

NEWS IN *brief*

Moeen's teleconference Sept 13

BSS, Dhaka

Former army chief General Moeen U Ahmed will give his statement through a teleconference on September 13 on the clash between members of army and Dhaka University students on the campus in 2007.

Jatiya Sangsad secretariat sources said the teleconference will be held between Gen (retd) Moeen and members of the parliamentary standing committee on the Ministry of Education.

Moeen has agreed to give deposition on the DU incident and sent a letter to the committee last month in this regard.

"Committee members will select the questions to be asked to Moeen," said Rashed Khan Menon, chairman of the standing committee and a sub-committee.

DU social welfare instt renamed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Institute of Social Welfare and Research of University of Dhaka (DU) was renamed yesterday as the Institute of Social Work and Research.

The decision regarding changing the institute's name came yesterday at a meeting headed by DU Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique.

The DU authority changed the name keeping in pace with around 1,000 universities around the world where the subject is being offered, said Prof Dr M Samad, director of the institute.

2 JU students, 2 others arrested

JU CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested two students of Jahangirnagar University (JU) with two others for mugging and vandalising a furniture shop at Ashulia's Baipail area in the city at 9:00pm on Friday.

The arrestees are Nazrul Islam Nobin, a JU 39th batch student, Mehedi Hasan, a JU 40th batch student, Saiful Islam and Md Amirul.

JU Proctor Arzu Miah said the university authorities will not take responsibility of any occurrence outside the campus area.



This road on Begunbari in Tejgaon Industrial Area in the city made completely unusable as Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited dug it up to install pipes to supply gas, causing suffering to the locals.

PHOTO: STAR

British national yet to be remanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Police are yet to remand a British national arrested in Dhopadighirpar area of Sylhet city on September 6 on charge of alleged sexual abuse on a 15-year-old Bangladeshi boy for about a year.

Sub-Inspector Kefayet Ullah of Kotwali Police Station, also the investigation officer of the case, said chief judicial magistrate of Sylhet granted a three-day remand on September 8.

They are waiting to consult police high-ups before interrogating the arrested Peter Ellison, 55, hailing from Bow area of Mile End in London of the United Kingdom, he said.

It may be done today or tomorrow, he added.

There is no specific timeframe as to when the remand should actually start, said Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet Metropolitan Police Rezaul Karim.

LOOTING OF GOLD JEWELLERY

Court sends three minors to juvenile dev centre

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three children landed in National Juvenile Development Centre in Gazipur yesterday after police produced them before a Juvenile Court in connection with looting 80 tola gold jewellery from a house in the city's Lalbagh area.

They are Pakhi, 10, her brother Berek, 11, and cousin Mirajul, 10.

Pakhi has been a domestic help at the house of garments businessman Mahbubur Rahman at Nawabganj in Lalbagh.

On September 3, unidentified persons made Mahbub's daughter Nitu, 22, unconscious and looted the jewellery, officer-in-charge of Lalbagh Police Station said.

The kids admitted that Mirajul gave some powder-like substance to Pakhi and told her to mix it with juice prepared for Nitu, claimed law enforcers.

Nitu received treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, sources at the

hospital noted.

Police on the following day picked up the minors, Pakhi's uncle Moksed and his wife Sajeda for interrogation.

Gharami told The Daily Star.

He alleged police detained the minors at the police station since September 4.

Defence lawyer Lokman Hossain said he noticed torture marks in different parts of the kids' bodies.

Police produced Moksed and Sajeda before a Dhaka court on September 4 and prayed for taking them on a seven-day remand. But the court placed them on a day's remand, he added.

The court granted bail to Sajeda and sent Moksed to jail on Wednesday, mentioned the lawyer.

The two did not confess to the crime but police suspected them to be involved in the offence.

Another domestic help Samiran has been absconding from the house since the looting incident, noted the lawyer quoting the children.

A case was filed with Lalbagh Police Station in this regard on September 3, but the law enforcers are yet to recover the loot.

Relative alleges police detained the minors at police station since September 4. Defence lawyer finds torture marks in different parts of the kids' bodies

Bidhan confesses link with SQ Chy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Arrested top criminal of the port city's Raozan upazila, Bidhan Barua, yesterday confessed to his political link with detained BNP leader Salahudin Quader Chowdhury.

