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Fog plays havoc on transport

Flights delayed, ferry services disrupted

STAR REPORT

A thick blanket of fog caused disruption in all modes of transport movement in many areas across the country, causing sufferings to thousands of passengers between Monday night and yesterday morning.

Launch and ferry services came to a halt for hours, while bus and train passengers had to spend several hours more than usual in terminals and stations before reaching their destinations.

A number of planned flights were delayed for hours due to the dense fog.

The meteorological department forecasts light to moderate rain across the country today.

Sanaul Hoque, a meteorologist of the Bangladesh Meteorological Department, said "The density of fog may decrease after the rain.

"It [rain] will also reduce the day's temperature which might come down to below ten degrees Celsius at some

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An aircraft lands on the lone runway of Shahjalal International Airport in dense fog just before noon yesterday. The airport operates flights only 15 hours a day to resurface the runway. A heavier fog could send flight schedule in chaos.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

ICT judge trashes Amar Desh report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice Md Jahangir Hossain Selim at the International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday said the news reports on him published recently in the Bangla daily Amar Desh were totally false.

"I had been honest in my life. I have been honest, and I will remain honest for the rest of my life," he said.

The newspaper published a report on Justice Jahangir based on some

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Blake calls for talks

Avoid hartal, resolve conflict peacefully, he tells govt, opposition parties

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Condemning the recent spate of violence and hartals, the United States yesterday asked the ruling Awami League and the BNP to hold dialogues and work out a mechanism for conducting the next parliamentary elections.

"Both the parties should avoid the hartal and try to resolve their differences peacefully and peacefully in parliament," said US State Department official Robert O Blake.

Whatever resolution both the parties agree upon will be acceptable

to the international community, he said at his pre-departure press briefing at Westin Hotel in the capital.

Blake, assistant secretary of state for south and central Asian affairs, arrived here on December 8 on a four-day visit to attend the Women's Entrepreneurship Symposium as well as to hold talks on the evolving political situation with top leaders of the government and the opposition and civil society members.

The State Department official



opposed hartal for two reasons -- it causes suffering to poor people who rely on daily wages to sustain themselves and their families and it also damages Bangladesh's image and its efforts to try to attract new investments.

Blake said foreign investors wanted safe and easy working environment but hartal made it difficult for their businesses.

"We strongly support resumption of dialogue. We strongly support BNP

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Don't produce arrestees before media

HC asks lawmen, terms such act illegal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the law enforcers not to expose detained or arrested persons in any case before the media, saying such acts are illegal and unconstitutional.

In response to a petition, the court directed the authorities concerned to submit a report before it within 24 hours after complying with the order.

The court also issued a rule upon the law-enforcement authorities to explain in two weeks why they should not be directed not to take any statement from the detainees before the media.

The HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Farid Ahmed also asked the authorities to explain why they should not be directed to discharge their duties within the purview of the law.

The home secretary, inspector general of police, director general of Rapid Action Battalion, and commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police have been made respondents to the rule.

The HC bench came up with the order and rule after holding hearing on a petition filed as public interest litigation by Akil-Uz-Zaman, an apprentice lawyer,

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ARMED FOR PEACE? ... Ruling party activists bring out an anti-hartal procession in Narayanganj under police protection. The participants chanting slogans of peace are seen armed with various weaponry. However, the opposition activists were not allowed to bring out pro-hartal processions in Narayanganj.

PHOTOT: STAR

Amini dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Fazlul Haq Amini, chairman of a faction of Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ), died in cardiac arrest early today in the capital's Ibn Sina Hospital. He was 70.

Amini was admitted to the hospital at Dhanmondi around 12:00am and was immediately taken to the coronary care unit. He died around 12:20am, said Altaf Hossain, his assistant personal secretary.

Leaders of different political parties went to

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

Azad used to decide who to be killed

Freedom fighter testifies about wartime torture centre

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A war-wounded freedom fighter yesterday testified that Abul Kalam Azad used to select detainees of a torture centre in Faridpur for Pakistani army to kill them during the Liberation War.

The freedom fighter said Azad, also known as Bachchu Razakar, used to accompany the Pakistani army almost all the time and also used their vehicles.

Abu Yusuff Siddique alias Pakhi, one of

the detainees of the army camp established at Faridpur Stadium and eighteenth prosecution witness in a case against the expelled Jamaat member, was testifying before the International Crimes Tribunal-2.

The 61-year-old witness from Faridpur said Azad formed Razakar force in the district first and became the commander of Al-Badr force there during the war in 1971.

Razakar and Al-Badr, two

SEE PAGE 19 COL 3

Follow rules in loco purchase

Worried TIB asks govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Transparency International Bangladesh yesterday expressed concern over a government initiative to buy a railway engine from a particular company ignoring the procurement act.

