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INSTITUTIONAL INTEGRITY BRIEFING

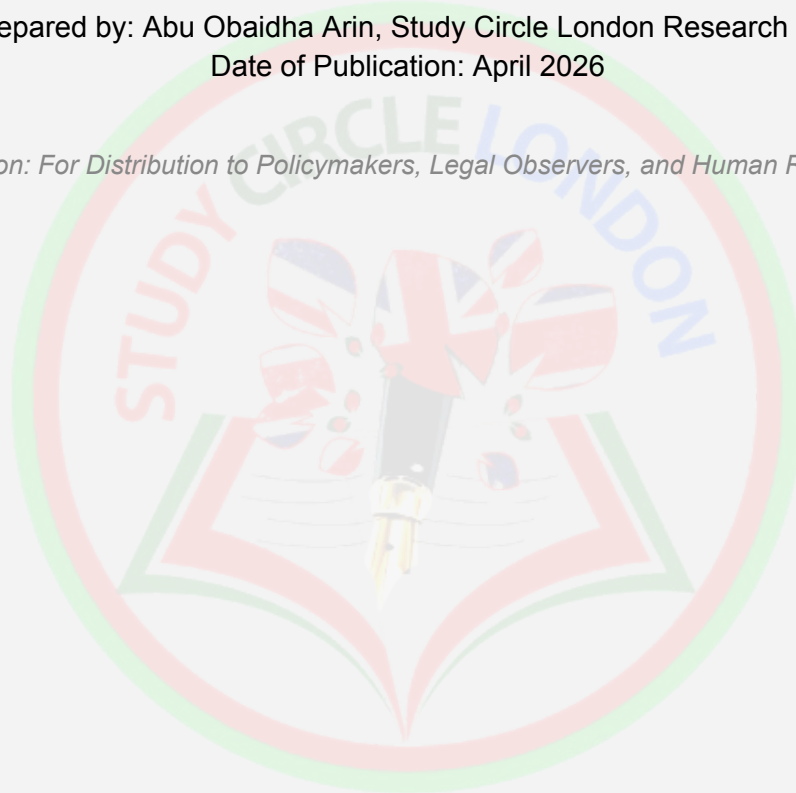
CORRUPTION, POLITICAL ABUSE, AND THE COLLAPSE OF JUDICIAL INTEGRITY:

**A COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF MISCONDUCT AT
BANGLADESH'S INTERNATIONAL CRIMES TRIBUNAL (ICT)**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), originally established in 2009 to deliver justice for the atrocities committed during the 1971 Liberation War, has in recent years been engulfed by a comprehensive crisis of institutional legitimacy. This briefing document, prepared by the Study Circle London Research Unit, consolidates all documented allegations of corruption, prosecutorial misconduct, political manipulation, and due process violations that have emerged from open-source investigative reporting, international human rights bodies, and legal notices submitted by Sheikh Hasina's UK-based legal counsel, Kingsley Napley LLP.

The scandal has several distinct but interconnected dimensions: (a) the weaponisation of the ICT by the Yunus interim administration to politically target the Awami League and its leaders, primarily Sheikh Hasina; (b) credible audio-recorded evidence of a serving ICT prosecutor soliciting bribes of one crore taka (approximately \$82,000) from the family of a detained Awami League member; (c) internal infighting within the prosecution team involving allegations that the chief prosecutor and associates ran a money-making syndicate; (d) a formal 37-point legal notice served by Kingsley Napley LLP to the ICT on 30 March 2026, documenting systematic violations of international fair trial standards; and (e) an alarming refusal by the ICT's current chief prosecutor to acknowledge receipt of that notice, despite email delivery confirmation being publicly available.

This briefing is intended to serve as a reference document for policymakers, diplomatic missions, international legal bodies, and human rights organisations tracking institutional decay in Bangladesh's post-August 2024 transitional environment.

SECTION I: BACKGROUND - THE ICT AND ITS ORIGINAL MANDATE

The International Crimes Tribunal of Bangladesh was established under the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, with the formal objective of prosecuting individuals responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes committed during the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971. The Pakistan Army, along with local collaborators including the Razakar militia, Al-Badr militia, and Al-Shams militia, carried out mass atrocities during this period, and the demand for accountability had remained unresolved for decades.

