



A photo taken on February 15 shows Biryani packets bought for Khaleda Zia's Gulshan office are left outside as police did not allow the food into the building. PHOTO: FILE

Food not a problem

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Food for Khaleda also comes from BNP vice-chairman Selima Rahman's residence sometimes, sources at Khaleda's office said.
A major chunk of cooked food comes from the BNP chief's Gulshan residence for the party leaders, staff and officials, who have been staying inside the office since January 3. Members of Chairperson's Security Force (CSF), the team that looks after the security of Khaleda Zia, bring the food thrice a day for them, the sources added.
Around 60 people are staying in Khaleda's Gulshan office now. Of them, around 30 are members of the CSF. The CSF men include retired army officials. They are allowed to go in and out of the office, staff at Khaleda's office said.
Apart from the CSF members, BNP

leaders Nazrul Islam Khan, Selima Rahman, Shirin Sultana, former IGP and the BNP chief's adviser Abdul Qaiyum, her press secretary Maruf Kamal Khan, two staff of BNP chief's media wing, security chief of Khaleda Col (ret'd) Abdul Majid, eight drivers, four office staff, two personal staff, two special assistants and a domestic help of Khaleda are staying inside the office at present.
Police on February 11 suddenly stopped food supply for Khaleda Zia's office staff. They, however, allowed food for the BNP chief to get in. Previously, as many as 30 to 35 food packs and same number of bottled water were being sent to the office from different city hotels.
Around seven to eight CSF members bring food from Khaleda's Gulshan residence in small to

medium-sized hand bags. The food is usually kept in the lower part of the bags with papers or clothes on the top of it. Plainclothes detectives and police do not search the CSF members.
A member of Special Branch of Police yesterday told The Daily Star that police high-ups knew it well that the CSF members brought food for the people staying inside the office. He, however, spoke on condition of anonymity.
The arrangement of sending packet food from restaurants was stopped after police barred food supply from entering the office, sources at Khaleda's Gulshan office said.
Between February 14 and 21, police barred popular singer Baby Naznin, a group of six female BNP leaders, and 12 retired officials of the armed forces from entering Khaleda's office with food.

Sudden attacks

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joint operations in places where passenger and goods-laden vehicles came under arson attacks.
The letter asked the home ministry to take highest measures to nab the miscreants and take punitive action against them in a bid to make the situation normal, sources confirmed The Daily Star.
Moreover, the ministry yesterday directed deputy commissioners, superintendents of police and law enforcement agencies to work together under the instruction of divisional commissioners to stop attacks on vehicles, resist the anarchists and protect people's lives and public properties, ministry sources said.
The cabinet yesterday approved in principle the draft Battalion Ansar (Amendment) Act, 2015 with a proposal to incorporate the provision of "Force Retirement" in the Battalion Ansar Act, 1995 for any offence of the battalion members.
The cabinet meeting suggested reducing from nine years to six the existing time-limit of making permanent the service of an embodied Ansar as a battalion Ansar, said Cabinet Secretary Musharraf Hossain Bhuiyan.
It also approved a proposal of the Power Division for creating a fund for rehabilitation and social development of the neighbourhoods surrounding the coal-fired power plants.
The cabinet secretary also said that the meeting approved a draft policy for the fund's operation by committees to be constituted with local people.
Civil Servant (Married with Foreign Nationals) Act-2015 and Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation Act, 2015 also got the cabinet nod at the meeting.

J&K TO KARNATAKA Rare storm drenches India

TNN, New Delhi
wet weather.
Experts said the rains were a result of a rare confluence of factors. "It started with a western disturbance (WD) coming over north India, which is not unusual for this time of the year," Yadav said.
It was a strong WD that induced a cyclonic circulation over Saurashtra and Kutchh. "Such circulations usually form over Rajasthan. But this one formed at a more southern location, which caused the WD to go deeper into central India and the southern peninsula," Yadav said.
Simultaneously, winds rushed in from central Arabian Sea, and to a lesser extent from Bay Bengal, intensifying the rain over the region. The WD is expected to move eastwards, taking the wet weather to eastern India today and tomorrow.
Day temperatures are likely to drop in north and central India, bringing a slight chill ahead of the Holi festival. The maximum temperature in Delhi on Sunday was 19 degrees Celsius, a good eight notches below normal. Said Yadav, "Since the rains were widespread, it will lead to a fall in maximum temperatures over the next few days."