"My involvement with his political party will keep me alive. If I quit that party I might be killed," said Bidhan, 46, while talking to the journalists at Chittagong Rapid Action Battalion (Rab-7) office at Patenga yesterday.

After remaining absconding abroad for last six years, Bidhan was arrested by a Rab-7 team led by Major Ashfaq from a house of one Yusuf Alam near Lemua Bridge at East Silonia village in Feni around 2:30am on Friday.

Rab-7 Commanding Officer (CO) Lt Col Abu Hena Mostafa Kamal yesterday said Bidhan was staying at the house in guise with changed appearance and a fake name of 'Yusuf Ali'.

Same day, Rab men took Bidhan to his native village Adharmanik at East Guzra union under Raozan upazila and recovered a 9mm pistol, two bullets and a magazine from his house there.

According to Rab and police sources, Bidhan was accused in 18 criminal cases including five murder cases filed with Raozan Police Station. He is also an accused in several other cases filed with different police stations in Chittagong, sources added.

Rab-7 CO Kamal said they extracted important information from Bidhan during interrogation.

Rab was monitoring Bidhan's position for last three years, said Kamal adding that, Bidhan went to Qatar in 2005 to escape arrest, worked at a firm there and returned to the country three weeks later.

Bidhan said he came back to meet his family and denied any political instruction behind his return.

Bidhan denied his direct involvement with any murder, but he said to have accompanied others in crimes including murder.

Mentionable, Bidhan became a close aide of SQ Chowdhury after joining SQ's founded political party National Democratic Party as a cadre in 1990s and was involved in criminal activities at Raozan, Rangunia and other parts of Chittagong after forming his gang 'Bidhan Bahini'.



Workers Party of Bangladesh forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the city yesterday demanding to resolve the disputes between Bangladesh and India including sharing of water of common rivers.

PHOTO: STAR

Bangladeshi shot by Indian Khasias

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A man was injured in the district yesterday as Khasias from India opened fire at him when he was bringing his cows back from near Protappur-Padua border.

The Khasias fired at Tera Miah, 20, of Pantumai village, around 11:30am when he went close to the border, said locals.

He was first rushed to Gowainghat Upazila Health Complex and then shifted to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College and Hospital where he is now recovering.

Lt Col Shafiul Azam, commander of Sylhet 5 Border Guard Bangladesh battalion, told The Daily Star that they protested against the firing.

"I have already talked to a BSF [Border Security Force] commanding officer over the phone," he said. The BSF of India also assured us of taking action, added Azam.

Meanwhile, some 200 inhabitants of the bordering villages like Pantumai and Hajipur brought out a procession, chanting slogans against Indians' firing on Bangladeshis in the border area.

Jubo Dal factions clash in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Ten people were injured as Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal factions clashed in Narayanganj yesterday in the DIT commercial area.

City Jubo Dal Joint General Secretary Moazzem Hossain Monty was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in critical condition.

The clash erupted following a tense situation prevailing over the last few days over formation of new committee between two factions one led by incumbent city president Prof Mamun Mahmud and former president Mosharraf Hossain.

Witnesses said the faction loyal to Mamun held a rally in the DIT commercial area marking the day of release of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia from jail while another group loyal to Mosharraf brought out a procession toward the rally. The clash began when the pro-Mamun activists tried to resist Mosharraf group. Mosharraf was harassed and his activist Abdul Kadir is beaten up severely during the clash. He was sent to Khanpur Hospital of Narayanganj.

Police have been deployed in the area to avert any untoward incident further.

TEXT OF SC VERDICT ON CG SYSTEM

Former CJ showed lack of competence: SCBA chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) President Khandker Mahbub Hossain yesterday brought allegation of misconduct against former chief justice ABM Khairul Haque for not yet publishing the full text of the Supreme Court verdict which nullified the caretaker government system.

Khairul showed a lack of competence by not publishing the full text, which is misconduct, and the Supreme Judicial Council will look into it, he said.

He made the remark while addressing a press conference organised by SCBA at its South Hall, where Bar Secretary Bodrudroza Badal was present.