When the tribunal was formally activated in 2009 under the Awami League government led by Sheikh Hasina, it was welcomed by the United Nations, which offered technical assistance, and endorsed by the European Union, which encouraged Bangladesh to ensure proceedings



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conformed to international standards of due process. At its inception, the tribunal was widely regarded as a genuine attempt at transitional justice, reconciling historical trauma with the rule of law.

That foundational legitimacy began to collapse following the political upheaval of August 5, 2024, when Sheikh Hasina was removed from power. Under the subsequent interim administration led by Muhammad Yunus, the tribunal's jurisdictional mandate was expanded through legislative amendments to cover events related to the 2024 student protests. Simultaneously, cases relating to 1971 atrocities by the Pakistan Army and its collaborators were effectively suspended. The tribunal was then repopulated with judges and prosecutors carrying direct links to opposition political parties, chiefly Jamaat-e-Islami and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), setting the stage for a profound institutional crisis.

SECTION II: PROSECUTORIAL CORRUPTION - THE BRIBERY SCANDAL

2.1 The Netra News Investigation

The most directly documented evidence of corruption within the ICT came through a joint investigation conducted by British journalist David Bergman, working with Netra News and Prothom Alo, published on 10 March 2026. The investigation, based on verified audio recordings of WhatsApp conversations, revealed that ICT prosecutor Saimum Reza Talukder had repeatedly solicited bribes from the family of ABM Fazle Karim Chowdhury, a five-term Awami League Member of Parliament detained on charges of crimes against humanity.

"If ultimately we could get him out - I mentioned then a fairly large amount. I mentioned one crore." - ICT Prosecutor Saimum Reza Talukder, in audio recording verified by Netra News and Prothom Alo (March 2026)

Talukder, who had been assigned as a prosecutor to Chowdhury's case and held assistant attorney general rank, demanded a total of one crore taka (approximately \$82,000) in exchange for securing bail, with an advance payment of ten lakh taka (approximately \$8,200) to be delivered in cash at the High Court premises. Two independent media outlets verified the recordings by cross-checking call logs and voice samples.

2.2 Timeline of the Bribery Allegations

The family of the detained member of parliament states that Talukder first made contact with them in April 2025, approximately two months after Chowdhury's initial detention, offering to



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facilitate bail and a copy of the investigation report in exchange for payment. The family began recording conversations in late 2025 to document what they described as repeated and systematic solicitations. Their records indicate that Talukder contacted them 26 times and solicited payments on at least 14 separate occasions.

On 18 December 2025, the family met then-Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam to report the alleged solicitations. Following this meeting, Talukder was removed from the Chowdhury case but remained employed as a prosecutor at the tribunal. On 24 February 2026, the day after Tajul Islam himself was removed from his position, Talukder resumed contact with the family, indicated that the new chief prosecutor was cooperative, and again demanded advance payment.

The family subsequently forwarded recordings of the conversations to the new Law Minister, Md. Asaduzzaman. According to Talukder's own subsequent conversations with the family, the minister threatened him with arrest for soliciting a bribe. However, as of the publication of the investigation, no criminal proceedings had been initiated against Talukder, who resigned from his position as prosecutor.

KEY FACT: Evidence of Bribery

Audio recordings verified by two independent outlets - Netra News and Prothom Alo - captured ICT Prosecutor Saimum Reza Talukder demanding one crore taka (\$82,000) with a ten lakh taka cash advance from a detained Awami League politician's family. The family contacted him 26 times and solicited payments were recorded at least 14 times over several months.

2.3 The Prosecution Infighting and the Money-Making Syndicate Claim

Concurrent with the Talukder bribery scandal, a separate but related set of allegations emerged from within the prosecution team itself. In January 2026, then-Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam wrote formally to the Ministry of Law demanding the dismissal of prosecutor BM Sultan Mahmud, citing serious professional misconduct, confidentiality breaches, and confrontational behaviour with security staff.

However, on 23 February 2026, the same day Tajul Islam was himself removed from his position, Mahmud launched a series of public allegations on social media. He accused Islam and fellow prosecutor Gazi Monawar Hossain Tamim of corruption and irregular conduct, specifically questioning the handling of certain accused police officers in cases and alleging that meetings had been held with the relatives of accused individuals. Most strikingly, Mahmud alleged that the chief prosecutor's office had effectively become a "money-making tool."



