

# Eliminate militancy at any cost to save nation: Muhith

STAFF CORRESPONDENT,  
Sylhet

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday said militant groups should be eliminated at any cost to save the nation.

"However, we do not want extrajudicial killings to achieve the target, rather we

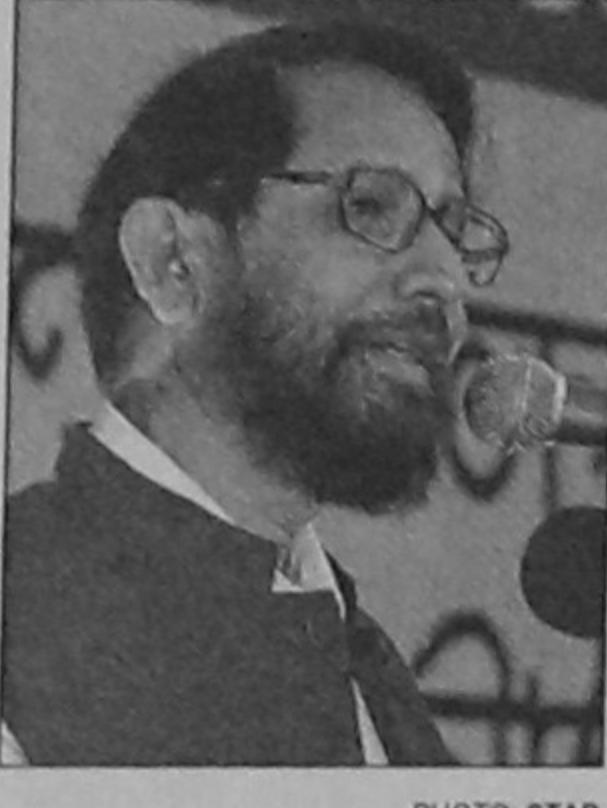


PHOTO: STAR  
Desh TV Managing Director lawmaker Asaduzzaman Noor speaks at a press conference at a city hotel yesterday.

## Desh TV goes on air Mar 26

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With a promise to ensure objectivity and professionalism in presentation, Desh TV, a new private satellite channel, will go on air from March 26, the Independence Day.

The channel with the combination of high-end technology and people's feelings and emotions will start its much-awaited journey through live telecast of national anthem from Shikha Chirontan at historic Suhrawardy Udyan in the city.

Later, it will also televise a five-day programme to mark its auspicious journey, said the organisers, adding that the channel will focus on enriching the country's culture, values and communal harmony which, they believe, will strengthen democracy.

Desh TV Managing Director lawmaker Asaduzzaman Noor at a press conference at a city hotel yesterday said, "We hope we will be able to give something new to our audience, but will not compromise with the quality of news and programmes."

"Mere commercial broadcasting is not our aim, we are committed to presenting healthy entertainment, thought and society as role of TV media is inevitable in building a healthy and progressive-minded society," he added.

Seeking cooperation from the audience and cable operators, Noor said they want to bring new dimension in presenting news, adding that the TV will speak for the country as well as for its people.

Asked whether there will be any political influence in the programmes and news of the channel, the lawmaker said overall programmes and news of the channel will reflect their large-scale professionalism.

"But we will pay our highest honour to the spirit of liberation war through our plan and programmes," he said.

## Barrister Razzaq files contempt petition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat leader Barrister Abdur Razzaq yesterday filed a contempt petition with the High Court (HC) against the authorities concerned of the government for preventing him from going to Malaysia and Singapore in spite of having an HC order allowing him to visit the two countries.

Home Secretary Abdus Sobhan Sikder, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Nur Mohammad and Eliza Sharmin, officer-in-charge (Immigration) of the special branch (SB), have been made respondents in the petition.

In his petition, Jamaat-e-Islami Assistant Secretary General Razzaq stated that he was scheduled to fly to Singapore via Malaysia in the early hours of March 17 with his wife. At the time, Eliza Sharmin told him that she had instructions from superior authorities not to allow him (petitioner) to leave.

The petition prayed to the HC to issue a contempt rule against the respondents and to direct them to appear in person before the court in connection of the contempt petition.

After holding hearing on the petition, the HC bench of Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain and Justice Quamrul Islam Siddiqui fixed March 23 for passing order.

would follow legal procedures," he added.

He was addressing a meeting on the progress of preparing the master plan for the Sylhet city at the deputy commissioner's conference room yesterday.

