### War trial

absence of the accused".

FROM PAGE 16 Justice M Enayetur Rahim found it "irrational to deliver judgement in

Nizami, a former minister in the BNP-led four-party government, faces 16 charges including genocide committed during the Liberation War in 1971. He however pleads not guilty before the court.

Unlike any other war crimes cases, Nizami's trial has taken around four years, including pre-trial investigation, thanks to the defence's "dilatory tactics", the prosecution's "lack of preparation" and long vacancy in the chairman post of the tribunal-1.

Investigation into Nizami's role during the Liberation War began in July 2010 along with that of his three political colleagues -- Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed, Abdul Quader Mollah and Muhammad

Kamaruzzaman -- and charges were pressed against them in December

Interestingly, the trial of Mojaheed, Quader Mollah and Kamaruzzaman had completed and verdicts in the cases against them were delivered on February 5, May 9 and July 17 last

Even the appeals against verdict in Mollah's case was disposed of by the Supreme Court and he was executed in December last year. Appeals in the cases against Mojaheed and Kamaruzzaman are now pending with the apex court.

But, the scenario in Nizami's case

was different. Against the backdrop of repeated failure of the defence to appear before the court for placing arguments, the tribunal-1 on November 13 last year concluded the case and kept it waiting for verdict.

The court, however, allowed the defence to place arguments later and the trial finally ended on November

In January this year, the then chairman of tribunal-1 Justice ATM Fazle Kabir retired without delivering the judgement. The tribunal was reconstituted on February 23 with Justice Rahim as its chief.

The new chairman decided to hear the arguments again and after hearing the arguments from both the prosecution and the defence, the court on March 24 kept the case waiting for verdict for the second time.

The tribunal on Monday fixed Tuesday for delivering the verdict in the case. But, the court for the third time kept the case waiting for verdict for an indefinite period due to Nizami's "sickness", prolonging justice seekers' decades-long wait.

## Biman sorry

FROM PAGE 16

"The Biman management is utmost sad and ashamed of the unexpected and indecent behaviour with a passenger by some Biman staff," said a Biman press release.

The authorities had already initiated the process to take proper punitive measures against the Biman staff involved in the incident.

In a display of sheer audacity, Biman staff Hafizur Rahman struck on the head of Rubi Haque at the Motijheel Sales Office in the capital Tuesday leaving her head bleeding.

She had an altercation with Biman staff there over "extra charge" for confirming tickets. Rubi alleged that Biman staff demanded an additional Tk 14,000 for each of the three tickets she wanted to buy.

Biman staff, however, claimed that there was no low-fare seats available for that day's flight and that they had told her that she could have tickets if she paid the additional amount to get seats in higher fare segment.

Following the incident, Rubi filed a case with Motijheel Police Station and the law enforcers arrested Hafizur. He obtained bail from a Dhaka court on Wednesday.

# Heavy shelling in Pak anti-militant offensive

AFP, Bannu

Pakistan's military yesterday shelled a strategic town in the latest round of its offensive against Taliban militants in the country's restive northwest, as aid agencies scaled up relief efforts for refugees.

The heavy bombardment of Miranshah, the main town of North Waziristan tribal district, began at 6:00 am (0100 GMT), according to local intelligence and military sources. It comes after nearly two weeks of

air raids on militant targets as part of an operation aimed at wiping out longstanding militant strongholds in the area, which borders Afghanistan.

"The army has started using artillery since 6:00 am today and has bombarded Miranshah bazaar and Zafar town areas through cannon and

tanks," an intelligence official in

Miranshah told AFP. Another intelligence official and a senior military official confirmed the information.

A full assault by ground troops has been expected for some days and the intensification of the shelling could indicate that it is now imminent.

Almost half a million people have fled North Waziristan in anticipation, with many flooding into the nearby town of Bannu and tens of thousands crossing into Afghanistan.

The World Food Programme Thursday announced it was stepping up its efforts to provide the displaced with rations including wheat flour, high-energy biscuits and vegetable oil, expanding into other towns near Bannu, according to a statement.

## Germany, USA through

FROM PAGE 1

States in the other Group G fixture, plus a significant swing in goal difference, would take them through to the last 16.

Although Ronaldo netted his first goal of the tournament, the winner, it was his numerous misses that cost Portugal the sizeable victory they needed to make up for the 4-0 mauling they suffered by Germany in their first game.

The lead-up to match at Recife had focused on suspicions that the Germans and Americans would be happy with a draw that would give both sides an easy path through to the next round.

