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A guarded regret from India followed the brutal killing of Bangladeshi girl Felani on January 7 by its border force. A "promise" of no more deaths on the border came from Delhi in March. A meeting of the two border forces also agreed on use of non-lethal weapons. But the Indian force remains trigger-happy and border killings go on.

During a visit to Nageshwari in Kurigram, Special Correspondent **Morshed Ali Khan** looks at life on the border after the killing of Felani.

# One death, many questions

Six days after 13-year-old Felani was killed with a single shot on the Bangladesh-India border on January 7, her mother Jahanara, living and working in Bongaigaon in Assam, received the news over phone from her husband Nurul Islam.

Felani was killed by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) as the father and daughter tried to sneak into Bangladesh over the barbed-wire fence in the early hours of January 7.

Mother of six children, Jahanara was horrified to hear the news. Only a week ago Felani, her eldest child, had left

Bongaigaon with her father for their native village of South Ramkhana in Kurigram across the border.

The heartbreaking news destroyed Jahanara's dream. Felani's marriage was scheduled for the following day of her arrival in the native village with Jahanara's sister's son, who works in a garment factory in India for over 25 years without any valid documents whatsoever. It was going to be Felani's first visit to her parental land.

"With our savings I made two gold bangles, a pair of gold earrings and a gold



In this recent photo of Felani's family, only the 13-year-old girl is missing. She was shot dead on the Bangladesh-India border on January 7.

PHOTO: MORSHED ALI KHAN

## 1 killed by BSF

OUR CORRESPONDENT, **Satkhira**

A Bangladeshi cattle trader was shot dead by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) while another two were injured along Baikari border in the upazila, early yesterday.

The deceased Rahmat Ali, 35, was son of Yunus Ali Mollah of Bansdah village in the upazila.

Police said a group of traders had gone to buy cattle from an Indian haat on April 27.

As they were returning home, BSF personnel of Joynagar camp shot them around 4:00am, police said quoting the unhurt cattle traders.

Rahmat died on the spot while Abu Sayed, 26, and Bablu, 35, were injured, confirmed Lt Col Enayet, commanding officer of 41 battalion of Border Guards

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**in Short**



**US envoy for war crimes due today**

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

US Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues Stephen J Rapp arrives today for a three-day visit to hold a round of meetings

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# Biotech holds the key

Experts tell *The Daily Star* roundtable it can revolutionise farm, health sectors

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biotechnology holds an immense prospect for Bangladesh in the fields of agriculture and healthcare to meet the future challenges of food production and climate change.

However, lack of investment, research, and collaborative efforts among the entrepreneurs, scientists and policymakers stand in the way, said biotechnology experts at a roundtable yesterday.

The Daily Star organised the meeting on "Biotechnology in Bangladesh: Problems and

Prospects" at its office in the city.

They said biotechnology could shape the country's future by bringing a paradigm shift in healthcare, agriculture, energy, environment and other sectors.

Prof Anwar Hossain of biochemistry department at Dhaka University in his presentation said it can help enhance the production of crop, fish, poultry and livestock to meet the growing demands of our population and face the challenges of water salinity and floods induced by climate change.

The technology can also assist developing major crops requiring

less water and trans-genetic crop plants with engineered genes to deal with the problems of water scarcity and loss of agricultural land in near future, added the expert.

Golden Rice is an example of successful application of biotechnology (genetic modification) in rice containing enhanced vitamin A (beta-carotene).

It can also help develop vaccines for human, cattle, poultry and fish.

Anwar also pointed out various risks and hazards of biotechnology,

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PHOTO ON PAGE 3

# Share culprits to face criminal charges

Clause to be incorporated in *Anti-money Laundering Act*

REJAUUL KARIM BYRON

To prevent stockmarket manipulation and reaping of benefits through trickery, the government has finalised a draft amendment to the Anti-Money Laundering Act.

The draft was finalised at a high-level meeting chaired by Finance Minister AMA Muhith in his ministry yesterday. The meeting also finalised a draft amendment to the anti-terrorism law to prevent terror financing.

Both the drafts would be placed as bills

in the next parliamentary session, Muhith said.

After the Anti-money Laundering Act amendment is passed, it will criminalise taking advantage of price-sensitive information about the stockmarket before their public disclosure, and attempts to control the market individually or institutionally.

The Anti-money Laundering Act mentions 17 criminal offences and the draft amendment increases this number to 27 to extend the scope of detecting offences.

