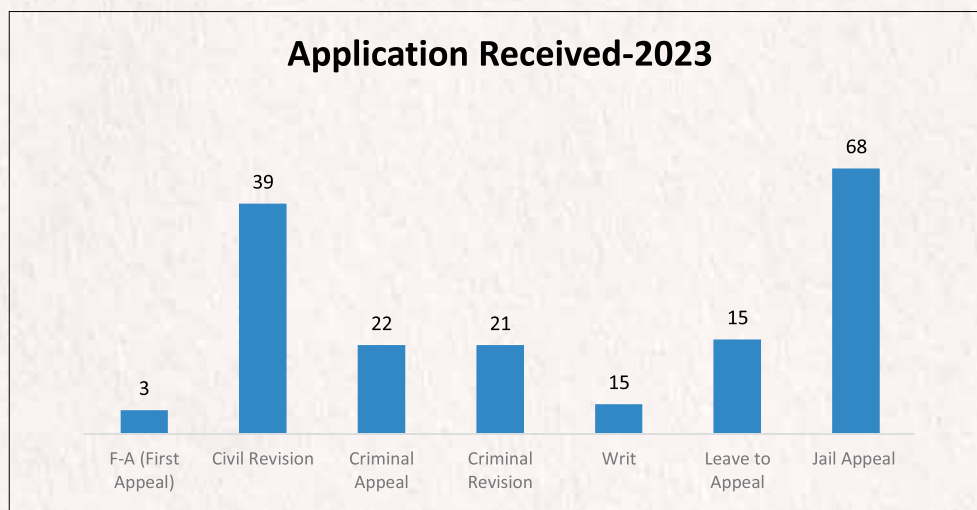
Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee organized a discussion meeting with the participation of Panel Lawyers at the occasion of National Legal Aid Day-2023.



Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee organized seminar on how to improve the quality of Government Legal Aid Services in the Supreme Court with the participation of Panel Lawyers.

Case Nature	Application Received	Disposal of Cases
F.A (First Appeal)	3	01
Civil Revision	39	19
Criminal Appeal	22	05
Criminal Revision	21	07
Writ Petition	15	03
Leave to Appeal	15	05
Jail Appeal	68	59
Total	183	99

Cases' Statistics of Supreme Court Legal Aid Office-2023



BUDGET/FINANCE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH

Parliament allocates funds for the Judiciary including the Supreme Court of Bangladesh within the National Budget. A preliminary draft budget is prepared by the Office of the Registrar General and submitted for the consideration of the Chief Justice of Bangladesh. Once approved, the draft budget is forwarded to the Government for incorporation in the National Budget. It is finally adopted by the Parliament after the approval of the Government.

Article 88(b)(ii) of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, provides for the remuneration of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Article 88(c) of the Constitution provides that for the administrative expenses of the Supreme Court, including salary payable to officers and staff of the Supreme Court, shall be charged upon the Consolidated Fund.

The budget allocation (Non-development and Development) for FY 2018-19 to FY 2021-2022 and the allocation (Non-Development and Development) for FY 2021-2022 of the Supreme Court are shown below:

Financial Year		Operating	Development	Total
2020-21	Revised budget	187,22,00,000/-	0	187,22,00,000/-
2021-22	Revised budget	224, 53,25,000/-	0	224,53,25,000/-
2022-23	Revised budget	209,06,76,000/-	0	209,06,76,000/-
2023-24	Revised budget	236,02,16,000/-	0	236,02,16,000/-
2024-25	Revised budget	247,89,00,000/-	0	247,89,00,000/-

It is to be noted that the Judiciary, including the Supreme Court of Bangladesh is one of the important sources of the National Budget whose revenue collection marks a notable contribution in the National Budget in each fiscal year.

The Registrar General, being the ex-officio Chief Accounting officer, is responsible for expenditure of the amount sanctioned in the budget of the Supreme Court under the guidance of the Honourable Chief Justice. The Registrar General has to ensure the proper use of the allocated funds. He is also authorised to approbate and re-appropriate from one head to another shown in the budget without the sanction of the Government but can not exceed the amount approved in the budget. The accounts of the Court are audited every year by the Auditors of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh.

