

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Media Advisory

27 December 2007

AI Index: PRE 01/009/2007

Media advisory: 5 - 10 January Bangladesh: Secretary General to lead delegation on eve of anniversary of the state of emergency

Irene Khan, Secretary General of Amnesty International, is to lead a mission to Bangladesh to discuss human rights issues with members of the government and civil society.

The mission, the first by an Amnesty International Secretary General to the country, comes on the eve of the anniversary of the declaration of the state of emergency and will focus on the rule of law and institutional reform necessary to promote and protect human rights in Bangladesh.

The delegation will visit Dhaka and Rajshahi and will meet with survivors of human rights violations and members of civil society. Amnesty International will be meeting the Adviser on Foreign Affairs, Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, and Adviser of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Barrister Mainul Hosein. The organization has also requested meetings with the Chief Adviser, Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, the Chief of Army Staff, Gen. Mueen Ahmed, and Chief Justice Ruhul Amin.

Highlights of the visit include:

Saturday 5 January DHAKA

The delegation will meet with NGOs and other members of civil society to discuss the current human rights situation within the country.

Sunday 6 January RAJSHAHI

The delegation will carry out a field visit to Rajshahi.

Monday 7 January DHAKA

The delegation will return to Dhaka from Rajshahi to conduct further meetings

Tuesday 8 January DHAKA

1300 hrs - Irene Khan will meet Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Adviser on Foreign Affairs.

Wednesday 9 January DHAKA

1430 hrs - Irene Khan will meet Barrister Mainul Hosein, Adviser of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

Irene Khan will launch Amnesty International's new Bangla website during a discussion on freedom of expression.

Thursday 10 January DHAKA

Irene Khan will hold a press conference to present the findings of her visit.

NOTE TO PLANNING DESKS AND EDITORS

- A detailed itinerary will be circulated next week.

- Irene Khan will be available for comment after meetings. She is available for one-to-one interviews. To arrange an interview please contact the delegation's press office in advance.
- Footage and still images will be available.

For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact Judit Arenas on +44 7778 472188 / jarenas@amnesty.org or Victoria Harrison Neves on +44 7795 628367 / victoria.harrisonneves@amnesty.org

Public Document