

NEWS IN *brief*

Body recovered in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the body of a man from Farmgate area in the capital yesterday.
The deceased was identified as Md Anis, 45, a small vegetable trader in Kawran Bazar.
Nazrul Islam, sub-inspector at Tejgaon Police Station, said they recovered the body, bearing stab injury marks, lying on a footpath adjacent to the Anawara Park in the area around 7:00am.
Police suspect that Anis was killed by some miscreants around 12:30am to 5:30am.
A knife was also recovered from the spot.
The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College

BSF yet to return two Bangladeshis

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Two Bangladeshis, abducted by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) from Lalakhal border of Jaintapur upazila in Sylhet on Friday afternoon, were yet to be released as of yesterday.
Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) sources said Shahabuddin, 35, of Borobond village and Ebad, 32, of Churkhai village under Kanaight upazila in Sylhet, were picked up by the Indian force when the men were returning from their relatives' house on the bordering village Bagchhara.
Lt Col Md Shafiqul Azam, commanding officer at 5 battalion of BGB in Sylhet, said the BSF admitted that it picked up the men suspecting them to be involved in timber smuggling.
The BSF assured of returning the men soon, he said.

Girl found killed in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the decomposed body of a newly married girl from her husband's house at Bhatara in the capital yesterday.
Aleya, 18, hailing from Sherpur, lived with her husband Md Mamun, 38, of Noakhali, in the rented house.
On information from the house owner, police recovered the body, with a scarf wrapped around the neck and lying on the floor, from the tin-shed house after breaking open the door around 10:00am.
Police said the house had been locked from the outside for the last three days, adding that Aleya

Housewife dies after beating by her husband

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday and police are searching for her husband, who allegedly beaten her near to death four days ago.
Farzana Begum, 27, was admitted to the hospital on Saturday night in a critical condition by her husband Mukhtar Hossain. She was declared dead around 8:00am.
Police and locals said Farzana was brutally beaten up by her husband for not informing him that she went to a neighbour's home to watch television.
Enamul Haque, officer-in-charge at Kalabagan Police Station, said they were trying arrest Muktar, who apparently fled the area after admitting his

MODERNISING RAILWAY
Bangladesh signs deal with S Korean firm

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Railway yesterday signed a Tk 113.62 crore agreement with a South Korean company to rehabilitate and modernise signalling and interlocking system of 15 stations on Joydebpur-Mymensingh route.
"The company will modernise 15 stations while the government will provide the fund," Communications and Railways Minister Obaidul Quader told journalists after the signing in the capital's Rail Bhaban.
As per the deal, M/S LSIS Company Limited will rehabilitate and modernise the existing old, worn out and over-aged mechanical and relay signals of the stations in order to ensure safe, speedy and efficient train operation and improve passenger comfort and safety.
Obaidul expected that some 20 sets of commuter trains would ply from next February to ease the capital's chronic traffic congestion and provide comfortable commuting.
He said 11 locomotives from Korea at a cost of Tk 439 crore and another 26 from India would be added to Bangladesh Railway soon under separate deals to improve railway service and meet increasing demand.

"If we can ensure double tracks in all the sections in the railways, then rescue operations, in case of accidents, will be conducted quickly," he said.
Earlier, Iranian Ambassador to Bangladesh Hossein Aminian Tousi called on the minister at the latter's office where the minister requested the envoy to supply 400 coaches for Bangladesh Railway.
The envoy, in reply, said Iran would send a delegation in this regard.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday takes salute from assistant superintendents of police of the 29th BCS (police) batch on the occasion of their graduation at Bangladesh Police Academy in Sarda of Rajshahi.

Injustice will not be tolerated

PM tells graduating ASPs

UNB, Sarda, Rajshahi

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday reminded policemen that the government adopted a "zero tolerance policy" to establish departmental discipline in the force, warning that none would be spared if found engaged in injustice.
She was addressing a passing out ceremony of the 29th batch of assistant superintendents of police (ASP) in Sarda Police Academy.
Hasina directed policemen to devote themselves for public welfare applying the highest professionalism and upholding the spirit of the 1971 Liberation War, the rule of law, justice and human values.

She laid importance on the adoption of modern technology in the police force and gave top priority on training policemen as the types of crimes across the globe were changing fast.
"Adoption of new technologies will have to be ensured to curb international and regional militancy and terrorist activities, cyber crime, money laundering and other new modes of crimes," she said.
She said the government was now working to build up a disciplined, responsible, accountable and people-friendly police force.
"I hope, by performing their duties with sincerity, our police force will soon become a symbol of people's hopes and aspirations," she added.

