



# The Daily Star

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It does not permit a flowering of rainbow dreams in a country  
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Winning a lucrative prize, he must ponder how to spend the \$3m  
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WAR CRIMES TRIAL

## Tribunal chief quits over Skype scandal

Govt says resignation of Justice Nizamul won't affect trial; Jamaat wants dismantling of tribunal; BNP demands his trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International Crimes Tribunal-1 Chairman Justice Md Nizamul Huq resigned yesterday amid controversy over the leak of his Skype conversation with an expatriate Bangladeshi legal expert.

Justice Huq mentioned "personal reasons" for his resignation, State Minister for Law and Justice Quamrul



Islam told The Daily Star yesterday evening.

His resignation would not hamper the proceedings at the tribunal set up in 2010 to try the cases over crimes against humanity, said sources concerned.

They said the tribunal would continue with the proceedings while a

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**Burnt for no offence**  
Pro-hartal activists torch van, leaving its driver injured  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Driver of a pick-up van sustained severe burn injuries when pro-hartal activists set the vehicle on fire at the capital's Nayabazar area on

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**COMMENTARY**

### The immorality of it all

Once again Bangladesh is being flung into conflict, but for what, for whose benefit and to what end?

MAHFUZ ANAM

Two lives have been lost, assets worth millions destroyed, hundreds of millions of productive hours lost, thousands arrested and

the whole country is experiencing a tense situation. All this is for what? For whose benefit? To what end?

Let us spend a minute to examine the tragic case of Bishwajit.

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**OCCUPATIONAL HAZARD ...** A BRTC bus driver wears a helmet while driving his vehicle during hartal at Gabtoli in the capital yesterday. Alleged opposition activists' surprise attacks, in which they vandalise and torch vehicles, have caused many drivers to go about their duties for fear of life. PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## Fakhrul sent to jail

Hartal again tomorrow if BNP acting secretary general not released today; stray violence marks shutdown

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir was yesterday denied bail and sent to jail in two cases filed with Sher-e-Bangla Nagar and Paltan police stations Sunday night.

The cases were lodged in connection

with torching vehicles and exploding cocktails in Kakrail and East Razabazar during Sunday's road blockade by the BNP-led 18-party opposition alliance.

Abdul Khair Matabbar, an inspector of the Detective Branch of Police and also the investigation officer of the case filed with Paltan police, produced Fakhrul

before the court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Ali Hussain seeking seven days' remand.

The court did not grant the remand prayer.

Earlier in the day, the court placed 57 opposition activists on three days' remand.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 1 COUNTRYWIDE HARTAL -- PAGE 8

**BISHWAJIT MURDER**



### Ghosh Para in tears

HC orders arrest of killers in 24 hours; Home boss, police differ on arrest

STAR REPORT

Moshura Ghosh Para in Shariatpur is full of sighs and cries as villagers and family members mourn Bishwajit Das. Clutching their son's photographs

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### Couldn't believe what they saw

Parents want punishment seeing their sons turning into beasts

STAR REPORT

Ansar Mia could not believe what he was watching on television.

His son was hacking a young man about his age with a machete. The young man, all soaked in blood, was trying to get away, pleading and screaming. But his son would not let go of the dying man. He goes after Bishwajit, serving blow after blow.

Ansar Mia's head spun. In front of his eyes, his son, Rafiqul Islam Shakil, is morphing into a ferocious

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RAFIQUL



NOORE ALAM



EMDADUL

## Judge unaware of law

117 anti-terror cases face doom

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Proceedings of 117 cases against some 200 alleged terrorists of several militant organisations have become uncertain, as the trial court judge did not follow the relevant law properly.

Under the Anti-terrorism Act 2009, the trial court must take government permission before accept-

ing charges in any case filed under the law. But Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge Zahirul Haque has not done so, High Court sources said.

In his written reply to an HC rule about the cases, Zahirul on November 26 said he did not take government permission before taking charges into cognisance as the prosecution and defence lawyers did

not make him aware of the provision.

The judge also apologised to the HC for not following the law properly, and said he later sought government permission for holding the trial.

Leaders and activists of various banned militant organisations, including Hizb ut-Tahrir, Jama'atul

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Sub-Inspector Mamun Sirajul Haque of Siddhirganj Police Station assaults The Daily Star photojournalist Amran Hossain and tries to snatch his camera at Siddhirganj while Amran was doing his professional duty.

PHOTO: COURTESY

### Cop action outrageous

SI assaults 2 on-duty photojournalists

STAR REPORT

In an unprovoked attack on newsmen, police yesterday beat up and detained two photojournalists of The Daily Star and the New Age when they were covering the opposition's hartal in Siddhirganj of Narayanganj.

Mamun Sirajul Haque,

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