# METROPOLITAN

#### Criminal case

# Tareq Rahman relieved of charges

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Tareq Rahman, son of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and two others, accused in a criminal case, were relieved yesterday.

The Court of Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Nurul Karim Majumder passed the order upon a petition, seeking acquittal of the accused.

In its order, the court mentioned that the charges, brought against the accused, were not proved. So, the petition, for discharging the accused from the charge, is granted.

The accused Tareq and two others along with their lawyers appeared in the court at 3.00 pm and submitted a petition seeking acquittal.

The lawyers stated that the accused were implicated in the case as part of a conspiracy to harass them politically. So, they prayed court although the case was for discharging the accused from the charges.

Inspector Kazi Abdul Mannan opposed the petition and prayed for framing charges against the accused.

After hearing both the sides, the court granted the petition.

Mohammad Zahangir Alam, an

Inspector of the Bureau of Anticorruption, filed a criminal case with Motijheel thana on July 13, 2000, against Tareq and two others. He alleged that the accused in collusion with others forced the government employees to get purchased the property of M/s George Distillaries Ltd of Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangstha at Tk 5.012 crore. But the real value of the company was Tk. 18,455 crore.

The purchase of the said company caused Tk 11.443 crore loss to the government.

The Investigation Officer (IO) of the case submitted a charge sheet against Tareq Rahman and his two friends Harun Ferdousi and Abdullah-al-Mamun on June 13, 2000.

the CMM's court on June 17, 2000. Later, he never appeared in the transferred to a metropolitan magistrate's court for trial. Yesterday was the first day of his appearance in the trial court.

Tareq Rahman and his two friends were not in the dock during the hearing on the charge framing. They were sitting on the

#### Rubel murder

## Hearing on arguments begins

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The hearing on argument in the Shamim Reza Rubel Murder Case began at the Third Additional Metropolitan sessions judge's court, Dhaka yesterday.

After two-hour long hearing on the issue by the prosecution lawyers, judge Mollah Mostafa Kamal

#### Over 50 houses gutted at AJM: 20 injured

UNB, N'ganj

Over 50 houses were gutted in a fire at a labour colony at Adamjee Jute Mills last night, leaving some 20 children and women injured.

Mill sources said the fire broke out in a house at Sramik Colony of Dhaka-Bazu at about 7:30 pm from an electric short-circuit and soon engulfed other houses.

Collective Bargaining Agent (CBA) of Adamjee Jute Mills, however, blamed "the cadres of Abul

Khair Khwaja group for the arson". Three fire-fighting units from Demra and Hajiganj rushed to the spot and brought the blaze under control after an hour.

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adjourned the hearing till 2.00 pm

During the arguments the prosecution side made submissions on the FIR, charge sheet, unnatural death case and statements of the prosecution witnesses in the case.

Earlier, 35 out of 62 prosecution witnesses were crossexamined. Moreover, three witnesses on behalf of the accused were testified.

Shamim Reza Rubel, 24, a BBA student of the Independent University, was picked up by a team of DB police from in front of their Siddeswari residence under Ramna thana in the city on July 23. 1998 and was tortured to death in the custody the same day.

The Investigation Officer submitted a charge sheet to the CMM's court, Dhaka against 14 people including AC Akram Hussain on September 24, 1998.

The trial of the case began in

the court on July 27, 1999. The court framed charges against the 14 accused including AC Akram Hussain and Mukuli Begum, a local Awami League

leader, on May 10, 1999. Eleven accused including AC Akram Hussain were produced before the court during the hearing while three others have been absconding since the incident.

Advocate Mahbub Ahmed, Sved Rezaur Rahman, Sheikh Baharul Islam and Ehsanul Haq Samaji appeared in the court on behalf of the accused.

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## A BIMR Training Course

Bangladesh Institute of Marketing and Research (BIMR) is the local affiliate of World Marketing Association (WMA) via Asia Pacific Marketing Federation (APMF). BIMR is launching the course "Services Marketing", a 3day training program for Marketing Executives, in association with East West University. This course will help managers to prepare the Services Marketing Mix, Develop and Implement Strategies, and Improve Service Quality with a special focus on customers. With Relationship Marketing being the main tool for Service Marketing, this course will enable managers to cultivate long-term relationships profitable to his/her organisation.

