

## RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

**Bangladesh to sign UN Convention**

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh has decided to sign the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

It was decided at an inter-ministerial meeting at the Social Welfare Ministry yesterday with Social Welfare Adviser Geetara Safiya Chowdhury in the chair.

The meeting agreed to sign the Convention as most of its clauses are consistent with Bangladesh's constitution, the Disabled Welfare Act 2001, National Plan of Action on matters of the

Disabled 2006 and other existing laws and rules.

Addressing the meeting, Geetara Safiya Chowdhury said Bangladesh attaches top priority to the issue of welfare of the people with disability.

She said with the signing of the convention, the country's image will be further enhanced and its commitment to the well-being of the people with disability will be more strengthened.

Among the Saarc countries, India and Sri Lanka have already signed the Convention.

Social Welfare Secretary MA Hye Hawlader, DG of Social Service Department Hafizul Islam Mia and managing director of Jatiya Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation AKM Azizul Huq attended the meeting.



Photojournalists wait in front of the gate of Dhaka Central Jail throughout the day yesterday after they received information that BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia might arrive to meet her son Tarique Rahman in the jail. However, she did not turn up.

**10 clinker-laden vessels fined for overloading**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court in Chittagong yesterday fined 10 clinker-laden lighter vessels for overloading which might have caused serious accident.

Sources said the court fined MV Al Forkania, MV Kamal, MV Sharp-1, MV East Wind, MV Ishtiaq, MV King of Narisha, MV Munmun Setu-2, MV Folkland-1, MV Tazwar and MV Fazlul Hoque a total of Tk 2 lakh 40 thousand.

The court seized the documents of the vessels and ordered the authorities concerned for immediate offloading of additional cargo to ensure smooth and safe movement of vessels through the port channel.

Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) Magistrate Md Munir Chowdhury conducted the drive with the help of Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) and Bandar Police Station.

**Timber trader beaten to death in Ctg**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A timber trader was beaten to death at a village in Fatikchhari upazila early yesterday.

The victim was identified as Nurul Islam, 48, of village Khiram under Abdullahpur Union.

The police arrested three suspects in this connection.

The police said some unidentified criminals called Nurul out of his house and took him to a nearby place at around 2:30am. The gang beat him to death and then hung the body from a tree.

On receiving information, the police recovered the body.

The police suspected that the murder might have been a sequel to a feud over monetary transactions relating to timber trading.