

WAR CRIMES ACT

UK lawyer's statement baseless, misleading

Says law minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The statement, made by British legal expert Steven Kay QC, that the war crimes act opted by Bangladesh falls short of international standard is misleading, mala fide and baseless.

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed said this to reporters after a meeting with M Vakur Erkul, Turkish ambassador to Bangladesh, at his secretariat office yesterday.

On Wednesday, Steven Kay reportedly told a seminar that the International Crimes Tribunal Act is not up to international standard, as it includes no provision of appeal and self-defence by the accused.

Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) organised the seminar in a city hotel.

The law minister said there is no question for confusion about the standard of

the Act.

Any accused of war crimes can appoint lawyers and cross-examine the accusers and witnesses for self-defence, he said. And any convict can appeal in the highest court against the verdict of conviction.

The minister said foreign observers can monitor the trial of war crimes, which will keep up international standard.

He said the constitution, with restored articles following the Supreme Court verdict on the fifth amendment, will be sent to BG Press within a week for its reprinting. The law ministry officials have already started the process for reprinting.

The Election Commission can cancel the registration of those political parties whose activities, ideology and intension are against the spirit of the constitution of the country, added the law minister.



Chittagong port resumes functioning yesterday after a two-day closure following an unrest by agitating dockworkers. (Story on B 1)

Qulkhwani

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Qulkhwani of Maj Gen (ret) Mainul Hossain Chowdhury, former adviser to a caretaker government and a veteran freedom fighter, will be held at his Gulshan residence in the city after Asr prayers today.

Friends, relatives and well-wishers are requested to join the occasion and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Mainul was suffering from lung cancer and passed away on October 10 at the age of 68.

He left behind his wife, daughter and son to mourn his death.

Mainul was buried at the Military Graveyard in Banani after namaz-e-janaza at Army Central Mosque in Dhaka Cantonment and at Gulshan Azad Mosque.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 40th death anniversary of Jitendra Lal Dutta, a close associate of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and lawyer of Barisal, says a press release.

He was shot dead by local raskars on this day in 1971.

Special prayers will be offered at the residence of his son Timir Dutta at Beshabo in the city. Prayers also will be offered at Dutta Bhaban at Agarpur road in Barisal to mark the day.

Hafizuddin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 6th death anniversary of Hafizuddin, father of Harunur Rashid, general manager (circulation) of the Dainik Kalerkhantho, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil and Qurankhwani will be held at his village home at Baghiya of Kapasia upazila in Gazipur.

Relatives, friends and well-wishers are requested to join the programme and pray for salvation of the departed soul.



Devotees pray in front of the idol of Goddess Durga at a Mirpur temple in the city yesterday during Mahashaptami, the second day of the Hindu community's largest religious festival Durga Puja.

Mahashaptami celebrated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mahashaptami Puja, the second day of the Hindu community's largest religious festival Durga Puja, was celebrated yesterday amid much festivity, singing hymns and anjalies (offering flower).

Devotees, especially children, teenagers and women dressed in new clothes, went round different mandaps to adore Devi Durga and her children Lakshmi, Saraswati, Kartik and Ganesh.

They fasted and offered anjalies to the Goddess, seeking her blessings and praying to safeguard mankind from evils.

According to Hindu myth, it was the day when the Goddess took shape in her idols set at temples.

On this day, Kola Bow or Nabapatrika is given a pre-dawn bath. This is an ancient ritual of worshipping nine types of plants, seeking

blessings in the production of crops to eradicate hunger from the world.

Then follows the ritual of 'Kalparambho' and Mahasnan. The devotees believe that by taking sacred food of Mahasnan, all sins will be removed.

Shankharibazar, Tantibazar, Jagannath Hall of Dhaka University, Ramna Kali Mandir, Dhakeswari Mandir, Thataribazar, Ramkrishna Mission, Siddeswari Kali Mandir, Dayaganj, Rayerbazar, Rajarbagh and Rishipara were a few of the popular mandaps that took a festive look with colourful designs and lights.

A number of temporary shops of food, handmade ornaments and worship elements were set up adjacent to different puja mandaps.

Home Minister Shahara Khatun, Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Rajeev Mitter, lawmaker Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin yesterday visited the Dhakeswari National Temple.

2 Daily Star journos win Acid Survivors media award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Daily Star's Chief Photographer SK Enamul Haque, Staff Reporter Mahbuba Zannat and three other journalists of different media have won the Acid Survivors Foundation media award.

State Minister for women and children affairs Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury handed over the award to the winners yesterday.

SK Enamul Haque won the award in the category of best photography during 2008 and 2009 while Mahbuba Zannat for best feature on acid violence.

Airin Niaji Manna of Samakal won the award in the category of best report, Manjurul Karim won the award in the category of best television report and Aminul Islam of Dainik Jamuna Prabaha won the award for best report in a local daily.

The award winners were handed over a crest, a certificate and a check for Tk 30,000.

The members of the jury board for the awards are eminent cultural personality Ramendu Majumder, photographer Shafiqul Alam Kiron and media personality Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul.

Indian rice, wheat to reach soon

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

India has taken special measures to expedite shipment of rice and wheat to Bangladesh, which has been delayed due to bureaucratic tangle in the neighbouring country.

Official sources said upon a request from Bangladesh government, India agreed to export 300,000 tonnes of rice and 200,000 tonnes of wheat to Bangladesh at a friendship price.

This was agreed upon despite India's formal ban on export of these essential commodities to ensure availability in its domestic market.

Foreign ministry sources said India gave the commitment to supply the grains ahead of Ramadan in August but the shipment is yet to arrive due to procedural complexities, like tender bids, in India.

India banned wheat exports in October 2007 and of non-basmati rice from April 2008.