On May 10 this year, a seven-member bench of the Appellate Division of Supreme Court (SC) headed by Khairul, by majority, delivered a brief verdict declaring the caretaker government system illegal and unconstitutional.

Mahbub yesterday said Khairul has to take all the responsibility for not publishing

the full text as he was the chief justice during delivery of the verdict.

Asked whether there is any specific time limit for publishing the written copy of any SC verdict, Mahbub, also an adviser to BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, replied in the negative.

Mahbub said Khairul is a controversial judge as he delivered some controversial verdicts and tarnished image of the judiciary by taking Tk 10 lakh from the prime minister's relief fund.

He said Khaleda Zia made a political comment about Khairul, which may be left to the court to see whether it was contemptuous or not.

A former chief justice, requesting anonymity, told The Daily Star that any judge of the SC, after his or her retirement, has no obligation to write judgements although the judges normally write verdicts after retirement.

Meanwhile, sources close to Khairul said he already wrote around 25 verdicts and released drafts of those to the SC authorities after he retired on May 17 this year.

Three teenage girls 'commit suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three teenage girls allegedly committed suicide in separate incidents at Mohammadpur, Kalabagan and Kafrul in the city respectively yesterday, police said.

A garment worker, Sukhi Khatun, 16, daughter of Siraj Sardar of Gauronodi in Barisal district, jumped off the sixth floor of an under-construction building of Nabodoy Housing around 2:30am, said police.

The family of the man she had an affair with refused to accept her, prompting her to commit suicide. The man, Shah Alam, was detained for interrogation, said police.

A college girl hung herself from the ceiling fan with a scarf at her brother's rented apartment on the fourth floor of a building at North-South road around 1:45am, said police.

The deceased Protiva Adhikari Rakhi, 17, is the daughter of Shailendra Adhikari of Kotalipara, Gopalganj and a student of Imperial College.

Meanwhile, another teenager, Kakoli Akhter, 15, daughter of Abdur Razzaque, hung herself with a scarf from a beam on the ceiling of her sister's Uttar Kafrul residence in the evening, said police.

CAMPUS PARLIAMENT NSU becomes champions

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speaker Abdul Hamid Advocate yesterday said the government comprises of the treasury bench and the opposition and if the government fails the opposition also has to share the responsibility.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the grand finale of Cambrian University organised "Campus Parliament" debate at Bashundhara City complex in the city.

He said the country belongs not to the government or the opposition but to its people and a positive mentality should be cultivated in them instead of harbouring the mentality of plundering and making money.

Debate for Democracy Chairman Hasan Ahmed Chowdhury Kiron moderated the competition in which 34 reputed universities participated.

North South University (NSU), which played the opposition's role in the debate, took home the championship trophy with a cash prize of Tk 1 lakh. Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP), which took up the treasury bench role, became the runners-up winning Tk 50,000 cash.

The final debate topic was "The present government has been advancing towards implementing its election manifesto."

Amit Raihan, Syed Iftekhar Touhid and Nasir Uddin were in the NSU team while Munjin Tajrian, Samiul Hasan and Faria Huq represented the BUP team.

ATN Bangla Chairman Dr Mahfuzur Rahman was the chief guest of the function.

ATN Bangla Chief Adviser Saiful Bari, its Adviser of programme section Nawajish Ali Khan and BSB Foundation Chairman MK Bashar spoke at the prize giving ceremony.

Ruet reopens today

RU CORRESPONDENT

The classes of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (Ruet) will resume today after a 45-day vacation.

The vacation began on July 31 on the occasion of Ramadan, Shab-e-Qadr and Eid-ul-Fitr. The residential halls of the university were opened during the vacation.

Campus sources said students were returning to their respective dormitories.

WEATHER TODAY

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over all the seven divisions in next 12 hours till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met office said.

Day temperature may rise by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:07pm today and rises at 5:44am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 35.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 24.2 degrees Celsius at Cox's Bazar.

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	33.2	26.6	76	67
Chittagong	31.8	24.6	76	83
Rajshahi	32.8	25.9	83	79
Rangpur	33.0	26.0	80	74
Khulna	31.2	26.0	84	90
Barisal	32.2	26.0	84	83
Sylhet	35.0	26.0	81	69
Cox's Bazar	32.0	24.2	83	87