



FILM FEST FROM TODAY

"Guerrilla" and "Moner Manush" compete for top prize in the 12th Dhaka Int'l Film Festival

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NEW RULES FOR INSURERS

The insurance regulator takes four steps to ensure transparency

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JUSTICE LONG-AWAITED

Former Turkish general has been charged with coup after 31 years

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Ghulam Azam in a prison van in front of Dhaka Central Jail yesterday just before he was taken to BSMMU prison cell.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Ghulam Azam lands in jail

Int'l Crimes Tribunal rejects his bail prayer; hearing on Feb 15

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Forty years after liberation, former Jamaat-e-Islami ameer Ghulam Azam was sent to jail yesterday on charges of commit-

ting crimes against humanity and peace, genocide and war crimes in 1971.

The International Crimes Tribunal, rejecting his petition for bail, yesterday ordered sending

Azam to Dhaka Central Jail.

The prosecution on January 5 brought 62 specific charges against the former Jamaat chief. On January 9, the tribunal accepted the charges and asked

his counsel Abdur Razzaq, also a top Jamaat leader, to produce the ex-ameer before the court by 10:30am yesterday. Otherwise, it warned, it would issue a warrant

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SHYAMOLI NASRIN

It will ensure proper trial

Ghulam Azam's arrest will ensure proper trial of war criminals, said Shyamoli Nasrin Chowdhury.

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PRIYABHASHINI

It's another Victory Day

"I think it is another victory day," said Ferdousi Priyabhashini yesterday.

Priyabhashini, a victim and survivor

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DR MA HASAN

Want to see end of trial

The country should not be overjoyed with the arrest of Ghulam Azam as it wants to see him face trial, and get due punishment, said Dr MA

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SHAHRIAR KABIR

Nation feels relieved

Shahriar Kabir, executive president of Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, expressed his satisfaction over the arrest

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PROF ANWAR

A long wait finally ends

The arrest of Ghulam Azam brought an end to the wait that had lingered for years, said Prof Anwar Hossain, president of Dhaka University

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SULTANA KAMAL

Trial must be transparent

Former Adviser to a caretaker government Advocate Sultana Kamal said the arrest of Ghulam Azam came as a relief to the nation.

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Ghulam Azam's 3 hrs before being taken to prison cell

KAILASH SARKAR

Ghulam Azam, a former chief of Jamaat-e-Islami, spent three hours at the admission section of Dhaka Central Jail before he was moved to a prison cell at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) hospital yesterday.

He was arrested in connection with crimes against humanity committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

"Ghulam Azam spent most of the time from 12:30pm to 3:35pm sitting on a chair in the

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FUNDING PADMA BRIDGE WB to inform decision by this month

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The World Bank will notify Bangladesh this month whether it will lift the suspension of its fund for the Padma Multipurpose Bridge construction.

World Bank Country Director Ellen Goldstein yesterday informed Finance Minister AMA Muhith about the outcome of her discussions with the bank's high officials in Washington. The discussions were on the government's recent steps regarding graft allegation in the bridge project.

After meeting the finance minister yesterday afternoon, Ellen Goldstein told The Daily Star yesterday evening via email, "Good governance and transparency are of paramount importance for the World Bank in imple

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Restore caretaker, then form EC

Khaleda-led BNP team urges president to take steps, terms talks unfruitful as Zillur says he can't act beyond constitution

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main opposition BNP yesterday urged President Zillur Rahman to take the initiative to restore the caretaker government system before the formation of a new Election Commission.

"The nation will not accept the formation of a new Election Commission without a restoration of the caretaker government system," BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia said in a statement during the talks with the president on the constitution of a new EC.

"We urge you to take steps to create a political atmosphere suitable for elections, and form a competent and neutral Election Commission through consensus of all political parties after the restoration of the caretaker government system," said Khaleda, who led a 15-member BNP delegation to the talks at Bangabhaban.

Nearly an hour after the talks ended at about 12:15pm, the BNP delegation termed yesterday's talks with the

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PHOTO: PID

BNP chief Khaleda Zia exchanges greetings with President Zillur Rahman ahead of the talks on constituting the next Election Commission at Bangabhaban yesterday.

India has to be liberal with Bangladesh

Hasina tells Indo-Bangla business meet in Agartala

HASAN JAHIID TUSHER, from Agartala, Tripura

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said India has to be more liberal in order to strengthen bilateral relations with its neighbouring countries, especially Bangladesh.

"Through bilateral discussions, we all know that problems can be resolved. But as a big state, India has to be more liberal towards its neighbours," she said while addressing a meeting of Bangladesh-India business delegations at Pragma Bhavan here in Agartala.

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar also urged the central government to take a "sincere initiative with liberal eyesight" from its side to strength relations with Bangladesh.

Expressing an intent to purchase power from Tripura directly or by setting up joint venture projects, Hasina said Bangladesh and India also have vast prospects for cooperation in the areas of information and communication technology, to which businessmen in the two countries can give real shape.

The prime minister, who is on a two-day official visit to Tripura, opined that strong cooperation between the two countries is crucial for both countries and real cooperation is possible if the political will was there.

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Jamaat men stage demo

Party protests ex-chief's arrest

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday staged demonstrations in Dhaka and Chittagong cities soon after the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) sent the party's former chief, Ghulam Azam, to jail.

The ICT ordered the arrest of Ghulam Azam as he appeared before it, and sent him to jail in a case in connection with crimes against humanity committed during the country's Liberation War in 1971.

Acting Jamaat Ameer Mokbul Ahmed, meanwhile, in a press statement condemned and protested yesterday's court order. He also announced an agitation day today.

As the news of Ghulam Azam being imprisoned spread around noon, members of Jamaat and Islami Chhatra Shibir, a pro-Jamaat student body,

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In memory on 9th death Anniversary

Today is 12th January, on this day we deeply remember our dearest founder Chairman of Shamsul Alamin Group Late **Al-haj A.K. Shamsul Alamin**, a renowned personallity, a famous Industrialist, a social worker, charitable man and a former member of parliament. We pray to Almighty Allah to grant eternal peace for the departed soul of Late **Al-haj A.K. Shamsul Alamin**.

**Humbly, we remain,
All family members and
Officers, Staffs and Workers**

Shamsul Alamin Group
Alamin Centre, 25/A, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000