NAMES OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERALS FOR BANGLADESH FROM 1972 TO 2023

SL. No.	Name	Tenure
1.	Mr. M.H. Khandker	21-01-1972 to 17-12-1972
2.	Mr. Fakir Shahabuddin Ahmed	18-12-1972 to 21-03-1976
3.	Mr. Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed	22-03-1976 to 06-05-1976
4.	Mr. K.A. Bakr	10-05-1985 to 13-03-1985
5.	Mr. M. Nurullah	14-03-1985 to 06-04-1990
6.	Mr. Rafique-ul-Huq	07-04-1990 to 17-12-1990
7.	Mr. Aminul Huq	18-12-1990 to 13-07-1995
8.	Mr. M. Nurullah	26-07-1995 to 22-06-1996
9.	Mr. Kazi Shahidun Nabi (K.S. Nabi)	31-07-1996 to 29-05-1998
10.	Mr. Mahmudul Islam	16-07-1998 to 09-10-2001
11.	Mr. Abu Fayez Hassan Ariff	14-10-2001 to 30-04-2005
12.	Mr. A.J. Mohammad Ali	30-04-2005 to 24-01-2007
13.	Mr. Fida Md. Kamal	05-02-2007 to 16-07-2008
14.	Mr. Salahuddin Ahmed	20-07-2008 to 12-01-2009
15.	Mr. Mahbubey Alam	31-01-2009 to 27-09-2020
16.	Mr. A.M. Amin Uddin	In office since 08-10-2020

THE SUPREME COURT BAR ASSOCIATION

All practicing Advocates of both the Divisions of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh including the Advocates-on-Record are the members of the Supreme Court Bar Association. The Supreme Court Bar Association always plays active and vital role to protect the supremacy, dignity and integrity of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. The Association is housed in two buildings, one is known as the main building which is 2 (two) storied and the other one is known as the annex building which is 3 (three) storied. The present Association has the legacy of the then Dhaka High Court Bar Association, housed in the old building of the then High Court of Judicature at Dhaka, established after the creation of Pakistan in 1947. In 1967, the then High Court of Judicature at Dhaka was shifted to the present main building; 4 rooms of the main Building on the western side were allowed for use of the learned members of the Association. The present main building of the Association was inaugurated in November, 1975 by the then Honourable President Mr. Justice Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem, the first Chief Justice of Bangladesh. In both buildings, rooms are allotted to the members of the Association to have their private sitting arrangements in carrying out their works against monthly payments to the Association and such rooms are known as cubicles. Presently, there are 489 cubicles, apart from 3 (three) big hall rooms. The learned members of the Association, who can not be provided with cubicles, sit in the hall rooms. The Association has a modern auditorium. The Association has also a Medical Care Centre in the ground floor of the main building, where a doctor sits regularly on the working days and provides medical treatment to its members.

The library of the Association is in the main building and has a rich and versatile collection of books, law journals and law reports of USA, UK, Australia, Commonwealth, India, Pakistan and Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

The Supreme Court of Bangladesh is consisted of two Divisions namely: (a) The Appellate Division and (b) The High Court Division. In order to practice in each of the Divisions one has to be enrolled as an Advocate of the said Division and also has to become a member of the Supreme Court Bar Association. Both the Divisions have separate enrolment procedures.

Advocates of the Appellate Division

There are three categories of Advocates who are entitled to practice law before the Appellate Division, viz. Senior Advocate, Advocate and Advocate-on-Record. Enrolment of these 3 (three) categories of Advocates is guided by Order IV of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Rules, 1988 (Rules, 1988). Order IV, Rule 11 of the Rules, deals with the enrolment as Senior Advocates. The said Rule provides that the Chief Justice and the Judges may, on application or otherwise, select from time to time, from among those whose names are on the Roll of the Advocates, and who are judged as person, by their knowledge, ability and experience, to be worthy as Senior Advocates. If any Advocate is granted with the status of a Senior Advocate, he or she shall assume the said status on signing the Roll of Senior Advocates. In the said Rule it has further been provided that the Chief Justice and the judges may, before selecting an Advocate as Senior Advocate, consider whether he/she could show sufficient appearance before the Court so as to be entitled to get the status of Senior Advocate. Rule 12 of Order IV of the Rules, 1988 has provided that a fee of taka ten thousands shall be paid by a Senior Advocate before he signs the Roll.

