

**JUDICIAL PROBE INTO SCHOOLBOY'S  
TORTURE IN CUSTODY****HC order to transfer  
Sakhipur UNO,  
OC stayed****Staff Correspondent**

THE Appellate Division on Wednesday stayed a High Court Division order to transfer the Upazila Nirbahi Officer and the officer-in-charge of Sakhipur outside the Dhaka Division in the interest of fair judicial probe into a complaint that school student Sabbir Shikder was subjected to torture in custody before he was jailed by a mobile court in a fabricated case.

The 15-year boy was sentenced to two years on allegation that he posted a status on the facebook page of ruling party MP Anupam Shajahan Joy holding threat to the latter's life.

Later, UNO SM Rafiqul

Islam and OC Maksudul Alam in separate affidavits submitted in the High Court that Sabbir Shikder was 19-year old and he was jailed by the mobile court for possessing cannabis.

The Appellate Division's vacation chamber judge, Justice Hasan Foez Siddique stayed the HC order to transfer the two officers after hearing separate petitions filed by the UNO and the OC.

Supreme Court Bar Association president Yusuf Husain Humayun appeared for the UNO and Nurul Islam Sujan, MP for the OC.

No lawyer stood for the boy.

On October 18, the High Court asked the Tangail chief judicial magistrate

to investigate into Sabbir's complaints that he was tortured by the MP himself, the UNO, who ran the mobile court in his office room and also the OC.

The HC had also directed the secretaries of the home and public administration ministries and the inspector general of police to transfer the UNO and the OC outside the Dhaka division to ensure that they cannot influence the probes.

It had declared two years' jail handed to 15-old schoolboy Sabbir by the mobile court as illegal.

The HC gave the verdict while disposing of a suo moto rule on the irregularities committed by the mobile court against Sabbir.