

# Change in law to punish stalkers soon

## Says state minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs, Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury, yesterday said the government is considering adding of a new section to the women and children repression prevention act for preventing stalking across the country.

Formulation of a separate act for preventing sexual harassment is a matter of time, so the government is considering the inclusion of a new section to the existing act, she added.

Sharmin Chowdhury was speaking at a view-exchange meeting with journalists at Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU).

She said the media should describe incidents like stalking as "sexual harassment" instead of stalking.

Stressing on proper execution of the act, the minister said women should achieve economic solvency so that they can take help of law whenever they face sexual harassment.

Prof Citiara Nasreen, chairperson of the department of mass communication and journalism of Dhaka University, also attended the programme on gender and preparing gender sensitive report.

She said the sources of discrimination between male and female need to be identified and changes should be included in the gender-related policy of the government.

Dr Kaberi Gayen, another teacher of the department, said a gender sensitive policy should be made for the mass media with involvement of women in policy making positions in the media houses.

Acting Secretary of the Ministry Tarik-ul Islam and DRU President Shameem Ahmed, among others, were present at the meeting jointly organised by the ministry, directorate of women, UNFPA, and DRU.



People wait in queues at Kamalapur Railway Station in the city since Tuesday night for tickets in advance for November 14 ahead of Eid-ul-Azha. The photo was taken yesterday.

# Allow 3 BNP leaders to go abroad

## HC asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government not to bar three BNP leaders, including Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, from going abroad.

Two other BNP leaders are Advocate Sanaullah Mia and Barrister Nasiruddin Ahmed Asim.

An HC bench of Justice Miftah Uddin Chowdhury and Justice Quazi-Reza-ul Hoque passed the orders following three separate writ petitions filed by the leaders seeking direction on the government to allow them to go abroad and return to the country.

They filed the petitions with the HC on Tuesday, apprehending that the government might restrict them from leaving the country, as the Bengali daily The Amar Desh in September published a report saying that the home ministry had made a list of 70 people loyal to the opposition, and they would be barred from leaving the country.

The report identified the petitioners as three of them.

# Rape victim succumbs to her injuries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A rape victim succumbed to her injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) early yesterday. The garment worker was raped at Ashulia on the outskirts of the city on Sunday.

The victim, aged around 17 years, of Rangpur, was a worker of Southern Fashion Ltd at Jirabo.

A relative of the victim said some unidentified criminals abducted her from near Jirabo bus stand Sunday evening, and after raping her several times they left her with severe injuries near the bus stand.

The victim used to live at Jirabo and that evening she was going to her sister's house in the same area.

She was first taken to a local hospital and then shifted to DMCH on November 8 as her condition deteriorated.

DMC morgue sources confirmed that she was a rape victim. A murder case was filed with Ashulia Police Station in this connection.

# Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 54th death anniversary of Maj Abdul Ghani, founder of East Bengal Regiment, says a press release.

On the occasion, different organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes in Dhaka and Comilla.

Major Ghani Parishad will organise a discussion at the National Press Club marking the day. Army personnel will place wreath at the Ghani's grave at Comilla cantonment early in the morning. Besides, Bhuiyan Association will organise a milad mahfil in the afternoon near Major Bhilaat Comilla.

# Inamul Haque

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 33th death anniversary of Inamul Haque, a country's first person who

donated his eyes posthumously, says a press release. Inamul was one of the founders of Bangladesh Diabetic Samity and Dhanmondi Club. He also played role in founding engineers' institutions.

Relatives, friends, well-wishers are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

# Dr Shahabuddin

METRO DESK

Today is the third anniversary of Dr Shahabuddin Musharrif Hossain (Munir), a

former senior economist of IMF and former teacher of Economics department of Dhaka University, says a press release. On the occasion, Qurankhwani, fateha and milad mahfil will be held in Dhaka, Chittagong and Washington.

Relatives, friends, well-wishers and students are requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

# GROUP OF 20 SUMMIT NEXT WEEK

## TI for quick repatriation of stolen assets

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The global anti-corruption coalition Transparency International (TI) called upon governments of different countries to expedite the decision-making process regarding repatriation and management of stolen and frozen assets.

The TI members from more than 100 countries called on the forthcoming Group of 20 Summit, scheduled to be held in Seoul, South Korea, this week, to address the issues without further delay.

It also called on the governments to providing accurate information to recover stolen assets and called for greater action from the international community to tighten money-laundering laws, said a press release.

"We are reminding the governments and financial institutions of host countries of stolen assets that failure to act honestly and transpar-

ently against spoils of corruption in their territories flowing from developing countries is unacceptable," said Dr Iftekharuzzaman, executive director of TI-Bangladesh.

"Such failure means that they are, in reality, contributing to the protection and promotion of corrupt practices in developing countries," added Dr Iftekhar, also a member of the international Board of Directors of TI.