Enrolment as an Advocate of the Appellate Division is guided by Rules 3, 4 and 5 of Order IV of the Rules of 1988. In order to be enrolled as an Advocate of the Appellate Division, one must be:

- (a) an Advocate in the High Court Division for not less than 5 (five) years.
- (b) certified in a duly authenticated form by the Bangladesh Bar Council that he is an enrolled Advocate of the High Court Division.
- (c) certified by the Judges of the High Court Division that he is a fit and proper person to appear and plead as an Advocate before the Appellate Division.

But the Chief Justice and the Judges may grant enrolment to an Advocate, not qualified as aforementioned, if in their opinion, he is qualified by knowledge, ability and experience to be enrolled

as an Advocate of that Division. The power may also be delegated to the Enrolment Committee. In order to be enrolled as an Advocate of the Appellate Division an application for enrolment has to be made in such form as may be prescribed by the Court from time to time and shall be accompanied by the following documents:

- (i) a certificate of the Bangladesh Bar Council as mentioned in (b) above;
- (ii) bio-data of the applicant giving full particulars of his/her qualifications and any previous employment or engagement for gain;
- (iii) a list of cases, in which he/she appeared before the High Court Division;
- (iv) an affidavit by the applicant that he/she is eligible and not disqualified to be enrolled as an Advocate in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh; and
- (v) six recent passport size photographs of the applicant.

The application for enrolment shall be considered by an Enrolment Committee consisting of at least two Judges to be nominated by the Honourable Chief Justice and the Committee may call the applicants for interview and call for any record. If the Enrolment Committee grants the application, the applicant shall be allowed to sign the Roll of Advocates on payment of taka 5,000/00 (five thousand).

Qualification for enrolment as an Advocate-on-Record has been laid down in Rule 17 of Order IV of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh (Appellate Division) Rules, 1988 which are as under:

No person shall be qualified for being enrolled as an Advocate-on-Record unless, he/she-

- (a) has been for not less than seven years enrolled as an Advocate of the Courts subordinate to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court including at least three years standing as an Advocate of the High Court Division;
- (b) has an office at the seat of the Registry of the Court;
- (c) has telephone installation at his office at the seat of the Registry of the Court;
- (d) signs the Roll of Advocate-on-Record maintained for the purpose.

Provided that the Chief Justice and the Judges may grant enrolment of a person not qualified as aforementioned, if, in their opinion, he is qualified by knowledge, ability and experience to be enrolled as an Advocate-on-Record. This power may be delegated to the Enrolment Committee. Such application for enrolment as an Advocate-on-Record shall be made in such form as may be prescribed by the Court from time to time. Rule 18 of Order IV of the Rules, 1988 has provided that the application shall have to be accompanied by-

- (i) an authenticated copy of the applicant's first enrolment as an Advocate on the roll of Bangladesh Bar Council;
- (ii) a certificate from the Bar Association, where the applicant first joined to practice the profession of law mentioning the date of commencement of his membership of the Bar Association;
- (iii) an authenticated photostat copy of his certificate of enrolment as an Advocate of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court;
- (iv) a certificate in a duly authenticated form by the Supreme Court Bar Association that he is still an Advocate of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court;
- (v) bio-data of the applicant giving full particulars of his qualification and any previous employment for gain;
- (vi) a list of cases in which he appeared before the High Court Division;
- (vii) an affidavit by the applicant that he is eligible and not disqualified to be enrolled as an Advocate-on-Record in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court; and
- (viii) six recent passport-size photographs of the applicant.

