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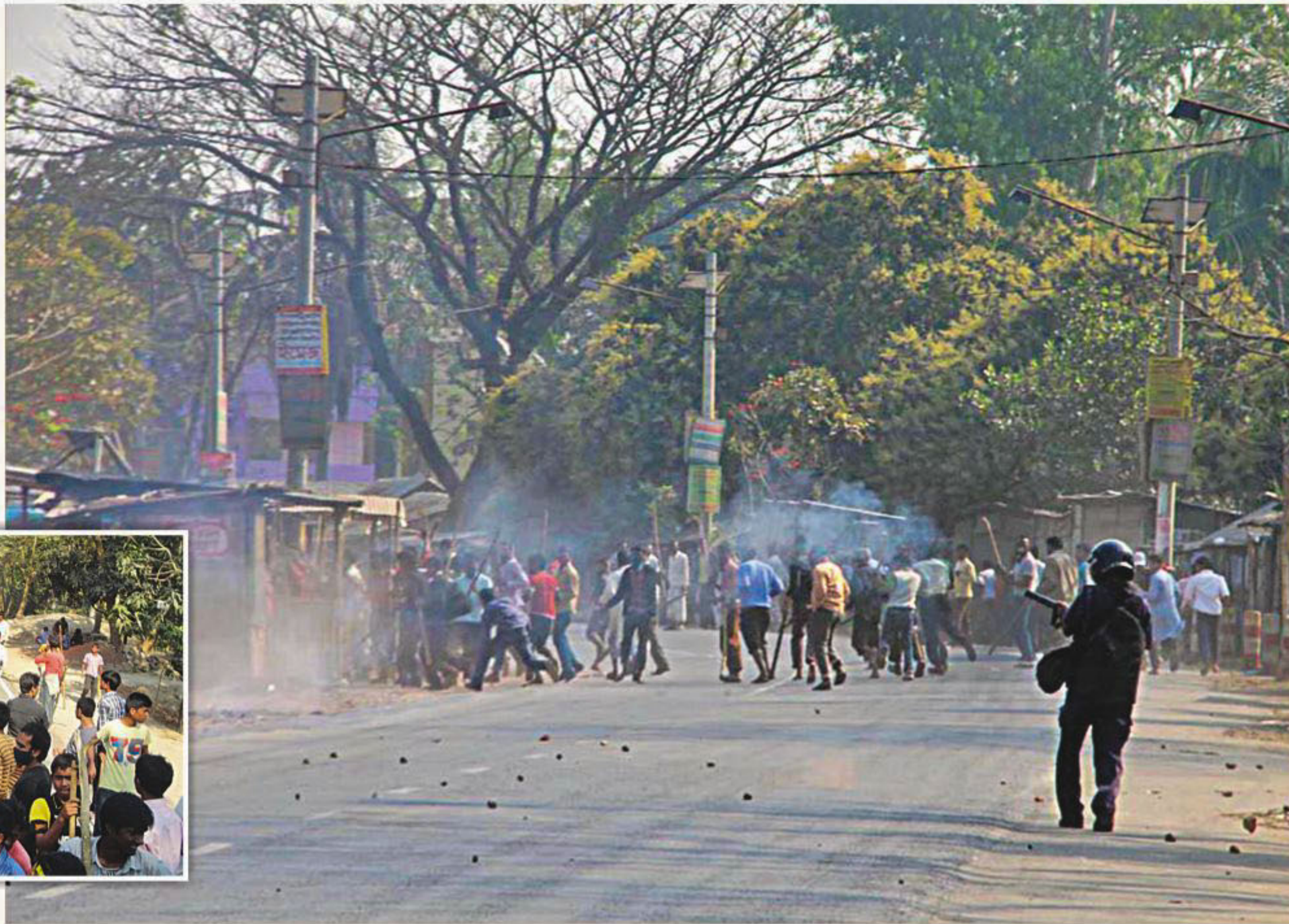
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Jamaat-Shibir men block a highway in Pabna, *bottom*, and clash with people at Mithapukur in Rangpur, *right*, and Chittagong while buses set alight by rioters burn in Chapainawabganj yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR



Change of govt to change all

Counsels ask Sayedee not to worry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"Uncle, don't worry, nothing will happen," a junior counsel told Sayedee after the tribunal sentenced him to death.

"Everything will be changed with the change of the government," said another.

The junior counsels for Sayedee wanted to show him a ray of hope when he was being taken to the Central Jail from the tribunal yesterday.

Sayedee's chief counsel Abdur Razzaq said they would lodge an appeal with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court "to seek justice".

"The verdict was delivered to satisfy some third party," Masud Bin Sayedee, son of Sayedee, reacted immediately after the verdict. He, however, did not elaborate on the third party.

When the tribunal completed reading out the verdict

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How grocer Sayedee made his fortunes

JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

He used to be a mere grocer in 1971, but over the time became a rich man, owner of huge property in the capital and Khulna. His fortunes were earned through illegal means during Bangladesh's Liberation War.

