

# Law against errant MPs

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parliament effective by ensuring the presence of all lawmakers.

According to sources, if the party forms the government again, it will construct another bridge over the Padma river in addition to the ongoing one, a second Jamuna bridge, a modern international airport, the proposed deep seaport in Sonadia, a circular rail route around Dhaka city and the Dhaka-Chittagong Expressway. The AL will also promise not to allow any activity of international terrorist and separatist organisations on Bangladesh soil.

With a view to making Bangladesh a real middle-income country by 2021, the party will pledge to increase the per capita income to \$1,500 from existing \$1,044, the growth rate to 10 percent from the existing 6.2 percent and to reduce poverty rate to 13 percent from the existing 26 percent in the next seven years.

The AL manifesto will also include the promise to take the electricity generation capacity to 24,000 MW from the existing 10,000 MW.

In the manifesto, the party has set nine priorities: ensuring peace and stability in the country by eliminating militancy, terrorism and communalism, taking measures to make parliament effective, forging a national consensus to keep the democratic process uninterrupted, completing the trials of war criminals and executing the verdicts, strengthening the National Human Rights Commission and appointing an ombudsman to ensure transparency in the activities of the government, strengthening the Election Commission, making the local government system more effective through decentralization of power,

taking tough actions against black money, extortion, tender manipulation and bribery and making the ACC stronger, and freeing the law enforcement measures from political influences.

The manifesto will also highlight the major successes of the AL government's tenure from 1996 to 2001, the misuse of the BNP-Jamaat coalition government during 2001-2006, the attempts of the past caretaker government to create a political vacuum and strangle democracy in the country, the achievements of the AL-led grand alliance government and the non-cooperation of the opposition parties in the development of the country, sources said.

For the industries sector, the AL will pledge measures to attract investments both from home and abroad, including from the expatriate Bangladeshis, and to strengthen the readymade garment sector.

In a bid to fully implement the Vision-2021, the party will announce its plans to ensure food security, employment for the unemployed youths and full implementation of the education policy.

The AL will also pledge to fully implement the CHT Peace Accord.

After announcing the manifesto, Sheikh Hasina will give a speech seeking vote for 'boat' symbol.

The party is unveiling its election manifesto just a week before the elections boycotted by most of the opposition parties including the BNP-led 18-party alliance whereas it had announced its manifesto titled "Charter for Change" 17 days before the December 29, 2008 parliamentary polls contested by all major political parties.

Elections will be held in 146 constituencies

# At least 360 picked up

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number of BNP leaders arrested since November 8 rose to 45, of whom 30 are central leaders of the party and its associated bodies. On November 8, police arrested BNP standing committee members Moudud Ahmed, MK Anwar and Rafiqul Islam Mia, Khaleda's adviser Abdul Awal Mintoo and her personal aide Shimul Biswas. BNP standing committee member ASM Hannan Shah was arrested in December.

In Mirpur yesterday, war crimes accused and Jamaat leader Mir Quasem Ali's brother Mir Nasim Ali was picked up from his Senpara house, said Officer-in-Charge of Mirpur police Salauddin Khan.

More than 40 people, including at least one minor, were detained in a raid on a housing colony in Senpara owned by Nasim Ali.

Kulsum Begum was wailing outside Mirpur Police Station. "They took nearly all the men from the colony. My two sons, a tenth grader and an eleventh grader, were taken by the police, who barged into the house around 5:00am. I have not seen them since."

One Mirza Ikhtiar was waiting outside the station anxiously to know the fate of his 12-year-old cousin Khondoker Ahnaf Akib who was picked up from the same colony.

"Akib, his brother Sakib, a university student, and their father were picked up just before dawn. I have not seen Akib in the duty officer's room. I don't know if he has been put in the lockup," Mirza fretted.

Mirpur model police made the largest number of roundups. "Around 100 people were held for suspected involvement in violent activities. They were detained in two spots including the colony owned by Nasim Ali," said OC Salahuddin.