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"The wife of a former police sub-inspector, one of the accused in the Ashulia killings during the July mass uprising, entered a prosecutor's chamber with a heavy bag. The accused was later turned into a prosecution witness in exchange for money and was eventually acquitted." - ICT Prosecutor BM Sultan Mahmud, Facebook post, 23 February 2026

New Age Bangladesh reported on 4 April 2026 that the ICT's current chief prosecutor, Aminul Islam, confirmed that a fact-finding committee had been formed to investigate these allegations, including the specific incident involving a heavy bag carried to a prosecutor's office and the alleged conversion of an accused individual into a paid state witness.

2.4 CCTV Evidence Tampering Allegation

Adding a further layer of concern, prosecutor Tanvir Hassan Zoha stated during a preliminary review that hard drives in the tribunal's CCTV system had been added and removed. This finding was reported to the same fact-finding committee examining the corruption allegations against prosecutors. If substantiated, the tampering of tribunal surveillance systems represents a critical threat to the integrity of the entire evidentiary record maintained by the institution.

SECTION III: POLITICAL WEAPONISATION OF THE ICT

3.1 Restructuring the Tribunal for Political Targeting

Following the August 2024 political transition, the ICT was comprehensively restructured in ways that critics argue were designed to facilitate the prosecution of Awami League leadership rather than to dispense impartial justice. The tribunal's jurisdiction was expanded through ordinances to cover alleged crimes linked to the July-August 2024 protests, despite the fact that the original legislative mandate confined the ICT to crimes committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

In October 2024, the interim government appointed 23 additional High Court judges on 9 October, and within days - on 14 and 15 October - a new three-judge ICT bench was constituted. The chair of this new bench, Justice Golam Mortuza Majumder, had been inactive for nearly six years before his reappointment; he is alleged to have affiliations with Jamaat-e-Islami. Justice Mohitul Haq Enam Chowdhury similarly came out of long retirement and is also alleged to have Jamaat-e-Islami affiliations. Justice Shofiul Alam Mahmud had been a High Court judge for only six days before being transferred to the ICT bench and has overt ties to the BNP.



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3.2 Prosecutorial Bias and the Chief Prosecutor's Political Connections

The appointment of Md. Tajul Islam as Chief Prosecutor has itself been a focal point of bias allegations. Islam had previously served as defence counsel to senior members of Jamaat-e-Islami who were prosecuted and convicted under the previous government. He was also the joint convenor of the Amar Bangladesh Party, a political party in opposition to the Awami League. Throughout the proceedings against Sheikh Hasina, Islam continued to participate in party activities, including appearing at a party rally in March 2025 where he called publicly for the banning of the Awami League - while simultaneously conducting the prosecution.

The South Asia Democratic Forum (SADF), in a press release dated 1 March 2026, described the situation bluntly, with its founder Paulo Casaca characterising the ICT as a special court that had been transformed into what he called "an extortion racket of the Jihadis." The SADF also noted that individuals previously convicted by the ICT for 1971 war crimes, such as ATM Azharul Islam, had been released under the new political dispensation.

3.3 Suspension of 1971 War Crimes Cases

Perhaps the most damning indicator of institutional capture is the systematic suspension of cases related to the 1971 Liberation War genocide. Under the interim administration led by Yunus, pending prosecutions against individuals responsible for wartime atrocities committed alongside the Pakistan Army were placed in cold storage. This occurred simultaneously with the aggressive pursuit of cases against Awami League political figures. Critics argue this selective prosecution reveals the fundamentally political rather than judicial character of the tribunal's current operations.

SECTION IV: THE KINGSLEY NAPLEY LEGAL NOTICE - 30 MARCH 2026

4.1 Overview of the Notice

On 30 March 2026, the London-based law firm Kingsley Napley LLP, acting on behalf of Sheikh Hasina, served a formal 10-page legal notice to the International Crimes Tribunal by email at info@ictcp.gov.bd. The notice, sent by Partner Rebecca Niblock and referenced as JMG/RSN/LJD/78975-1/45956394.10, formally objected to the unlawful conduct of proceedings that resulted in Sheikh Hasina being sentenced to death in absentia on 17 November 2025.