Rule 19 of Order IV of the Rules, 1988 further provides that an application for enrolment as an Advocate-on-Record shall be considered by an Enrolment Committee consisting of at least two judges to be nominated by the Chief Justice and the committee may call the applicants for interview and call or ask for any record. If the Enrolment Committee grants the application, the applicant shall be allowed to sign the Roll of Advocate-on-Record on payment of fee of taka 2,000.

Rule 7 of Order IV of the Rules, 1988 clearly provides that a Senior Advocate, an Advocate and an Advocate-on-Record shall be entitled to appear and plead before the Court on signing his respective Roll. Rule 33 provides that the Attorney General for Bangladesh shall have precedence over all the Advocates and Senior Advocates. In Rule 34 it has further been provided that the Attorney General for Bangladesh and Additional Attorney General shall, by virtue of their offices, have the status and precedence of a Senior Advocate of the Court notwithstanding that their names are not contained in the Roll of Senior Advocates. The Deputy Attorney General and Assistant Attorney General shall, by virtue of their office, have the status of an Advocate of the Court notwithstanding that their names are not contained in the Roll of Advocates of the Court.

Advocates of the High Court Division

The enrolment in the High Court Division is controlled by the Bangladesh Bar Council under the provisions of the Bangladesh Legal Practitioners and Bar Council Order, 1972 (the Order, 1972) and the Rules framed thereunder, namely, The Bangladesh Legal Practitioners and Bar Council Rules, 1972 (the Rules, 1972).

Article 21 of the Order provides that no Advocate other than an Advocate permitted to practice before the High Court immediately before the commencement of the Order, shall be permitted to practice before the High Court Division unless-

- (a) he has practiced as an Advocate before subordinate Courts in Bangladesh for a period of two years;
- (b) he is a law graduate and has practiced as an Advocate before any Court outside Bangladesh notified by government in the official gazette;
- (c) he has, for reason of his legal training or experience been exempted by the Bar Council from the forgoing requirements of this clause on the basis of the prescribed criteria.

Rules 65A of the Rules, 1972 has empowered the Bar Council to grant exemption under article 21(1) (a) requiring practice for a period of 2 (two) years before seeking permission to practice in the High Court Division on the basis of the following criterion-

- (i) Advocates who were called to the Bar in U.K. or who have obtained higher 2nd class in LL.M. (at least 50% marks in aggregate) from any recognized University and further worked with a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court in his Chamber for at least one year [since his enrolment as Advocate under Rule 62(1)]; and
- (ii) Persons holding a degree in law and have held a judicial office (i.e. office of a Civil Judge) for a total period of at least 10 years do not require to appear for written test as per sub-rule (2) hereof but he shall have to appear before the interview Board.

Enrolment to practice in the High Court Division is done by an Enrolment Committee consisting of 5 persons, namely:

- (a) Chairman to be nominated by the Chief Justice from amongst the Judges of the Appellate Division
- (b) One member to be nominated by the Chief Justice from amongst the Judges of the High Court Division.
- (c) Attorney General for Bangladesh.
- (d) Two members elected by the Bar Council from amongst its members.

(2) The procedure for the enrolment of Advocates and the business of the Enrolment shall be regulated by the Enrolment Committee in such manner as may be determined by it.

Rule 65A (1) of the Rules, 1972 provides that all applications for permission to practice in the High Court Division shall be made in prescribed form as appended to the Rules, accompanied by the papers detailed in clause (a) (b) (c) and (d) thereof. Of the above 3 (three) clauses, clause (b) provides that a list of at least 25 cases either civil or criminal or both in which the Advocate appeared before the concerned Courts must be submitted. Presently after an Advocate fulfills the requirement to apply for permission to practice, written test is taken on the syllabus for the same as mentioned in sub-article (3) of Rule 65 A. The qualifying mark for written test is 12 out of 25 and for oral test is 12 out of 25, but the aggregate marks of the two tests must be at least 25 (that is 12 + 13).