Following related reports published in the news media yesterday,

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The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL
Do you think the government will ensure quick punishment of those who killed Bishwajit Das during Sunday's blockade in the capital?

Yes (36%)

No (63%)

No Comments! (1%)

TOTAL VOTES: 656

TODAY'S POLL
Do you think the law enforcement agencies will arrest the killers of the Bishwajit Das within 24 hours following the High Court order?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

YOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT [facebook.com/dailystarnews](https://www.facebook.com/dailystarnews)

PRAYER TIMING December 12

	Asan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-15	5-50
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-19	5-22
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

তিতাস গ্যাস ট্রান্সমিশন এন্ড ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)
১০৫, কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ
কাওরান বাজার বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২১৫

আপনার রান্নার কাজ শেষ হয়ে থাকলে এখনি গ্যাসের চুলাটি নিভিয়ে ফেলুন।
জ্বালানি নিরাপত্তা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার

জরুরি গ্যাস শাট ডাউন বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ইজিসিবি ৪১২ মেগাওয়াট অস্থায়ী আরএমএস-এ গ্যাস সংযোগ প্রদানের নিমিত্তে কুতুবপুর, নারায়ণগঞ্জ এলাকায় ১৪'০x১০০০ পিএসআইজি পাইপ লাইনে টাই-ইন কর্মসূচি গৃহীত হয়েছে। এ কর্মসূচির আওতায় নিম্নবর্ণিত এলাকাসমূহে গ্যাস সরবরাহ সাময়িকভাবে বন্ধ/বিদ্যুত হতে পারে:

তারিখ ও সময়	যে সকল এলাকায় গ্যাস সরবরাহ বন্ধ/বিদ্যুত হবে
১৩/১২/২০১২ সকাল ০৮:৩০ ঘটিকা হতে	ঢাকা-চট্টগ্রাম মহাসড়কের পাশের এলাকাসমূহ যেমন হরিপুর ১০০ মেঃওঃ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র, কাঁচপুর, হরিপুর, সিদ্ধিরগঞ্জ ইত্যাদি এলাকা।
১৫/১২/২০১২ তারিখ সকাল ৮:৩০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত ৪৮ (আটচল্লিশ) ঘন্টা	

বিশেষ দ্রষ্টব্যঃ
ক) বর্ণিত কাজের জন্য ন্যূনতম প্রয়োজনীয় সময় বিবেচনায় রেখে উপরোক্ত কর্মসূচি গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে।
খ) বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র/শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানে পজরযোগে অবহিত করা হয়েছে/হচ্ছে।
গ) স্থানীয়ভাবে মাইকিং করা হয়েছে/হচ্ছে।

গ্রাহকস্বদের প্রতি বিশেষ পরামর্শ
গ্যাস সরবরাহ বন্ধ থাকাকালে চুলার গ্যাস সরঞ্জাম বন্ধ রাখতে এবং গ্যাস সরবরাহ পুনরায় শুরু হলে চুলা/চুলার গ্যাস সরঞ্জামের স্থানে পর্যাপ্ত বায়ু চলাচলের পর গ্যাস ব্যবহার শুরু করতে গ্রাহকস্বদেরকে অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।
জরুরি প্রয়োজনে নিম্নোক্ত টেলিফোনসমূহে যোগাযোগ করা যেতে পারেঃ

জরুরি গ্যাস নিয়ন্ত্রণ কেন্দ্র, ১১/৩, টয়েনবি সার্কুলার রোড, ঢাকা।	ঃ ৯৫৬৩৬৬৭-৮ (দিবা-রাত্রি ২৪ ঘন্টা)
ব্যবস্থাপক (জরুরি গ্যাস নিয়ন্ত্রণ)।	ঃ ৯৫৬৩৬৬৭/০১৯৩৩৯-৯২১০৬৬
প্রধান কার্যালয় রেডিও রুম, কাওরান বাজার বা/এ, ঢাকা।	ঃ ০১৯৩৩৯-৯২১১২২
উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (সোনারগাঁও)।	ঃ ০১৯৩৩৯-৯২১০৪০
উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (গণ্ডি)।	ঃ ০১১৯৯-৮০৪৯৩২
উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (এসওডি-দক্ষিণ)।	ঃ ০১৭১১-৫৭৬৮০৩

সম্মানিত গ্রাহকস্বদের সাময়িক অসুবিধার জন্য কোম্পানি আন্তরিকভাবে দুঃখিত।

গ্যাস অফুরন্ত নয়। গ্যাসের চুলা কাজ শেষে নিভিয়ে রাখুন।

তিতাস/জনসংযোগ-৬৬/২০১২-১৩
জিডি-৪৮৫৬