

ROHINGYA REFUGEE

# Dhaka ready to assist Yangon in early repatriation: FM

UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni expressed Bangladesh's readiness to extend assistance to Myanmar for early repatriation of the remaining Rohingya refugees to their homeland.

"With limited resources, Bangladesh had done more than enough for the refugees from Myanmar for the last three decades and Myanmar must take back its own people," she said at a meeting on the sidelines of the 3rd Bali Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crimes.

She also stressed multilateral approach by the countries of the region to solve the Rohingya problem.

Other ministers present at the meeting also agreed with her and called upon the Myanmar delegation to improve the state of affairs and develop basic facilities and resources in Rakhaine province of Myanmar.

Dipu Moni refuted the claim of Deputy Minister for Home Affairs and Chief of Police of Myanmar that Rohingyas were not an ethnic entity of Myanmar.

She said Rohingyas were in Myanmar for centuries and many Rohingyas even held high posts in the government of Myanmar. "Previous repatriation of quite a few hundred thousand Rohingyas and acceptance of list of further 28,000 Rohingyas proved that they were very much part of the population of Myanmar," she added.

Dipu Moni attended the conference held in Bali from April 14 to 15. It was co-chaired by

Australian Foreign Minister Stephen Smith MP and Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr N Hassan Wirajuda.

In the conference, she mentioned that the Bali Process had earned respect for its specific emphasis on the suffering of the victims of smuggling and trafficking in persons -- a disproportionate number of which were women and children.

Dipu Moni stressed the need for sharing information and intelligence and improving cooperation among the law enforcement agencies of the countries concerned.

Describing all the legal measures in Bangladesh against human trafficking, she informed the meet that punishment for this crime might be as strict as capital punishment or life imprisonment.

The foreign minister said the TIP report, published by the US State Department in 2008, ranked Bangladesh as a Tier 2 country raising it above many others in the region (India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and China for example) which are still at Tier-2 (Watch list).

During a meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr N Hassan Wirajuda, Dipu Moni said if some tariff and non-tariff barriers could be removed, the bilateral trade between Bangladesh and Indonesia would increase further.

During another bilateral meeting, Australian Foreign Minister Stephen Smith offered assistance in the capacity building through 'Technical and Further Education' (TAFE) programme and stressed Australian support for investment, technical education and people-to-people contact.

## 40 JMB men produced in Mymensingh court

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

Police produced 40 Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) men, including two capital punishment awardees - Salahuddin Salehin and Asaduzzaman Ponir and Fahima Akhtar, wife of executed JMB second-in-command Bangla Bhai, before the court yesterday.

They are accused in 15 cases, including bomb blasts in four cinema halls in Mymensingh town and Jibontala Madrasa case in Bhaluka, court sources said.

Among the cases, hearing and deposition of witnesses were held in three cases.

Four people, including two police officers made deposition before the court, said Assistant Public Prosecutor Md Abul Kashem Musa.

Later, Dalil Uddin, the judge of the court, ordered sending the accused to the jail.

The accused will be produced before the same court on June 16.

## BSF abducts Bangladeshi farmer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sakthira

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) abducted a Bangladeshi farmer yesterday from zero point at Kushkhali border in Sadar upazila.

The victim was identified as Laltu Hossain, 23, son of Shukur Ali Gazi of village Satani Kushkhali in Sadar upazila.

The BSF of Amudia Camp under North 24 Parganas district in India abducted Laltu from Kushkhali border area in Sadar upazila while he was cutting grass near zero point.

Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) of Kushkhali sent a letter to BSF protesting the incident and asked them to return Laltu.

Deputy Assistant Director (DAD) of 41 Rifles Battalion confirmed the incident.

## Ban on Jamaat, Shibir politics demanded

RU CORRESPONDENT

Workers Party Rajshahi unit yesterday demanded ban on the politics of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student front Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) across the country.

The demand came from a demonstration at Binodpur Bazar in the city.

Earlier, hundreds of leaders and activists of Workers Party led by lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha, brought out a protest procession that paraded different streets in the city.