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Kingsley Napley LLP is a well-established London law firm with over 80 years of operation, known for its work in criminal litigation, extradition proceedings, and white-collar crime cases. The firm explicitly stated that the correspondence did not constitute acceptance of or submission to the legitimacy of the proceedings, and that Sheikh Hasina reserves the right to challenge the jurisdiction, composition, conduct, and outcomes of the proceedings in all available fora.

4.2 Four Categories of Violations Documented

A. Lack of Judicial Independence

The letter documents how the entire ICT bench was reconstituted after August 2024 with judges linked to political opposition parties. It argues the appointments failed to meet the requirements of Article 14(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the UN Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary, creating an objective appearance of bias that fundamentally undermines the fairness of the proceedings.

The notice highlights that Justice Shofiul Alam Mahmud, appointed to the High Court only six days before being transferred to the ICT, reportedly stated to a state-appointed defence counsel during the trial: "You'll try your best to save your clients from the gallows." Kingsley Napley argues this constitutes evidence of a pre-determination of guilt in violation of the right to presumption of innocence under Article 14(2) ICCPR.

B. Prosecutorial Bias

The notice draws attention to the appointment of Tajul Islam as Chief Prosecutor, noting his prior role as defence counsel for Jamaat-e-Islami leaders and his active participation in political rallies calling for the banning of the Awami League while conducting the prosecution. The notice also incorporates the bribery allegations that had emerged at the time of writing, stating that such allegations are not isolated incidents but reflect systemic institutional corruption that permeates the entire prosecutorial apparatus.

C. Denial of Due Process and Fair Trial Rights

The notice cites statements from Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Freedom House, and the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI). The IBAHRI Director, Baroness Helena Kennedy, is cited as stating: "It is deeply troubling to see the justice system in Bangladesh misused to advance unfair and at times, politically motivated trials." Amnesty International's Secretary General Agnes Callamard is cited as calling the trial and sentence "neither fair nor just."



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The notice argues that Sheikh Hasina was denied formal notification of the proceedings, denied disclosure of charges and evidence, and was represented only by a state-appointed lawyer with whom she had no communication and given no instructions - in clear violation of Article 14(3) ICCPR.

D. Improper Trial In Absentia and the Death Penalty

The notice argues that the ICT conducted a capital trial in absentia without meeting the heightened standards required by international law, contrary to the guidance of the UN Human Rights Committee, which has clarified that trials in absentia may only be held "exceptionally and for justified reasons" and that strict observance of the rights of the defence is "all the more necessary" in such cases. The notice argues that the imposition of a death sentence following such fundamentally flawed proceedings constitutes summary execution under international law.

4.3 Jurisdictional Challenge

Kingsley Napley further challenged the ICT's jurisdiction to try Sheikh Hasina at all. The firm argues that the August 2024 amendments to the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act 1973, which extended the tribunal's mandate to cover 2024 protest-related offences, represent an unlawful expansion of the tribunal's mandate beyond its original constitutional purpose. The firm describes this as a "legal impossibility" given that the amendments purport to have retrospective effect from 2009 while being applied to prosecute conduct from 2024 - violating the principle of legality and Bangladesh's own constitutional guarantee at Article 35(1).

4.4 Demands Made in the Notice

The notice made five specific demands, requesting that the verdict and sentence be set aside as legally void; that no steps be taken to execute the death sentence; that any further proceedings be conducted in full compliance with international fair trial standards; that the government ensure the safety of lawyers and Awami League associates; and that the ICT and government acknowledge the violations and take remedial action.

SECTION V: THE ICT'S DENIAL OF RECEIPT - A DOCUMENTED CONTRADICTION

5.1 The ICT's Public Denial

Following the circulation on social media of the Kingsley Napley letter and photographic evidence of the email transmission, ICT Chief Prosecutor Aminul Islam held a press conference



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on 2 April 2026, at which he stated that the tribunal had not received any letter from Sheikh Hasina or any organisation representing her. He questioned the credibility of the firm, stating that he could not verify any website for Kingsley Napley, and suggested the letter might be an attempt to mislead media and draw public attention.