Corridor of the Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Building

NAMES OF THE PRESIDENTS AND THE SECRETARIES OF THE SUPREME COURT BAR ASSOCIATION FROM 1972 TO 2023

Period	Names of the President and the Secretary	
1971-1972	President	Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan and Mr. M.H. Khondker
	Secretary	Mr. Tufail Ahmed and Mr. Mohammad Yeasin
1972-73	President	Mr. Ahmed Sobhan
	Secretary	Mr. Shamsul Huq Choudhury
1973-74	President	Mr. Mirza Golam Hafiz
	Secretary	Mr. Mohammad Yeasin
1974-75	President	Mr. Dr. Aleem-Al-Razee
	Secretary	Mr. Mohammad Yeasin
1975-76	President	Mr. Tafazzal Ali (T. Ali)
	Secretary	Mr. A.K.M. Shafiqur Rahman
1976-77	President	Mr. Ahmed Sobhan
	Secretary	Mr. H.K. Abdul Hye
1977-78	President	Mr. T.H.Khan
	Secretary	Mr. Shah Md. Sharif
1978-79	President	Mr. Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed
	Secretary	Mr. M. Hafizullah
1979-80	President	Mr. Khondker Mahubuddin Ahmed
	Secretary	Mr. Syed Abul Mokarrum
1980-81	President	Mr. Dr. Rafiqur Rahman
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Ruhul Amin
1981-82	President	Mr. Mohammad Yeasin
	Secretary	Mr. Habibul Islam Bhuiyan
1982-83	President	Mr. Serajul Huq
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Fazlul Karim
1983-84	President	Mr. Shamsul Huq Choudhury
	Secretary	Mr. Giusuddin Ahmed

Period	Names of the President and the Secretary	
1984-85	President	Mr. Shamsul Huq Choudhury
	Secretary	Mr. Abu Sayeed Ahammad
1985-86	President	Mr Shamsul Huq Choudhury
	Secretary	Mr. A.Y. Masihuzzaman
1986-87	President	Mr. Shamsul Huq Choudhury
	Secretary	Mr. Abdul Baset Majumder
1987-88	President	Mr. Shamsul Huq Choudhury
	Secretary	Mr. Abdul Baset Majumder
1988-89	President	Mr. Shamsul Huq Choudhury
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Abdul Wahhab Miah (M.A. Wahhab Miah)
1989-90	President	Mr. Syed Ishtiaq Ahmed
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Abdul Wahhab Miah (M.A. Wahhab Miah)
1990-91	President	Mr. Dr. Kamal Hossain
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Fazlul Haque
1991-92	President	Mr. Dr. Rafiqur Rahman
	Secretary	Mr. A.F.M. Mesbahuddin
1992-93	President	Mr. Khondker Mahhubuddin Ahmed
	Secretary	Mr. A.F.M. Ali Asgar
1993-94	President	Mr. Khondker Mahbubuddin Ahmed
	Secretary	Mr. Mahbubey Alam
1994-95	President	Mr. M. Hafizullah
	Secretary	Mr. Mohammad Ozair Farooq
1995-96	President	Mr. T.H. Khan
	Secretary	Mr. S.M. Munir
1996-97	President	Mr. Shaukat Ali Khan
	Secretary	Mr. Nozrul Islam Chowdhury
1997-98	President	Mr. Nazmul Huda
	Secretary	Mr. Zainul Abedin

Period	Names of the President and the Secretary	
1998-99	President	Mr. Habibul Islam Bhuiyan
	Secretary	Mr. Abdul Awal
1999-2000	President	Mr. Shafique Ahmed
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Saidur Rahman
2000-2001	President	Mr. Mainul Hosein
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Shahidul Karim Siddique
2001-2002	President	Mr. Abdul Baset Majumder
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Momtazuddin Fakir
2002-2003	President	Mr. Mohammad Ozair Farooq
	Secretary	Mr. M. A Hafiz
2003-2004	President	Mr. Rokanuddin Mahmud
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Mahbub Ali
2004-2005	President	Mr. Rokanuddin Mahmud
	Secretary	Mr. Bashir Ahmed
2005-2006	President	Mr. Mahbubey Alam
	Secretary	Mr. M. Enayetur Rahim
2006-2007	President	Mr. M. Amir-ul-Islam
	Secretary	Mr. A.M. Amin Uddin
2007-2008	President	Mr. M. Amir-ul-Islam
	Secretary	Mr. A.M. Amin Uddin
2008-2009	President	Mr. Shafique Ahmed
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Nurul Islam Sujan
2009-2010	President	Mr. A.F.M Mesbahuddin
	Secretary	Mr. S.M. Rezaul Karim (k.g. tiRvDj Kwig)
2010-2011	President	Mr. Khandker Mahbub Hossain
	Secretary	Mr. Bodruddoza Badal
2011-2012	President	Mr. Khandker Mahbub Hossain
	Secretary	Mr. Bodruddoza Badal