They also demanded immediate trial of the war criminals. The speakers demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment to the Shibir cadres who created chaotic situation on March 13 on the Rajshahi University campus when a clash between Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and ICS that left one Shibir leader killed and 100 others injured forced the university authorities to close the university indefinitely.

They said Jamaat and Shibir have been spreading extremism across the country using religion as a weapon.

The speakers also urged all progressive students' organisations to be united and launch a tougher movement against Jamaat and Shibir.

Motiur Rahman Workers' Party President Sakabbar Hossain and leaders Ferdous Jahangir, Debasish Pramanik Debu and Abu Sayed also addressed the meeting.



Members of the cabinet receive President Zillur Rahman at Zia International Airport in the city on Wednesday night on his return from Singapore following his medical check-up.

## Notice on Khaleda within a week to quit house

Says state minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam yesterday said a notice will be served on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia through the Cantonment Board within a week, asking her to leave her Cantonment house.

In the notice, which is now being prepared in line with the decision of the cabinet, Khaleda will be given enough time to leave the house, he said at a weekly press briefing at the conference room of the law ministry. After Khaleda Zia returns the Cantonment house, the government will take steps to construct apartment buildings on that land for the families of army officers killed inside the BDR headquarters, the state minister said.

The cabinet decided to cancel the lease of the Khaleda's Cantonment house at a meeting on April 8.

About the trial of war criminals, Qamrul Islam said the government would appoint an investigation agency and form a prosecution cell next week for holding the trial.

The government is now examining various aspects of the laws, so that the trial is held in a transparent manner, he said, adding that the list of war criminals will be published on time.

About the Cantonment house, the state minister said that if Khaleda does not leave the house after receiving the notice, the government will take legal action.

A land of one and a half bigahs at Gulshan was allocated for Khaleda as per the decision of the Cabinet division held on June 12, 1981, and in July of the same year, a military estate officer on behalf of the then president had allocated nine bigahs of land in the Cantonment area without any decision of the cabinet, he said.

He also said the office of the military estate cannot allocate any land in the Cantonment area for any private citizen as per the Cantonment Act 1924.

Replying to another question, he said the government has not taken any decision to evict BNP from its central office at Naya Palatan.

The government is not going slow in issuing the notice to Khaleda or in appointing investigation agency and prosecutor to start the process of trial of war criminals, he said, adding that the government is taking time to examine the laws concerned.

In reply to another question, Qamrul said the government is looking into the allegations of funding the militants against some NGOs and banks.

The government will take action against these organisations if the allegations are proved true, he said.

Additional Attorney General M Enayetur Rahim was present at the press briefing.

## KHALEDA'S HOUSE

# BNP ready to tackle any issue legally

Says Moudud

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed yesterday said they are ready to tackle any issue legally if the government wants to evict party Chairperson Khaleda Zia from her Cantonment house.

"We are prepared to tackle this issue legally. We will set our course of legal action after receiving the notice (to leave the house) from the government. We will even go to higher court if the government does anything illegal," Moudud said.

The BNP leader said this while talking to reporters after attending a roundtable on 'Democracy, economy and national security: Role of the government and the opposition' at National Press Club in the city.

Moudud also said the government was not giving due priority to economy, electricity crisis and other serious crises prevailing in the country.

The government has failed to deliver in its first three months in the office, he added.

The government is unwilling to receive cooperation

from the opposition, but we still want to cooperate with the government. For that, the government should take the opposition into confidence," Moudud told the roundtable.

He alleged that the immediate past caretaker government and their facilitators tried to depoliticise the country to make Bangladesh a failed state.

He also demanded that a white paper on the irregularities of the caretaker government be published and punishment be given to those responsible.

Other speakers at the roundtable said the government has failed to properly handle the BDR issue and campus violence issue.

Organised by Nagorik Forum, the roundtable was also addressed by Wing Commander (retd) M Hamidullah Khan, journalist Sadek Khan and Jatiya Gonotantrik Party President Shafiqul Alam Pradhan.

Forum President Abdullah Masud chaired the roundtable.

## Hamid's detention extended

UNB, Naogaon

The detention of Akhtar Siddiqui, former deputy speaker, has been extended by 90 days.

