

WEATHER FORECAST



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 30.0 | L 20.4

CHITTAGONG H 32.0 | L 19.0

SYLHET H 26.5 | L 17.7

RAJSHAHI H 31.3 | L 17.7

KHULNA H 31.2 | L 20.7

BARISAL H 31.0 | L 20.2

RANGPUR H 26.4 | L 18.4

COX'S BAZAR H 31.4 | L 19.0

An injured elderly man being rushed to Joypurhat Modern Hospital after two crude bombs exploded at a rally organised by the Awami League-led alliance in Pachurmo area of Joypurhat town yesterday. Inset, smoke rises from the BNP office in the town after an arson allegedly by agitated Awami League men following the explosions.

PHOTO: STAR



Troublemakers won't last

IGP tells training course at Mirpur Staff College

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque yesterday said troublemakers would not last long.

"People do not like saboteurs. They want to live and work in a peaceful atmosphere. As there is no mass people's support to atrocity, we hope they will not last long..."

"Good sense should prevail with them (anarchists and those hiring them). Who are they killing? The innocent people of the country," he said after inaugurating a training course, "Transnational Crime: Saarc Perspective", in the capital's Police Staff College, Mirpur.

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BNP-Jamaat planning grenade attacks

Hasina tells law ministry officials

UNB, BSS, Dhaka

The BNP-Jamaat-e-Islami alliance is now planning to attack innocent people with grenades as their petrol bombs yielded nothing in their favour, alleged Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday.

"I have asked the intelligence to find those who said this," she told officials of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs at Bangladesh Secretariat.

"They are not getting any support from home and abroad... they thought there will be something from abroad and they will be placed in power. But those who kill people hurling petrol bombs never get support from anywhere."

"Having realised this, they are now planning to kill more people... carry out bigger subversive acts," she said, adding that this undoubtedly could degrade Bangladesh's image abroad.

Hasina asked the authorities concerned to ensure that the anarchists, culprits caught red-handed hurling petrol bombs, those giving the orders, financiers and suppliers were tried quickly and ensured exemplary punishment.

Delaying the trial encourages them to create

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Students bring floral help for arson victims

STAR REPORT

They were not traditional flower sellers on streets but they sold roses in various places of Dhaka and Rajshahi cities on the Valentine's Day to help arson victims rebuild their dreams shattered by recent firebomb attacks in the country. A group of graduate students under the banner of Swapno, a recently formed voluntary organisation, took this unique initiative for the victims.

Yesterday, Swapno distributed Tk 82,000, mostly earned by selling the flowers, among nine burn victims at a programme in the conference room of the Burn Unit of Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH). Eight burn patients were given Tk 10,000 each at the event, said a press release of Swapno.

The voluntary organisation has taken another initiative to rehabilitate Nur Nabi, a burn victim from Kurigram, and initially gave him Tk 2,000, it said.

Addressing the programme as the chief guest, Prof Dr AZM Mostak Hossain Tuhin of DMCH highly appreciated the initiative of Swapno.

Some 150 students from universities and medical colleges as volunteers of the organisation on February 14 sold roses in various places, including TSC of Dhaka University, Bangla Academy premises, Ramna Batomul of Dhaka and Rajshahi University campus and Padma Garden of Rajshahi city.

They collected a total of Tk 1,05,736 for the fund mostly from selling the flowers. Some people from home and abroad also have sent money to the fund as donation, it added.

Scores of burn victims are being admitted to the burn units of different hospitals across the country. The arson attacks not only burned such victims but shattered their dreams and their families. So, Swapno has taken the initiative to rehabilitate such victims, it said.

ARSON CASE
BNP's Zainul denied bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday refused to grant anticipatory bail to Zainul Abedin, an adviser to the BNP chairperson, in an arson case.

An HC bench returned the bail petition of Zainul to his lawyers, saying that it would not grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner as per the guidelines of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

Citing the guidelines, Deputy Attorney General Bashir Ullah told The Daily Star that the apex court had discouraged the HC to refrain from granting anticipatory bail to the accused whimsically and without considering the first information reports of the cases.

He said the law enforcers can arrest Zainul, a former president of the

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Lawmaker Tarana Halim, left, with a group of protesters denouncing arson yesterday place flowers under a banner, containing names of 54 persons who died in petrol bomb attacks from January 11 to February 17 and hung opposite BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's office on Road 86 in the capital's Gulshan 2.

PHOTO: STAR

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