

HC order on
Mahmudur's
remand
April 21

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday fixed Sunday for passing an order on a writ petition seeking cancellation of Amar Desh Acting Editor Mahmudur Rahman's remand.

His wife Firoza Mahmud filed the petition with the HC on Wednesday challenging the legality of her husband's 13-day remand.

An accused could not be remanded for over three days in a phase, Firoza claimed.

On April 11, Mahmudur was arrested at the daily's office on charge of publishing a Spike conversation.



A rescue team with a crane picks up the container of a Chittagong-bound freight train that fell on a shanty in the capital's Banani area yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Khaleda greets
Yunus

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has congratulated Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus for achieving the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award of the United States.

In a message, she said Prof Yunus had dignified the nation once again in the global arena by winning the rare honour.

On Wednesday, leaders of US House and Senate presented Prof Yunus with the medal, which was announced in 2010 in recognition of his efforts in combating global poverty.

Prof Yunus is only the seventh person to have won both the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, another highest US civilian award. He won the latter award in 2009.

In her statement, Khaleda Zia pointed out Prof Yunus's various contributions, including conceiving the ideas of microcredit and social business and founding Grameen Bank to empower women and

EC's act of registering
Jamaat illegal

Barrister Tania Amir tells HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Election Commission's (EC) act of registering Jamaat-e-Islami as a political party was illegal as the party did not believe in the country's constitution, Barrister Tania Amir told the High Court yesterday.

Though a blasphemy law exists in Pakistan, the country's EC prohibits political parties from using religion as a political tool. But Bangladesh's EC registered Jamaat "although it uses religion as a political tool", she said.

Tania was placing arguments in favour of a writ petition during the third day's

hearing on a January 27, 2009 HC rule over the registration's legality.

The rule, issued following the filing of the writ petition, asked Jamaat's ameer and secretary general and the EC to explain why the party's registration should not be declared illegal.

The HC bench of Justice M Moazzam Hossain, Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque adjourned the hearing till April 23.

The petition was filed with the HC on January 25, 2009 by Bangladesh Tariqat Federation's Secretary General Rezaul Haque Chandpuri and 24 others challenging the legality of Jamaat's registration.

Man's body found
in six pieces

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered six dismembered body parts of a man from the bank of the river Buriganga in Munshirhati area of the capital's Kamrangirchar yesterday.

The hands, legs, head and the upper torso were found inside a sack and two polythene bags, said Sub-inspector of Kamrangirchar Police Station Nurul Islam.

The lower torso of the unidentified man believed to be around 35 years of age is missing. The SI suspects that the body was chopped up into pieces early yesterday and was dumped on the river bank. Police sent the chopped remains to Sir Salimullah Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Attorney general honours Jharna

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam yesterday honoured Jharna Begum at his office on the Supreme Court premises for her humanism while rescuing a policeman who was brutally attacked by Islami Chhatra Shibir activists in Rajshahi on April 1.

The attorney general awarded Jharna with a crest and prize bonds worth Tk 20,000.



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Diplomats should
learn from 1971
Says Dipu Moni

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni yesterday urged young diplomats of the country to take lessons from their predecessors who fought on the diplomatic front for the nation's independence in 1971.

"The spirit of 1971 makes comebacks repeatedly and we should be imbued with it to overcome all adverse situations," she told a discussion at the foreign ministry marking the establishment of the first independent mission of Bangladesh in Kolkata on this day in 1971.

Mohammad Hossain Ali, the then deputy high commissioner, with 65 Bangladeshi officials and employees pledged allegiance to the Mujibnagar government and hoisted the Bangladesh flag at the deputy high commission replacing the Pakistan flag on April 18, 1971.

Dipu Moni said the Bangladeshi diplomats stationed in different foreign mission, including Washington, London and Paris, worked hard also in the post-war period to secure recognition from international communities of an independent Bangladesh.

Qulkhwani

METRO DESK

Qulkhwani of AKM Wazihullah, former vice-principal of Narsingdi Govt College, will be held in the capital's Shahi mosque at Jigatala tannery crossing after Asr prayers today.

He died on Saturday at the age of 69, says a press release.

AKM Wazihullah

METRO DESK

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NEWS IN brief

Schoolgirl 'commits suicide'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A schoolgirl allegedly committed suicide at her Rajarbagh residence in the capital's Sabujbagh area early yesterday.

The deceased, Tasnima Haque Chaity, daughter of Bangladeshi expatriate in China Johirul Haque, was a ninth grader at Kadamtola High School.

According to family members, they found Chaity hanging from the window grill of her room with a scarf around 2:30am.

They rushed her to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead.

An unnatural death case was filed with Sabujbagh Police Station.

Bangladesh elected vice
president of UN Habitat

METRO DESK

Bangladesh has been unanimously elected the vice president of the Governing Council of UN Habitat, a UN agency to pursue the goal of ensuring adequate shelter for all.

The election took place at the Governing Council's 24th session, which began at the UN Headquarters in Nairobi on Monday.

Nigeria was elected president of the council, says a press release.

State Minister for Housing and Public Works Advocate Abdul Mannan Khan, who is leading a three-member team at the session, will represent Bangladesh as vice president of the UN agency.

Fire guts houses, shops in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Twenty mud houses and four tin-shed shops were gutted by a fire in Chittagong city yesterday morning.

The fire originated from a clay stove at one of the houses in Foys Lake area, said Agrabad Fire Service and Civil Defence Headquarters officials. They estimated the damage at Tk 6 lakh.

Five units from Chandanpura and Agrabad Fire Stations doused the fire within an hour.

Man held with 10,000 Yaba
tablets in Teknaf

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) detained a man with around 10,000 Yaba tablets in Teknaf upazila of Cox's Bazar yesterday.

The arrestee was Mohammad Siddique, 30.

BGB said acting on a tip-off they conducted a drive at a house in Bara Habib Para area around 4:30am and detained Siddique with the drug items.

Later, Siddique was handed over to Teknaf Police Station, they said.

A case was filed with the police station in this action.

DHAKA
TODAY

Sit-in

Green Voice will stage a sit-in demanding a stop to building structures on Dhanmondi ground; Venue: In front of the ground; Time: 10:00am.

Rally

Gono Sanghati Andolon will hold a rally demanding establishing of Bangladesh with people's expectation of the Liberation War; Time: 4:00pm.

Kite festival

Dhakabasi and Biswa Kokona Parishad will arrange a roundtable on non-partisan neutral government; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 3:00pm.

Roundtable

Jatiyatabadi Peshajibi Parishad will

arrange a roundtable on non-partisan neutral government; Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 11:00am.

WEATHER
TODAY

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 and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur and Dhaka divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today.

Day and night temperature may rise slightly over country, Met office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:22pm and rises tomorrow at 5:33am.

Country's highest temperature 36.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 18.1 degrees at Sylhet.

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	32.0	20.2	57	54
Chittagong	28.4	24.6	72	66
Rajshahi	36.4	22.0	83	50
Rangpur	29.8	18.6	78	64
Khulna	31.0	21.5	87	67
Barisal	29.7	20.5	86	73
Sylhet	28.8	18.1	96	60
Cox's Bazar	34.0	24.5	70	67