

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## Majority of women are victims

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

About 84 percent women in rural and 75 percent in urban areas of Bangladesh become victims of domestic violence by their husbands, said Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) yesterday.

Referring to the records of One-Stop Crisis Centres (OCC) at different medical colleges, BWNLA Director (protection) Towhida Khandker said at least 1,540 incidents of violence against women including physical assaults, sexual assaults, and burn injuries occurred between January and August this year across Bangladesh.

She disclosed the information while presenting a paper at a dialogue with lawmakers titled "Enforcement of Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010" jointly organised by BWNLA and Plan Bangladesh in support with USAID at a city hotel.

Lack of awareness and education, patriarchal practice, poverty, lack of security, superstitious beliefs, illegal fatwa, and dowry are the main reasons for domestic violence, said Khandker.

Following the presentation, women lawmakers unanimously emphasised on awareness building, changing social views and attitude and enforcement of the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010 to eliminate domestic violence.

They also called upon male society, law enforcement agencies and administration to be more cordial for prevention of domestic violence.

BWNLA Executive Director Advocate Salma Ali, among others, also spoke.



Despite a sign-board asking passengers not to take luggage trolleys outside this gate at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport terminal, the passengers are regularly doing so. The photo was taken on Wednesday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

## INTERNATIONAL CRIMES TRIBUNAL-1 Court unhappy for failure to produce witnesses

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday expressed discontent over the prosecution and defence's repeated requests for adjournment of proceedings when they fail to produce witnesses.

"This is the last request, warning or caution whatever you think...from now on the tribunal won't adjourn proceedings on this ground," tribunal Chairman Justice Md Nizamul Huq told the lawyers.

On September 9, the tribunal issued an order saying it would not adjourn proceedings on such ground. The order came after the defence of war crimes accused Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayeedee failed to produce the witness and sought the proceedings' adjournment on that day.

Yesterday both the prosecution and the defence again failed to produce witnesses in two separate cases—one against Sayeedee and

the other against former Jamaat chief Ghulam Azam, and the court had to adjourn the proceedings one hour before the lunch break.

"Mr. Prosecutor, we are not happy," Nizamul Huq told Zead Al Malum, prosecutor of the case against Ghulam Azam.

The tribunal could issue warrants to bring the witnesses but it would be an excess, he said, asking the counsellors to keep at least two witnesses ready. "One will be present in courtroom, and the other will stay outside."

Meanwhile, the exhibition of reports of different newspapers of 1971 and 1972 at the tribunal was completed yesterday, and the defence cross-examined the seizure list witness Azab Uddin Mia, assistant librarian of Bangla Academy. A total of 435 clippings of Bangla dailies Sangram and Azad and English daily The Observer, among others, were submitted to the tribunal.

Proceedings of the two cases were adjourned until Sunday.

## JMB leader Lutfar Rahman held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A leader of banned Islamist militant outfit Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), also charge-sheeted accused in a murder case, was arrested in Atrai upazila of Naogaon yesterday.

The arrestee is Lutfar Rahman, a Madrassa teacher and better known as Lutfar Professor.

Mirza Golam Sarwar, commander of anti-militancy team at Rab-5 in Rajshahi, said they arrested Lutfar from Railway Fish Market at Atrai around 5:00pm.

Lutfar was an adviser of Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB) of executed JMB leader Siddikul Islam Bangla Bhai and his close aide during its anti-state activities in 2004, he said.

He was accused in eight cases of murders, tortures and extortion in Bagmara of Rajshahi, said Sarwar.

Lutfar was charge-sheeted fugitive accused in three cases including Abu Taleb murder case filed with Baghmara Police Station, he added.

In November 2009, Amjad Hossain, a nephew of Abu Taleb of Sajuria village in Baghmara, filed the case against Lutfar and other JMB men for killing his uncle in 2004 for extortion.

Police submitted the charge sheet of the case on September 10 this year.

## Elderly people's rights must be ensured Roundtable told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The society, alongside the government, must come forward to ensure elderly people's rights so that they can lead dignified lives both socially and economically, said speakers at a roundtable yesterday.

