

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 34.2 L 26.5	H 33.5 L 25.5	H 35.3 L 24.4	H 36.0 L 25.7	H 35.8 L 26.5	H 34.3 L 25.5	H 33.0 L 25.5	H 33.0 L 25.0

Rain or thundershowers is likely to occur at a few places or one or two places over all the divisions and till 6:00pm today, said Met Office. Day and night temperature may rise slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:36pm and rises tomorrow at 05:13am.

## Unesco chief calls to punish killers of blogger Ananta

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Condemning the killing of blogger Ananta Bijoy Das, the director-general of Unesco has called for trial and punishment of the murderers.

"I... call on the authorities to ensure that those responsible for this killing are brought to justice," Irina Bokova said in a statement from Paris on Monday.

"Punishing such attacks is indispensable to maintain free public debate and free expression by media professionals and committed citizens alike," she added.

Ananta, 33, was killed by four masked men on a street in Sylhet city in broad daylight on May 12. The blogger had contributed to the Mukto-Mona (Free Thinker) website created by Avijit Roy, a US blogger of Bangladeshi origin, who was murdered during a visit to Dhaka on February 26.

Ananta also wrote for the quarterly Jukti (Logic). Bokova also voiced grave concern about the safety of citizen journalists in Bangladesh following the murder of Ananta.



The parts of Buriganga along Kamrangirchar, a peripheral area of the capital, have been an easy prey of the river encroachers who are silently dumping household and construction waste, among other things, to fill the channel from both banks and building structures to occupy the newly created grounds. The grabbing is going on exceeding the demarcation pillars, and the river has already stopped flowing under Kamrangirchar Bridge, inset. The photo was taken yesterday.



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

## Govt takes up project to strengthen coast guards

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government took up a Tk 468 crore project to strengthen Bangladesh Coast Guard to increase security in the coastal areas of the country and combat human trafficking.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council in a meeting yesterday approved eight projects, including that for the coast guards, involving Tk 1,591 crore.

Under the project "Enhancing operation capability of Bangladesh Coast Guard", the coast guards would be given three in-shore patrol vessels, six high-speed boats, and a floating crane.

After the meeting, Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal told reporters that recently media reports have been showing that human trafficking has increased, so the government has taken an initiative to make the coast guards stronger.

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## SC clears way for Shamsher Mobin Chy's bail in 2 cases

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld High Court orders which granted bail to BNP leader Shamsher Mobin Chowdhury in two criminal cases, clearing the way for his release from jail.

Chamber judge of the Appellate Division Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain passed "no order" on two appeals moved by Additional Attorney General Momtaz Uddin Fakir against the HC's bail orders.

Police filed the cases with Shahbagh and Chakbazar Police Stations on last December 24 on charges of attacking ruling

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## BANGLADESHI WORKERS IN LIBYA

# Finally they will be able to send money home legally

BELAL HOSSAIN BIPLOB

After suffering for one year due to suspension of private money transfer companies' operation in violence-torn Libya, some 50,000 Bangladeshi expatriates will now be able to send money to their families using their employers' commercial bank accounts.

The Bangladesh embassy in Tripoli made an announcement in this regard on Saturday and urged the migrants to communicate with their employers soon.

"After a long-running appeal, Libya's Central Bank has ordered all its commercial banks to take steps so that the Bangladeshis can send money home through their employers' bank accounts," ASM Ashraf Islam, counsellor (labour wing) at the embassy, told The Daily Star yesterday.

The announcement brought a sigh of relief to the Bangladeshi workers who had found no legal way to send money home since April last year, as the money transfer companies suspended their operations in Libya on "security grounds", said the embassy officials.

Masum, son of a migrant from Tangail, told The Daily Star, "My father is working in Libya. But he couldn't send money to Bangladesh [during the period]."

The Bangladeshis used to avail services of Western Union and MoneyGram, two US-based money transfer companies. However, some Bangladeshis had resorted to illegal channels to send money but the majority did not do that.

Libya is rife with fighting among different rebel groups.

The Bangladesh embassy could not do anything either, as there is a lack of "legitimacy" of the incumbent Libyan government.

"We requested the two money transfer companies to make arrangements for our people... But they couldn't resume operations," said Ashraf Islam, the counsellor.

Finally, the officials convinced the Libyan Central Bank authorities to take the step.

According to the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET), Bangladeshi expatriates sent \$69.83 million in remittance in 2013 and \$56.49 million last year. As many as 7,175 Bangladeshis went to Libya in 2013, while the number was 4,461 till July last year.

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## Four including husband to die for killing Gazipur woman

Our Correspondent, Gazipur

A Gazipur court yesterday gave death penalty to a man and three of his accomplices for killing his four-month pregnant wife in his house on November 5, 2008.

The convicts are the woman's husband Abu Ayub Lalon, 42, and his three associates--Hanif, 32, Mulluk, 30, and Rana, 34. They were also fined Tk 10,000 each.

According to the prosecution, the convicts stabbed Morsheda in Gazipur city's Chapulia Bannaipara as she objected to her husband's extramarital affair.

## BCL infighting closes Barisal BM College hostel

Our Correspondent, Barisal

Kobi Jibanananda Hostel, popularly known as Hindu hostel, of Barisal Government Brojo Mohun College was closed indefinitely yesterday afternoon following clashes between two groups of Bangladesh Chhatra League over grabbing of hostel seats and strengthening dominance.