During an early morning raid, Mirpur police allegedly trashed the house of Mahbub Hasan and detained his wife and daughters.

Mahbub, the brother of Jubo Dal north unit President Mamun Hasan, claimed that police had gone to Mamun's house first to detain him and then to his house.

"The police came before the sun was up. They were banging on the door so I opened it. The Officer-in-Charge Salauddin Khan of Mirpur Police Station demanded I hand over my mobile phone. Then they stormed into the rooms of my wife and two daughters and shook them awake. The OC took their mobile phones and smashed them to pieces on the floor," said Mahbub.

He claimed that the police then ransacked the

entire house without telling him why.

After these allegations were made late last night, The Daily Star could not reach OC Salauddin for his comments. His mobile phone was switched off.

Outside the capital, the joint forces made most of the roundups in Narayanganj, Comilla, Jhenidah, Natore, Jessore, Jhalakathi, Chittagong and Bogra.

In Chittagong, they conducted a drive on Syedpur and Sonaichhari unions and picked up four opposition activists. The detainees were allegedly involved in sabotage activities on Chittagong-Cox's Bazar highway, reports our correspondent quoting the OC of Sitakunda police station.

In addition, eight Jamaat-Shibir men were held by the police in Chittagong.

The joint forces also held eight BNP-Jamaat men in Natore and 12 in Jhenidah.

Police rounded up 52 people in a drive on all eight upazilas in Jessore. The detainees included 16 activists of BNP and Jamaat.

Thirty-five leaders and activists of BNP, Jamaat and its student body Islami Chhatra Shibir were held in raids in three upazilas of Comilla between 12:00am and 6:00am, reports our Comilla correspondent.

Of the detainees, 12 Jamaat-Shibir men were held in connection with setting fire to the office of Laksham upazila nirbahi officer yesterday, said OC Abul Khair of Laksham police.

Eleven opposition workers were detained in Chandpur, seven BNP activists were held in Narayanganj, while a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal leader was picked up in Jhalakathi.

## CEC's empty village

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the entrance gate of the home.

Shikder Mashiur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Jibannagar Police Station, said "Miscreants hurled the bombs at the time of changing shifts of policemen. Only two bombs had exploded."

On information, a team from Shahpur police camp rushed to the spot and defused the unexploded bomb, he said.

No one from the CEC's family lives in the house. A caretaker looks after the house on temporary basis, he added.

Additional police forces have been on-duty at the house since December 3.

The attack happened at a time when the Election Commission is going to hold the 10th parliamentary elections amid the opposition boycott.

## Zero tolerance

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conducted, and reports and articles published in newspapers about corruption in the lower judiciary, mentioned the CJ.

He added: "My stand against corruption is very clear and rigid. Corruption creates injustice, and injustice at a single place is a threat to justice everywhere."

"I'll never take into cognisance any allegation that is false and meant to harass any judge. But I'll accept any logical allegation of corruption, and will have the allegation probed by a competent judge."

Justice Muzammel said he was worried at some occurrences involving a few judicial officials. "Many allegations about the judges' routine work, including their judicial activities, are put up to me. There is no scope of saying that all these allegations are baseless."

He suggested that the judges should ensure transparency in their duties and take decisions instantly in the criminal cases.

Delays in passing orders in those cases raise questions in the minds of people, including the litigants, he noted.

The CJ said bias on the part of the judges in discharging judicial duties would not be acceptable at all.

"After I've taken over as the chief justice, I received information on the cold relationship between the district judges and chief judicial magistrates in different districts, which is not desirable," he mentioned, adding that the district judge is the chief of the judicial activities in a district.

He instructed the judges to dispose of the old cases on priority basis to reduce the backlog of cases. The judges should take care so that the witnesses of cases are not sent back without taking their statements, he pointed out.

At least 170 chief judicial magistrates, chief metropolitan magistrates, additional district judges and equivalent judicial officials from across the country attended the programme, Supreme Court Registrar AKM Shamsul Islam told The Daily Star.

