



**German FM due June 23**

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle will arrive in Dhaka on June 23 on his first official visit to Bangladesh at the invitation of Foreign Minister Dipu Moni.

During his two-day visit, Westerwelle will hold talks with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Dipu Moni, Opposition Leader Khaleda Zia and civil society representatives. He is also expected to address a press conference on the outcome of his visit.

Westerwelle will arrive in Dhaka following his visit to India and is expected to leave on the morning of June 24.

Westerwelle, a member of the Bundestag (the German Parliament) since 1996, was also deputy chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany for three years.

Though the visit would be brief, foreign ministry officials have attached importance to this as Germany is considered to be one of the most valued development partners of Bangladesh.

German Ambassador Holger Michael told The Daily Star that the two countries have shared 40 years of strong diplomatic ties.

He said Germany will continue to cooperate and support Bangladesh so that it becomes a middle income country and meets the Millennium Development Goals.

Last year German President Christian Wulff came to Dhaka on November 28, on a 3-day official visit while Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Dirk Niebel came to Dhaka last June.

Likewise, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also visited Berlin in October 2011 while Dipu Moni visited Germany



**Members of Bangladesh Coast Guard and Border Guard Bangladesh send back boats, carrying Myanmar citizens fleeing the sectarian violence there, from Teknaf of Cox's Bazar after providing them with food and water yesterday. (Below) One of the Myanmar citizens, Kala Hossain, 50, who was shot during the violence, being treated at Chittagong Medical College Hospital yesterday.**

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS



**SECTARIAN VIOLENCE**  
**Wounded Myanmar citizens narrate escape**

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Three Myanmar citizens who were shot while fleeing the sectarian violence in the neighbouring country were being treated at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) yesterday under police custody.

One of them, Kala Hossain, 50, has a bullet lodged in his stomach and was bleeding internally.

Doctors said they already collected three out of four bags of AB positive blood, donated by the CMCH staff, needed for the operation to bring out the slug.

Lying on a bed in Ward 25, Kala agonisingly told the correspondent of his escape.

Kala was praying inside a mosque in Maungdaw township on Saturday afternoon when he heard gunshots outside. He got hit while running for the door amidst the hail of bullets being sprayed on the building, said Kala.

Kala remembered losing consciousness while running for the Naf river. He thinks four people who were running along with him must have picked him up and boarded him on a fishing boat.

He regained consciousness at Teknaf Upazila Health Complex on Sunday. Border Guard Bangladesh arrested him at around 9:00am that day for illegally entering the country and he was shifted to CMCH in the early hours yesterday.

He said he had nothing to do with the violence in his country and expressed his concern for the safety of his wife, four sons and three daughters, whom he had left behind. He suspected the attackers were not of his locality.

Not knowing what to do next, he helplessly said, "Neither do I have any relative in Bangladesh nor any money."

Another Myanmar citizen, Mohammad Selim, 20, was recovering in Ward 24 after

doctors removed a bullet from his chest on Sunday.

Selim said he got shot while running for the river with his mother, Khursheda Begum, 40, and Jane Alam, 25, after his house in the township was set alight on Friday.

Escaping through the same route as Kala's, he was admitted to Cox's Bazar Medical College Hospital on Saturday morning.

Police arrested him and his mother and brother from the hospital for the same offence at around 9:00pm that day and shifted him to CMCH on Sunday.

"What is our fault? We fled from Myanmar to save our lives. How could we manage our passports and visas?" questioned Selim.

The third Myanmar citizen, Mohammad Tayab, 20, was lying unconscious in Ward 28 with a bullet lodged in his skull.

Dr Faridul Islam Chowdhury, an assistant professor of the neurosurgery ward, said they were waiting for a CT scan report before they could operate upon him.

Tayab was arrested by police from Cox's Bazar Medical College Hospital on Sunday and shifted to CMCH in the early hours yesterday.

A social service officer of Hospital Social Services Programme at CMCH, Paruma Begum, said they would assist with the treatment of the three.

Police were doing their best to assist in their treatment, said Selim Mohammad Jahangir, superintendent of police of Cox's Bazar, adding that some policemen donated blood for the trio.

CMCH Director Brig Gen Fashiur Rahman said humanity should be the first preference of a hospital and he had directed the hospital's store to provide the medicine the trio needed.

**SAYEDEE'S WAR CRIMES TRIAL**

**Defence terms report on witnesses 'false'**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The defence yesterday told a tribunal that the investigation officer had submitted a false report about 15 prosecution witnesses against Jamaat leader Delawar Hossain Sayeede, who has been on trial for his alleged involvement in crimes against humanity during the Liberation War of 1971.

"At least nine of them [witnesses] were waiting at the Golapbagh safe house in the capital, but they were reported sick or missing," said Abdur Razzaq, chief counsel for Sayeede.

"Actually, the prosecutors did not let

them come to the tribunal, as they couldn't pursue the witnesses into giving false statements against Delawar Hossain Sayeede," he claimed.

The counsel also termed the investigation report against the Jamaat leader fabricated and urged the court to take steps against the investigator.

