

**GHULAM AZAM**  
War crimes investigation report soon

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Quamrul Islam yesterday said war crimes investigation report against former Jamaat-e-Islami ameer Ghulam Azam would be placed before the International Crimes Tribunal within one month.

There is no reason to think that the war crimes trial is being held excluding Ghulam Azam, he said while talking to journalists after a function at IFNC auditorium in the capital.

The function was organised by social service organisation Apex Bangladesh to give away wheelchairs to 20 physically challenged people.

The state minister said the trial of identified war criminals would be completed within the tenure of this government.

The government does not want to make any haste in this trial, he said, adding a hasty trial process has the possibility of committing mistakes.

The state minister said Islam is the religion of peace and urged all to remain alert against those who create anarchy in the name of Islam.

He lauded Apex Bangladesh for its initiative and called upon the well-off to come forward for this type of programme.

Apex Bangladesh President Chandan Das, among others, was present on the occasion.

# Milk scarcity worries experts

*They suggest steps to tackle problem*

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN KHAN

The problem of extreme shortage of milk in the country could have been solved domestically in a couple of years if the government had ensured adequate supplies of cattle feed and developed high yielding dairy breeds, say veterinary experts.

According to scientists at Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), at present the country can produce 2.36 million tonnes of milk against a demand of 13.15 million tonnes. This situation prevails because of a serious scarcity of feed and better quality grass.

At the same time, some promising breeds of hybrid cattle, introduced in Bangladesh in 1975, have lost their production capability owing to imbalances in cross-breeding.

Dr AK Fazlul Haque Bhuiyan, professor of Animal Breeding and Genetics at Bangladesh Agricultural University, is of the opinion that high yielding dairy breeds should be scientifically developed.

The expert also suggested two ways to enhance milk production. "For marginal farmers, our native breed can be developed without changing its parent quality. If a local cow is crossed with a healthy local bull, the results will be more productive", he said.

Prof Bhuiyan felt that crossbreeds of native and Holstein Friesian cattle can ensure optimum production and are most suitable in a local environment. They can produce 20 litres of milk per day and are ideal for the country's commercial farmers, he said.

He noted that milk production in the offspring of hybrid cattle has dropped significantly since artificial insemination between native and Holstein Friesian cattle is not done properly.

"A coordinated programme in cooperation with farmers, stakeholders, researchers, scientists and government is necessary to solve the problem in the sector", he said.

Prof Bhuiyan, however, claimed that even if the programme is taken up immediately and in a proper manner, it would take ten years to meet the existing demand for milk.

There are at present over 50,000 cattle farms across the country, which need 30 lakh tonnes of feeds annually. But only 10 lakh tonnes of feeds are currently being supplied. Moreover, the animal feeds available in the market are too costly for farmers to keep their cattle in good health.

Prof Dr Shamsuddin, consultant, Care Bangladesh, said the feeds for a crossbreed are not the same as those for native cattle. "The crossbreeds need more nourished fodder to produce more milk. But because of the high price of grains and scarcity of better-quality grass like Napier, farmers cannot give their cattle a balanced feed", he added.

He suggested that the government adopt a programme on a national level aimed at encouraging farmers to preserve the by-products of paddy, maize and wheat to meet the demand for fodder. Such a programme would enable farmers to grow improved varieties of grass alongside other crops, he said.



Customers crowd around a milkman at Mirpur Beribadh in the city, eager to get their share of milk. Traders like him buy milk in bulk from Birulia Bazar and retail at different city points.

PHOTO: STAR

**QUESTION PAPER TRADE**  
JU students block road to free teacher

JU CORRESPONDENT

Students of Jahangirnagar University demonstrated yesterday demanding immediate release of a teacher who was arrested Friday in connection with selling fake question papers for medical college admission test.

About 100 students of the government and politics department obstructed Dhaka-Aricha highway for about 30 minutes and boycotted final examination scheduled for yesterday. Some teachers of the department also joined the demonstration.

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) detained ASM Firoz-ul-Hasan, lecturer of the department and an assistant proctor of the university, and his friend Tariqul Islam, a former leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League, along with 19 others at Shyamoli and Khilgaon in the city early Friday for selling fake question papers to admission aspirants, saying those were "leaked question papers".

The demonstrating students claimed that the teacher just went to Shyamoli to visit his friend Tariqul Islam that day, and he was not involved in the incident.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Erfan Ullah yesterday rejected bail prayer of the 21 detained persons and sent them to jail after Sher-e-Bangla Nagar police produced them before the court.