## Another arson

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December 21 when the CNG he was travelling by was set afire on Mymensingh-Kendua road in Mymensingh.

Last Thursday, he was howling in pain; his wails could be heard beyond the walls of ICU. "He cried all night long," his aunt Ambia had told The Daily Star.

He went beyond all his agonies yesterday afternoon.

As the doctors declared him dead around 2:00pm, his mother Bulbul Begum cried her heart out and kept saying, "I have now lost both my sons." Shahjahan's younger brother died of an illness four years back.

The victim could not see his wife and children for a last time before his death. "He was desperate to see them, but we have not brought them because his wife Rokhsana is quite sick herself," said the mother.

The aunt told this correspondent on Thursday that Rokhsana was not allowed to see Shahjahan also because she would not be able to bear the sight. "His bottom lip was hanging down to his chin. His eyes were swollen shut. How could she have borne it?"

## 10 dead as army shells funeral tent in Yemen

AFP, Aden

An army tank shelled a funeral tent erected by the Southern Movement at a school in Yemen yesterday, killing 10 people among them children, a medic and witnesses said.

"We received 10 bodies, among them children, and 15 wounded people," the medic from Al-Nasr hospital in the southern province of Daleh told AFP.

Witnesses said that an army tank had shelled the tent in Sanah, 300 kilometres (185 miles) south of the Yemeni capital in Daleh province, in an attack linked to tension between southerners and the political and military authorities.

One witness told AFP by telephone that troops fired more shells "when we tried to hospitalise the casualties," adding that "there are wounded victims still inside the tent."

# Separatists behind deadly India bicycle bomb: Cops

AFP, Jalpaiguri

A bicycle bomb that killed five people when it exploded prematurely in eastern India was the work of militants fighting for a separate state in the Darjeeling tea district, police said yesterday.

Detectives probing Thursday night's blast in West Bengal said they believed the bomb exploded accidentally as a member of the Kamtapur Liberation Organisation (KLO) cycled through the town of Jalpaiguri.

A senior police officer said that a KLO militant named as Lalmohon Debnath was among the five killed when the powerful device exploded on a bridge, near a school.

"Preliminary investigations have revealed that Debnath was carrying the bomb to plant somewhere else," West Bengal police inspector general Anuj Sharma told AFP, adding the blast could be felt two kilometres away.

"A timer device had been fitted to trigger the

explosion, but the bomb went off suddenly while he was on the bridge.

"Debnath was blown in half... We do not think it was a suicide attack," Sharma added.

Police had received a tip-off about a possible attack and arrested three suspected KLO followers before the explosion which was carried two days before the anniversary of the group's founding in 1996, said Sharma.

Ten people were also injured when the bomb exploded late Thursday. Earlier reports put the number of dead at four but a fifth victim died later in hospital.

The KLO has carried out several other bombings with devices strapped to bicycles and has also marked its anniversary with attacks in the past.

Sharma said the KLO were behind a 2001 bombing in Jalpaiguri which killed four and an attack at a train station in November 2006 that claimed seven lives.

# Thai government asks army

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Deputy Prime Minister Surapong Tovichakchaiul said he would ask the armed forces supreme commander for help with security for a second round of registration for constituency candidates due to begin around the country today.

"I will also ask the military to provide security protection for members of the public on the February 2 election date," he said in a nationally televised address.

The army chief yesterday insisted that the military would remain neutral and said it was up to the election authorities whether the vote could go ahead.

"Don't bring us into the middle of the conflict," General Prayut Chan-O-Cha said when asked if the army would send soldiers to guard polling stations.

But he did not rule out another coup.

"The door is neither closed nor open. In every situation, anything can happen," he said when asked about the possibility of a coup, without elaborating.

Yingluck's government -- which still enjoys strong support in the northern half of the country -- has faced weeks of mass street rallies in the capital.

Thailand has been periodically convulsed by political bloodshed since Yingluck's older brother Thaksin Shinawatra was overthrown by royalist generals in a coup seven years ago.

