

**WEATHER FORECAST**

**YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES**

<b>DHAKA</b> H 32.4   L 22.6	<b>CHITTAGONG</b> H 32.0   L 20.7	<b>SYLHET</b> H 33.8   L 21.1	<b>RAJSHAHI</b> H 33.7   L 22.0	<b>KHULNA</b> H 33.5   L 22.0	<b>BARISAL</b> H 33.0   L 22.4	<b>RANGPUR</b> H 31.2   L 21.0	<b>COX'S BAZAR</b> H 33.0   L 24.5
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Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and Noakhali and Comilla till 6:00pm today, said Met Office. Day and night temperature may rise over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:17pm and rises tomorrow at 05:44am.

**Manna again denied bail**

**COURT CORRESPONDENT**

A Dhaka court yesterday again denied bail of Nagorik Oikya convener Mahmudur Rahman Manna in a case filed on charge of trying to instigate revolt by the armed forces.

The court passed the order after Manna's lawyer filed a bail petition against a lower court verdict that had rejected his bail prayer and sent him on a 10-day remand on February 25.

Manna was arrested on February 24, a day after the leak of his controversial telephone conversation with BNP leader Sadeque Hossain Khoka, now in the USA, about strengthening the anti-government movement, among other issues.



**Ruling Awami League-backed mayoral candidate for Dhaka South City Corporation polls Sayeed Khokon begins his electoral campaign in Jatrabari yesterday.** PHOTO: STAR

**NEWS IN brief**

**Bangladesh welcomes Iran-UN nuclear talks initiative**

**DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT**

Bangladesh has welcomed the understanding reached between Iran and five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council plus Germany (the P5+1) in Lausanne, Switzerland, on key parameters for a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran's Nuclear Program.

Bangladesh hopes that the parties concerned will be able to reach a final comprehensive deal to be negotiated by June 30, read a foreign ministry statement issued yesterday.

Bangladesh believes that this understanding would contribute to regional peace and stability.

**BRUR admission tests rescheduled**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangpur**

The admission tests of first year honours courses of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur (BRUR) under 2014-15 session have been rescheduled for May 5 and 6.

Result of the tests will now be published on May 13, said a press release.

The decision was taken at a meeting at the office of BRUR vice-chancellor on Monday.

The tests were supposed to be held on May 1 and 3.

For more information visit [www.brur.ac.bd](http://www.brur.ac.bd) and [www.admission.brur.ac.bd](http://www.admission.brur.ac.bd).

**Unknown people kill rickshaw-puller**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Unknown assailants stabbed to death a rickshaw-puller, who was allegedly involved in drug dealing, in the capital's Khilgaon yesterday.

Joynal Khan, 40, was attacked while he and his wife Sumi Begum returning from her parent's house in Khilgaon. Previously, he drove a private car, said family members.

Khilgaon police recovered the body from a dump site and said Joynal had a link with a drug peddling gang, and internal feuding might be the cause of the murder.

**16 tricksters, four Nitor staff held for diverting patients to pvt clinics**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

A Rapid Action Battalion-backed mobile court yesterday fined and jailed up to one month 16 people for luring patients to private clinics and handed over four staff of government-run Nitor, or Pongu Hospital, to the hospital authorities for abetting in the act.

A gang has long been preying on patients near reputed hospitals in Dhaka including Nitor where the drive was conducted, said a Rab-2 official.

**Customs Intelligence head Moinul Khan receives Australian award**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Director General of Customs Intelligence Moinul Khan, who earned an MBA from the University of Queensland and a PhD on policing, counter-intelligence from Macquarie University in Australia, yesterday received the "Australian Alumni Excellence Award 2015 for Business Leadership".

Austrade or Australian Trade Commission, on behalf of Australia's government, confers the award on the graduates of Australian universities who attain exemplary success in their respective sectors and contribute to the betterment of Australian education, says a press release.

The award was handed over in a hotel in the capital.

**Convention of Old Faujians April 18**

**CITY DESK**

The convention of the Old Faujians will be held on April 18 at RAOWA Convention Centre in the capital, said a press release.

The event will feature election to the OFA 2015-16 and a cultural programme. All old Faujians along with their spouses are requested to attend the event.

**JIHAD'S FATAL FALL INTO DEEP WELL**

**Two charged with negligent homicide**

**COURT CORRESPONDENT**

Police yesterday pressed charges against an engineer of Bangladesh Railway and its contractor in a case filed over the death of four-year-old boy Jihad who died after falling into a deep well last year.