The extension of detention on orders from the president was faxed from the home ministry to Police Super Mofazzal Hossain yesterday.

Akhtar Hamid was arrested on March 21 from his Mahadevpur home upon a general diary lodged by Mahadevpur thana officer-in-charge saying he (Hamid) had threatened the police of dire consequences if BNP activists are arrested with a motive of harassment.

He was ordered detention for 30 days under the Special Powers Act that expires on April 20.

Meanwhile, his counsel said three more cases were filed against the former deputy speaker.

## Indigenous FFs' confce in Joypurhat today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A conference of indigenous freedom fighters will be held in Joypurhat today with the aim of realising their five-point demand that include constitutional recognition of the indigenous people.

A total of 70 indigenous freedom fighters from different parts of the country will take part in the conference.

Some 1300 Garo and Hajong from greater Mymensingh region participated in the liberation war.

Besides the indigenous people of North Bengal faced the enemy with bows and arrows.

This was stated by General Secretary of Bangladesh Indigenous People's Rights Movement Committee Prof Mesbah Kamal at a press conference in Joypurhat yesterday.

He said indigenous people from greater Mymensingh, North Bengal, Sylhet and Chittagong Hill Tracts will also take part in the conference.



Director of Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) Wali-ur Rahman speaks at a workshop on 'Trends of Terrorism: National and Regional Implications' at BILIA auditorium in the city yesterday.

## 12 injured in BCL factional clash in Khulna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Twelve people, including four policemen, were injured in a clash between two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at Khulna Polytechnic Institute (KPI) on Wednesday night.

Police arrested two people in this connection and seized some iron rods from their possession.

The arrestees were identified as Alimuzzaman Nice and Niamul Kabir.

The clash ensued when a faction of BCL activists started irritating some young girls who were visiting the Baishakhi Mela held near KPI at Khalishpur.

Activists of the factions chased and counter chased each other and pelted brickbats, clubs and iron rods during the clash on the campus while there was no electricity in that area.

The incident created panic among the visitors of Baishakhi Mela and police had to charge batons to bring the situation under control.

Principal of KPI Md Shahjahan alleged that some students, who have recently joined BCL, were the main culprits.

Security has been beefed up in the area following the incident.

## 5 killed in road accidents

METRO DESK

At least five people were killed and 13 others injured in separate road accidents in Rangpur, Bandarban and Jamalpur in last two days.

Our correspondent from Rangpur reports: Three people were killed and seven others critically injured in a road accident on Rangpur-Bogra highway at Adarsapara under Mithapukur police station on Wednesday.

Witnesses said the accident took place when a Dhaka-bound coach from Haripur under Thakurgaon fell into a roadside ditch as its driver lost his control over the steering.

The dead could not be identified immediately. The bodies were lying at the mortuary of Rangpur Medical College Hospital.

Our correspondent from Bandarban reports: BDR Habilder Abul Hossain, 47, was killed and four others were injured in a road accident at Gorjonia under Naikhongchari under Bandarban yesterday.

Police said the accident occurred when a

Naikhongchari-bound passenger jeep from Lemuchari turned upside down and fell onto the roadside at 10:00am, leaving BDR Habilder Abul Hossain dead on the spot.

Of the injured, condition of BDR Lance Nayek Nazrul Islam and UP member Musteka Khanom was stated to be critical. They were admitted to the local upazila health center.

Local people said Habilder Abul Hossain and Lance-Nayek Nazrul of Lemu Chari BDR camp were going to meet higher officials at Naikhongchar BDR zonal headquarters.

Abul Hossain hailed from Tangail, BDR authorities said.

UNB from Jamalpur reports: A housewife was killed and two others were injured in a road accident at Bodechandi village in Sadar upazila yesterday.

Police said the accident took place as a bus hit a tempo, leaving a tempo passenger, Mukti Saha, 30, dead on the spot and injuring two other passengers at about 11:30am.

On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the body and sent it to hospital morgue for autopsy.

Injured Saleha Begum and Farhana Akhter were rushed to General Hospital in critical condition.