At least six students were injured and three rooms ransacked in the clashes that occurred on Monday night and yesterday afternoon. Two of the injured were admitted to Barisal Sher-E-Bangla Medical College Hospital with bruises and cuts.

Prof Fazlul Huq, principal of the college, said one hundred residential students of the hostel were asked to leave by yesterday evening.

The college authorities formed a three-member probe body headed by Prof Himangshu Shekhar Biswas with Prof Ranjit Mallik and Golam Morshed and asked it to submit a report within next three working days, the principal said.

Students said the activists of rival BCL factions of the

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Dust hampers the movement of people between BRTC area and Kadamtali of Chittagong city where a 1.1km flyover is under construction. The work is supposed to be completed in June but may get extended till September. The photo was taken at Kadamtali intersection yesterday.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

# Another Habiganj war crime suspect arrested

Our Correspondent, Moulvibazar

A war crimes suspect of Habiganj was arrested in Moulvibazar yesterday, two days after the International Crimes Tribunal-2 issued an arrest warrant for him.

The suspect is Abdur Razzak of Khagaura union in Baniachang upazila of the district.

On secret information, a team of Moulvibazar Sadar and Baniachang police conducted a raid in the hilly areas of Atangiri in Moulvibazar Sadar Upazila and arrested Razzak from an abandoned house around 5:00am, said Abdus Salek, officer-in-charge of Moulvibazar Sadar Police Station.



Abdur Razzak

On May 17, the tribunal issued the arrest warrant against Razzak following a petition filed by the prosecution saying that the investigation agency found involvement of Razzak in war crimes while probing a war crimes case against two other suspects--Mujibur Rahman Boromian, 65, and Mujibur Rahman Angur Mian, 60, of the district.

Razzak is a cousin of siblings--Mujibur and Mujibur -- who are now in jail.

The prosecution on May 17 pressed charges against the two siblings for their alleged involvement in war crimes, including killing, rape, abduction, tortures, looting and arsons, committed in 1971.

## Wife behind Tablig Jamaat leader killing in Sylhet

Unb, Sylhet

Wife of slain Tablig Jamaat leader Ibrahim Abu Khalil gave a statement before a Sylhet court yesterday confessing to her involvement in the killing of her husband.

Magistrate Mohammad Sahedul Karim of Sylhet Metropolitan Magistrate Court recorded the statement of detained Fateha Mashruka under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, said officer-in-charge of Kotwali Police Station Sohail Ahmed.

Mashruka admitted before the court that she killed her husband following a family feud over his multiple marriages.

In her statement, Mashruka said Ibrahim had two other wives -- one of them lives in Dinajpur and the other in Moulvibazar.

On Monday morning, police recovered Ibrahim's body with the throat slit from his house in Chardighipar area of the city.

Police arrested Ibrahim's first wife Mashruka and son for interrogation.

## Women must rise against sexual harassment

Speakers tell Brac University event

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Women should rise up and protest sexual harassment of females, said speakers at an event of Brac University yesterday.

They also urged women to come out in public places instead of staying at home for fears of assault.

"We women must assert our presence in public places," said Prof Firdous Azim, chairperson of Brac University's English and humanities department, at the programme titled "Sexual harassment and the rights of women in public spaces".

Hoping that more women would join Pahela Baishakh celebrations next year defying this year's mass molestation of women, Azim said public places would be safer for females if more of them are present.

Advocate Fahima Nasrin of the Supreme Court spoke of her work on public interest litigation, which resulted in a landmark judgement by the High Court in 2010 that defined sexual harassment and stalking and issued directives to the government to prevent such crimes.

"Had the directives been implemented, the April 14 incident where 50 women were sexually assaulted would not have taken place," she said, adding that instead of enacting new laws and creating confusion with existing ones, the current laws should be implemented properly.

Samia Islam, programme officer at rights body Odhikar, presented statistics on stalking and its impact on women.

According to her research based on data from 12 national dailies, 24 women who were victims of stalking were killed, 268 injured, 141 assaulted, 46 abducted and 99 committed suicide during the period from 2010 to 2014.

## MEDICINE SMUGGLING HC questions govt inaction

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule questioning the legality of the government's inaction to stop smuggling of drugs and production of counterfeit medicines.

It sought the government's explanation as to why inaction to take steps to stop the smuggling of drugs and surgical equipment and manufacture of fake medicines should not be declared illegal.

Health secretary and director general of the Directorate General of Drug Administration and its director have been asked to respond to the rule within four weeks.

The bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman came up with the rule following a writ petition filed by Ghulam Sarwar, secretary of Organisation of Social and Environment Changes, an NGO.

He submitted the petition yesterday saying that some dishonest businessmen were reportedly smuggling expired drugs, surgical equipment, and manufacturing fake medicines without licences.

Those medicines and

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**Book Exhibition of Daily Star Books and Prothoma Prokashon**

Date: 21, 22 and 23rd May, 2015 (3.00pm-11.00pm)  
 Venue: Precinct of Platter Restaurant  
 House # 108, Street # 3, Block # F, Banani, Dhaka.

o All booklovers are invited o

Event Partners: Platter Restaurant, Daily Star Books and Prothoma Prokashon