Thaksin's Red Shirt supporters -- who staged their own mass street protests against the

previous government three years ago -- yesterday warned that they were ready to return to the streets if elections were thwarted.

"After the New Year we are preparing for a major battle," core Red Shirt leader Jatuporn Prompan told reporters.

Supporters of Thaksin, a billionaire tycoon-turned-politician who lives in self-exile, have accused the demonstrators of trying to incite the military to seize power again, in a country which has seen 18 successful or attempted coups since 1932.

But so far the army -- traditionally a staunch supporter of the anti-Thaksin establishment -- has avoided any public intervention in the unrest, apart from sending a limited number of unarmed troops to guard government buildings.

The protesters, a mix of southerners, middle class and urban elite, accuse Thaksin of corruption and say he controls his sister's government from his base in Dubai.

They want an unelected "people's council" to run the country to oversee loosely-defined reforms -- such as an end to alleged "vote buying" -- before new elections are held in around a year to 18 months.

The weeks-long unrest, which has drawn tens of thousands of protesters onto the streets, has left seven people dead and about 400 wounded.

It is the worst civil strife since 2010, when more than 90 civilians were killed in a bloody military crackdown on pro-Thaksin Red Shirt protests under the previous government.

# Red Cross recovers dozens of bodies in CAR capital

AFP, Bangui

The Red Cross said Thursday it had recovered some 40 bodies on the streets of Bangui as the United States expressed alarm at the latest eruption of fighting in the Central African Republic.

French troops have beefed up patrols after a bloody Christmas in the strife-torn capital, where more than 1,000 are believed to have been killed in three weeks of conflict between Christians and Muslims.

Five Chadian peacekeepers were also killed in an outbreak of heavy fighting on Wednesday which sent thousands of panicked residents fleeing for shelter at the airport, where French and African peacekeepers are based.

United States Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington was "alarmed" by the fighting in recent days and urged the country to move quickly to hold elections.

"The continued sectarian fighting only deepens the country's wounds and makes reconciliation more difficult," Kerry said in a statement, adding the US was "deeply dis-

turbed" by the discovery of 20 bodies in a mass grave in the capital Thursday.

It was not clear if these figures were included in the death toll given by the Red Cross which said it had recovered 40 bodies since Wednesday.

"Around 40 bodies have been recovered for the moment, and first aid has been given to around 30 people wounded," International Committee of the Red Cross spokesman David Pierre Marquet said in Geneva.

He said another 60 or so bodies were recovered on Monday, a day marked by escalating tensions after African peacekeepers fired into a crowd of protesters.

Marquet said the ICRC did not yet have a complete death toll since a spasm of violence was unleashed in the country.

Amnesty International has said at least 1,000 people died in two days of bloodshed from December 5. There have been no reliable figures for the number of dead since.

The circumstances of the Chadian deaths in Bangui on Wednesday were unclear, according to a spokesman for the African Union (AU) force

## মেসার্স ইয়ং তাই ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ (বিডি) লিঃ

প্রট নং-৫৫-৫৭ এবং ৭৩-৭৫ কুমিল্লা ইপিজেড, কুমিল্লা ।

### টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

কুমিল্লা ইপিজেড শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠান মেসার্স ইয়ং তাই ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেডের উৎপাদন কাজে ব্যবহার অযোগ্য ২৯৩ সেট, (১৭,৮১৬ কেজি ) পুরাতন মেশিন জ্যাকপে রূপান্তর পূর্বক প্রয়োজনীয় শুষ্ক কারাদি পরিশোধ সাপেক্ষে বিক্রয়ের উদ্দেশ্যে কোটেশনে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য আহ্বান জানানো যাচ্ছে ।

