The Daily Star



1971 WAR CRIMES **Trials of** organisations ever elusive

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Awami League government has partially fulfilled its electoral pledge to hold trials over 1971 war crimes by bringing individuals to book but it is yet to make any considerable progress in trying organisations.

Since the last amendment to the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act-1973 in February 2013, which has provisions for trials of only individuals, the government has been saying necessary amendments would be made to facilitate the trial of anti-liberation organisations.

The law ministry prepared a draft to amend the law in 2014 but over the last seven years no visible steps have been taken to pass the amendment, leaving unfulfilled the demand for trial of the organisations which acted as collaborators of the Pakistani occupation forces to commit one of the deadliest genocides of the last century.

Law Minister Anisul Huq on many occasions said the government was working to amend the law but his words are yet to be translated into deeds.

Contacted on March 23, Anisul Huq told The Daily Star that the government would take necessary steps to try the organisations involved in crimes against humanity and war crimes during the Liberation War, in SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



Members of the Detective Branch and Naogaon district police beat up BNP activists who gathered in the town's KG's More area to stage a protest over the "killing on the Independence Day".

Myanmar faced growing criticism yesterday

over a surge in violence against opponents

of military rule that killed more than 500

people since a February 1 coup, with a

new offer to help promote dialogue by

the army ousted an elected government

led by Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi,

detaining her and reimposing military rule after a decade of tentative steps towards

নিরাপত্তা সুতা ঃ ১০০ ও ৫০০ টাকা

মৃল্যমান নোটের বাম পাশে ৪ মি.মি.

চওডা চলের বেণী সদশ নিরাপত্তা সূতা

রয়েছে যার একটি অংশ লাল হতে সবুজ

রংয়ে পরিবর্তিত হয় এবং অপর অংশে

(২০০ টাকা/১০০০ টাকা) মুদ্রিত আছে।

নোটগুলো নাড়াচাড়া করলে এতে

লুকানো ছাপা ঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা

মূল্যমান নোটের সামনের দিকের নিচে মাঝ বরাবর নোটের মূল্যমান ১০০, ৫০০ ও

১০০০ এবং ২০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটে

TWO HUNDRED TAKA লুকায়িত

অবস্থায় মুদ্রিত আছে, যা নোটটি

অতি সৃক্ষ আকারের লেখা ঃ ১০০, ৫০০ ও

১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের পেছনের

দিকের চিহ্নিত অংশে অতি সৃক্ষ আকারে

BANGLADESH BANK এবং ২০০ টাকা

মৃল্যমান নোটের পেছনের দিকের চিহ্নিত

অংশে অতি সন্ধ আকারে 200 মুদ্রিত

রয়েছে, যা আতশী কাঁচ অথবা উন্নতমানের

স্মার্ট মোবাইল ফোনের ক্যামেরা প্রয়োজন

মত জুম করে কিংবা "Flashlight &

magnifying glass" App এর সহায়তায়

মোবাইল ফোন ধরে দেখা যাবে।

অনুভূমিকভাবে ধরলে দেখা যাবে।

হলোগ্রাফিক ইমেজ পরিলক্ষিত হয়।

Myanmar has been in turmoil since

neighbours alarmed by the crisis.

рното COLLECTED

150 injured as BNP men clash with cops

STAR REPORT

At least 150 people were injured in separate clashes between police and BNP activists in Kishorganj and Noagaon yesterday.

The clashes ensued when the party activists tried to bring out processions as a part of their central programme.

In Kishoreganj town, at least 100 people were injured in two separate clashes between BNP activists and policemen.

Aminul Islam Ashfaq, organising secretary of the BNP's Kishoreganj district unit, claimed that some 100 men were injured when police attacked them at the town's Sholakia and Ekrampur areas without any provocation.

As per the party's central programme, protesting "killing people on Independence Day", the party men in processions were on way to the district party office in Rothkhola area around 11:30am.

Soon after bringing out the processions, police rushed to the spot and started throwing abusive words towards them and SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Kushtia reclaimed

MARCH 30 & 31, 1971 Shamsuddoza Sajen

THE BATTLE OF **KUSHTIA** At 4:00am on March 30, 1971,



Bangladeshi forces, comprising East Pakistan Rifles (EPR), police and civilians under the leadership of Abu Osman Chowdhury, then a major and commander of the fourth wing of EPR, attacked the Pakistan occupation army in Kushtia from three sides. The Pakistani soldiers apparently panicked at the thought of being engulfed by so many thousands of furious Bangalees. They started fleeing the outposts and, subsequently, took shelter at the district headquarters. The Pakistan army suffered heavy casualties in their retreat. By the end of the day Bangladeshi forces took control of the whole of Kushtia except district headquarters and its adjacent areas. The war continued next day. Bangalee forces reclaimed Kushtia, and only a few Pakistan army men managed to escape the district town alive.

A detailed report on this furious resistance was ublished in the Time magazine on April 19, 1971 INDIRA PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR BANGLADESH On March 31, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi moved a resolution in parliament strongly criticising the military action in Bangladesh. She demanded an immediate end to the violence "which amounts to genocide". She also promised "whole-hearted sympathy and support" for the people of "East Bengal". Earlier, Indian Foreign Minister Swaran Singh's tepid tone as to India's response to the events in Bangladesh was criticised in parliament. There was growing pressure, both inside and outside the SEE PAGE 5 COL 5

UN to carry on dialogue with govt

Rohingya Relocation

Diplomats to visit Bhasan Char April 3 REUTERS

Wrapping up a three-day visit to Bhasan Char, a UN delegation said it wants to continue dialogue with the government.