Schedule: Venue: East West University, 2<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Mohakhali CA, Dhaka-1212.

Date: 6", 7" & 8" May 2002.

Time: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Days: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

There will be 2 sessions per day.

\*Refreshments will be provided. Last Date for Registration: 4" May. Participants will be selected on a firstcome-first serve basis.

The faculty chosen will be experts in their respective fields with considerable years of experience. They will discuss contemporary issues and provide useful insights to the participants and enable them to gain competitive advantage in their respective fields.

For more information please contact: Shafique Samer Alam Operating Executive

Address: H-158, Lane 22, New DOHS, Dhaka Phone No: 8811288, 018229885 E-mail: bimrmembers@yahoo.com

Tareq Rahman got bail from

### Overall export declines BSS, Dhaka

णमास्कर्स कांसर्ट मृज्य

Export of agricultural products continued to increase in the last eight months from July 2001 to February 2002 despite a declining trend in the overall export performance in some sectors.

tobacco control law.

The export of the country's agricultural products has increased by 10.67 per cent during the period, a recent report of Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) said. Besides, export of jute goods

increased by 6.44 per cent and

petroleum byproducts by 0.55 per cent during the period. The report, however, said the export target for the period could not be achieved despite export growth of the agri-products.

Export of some other products declined by 7.29 per cent compared to the corresponding period of the 2000-2001 financial year. When contacted, commerce

ministry sources identified current global economic recession as the main cause of the declining trend

City polls: EC

warms action

UNB, Dhaka

April 25.

ishable offence.

LEARN

I tion against the violators.

against violation

of code of conduct

The Election Commission has

directed officials concerned, City

Corporations and police to take

legal actions against violation of

election code of conduct by the

candidates in the election to three

City Corporations scheduled for

EC in a press release yesterday

reminded the candidates that wall

writings, multicolour posters,

banners, erection of arches and

illumination in favour of any can-

didate violating the code are pun-

be strictly followed and asked the

election officials to take legal ac-

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It said the election code should

## economy," they added. Five special courts in city next week

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In line with the new law passed last week, the government is set ting up five special courts in the capital next week for speedy trial of cases concerning crimes disrupting law and order.

Anti-Tobacco Alliance held a rally at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday demanding enactment of a

nomic recession after the carnage

in the USA on September 11 last

year. It is nothing but an impact of

the present economic recession

across the world," the sources

country's export scenario, the EPB

report showed that export of ready

made garments (RMG), frozen

foods, leather, chemical products,

raw jute, tea, electronics, engi-

neering products, handicrafts and

other primary and manufactured

Export of RMG, the country's

highest export earning sector, world.

goods declined in the last eight

declined by 8.70 per cent during

the first eight-month period of the

current fiscal compared to the

corresponding period of the pre-

products, sources said the gov-

ernment has fixed community-

Referring to the export agri-

vious year.

Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Moudud Ahmed told newsmen yesterday that an official gazette in this regard will be published on Saturday and the courts would start functioning from the following day.

The BNP-led coalition government enacted the new law titled - The Law and Order Disruption Crimes (Speedy Trial) Act, 2002, to combat the growing incidents of violence and other related crimes. It repealed a similar law -the Public Safety Act (PSA).

#### Former DU teacher Dr Mahbubuddin dies in London

BSS, Dhaka

Prof. Dr Mahbubuddin Ahmed, former chairman of Statistics Department of Dhaka University, died of old-age complications at a clinic in London on April 14 at the age of 72, according to a message received here yesterday.

Dr Ahmed left behind his wife, a son, two daughters and a host of admirers to mourn his death.

He was buried at the graveyard of London Islamic Centre.