Son of late Yousuf Ali of Southkhali village under Indurkani (Zianagar) Police Station in Pirojpur, Delawar Hossain Sayedee was born on February 1, 1940, according to the "brief account of the accused" in the verdict in the case against him.

It adds Sayedee used to sell oil, salt, onion and pepper at Parerhat Bazar in 1971 and his economic state was not so

good. But he could speak Urdu well as he obtained the Alim degree [equivalent to HSC examination] from a madrasa.

The brief account also says, "He welcomed the Pakistani army at Parerhat Bazar and formed local Peace Committee and subsequently as a member of Razakar Bahini actively participated in the atrocities committed by Pakistani Army and Razakar Bahini targeting civilians, Hindu community and pro-liberation people."

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 found Sayedee guilty in eight charges of crimes against humanity, including charge No 6.

According to charge 6, on May 7, 1971, Sayedee led a team of Peace Committee to

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Hurdles that delayed trial

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The war crimes case against Delawar Hossain Sayedee was the first of nine such cases pending with or disposed of by the international crimes tribunals and could be the first to see the verdict.

It did not happen as the case went through rocks on several issues in last 18 months of trial until the verdict was delivered yesterday.

A flurry of defence petitions at almost every stage of the trial, extensive cross-examination of the investigation officer, adjournment pleas from both the prosecution and the defence, and finally reconstitution of the tribunals following a Skype controversy largely contributed to the lengthy proceedings.

As the first case it had to face a number of new issues as well. The case saw disposal of the defence's petitions for appointing foreign lawyers and recusal [voluntary

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Justice, finally

AL, allies reacts; BNP silent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice was served through Jamaat Nayeb-e-Ameer Delawar Hossain Sayedee being given death sentence yesterday for war crimes, the ruling Awami League-led alliance said. The BNP and religion-based parties in the opposition, however, maintained silence.

The Awami League-led 14-party alliance, youths and other people of the country had expected capital punishment of the Jamaat leader, said AL Joint General Secretary

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MOLLAH VERDICT

Govt appeals to SC on Sunday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will file an appeal with the Supreme Court on Sunday seeking death penalty to Jamaat-e-Islami leader Abdul Quader Mollah on each of the six charges he faced at the International Crimes Tribunal-2, Attorney General (AG) Mahbubey Alam said yesterday.

"We were ready to file the appeal today

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A Shibir activist lies on the ground with bullet wounds he suffered during a clash with police at Ranirbandar in Dinajpur yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Pessimists 'live longer'

DAILYMAIL ONLINE

Finally the pessimists among us have something to be happy about. Older people who are blighted by negative thoughts and fear for the future are more likely to live longer, a study has revealed.

Scientists found those with low expectations for a 'satisfying future' actually led healthier lives.

A study into 40,000 people found that being 'overly optimistic' in predicting a better future was associated with a greater risk of disability and death.

Lead author Frieder R Lang said: "Our findings



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India goes for huge defence spending

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

India yesterday enhanced annual budgetary allocation for defence expenditure by 4.5 per cent to Rs 2.03 lakh crore for the financial year 2013-14, setting at rest speculation that the country's slowing economic growth could affect its military acquisitions.

Of the total defence outlay for 2013-14, Finance Minister P Chidambaram, who presented his budget in Parliament in the morning, said Rs 86,741 crore will be for capital expenditure in defence sector.

Earlier this month, Defence Minister AK Antony had told reporters in Bangalore

that "India is not an island. The world economy is going through a tough time, we will have to cut down."

He had, however, said there will be no cuts in "priority areas" and the "operational preparedness" of the military will not be affected.

Nuclear-powered India and China have a territorial dispute. China's military build-up along its frontier as well as competing interests of India and China in the South China Sea and Indian Ocean are frequent sources of stress in their bilateral ties.

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CHEERS

Worry over witness protection

Eminent citizens hail yesterday's verdict against Delawar Hossain Sayedee in a war crimes case. They say the verdict is a major step towards ridding the nation of the stigma that the war criminals could not be punished in the last 42 years. Wasim Bin Habib and Prabir Barua Chowdhury took the interviews.

MUNTASSIR MAMOON

Noted educationist and writer Muntassir Mamoon expressed satisfaction over the verdict and said people's aspirations were met. This verdict would play a vital role in the

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SHAHRIAR KABIR

"Undoubtedly, it's a historic judgment the nation has long been waiting for," said war crimes researcher Shahriar Kabir, congratulating the people of the country, and

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KM SAFIULLAH

"It's our primary victory and the first step towards the realisation of our long-nourished aspirations," said Major Gen (retd) KM Safiullah Bir Uttam, senior vice-chairmen of Sector

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ANWAR HOSSAIN

Prof Anwar Hossain, vice-chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, said he was very happy as people's expectation was reflected in the verdict.

"Though it took about 42

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