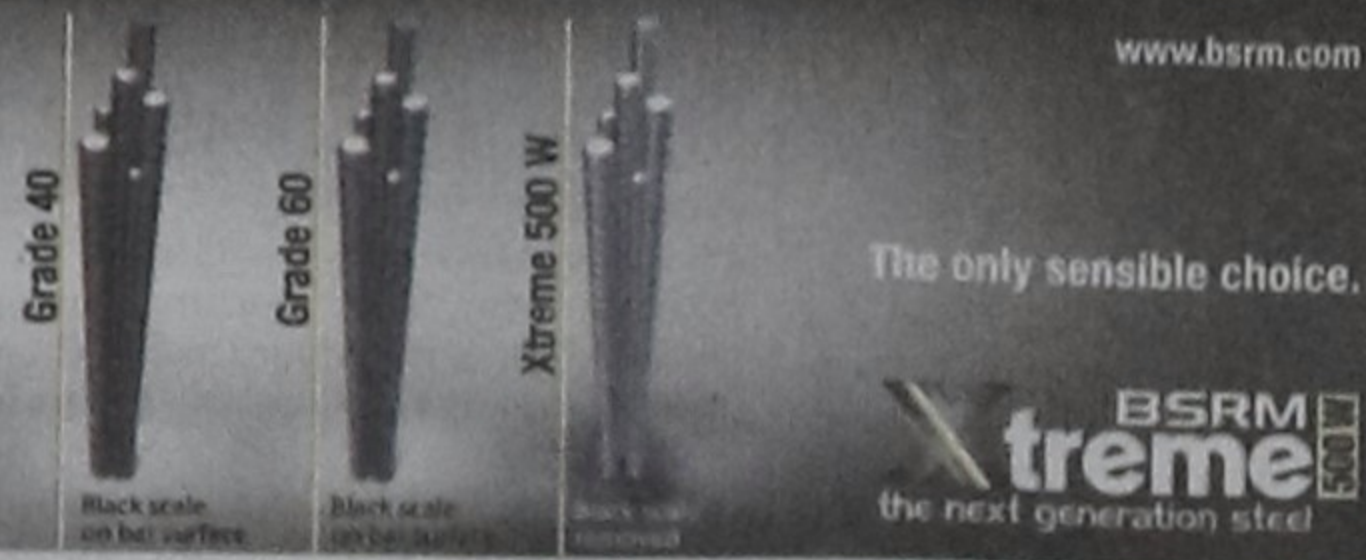


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Quamrul slates HC judge's remarks on JS

Says MPs will seek Supreme Judicial Council's action
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Law Quamrul Islam yesterday said lawmakers would go to Supreme Judicial Council to lodge complaint against High Court Judge Nazrul Islam Chowdhury for his recent comments on parliament proceedings.

"Discussions will be held in parliament about his comments and, if necessary, a censure motion will be moved in this regard," Quamrul told reporters at his secretariat office.

At a function on Saturday, Justice Nazrul said, "Parliament should have been the place for rigorous and adequate debate on passage of

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

REPORT ON JOY Amar Desh faces \$10,000cr damage suit

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

A \$10,000 crore defamation suit was filed yesterday against the daily Amar Desh editor and three others of the daily for publishing 'false report' about prime minister's Energy Adviser Towfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury and son Sajeeb Wazed Joy.

The other accused in the case are acting editor of the daily Mahmudur Rahman, publisher Md Hasmat Ali and its news editor.

General Secretary of Natore district Awami League Hanif Ali Sheikh filed the case with the Chief Judicial Magistrate's court in the district.

After hearing the case, Chief Judicial Magistrate Sharifuddin Ahmed issued summons against the accused and asked them to appear in

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

Diseases on rise for climate change

MAHUBA ZANNAT and PINAKI ROY

Not only natural calamities, global warming is imposing precarious effects on human health by increasing various diseases.

Experts said with the increase in the temperature vector and water borne diseases are escalating in the country.

Besides, more areas are going to become submerged due to frequent flooding which will contaminate drinking water. The water would then cause viral, parasitic and bacterial diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery and cholera.

Linking it with climate change, an official of ICDDR,B said the outbreak of diarrhoea in the country in 2007 was the worst in the last 45 years which indicates the increasing number of diarrhoea cases in recent years.

The factors are interlinked. Prolonged water-logging makes breeding grounds for mosquitoes which increases the risks of vector borne diseases, said scientist of ICDDR,B Munirul Alam.

According to a publication of Climate Change Cell of the Department of Environment a total of 1,628,98 patients suffered from malaria during the period of 1974-1983 while 3,01,651 during 1984-1993 and 5,07,485 during 1994-2003.

The incidence of diarrhoea is also marked by an increasing trend over the period of 1994-2004. In 1995, around five lakh people suffered from diarrhoea that increased to 25 lakh in 2000.

