NEWS







POLICE ACTION AGAINST HAWKERS



Police fire teargas shells on agitating hawkers for protesting eviction of their makeshift shops from footpaths in the city's Gulistan yesterday. Cops charged batons on the hawkers as they engaged in clashes with the law enforcers.

PHOTO: STAR





Arrest of Ghulam Azam depends on tribunal: Minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The arrest warrant against for- time," Qamrul said. mer Jamaat ameer Ghulam Azam will be issued in time if the international crimes tribunal decides in this regard.

State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam said this at a discussion on "Arrest and Trial of War Criminals Including Ghulam Azam: Contemporary Perspective" at Jatiya Press Club

in the city yesterday. He said the government can do nothing about arresting Ghulam Azam, as it depends on

the tribunal's direction. Bangladesh Enterprise for Development and Security Studies organised the discussion with Azizur Rahman, president of

Prajanma 71, in the chair. Qamrul alleged that BNP is trying to foil the trial for war criminals, as the party is an open political platform for the killers and defeated force of the Liberation

WarofBangladeshin 1971. "The investigation and trial of

be held within shortest possible

The state minister said, "The defeated force and killers (sic) of 1971 have killed Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on August 15, 1975, which was done by Ziaur Rahman, Faruk, Rashid, and Khandakeron behalf of them."

"Ziaur Rahman was a 'Pakistani Agent.' It can be proven if his activities following the assassination of Bangabandhu in 1975 are observed. Thousands of Army officers, who were freedom fighters, were killed during his tenure." Qamrul alleged.

Justice Golam Rabbani, the special guest, said the government has finished the works of its part by forming the tribunal, appointing prosecutors and investigators, and making the start of the trial.

Elaborating on the International Crimes Tribunal Act, 1973, he said Ghulam Azam can be arrested right now on war crimes charges.

Project right history of Bangladesh

Urges Dipu Moni

BSS, Dhaka

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, now in Berlin on an official visit, called on German Chancellor's Political Adviser Dr Christopher Hoijagan yesterday.

She also conveyed greetings of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Chancellor Anjola Mark. The foreign minister hoped

that her visit to Germany would further strengthen bilateral ties between the two countries. Trade and economic cooper-

ation between the two countries would also be expanded, she said.

Dipu Moni also gave an interview to reputed German language newspaper 'Tugs Suitung'. She urged the journalists to project the right history of Bangladesh to the world.

Earlier, Dipu Moni had discussions with German-based Bangladesh Forum representative Dick Sam at the Bangladesh mission on the activities of the forum, saidaforeignministryrelease.

Integrated guidelines on Indian outfits nutritional activities soon

UNB, Dhaka

Integrated guidelines for nutrition intervention will be finalised within 2-3 months to bring all ongoing nutritional activities of Bangladesh on a single track.

The Institute of Public Health Nutrition (IPHN) under the health and family welfare ministry has undertaken the initiative to prepare the guidelines considering the nutritional requirements of the people.

Talking to the news agency yesterday, IPHN Director Fatima Parveen Chowdhury said many components including infant foods, anemia and severe malnutrition management are to be incorporated in the integrated guidelines.

"I hope, those who will work with nutrition, infant foods and in the related sectors will follow the same guidelines," she said.

Fatima Parveen mentioned that strategies, plan of actions and communication plans of some components have already been finalised for the guidelines and the doctors given instructions gradually on treatment modules.

"It'll take 2-3 months to fully finalise the integrated guidelines," she said, adding that many specialist pediatricians have been working for the guidelines.

The IPHN director mentioned that apart from the government, many non-government organisations (NGOs) and international agencies are now working with nutrition activities, which

should be brought on a single track.

She said the guidelines would also include various contents including the government's effort to reduce anemia and address the obesity problem among the people as well as on infant

When her attention was drawn to treatment of

malnutrition by 'micro-nutrient powder' and RUFT (Ready to Use Therapeutic Food) brought into the country by many international organisations, she admitted the presence of the two items in the market.

Describing rickets as an emerging health problem in the country, Fatima Parveen said rickets is prevalent across the country but its prevalence is high in Gazipur district.

She said children are afflicted with rickets for lack of sufficient intakes of calcium and Vitamin D in the body. Pregnant mothers should be given enough calcium-rich foods and sunshine to protect the babies from rickets, she suggested. The IPHN director underscored providing

nutrition-education to the people with a view to protecting them from malnutrition and other diseases like diabetes and hypertension caused by over-nutrition.

"Just a nutrition education can solve half of the malnutrition problem," she said, adding that half of the country's children and women become victims of malnutrition for lack of adequate knowledge about nutrition.

shifting bases to Myanmar

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New

With Bangladesh authorities cracking down on north eastern Indian insurgents, the ultras are now shifting their bases to Myanmar, a top police official said yesterday.

Though insurgency was on the wane, overall, due to crackdown on ultras in Bangladesh by their security forces, the different insurgent outfits were now shifting their bases to Myanmar, Director General of Tripura State Police Pranay Sahaya told reporters in Agartala.

He said the issue came up at the conference of the DGPs in New Delhi from August 25 to 28, addressed by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Union Home Minister P Chidambaram and Home Secretary GKPillai among others.

"All the underground groups, including ULFA, are under extreme pressure in Bangladesh and are shifting their bases to Myanmar taking advantage of the long porous and unfenced border which was not properly policed to guard," Sahaya said.

Outfits like ULFA, KNLF and UNLF have already shifted their bases to Myanmar, which has a 1650-km long border with India, hesaid. Replying to a question,

Sahaya said India has already taken up the issue of using the soil by the NE insurgents with Myanmar government.

He said the Bangladesh authorities recently destroyed three camps of banned National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) in Khagrachari district of Chittagong Hill Tracts and constructed their helipads there.



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