GOVT OFFICIALS' PROMOTIONS
JS body formed for review

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The parliamentary body on public administration yesterday formed a five-member sub-committee to review promotions of government officials in the last three and a half years.
Led by ruling party MP ABM Ghulam Mostafa, also a member of the JS body, the sub-committee was asked to submit its report within 90 days.
The other members are BNP MP Barkat Ullah Bulu, AL MPs -- MA Mannan and RAM Obaidul Moktadir Chowdhury -- and Jatiya Party MP Abu Talha.
The move to form the sub-committee came after some public service officials raised allegations of being deprived of promotions, committee sources told The Daily Star after a meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.
Apart from opposition parties, different quarters several times raised allegations against the government of giving promotion to government officials under political consideration.

Fakhrul accuses PM's family, advisers of graft

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Accusing ministers and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's advisers and her family of being involved in massive corruption, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir yesterday urged her to resign taking responsibility of the graft.
Mirza Fakhrul was addressing a demonstration organised by BNP-led 18-party alliance's Dhaka city unit in the capital's Nayapaltn protesting corruption.
He alleged that the government and Sonali Bank high-ups were involved in the recent Hall-Mark scam and demanded exemplary punishment to Hall-Mark's owners and Sonali Bank's board of directors.
"Adviser Modasser Ali and a state minister helped Hall-Mark loot money from the bank, so the prime minister can not avoid the responsibility," he said.
A Bangladesh Bank investigation found that the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel branch of Sonali Bank had lent Hallmark Group Tk 2,686.14 crore between 2010 and May this year on forged documents.
He added that the government was trying to give the perpetrators a clean slate like the one former railways minister Suranjit Sengupta was given.
Around Tk 70 lakh was found in Suranjit's personal aide's car on April 9, which later forced him to resign. Later, the ministry's internal investigation found Suranjit innocent.



BNP-led 18-party alliance holds a rally in front the party's Nayapaltn office in the capital yesterday, in protest against alleged corruption by the Awami League-led government in different sectors, including Padma bridge project.

DHAKA TODAY

Opening ceremony
Macquarie University Australia will open Macquarie University English Language Centre Dhaka; Venue: Awal Centre (21st floor), 34, Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Bananai; Time: 11:00am.

Seminar
Institution of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh (IDEB) will organise a seminar; Venue: IDEB Bhaban, Kakrail;

Human chain
Janomukti Party will form a human chain; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 10:00am.

Discussion
Bikalpa Jubodhara will hold a discussion; Venue: Jatiya Press Club; Time: 4:00pm.

Human chain
Protibadi Tarunya will form a human

Time: 5:30pm.



Relatives of missing passengers of an engine-run boat, which capsized in the river Karnaphuli, cry in despair at Salt Gola Ghat. The boat overturned following a collision with a merchant vessel in the river in Chittagong yesterday.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION
Developed countries are to blame

Workshop told
STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a workshop yesterday said coastal dwellers and urban poor of developing countries like Bangladesh suffer the most from climate change impacts.
They blamed the industrially developed countries for the increased number of natural calamities and ongoing environmental degradation across the world by emitting huge amounts of harmful greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide.
Brac University and the University of Manchester, with the assistance of Water Aid, jointly organised the workshop on "Climate change and Bangladesh: Problems of the urban poor people and way to solution of those" at a hotel in Chittagong city.
Prof Ainun Nishat, vice-chancellor of Brac University, said the United States of America emits 20 tonnes of carbon dioxide per head a year while India and Bangladesh release only two tonnes and 0.2 tonnes of the gas respectively in the period.
The countries responsible for causing negative changes to climate should compensate those people of developing and under developed countries, affected by such changes, he said.
Being affected by natural calamities, the victims tend to migrate to the cities for rehabilitation and in search of livelihood, often accommodating themselves in areas vulnerable to landslides, flood and electrocution, he observed.
Manoj Roy, research fellow of University of Manchester, David Hulme, a teacher of the university, and Ferdous Jahan,

WEATHER TODAY

Change in temperature unlikely
UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Barisal, Chittagong and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.
Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said.
Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:07pm and rises tomorrow at 5:44am.
Country's highest temperature 34.1 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 24.6 degrees at Rangamati.
The highest and the lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.0	27.1	73	85
Chittagong	30.0	25.5	83	81
Rajshahi	34.1	26.7	93	89
Rangpur	32.7	27.0	84	74
Khulna	31.2	26.0	91	97
Barisal	30.6	26.2	90	98
Sylhet	33.8	26.5	76	89