A government-appointed first class magistrate would comprise a special court. It would deal with crimes like hindering normal air, rail, road and river traffic movements, damaging transports and public and private property, mugging, extortion of tolls, violence at public places, obstructing tender bidding and hindering work of government officers and employ-

ees and also their relatives. Police will produce the alleged offenders before the court within 24 hours of their arrest and submit charge sheet in the next seven days if they are caught redhanded. In such a case, the process of trial would be completed within 30 days from the date of

submission of charge sheet. If an accused is not caught immediately, police will submit charge sheet within seven days and trial will be completed in the next 60 days. Under the law, trial can take place even in the absence of an accused.

The law also provides for 2-5 years' jail for bringing false charges. It also allows a magistrate to record a witness' statement right on the spot. The court will also accept as evidences audio and videotapes and recorded conversations.

The new law enables the trial on Monday. court and the appeal court to grant bail to an accused or a convict but the court concerned will have to record the grounds for granting bail.

# clashes between rival factions of BNP-backed-labourers. though the attendance of workers

based target to further increase

They said under the pro-

gramme, Bangladeshi products,

specially the agri-products, are

exported for the expatriated

Bangladeshis living in different

triates are the target group, they

creasing the exports, the sources

said the government has taken

various pragmatic steps to main-

tain progress in this sector. It is

implementing different plans to

diversify export and get market

access to different countries of the

the private sector, has taken ini-

tiatives to arrange fairs of Bangla-

deshi products in different coun-

tries aimed at popularizing Bang-

ladeshi products abroad to com-

pete in the present open market

"The EPB, in collaboration with

Expressing optimism about in-

"The overall export perform- export of Bangladeshi products,

Giving salient features on the countries of the world. The expa-

ance declined due to world eco- specially the agri-products, sig-

University teachers criticise shipping minister STAFF CORRESPONDENT A total of 208 teachers from differ-

ent universities criticised the shipping minister for his alleged involvement in corruption, saying that he should resign from his The allegation of corruption labelled against the minister by

Danish Under-secretary Peter Lysholt Hansen was a severe blow to the image of the country, they said in a statement. Teachers from Dhaka University, Rajshahi University, Chittagong University, BUET, Jahan-

#### the signatories. Khaleda shocked

girnagar University and Bangla-

desh Open University were among

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia has expressed deep sorrow at the loss of lives in a tragic Air China plane crash near Busan of South Korea

In a message to Premier of State Council of China Zhu Rongji vesterday Khaleda Zia conveyed her deepest sympathy to the bereaved family members.

## India deeply values ties with Bangladesh

Narayanan tells HC Tufail in Delhi

BSS, Dhaka

Coffin procession

anti-tobacco law

Bangladesh Anti-Tobacco Alliance

yesterday brought out a symbolic

coffin procession in the city de-

manding a tobacco control law to

the Central Shaheed Minar and

paraded through different city

streets before ending at the Kadam

Foara (fountain) off the National

Press Club also remembered those

held a rally at Shaheed Minar

which was addressed by Prof Ab-

dullah Abu Sayeed, President of

Biswa Sahitya Kendro, Dr Badiul

Alam Majumder, country director

of the Hunger Project, Dr Arup

Ratan Chowdhury, founding

president of Manas and Abu Naser

Khan, general secretary of Bangla-

They said tobacco and smoking

vere not only injurious to the

health of smokers but also to the

nation. It is harmful to public health, economy and the envi-

Demanding the tobacco con-

trol law that would prohibit

smoking in public places and stop

advertisement in the media they

said such laws were enacted in

168 bombs, arms

recovered from

AJM area: 3 held

A police-BDR joint team recovered

two firearms, 168 bombs and 82

cocktails from Adamjee Jute Mills

and its adjoining areas Monday

They arrested three people

Police said the joint team led

by Police Super Shafiqul Islam

raided New Colony area at mid-

night and recovered 168 bombs

They recovered 82 cocktails

The joint operations started

The situation in the mill has

started to become normal al-

sharply declined following the

one sawed-off rifle and one pipe-

gun from three separate houses in

Sunday following a series of

from an abandoned water tank.