"The United Nations is grateful to the government of Bangladesh for its facilitation of the visit and looks forward to continuing the dialogue," Mostafa Mohammad Sazzad Hossain, assistant communication officer at UNHCR Bangladesh, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Meanwhile, a delegation of foreign diplomats stationed in Dhaka is

likely to visit the island in Noakhali's Hatiya on April 3 to take a first-hand view of the housing facility for 100,000 Rohingyas.

ANTI-COUP PROTESTS IN MYANMAR Death toll tops 500

Outside pressure builds again on junta

democracy.

At least 512 civilians had been killed in nearly two months of protests against the coup, 141 of them on Saturday, the bloodiest day of the unrest, according to the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) advocacy group.

Fighting has also flared in old wars between the Myanmar army and ethnic minority insurgents in frontier regions and refugees are beginning to spill over borders. Western countries have condemned SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

Today is the 50th Death Anniversary of S N H Rizvi



We request all relatives, friends and well-wishers to remember him in their prayers and to pray for eternal peace of his soul



জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমান এর প্রতিকৃতি সম্বলিত ১০০, ২০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের নোট লেনদেনে নিম্নবর্ণিত নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য খেয়াল করলে আমরা সহজেই আসল নোট চিনতে পারব :



Sources said the envoys may go to the island by helicopter and are likely to return the same day.

The development comes following an impasse of more than a year between the government and the UN regarding the global body's technical assessment



'RIGHTS ABUSES' EU set to slap more sanctions on Iran

REUTERS, Brussels/Paris

The European Union is set to agree to sanction several Iranian individuals today for human rights abuses, the first such measures since 2013, three EU diplomats said.

EU envoys are expected to agree to impose travel bans and asset freezes on the individuals, the diplomats said, and their names would be published next week, when the sanctions take effect. They gave no further details.

The European Union SEE PAGE 5 COL 4



PRAYER TIMING MARCH 31 Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha AZAN 4-45 12-45 4-45 6-20 7-45 JAMAAT 5-20 1-15 5-00 6-25 8-15

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

COVID PANDEMIC India's situation turning from 'bad to worse'

Says sr govt official; WHO experts say virus probably came to humans from animals

Agencies

India's Covid-19 situation is turning from "bad to worse," a senior government official said yesterday, as infections surge across several states.

"Remember if the cases are more, they will eventually overwhelm the system", senior NITI Aayog Member Vinod Kumar Paul told a news conference.

Paul also said: "As you have noticed in the last few weeks, the situation is becoming bad to worse. It is a serious cause of concern. In some states in particular, there is a huge cause of worry. No part of the country should be complacent."

His comments came as Maharashtra - home to the country's financial capital, Mumbai - seeing a rapid rise in cases over the past few weeks.

Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan bluntly told the 28 federal states to get a grip on lax coronavirus prevention measures "right now" to prevent healthcare systems being overwhelmed by the surge in infections.

The country's total case tally has risen rapidly, touching 1,20,95,855 on the back of 56,211 new cases in the last 24 hours.

Covid-19 has killed more than 2.7 million people worldwide in the 15 months since it emerged, forcing governments around the world to introduce restrictions that have battered the global economy.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4



রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালি (OVI) ঃ ১০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোট এদিক-ওদিক করলে রং পরিবর্তনশীল কালিতে মুদ্রিত অংশ সোনালী হতে সবুজ এবং ৫০০ টাকা মল্যমান নোটে এটি মেজেন্টা হতে সবুজ রংয়ে পরিবর্তিত হবে। তাছাড়া, ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের পেছনে বাম দিকে থাকা হালকা নীল রংয়ের BANGLADESH BANK লেখাটিও নোট এদিক-ওদিক করলে দেখা যাবে। 000 200

2000 SPARK : ২০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটের উপরের ডান কোণায় সোনালী থেকে সবুজ त्ररदात SPARK (Optically Variable Magnetic Ink) দ্বারা 200 লেখা রয়েছে, নোটটি নাড়াচাড়া করলে যা সোনালী থেকে সবুজ রংয়ে পরিবর্তন হবে । পাশাপাশি একটি উজ্জ্বল বার উপরে নীচে উঠানামা করবে।

STO (TRIM

অসমতল ছাপা ঃ ১০০, ২০০, ৫০০ ও ১০০০ টাকা মূল্যমানের প্রত্যেক প্রকার নোটের সামনের ও পেছনের দিকের ডিজাইন, মাঝখানের লেখা, ইংরেজী ও বাংলা সংখ্যায় লেখা নোটের মূল্যমান, ৭টি সমান্তরাল হেলানো সরলরেখা (তবে ২০০ টাকা মূল্যমান নোটে ৮টি সমান্তরাল সরলরেখা) এবং এর ঠিক নীচে অবস্থিত ছোট ছোট বৃত্তাকার/ত্রিভুজাকৃতির ছাপ থস্থসে অনুভূত হবে।

UV লাইটযুক্ত জাল নোট সনাক্তকারী মেশিন ও মোবাইল ফোন এবং আতশী কাঁচ দ্বারা জাল নোট সহজে পরীক্ষা করা যায়।

নোট জালকারী চক্রের প্রতারণা থেকে নিজেকে রক্ষা করুন এবং এসকল নোট জালকারীকে ধরিয়ে দিন । আসল নোটের বিভিন্ন নিরাপত্তা বৈশিষ্ট্য সম্পর্কে নিজে জানুন এবং অপরকে জানতে সহায়তা করুন।

ব্যাংক নোটের ব্যবহার সম্পর্কে সচ্চতন হোন

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