"When trials involving powerful individuals are ongoing, such attempts using names of so-called firms may be made to mislead the media and draw public attention." - ICT Chief Prosecutor Aminul Islam, press conference, 2 April 2026 (TBS News)

5.2 The Contradiction: Email Delivery Evidence

This denial is directly contradicted by documentary evidence. A screenshot of the email sent by Rebecca Niblock, Partner at Kingsley Napley LLP, transmitted on 30 March 2026 at 5:22:35 PM to the official ICT email address info@ictcp.gov.bd, has been widely circulated and independently verified by multiple media outlets. The email is clearly addressed to the tribunal with the subject line "Letter sent on behalf of Sheikh Hasina [KN-ACTIVE.FID1940630]" and confirms delivery.

Furthermore, Dhaka Tribune reported that when contacted on Wednesday - two days after the letter was sent - none of the Chief Prosecutor, the Prosecution Office, or the Tribunal's Registrar's Office confirmed receipt, despite multiple media outlets having already reported extensively on the letter's content. By Thursday, Chief Prosecutor Islam acknowledged he had learned about the matter through journalists on Wednesday, directly contradicting his subsequent claim of non-receipt.

CRITICAL DISCREPANCY: ICT Denial vs. Email Evidence

The ICT's Chief Prosecutor claimed the tribunal did not receive the Kingsley Napley legal notice. However: (1) The email was sent to the official ICT address info@ictcp.gov.bd on 30 March 2026 at 5:22 PM; (2) A screenshot of the sent email has been publicly circulated and verified; (3) Chief Prosecutor Islam himself acknowledged learning of the letter through media - meaning the letter was known to exist. The denial, made after acknowledging awareness, constitutes a documented contradiction of significant concern.

The ICT's response also included a threat of legal action. Chief Prosecutor Islam stated that if such a letter were officially received, its language would constitute contempt of court, and that the firm and those on whose behalf it was sent would face legal proceedings. This threat against an internationally recognised law firm representing a former head of government raises serious concerns about the tribunal's willingness to engage with legitimate international legal challenges.



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SECTION VI: INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ASSESSMENTS

A wide range of international bodies and human rights organisations have expressed grave concern over the ICT proceedings, particularly the conviction and sentencing of Sheikh Hasina.

Human Rights Watch

Following the 17 November 2025 verdict, Human Rights Watch noted that Sheikh Hasina and former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan were prosecuted in absentia, not represented by counsel of their choosing, and sentenced to death - raising serious human rights concerns. The organisation called on the Bangladeshi government to ensure equal access to constitutional remedies for all defendants and to impose a moratorium on the death penalty.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International's Secretary General Agnes Callamard stated: "This trial and sentence is neither fair nor just." Amnesty noted the unprecedented speed of the trial in absentia and highlighted that the time to prepare a defence was manifestly inadequate. The organisation further noted that cross-examination of contradictory evidence by the defence was reportedly not permitted.

International Bar Association Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI)

The IBAHRI highlighted the lack of formal notification of charges, denial of representation by counsel of Hasina's choosing, and reliance on a state-appointed lawyer with whom she had no communication. IBAHRI Director Baroness Helena Kennedy warned that imposing the death penalty following trials that do not meet international fair trial standards would effectively amount to summary execution.

South Asia Democratic Forum (SADF)

In a formal press release dated 1 March 2026, the SADF expressed grave concern over the use of the ICT to target Awami League political leaders. The organisation called on the current BNP government to halt judicial persecution of journalists and AL leaders, review investigation reports and charges filed after August 2024, and demanded the release of all victims of arbitrary detention.

Freedom House

Freedom House, in its Freedom in the World 2025 report on Bangladesh, noted that concerns were repeatedly raised about ICT procedures and verdicts failing to meet international



standards for victim and witness protection, the presumption of innocence, defendant access to counsel, and the right to bail.