"We need social resistance against the militants, who really have no courage to run their activities by now," said Muhith, adding that the law enforcers will have to remain vigilant to this end.

Sylhet City Corporation (SCC) Mayor Badar Uddin Ahmed Kamran chaired the meeting while Divisional Commissioner Dr Zafar Ahmed Khan, Deputy

Commissioner Sazzadul Hassan, Prof Abdul Awal Biswas of Shahjalal University, District Awami League President ANM Shafique and General Secretary Iftekhar Hossain Shamim spoke.

Muhith said participation of common people is a must for preparing the master plan for any city. He said the city corporation should take a 5-year programme of its own for meeting the immediate demands of the city dwellers especially ensuring water supply and addressing water logging and solid and clinical waste management issue.

Urban Development Directorate officials said works for the 20-year structure plan of the Sylhet divisional town and surroundings are almost finished and the interim report will be ready by May.

Speakers at the programme said although the Sylhet region is an earthquake-prone zone, there had been no effective initiative to create awareness among the city dwellers about the risks and vulnerability of the probable disaster.

Later, the minister laid the foundation of the Pir Habibur Rahman Library Complex at Topkhana.

## Students, traders clash: 10 hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 10 people were injured in a series of clashes between students of Dhaka Bigyan College and owners of shops on a plot adjacent to the college at Malibagh in the city yesterday.

The clash ensued as the college authorities tried to evict the shop owners from the plot belonging to the college.

Among the injured, four students received treatment at local clinics while two students and one trader were taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

The police said trader Mizanur Rahman came in the morning to open his fish shop but found that a brick wall was built overnight closing the entrance to the plot.

Mizan then asked the college authorities about his fish, but they did not give any satisfactory answer.

Rather, they tried to drive him away, resulting in clashes between local traders and students.

At around 10:00am, the traders and their men attacked the college and hurled brickbats at the college building, damaging several windowpanes.

Students of the college were again locked into clash with the traders around 12:00 noon, locals said.

At one stage, some students took fish trader Mizanur to the college compound and beat him up.

Later, the police brought the situation under control around 1:00pm.

## 16 cops transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In the latest reshuffle in the police department, 16 officers were transferred yesterday.

The transfer order of Assistant Police Commissioner Syed Mezbah Uddin to Bandarban as assistant superintendent of police (ASP) has been altered, says a press release of the Police Headquarters.

The press release says that Senior Assistant Police Commissioner Mohammad Niamat Ali has been transferred to Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP), Senior Assistant Police Super Mizanur Rahman to Bagerhat Sadar Circle, ASP SM Shafullah to Circle-A in Jessor, ASP Mohammad Maksudur Rahman to Khagrachhari Sadar Circle, ASP Sayeed Akther Newaj to DMP, ASP Ruhul Amin Siddique to Sitakunda Circle in Chittagong, ASP Naima Sultan to Munshiganj Sadar Circle, ASP Mohammad Mohidul Islam to Loma Circle in Bandarban, ASP Biplob Bijoy Talukdar to Habiganj Sadar Circle, ASP Mohammad Iltut Mish to Rapid Action Battalion, ASP Syed Mezbah Uddin to Patia Circle in Chittagong, ASP Mohammad Tareq Ahmed to Sadar North Circle in Sylhet, ASP Mohammad Farid Uddin to Magura Sadar Circle, Senior Assistant Police Super Abu Ahmed Al Mamun to Ramgarh Circle in Khagrachhari, ASP Nesar Ahmed to CMP as assistant police commissioner and

A S P Mohammad Kamruzzaman to 7th APBN at Muktagachha in Mymensingh.

## CTG ARMS HAUL Investigators start grilling 2 ex-CUFL officials

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Investigators took two former top officials of Chittagong Urea Fertiliser Limited (CUFL) on a three-day remand for interrogation yesterday in connection with the sensational 10 truckloads of arms haul case.

On Tuesday, a Chittagong court granted the remand of the former officials -- former managing director Mohsin Talukder and former general manager (Administration) Enamul Haq -- following a prayer by the Investigation Officer (IO) of the case.

The investigators brought them to Chittagong divisional headquarters of the Criminal Investigation Department at Dampara Police Lines around 11:30am for interrogation.

They interrogated the two former officials alternately throughout the day before sending them to safe custody in the evening.

IO Muniruzzaman Chowdhury, a senior ASP of CID, Chittagong division, said the interrogation would continue today and tomorrow.

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