

## Demonstration at Supreme Court

# PSA case against Nazmul Huda, Kh Mahbub, 14 other lawyers and Morshed Khan

By Staff Correspondent

BNP lawmaker Barrister Nazmul Huda, Khandakar Mahbubuddin Ahmed and 14 other "pro-opposition" lawyers have been sued under the Public Safety Act (PSA) for their involvement in Thursday's demonstration at the Supreme Court.

M Morshed Khan, another BNP legislator, was also named in the case, filed with Ramna police on Monday by a lawyer of the Supreme Court.

The other accused in the case are Abdur Rab Chowdhury, Jainul Abedin, Golam Kibria, Barrister Mahbubuddin Khokon, Golam Mohammad Chowdhury, SM Emdadul Haq, Humayun Kabir Bulbul, Golam Arshed, Ferdous Akter Wahida, Faisal Hasan Faezi, Farid Ahmed, Asutan Noor Begum Panna, Mamun and assistant secretary of the bar association, Mithu.

Ramna police, however, remained tight-lipped about the case.

When contacted last night, DMP Commissioner Motior Rahman told The Daily Star that such a case under PSA was filed, but refused to elaborate.

Sources in the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court confirmed that it received a copy of the FIR under Sections 10 and 12 of PSA from the Ramna police station yesterday.

**Dubey pleads zero-tariff for India's neighbours**

By Staff Correspondent

Former Indian foreign secretary Mukund Dubey has advocated that India should offer 'zero tariff access' to goods from Bangladesh and other small neighbours.

I think, India should have really come forward and offered zero tariff access to its neighbours including Bangladesh and should also support the least developed countries' (LDCs) demand for zero tariff access of their products to the developed world he said.

Mukund Dubey was delivering a keynote speech on 'Implications of the WTO for the South with special reference to Bangladesh' in the city yesterday. It was organised by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) at its auditorium.

Dubey, also India's former permanent representative to the WTO, said that India would lift all sorts of non-tariff barriers on the import of agricultural and industrial products from April.

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## "Unrestricted access" of Bangladeshi goods to Indian market stressed

By Staff Correspondent

Bangladeshi goods should be given "unrestricted access" to Indian market.

This was suggested by some eminent personalities from both the countries at a two-day dialogue that concluded here yesterday. Participants in the dialogue included politicians, economists, former diplomats and researchers.

Concrete steps should be taken to boost mutually beneficial bilateral economic cooperation and to reduce Bangladesh's huge trade deficit with India, they said.

The dialogue on Bangladesh-India Economic Relations also identified a number of problems in boosting bilateral trade. It was organised jointly by the Centre for Policy Dialogue of Dhaka and the Centre for Policy Research of New Delhi.

Briefing newsmen on conclusion of the dialogue, CDP Chairman Prof. Rehman Sobhan said, trade with India comprises a very important component

of Bangladesh's global trade relations.

"Neighbouring countries tend to trade more. This is a global phenomenon. But what is of utmost concern here is the growing trade deficit which has grown to almost ten times over the decades and Bangladesh's inability to enter into the huge market of its neighbour."

He said sharing of waters of common rivers was the second most important issue discussed at the dialogue.

The participants noted that under the Ganges Water-Sharing Treaty, Bangladesh got its share in 1998, 1999 and 2000. There should be long-term agreements on sharing waters of other common rivers and Nepal and Bhutan should be included to harness and utilise water resources in the region, they said, according to Prof. Rehman Sobhan.

Indo-Bangla political and security issues were

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**Akhtaruzzaman says Real killers of Humayun Zahir escaped punishment**

Prayer Timings

January 17

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Jan 17		5.34 pm
Jan 18	6-43 am	

Source: Islamic Foundation

**Govt acts slow on Agri Commission report**  
Review committee formed 20 months after its submission

By Reaz Ahmad

The government formed a ministerial committee Monday to review a comprehensive Agriculture Commission report, some 20 months after it was submitted, official sources said yesterday.

At its last meeting on Monday, the cabinet took up the report for discussion and formed a ministerial committee to work out the methods to implement the commission's recommendations upon review of the report.

Earlier, the commission headed by a prime ministerial advisor had expressed frustration

over the government's indifference towards implementation of its recommendations.

The government took up the issue for review against the backdrop of successive bumper in cereal production over the last four years and attaining of food self-sufficiency in the 1999-2000 fiscal.

The commission was constituted on November 9, 1996, with a mandate to prepare policy recommendations towards enhancement of food production commensurate with the population.

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## 50 hurt as lawyers clash with govt staff at Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent

**50 hurt as lawyers clash with govt staff at Sirajganj**

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Jan 16: At least 50 people were injured in a clash between the lawyers and employees of the local administration over a trifling matter on the DC's office premises here today.

Police and witnesses said the trouble began at about 10 am when a grade III employee of the Deputy Commissioner's office took a glass of water supplied for

a lawyer, Swapan, at the canteen.

There were exchange of heated words and scuffle between the lawyer and the employee. Later, other employees rushed to the spot and took the lawyer to the Additional Deputy Commissioner's room on the first floor.

As news of the incident spread, about 500 lawyers and their

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