

NEWS IN *brief*

4 JCD men hurt in factional clash over its new central committee

DU CORRESPONDENT

At least four activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) were injured in a factional clash before the BNP chairperson's Ghulsan office last night over JCD's new central committee.

The clash ensued around 8:45pm as some new committee members and their supporters attacked a group of JCD leaders, who did not get posts in the committee, while demonstrating before the office protesting the new body.

On April 15, Khaleda Zia approved the 291-

Foreign ministry observes flag hoisting anniversary today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The foreign ministry today will observe the 42nd anniversary of the historic event of hoisting of the flag of independent Bangladesh at the Deputy High Commission in Kolkata on April 18, 1971.

To mark the day, the ministry will organise a discussion at its UNCLOS Conference Room at 11:00am, said a press release.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni will chair the meeting where discussants will highlight the contributions of diplomats and officials who had declared allegiance to Bangladesh and left their posts in the then

Mahila Parishad urges govt to employ female forensic experts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad yesterday urged the government to employ female doctors and nurses in the forensic department of all government medical college hospitals and sadar hospitals to carry out forensic tests of women and children who have been tortured.

The victims, especially who have been raped, feel uncomfortable to be examined by male doctors and often return without taking forensic tests,

RMG workers want withdrawal of Hefajat's demands

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Garments Sramik Rokkha Andolon, an organisation for garment workers' welfare, yesterday demanded immediate withdrawal of the 13-point demand of Hefajat-e Islam terming those medieval, regressive and against development of women.

They also announced a grand rally to be held in the capital's Motijheel on April 27 to protest the demands of Hefajat, said a press release.

At a meeting in the capital yesterday, the speakers said women are enhancing the image, production and progress of the country through their



From left, TIB Executive Director Dr Iftekharuzzaman, Manusher Jonno Foundation Executive Director Shaheen Anam, Ain o Salish Kendra Executive Director Sultana Kamal, rights activist Zakir Hossain, and Bangladesh Adivasi Forum General Secretary Sanjeeb Drong at a meet the press organised by Human Rights Forum Bangladesh at Dhaka Reporters Unity yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

BISWAJIT DAS MURDER Court orders police to publish ad for 14 fugitives to appear

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered police to publish advertisements in two Bangla newspapers directing 14 fugitives to appear before it by April 28 in connection with the murder of Biswajit Das.

Metropolitan Magistrate Harun-Ur Rashid passed the order to publish the advertisements in the daily Samakal and the daily Manabzamin naming 14 activists of the ruling party-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).

Three months after Biswajit was killed on December 9 last year, police charged 21 BCL activists with the murder. Of the accused, seven are in jail and 14 are in hiding.

Another Dhaka court on April 2 accepted the charge sheet against the accused and issued arrest warrants against the fugitives.

Biswajit Das, a tailor by profession, was passing by Bahadur Shah Park on December 9 last year when a road-blockade programme was in progress.

Mistaking Biswajit for one of those responsible for the blockade, the BCL activists chased him and ignoring his pleas that he was an innocent pedestrian, they hacked him to death.

2 workers die

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two construction workers were killed and another was injured after falling from the sixth floor of an under-construction building in the capital's Shantibagh yesterday.

Abu Bakar, 25, of Chapainawabganj, and Azizul, 35, of Meherpur, were declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital where Abdul Hakim, 19, was undergoing treatment.

Shakhawat Hossain, co-worker and also a witness, said standing on a scaffold, the trio was plastering an inner wall. When they moved towards one end of the scaffold, it tilted and they fell around 11:45pm.

Shahjahan Mia, an official of Abiding Developments and Holdings Ltd, the developer of the building, claimed that all necessary safety measures were taken on the outer side of the building. But he balm the workers' negligence for the incident.

Shahjahanpur police visited the spot for investigation.

Muggers loot jewellery shop

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Muggers looted about 50 tolas of gold ornaments from a jewellery shop at the capital's Bangshal last night.

Two pedestrians were injured as the criminals exploded at least 10 cock-tails while leaving the spot.

Police said the muggers entered New Jonaki Jewellers at Kazi Alaaddin Road around 8:00pm and looted the valuables at gunpoint.

462 killed by law enforcers in four years: Rights bodies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 462 people were allegedly killed by law enforcement agencies in the last four years from January 2009 to September 2012, speakers said at a press meet yesterday, citing newspaper reports and records of Ain o Salish Kendra.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, however, they said, denied the allegations at a session with civil society and human rights organisations on January 16 and claimed that no extra-judicial killings took place in the last four years.

She also preferred the term "police encounters" to "extra-judicial killings", they said.

Human Rights Forum Bangladesh, a platform of 19 rights and development bodies, held the press meet at Dhaka Reporters Unity to present the forum's findings on the human rights situation in the country in the last four years. The platform will share the findings at the United Nations' Universal Periodic Review (UPR) to be held in Geneva on April 29.

The speakers said apart from extra-judicial killings, various other human rights issues needed to be addressed and improved by the government.

Sanjeeb Drong, general secretary of Bangladesh Adivasi Forum, said the government did not take any effective initiatives to implement the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Accord though it was prioritised in the ruling party's manifesto.

Human rights will continue to be violated if political interference in independent institutions, law enforcement agencies and the justice system is not stopped, said Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh Dr Iftekharuzzaman.

Ten members of Human Rights Forum Bangladesh, including Sultana Kamal, Sara Hossain, Iftekharuzzaman, Khushi Kabir, Zakir Hossain, Shaheen Anam and Sanjeeb Drong will attend the UPR.