Period	Names of the President and the Secretary	
2012-2013	President	Mr. Zainul Abedin
	Secretary	Mr. Momtazuddin Ahmed (Mehedi)
2013-2014	President	Mr. A.J. Mohammad Ali
	Secretary	Mr. A.M Mahbub Uddin Khokon
2014-2015	President	Mr. Khondker Mahbub Hossain
	Secretary	Mr. A.M Mahbub Uddin Khokon
2015-2016	President	Mr. Khondker Mahbub Hossain
	Secretary	Mr. A.M Mahbub Uddin Khokon
2016-2017	President	Mr. Mohammad Yusuf Hussain Humayun
	Secretary	Mr. A.M Mahbub Uddin Khokon
2017-2018	President	Mr. Zainul Abedin
	Secretary	Mr. A.M Mahbub Uddin Khokon
2018-2019	President	Mr. Zainul Abedin
	Secretary	Mr. A.M Mahbub Uddin Khokon
2019-2020	President	Mr. A.M. Amin Uddin
	Secretary	Mr. A.M Mahbub Uddin Khokon
2020-2021	President	Mr. A.M. Amin Uddin
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Ruhul Quddus Kazal
2021-2022	President	Mr. A.M. Amin Uddin
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Ruhul Quddus Kazal
2022-2023	President	Mr. Md. Momtaz Uddin Fakir
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Abdun Nur Dulal
2023-2024	President	Mr. Md. Momtaz Uddin Fakir
	Secretary	Mr. Md. Abdun Nur Dulal

THE BANGLADESH SUPREME COURT MUSEUM

On 27 October, 2014, the then Honourable Chief Justice of Bangladesh, Mr. Justice Mozammel Hossain inaugurated Bangladesh Supreme Court Museum. The formation of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh has a historical foreground. The history of this sub-continent testified that in the year of 1726 the legal system of this Sub-Continent got its new form, when King George-I issued a charter changing the judicial administration of the Presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, through which the Civil and Criminal Courts, as established, started deriving their authority from the king.

The first ever Supreme Court in the Indian Sub-Continent was established under the East India Company Act, 1773. Thereafter, Calcutta High Court was established replacing the Calcutta Supreme Court under the East India (High Courts of Judicature) Act, 1861. It is worth mentioning that in 1833, a law was passed to the effect that against any judgment of Higher Courts of India, an appeal could be preferred before the Privy Council in England. In 1950 another law was passed to abolish the provision of appeal before the Privy Council.

Two independent dominions, India and Pakistan, were established under the Indian Independence Act, 1947. In exercise of the powers conferred by section 9 of the Indian Independence Act, 1947, the Governor General promulgated the High Courts (Bengal) Order, 1947 on 11 August, 1947. This act established first ever higher Court in the soil of Bangladesh, which was better known as Dhaka High Court. The first two constitutions of Pakistan had a provision that the Supreme Court of Pakistan would hold at least two of its sessions in Dhaka every year.