The ban, however, was relaxed when the Indian Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee gave the commitment to exporting the grains during his visit to Dhaka in August.

Officials at the foreign and finance minis-

tries said Bangladesh's Finance Minister AMA Muhith told Mukherjee, during the World bank and IMF meeting in Washington DC, that the shipments had not come.

Foreign ministry sources said Mukherjee, on return from the United States, held an emergency meeting with top officials of the ministries of commerce, food and external affairs on Tuesday to ensure immediate shipment of rice and wheat to Bangladesh.

The Indian finance minister, during his meeting with union food secretary, commerce secretary and foreign secretary, instructed for immediate measures for the shipment. He told them that he wants his commitment to be honoured immediately.

In 2008, India restarted export of rice to Bangladesh following a promise made by Mukherjee during his visit to the cyclone-hit areas of the country.

According to the Indian media, the Indian government had a stock of 50.34 million tonnes at the end of August. Of this, the share of Food Corporation of India was 26.24 million tonnes, while the share of state agencies was 24 million tonnes.

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SME FOUNDATION Date: 13/10/2010

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Small and Medium Enterprise Foundation (in short SME Foundation or SMEF) is a center of excellence for SME development of the country. SME Foundation is formed by the Government of Bangladesh through the Ministry of Industries as a not-for-profit organization under the Companies Act-1994 (Section-XXVIII). The government has entrusted the Foundation to implement its SME Policy Strategy and Guidelines adopted time to time. Since its formation, the Foundation has been implementing a series of interventions regarding the policy advocacy, capacity building, access to finance, access to ICT, technology development, technology up-gradation & transformation, business support services etc. for the development of SMEs and SME sub-sectors. SME Foundation invites applications from the qualified Bangladeshis nationals for the following positions:

Position	Required Qualifications and Experience
Program Manager (Technology Development) Annual Gross Compensation: Tk. 9,53,400.00 only; (this is based on basic salary Tk 39,000, plus 60 % house rent and all other financial benefit packages for this position)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters or equivalent degree with at least 2nd Division/ Class/ 3.00 GPA in all levels of examinations. Preference will be given to the candidates having B. Sc. in Engineering or higher degrees in Mechanical/ Industrial/ Production/ Chemical Engineering from recognize universities. At least 05 years of working experience in SME development, sector development, industry development, technology development, technology transfer and technology diffusion. Experience in implementation, documentation and maintenance on ISO and/or other Certification systems will be treated as an additional qualification.
Program Manager (Credit Wholesaling) Annual Gross Compensation: Tk. 9,53,400.00 only; (this is based on basic salary Tk 39,000, plus 60 % house rent and all other financial benefit packages for this position)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters or equivalent degree with at least 2nd Division/Class/ 3.00 GPA in all levels of examinations. Preference will be given to the candidates having degrees in Business Administration, Finance & Banking, Economics, Statistics, Accounting, Law or similar degrees from recognized universities. At least 05 years of working experience in industry & SME development, credit management, banking, loan disbursement, and monitoring & evaluation of credit activities. Ability to assess a business enterprise and experience in banking and financial regulations will be treated as additional qualification.
Program Manager (Research/ Policy Advocacy) Annual Gross Compensation: Tk. 9,53,400.00 only; (this is based on basic salary Tk 39,000, plus 60 % house rent and all other financial benefit packages for this position)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters or equivalent degree with at least 2nd Division/ Class/ 3.00 GPA in all levels of examinations. Preference will be given to the candidates having degrees in Economics, Business Administration, Finance, Statistics or similar degrees from recognized universities. At least 05 years of working experience in industry & SME development, conducting applied research, data analysis and professional report writing are necessary. Knowledge on generating ideas for research, and preparing ToRs for conducting research and policy advocacy will be treated as additional qualifications.
Program Manager (Administration) Annual Gross Compensation: Tk. 9,53,400.00 only; (this is based on basic salary Tk 39,000, plus 60 % house rent and all other financial benefit packages for this position)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters or equivalent degree with at least 2nd Division/ Class/ 3.00 GPA in all level of examinations. Preference will be given to the candidates having degree in Business Administration, Economics, Social Science and Management. At least 05 years working experience in industry & SME development, general administration, human resources management and personnel policy.
Program Officer (Women Entrepreneurship Development) Annual Gross Compensation: Tk. 6, 97,400.00 only; (this is based on Basic salary Tk 28,000, plus 60 % house rent and all other financial benefit packages for this position)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters degree with at least 2nd Division/ Class/ 3.00 GPA in all level of examinations/ B.Sc. Engineering or graduation with at least 02 years experience in government or non-government organization. Preference will be given to the candidates having practical experience in the field of SME development, enterprise & entrepreneurship development, gender related programs, capacity building programs and human resources development programs.

For all of the above mentioned positions, SMEF expects the candidates having good command in English & Bangla, excellent interpersonal skills and adequate literacy on computer. In addition, the candidates must have willingness and ability to visit all over the country frequently. Maximum age limit for the position of Program Manager and Program Officer are 35 years and 32 years respectively as on 1st July 2010.

Interested and qualified candidates are requested to submit an application in a cover letter along with a complete CV addressed to the Managing Director, Small and Medium Enterprise Foundation, Royal Tower (2nd -6th Floor), 4 Panthapath, Dhaka-1215 on or before 31 October 2010 by 5.00PM. Please enclose two copies of recent photographs, attested copies of all educational and experience certificates with the application. Please indicate the name of the position on the top of envelop. Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interview. SME Foundation reserves the right to alter/ cancellation of any section and/or full circulation. SME Foundation is an equal opportunity employer, women are especially encouraged to apply.

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Managing Director SME Foundation