

NEWS IN *brief***Govt moves to legalise 25,000 migrant workers**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government moved to legalise around 25,000 Bangladeshi workers illegally staying in Greece in the backdrop of over 43,000 Bangladeshi illegal migrant workers being sent back from different countries.

Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain said this in parliament in response to lawmakers' queries.

He said he held a meeting with Greece's home minister and labour minister during his recent visit there to legalise Bangladeshi workers staying there. Registration of the illegal workers is already complete, he said.

**Modernisation of 3 airports urged**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over thousand pro-BNP doctors in a statement yesterday demanded modernisation of the existing three international airports in the country, quitting the decision of construction of new airport on Arial Beel.

Deshpramik Jonogoner Mancha, a platform of patriotic people, demanded judicial investigation into the Monday's clash, withdrawal of the cases and compensation for the injured people and the deceased's family.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Revolutionary Workers Party of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon in separate statements greeted the prime minister for discarding the decision of constructing airport on the wetland.

**JAF demo on all bar premises Feb 6**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiyatabdai Ainjibi Forum (JAF), a body of pro-BNP lawyers, will demonstrate at all bar premises across the country on February 6, protesting the filing of case against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia over Arial Beel violence that left one policeman dead.

Leaders of the forum yesterday announced the programme at a meeting held at Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) premises.

They said if the false case against BNP chairperson is not withdrawn immediately, a mass protest would take place across the country like the recent one in Arial Beel.

**'Control noise pollution'**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A non-government organisation yesterday demanded proper steps to control noise pollution and reduce traffic congestion in the city.

Forming a human chain and holding a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club, Jalalabad Foundation, the NGO, suggested on taking steps including a stop to parking cars randomly, introduction of modern traffic system, modern training for drivers, evicting rickshaws and building passenger sheds in the right places to reduce the traffic congestion.

Jalalabad foundation held the programme with the help of the establishment ministry.

The foundation also demanded to take proper steps of evicting hawkers from footpaths, constructing flyovers at proper places and ban on building schools, colleges and universities beside roads.

Chairman of the foundation Enam Ahmed presided over the rally while advocate Abed Raza was present as the chief guest.

**RUXRA executive body formed**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ex-Rovers of Rajshahi University formed a new organisation named Rajshahi University Ex-Rovers Association (RUXRA) at a meeting held in a city hotel recently, says a press release.

MM Kamrul Hashan was elected president of 19-member RUXRA committee. Shakil Meraj, Delwar Hossain and Dr Anwarul Islam were elected vice-presidents while Md Fakruzzaman was elected general secretary for the period 2011-12.

## WEATHER TODAY

**Slight fall in night temperature likely**

UNB, Dhaka

Mild cold wave is sweeping over the regions of Rajshahi, Pabna, Kushtia and Srimongal and it may continue in next 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country. Light to moderate fog may occur over the river basins of the country during midnight till morning, Met Office said.

Night temperature may fall slightly over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:46pm and rises tomorrow at 6:38am.

Country's highest temperature 29.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and lowest 0.9 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	27.0	14.0	45	41
Chittagong	27.0	14.0	73	54
Rajshahi	25.7	09.0	73	59
Rangpur	25.0	12.2	82	68
Khulna	26.4	12.3	69	47
Barisal	27.5	11.0	65	70
Sylhet	27.5	13.0	75	52



Two age-old Raintrees beside the Central Shaheed Minar in the city being cut down yesterday. Trees adjacent to the premises are in a sorry state while many are dying due to negligence of the authorities concerned. Moreover, the timber is being sold at a cheap price. PHOTO: STAR

**BDR MUTINY TRIAL AT PILKHANA****Charges against 50 accused read out**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Havildar Tariqul Islam in collaboration with two other soldiers of BDR Sadar Rifle Battalion had beaten Major Mostafa Asaduzzaman brutally with belts in front of the flag pole during the mutiny at Pilkhana.

Nayek Shahjahan of the same battalion tortured Major Shahnewaz inhumanly after tying him up to a coconut tree.

The two army officers were later murdered, said Lt Col Abu Masud, the prosecutor of a BDR mutiny case, yesterday in his statement.

He said this as the special court-9, set up to try the mutineers of Sadar Rifle Battalion, carried out its proceeding for the third day at the Darbar Hall in Pilkhana.

"Major Mostafa Asaduzzaman, who was attached to Sadar Rifle

Battalion, ran away from the Darbar Hall and went to his battalion assuming that jawans of his own battalion would protect him.

"But, regrettably, none came to his aid even after hearing his cry," the prosecutor said adding. Major Mostafa rushed to the office of commanding officer where he was murdered after brutal torture.

Lt Col Abu Masud also mentioned how another army officer Major Iqbal saved his life.

"Mutineers opened fire on Major Iqbal and other army officers. Fortunately, Iqbal did not receive any bullet. He managed to hide himself till the evening lying amid other slain officers.

"Iqbal left the place just before the mutineers started hiding bodies, and thus he saved his life", Masud said.

The court, headed by Border

Guard Bangladesh Dhaka Sector Commander Col Habibul Karim, later read out group and individual charges against the accused.

Earlier, the prosecutor described charges against the accused and appealed for framing charges considering allegations against the 735 mutineers of the Sadar Rifle Battalion.

The court read out individual charges against 50 accused out of 735.

The allegations include leaving Darbar Hall defying the orders of the then director general, failing to control subordinates, refraining from providing information about the mutiny to the higher authority, doing nothing to prevent mutiny, taking firearms and ammunition from the cote and taking part in the mutiny actively.

Prosecutor Masud later at a press

**Prothom Alo cyclone centre inaugurated**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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