Shamsul Haq, Akkas Ali and Abdul

Barek, during the five-hour drive

UNB, N'ganj

from 10 pm.

the area.

desh Environment Movement.

ronment, they pointed out.

most countries of the world.

The anti-tobacco campaigners

who died from smoking.

The procession that began at

reduce deaths from smoking.

demanding

BSS, Dhaka

Indian President KR Narayanan yesterday said his country deeply values its relations with Bangladesh as the two neighbours have a shared history and close social and cultural bonds.

cepting credentials of the new Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Tufail K Haider at Rastrapati Bhaban, a message received here from New Delhi said. The President said both the

countries realised the importance of restoring multi-mode communication linkage to further facilitate the movement of commodity and people between the two countries. He referred to the establish-

ment and continuation of Dhaka-Kolkata bus service and lauded the agreement signed for introduction of bus service between Dhaka and

The Indian President conveyed his warm greetings to the President and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and assured the Bangladesh High Commissioner of his government's full support during his tenure in India. President Narayanan was ac-

While presenting his credentials, the High Commissioner conveyed the President of India the warm greetings and best wishes from the President and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

Tufail K Haider said the relations between Bangladesh and India are deeply-rooted in common heritage, culture and values.

He conveyed to the Indian President the policy of the government of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and her desire to broaden and deepen Indo-Bangladesh relations to the mutual benefit of the two peoples.

## BCL stages sit-in in front of DU VC's office

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) staged a sit-in in front of the University chancellor's office yesterday demanding resumption of activities of the Dhaka University Computer Association (DUCA) and fresh recruitment in government serv-

The sit-in continued from 12.30pm to 1.30pm.

Addressing the demonstrators, the BCL leaders blamed the BNPled four-party alliance government for widespread violence across the country.

They said the government has utterly failed to maintain law and order and ensure security to the

The government, soon after the Hossain.

assumption of power, stopped all recruitment in the government services, worsening the unemployment situation, the BCL lead-

Criticising the university authorities' decision to suspend all activities of DUCA, the leaders said the BNP- and Jamaat-backed administration of the university want to deprive the students of benefit of information and communication technology.

Presided.over by DU BCL unit acting president Beg Shahin Jahan, the rally was addressed by acting president of the organisation Marufa Akhter Popy, acting general secretary Saifuzzaman Shikhor, vice-president and DU unit general secretary AKM Azim and organisation secretary Delwar

## Nat'l workshop on food security begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

'Food Security and Food Safety in today with a view to formulating an action plan and food security network within civil society and campaign for safe and secured food for all.

At the workshop, organised by the Consumers' Association of Bangladesh (CAB) and the Consumers International, Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (CI-ROAP), experts from home and dent of CAB, emphasized the need abroad will exchange their views for launching campaign by the and expertise to help formulate the action plan.

At a press conference vesterday, the CAB urged the govern-A two-day national workshop, on amentuo enact necessary lews to protect the rights of the consum-Bangladesh' begins in the city ers as the condition of food security in the country is deteriorating alarmingly.

They demanded proper monithe government to facilitate the toring of imported foods as well as medicine and steps to strengthen the Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BSTI) which is responsible for checking the quality of foods produced by local companies.

Zafarullah Chowdhury, presimedia to raise awareness among the consumers.

#### unicef (3)

Consultants for technical assistance for the development of Training Manuals and Teachers Handbook on (a) "Bangla", (b) "Science", and (c) "Social Studies", to provide subject-based training to teachers through Upazila Resource Centre (URC), Directorate of Primary Education.

UNICEF-Bangladesh is seeking applications from appropriate Bangladeshi nationals for three (3) separate requirements as indicated above, for the technical support for implementation of IDEAL Project under the Directorate of Primary Education, GOB.