After the historic independence, the High Court of Bangladesh was established under Article 9 of the Provisional Constitution of Bangladesh Order, 1972, dated 11 January, 1972. The present Supreme Court of Bangladesh was established under Article 94 of the Constitution of Bangladesh, 1972. Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman inaugurated the Supreme Court of Bangladesh on 18 December, 1972. Supreme Court of Bangladesh officially started functioning on 18 December, 1972 which is now observed as “Bangladesh Supreme Court Day”. Bangladesh Supreme Court Museum was established in order to materialize the thrilling history of evolution of legal system in independent Bangladesh from 1600 to 1972. Its exposition demonstrates the history of the Bangalee judicial system from the eighteenth century to the present day. Hundreds of exhibits accordingly reflect the Bangalee judicial experience as a whole and the history of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in particular. These include carefully selected judgments including the historic Bhawal Sanyasi Case, documents including several volumes of the landmark Agartala Conspiracy Case proceedings, used furniture, portrait of the Father of the Nation, portraits of the former Chief Justices, awards, ceremonial apparel and various other artifacts. The museum portrays and projects the evolution of the nation’s judicial system enabling posterity to appreciate the important stages of such process over the centuries.



Museum of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh

COLLECTED ARTIFACTS AND ANTIQUITIES PRESERVED IN THE SUPREME COURT MUSEUM



Photographs of hanging Punkha and a Punkha puller. This Punkha is collected from Patiya Chowki , Chattogram Judgeship.



Brief history of hanging Punkha.



The wall clock used in the Calcutta High Court and the then Dhaka High Court.



Dressing table used by the Honourable Justices of the Calcutta High Court and the then Dhaka High Court.



1. The Chair used in the ejlas of Honourable Justices of the Calcutta High Court and the then Dhaka High Court.
2. The Chair used in the chamber of Honourable Justices of the High Court and the then Dhaka High Court.
3. The Chair used in the ejlas of Honourable Chief Justice of the then Dhaka High Court.



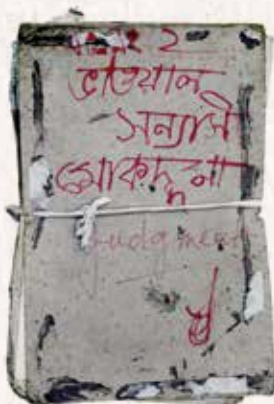
The old manual Bangla Typewriter used in the then Dhaka High Court.



A memento featuring the facade of the Main Building of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh.



Scale Model of the High Court Building, Dhaka (Present Main Building of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh).



Judgments of the Case of Bhawal Sanyasi which was sent by learned District & Sessions Judge Mr. Md. Abdul Mojib from the Record Room of District Judges' Court, Dhaka.



The original handwritten Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Trunk used by the Honourable Chief Justice of Dhaka High Court.



The gown, wig and band used by the Honourable Chief Justice of Dhaka High Court.



This is a judgment of a partition suit written on palm leaves in Sanskrit in the year 1710. This judgment was sent from the Record Room of District & Sessions Judge's Court, Barishal to District & Sessions Judge's Court, Patuakhali. After that it was collected from the Record Room of the District & Sessions Judge's Court, Patuakhali.



The inkpot, pens and nibs used by the Honourable Justices.

The wig used by the Honourable Chief Justice of the then Dhaka High Court.



Record of historical Agartala Conspiracy Case Proceedings (Volume 1-7). Preserved by the late Attorney-General for Bangladesh Mr. Aminul Huq. It was collected and sent by Mr. Justice Farid Ahmed.

PHOTO ALBUM



| Aerial view of the Main Building of the Supreme Court



| Entrance of the inner courtyard of the Main Building of the Supreme Court



| Front side of the Main Building of the Supreme Court



| Supreme Court Judges' Lounge



| Conference Room of the Supreme Court



| Corridor of the Supreme Court Main Building



| Staircase and landing of the Supreme Court Main Building



| Fountain inside the premises of Main Building of the Supreme Court



| Old High Court Building



| Old High Court Building (Aerial View)