On March 29, International Crimes Tribunal-1 accepted the statements of the 15 prosecution witnesses, taken by the investigating officer, as evidence against Sayeede.

Yesterday, the three-member tribunal headed by its Chairman Justice Nizamul Huq was hearing a

review petition filed by the defence against taking of the statements as evidence.

During yesterday's hearing, the defence presented some "register books" containing the details of the nine witnesses staying, entering, and having meals at the safe house.

As the tribunal asked the chief defence counsel, Abdur Razzaq, about the source of the "register books", he said they had collected them using "some tricks".

To his astonishment, the conducting prosecutor, Syed Haider Ali, said they did not keep "register books" in safe home, as it was not a prison or

police station.

"The witnesses were brought there [safe home] for protection. It's not custody. There is no provision of lodging GD or keeping register books at the protection house in the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973", he said.

"The register books are a fake. There is a clear dishonesty there, and I am astonished how they [defence] could get them."

The tribunal will deliver order over the review petition later.

Delawar Hossain Sayeede, nayeb-e-ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami, is facing 20 charges of crimes against humanity

**Passing out parade of navy held**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

The passing out parade marking the induction of A/2012 batch of new entry sailors of Bangladesh Navy was held in Khulna yesterday morning.

Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed attended as chief guest the ceremony on BNS Titumir parade ground in Khulna.

He congratulated the newly inducted sailors, urging them to build up their competency through implementing the knowledge that they acquired from the navy academy in their work.

Earlier, the navy chief reviewed the smartly turned out parade and took salute at the march past.

He also distributed awards among the outstanding new entry sailors.

Principal staff officers of Naval Headquarters, commodore commanding of Khulna and local high civil and mili-

**DU teacher jailed for torturing wife**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka University (DU) teacher was sent to jail following his arrest yesterday for allegedly torturing his wife over dowry and committing fraudulent act with the High Court (HC).

Zafar Ahammed Khan, associate professor of statistics department of DU, was arrested by Shahbagh police from the court premises at noon.

The HC ordered police to arrest Zafar and produce him before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court of Dhaka on charge of torturing his wife and committing fraudulent act with the apex court, Deputy Attorney General Zahid Sarwar Kazal told The Daily Star.

Zafar went to the HC seeking his bail in a case filed by his wife Rebecca Parvin on May 30 with the CMM court, which issued an arrest warrant against him.

However, he filed two separate prayers with the same HC bench seeking his bail by separate lawyers, which was a fraudulent act, said the deputy attorney general.

Meanwhile, the court fixed today for hearing on his bail prayer.

In the case statement, Parvin said she got married to Zafar on Sep 18, 1991, ever since which he had been pressing her family for dowry.

Zafar took a total of Tk 50 lakh cash during and after the marriage from Parvin's family for different personal purposes.

He also took around 25 bhari gold ornaments, electronics and furniture from Parvin's family during the marriage.

Parvin also claimed that her husband had assaulted her several times and that he had an illicit relationship with one of his female students.

**HARTAL VIOLENCE**

**BNP leaders Abbas, Milon released on bail**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP standing committee member Mirza Abbas and party leader AKM Fazlul Haque Milon were released on bail from Dhaka Central Jail last night.

Senior Jail Superintendent, Altaf Hossain, confirmed that Abbas got released from the prison cell of Birdem hospital around 10:45pm while Milon from Dhaka Central Jail around 10:15pm.

Both of them were accused in a case filed with Tejgaon Police Station for torching vehicle near the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) during the hartal hours on

April 29. They, along with 27 BNP leaders, were granted bail from the High Court on Thursday.

On April 29, police filed a case with Shahbagh Police Station and an arson case with Tejgaon Police Station against opposition leaders after crackers went off inside the Secretariat and a bus was torched near the PMO during the hartal.

"Former BNP MP Nazimuddin Alam and JAGPA president Shafiul Alam Proddhan will be released tomorrow (today). Their documents have already been sent to Kashimpur-2 and Mymensingh jail," said Altaf.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Environment and Forests Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud plants a sapling at Dhaka Residential Model College in the capital yesterday to launch a tree plantation campaign, "Prio Desh Sobuje Shajai", being carried out by MAGGI, a brand of Nestlé Bangladesh Limited, under which different species of trees will be planted on different school premises throughout the country. Nestlé Bangladesh Limited will contribute Tk 1 from the sale of each pack of MAGGI 2-Minute Noodles to the campaign.

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Children should be in school, not at work.

Yes, it's time for us to learn and play, not to labour.

শিশুর চাই যথাযথ বিকাশ। চাই স্বতঃস্ফূর্তভাবে বেড়ে ওঠা। আর তা নিশ্চিত করতেই বন্ধ করতে হবে অন্যায্যভাবে বেড়ে চলা শিশুশ্রম। আজ "বিশ্ব শিশুশ্রম রোধ দিবস"-এ পৃথিবীর সকল শিশুর অধিকার নিশ্চিত করতে আনান ও জেরিনের মতো আসুন আমরাও সচেতন হই একসাথে।

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