#### শর্ত ও নিয়মাবলী :-

১. ইপিজেড এবং ইপিজেড এর বাহিরের বৈধ ভাট্টা নিবন্ধন সনদকারী যে কোন প্রতিষ্ঠান এই টেন্ডারের অংশ নিতে পারবে ।
২. দরদাতাকে মেসার্স ইয়ং তাই ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর অনুকূল উদ্ধৃত মূল্যের ১০% পে-অর্ডার / ব্যাংক ড্রাফট (ফেরত যোগ্য) দরপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে । পে-অর্ডার / ব্যাংক ড্রাফট ছাড়া কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না । টেন্ডার সিটিউল মেসার্স ইয়ং তাই ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড থেকে প্রতিটি (অফেরত পেশার) ২০০.০০ টাকার বিনিময়ে ১১.০১.২০১৪ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে ।
৩. মহাব্যবস্থাপক, কুমিল্লা ইপিজেড এর দপ্তরে, কুমিল্লা সিটি কর্পোরেশন এর কার্যালয়, মেসার্স ইয়ং তাই ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড এর রক্ষিত টেন্ডার ব্যাগে আগামী ১২.০১.২০১৪ ইং তারিখ সকাল ১০.০০ ঘটিকা থেকে ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত সিলমোহর কৃত খামে টেন্ডার দাখিল করা যাবে এবং মূল্যায়ন কমিটি ১৫.০০ ঘটিকায় আত্মী ক্রেতাগণের (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে টেন্ডার ব্যাগ উন্মুক্ত করবেন ।
৪. সকল প্রকার শুষ্ক কর নির্ধারিত ক্ষেত্রে দরপত্রের মাধ্যমে গ্রাণ্ড সর্বোচ্চ মূল্যকে বিনিময় মূল্য (Transaction Value) হিসেবে গ্রহণ করা হবে এবং সে অনুযায়ী সর্বোচ্চ দরদাতা প্রদেয় কাস্টমস শুষ্ক পরিশোধ করবেন ।
৫. প্রযোজ্য শুষ্ক ও কর পরিশোধপূর্বক ব্যবহার অযোগ্য জ্যাকপ মেশিনাঙ্ক ছাড়করণের অনুমতি জোনের মহাব্যবস্থাপক এর দপ্তর থেকে সংগ্রহপূর্বক বেপজা এবং কাস্টমস কর্তৃপক্ষের তত্ত্বাবধানে পেশার খালাস গ্রহণ করতে হবে ।
৬. ন্যূনতম ভিন্ডিট দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি পাওয়া না গেলে পুনরায় দরপত্র আহ্বান করা হবে ।
৭. আত্মী ক্রেতাগণ দরপত্র দাখিলের আগের দিন পর্যন্ত প্রতি দিন সকাল ১০.০০ ঘটিকা থেকে বিকাল ৪.০০ ঘটিকায় শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার মেশিনসমূহ পরিদর্শন করতে পারবেন ।
৮. এব্যাপারে গঠিত কমিটি কোন কার্য দর্শনো ব্যতিরেকে উক্ত নিলাম প্রক্রিয়া বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে । নিলাম বিষয়ে কমিটি কর্তৃক গৃহীত সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে বিবেচিত হবে । আত্মী দেশী-বিদেশী ক্রেতা/কোম্পানীসমূহকে নিলামে অংশ গ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা হল ।

ফ্যাক্টরী ম্যানেজার  
মেসার্স ইয়ং তাই ইন্ডাস্ট্রিজ বাংলাদেশ লিমিটেড

# Immigration fears spark political firestorm in Britain

AP, London

They're portrayed as pickpockets who will steal British jobs, too. Newspapers and politicians fear a wave of immigrants will come to Britain to beg, the unruly young ones will stir up riots, and some will even try to sell babies.

For months, Britain's tabloids have repeatedly warned of the horrors they believe will ensue after Jan 1, when work restrictions will be lifted across the European Union for migrants from Romania and Bulgaria - two of the trading bloc's newest members. Those changes, the papers claim, will surely unleash a mass exodus of the poor and unemployed from the two eastern European countries to Britain.

"In January, the only thing left will be the goat," a Daily Mail headline proclaimed, referring to a remote Romanian village where, the paper claimed, everyone was preparing to move to Britain for the higher wages and generous welfare benefits.

