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Your Right to Know

Rohingyas see a ray of hope

Lawsuit at UN court, ICC genocide probe seen as major steps towards fight for justice

PORIMOL PALMA

The Rohingyas, who have been facing rights abuses in Myanmar for decades, now see a ray of hope of getting justice following a lawsuit with the highest UN court and the ICC's approval to probe crimes against them. Leaders of the persecuted community believe the steps will help mount pressure on Myanmar to grant them citizenship and other rights.

On November 11, the Gambia filed a case with the UN'sInternational Court of Justice (ICJ), accusing Myanmar of committing genocide against the Rohingyas.

Two days later, several rights bodies filed a lawsuit with an Argentine court against Myanmar State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and several top Myanmar officials over crimes against the Rohingyas.

On Thursday, the International Criminal Court (ICC) approved a full investigation into Myanmar's alleged crimes against the persecuted

"We see a new hope of getting justice. It's a big victory for us...

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Farmers pluck spinach from a field in Munshiganj's Aldi area yesterday. A large land area of the district has been brought under cultivation of early winter vegetables. Growers are expecting to make a good profit from their yields.

PHOTO: **ANISUR RAHMAN**

No respite from soaring onion price

To be imported by air; rice, vegetables also getting pricier

ABDULLAH AL NAYEEM and SHAHEEN MOLLAH

There seems to be no stopping the spiralling prices of onion. Each kg of the essential spice was sold for Tk 240-260 in the capital yesterday and the prices kept rising by the hour.

To boost supplies, the government will use cargo planes to import onion within the shortest possible time.

"Through cargo planes, the TCB is importing onion from Turkey while S Alam Group from Egypt and many other companies from Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates [are importing onion]. All procedures have already been completed," BSS reports citing a commerce ministry release.

Besides, a large consignment of onion SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

BHASHAN CHAR UN technical team's visit postponed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The proposed visit by a UN technical mission to Bhashan Char housing facility for the Rohingyas has been postponed after Bangladesh asked for the terms of reference for the visit. "We want to know

exactly what areas they want to look at, because the UN wants to send a technical team to the island," Shah Kamal, senior secretary of the Disaster

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SWECHCHHASEBAK LEAGUE

Council after 7 years amid image crisis

Two top leaders not even invited

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE and MOHIUDDIN ALAMGIR

The name says it all. Swechchhasebak League was founded in 1994 so that it volunteers during the political programmes of Awami League and stands beside those in need during natural disasters.

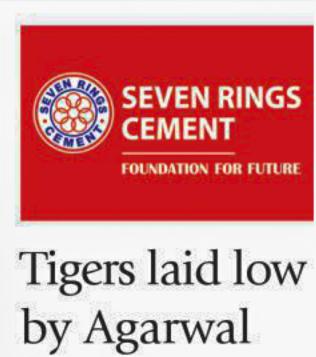
But since its inception, Swechchhasebak League, the volunteers' wing of the AL, hardly acted that way.

Instead, many of its top leaders,

especially after the party came to power in 2008, were busy making their own fortune.

The situation, in fact, turned so bad that the AL high-ups had to relieve the organisation's president, Molla Mohammed Abu Kawsar, of his duties on October 23, just 23 days before the muchawaited Swechchhasebak League council.

Besides, Swechchhasebak League General Secretary Pankaj Devnath, a lawmaker, was asked not to take part in any SEE PAGE 10 COL 2



ABDULLAH AL MEHDI from Indore India were firmly on top against Bangladesh as the hosts piled on the runs to take a huge 343-run lead with four wickets in hand at the end of the second

Holkar Stadium in Indore yesterday.

Mayank Agarwal, who was dropped on the first day by Imrul Kayes while







India opener Mayank Agarwal is overjoyed after reaching his second Test double-century during the second day of the first Test against Bangladesh at the Holkar Stadium in Indore yesterday.



Say police in charge sheet of the Buet student murder case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Being tortured for hours, Buet student Abrar Fahad became so sick that at one point he could not even speak. He begged for his life by making gestures, but was shown no mercy.

The 21-year-old student of electrical and electronic engineering threw up

and urinated after accused Anik Sarkar beat him up with cricket stumps 40 to 50 times in the second phase.

In the first, Anik had hit him with stumps 50 to 60 times. Several others also tortured him.

The horrifying description of the torture came up in the charge sheet of the Abrar murder case, submitted by the Detective Branch of police to a Dhaka court on Wednesday. Abrar died at the Sher-e-Bangla Hall of Buet sometime between October 6 night and early on October 7.

The DB accused 25 Buet students, mostly leaders and

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SINGER

SCORECARD

BANGLADESH

FIRST TEST BRIEF SCORE

Bangladesh: First innings

India: First innings 493 for 6 in 114 overs (Agarwal 243, Pujara 54, Rahane 86, Jadeja not out 60, Yadav not out 25; Ebadat 1-115, Jayed 4-108, Mehedi 1-125)

