

NEWS IN *brief*

**Notre Dame admission process stayed**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court (HC) yesterday stayed the admission process for class XI of Notre Dame College in the capital on the basis of marks the admission seekers got in Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examinations.

In response to a writ petition, the court also issued a rule upon the government to explain in four weeks why a circular, issued by the Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board, Dhaka, should not be declared illegal.

On May 10 this year, the board issued the circular saying selected institutions will be allowed to admit students for 2012-13 academic year on the basis of

**Implement Rooppur n-power project quickly: PM**

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday directed the authorities concerned to work for the speedy implementation of Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant Project.

She gave the directive while presiding over the second meeting of the national committee on monitoring and giving guidelines for smooth implementation of the project, at her office.

Earlier, Bangladesh signed a "Framework Agreement on the Cooperation in the Field of the Use of Nuclear Energy for Peaceful Purposes" with Russia on November 2, 2011.

Under the agreement, two nuclear power plants with capacities to produce 1000 megawatt of electricity each will be established at Rooppur in Pabna.

**TORTURE OF WIFE**

**DU teacher's bail prayer rejected**

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected a bail petition of a Dhaka University teacher who has been charged with torturing his wife over dowry.

The court also ordered police to send him to jail. Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Ismail

Hossain passed the order after a lawyer moved a bail petition for Zafar Ahmed Khan, an associate professor of statistics department.

Zafar was arrested on June 11 after his wife, Rebecca Parvin, filed a torture case against him with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court of Dhaka on May 30.

**Nielsen observes Global Impact Day**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nielsen Company (Bangladesh) Ltd, a market research company, organised a blood donation camp and distributed monetary grants to heart patients on the occasion of Nielsen Global Impact Day 2012 in the capital yesterday, says a press release.

Nearly 34,000 Nielsen associates in 110 countries observed the day to create a momentum across the globe.

Apart from the blood donation camp, a cultural function and a photography exhibition were also held in its Dhaka office at Dhanmondi.



Minister of Water Supply and Drainage of Sri Lanka Dinesh Gunawardena pays a courtesy visit to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in her office in Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan yesterday.

PHOTO: PMO

**NISHAT KILLING**  
**Arrestees on 3-day remand**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday granted three days remand of six arrestees in connection with killing of Nishat Banu at her Topkhana residence in the capital on June 5 night.

Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Shahriar Mahmud Adnan passed the order after police produced them before the court seeking a 10-day remand. The arrestees are Selim Talukdar and Saiful Islam, Jamal Uddin, manager of Manir restaurant, Pankaj Dey, manager of Apyayan restaurant, Abdul Haque Khokan, and Golam Mortoza.

First three-day remand of Selim and Saiful, who were running the two restaurants on the land of the victim's family, was ended on Wednesday.

Nishat's mother Khaleda Banu filed a case with Shahbagh Police Station on June 7 stating that three unidentified criminals killed her daughter by tying her up in their residence. She also mentioned that both Selim and Saiful instructed the criminals for the killing following a dispute over the land.

The police detained the two brothers Selim and Saiful on Tuesday for their alleged involvement in the murder. They were shown arrested on Saturday and remanded for three days on Sunday.

The other four arrestees were shown arrested yesterday.

Fazlur Rahman, investigation officer of the case, said though the detainees did not admit their involvement in the murder, the two brothers admitted about the land feud.

**Half a dozen streets of Karwan Bazar cleared**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka North City Corporation authorities evicted scores of illegal street vendors, rent-a-car companies and hawkers from the capital's Karwan Bazar commercial area for the second consecutive day yesterday to free some half a dozen roads.

Two-thirds of the 72-foot wide roads in Karwan Bazar, home to scores of government and private offices and commercial establishments, had been illegally occupied.

Moreover, cars used to be parked illegally in multiple lanes, choking the area and making public movement difficult.

The corporation's Zone Executive Officer, Pronab Kumar Das, said eviction drives would

continue until the roads were freed of illegal occupancy.

A mobile court was present on Wednesday to assist the drives and a similar drive is scheduled for next Wednesday, he said.

The corporation had carried out similar drives several times before but the illegal occupants returned as soon as the officials left the scene.

A 16-foot-wide space would be kept on each side of the roads for orderly parking of cars while the rest (40 feet) would remain free for public movement, said Pronab.

He assured that from now on they would request police to keep the illegal occupants off the streets and ask the mobile court to penalise the offenders while the zone officer would carry out routine evictions.

"We will seek cooperation from the neighbourhood's government

and private office authorities to follow the orderly car parking plan," said Pronab.

Most of the area's commercial buildings either lack the parking facilities or have rented out their designated parking space to businesses.

The erstwhile Dhaka City Corporation partially leased out the neighbourhood's designated parking space and kept the rest of the free space abandoned for decades.

It has also erected rows of concrete shades, occupying the sidewalks along the kitchen market building.

Some of the street vendors claimed that they have been regularly paying local political thugs, the corporation officials and police to run their business.