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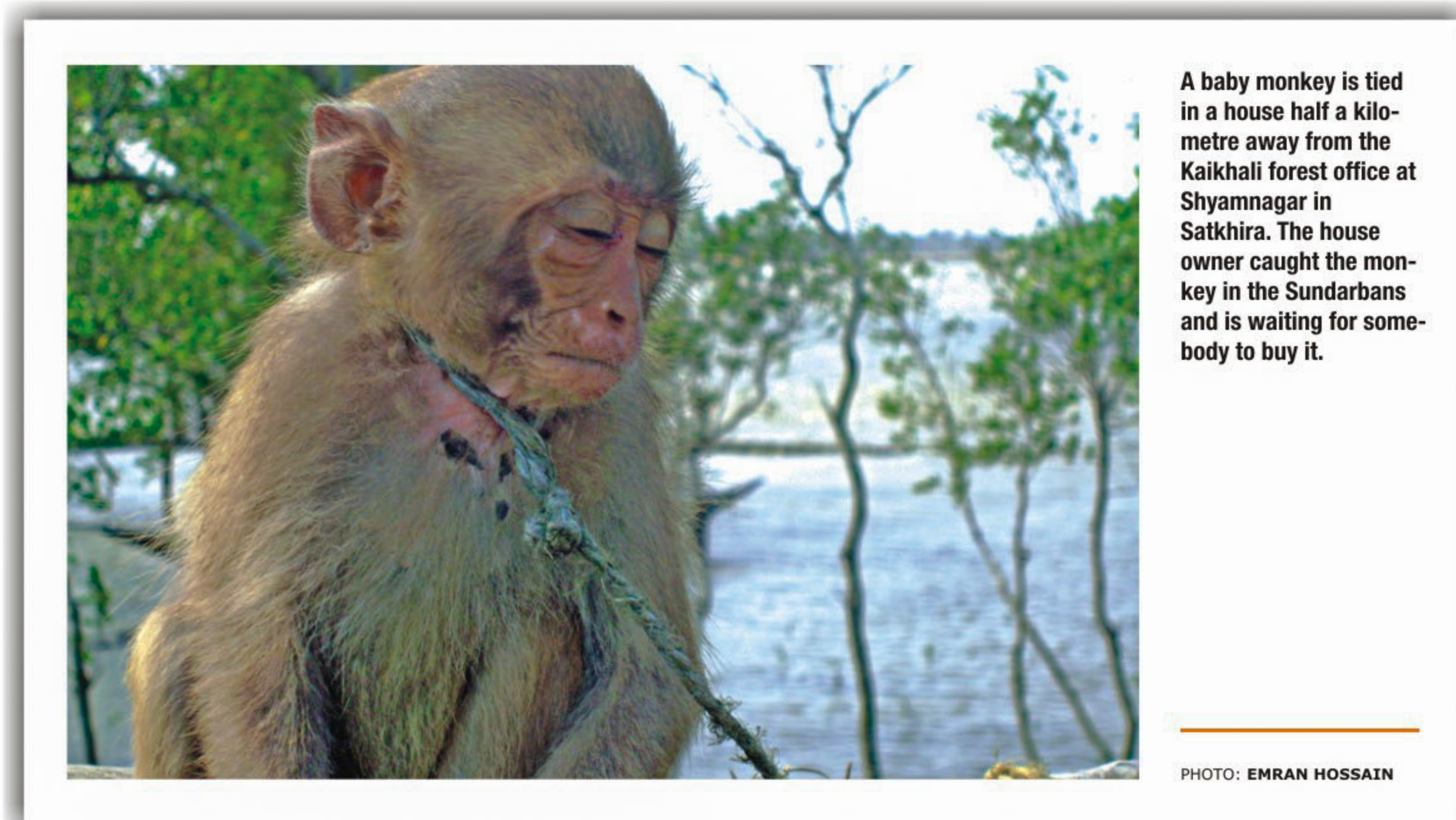
**YUNUS PETITIONS Hearing tomorrow**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court tomorrow will hear two petitions challenging Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus' removal from the post of managing director of Grameen Bank.

Prof Yunus filed one

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A baby monkey is tied in a house half a kilometre away from the Kaikhali forest office at Shyamnagar in Satkhira. The house owner caught the monkey in the Sundarbans and is waiting for somebody to buy it.

PHOTO: EMRAN HOSSAIN

# Leave basic structure alone

Chief justice on constitution change

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice ABM Khairul Haque yesterday said the basic structure of the constitution, which was gained at a cost of 30 lakh lives during the Liberation War, should not be altered.

He, however, said the constitution can be amended leaving its main pillars intact, and that the move to bring necessary changes to the charter is a "good initiative".

He was addressing a function organised by Bangladesh Bar Council to give enrolment certificates to new lawyers at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital.

The chief justice said the constitution should be amended in line with the spirit of the martyrs and freedom fighters who won the nation a flag, a map and a

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**ONLINE POLL**

Do you think the Article 70 of the constitution that bars lawmakers from going against their parties' decisions in the House should also be amended?

Yes 88.1%  
No 10.9%  
No Comments 1.0%

TOTAL VOTES : 312

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you think BNP's rejection of the probe report on 2001 post election violence is justified?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**PRAYER TIMING** May 1

Asan	Jamaat
Fajr 4-15	4-50
Zohr 12-45	1-15
Asr 4-45	5-00
Maghrib 6-31	6-35
Esha 8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

# Rickshaw-puller dies in custody

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, **Chittagong**

A rickshaw-puller, who was earlier detained allegedly on misleading information, died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital under custody early yesterday.

The dead, Mohammad Mobarak Ali, 65, lived with his family at Purba Madarbari in the port city. He was arrested in connection with a case filed with Double Mooring Police Station under Drug Control Act 1990.

Chittagong Central Jail sources said Excise Department members on false information picked Mobarak on April 21 and beat him up mercilessly. His body bore several injury marks when he was taken to jail

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# Amini barred from joining Ctg meeting

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday barred Fazlul Haq Amini, chairman of an Islami Oikya Jote faction, from leaving the capital to attend a meeting in Chittagong.

The law enforcers stopped him near Lalbagh Shahi Mosque around 9:00am as he was starting for Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

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# Gaddafi calls for a ceasefire

*Libya rebel council, Nato reject call*

AFP, Tripoli

A defiant Muammar Gaddafi vowed yesterday not to quit power in Libya but called for talks to end the conflict, even as his forces pressed their offensive against the key rebel-held port city of Misrata.

In an early-morning speech on Libyan television, the Libyan leader said Nato

"must abandon all hope of the departure of Muammar Gaddafi."

"I have no official functions to give up: I will not leave my country and will fight to the death," he said, but also added a conciliatory note.

"We are ready to talk with France and the United States, but with no preconditions," he said.

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# Chopper with Indian CM goes missing

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, **New Delhi**

A helicopter carrying Chief Minister of India's northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh and four others went missing yesterday shortly after take-off, with confusion over their fate as search operation continues.

The copter, carrying Chief Minister Dorjee

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