An unusually potent storm system lashed India over the weekend, bringing copious rain across a large swathe of the country, from J&K to Karnataka, in what Met officials described as a rare occurrence for this time of the year.
The system is expected to blow over by today morning, but not before it drenches most of north and central India, as well as parts of the south, and dumps a few feet of fresh snow in the Himalayas.
"There was intermittent, heavy rainfall across large parts of the country on Sunday. Such widespread rain at this time of the year is not very common. The wet weather in north and central India will continue for at least another day," said B P Yadav, director, India Meteorological Department.
Between 8.30am and 5.30pm, around 40mm of rain was recorded in Kanpur (UP), Katra (J&K) and Bhavnagar (Gujarat) while Delhi (Ridge), Pachmarhi (MP) and Ratnagiri saw close to 30mm. Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad also had

2 Netrakona

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occupation army on August 17, 1971 attacked Baushi Bazar and looted valuables from 400-450 shops and 20-25 houses of the Hindus.
They also detained and tortured four to five people including one Fazlur Rahman. All but Fazlur were released. Under Obaidul's leadership, Ataur and other Razakars took Fazlur to Trimohoni Bridge and shot him dead.
On October 4, 1971, Obaidul, Ataur and other Razakars caught footballer Dabir Hossain at Jiur Akhra and took him to Zilla Parishad Bungalow where he was tortured all day long. He was later shot dead near Moktarpara Bridge.
The duo accompanied by other Razakars and Pakistani army attacked Laufa village around 2:30pm on October 19, 1971 and detained 10 people. Eight of them were shot dead and two were released, while the Razakars also raped women there.
Any day between mid-May and the end of the month, the war crimes accused occupied one Moloy Biswas' house at Moktarpara and set up a Razakar camp there. The house owner later left Bangladesh for India in fear.
Between November 15 and 16, they detained seven people including Badiuzzaman Mukto, an organiser of Liberation War, at Birampur Bazar and shot all but one dead.
On any day of the first week of October, Razakar commanders Obaidul and Ataur along with Pakistani army and other Razakars detained around 27 Hindus at Netrakona jail gate and took them near Trimohoni Bridge where all of them were shot dead.
After reading out the charges, the tribunal chairman asked defence counsels Shah Md Shahab Uddin and Gazi MH Tamim to know if their clients pleaded themselves guilty.
Both Obaidul and Taher said they were not present at the places of occurrence and did not know any of the victims mentioned by the tribunal.
The tribunal also asked the defence to submit their witness list, if they have any, to defend their clients.

Arsonists become desperate

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Earlier, the city witnessed such violence mostly in the evening and night.
Meanwhile, three passengers of a bus carrying Janata Bank staff were injured as alleged pro-hartal activists hurled a crude bomb at the vehicle near Bhanga Press in Jatrabari around 9:30am.
The injured were undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said sources at the hospital police camp.
Of the victims, two were injured with splinters from the bomb, while the other was hurt as he jumped off the bus to escape the attack.
In Gazipur, two criminals torched a bus at Bormi Bus Stop under Sreepur upazila around 12:30pm, leaving five passengers injured, said police.
The arsonists set the bus alight with gunpowder. The passengers sustained injuries while trying to get off the bus. Locals later doused the flames.
In another incident, Sreepur police recovered around 100 firecrackers and materials for making firecrackers under a culvert near Saitalia bazar around 3:00pm.
Arsonists in Panchagarh torched two buses at Tentulia Bus Stand and two local Awami League offices at Jagdal Bazar and Tunirhat village in Panchagarh Sadar upazila early yesterday, reports our correspondent.
Quoting locals, police said criminals splashed petrol on the buses parked at the bus stand and torched those around 4:00am. Firefighters later put out the blaze.
Riding on two motorbikes, a group of six youths set the local AL office afire at Jagdal Bazar around 5:00pm.
Around the same time, unknown miscreants torched the AL office at Tunirhat village in the same upazila. Furniture, doors and windows of the office were burnt.
In Feni, alleged pro-hartal activists torched a bus on Feni-Noakhali highway in Dagonbhuiyan upazila around 7:00am.
Police said the bus of Sugandha Paribahan left Mahipal of Feni for Sonapur of Noakhali. As it reached Aziz Fazilpur Moktarbari Daraja area, some youths posing as passengers signalled at the driver to stop.
Getting in the bus, the youths forced all the passengers to get off and set the

