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"Prime View", Suite # 101, House # 7, Gulshan South Avenue, Dhaka-1212.



Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil speaks at the 14-party meeting at AL central office at Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday.

Promote medicinal plants

Speakers tell workshop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Cultivation of medicinal plants in Bangladesh needs to be promoted by the government and private sector as the country has to meet 90 per cent of

its demand of herbal medicine through import, said the speakers at a workshop in the city yesterday.

Bangladesh can earn huge foreign currency by exporting herbal medicine after meeting local demands, they said at the inaugural session of the workshop.

Development of Biotechnology and Environmental Conservation Centre (DEBTCC) organised the workshop titled 'Medicinal and aromatic plants for life and livelihood' at IDB building in association with Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Ministry of Forest and Environment and Ministry of Planning.

Science and ICT Minister Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan in his speech as chief guest said that more cultivation of medicinal plants would benefit rural people financially.

He underscored the need for more cultivation of medicinal plants as most of the people could not afford to buy medicine. It will also benefit them financially, he said.

Moyeen Khan also emphasised on maintaining the quality of herbal medicine so that people could put their trust on herbal medicine.

Speaking as special guest State Minister for Forest and Environment Jafrul Islam Chowdhury said that the government had taken an elaborate programme to create mass awareness about herbal medicine.

Dr. Shoib Ahmed, secretary of Ministry of Environment and Forest, presided. Larry Maramis, deputy representative of the UNDP, Dr. Ferdousi Begum, executive director of DEBTCC and Dr. Madhav Karki, regional programme coordinator of International Development Research Centre, Canada also spoke.

Later, Moyeen Khan inaugurated a website titled www.mapbd.com.

1,326 more held

UNB, Dhaka

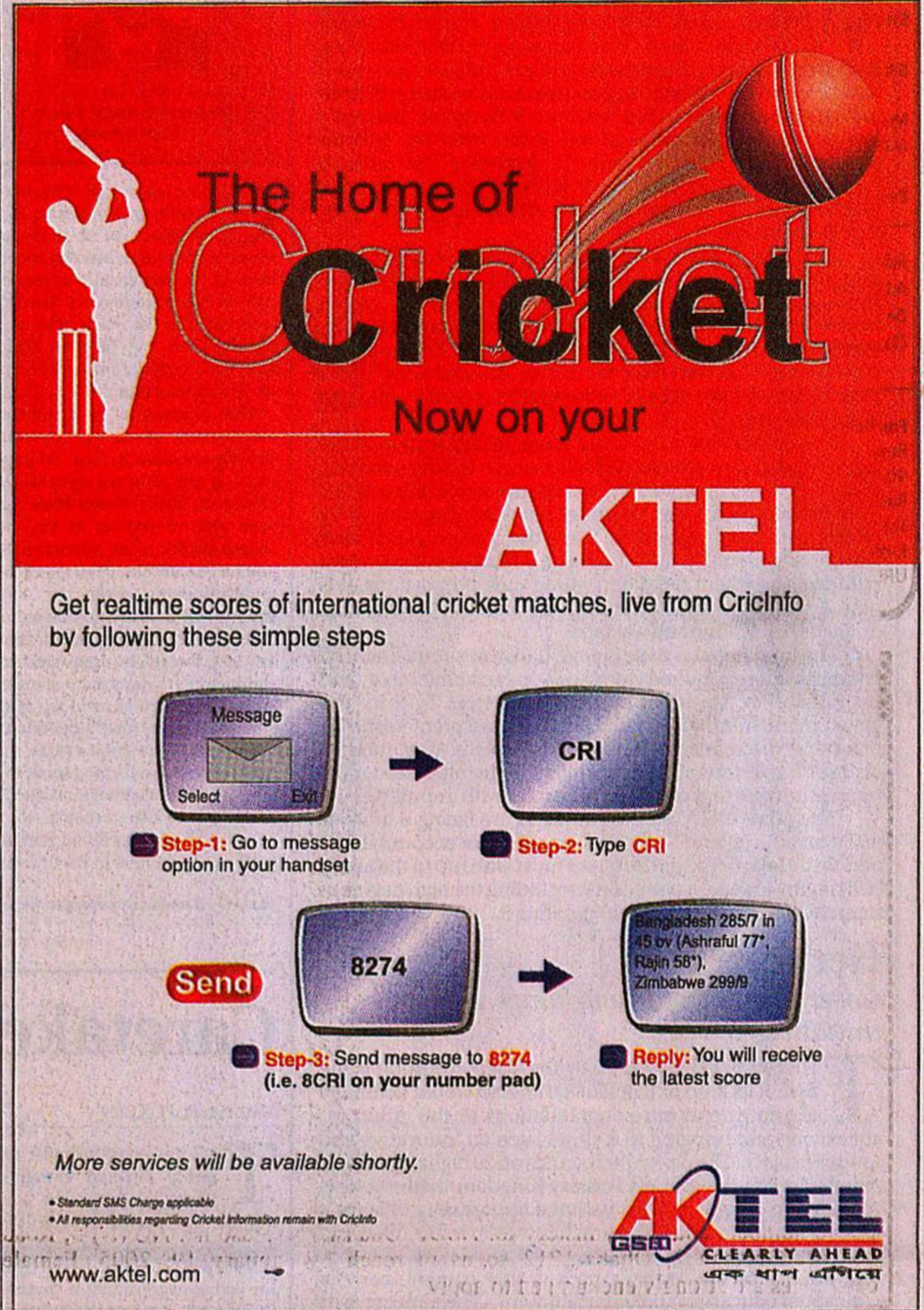
Police arrested 1,326 people, including three listed criminals, on various charges during their countrywide drive in the last 24 hours till 6.00am yesterday.

During the period, the law enforcers recovered eight firearms, two other weapons and 100 bullets and filed five cases against six persons under Arms Act, says a police headquarters press release.

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