Jihad fell into the well, some 40 yards from his house at Bangladesh Railway Colony in the capital, around 4:00pm on December 26 while playing with friends. His body was pulled out by a band of indomitable volunteers around 2:45pm the following day, around 15 minutes after the fire service called off a near 23-hour search in the 17-inch diameter abandoned shaft.

The accused Jahangir Alam, a senior sub-assistant engineer of the railway, is on the run while contractor Abdus Salam who installed the deep well in the colony, is now in jail.

Sub-inspector Abu Zafar of Shahjahanpur

**Healthy life elusive despite progress**

**Says Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Though Bangladesh has made significant progress in the health sector, healthy life and healthcare still remains a major question, said economist Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman yesterday.

Addressing a press conference at Jatiya Press Club in the capital, he asked, "Average lifespan of Bangladeshis has gone up to 69 years, but is this life healthy?"

Hossain Zillur Rahman, also former adviser to a caretaker government and executive chairman of Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC), said on average a Bangladeshi spends 66 percent of income on healthcare, while the global figure is 35 percent.

PPRC organised the press conference to announce an international health conference titled "Realising Universal Health Coverage Goals: Bangladesh Realities and Way Forward".

Medical and public health experts from home and abroad will attend the conference on April 9-11.

PPRC is organising the event with support from the Rockefeller Foundation and The World Bank in partnership with Bangladesh Diabetic Association (DAB), Gonoshashthaya Kendra, Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh (CIPRB), Brac, icddr, Centre for Excellence on Universal Health Coverage and Association of Medical Education.

**Three pro-BNP men held with crude bombs**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Detectives detained three men with nine crude bombs and bomb-making materials from a road in Banarupa residential area of the capital's Khilkhet on Monday night.

They are Selim Chowdhury, president of pro-BNP cultural organisation Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik Sangstha's Khilkhet unit, and local Jubo Dal activists Mehedi Hasan alias Suman Fakir and Abul Hasim, claimed police.

Following information provided by the three, the detectives recovered the bomb-making materials from a nearby building in the area. During primary interrogation, Hasim confessed that he used to make bombs on instructions from local pro-BNP men including the other two arrestees.

A case was filed.

Police on Monday morning detained two alleged Chhatra Dal activists with 27 crude bombs and bomb-making materials in Lalbagh.

**US willing to help Bangladesh fight wildlife trafficking**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The United States government is willing to help Bangladesh prevent wildlife trafficking, said US Ambassador Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat yesterday at a meeting with environment and forest minister at his office in the capital.

Four projects -- Bengal Tiger Conservation Activity, Climate Resilient Eco-System and Livelihood, National Forest Inventory and Satellite Forest Monitoring System in Support of Red Class in Bangladesh, and Strengthening Environment Forestry and Climate Change Capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Its Agencies -- are being implemented with US funding.



**Bengal Foundation presents a painting by Rokeya Sultana to Professor Emeritus Anisuzzaman, second from right, congratulating him for winning Bangladesh's Independence Award and Indian civilian award Padma Bhushan, at a reception in Krishibid Institution Auditorium in the capital yesterday. Mamtaz Khalek, left, mother of Bengal Foundation Chairman Abul Khair, second from left, and Anisuzzaman's wife Siddiqia Zaman, right, were also present.** PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

**Death anniversary**

**CITY DESK**

Today is the 2nd death anniversary of Quazi Saad, an IT specialist. He died in a road accident.

He was an in-charge of the IT department of Dhaka Community Hospital.

On this occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at an Orphanage today and a milad mahfil will be held on Friday after Asr prayers in his Shaymoli residence.

**SC asks 2 land officials why they**

**FROM PAGE 4**

should not be brought against them for violating the apex court's order.

The HC came up with the rule following a contempt of court petition filed by SC lawyer Manzill Murshid.

He submitted the petition yesterday saying that the HC in March 2011 directed the authorities concerned to protect and maintain 55.5 acres of land of the SC in accordance with the law, and the Appellate Division later on upheld the HC order.

Talking to The Daily Star, Murshid said Shishu Academy has been occupying around four acres of SC land.

A legal notice was served on March 8 to the two government officials asking them to handover the land to the SC in line with the court order in four weeks, but they did not take any step in this regard, he added.

**His witness claims he is innocent**

**FROM PAGE 4**

Meanwhile, the case against two Chapainawabganj Razakars Mahidur Rahman and Afsar Hossain Chutu entered the next stage with completion of the last prosecution witness ZM Altafur Rahman's cross-examination, at the tribunal-2 yesterday.

Ten prosecution witnesses testified on three charges against the duo, and the recording of testimony of the lone defence witness was set for April 12.

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