The study published by the cell in 2009 also showed a disease profile in the country's northern division Rajshahi. It said the incidence of diarrhoea increased four times in 2005 than that of 1999 while the

prevalence of skin diseases almost nine times.

Global distribution of vectors would spread further due to the increased temperature and if the temperature increases by 1 degree Celsius the spread of vectors and vector borne diseases will increase since warmer temperature creates ideal habitats for insects, said an entomologist when asked about correlation between global warming and insects.

According to Bangladesh Met office, the weather of the country has been showing an increasing trend of about 1 degree Celsius in May and 0.5 degree C in November during the 14 years from 1985 to 1998.

Flies transmit typhoid, dysentery, kala-azar etc. So the increase of flies means more spread of these diseases.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Cop 'embarks on' ominous act

Rampura OC accused of Tk 1.7 lakh bribery; he denies allegation

MUKHLESUR RAHMAN

A resident of Mohanagar Residential Area in the city's West Rampura on Thursday alleged that the officer-in-charge (OC) of Rampura Police Station took a bribe of Tk 1.70 lakh from him by threatening to implicate him in false cases.

The complainant Altaf Hossain, an expatriate worker in Japan, lodged the complaint with the office of inspector general of police.

Altaf in his complaint said over the last one and a half months OC Ali Ahmed Hasmi realised the money in four phases. Altaf said he had recorded all his conversations with the OC on his cell phone and a copy of which on a compact disc (CD) was sent to The Daily Star office.

As the OC came to know about the complaint he sent his two assistant sub-inspectors (ASI) -- Habib and Rob -- to Altaf's house. The two ASIs called Altaf out of his house and took him to a nearby restaurant where the ASIs forced Altaf to sign a paper without letting him know what it was about, Altaf told The Daily

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

BDR MUTINY Trial at Feni adjourned till today

A CORRESPONDENT, Feni

The Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) Special Court-3 in Feni adjourned till today its mutiny trial of 62 soldiers of 19 Rifle Battalion Headquarters under the Comilla Sector for their alleged involvement in the incident.

The court set 10:00am to resume its proceedings.

At the outset of the trial on first day, a three-member court led by BDR Director General Maj Gen M Mainul Islam and including Lt Col Akhtaruzzaman and Maj

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Mumbai style terror attack in London feared

ANI, London

Scotland Yard has warned about a Mumbai-type terror attack in London targeting business hubs in the international city.

"Mumbai is coming to London," said senior detective from 'SO15' (the Metropolitan police counter-terrorism command) during a briefing

SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

ACC catches bribe-taking Wasa staff

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Anti-Corruption Commission yesterday afternoon caught two Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa) employees red handed while they were taking bribe from a client at Dakkhin Basabo in the capital.

Wasa inspector, Revenue Zone-1, Mizanur Rahman and assistant pump operator Bashir Ahmed Talukder were arrested while they were

SEE PAGE 15 COL 7



This recent photo shows a policewoman learning to drive a bus at the BRTC training centre in Narayanganj.

Policewomen take the wheel

A fleet of heavy vehicle drivers gets ready for UN job

SHAHNAZ PARVEEN

Women behind steering wheels of police cars will soon be a familiar sight in the country as the Bangladesh Police Department is grooming a fleet of policewomen for the job.

The primary target, however, is to train up female squads that would perform efficiently in the United Nations peacekeeping missions.

In addition, it will help remove the barrier to women joining the police department as drivers in future.

The target for now is to train a total of 200 female drivers. The first batch of 10 female personnel yesterday successfully completed an eight-week training course on driving heavy vehicles at Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation training centre in Narayanganj. The rest of the 200 will be trained gradually.

Earlier, they finished the first phase of basic training in the safety of a driving simulator at the Rajarbagh Police Lines.

Habibur Rahman, deputy commissioner (Headquarters) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) who took the initiative, said, "UN peacekeeping missions have shown interest to take more police personnel from Bangladesh, especially female police. Driving efficiency is preferred for the job," he added.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 6

JMB now has no suicide squad

Says Rab

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday claimed that banned Islamist militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) now has no suicide squad.

"Information we're gathering through our intelligence says that now JMB has no suicide," Rab Additional Director General (ADG) Col Mizanur Rahman Khan told a press conference at its headquarters yesterday.

Rab's has claimed this though even a few months back it claimed that they had arrested members of JMB suicide squad.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

Muggers snatch Tk 11.5 lakh shooting two

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Armed muggers snatched Tk 11.5 lakh by shooting two persons on their way to banks in the city's Jatrabari and Mirpur yesterday.

The injured are Jhutan Saha, 30, an employee of Sifat Trading, a wholesale grocery shop at Kutubkhali in Jatrabari, and Ali Akbar, 28, a sales representative of Milk Vita.