vehicle on fire with petrol.
In Dinajpur, alleged hartal supporters hurled a firebomb at a truck in Nawabganj upazila.
As the Dinajpur-bout truck from Sirajganj reached near Bhaduria around 6:00am, criminals hurled the bomb at the truck, said Nawabganj police.
Some 10-12 people vandalised a diagnostic centre in Amtoli area of Joypurhat.
In Bogra, pro-hartal pickets torched two trucks in Arulia on Bogra-Noagaon highway under Bogra Sadar upazila around 6:00am. One of the trucks was carrying fish to Natore.
Pickets chased another Bogra-bound truck there. Losing control, the driver drove the truck into a saw mill and fled the scene. The pickets then torched the vehicle.
Alleged hartal supporters blasted two crude bombs in front of the registry office in Bogra town around 11:30am.
In Mymensingh, arsonists torched a microbus in the garage of Bangladesh Agricultural University around 3:30am.
In Rajshahi, criminals fired shots and hurled crude bombs at the city residence of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) Mayor Mosaddek Hossain Bulbul around 10:15pm.
Bulbul's mother-in-law Sahara Banu received minor injuries in the explosion, said Iftekhar Alam, assistant commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.
The incident took place around an hour after criminals threw homemade bombs at the residence of former RCC mayor AHM Khairuzzaman Liton, also an AL leader.

Kushtia

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At one stage, he engaged in an altercation with his friend, Emon, who later went to his home beside the playground and came back with a knife around 6:00pm.
"Emon stabbed Imran indiscriminately, leaving him seriously injured," the OC said quoting witnesses.
Imran was rushed to Kushtia General Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries around 7:00pm.
Emon has fled to avoid being arrested in connection with murder, the OC added.

Rental power

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He claimed that the plant faced excessive outages as some 96 of its machineries were damaged in a lightning within three days of its commissioning. "This was unfortunate and we don't dispute their [PDB's] claim. We've paid liquidated damages."
To improve the plant's performance, Desh Energy is installing a new generator adding 60 mw power by June.
"This over-capacity is to avoid LD. Besides, the government would need more power," said the Desh spokesman.
Two other rental power companies, Energis and Precision Energy, also consumed excessive fuel due to the same reason and are facing fines. They also got court injunctions to avoid paying fines, but later withdrew the injunctions through courts as their contracts have been renewed with the promise that the government would resolve the disputes.

3 Israelis indicted for smuggling goods to Gaza's Hamas

AFP, Jerusalem
According to a statement from Israel's Shin Bet internal security agency, the materials included iron plates, cement and steel cables for building tunnels; pipes for making rockets and mortars, and electronic materials for military communications.
Israel keeps a tight watch on merchandise transferred into Gaza through the Kerem Shalom commercial crossing to prevent Hamas from getting hold of so-called dual-use materials that could be used for building fortifications or attacking the Jewish state.
The entry of such goods have been severely restricted under an eight-year Israeli blockade, although they are allowed in for certain approved international projects.
Three Israelis were yesterday charged with smuggling goods into the Gaza Strip knowing they would be used by Hamas to bolster its military infrastructure, officials said.
Micha Peretz, Yehoram Alon and another man whose name has not been released were indicted at Beersheba District Court for trade worth millions of dollars with a Palestinian merchant in Gaza, while fully aware he was transferring the materials to Hamas.
The alleged smuggling took place over the past two years but intensified prior to and after last summer, when Israel fought a deadly 50-day war with Hamas militants in Gaza, court documents showed.

Get castrated

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allegations. At a press conference for his new film he said: "Such allegations disturb me, when I am doing good for humanity. Therefore me and my legal advisor are going to move the court challenging the allegations."
The alleged castrations were said to be mainly carried out at a hospital run by the DSS in Singh's ancestral village Gururur Modia, in the Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan.
The DSS also owns factories, markets, farms, restaurants, hotels and runs schools and orphanages, according to Latterly Magazine.
Singh - who has more than 87,000 Twitter followers but is not a follower of anyone - describes himself on a social media bio as a "spiritual singer/philanthropist/versatile singer/allrounder sportsperson/film director/art director/music director / s c r i p t w r i t e r / l y r i c i s t / a u t o b i o g r a p h e r / D O P".
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allegedly manipulated around 400 men to get their testicles removed - according to India Today.
One of his former followers who underwent castration seven years ago - named Hans Raj Chauhan - is one of the few to break the silence to speak out against him and the group.
"[The victims] were told that only those who get castrated will be able to meet God," said Chauhan's lawyer, Navkiran Singh, according to the Sydney Morning Herald.
Chauhan, 35, filed a petition against the guru in 2012 and the Central Bureau of Investigation has started looking into claims dating back as far back as 2000 in preparation of charges of grievous bodily harm. However many followers are believed to be in fear of speaking out.
In January, MailOnline reported how Singh, the head of the Dera Sacha Sauda organisation, had hit back at the

