Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary

partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm

remain nearly unchanged over the country,

Night and day temperatures may

Met office said.

The Daily Star | 3



Change in temperature

### Missing college student found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

unlikely

Police recovered the body of a college student from a pond in the capital's Mohammadpur yesterday two days after he had gone missing.

The deceased, identified as Syed Mohammad Naim, 25, was a final year BBA student at Titumir College. His body was recovered around 2:30pm, said Mohammadpur Police Station Sub-inspector Masud.

The reason behind the death could not be known immediately.

#### IUB's 15th convocation tomorrow

CITY DESK

The 15th convocation of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) will be held tomorrow at 10:00am at the Army Stadium in the capital's Banani.

As delegated by the president, IUB Vice-Chancellor Prof M Omar Rahman will confer the degrees on the graduating students.

Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, former chief adviser to a caretaker government, has kindly agreed to be present as the convocation speaker.

This year, 1,955 students will receive degrees. Of them, 1,246 are undergraduates while 709 are graduates.

All the participants are requested to be present on time at the venue.

### Stop to 'vengeful political programmes' demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Khelaghar, a children's organisation, yesterday demanded a stop to "vengeful political programmes" to maintain peace in the country.

It called for creating a beautiful, peaceful and cheerful atmosphere for the betterment of the next generation, said a release.

The future generations will be plunged into darkness if the present volatile political situation exists, the release added.

A good number of people mostly children were killed during the current political violence, it said.

#### Sale of JU books foiled amid protest

JU CORRESPONDENT

Students of Jahangirnagar University yesterday protested the sale of around 8,000 old books of the university's central library, and made the authorities cancel the sale.

Witnesses said the authorities attempted to hand over the books after selling them for Tk 23 per kg through a tender. Earlier, the authorities sold books weighing 2,400kg according to a decision taken at a syndicate meeting, said sources.

Contacted, Md Rezaul Haque Shuvo, deputy librarian, said, "The books were sold following university rules. In January this year, a syndicate meeting permitted selling books which were not usable."

However, the students claimed that the books were usable. Following the protest, the authorities refunded the buyer.



A delegation led by Kazi Zafar Ahmed, third from left, meets BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia at her Gulshan office in the capital yesterday. Zafar announced on November 29 an interim committee declaring himself the chairman of Jatiya Party a day after Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad expelled him for "speaking against him". Almost immediately, Zafar had expelled Ershad blaming him for constantly changing his political stance.

Prof Anwar

leaves JU with

# Azharul committed genocide, rape

Prosecution says in opening statement before war crimes tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Alleged Al-Badr commander of Rangpur ATM Azharul Islam committed genocide and, along with his associates, detained, raped and inhumanly tortured women inside Rangpur Town Hall during the 1971 Liberation War, prosecutors stated before International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday.

The Jamaat-e-Islami assistant secretary general used to provide the Pakistani army in Rangpur Cantonment information on the district's intellectuals, Hindus and Awami League leaders, they said.

Members of Islami Chhatra Sangha, the then student wing of Jamaat and the Rangpur district unit president of which was Azharul, under his leadership joined Al-Badr, the Pakistani army's auxiliary force which carried out targeted killings

of intellectuals, they added.

The prosecution was placing the opening statement against Azharul,

present yesterday and indicted on November 13 on six charges of murder, genocide and crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War.

The tribunal fixed December 8 to hear a defence petition seeking review of the indictment order and December 19 for recording prosecution witnesses' testimonies.

The hearing of the petition was scheduled for yesterday but deferred for the absence of senior defence counsel Abdur Razzaq for "personal difficulty". The tribunal in a note stated that no further adjournment would be allowed.

The tribunal also fixed December 8 for hearing a prosecution application seeking to record deposition of three witnesses behind closed doors.

Crimes Tribunal-2 deferred for the second time the charge framing hearing in the case against

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Meanwhile, International

Agitating teachers see it as part of govt's initiative to remove him as VC

JU CORRESPONDENT

In the face of relentless protests by teachers, the embattled vice chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, Prof Anwar Hossain, left the campus yesterday upon directives from the government high-ups, an initiative seen as a prelude to his removal.

A team of police escorted Prof Anwar out of the campus around 2:30pm in his official vehicle. His wife Ayesha Akter and Assistant Proctor Kazi Saiful Islam accompanied him. The couple took some baggage with them.

Registrar Abu Bakar Siddique, however, said the VC had gone on a "five-day sick leave", and Pro-VC (admin) Prof Afsar Ahmed would be acting VC in his absence.

"A process of resolving the deadlock at the university started with the VC's departure and the way he left the campus means to us an initiative for his removal," said JU Teachers Association (Juta) President

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

Two Education Projects

## WB approves \$390m more

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The World Bank (WB) has approved a US\$ 390 million additional financing for two ongoing projects in the education sector of Bangladesh.

Of the amount, \$ 265 million will be spent for Secondary

\$125 million for Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project and Project, a WB statement said yesterday.

Johannes Zutt, WB country director for Bangladesh and Napal said "Pangladesh deserves praise for achieving

Nepal, said, "Bangladesh deserves praise for achieving gender parity in primary and secondary education, but more needs to be done to improve the quality of education, and to ensure that young people in hard-to-reach parts of the country also have access."

These additional financings, through improving quality

monitoring and also providing stipends to poor students, will contribute directly to these objectives, and indirectly to higher growth, he said.

The statement said a \$ 265 million additional financing

The statement said a \$ 265 million additional financing for the Secondary Education Quality and Access Enhancement Project would enable 4.5 million rural students to continue education in secondary level annually.

The project will continue to provide poverty-targeted stipends and tuition to girls and boys to increase access and retention, the statement added.

The \$125 million additional financing for Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project will continue to support initiatives to improve the quality and relevance of teaching and research in the country's higher education institutions.

### Man 'kills himself after murdering' wife in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A man allegedly committed suicide after killing his wife in Jahangirpur village under Sreepur upazila of Gazipur yesterday.

The couple are Aktaruzzaman, 35, a CNG run auto-

rickshaw driver, and Mafiya Akther, 28. They had been married for 15 years. Aktaruzzaman's father Majid Fakir said the couple's

daughter, a student of class II, had come home from a neighbouring house to find her mother in a pool of blood with her throat slit and her father hanging from the ceiling. Quoting the daughter, Majid Fakir said the couple had been arguing early in the morning before she left the house.

Station, said they recovered the bodies and sent those for autopsies.

Meanwhile, police recovered the body of a youth from an abandoned toilet pit in Prahaladpur of Sreepur on Wednesday night, 12 days after he had gone missing on

Ameer Hossain, officer-in-charge of Sreepur Police

November 22.
Ali Hossain, 23, son of Md Shahjahan of Dumni village, left home on November 22 but did not return.

Sohel Rana, sub-inspector of Sreepur Police Station, said locals spotted the body in the pit on the bank of the Paruli

river and informed police.

The body was sent for an autopsy.



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