**Do not push back Rohingyas: ASK**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A rights watchdog yesterday urged the government not to push back Rohingyas who are seeking refuge in Bangladesh since sectarian violence flared up in the Rakhine state of Myanmar.

Ain O Salih Kendra (ASK), the human rights organisation, stated that sending back Rohingyas who are travelling on trawlers braving the lashes of the sea waves in search of refuge will likely push them towards death.

Refusing to buckle under continuous international pressure to accept Myanmar refugees, Bangladesh has reiterated that there would be no trans-boundary spillover from the neighbouring country.

Quoting Human Rights Watch, a press release from ASK stated that border patrolling agencies of Bangladesh denied 148 Rohingyas fleeing Myanmar on four trawlers on Wednesday access to Bangladesh.

Bangladeshis would have faced the same fate if refugee seekers from the country were denied access by India during the 1971 Liberation War, added the press release.

**REFUGEE INFLUX**  
**Hold urgent talks with Myanmar**  
*Moudud urges government*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government must immediately conduct high level diplomatic talks with Myanmar to solve the refugee issue otherwise it could take a serious turn, said BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed yesterday.

"The government, under international laws, cannot let Myanmar refugees enter our country but on humanitarian grounds it can," he added.

Moudud was addressing a press conference organised by Muktochinta Forum at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital.

On the current political deadlock between the government and BNP, he said the government was creating confusion with its definition of "an interim government" to conduct the next general election.

"There is no reference of such a government in the constitution and the BNP-led 18-party alliance will not go for talks with the government if the next national polls are not held under a nonpartisan government,"

stated Moudud.

"Polls are not the solutions to all problems rather it is how the elected government deals with the post-poll challenges. The present Awami League-led government failed to meet these challenges," he said.

He also said the country's judicial practices have been hampered due to constant government intervention in the judiciary.

On the opposition's participation in the budget sessions in parliament, Moudud said, if willing, the government could have shown a positive gesture, which it did not.

"The speaker never gave the opposition parliamentary members a chance to come up with a discussion on the notices we put before him," he said.

When asked whether the opposition accepted the local government, by- and mayoral polls conducted under the present government, Moudud replied in the negative.

"We never accepted any of the polls because they were not held in a neutral manner," he said.

**DHAKA TODAY**

**Human chain**  
Save the Environment Movement will form a human chain; Venue: Loharpool, Kellar Mor; Time: 11:00am.

**Discussion**  
Bangladesh-Bharat Moitri Samity will hold a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Natyashala, Shilpakala Academy; Time: 7:00pm.

**Convention**  
WaterAid Bangladesh will organise a convention; Venue: Ruposhi Bangla Hotel; Time: 5:00pm.

**Discussion**  
Dhakastha Lalmojan Thana Chhatra-Chhatri Kalyan Samity will arrange a discussion; Venue: RC Majumder Auditorium, Dhaka University; Time:

**WEATHER TODAY**

**Change in temperature unlikely**  
UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Sylhet and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal and Dhaka divisions till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions, Met Office said.

Mild to moderate heat wave is sweeping over Khulna division and the regions of Rajshahi and Pabna and it may continue.

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The highest maximum temperature of the country may be 37-38 degree Celsius and lowest minimum temperature may be 24-25 degree Celsius.

**The sun sets in the capital today at 6:48pm and rises tomorrow at 5:11am.**  
Country's highest temperature 38.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Mongla and lowest 24.3 degrees at Teknaf.

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	35.4	29.3	74	67
Chittagong	31.4	26.5	88	86
Rajshahi	37.6	28.0	70	62
Rangpur	33.2	28.5	81	84
Khulna	36.5	29.5	80	79
Barisal	35.5	28.6	77	576



A policeman makes a group of boys get out of the capital's Crescent Lake yesterday, as bathing is prohibited in it. The boys were diving in the lake to cool off in high summer heat.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

**Govt urged to realise compensation from Chevron, Niko**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports yesterday renewed its call to realise the long overdue compensation from US company Chevron and Canadian company Niko for the explosions at Magurchhara and Tengratila gas fields, which inflicted a massive loss on the country.

The two companies owe Bangladesh a compensation of Tk 45,000 crore, said leaders of the committee, who were speaking at a discussion at the capital's Mukti Bhavan.

The explosion at Magurchhara field under Chevron occurred on June 14, 1997, while Niko-run Tengratila gas field blew out on January 7, 2005.

Speaking at the discussion, which marked the 15th anniversary of Magurchhara explosion, columnist Syed Abul Maksud, said, "It will be a mistake if the government thinks that only a handful of people are demanding the compensation. It's a demand of the whole nation."

Our politicians and bureaucrats are extremely kind towards foreign multinational companies, he said, but they did not have any compassion for their own country.

Prof Anu Mohammad, member secretary of the committee, said Magurchhara and Tengratila remained a symbol of destruction.

He urged the government to stop lying about limitations of resources and calling in the foreign multinational companies to these limitations.

Prof Anu said the compensation amounting to five billion dollar or Tk 45,000 crore was equivalent to the allocation in the energy sector for five years.