

YESTERDAY'S  
TEMPERATURESDHAKA  
H 26.3°C L 16.0CHITTAGONG  
H 28.5°C L 17.9SYLHET  
H 27.2°C L 13.8RAJSHAH  
H 27.8°C L 12.3KHULNA  
H 27.5°C L 16.5BARISAL  
H 28.2°C L 14.6RANGPUR  
H 26.6°C L 12.0COX'S BAZAR  
H 29.4°C L 19.8

Night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:52pm and rises tomorrow at 6:34am. Country's highest temperature 29.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Teknaf and lowest 10.3 in Sreemangal.

# Rajshahi cops break innocent man's legs

*His fault was he didn't know who blasted cocktail during JCD, Shibir strikes on RU campus; four more blasts reported; two students held*

MA SAYEED, RU

After a crude bomb went off, police rushed to the tea shop owner, 200 yards away from the scene, and asked him a few questions before taking him into detention. In custody, he was clobbered so badly



in 64 districts

that the man had the bones of both legs fractured, apprehensively beyond repair.

What did he do actually? Police do not have a good answer. They freed the small trader Shamim Hossain, after failing to find

his involvement in the blast, near Ismail Hossain Sirajee Building on the Rajshahi University campus.

Doctors at RU Medical Centre where the 55-year-old is receiving treatment said he might get crippled and never return to normal life. He will need to have rest for a long time and take expensive antibiotics, one physician told The Daily Star.

Narrating the incident, Shamim said 10-12 policemen came to his shop immediately after the blast, around 10:45am, and asked him where the bomb exploded.

"When I said it was somewhere near my shop, they picked me up and took me to Kazla police sub-station and started to slam my legs with sticks, saying 'you know the bomb throwers'. After a while, I lost consciousness. They released me at 1:00pm. When I woke up, I found myself in hospital," he said.

Police, however, denied torturing him. Officer-in-Charge of Motihar Police Station Alamgir Hossain said Shamim was detained to learn whether he recognised the perpetrators. As he said he did not know them and police did not find his link to the blast, he was freed, the official added.

Alamgir Hossain Sujon, a leader of the RU Progressive Students Alliance, which pleaded for the release of Shamim, said it was just a case of police brutality on an

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Shamim Hossain, a tea shop owner, being taken to the Rajshahi University Medical Centre yesterday from Motihar Police Station in Rajshahi where he was allegedly tortured which led to leg fractures.

PHOTO:  
STAR

## Cops extracting confessions through inhumane torture

*Claims BNP about implicating its alliance's activists in subversive activities; doesn't say anything about its men being caught red-handed; another appeal to withdraw blockade reaches Khaleda's office*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday alleged that police were inhumanely torturing some accused persons during remand to force them into giving confessions implicating the BNP-led 20-party alliance men in subversive activities.

These are part of the government's long-term conspiracy to malign the ongoing mass movement and the country's people do not believe in such propaganda and conspiracy, said a statement undersigned by BNP Joint Secretary General Salahuddin Ahmed.

Though the ruling party's cadres were blamed for the subversive activities, the statement did not say anything

about the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Jubo Dal men the public recently caught red-handed throwing cocktails and petrol bombs in the capital.

BNP also warned all concerned that any attempt to jeopardise BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's security might weaken the "safety fence of the ruling class".

"We are observing with great anxiety that ill efforts are ongoing...in the name of staging anti-hartal, anti-blockade

drama near Khaleda Zia's cordoned-off office".

MEMO TO KHALEDA

The appeals to withdraw the ongoing blockade of the BNP-led 20-party alliance and to refrain from enforcing hartals and ensure a favourable environment for education kept coming at Khaleda's Gulshan office in the capital yesterday with a memorandum from a platform of private technical institution teachers.

A five-man team handed over the memorandum to a staff after police stopped around 150 people carrying

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## FEUD OVER JHUT TRADE Pro-AL UP member, supporters hack BCL man in Ashulia

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

To take control of jhut (scraps of fabrics of garment factories) trade, a pro-Awami League Union Parishad member and his supporters hacked two activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League at Kaichabari in Ashulia outside the capital on Tuesday night, said one of the victims and locals.

Md Bappi Miah, 24, and Ripon Mia, 26, members of the dissolved committee of Dhamsona union unit of BCL, were taken to Enam Medical College Hospital.

Of them, Bappi, whose both the hands were almost separated, was undergoing treatment at the intensive care unit there, the hospital sources said.

Md Jewel Rana, who claimed to have witnessed the incident, said a group of people, led by Md Abdul Halim Chowdhury, member of ward no-8 of the Union Parishad, attacked the two with sharp weapons while they were taking tea at a stall around 9:00pm.

Ripon said they were attacked as Bappi and his supporters took control of the jhut trade at "A4 Young Dyeing Ltd" a year ago, which had been dominated by Halim for three years.

Despite repeated attempts, Halim could not be contacted over the phone.

Halim and his supporters Rawshon, Chandu, Motiur, Alamgir and Al-Amin are on the run since a case was filed against them with Ashulia Police Station, said Officer-in-Charge Mostafa Kamal.

## SC returns to normalcy despite boycott by pro-BNP lawyers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Despite the Supreme Court Bar Association's indefinite work stoppage going on since Monday, the apex court's judicial operations were almost normal yesterday, when judges of the 24 High Court benches out of the total 49 dealt with 203 cases.

Apart  
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# 10 YEARS of success



## Falu on remand again

For the third time in ten days

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's adviser Mosaddak Ali Falu's bail prayer and placed him on a five-day remand, the third one after his arrest on February 1, in a case filed over the torching of a vehicle in the capital's Mirpur-1 on January 28.

Metropolitan Magistrate Tareq Mainul Islam Bhuiyan passed the order after Sub-inspector Mohammad Rafiqul Islam of Mirpur Police Station, the investigation officer (IO), produced Falu

before it seeking a 10-day remand for him.

The IO said Falu instigated the BNP-led 20-party alliance activists to carry out the attack intending to kill the driver, helper and passengers, and information about the petrol bombs was needed.

Falu's lawyer submitted his petition which said his name was not included in the case's first information report.

Earlier in the day, Badda police produced Falu on expiry of his three-day remand in an arson case.

He was also placed on a five-day remand in another arson case filed with Khilgaon Police Station.

Detectives had picked up Falu from in front of Khaleda's Gulshan office.



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start something new