Shafiqul Islam Badal, owner of Sifat Trading, said a gang of six criminals on three motorbikes attacked Jhutan around 12:00noon near Jatrabari Police Station while he on a rickshaw-van was on

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

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Our heartiest felicitations to Mr. Rubel Aziz, Director, Partex Group, Director, The City Bank Ltd. and Chairman, Janata Insurance Co. Ltd., on being elected President of Gulshan Club.

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OnlinePoll

Do you agree with Khaleda Zia that PM's call for compensation from the developed countries to tackle the adverse effect of the global climate change caused by them is equivalent to plea for alms?

☐ Yes (34.1%)
☐ No (63.5%)
☐ No Comments (2.4%)

Total votes: 982

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think BNP has taken right decision by withdrawing the expulsion order against former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

Prayer Timing

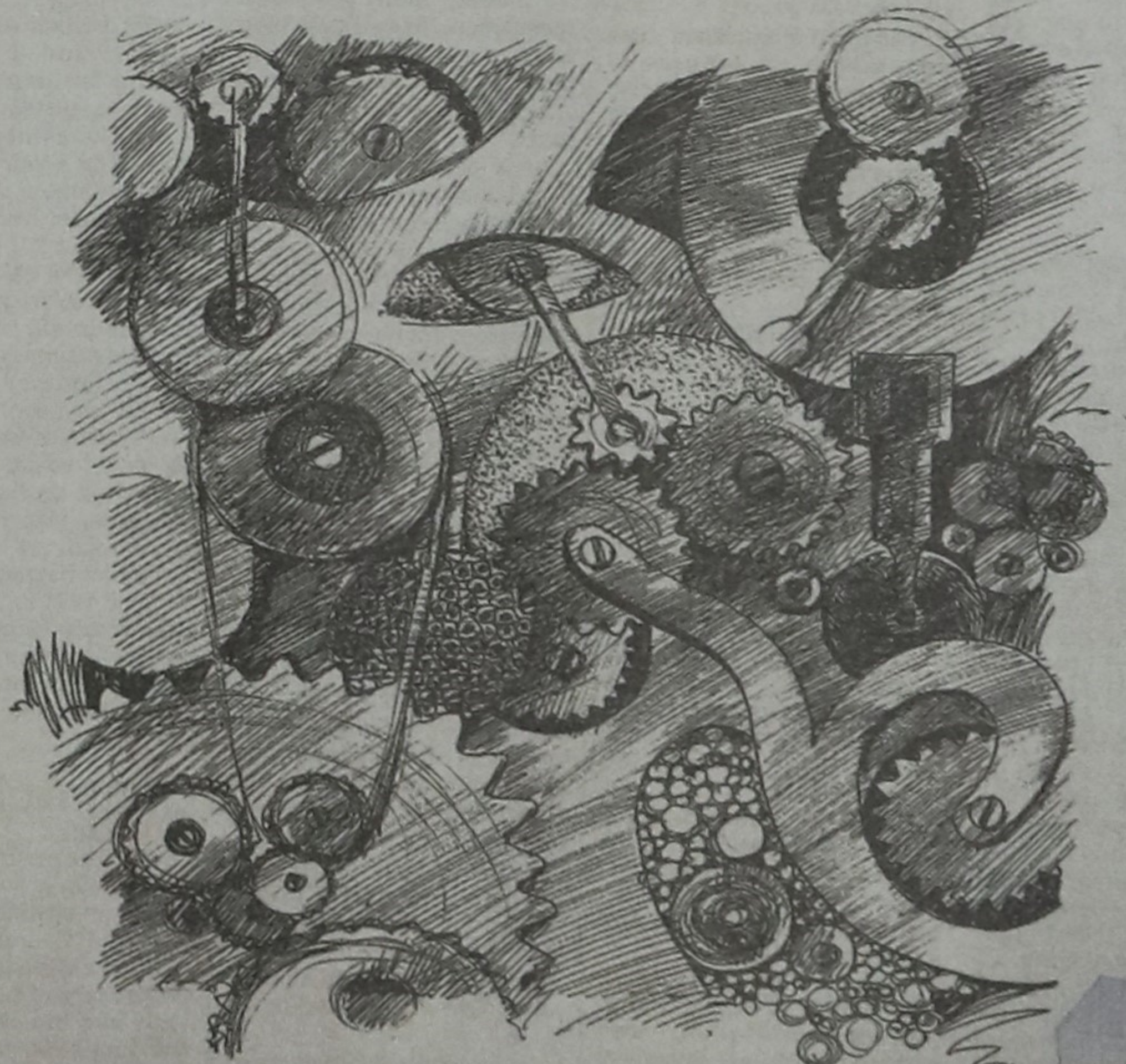
December 21		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	6-25	7-00
Zohr	1-45	2-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-24	6-27
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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