The forum has already presented a stakeholders' report on the last four years' human rights situation of Bangladesh to the UN Human Rights Council.

Tomorrow's HSC exams shifted to May 3

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has shifted tomorrow's Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and equivalent examinations to May 3.

Although the Inter-Education Board Coordination Sub-Committee mentioned unavoidable reasons for shifting the exams, the education ministry sources said the decision was taken for examinees who also have an exam today as they would have had exams on two consecutive days.

"The exams were rescheduled after the examinees and their guardians requested to defer those," said an official preferring anonymity.

The rescheduled exams for morning hours will now be held from 9:00am to noon while that for the afternoon hours from 2:00pm to 5:00pm, said a press release of the sub-committee.

33rd BCS exam results published

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Public Service Commission (PSC) yesterday published the written test results of the 33rd Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations with a total of 18,693 candidates coming out successful.

The results are available on www.bpsc.gov.bd.

The PSC has published the result provisionally and it has the right to modify the result if required.

The viva-voce of the candidates is likely to begin on May 12. Initially, viva voce of the candidates of technical posts will take place first.

See online version of the story for full result.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



The 42nd death anniversary of martyred Lt Col Mohammad

Abdul Qadir was observed yesterday.

Qadir was killed by Pakistani occupation forces on April 17 in 1971.

His grave was found in 2007 by his elder son in Chittagong after a long search. He was reburied at Qadirabad Cantonment in Natore with full state honour on September 22, 2011.

A doa and milad mahfil was held at the cantonment which was named after him for his role in Bangladesh's independence. All are requested to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.



Awarding ceremony
Acid Survivors Foundation will award seven journalists for their excellence in reporting against acid violence; Venue: the mission, House-19, Road 12, Dhanmondi; Time: 4:30pm.

former education adviser Abdul Rafique for his outstanding contribution to the field of education; Venue: the mission, House-19, Road 12, Dhanmondi; Time: 4:30pm.

Awarding ceremony
Dhaka Ahsania Mission will present the "Chand Sultana Award-2012" to

Discussion
Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies will organise a discussion, "Bangladesh Tea Industry;



Rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Sylhet and Dhaka divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Day and night temperature may rise by 1 or 2 degrees over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions and remain nearly unchanged elsewhere over the country.

Rain or thunder showers accompanied by temporary west or north westerly "Kalboishakhi" squalls speed 60-80kph or more is likely to occur over the regions of Rangpur, Dinajpur, Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra, Tangail, Mymensingh, Jessore, Kustia, Khulna, Barisal, Patuakhali, Faridpur, Dhaka, Comilla, Noakhali, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Sylhet during next 15 hours, commencing 2:30pm, Met office said.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:21pm and rises tomorrow at 5:34am.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.0	19.8	92	62
Chittagong	30.8	20.8	67	58
Rajshahi	30.0	19.8	81	67
Rangpur	26.4	18.0	90	72
Khulna	33.0	19.4	72	80
Barisal	30.5	19.0	68	68



Inspector General of Police Hassan Mahmood Khandaker hands over a crest to Jharna Begum at the police headquarters in the capital yesterday as a mark of gratitude for her humanitarian act. Jharna rescued a policeman from the brutality of Shibir activists in Rajshahi city on April 1.

PHOTO: STAR

RESCUING COP IN RAJSHAHI For Jharna humanity overcame social norms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Urging all young women to come forward for saving humanity, Jharna Begum yesterday said she did not care about her gender or possible social criticism while rescuing the policeman Jahangir Alam from the brutality of Shibir activists.

"I took off my scarf and with it I tied his wounds in the head and took him in my chest to drag him onto a van for hospital," said 28-year-old Jharna. "As a young woman I was well aware that I would have to face social criticism, and later I faced it bravely."

"As appreciations poured in for my humanitarian deed, my female neighbours realised that my work was only for a human being," she told The Daily Star.

Inspector General of Police Hassan Mahmood Khandaker yesterday awarded

her with a crest and an admiration letter at the police headquarters in Dhaka as a mark of gratitude for her help to Jahangir, sub-inspector of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police (RMP).

Jahangir was wildly assaulted by Islami Chhatra Shibir men at Shalbagan in Rajshahi city on April 1.

"The mother rose in me and I took his head on my lap on the way to hospital only to feel whether he was breathing," said Jharna, her voice breaking with sobs.

Deserted by her husband around four years back, the mother of two was earning her livelihood by working in a local beauty parlour.

Jharna said the Rajshahi mayor and the local ward commissioner promised her a job at Rajshahi City Corporation, and RMP gave her a house.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW No case adjudicated yet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some 215 cases have been filed under human trafficking act, but none of those has been adjudicated since enactment of the law in 2012, said speakers yesterday.

Lack of knowledge of investigation officers about the law; reluctance to arrest the accused; and delay in preparing charge sheet are the main barriers to the quick disposal of cases, they said.

They were speaking at a discussion titled "Prosecution and Victim Protection of Cases Filed Under Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act-2012" in the capital's Cirdap auditorium.

Shikha Shastha Unnayan Karzakram (SHISUK), USAID and Winrock International jointly organised the programme.

According to the law, law enforcers have to submit their investigation report within 90 working days and trial to be completed within 180 working days.

Zafar Ahmed Khan, secretary to the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment ministry; Kamal Uddin Ahmed, additional secretary to the home ministry; and Sakul Millat Morshed, executive director of SHISUK, also spoke.