"We're importing a crime wave from Romania and Bulgaria," another headline declared, quoting a Conservative lawmaker who told Parliament that most pickpockets on British streets hail from Romania.

The alarming stories about a possible Romanian and Bulgarian influx, and a government scramble to tighten welfare rules, are part of the latest chapter in an increasingly bitter debate about Britain's immigration policies and its uneasy relationship with the EU. Right-wing politicians have won over voters by arguing that for-

eigners, particularly eastern Europeans, are flooding Britain's job market with cheap labor and exploiting the country's benefits system.

The upstart UK Independence Party, known as UKIP, has seized on the anti-immigration mood to undermine support for the Conservative Party led by Prime Minister David Cameron. In response, Cameron has recently stepped up his rhetoric on immigration and rushed to impose curbs on the ability of new migrants to claim state benefits.

He also angered fellow EU leaders when he challenged the established concept that there should be a free movement of workers throughout the economic bloc, arguing that it should be amended to stop mass migrations from poorer to richer member states.

"The politicians are doing it for popularity," said Father Silviu Petre Pufulete, a priest at a Romanian Orthodox Church in London. "It's been unfair to the Romanians and it's just been blown out of all proportion."

Romania and Bulgaria joined the EU in 2007 and more than 100,000 migrants from the two countries already work in Britain, albeit under work restrictions that limit their access to jobs and state benefits like health care.

The work restrictions use quotas to limit the number of low-skilled Romanians and Bulgarians who can take jobs in Britain and requires them to obtain a "worker authorization document" before taking a position. Those who work without proper papers, and employers who hire them, face fines and

## N Korea recalls Sweden envoy: report

AFP, Seoul

North Korea's ambassador to Sweden has been recalled apparently as part of a purge prompted by the execution of the once-powerful uncle of leader Kim Jong-Un, a report said yesterday.

Pak Kwang-Chol, an associate of the young supreme's uncle and political regent Jang Song-Thaek, was seen returning home after making a brief stopover in Beijing, South Korea's Yonhap news agency said.

Yonhap, citing a diplomatic source in Beijing, said the envoy and his wife were escorted by North Korean officials onto a flight to Pyongyang.

Park took up the post in September last year, it added.

Sweden is an influential diplomatic player in Pyongyang. Since the United States and North Korea have no diplomatic ties, the Swedish Embassy represents US interests in the country, acting as a kind of go-between.

Yonhap reported earlier this month that North Korea's ambassador to Malaysia, Jang Yong-Chol, a nephew of the purged uncle, had also been recalled.

Jang Song-Thaek was executed in the biggest political upheaval since the young leader inherited power two years ago.

There are growing concerns over the regime's stability after Jang's execution, and Seoul and Washington have warned of possible provocative acts by the nuclear-armed North following the purge.

## কুলখানী



প্রাক্তন পুলিশ সুপার ও ধানমন্ডি ঈদগাহ মসজিদ এর প্রাক্তন সেক্রেটারি মরহুম কেরামত আলী ভূইয়া'র কুলখানী আজ শনিবার বাদ আছর ৭৩৬, সাতমসজিদ সড়ক, (পুরাতন ১৫ নং বাস স্ট্যান্ড) ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকাস্থ নিজ বাস-ভবনে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। এই উপলক্ষে এক দোয়া মাহফিল এর আয়োজন করা হয়েছে। আপনারা আমন্ত্রিত।

পক্ষে	লিয়াকত আলী ভূইয়া	শাহনেওয়াজ ভূইয়া
	শওকত আলী ভূইয়া	শায়লা ওহাব
	মাহমুদ আলী ভূইয়া	দিনা জামান
	মাকসুদ আলী ভূইয়া	কাসফিয়া জাকির
	শাহীনুর ভূইয়া	

০১৭১১৫৪২১২৫, ০১৭৭৩১১৬৮৮৫, ০১৭১১৪২২৭৮৩