SECTION VII: CONSOLIDATED MISCONDUCT REGISTER

The following table provides a structured reference of all documented and alleged instances of misconduct, corruption, and procedural violations at the ICT-BD, categorised by type and supported by source references.

| Category | Allegation / Finding | Individual(s) Implicated | Source / Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bribery - Bail Solicitation | ICT Prosecutor solicited one crore taka (\$82,000) from detained politician's family in exchange for bail, with ten lakh taka cash advance demanded | Saimum Reza Talukder (resigned Mar 2026) | Netra News / Prothom Alo, 10 Mar 2026 |
| Bribery - Prosecution Syndicate | Chief Prosecutor's office alleged to be a money-making tool; accused person's relative entered with heavy bag; accused converted to state witness for payment | Tajul Islam (former CP), Gazi Monawar Hossain Tamim | BM Sultan Mahmud (Facebook), Feb 23 2026; New Age, Apr 4 2026 |
| CCTV Evidence Tampering | Hard drives in tribunal CCTV system allegedly replaced; signs of addition and removal observed in official records | Under investigation (no individual named) | New Age Bangladesh, Apr 4 2026 |
| Judicial Independence - Bench Composition | ICT bench reconstituted with judges linked to Jamaat-e-Islami and BNP; judges appointed 6 days before hearing capital cases | Justice Golam Mortuza Majumder, Justice Mohitul Haq Enam Chowdhury, Justice Shofiul Alam Mahmud | Kingsley Napley LLP Notice, 30 Mar 2026 |
| Judicial Bias - Pre-determination | Bench member stated to defence counsel: 'You'll try your best to save your clients from the gallows' - indicating pre-determined verdict | Justice Shofiul Alam Mahmud | Kingsley Napley LLP Notice, 30 Mar 2026 |
| Prosecutorial Bias - Chief Prosecutor | Former CP was defence counsel for Jamaat-e-Islami leaders; appeared at party rally calling for AL ban during active prosecution | Md. Tajul Islam | Kingsley Napley LLP; BD Digest, Mar 2025 |
| Jurisdictional Overreach | ICT mandate expanded through 2024 amendments to cover July-August 2024 protest events - unlawful extension beyond 1971 mandate | Yunus Interim Administration | Kingsley Napley LLP; SADF Press Release, Mar 2026 |
| Trial In Absentia - Death Penalty | Capital trial conducted in absentia without adequate procedural safeguards; sentence of death handed down 17 Nov 2025 | ICT Bench (three judges) | HRW, Amnesty International, IBAHRI, Nov 2025 |
| Suspension of 1971 Cases | Genocide cases related to Pakistan Army and 1971 | Yunus Administration / ICT Management | Multiple sources including SADF, Mar 2026 |



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| Category | Allegation / Finding | Individual(s) Implicated | Source / Date |
|--|---|---------------------------|--|
| | collaborators placed in cold storage while AL cases aggressively pursued | | |
| Denial of Legal Notice | ICT Chief Prosecutor denied receiving Kingsley Napley legal notice despite email delivery confirmation and media reporting | Aminul Islam (current CP) | Prothom Alo; TBS News; Dhaka Tribune, Apr 2026 |
| Threat of Contempt Against UK Law Firm | Chief Prosecutor threatened to initiate contempt proceedings against Kingsley Napley and Sheikh Hasina for serving legal notice | Aminul Islam (current CP) | TBS News; Prothom Alo, Apr 2026 |




SECTION VIII: SOURCE REFERENCES WITH QR CODES

All primary sources cited in this briefing document are listed below with direct access QR codes. Scan any QR code with a smartphone camera to access the original article or source document.

Investigative Reports and Primary Evidence

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>Netra News Investigation(Bergman, Mar 2026)</p>  <p>Open Source</p> | <p>Daily Star: ICT Internal Investigation(Mar 9, 2026)</p>  <p>Open Source</p> | <p>New Age: CCTV & Bribery(Apr 4, 2026)</p>  <p>Open Source</p> | <p>SADF Press Release(Mar 1, 2026)</p>  <p>Open Source</p> |
|---|---|---|---|

Legal Notice Coverage

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>BDNews24: Kingsley NapleyChallenge to ICT</p>  <p>Open Source</p> | <p>Dhaka Tribune: ICT VerdictFaces Legal Challenge</p>  <p>Open Source</p> | <p>New Age: ICT Denial ofReceiving Letter</p>  <p>Open Source</p> | <p>Prothom Alo: CP ClaimsNo Letter Received</p>  <p>Open Source</p> |
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International Commentary and Analysis

| | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| EurAsian Times: Bribery Scandal Rocks ICT  Open Source | The Organiser: Bribery Scandal & Political Trials  Open Source | BD Perspectives: Integrity Under Question  Open Source | South Asia Monitor: ICT Under Fire  Open Source |
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SECTION IX: FULL BIBLIOGRAPHY

