

President assents to 7 bills

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President Iajuddin Ahmed has assented to seven bills passed by the ongoing 20th session of the Parliament, says a handout.

The bills are: The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2005, Judicial Administration Training Institute (Amendment) Bill, 2006, Court Reform Implementation (Supplementary Code) (Amendment) Bill, 2006, Private Security Service Bill, 2005, Acid Control (Amendment) Bill, 2006, Law and Order Disruption Offence Speedy Trial (Amendment) Bill, 2006 and The Members of the Bangladesh Public Service Commission (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Bill, 2005.



PHOTO: STAR
(From left) Former deputy secretary Aminur Rahman, Barrister Maksudul Islam, industrialist Tanvir Chowdhury Sagor and former additional secretary Shamsul Islam present a bouquet to Awami League President Sheikh Hasina while joining her party at the Dhanmondi office in the city yesterday.

More govt officials to be promoted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a bid to appease the aggrieved officials, the government has decided to promote another batch of joint secretaries to the post of additional secretaries this month.

In addition, officials at the joint secretary and deputy secretary levels will also be given promotion during the

period from March to May.

On Wednesday, the Superior Selection Board (SSB) sat with a draft list of the joint secretaries who have the requisite marks for promotion. A total of 20 officials were shortlisted for the promotion to the post of additional secretary. But the meeting, chaired by Cabinet Secretary ASM Abdul Halim, did not take any final decision.

Most of the officials shortlisted are from 81st batch, while others are from 77th and 79th batches, sources said.

A former secretary said the government is planning such large-scale promotion in view of the upcoming parliamentary elections.

"Mainly the pro-ruling party officials will be promoted," he observed. In November 2005, 42 joint secre-

taries were promoted to additional secretary while a record number of 97 officials were made additional secretary in August 2003.

At present, there are more than 200 officials of various ranks, who have been made Officials on Special Duty (OSD), due to the mismatch between the vacant posts and the number of promoted officials.