Klinsmann's friendship with his former assistant German coach Joachim Loew had reinforced the conspiracy theories. But Germany dominated the match in the washedout Arena Pernambuco. US goalkeeper Tim Howard

repeatedly kept his side in the game for 55 minutes until Mueller broke the deadlock. A well-worked corner saw

Howard save from Per Mertesacker's header. The rebound went to Mueller on

the edge of the penalty area who made no mistake with a powerful first-time shot that flew past the flying goalkeeper into his left corner.

Germany could have had several goals in an entertaining first half in which Howard played the key role.

The United States soaked up the early pressure, and on a rare foray midfield orchestrator Michael Bradley sent Graham Zusi through on

the left for the winger to unleash a drive that sailed just over Manuel Neuer's crossbar.

Portugal had taken the lead through a John Boye own goal before Asamoah Gyan equalised

The Europeans broke the deadlock after half an hour with an own goal by the unfortunate Boye, who diverted a cross by Miguel Veloso off his knee and over despairing goalkeeper Fatawu Dauda.

Kevin-Prince Boateng and Sulley Muntari had been sent home after attacking and abusing, respectively, members of the Ghana management.

Ronaldo, after a scrappy opening few minutes he picked the ball up wide on the right and hit a wayward cross that sailed over Dauda only to come back off the crossbar.

He then tried his luck with a freekick from 25 yards in a central position which Dauda beat away.

The 29-year-old looked certain to score as he rose unmarked to meet a cross from seven yards out but headed straight at Dauda, who made an instinctive reaction parry.

The Black Stars put pressure on Portugal after the break, with captain Gyan producing a shot from just outside the penalty area that skimmed narrowly wide.

Shortly before the hour mark Ghana's persistence earned reward when Gyan headed home at the far post from a sublime cross by Kwadwo Asamoah, delivered with the outside of his left boot.

Gyan thus became the top African goalscorer at World Cups with his sixth effort in finals.

## Too much TV doubles

FROM PAGE 16

Researchers followed more than 13,000 university graduates for an average of 8.2 years and discovered that those who spent hours glued to the box were more likely to die young.

Even when the academics accounted for other lifestyle factors, watching television still increased the chance of dying prematurely twofold.

"Our findings suggest adults may consider increasing their physical activity, avoid long sedentary periods, and reduce television watching to no longer than one to two hours each day," said lead researcher Prof Miguel Martinez-Gonzalez of the University of Navarra in Pamplona, Spain.

"Television viewing is a major sedentary behaviour and there is an increasing trend toward all types of sedentary behaviours," he said.

"As the population ages, sedentary behaviours will become more preva-

lent, especially watching television, and this poses an additional burden on the increased health problems related to ageing," he added.

The latest research assessed 13,284 young and healthy Spanish university graduates of an average age of 37, to determine the association between three types of sedentary behaviours, television viewing time, computer time and driving time and the risk of

death from all causes. The participants were followed for a median 8.2 years. Researchers reported 97 deaths, with 19 deaths from cardiovascular causes, 46 from

cancer and 32 from other causes. The risk of death was twofold higher for participants who reported watching three or more hours of TV a day compared to those watching one or less hours.

The research was published in the Journal of the American Heart Association.

### I don't say

officers told me that former Madanpur union parishad chairman Abdus Salam was causing havoc in the voting centre by casting fake votes. So, I called him [the ex-chairman] and told him to cast his vote only and leave."

Bashir told the media that Salam

threatened policemen saying, "If you do not allow me to do what I want, none of you will be able to leave this place with your heads." The ASP called in reinforcements in

the form of Rab and BGB personnel after his superior instructed him to arrest Salam and his men.

Bashir claimed that a few minutes after he called for reinforcements, he got a call from Shamim Osman.

"Osman said, 'Why did you call them [his superior and reinforcements]? Please leave the centre. It will be 4:00pm soon [polls closing] and at least 70 to 80 percent votes must be cast. Give him [Salam] a clearance to do what he wants'," the ASP told the press.

"He verbally abused and threatened me when I refused to oblige," Bashir said, adding that a general diary had been filed in this connection. Shamim denied the allegations

before the media.

"He [the ASP] is a very petty officer and I do not think I need to comment further on this," the lawmaker told the

The ASP, however, is third in the police chain of command in the district.

Sidestepping the question, Shamim told the media, "What should be the topic of discussion now, him [the ASP] or how the election went?"

Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad said, "The electoral enquiry committee will investigate the matter. We want to wait for the report which may take two or three days. "Action will be taken as per investi-

gation," the CEC said at the EC Secretariat.

Selim Osman ran for parliament yesterday from Narayanganj-5 constituency on a Jatiya Party ticket. His brother Shamim is the Awami League MP from Narayanganj-4. Narayanganj-5 fell vacant after their brother Nasim Osman died.

## Modi accepts

FROM PAGE 16 Sheikh Hasina to visit India at her earliest convenience.

Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, now in Dhaka, handed over the letter to Bangladesh's Prime Minister yesterday.

At a press conference, Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali said the Bangladesh premier had accepted the invitation of the Indian prime minister. The new prime minister of India

expressed his "hopes for a new era of cooperation and connectivity across the South Asian region", Ali quoted Modi as saying in the letter. The Indian premier emphasised that

for India, "Bangladesh is not merely a neighbour but a nation with which we share history, culture, civilisation, and enduring links between people". "The emotional bonds of

Bangladesh's birth as an independent nation and the ideals of democracy, secularism, pluralism and rule of law also serve as a link between India and Bangladesh," Modi said in his letter.

"My government will apply itself to further accelerating our engagement and strengthening the framework of our relationship," he said.

"We should meet frequently so as to better understand each other's priorities, perspectives and concerns and thereby take our relations to greater heights in the future," he wrote.

Modi also said he "is convinced that the well-being of every nation is linked to its neighbourhood" and, therefore, he places special emphasis on India's engagement with its neighbours.

"I sincerely hope we can all work together to foster a new era of cooperation and connectivity across the South Asian region, which will ignite our collective surge to prosperity," the Indian premier said. In the letter, Modi also thanked

Hasina for her letter of felicitations on his assumption of office.

### Delhi wants to resolve

FROM PAGE 16

AKM Shameem Chowdhury, Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, briefed reporters after the meeting at the Prime Minister's Office.

About the Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) with India, Sushma Swaraj said the Bill was already in the Indian parliament and under the active consideration of the Indian government. The Indian minister said before

coming to Dhaka she had talks with West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who had sent her good wishes to Hasina and telling her that things would move positively. Swaraj also handed over an invi-

tation from Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Hasina to visit India, the press secretary said. "Prime Minister Modi is eager to

see that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visits India very soon," Swaraj told the Bangladesh premier at the meeting. In response, Hasina extended an invitation to Modi through the vis-

iting Indian minister to visit Bangladesh. Sheikh Hasina laid emphasis on a resolution of the pending bilateral issues of Land Boundary

Agreement (LBA), Teesta Water Sharing Treaty as well as addressing border killings by Indian Border is covered. Security Force. Terming poverty the main enemy

of South Asia, Hasina said all would have to work together to alleviate poverty in the region. "For alleviating poverty, we must

have good relations with neighbours," she told the Indian minis-About checking trans-border terrorism and militancy, Hasina reiter-

ated her government's policy of zero tolerance in this connection. "The soil of Bangladesh will never be allowed to be used for any

terrorism and militant act ... " the PM said. In response, the visiting Indian minister thanked Hasina for her firm resolve to this end.

Hasina requested India for the extradition of all Bangladeshi criminals, including Nur Hossain, hiding in after committing crimes at home.

About the 1,320-megawatt coalfired power plant in Rampal, the premier urged the Indian government to speed up its construction work.

She also requested the Indian government to provide training to the Bangladeshi personnel of the nuclear power plant at the Bhaba Atomic Research Centre in India and simplify the Indian multiple visa processing procedure.

In response to India's request for using Bangladesh's roads for transporting rice to Agartala, Hasina said road conditions needed to be improved to have the purpose materialise. She sought Indian assistance to this end.

She also said Bangladesh would try to help India in this connection since the country had historic relations with Agartala, particularly during the Liberation War in 1971. The prime minister stressed the

need for establishing a Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) economic corridor for the betterment of this region. She put emphasis on trilateral

relations among India, Bhutan and Bangladesh for harnessing hydroelectric power, a process which Nepal could join later. The Bangladesh leader also

sought support in importing refined oil from India through the pipeline along the Assam-Nagaland-Parbatipur border so that the northern region of the country The Indian external affairs minister appreciated Sheikh Hasina's ges-

ture in sending the Speaker of the Bangladesh parliament to the swearing-in ceremony of the Indian prime minister. Sushma Swaraj said Prime Minister Modi had asked her to visit

Bangladesh when he was on his Bhutan tour. In response, Hasina thanked Swaraj for selecting Bangladesh as

her first foreign destination. Besides, issues related to an increase in the number of coaches of Moitree Express between India and Bangladesh alongside improving bus services on the route were

discussed at the meeting. Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali, PM's Advisers Mashiur Rahman, Towfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, Indian Foreign Secretary Sujatha Singh and Indian High Commissioner Pankaj Saran, among others, were present at the meeting.