The specific tasks for the requirements 3 (Bangla/Science/Social Studies), covering approx. eight to eleven (8-11) months are:

 Make need assessment in respect of knowledge and teaching skills of primary school teachers on the specific subject;

Identify the content area of the training of teachers; Develop, test and finalise the teacher's handbook and training manual on the subject:

Orientation of the core trainer's on the training manual

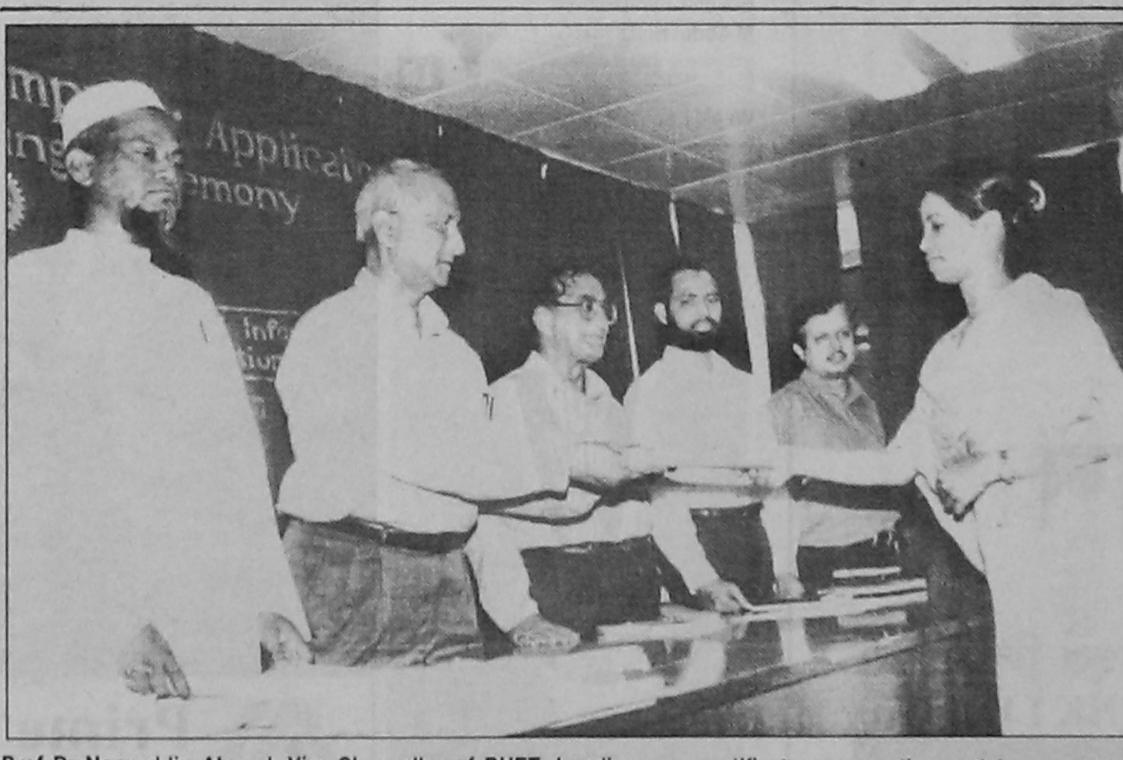
for the subject and preparation of final report.

Qualifications: Second university degree in interested area (Bangla/Science/Social Studies) with minimum 10 years high level experience in teaching on the area and providing similar services in reference development of curriculum, training materials related to primary education. The candidate must be very conversant with primary education curriculum, text materials and teachers training programme of DPE.

Interested individuals are requested to submit application addressed to the Chief, HR Section, UNICEF, Bangladesh Country Office (BCO), 4" Floor, Sheraton Annex Building, 1, Minto Road, Dhaka-1000 BCO, with detail signed curriculum vitae, and recent photograph by 12.30 hours April 25, 2002. Kindly indicate area of interest (Bangla, Science or Social Studies) in the application and on top of the envelope. Any form of canvassing, soliciting or influencing will be treated as a disqualification.

Application from qualified female candidates are encouraged.

UNICEF is a non-smoking working environment.



Prof Dr Nooruddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor of BUET, handing over certificates among the participants of six short courses on Computer Applications, organised by the Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering and Institute of Information & Communication Technology, BUET, at the seminar room of Civil Engineering Building on Tuesday. Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice-Chancellor of BRAC University, was also present as special