

### Corruption case against Khaleda Proceedings stayed for 2 months

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday stayed the proceedings of a corruption case against former and incumbent Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and former home minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury for two months.

Judge Ahmed Jamil Mostafa passed the order following an order of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs regarding the stay of all political cases.

The defence lawyers Masud Ahmed Talukder and Sohel Mallick submitted a petition seeking stay

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### AL activist dies in clash with BNP in Kushtia

UNB, Kushtia

A bloody clash between Awami League and BNP activists left one person killed and 15 injured in Sadarpur village, 25km from here in Mirpur upazila on Wednesday.

Police confirmed the death of Jamat Ali, 55, during the clash and identified him as an Awami League supporter.

Local MP Shahidul Islam, however, said Jamat Ali died of heart attack.

Relatives of the victim and villagers insisting that Jamat Ali was killed in the clash and demanded post-mortem of the body to probe their claim.

But BNP activists did not allow the post-mortem of the body saying

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An elderly patient leaves the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) while third and fourth class employees demonstrate to press home their demands yesterday. Doctors and teachers of the BSMMUH brought out a procession against the demands of the employees union.

### Strike at BSMMUH called off

Health minister assures restoration of previous status

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sarkari Karmachari Samannaya Parishad (SKSP) yesterday called off its strike at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH).

A statement issued by the health ministry said the strike was called off following a consensus between the ministry and the SKSP over restoring the previous status of the hospital.

Sources said Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain at a meeting with the SKSP leaders at his office yesterday morning agreed in principle to

revive the previous status of the hospital and shift BSMMUH to another place.

The minister called the meeting on the seventh day of the strike enforced by the entire BSMMUH nursing staff, backed by about 600 Class three and class four employees belonging to the SKSP demanding restoration of the hospital's previous status and protesting the death of a nurse due to 'wrong treatment'.

The meeting was assured of proper action against those respon-

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### Gunfight at DU Probe body yet to submit report

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka University authorities have extended the probe body's time to submit its report on the recent gunfight between activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at Jagannath Hall and Zahurul Haq Hall.

The time was extended on Wednesday. The new Vice-chancellor of the university, Prof. Anwarullah Chowdhury, had formed the six-member probe body on November 14, the day he took over.

Headed by Proctor of the university, Prof. Nazrul Islam, the probe body includes Provost of Zahurul Haq Hall Dr. SM Mahfuzur Rahman,

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### Quorum crisis hits JS proceedings

NAZMUL ASHRAF

Not a single lawmaker was present in the House when the clock struck 12 noon, the schedule for beginning of yesterday's sitting of the Jatiya Sangsad.

Three minutes later, two lawmakers including LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan entered the empty House. At 12:10pm, there were 11 MPs and in the next 10 minutes seven more lawmakers turned up.

Even half an hour after the scheduled start, the 300-strong parliament had only 27 members, way short of the required number of 60 lawmakers needed for the business to start.

Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar took his seat at 12:40pm when the num-

ber of lawmakers rose to 47. At 12:47pm, the speaker took up the order of the day with just 60 members, including him, attending the sitting.

Delayed resumption of the session, the maiden one of the eighth parliament that began its journey on October 28, has become a regular feature. Sittings of the current session started half an hour behind the schedule in the past one week on average despite repeated appeals by the speaker to the lawmakers to be in the House on time.

In fact, what had happened in the last one year or so of the last parliament when the then BNP-led opposition had boycotted the proceed

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### Police camp tragedy Doctors put deaths to delay in treatment

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

The lives of 11 policemen, who died of food poisoning at the Paglipara Police Camp in Rangamati on November 18, could have been saved if they were quickly taken to the hospital for treatment, according to doctors.

Soon after the members of the Eighth Armed Police Battalion fell ill after having *iftar* Sunday night, wireless message was sent to the headquarters of the battalion at Bilaichhari, 70 kilometre from the camp. Having received the message at 8:00pm, the officials at the headquarters were awe-struck and took time to assign the transit camp at

Kaptai to look into the matter. At the same time, message was also sent to the BDR camp at Waghagachhara.

It was almost two hours after the reporting of the incident when people from the two camps arrived at the hilltop outpost 400 feet above the sea level. By then, the ailing policemen were groaning in pain and almost fainted by the time. Moreover, they could not come down from the hilltop to avail themselves of medical attention, as the winding road leading to the Rangamati-Kaptai road is very steep.

The ailing police personnel were taken to Projichhari Health

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Bangladesh's Australian coach Trevor Chappel along with a few players look on as the visiting Zimbabwean cricketers (not in picture) have a practice session at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

### 3 killed as bus hits mishuk in C'nawabganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Three people were killed and two others injured when a bus hit a mishuk in Bola More area under Nachol upazila in Chapainawabganj yesterday.

The dead were identified as Golam Mostafa, 28, Topan, 32, and Ziaur, 27.

According to witnesses, the accident occurred when a Chapainawabganj bound bus hit a

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### Bangladeshi dies on Saudi flight

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Zia International Airport police yesterday recovered body of a young Bangladeshi from a Saudi Airlines flight yesterday morning.

The dead was identified as Shahabuddin, 45, son of Abdus Sobhan of Char Chandina, Sonagazi in Feni.

Police recovered the body from the plane and sent it to the Dhaka

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### Defaulter ISPs given a second chance

Access lines of 10 restored on late payment of licence fees

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications (MOPT) yesterday allowed defaulted Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to renew their licenses on payment of late fee, sources said.

Access lines of 10 ISPs were restored last night as they paid renewal fees with penalty, the source said. MOPT officials could not be contacted for comment despite repeated attempts until last night.

The penalty was at the rate of Tk 1,000 for the first 15 days of failure in renewing licence and an additional amount of Tk. 2,000 per day thereafter.

"We were allowed to deposit the renewal fee for ISP license with a provision for payment of late fee," an official of a leading ISP told The Daily Star last night.

Thousands of Internet users in the country are suffering as access lines of ISPs remained snapped since Monday.

The ISP officials hoped that the MOPT would now ask the BTB to immediately restore access lines of ISPs which have deposited their renewal fees.

BTB snapped access lines of 59 ISPs as they failed to renew their licenses in time.

The sources alleged that BTB mistakenly snapped 150 access lines of Information Services Limited (ISN), a leading ISP, although its licence was valid. When the issue was raised to MOPT, it asked BTB to restore the connections.

Snapping of its lines caused huge loss to ISN and created mistrust with its subscribers, an official of the company told The Daily Star. "There is no way out but to go for legal action against the MOPT and the BTB for compensation," the official said seeking anonymity.

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### Jewellery, gold bars worth Tk 85 lakh recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Customs officials recovered 15 kg of gold bars and jewellery worth about Tk 85 lakh from under two passenger seats of a Biman flight from Singapore on Wednesday night.

Acting on a tip-off, a Customs Intelligence and Investigation team conducted search in the plane after passengers disembarked. The flight landed at Zia International Airport (ZIA) at about 11 pm, customs

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Customs officials display the recovered gold bars and jewellery they recovered from under two passenger seats of a Biman flight from Singapore on Wednesday night.

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Nov 23		5-11 pm
Nov 24	6-20 am	

Prayer Timings		
Nov 23		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-55	5-00
Juma	12-15	1-20
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-14	5-20
Esha	7-30	8-00

Source: Islamic Foundation