Since the number of elderly people, currently the population's eight percent, will double soon, the state must provide more social safety net programmes to ensure their rights in public-private sectors, including healthcare centres and transportation, they said.

The Bangla daily Prothom Alo and Resource Integration Center (RIC), working for elderly people, organised the roundtable, "Long life and future prosperity", at the daily's conference room in the capital.

Neglected by the family, society and state, elderly people are being deprived of their

basic rights and counting their days without any proper treatment, the speakers said.

They urged the government to formulate an effective policy to ensure elderly people's rights, keeping some provisions to provide senior citizen certificates, health and social insurances etc.

National Prof MR Khan said elderly people must be organised to raise their demands and the affluent should contribute, with the government, to assist them.

Planning Commission Member Prof Shamsul Alam laid emphasis on integrating a lesson about elderly people in academic curriculums.

The daily's Associate Editor Abdul Quayum moderated the roundtable while DGHS Director General Prof Khandaker Shefayet Ullah also spoke on the occasion.

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## Inu asks journalists to report true facts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu yesterday urged journalists to carry accurate and objective news for the sake of national interests.

"You will have to be careful while doing reporting so that reports do not clash with the country's sovereignty and hurt anyone's self-esteem and dignity," he told a meeting with information officers of all ministries at the information ministry.

Slanted, partly true, false information and hiding truth in any report confuse people, he said, advising journalists to maintain ethics in gathering information.

The newly appointed minister directed the information officers not to make any delay in preparing and distributing government's releases to avoid controversy and distortion.

He also urged the officers to bring coordination among the ministries so that every important piece of news of other ministries comes to the information ministry for immediate disclosure to the media. This will help prevent distortion of government news, he said.

"How quickly the ministry can give news to the media will be my challenge," said Inu, also president of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal, adding that in most cases the government disclosed news to the media either early or late.

### Obituary

METRO DESK

Abul Hasnat Shafiuuddin A h m e d (Shafi), a marine engineer, passed away in London yesterday.

He retired as a principal marine surveyor (MCGA, UK), says a press release.

Shafi was born in Faridpur. He had been residing in London and spending his holidays in Dhaka.

## MILITARY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MIST)

Mirpur Cantonment, Dhaka-1216 Website: [www.mist.ac.bd](http://www.mist.ac.bd)

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#### 4. Selection Criteria for Admission.

a. Result of Written Admission Test of 3 hours duration for 200 marks (Maths-80, Physics-60, Chemistry-40 and English-20 from syllabus of HSC examination 2012)-75%.

b. Total GPA of Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry of HSC/ Alim/ "A" level/ equivalent examination -15%.

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5. **Required Documents to Submit.** As mentioned in the Prospectus available in MIST website ([www.mist.ac.bd](http://www.mist.ac.bd)) and in MIST Admission Desk (hard copy).

6. **Application Form Submission.** Application Form is to be submitted on-line through internet from MIST website ([www.mist.ac.bd](http://www.mist.ac.bd)) by paying taka 600 (six hundred only) from Teletalk prepaid mobile phone. Necessary instructions in respect of filling up the E-application will be available in the Prospectus. Further clarification may be sought from MIST Admission Desk (8000266/0155656556/01769023896) from 0800 to 1700 hours in all working days from 01 October 2012 to 31 October 2012.

#### 7. Important Dates.

a. **On-Line Submission of Application Form.** From 01 October to 31 October 2012 (up to 1700 hours Bangladesh time).

b. **Publication of List of Eligible Candidates to Appear Written Admission Test.** List will be published in MIST website and notice board on 15 November 2012.

c. **Written Admission Test. At 1000 hours on 24 November 2012 (Saturday).**

d. **Publication of List of Selected Candidates for Admission.** The list will be notified in the MIST notice board and website by 05 December 2012.

### Director Administration

Military Institute of Science and Technology

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### Know Bangladesh Better

Featuring this week in

**Star Insight**  
Know Bangladesh Better

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