The delegates also urged the governments to ensure safety and security for journalists and anti-corruption activists. The demands were made in the Bangkok Declaration adopted unanimously at TI's annual membership meeting held in Bangkok from November 7 to 9.

Vice-Chair of the TI Board of Directors Akere Muna said, "The recommendations emphasise how important stolen assets, if promptly repatriated, are for development and explicitly address the inadequate way in which frozen assets are currently being managed."

# DU Kha unit interview from Nov 27

DU CORRESPONDENT

Interview of successful candidates under Kha unit admission test at Dhaka University will start on November 27.

A total of 400 candidates will be interviewed everyday according to the merit list from 9:30am to 5:45pm till December 2.

A total of 2,400 successful candidates, out of 4,737, have been called for interview.

However, the interview schedule for candidates interested in taking admission at drama and music departments will be informed later.

# Hearing against Sayedee adjourned

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned the hearing till January 4 next year on charge framing against Jamaat-e-Islami Nayeb-e-Ameer Delwar Hossain Sayedee in connection with a tax evasion case.

Judge Mohammad Mozammel Hossain of the Special Judge Court-3 passed the order following a time petition submitted by the prosecution.

The court also rejected a bail petition by Sayedee's lawyer yesterday after he was produced before it under tight security.

# Dhaka to get 100MW power if Delhi says yes

## Says Tripura chief minister

REZAUL KARIM, from Agartala (Tripura), India

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar yesterday made it clear that his state would be able to sell around 100 megawatts (MW) of electricity to Bangladesh from its proposed Palatana Power Plant if the central government gives nod.

The power plant will generate a total of 726MW electricity. Half of it will be generated by 2012 while the rest by 2013.

Bangladesh has agreed to allow transportation of ODCs (Over Dimensional Cargo) for the Palatana Power Plant through the Bangladesh territory (from Ashuganj to Agartala).

Addressing a business conference on "North East India and Bangladesh: Strengthening Ties" at Pragna Bhawan in Agartala, the chief minister said there is an agreement among the North-Eastern states to share the power from the plant and Tripura will get 200MWs of electricity from the sharing.

Manik Sarkar said during his visit to Dhaka, journalists asked him whether Bangladesh will get electricity from the Palatana plant and

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni also requested him to export power from the plant.

He informed that his state needs around 215MW power during its peak period and it has already the electricity. So, it would not be a problem to sell electricity to Bangladesh, he added.

He said the power his state will get from the plant will not be needed fully for Tripura. "So, we can easily sell at least 100MW electricity even after meeting our full demand."

He, however, said it would not be possible for the Tripura government to take decision to sell additional power to Bangladesh because it entirely depends on the Indian central government.

"The people of Tripura will gladly accept if there is a proposal from our central government to export additional power to Bangladesh," the chief minister said suggesting Bangladesh to make necessary negotiation with the central government.

Earlier, Dipu Moni, while addressing the programme, said the Bangladesh government will extend all-out cooperation to transport the ODCs through its territory.

# Full implementation of CHT accord demanded

DU CORRESPONDENT

Speakers in a commemorative discussion programme yesterday urged the government for full implementation of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT)

Peace Accord.

Manabendra Narayan Larma's 27th death anniversary observance committee arranged the programme on Manabendra, founder president of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samity (PCJSS), at the conference room of city's National Press Club.

Recalling his valiant role to establish the rights of indigenous people in the CHT, speakers said the people would always remember Manabendra for his valiant role in launching PCJSS to ensure their basic rights.

Indigenous people led by Manabendra engaged in guerrilla warfare with the armed forces of Bangladesh, demanding full autonomy of the CHT region.

Peace was brought through the historic CHT Peace Accord, signed between PCJSS and representatives of the then Awami League govern-

ment on December 2 in 1997, ending a two-decade long war.

Speakers said it is time to review the accord and find reasons hampering its implementation.

Writer Selina Hossain, lawmaker Rashed Khan Menon, Communist Party of Bangladesh President Manjurul Hossain Khan, Pankaj Bhattacharjya of Gono Forum, eminent columnist Syed Abul Moksud, Mongol Kumar Chakma of PCJSS and Sanjeeb Dron of Bangladesh Adivasi Forum spoke at the programme.

Manabendra was assassinated by a group of his party defectors on November 10 in 1983.

Different organisations placed wreaths on his temporary memorial at the base of Shoparjito Swadhinata on the Dhaka University campus and arranged a voluntary blood donation programme.

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**WEATHER**

**No change in temperature**

UNB, Dhaka

Weather may remain dry over the country in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today. Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:14pm today and rises at 6:11am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 34.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 17.8 degrees at Rajshahi.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	31.3	21.4	53	59
Chittagong	30.4	20.7	69	64
Rajshahi	31.2	17.8	78	71
Rangpur	30.7	19.4	70	74
Khulna	31.5	20.3	71	74
Barisal	31.0	19.5	75	91
Sylhet	31.6	19.8	51	70
Cox's Bazar	32.5	21.0	60	75