## Shibir men clash

FROM PAGE 16

crude bombs, he said. To bring the situation under control, police fired several rubber bullets and teargas canisters. Five Shibir activists sustained

injuries at the time, claimed RU Shibir organising secretary Shoyeb Shahriar. Earlier in the day around

7:00am, the party activists blasted two crude bombs in front of the RU administrative building. Shibir activists also vandalised a

bus as it reached the Barnali intersection in the city with students around 8:45am, witnesses said. They hurled a crude bomb and vandalised another bus in front of

said. No one was, however, reported to have been injured in the incidents.

the university's main entrance

around 9:00am, police sources

Motihar police also recovered an unexploded crude bomb on the strike. campus.

In the early hours yesterday, Shibir activists locked all rooms of the university to prevent classes and examinations.

Later around 11:30am, the university authorities broke open those locks.

Meanwhile, Motihar police detained four RU students at Binodpur Bazar near the university, suspecting that they were Shibir activists.

The detainees are Zahid Hasan, 21, Shohag Islam, 23, Golam Mostafa, 20 and Abu Hanif, 23. Police will take further action against them upon an investigation, OC Alamgir said.

Contacted, RU Proctor Prof Tarikul Hasan told The Daily Star by phone that the authorities would take action against the Shibir men involved in the vandalism.

Additional police were deployed on the campus to avert any untoward situation, he added.

Meanwhile, leaders and activists of RU unit BCL led by its president Mizanur Rahman Rana and general secretary SM Tawhid Al Hossain alias Tuhin, brought out a procession on the campus protesting the

Tuhin is the prime accused in the case linked with the cutting off of the right ankle of Russell, a fourth year student of the finance and banking department and Shibir secretary of Nawab Abdul Latif hall of RU, on June 16.

# Cabinet to see anti-formalin law Monday

FROM PAGE 1

Widespread use of formalin in preservation of fish, fruit and other food items is posing a serious threat to public health. The chemical,

usually used as a preservative for and use of formalin will be made use of the chemical. of formaldehyde in water. biological specimens, is now being

used to preserve edible items. As per a provision of the drafted

law, taking licence from the

mandatory, Commerce Secretary Mahbub Hossain told The Daily Star.

The importers and users will have to maintain ledgers to record the commerce ministry for both import volume of import and usage of the chemical.

> Directorate of National Consumer (DNCRP) will also monitor the import and use of formalin.

DCs and UNOs, the

open its branch in every district, added the secretary. ratified, related rules will be framed specifying the responsibilities of

Mahbub Hossain also said the definition of formalin will be

elaborated in the proposed act, which will also cover formalin dehydrate, para-formalin dehydrate and some other solutions that can Apart from the be converted into formalin. Talking to this correspondent

recently, Touhid Islam of Kalaroa upazila in Satkhira said a huge Rights Protection amount of quality mangoes are produced in the area. But after harvesting the fruit, traders take those to Kalaroa Bazar and use calcium The DNCRP will carbide to ripen the fruit. Later, they treat the mangoes with formalin. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on

Wednesday told parliament that Once the law is formalin control law is being formulated with provisions of tough punishment and hefty fines for production, import and sale of the chemical without valid licences. The law will have provisions of a

the officials and maximum punishment of life term and organisations involved in monia minimum seven years' imprisonment, along with the highest fine of Tk toring and controlling the import and 20 lakh for the offenders, she added.



International Development Enterprise (iDE) Bangladesh

Reference: IDE/VE/2014-16/001

Date: June 27, 2014

#### Vendor Enlistment Notice Applications are invited from firms, private limited companies having business

experiences in the fields of the following categories. This enlistment will be effective for Two years (July 2014 to June 2016).

Category	Particulars
Α	Information and Communication Technology (ICT) equipments supplier and maintenance
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С	Printing and Publications related
D	Travel agencies
E	Vehicle maintenance/servicing and parts related

Interested firms or companies are invited to download the "Vendor enlistment

schedule" from iDE's web site: <a href="http://ide-bangladesh.org/images/Vendor">http://ide-bangladesh.org/images/Vendor</a> Enlistment Schedule IDE.pdf and submit at GPO BOX-6109 in a sealed envelopment mentioning the category or sub-category. The submission date will remain open till 6 July, 2014. The detail information is given in the schedule. iDE management reserves the right to accept or reject part/whole of any or all the application without explaining any reason whatsoever.

#### RFP Ref. No.: LRPS-2014-9112894 Request for Proposal (RFP) to develop a National

#### Programme and Plan of Action to Eliminate Child Marriage in Bangladesh The UNICEF-Bangladesh is inviting interested companies with a

strong record and credibility of providing the above required service. For detailed scope of work and how to submit proposals (technical and financial offers) please write to UNICEF at "supplybangladesh@unicef.org" or visit our website: http://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/supply\_4912.htm

The deadline to submit proposal is 17 July 2014 by 11:00 am local time. Please note that UNICEF does not charge any fee at any stage of the solicitation process.

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