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| | |
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| [2] ICT to conduct internal investigation over bribery allegations <i>The Daily Star</i> 9 March 2026 https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/ict-conduct-internal-investigation-over-bribery-allegations-against-prosecutor-aminul-4125306 |  |
| [3] ICT prosecution investigates bribery allegations <i>New Age Bangladesh</i> 4 April 2026 https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/295480/ict-prosecution-investigates-bribery-allegations |  |
| [4] Press Release: The ICT of Bangladesh - The New Government Must Stop the Political and Corrupt Proceedings <i>South Asia Democratic Forum (SADF)</i> 1 March 2026 https://www.sadf.online/press-release-the-international-crimes-tribunals-of-bangladesh-the-new-government-must-stop-the-political-and-corrupt-proceedings/ |  |
| [5] Bribery Scandal Rocks Bangladesh's ICT: Yunus Taints Tribunal Built For 1971 Pakistan Atrocities <i>EurAsian Times</i> 16 March 2026 https://www.eurasiatimes.com/bribery-scandal-rocks-bangladeshs-ict/ |  |



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[6] Bribery scandal rocks Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal amid political trials

The Organiser | 15 March 2026

<https://organiser.org/2026/03/15/344217/world/bribery-scandal-rocks-bangladeshs-international-crimes-tribunal-amid-political-trials/>



[7] Integrity Under Question: Corruption Allegations and the Future of Bangladesh's ICT

Bangladesh Perspectives | 12 March 2026

<https://www.bdperspectives.com/3056/integrity-under-question-corruption-allegations-and-the-future-of-bangladeshs-international-crimes-tribunal/>



[8] Bangladesh's ICT Under Fire: Serving Justice or Political Retribution?

South Asia Monitor | 18 March 2026

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New Delhi Post | March 2026

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<https://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/4f58d82772fa>



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Dhaka Tribune | April 2026

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[13] ICT prosecution denies receiving letter on Hasina

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[14] Sheikh Hasina has sent no letter to ICT, legal action will follow if anyone does: Chief Prosecutor

Prothom Alo (English) | April 2026

<https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/lasvp0iffp>



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The Business Standard (TBS News) | April 2026

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TBS News | April 2026

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<https://navhindtimes.in/worldnews/uk-law-firm-challenges-deposed-bangladesh-pm-sheikh-hasinas-trial/>



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First Post / Hindu Post | 3 March 2026

<https://hindupost.in/world/bangladesh/bangladeshs-international-crimes-tribunal-a-syndicate-in-the-guise-of-justice/>



IV. Primary Documents and Evidence

[19] Letter to ICT sent on behalf of Sheikh Hasina (Kingsley Napley LLP)

Primary Document - Drive | 30 March 2026

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1wiEHMTE93izPtDp9FPmUftxWX9WLLf3C>



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Primary Evidence - Drive | 2026

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CONCLUSION

The evidence assembled in this briefing document establishes a consistent and well-documented pattern of institutional failure at Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal. The ICT, originally established to deliver justice for the crimes of 1971, has under the post-August 2024 political transition been reconstituted in ways that systematically compromise its judicial independence, prosecutorial integrity, and adherence to international standards of fair trial.

The bribery allegations, corroborated by independently verified audio recordings, suggest that financial extortion of defendants and their families has become an embedded feature of the tribunal's prosecutorial practice. The internal infighting within the prosecution team, allegations of CCTV evidence tampering, and the conversion of accused persons into state witnesses for payment compound this picture of institutional decay.

The formal legal notice served by Kingsley Napley LLP on behalf of Sheikh Hasina, and the ICT's subsequent denial of receipt in the face of documentary evidence to the contrary, represent a further and deeply troubling dimension of institutional conduct - one that suggests a deliberate unwillingness to engage with legitimate international legal challenges.

Study Circle London calls upon the international community, diplomatic missions, and human rights bodies to take urgent cognisance of these documented violations, to press for transparent and independent investigations into all allegations of corruption and misconduct at the ICT, and to insist that Bangladesh meet its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other applicable instruments of international law.

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