HC to include

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petitions on January 28, expressing her apprehension that she would not get justice from Abu Ahmed Jamadar of the Special Judge Court-3, as he had not allowed her prayer for adjourning the case proceedings.
In the petitions, Khaleda prayed to the HC to direct the government to transfer the corruption cases to the court of another judge.
On February 25, the court of Abu Ahmed Jamadar issued two arrest warrants against Khaleda Zia, her son Tarique Rahman and another accused of the cases for not appearing before it.
The next hearing of the two graft cases is scheduled for tomorrow.
Badal told The Daily Star they would pray to the lower court tomorrow for adjourning the proceedings of the cases against Khaleda Zia as her no-confidence petitions were pending with the HC.

Agencies

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their names online from Thursday to March 11.
The registration will be running at union and ward digital centres and district manpower offices from 9:00am to 5:00pm every working day. The jobseekers have to pay Tk 300 (Tk 200 as government registration fee and Tk 100 as service charge).
Registration of those in Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions will be from March 12 to 16, Chittagong and Sylhet from March 17 to 23, and Khulna and Barisal from March 24 to 28.

New policies

FROM PAGE 3
"About 60 percent of the women said their family will not like it (joining workforce)," he said, adding that many women cited lack of suitable work as the reason for not working.
"Health indicators are not actually empowerment indicators," said Ubaidur Rob, country representative of Population Council.
Advocate Salma Ali, president of Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers Association, called for ensuring accountability and gender-sensitisation of law enforcement agencies.
On a positive note, Dr Shamsul Alam, senior secretary, General Economic Division of the Planning Commission, said Bangladesh ranked

Charged up

FROM PAGE 16
There was more surprise in store for the Tigers when they participated in the reception arranged by the city council. The Maori culture and customs were showcased during the one-and-a-half-hour long programme. The Tigers loved the haka dance, a traditional dance of the Maori tribe, made popular around the world by the All Blacks, i.e. the New Zealand rugby team. The All Blacks perform the haka before every international game they play.
Bangladesh skipper Mashrafe jokingly said that they might perform the dance to evoke fear in the opposition players when they take on Scotland. "We might perform the haka before the match (against Scotland). It's won't be a bad way to threaten the opposition," Mashrafe said.
The city mayor Rachel Reese was uncertain about whom she would support. The Scottish-descendant said she would support the Tigers only if she finds the Tigers were in a good position to win the match.

Legal Notice

This is to notify for general information of all concerned that our client UTAH KNITTING & DYEING LTD. represented by its Managing Director Mr. A. Razzak Sattar of House No. 13 A, Road No. 117, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212 has entered into a sale Agreement for purchase of land measuring 5.72 acres under the following dag and khatian with MING MIOFAI HISI present name MING YUEN HON Managing Director of CHUNG FONG GARMENTS (BD) LTD. of Plot No.- 258, Mollar Teck, Uttara, Dhaka-1230. If anybody has any objection or claim over the scheduled land, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned within 3(three) days from the date of the publication of this notice. If no objection or claim within the above mentioned time is received by the undersigned it will be deemed that the owners have got undisputed right, title and interests over the scheduled land and no claim or objection will be entertained after the expiration of the time mentioned above.

SCHEDULE

All that piece or parcel of land measuring 5.72 acres equivalent 572 decimal under Mouza-Bokran Monipur, P.S. Gazipur Sadar, Dist. Gazipur, and Sub-Registry Office: Joydebpur under the following khatian and dag:

SA Khatian	RS Khatian	CS and SA Dag	RS Dag	Land Area in Acre
33	130	231	666	0.64
34	42	231	651	1.38
239	305	229	649	0.70
239	305	230	650	1.04
248	64	228	648	0.53
260	192	238	647	1.43
				Total Land 5.72Acres

butted and bounded:
By North: Labandah River & Masuma Khatun Textiles Ltd.
By South: Road.
By East: Mark Washing Ltd.
By West: ATI Ceramic Industries Ltd.

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