Speakers at a roundtable on 'Role of railway in the development of economy, communication, and budget' at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. From left are Buet Vice Chancellor Prof AMM Shafiqullah, Prof Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad and Abu Naser Khan. (Story on page 16)

## EXPLORE Office Furniture Solutions



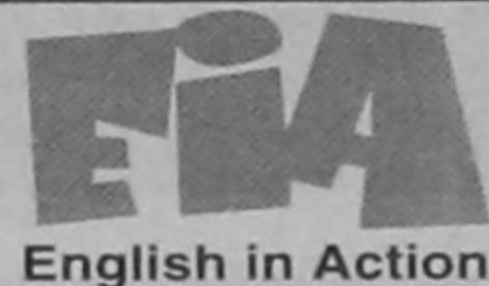
Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre  
16-21 April 2009  
Stall: O-7A & O-14A

**EURO**  
inspiration at work

Call: 01730044856-62

Delco Business Associate Ltd  
Priyo Prangan Tower, Plot # 19, Road # 17, Banani, Dhaka-1213

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY



**English in Action (EIA)**, a DFID supported education sector project in Bangladesh, aiming to promote communicative and effective English teaching and learning in the classrooms, is looking for qualified and proactive individuals for the following positions:

- 1) **Teacher Development Coordinators (TDCs)**
- 2) **One position for Program Logistic Officer**
- 3) **One position for Research Officer**

1) The **Teacher Development Coordinators** will be working closely with local, national and international project partners and will be responsible for developing, designing and coordinating EIA project activities aimed at creating an interactive English language teaching and learning environment in the classrooms of Bangladeshi schools in urban, rural and semi urban locations of Bangladesh. The main tasks will be to (i) organize and conduct training of educators including teacher trainers, (ii) contribute to the development of teaching and learning materials and (iii) support research, monitoring and evaluation within the EIA project. The TDCs will be expected to liaise with a wide range of stakeholders both at national and international levels including local authorities.

There is scope for recruitment of four levels of TDCs depending on the qualification, years of experience and expertise i.e.; junior TDC, TDC, senior TDC and principal TDC.

### Required Qualifications:

- Masters Degree in Education, English Language, Social Sciences and others.
- Minimum 5 years of working experience in education sector including program management and field exposure in Bangladesh.
- Knowledge about the local and national context of education sector in Bangladesh.
- Excellent English Language skills, both spoken and written.
- Ready to undertake extensive field visits.
- Knowledge of basic computer skills.
- Understanding about ICT.
- Good interpersonal skills, highly motivated, multi-tasker, good team player, self driven, ability to work under pressure.
- Excellent planning, coordinating and reporting skills.

### In addition any one of the following Qualifications:

- Good training and teaching skills.
- Good understanding of material development.
- Good analytical skills for research, monitoring and evaluation.

As part of the package we will offer the TDCs the professional opportunity to become part of an internationally accredited training programme.

2) The **Program Logistic Officer** will work closely with all of the EIA program team.

### Required Qualification:

- Educational qualification should be minimum Masters Degree in Social Science, Management and others from a reputed University.
- Professional experience of minimum of three years in organizing and coordinating program activities and events in the field.
- Administrative expertise in accounting, record keeping, store keeping, purchase and supply of goods and services, support fund disbursement.
- Good team worker and possessing dynamic personality.
- Able to communicate fluently in English and Bangla with relevant partners.
- Able to coordinate with other organizations and institutions as and when required.
- Able to undertake frequent field visits to project areas during implementation.

3) The **Research Officer** will work closely with the EIA Research Monitoring & Evaluation team.

### Required Qualification:

- Educational qualification should be minimum Masters Degree in Development Studies, Economics, Statistics, Sociology, Educational Research, etc. from a reputed University.
- Professional experience of minimum of three years in research methodology, research software packages, data analysis, developing and understanding research questions and instruments.
- Good analytical knowledge of development perspectives especially in the Bangladesh context.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- Good communication and articulation skills in English & Bangla.
- Able to coordinate effectively the wider EIA Research, Monitoring & Evaluation team.
- Able to undertake frequent field visits.

If you are willing to join this dynamic team please send your updated resume to:

**English in Action P.O. Box-6141, Gulshan, Dhaka by April 30th 2009.**