Meanwhile, 78 pro-BNP teachers at JU signed a statement demanding ASM Firoz-ul-Hasan be relieved of all educational and administrative responsibilities of the university.

**Zohra Tajuddin sick**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Veteran Awami League (AL) leader Syeda Zohra Tajuddin has been undergoing treatment at the city's United Hospital for couple of weeks due to old-age complications.

AL presidium member Obaidul Quader yesterday visited Zohra Tajuddin, wife of the country's first prime minister Tajuddin Ahmad at the hospital, says a press release.

## Assist poor litigants

*Law minister urges judges, lawyers*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday urged judges and lawyers to become sincere in order to ensure legal rights of poor litigants.

The present government took initiatives to strengthen and speed up the legal aid programme to provide legal assistance to poor and insolvent litigants at the government's cost, he said.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a meeting on "Legal Aid Programme at Government Cost and Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill, 2011" organised by the ministry in the city's Ruposhi Bangla Hotel.

Shafique said judges and lawyers must be careful to ensure that poor people are not deprived of the government's legal assistance.

State Minister for Law Qamrul Islam, at the programme, said if the judges and lawyers work sincerely with a mindset to serve the poor, the government's legal assistance programme will be a success.

Sahidul Islam, secretary to the ministry legal and justice division; Mohammad Shahidul Haque, secretary to the ministry legislative and parliamentary affairs division; officials concerned, district and sessions judges from 22 districts and secretaries from different bars attended.

## Couple hurt, ornaments looted in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Local criminals looted gold ornaments after injuring a couple at their house at Narasinghapur of Ashulia on the outskirts of the city yesterday.

The injured Alamgir Hossain, 45, and Nasrin Akhter Kakoli, 26, were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Kakoli told the correspondent at DMCH that local criminal Nurul Huq along with his three accomplices entered their house around 9:30am and attacked them with iron rods and sticks.

"At one stage of the attack they snatched gold necklace and damaged furniture, electronic goods and other belongings," Kakoli said.

They also drove one of their tenants out and locked one of their shops, she added.

Alamgir said one Mohammad Ali with the help of Nurul was trying to grab his house and three shops in front of his house.

## Free Jamaat men

*Demand Pro-Jamaat lawyers*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Pro-Jamaat-e-Islami lawyers yesterday demanded immediate release of the party leaders and activists arrested in connection with cases filed on charges of arson, vandalism and chaos in the capital on September 19.

The demand came at a press conference organised by Islamic Lawyers Council (ILC) at the South Hall of Supreme Court Bar Association in the city at noon.

Several hundred activists of Jamaat fought pitched battles with police in the capital on September 19 after law enforcers obstructed their rally. The Jamaat men set fire to at least 28 vehicles, smashed around 200 others and vandalised dozens of roadside shops.

ILC Vice President Nazrul Islam at the press conference claimed that no Jamaat leader or activist was involved in those incidents but law enforcers arrested and tortured the party men since they are in the opposition. Law enforcers used fetters and handcuffs on Jamaat leaders after arrest, which are unconstitutional, undemocratic and inhuman, he said.

## Probe in 'attacks' on Adivasis urged

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Commission has urged the government to conduct impartial investigations into the allegations of frequent attacks on indigenous people and attempts to occupy their lands, says a statement.

The commission said it has received reports of alleged attempts of land grabbing of the Khyang community from the area of Gungru Mukh Para in Bandarban. "We have learnt that local Awami League leaders have threatened the Khyang community with eviction from their land and have also threatened to attack them".

"All these allegations indicate that the indigenous peoples of the CHT continue to suffer from marginalisation and abuse by state (the border guards) and non-state (Bangalee settlers) actors even after 14 years into signing of the (peace) accord".

In the statement signed by three co-chairs of the CHT Commission -- Eric Avebury, Sultana Kamal, and Elsa Stamatopoulou, it also placed a 5-point charter of demands for early implementation.

The demands include showing full respect to international human rights obligations, investigating allegations of human rights violations in the hilly region, reactivating the Land Commission with a new chairperson acceptable to all, declaring a roadmap to fully implement the 1997 CHT Peace Accord, and allowing the CHT Commission to work in the region without any hindrance.



Former adviser to a caretaker government Rokia Afzal Rahman speaks at a dialogue titled "Role of NBR in encouraging CSR activities" jointly organised by Management and Resources Development Initiative and Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry at a city hotel in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

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