

Staff Reporter

Law Minister Anisul Huq on Tuesday said the draft of the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act amendment will soon be placed before the cabinet for its approval.

“The government has prepared a draft for the amendment of the ICT law. It’ll be placed before the cabinet for its approval soon,” the minister told reporters after a meeting with US Ambassador at-large for war crimes issues Stephen Rapp at the Secretariat.

He, however, refused to say when the draft will be tabled in parliament.

“The trial of war criminals is going on maintaining neutrality and transparency amid pressure from different sections,” Anisul Huq said.

The minister claimed that visiting US envoy Stephen Rapp showed relatively soft attitude towards the provision of death penalty in the trial of war crimes accused.

“As Stephen Rapp asked me whether there’s any alternative punishment to death, I told him that the prosecution will seek the highest punishment during the trial of war crimes accused for committing heinous crimes like killing, rape and torture,” he said.

About vesting power of impeachment of Supreme Court judges in parliament Anisul Huq said it will not be unrealistic if the power of impeachment is given to parliament.

Power has been given to parliament to impeach judges in many developed countries practicing parliamentary democracy, he added.