| Staircase of Old High Court Building



| Doors of Old High Court Building



| The Annex Building of the Supreme Court



| Side view of the Annex Building of the Supreme Court



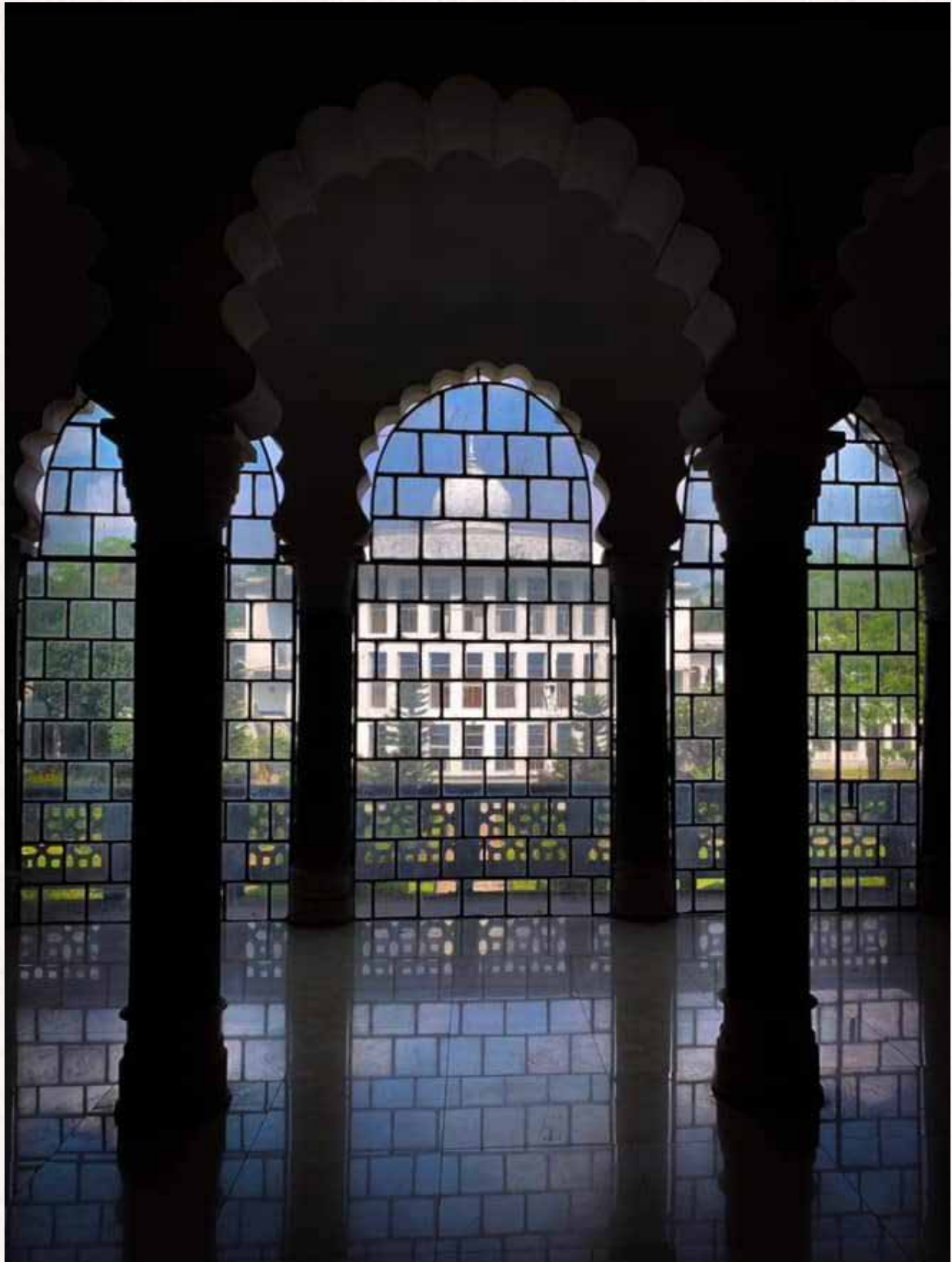
| Annex Building of the Supreme Court (Birds' Eye View)



| Annex Building of the Supreme Court (Front Side)



| A Walkway in the Main Building of the Supreme Court



| Internal view of Corridor of the Main Building of the Supreme Court



| The "Bijoy 71" Building



| Museum of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh



| Retired Judges' Lounge



| The Judges' Library



| New Library of the Appellate Division



| New Library of the Appellate Division



| Mediation Centre



| Medical Centre



| Auditorium of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh



| Front view of the Main Building of the Supreme Court



| Nocturnal view of Main Building of the Supreme Court

