

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 32.2 | L 22.6

CHITTAGONG
H 27.7 | L 22.0

SYLHET
H 30.1 | L 21.8

RAJSHAH
H 36.4 | L 26.0

KHULNA
H 36.5 | L 29.7

BARISAL
H 31.4 | L 28.8

RANGPUR
H 29.2 | L 18.8

COX'S BAZAR
H 28.0 | L 21.0

Mild heat may continue in Khulna division and the regions of Rajshahi. Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:39pm and rises tomorrow at 05:12am. Country's highest temperature 37.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 18.8 in Rangpur.

NEWS IN brief

EU wants restriction, Dhaka for protection

DIPLMATIC CORRESPONDENT

With a series of deadly trafficking incidents across the Mediterranean and Southeast Asian coasts coming to the fore, nine European Union envoys in Dhaka yesterday asked the government to effectively check illegal and risky migration, especially to Europe.

EU Ambassador and Head of Delegation Pierre Mayaudon led the meeting with Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque at the ministry yesterday morning. The envoys said it was not possible to host the illegal migrants as many of the EU countries were facing serious economic crisis, meeting sources told The Daily Star.

However, the Bangladesh side stressed for a permanent solution to the issue concerning Rohingyas, the Myanmar citizens who comprised the majority of the illegal migrants opting for the risky journey following persecution at home, added the sources.

ISI suspect arrested in Gazipur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

A Pakistani citizen was arrested at a garment factory in Gazipur last night by police who say he is a member of Inter-Services Intelligence, the largest of Pakistan's three intelligence services.

Khalid Niyamat, 50, hid his identity to enter in 2014 and take a job in the factory of Unilance Textile Limited in Bhangna Hati in Sreepur and continued his stay although his visa expired recently, said Inspector Mominul Islam of the Special Branch at the Gazipur superintendent of police's office.

Khalid was taken to the district intelligence office for interrogation after being detained around 7:00pm, he said, adding that a press briefing would be held today.

Enamul to stay press minister in New Delhi for one more year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The contractual appointment of the press minister at Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, Enamul Huq Chowdhury, has been extended for one more year. The order will be effective from June 16 next, according to a gazette notification of the public administration ministry.

Huq got a two-year contractual appointment as the press minister on June 16, 2009.

Probe body starts hearing about assaults on journos during CCC polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The committee, formed to investigate the allegation of assaults on journalists and preventing them from entering poll centres during Chittagong City Corporation elections on April 28, started its hearing yesterday.

Forty people, including three journalists and 24 assistant presiding officers, gave statements at Chittagong Circuit House.

AL leader hacked in Savar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

An Awami League leader was hacked by some miscreants in Kotpari of Savar outside the capital on Saturday night.

With injuries in his back and wrist, Abdul Mazid, 30, publicity secretary of the Savar municipality unit of AL, is being treated in the ICU of Enam Medical College and Hospital, doctors said.

His father Abul Kasem said AL activists Jewel Rana, Kamal Shikder and Biddut Bishwash hacked Mazid at a tea stall near his Kotpari residence over a dispute centering party's posts.

Biddut, however, claimed locals attacked them in the presence of them over misbehaviour.

The AL unit president Abdul Goni, who could not confirm the party's identity of the three, said he did not know who attacked Mazid.

When asked, Savar Model police Officer-in-Charge Md Kamruzzaman said the attackers were yet to be identified.

Condemnations

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Meanwhile at Shahbagh, Samprodayikota-Jongibadh Birodhi Mancha formed a human chain protesting the issue.

At the human chain, lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha said social unity is more important than political unity to stop such communalism and terrorism.

Condemning the death threats, Rajshahi University Teachers Association (Ruta) yesterday demanded that the authorities concerned boost up security for the 10 eminent personalities, read a press statement signed by Ruta General Secretary Prof Rezaul Karim Badal.



A shipyard under construction on the Shitalakkhya River, just beside of a residential neighbourhood, Baulipara Purbagram village of Narayanganj's Rugganj upazila, with doubts over whether the companies that will operate there have got clearances from the Department of Environment and whether the clearances they have are indeed valid. The photo was taken last week.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

HC to decide on Mirza Abbas' bail today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday fixed today for passing orders on the bail petitions of BNP leader Mirza Abbas in two cases.

The two cases were filed on charges of vandalism and setting fire to vehicles on December 29 last year and on January 4 this year.

Earlier on April 15, Justice Quamrul Islam Siddique had granted anticipatory bail for three weeks to Abbas and Justice Gobinda Chandra Tagore rejected his bail petition and ordered to surrender him before a lower court.

The petitions along with the split orders were sent to Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, who assigned the bench of Justice Md Ruhul Quddus to dispose of the petitions.

The HC bench set the date after concluding hearing on the petitions.

Dhaka to honour Vajpayee for Liberation War role

DIPLMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh will honour former Indian prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee for his contribution to the 1971 Liberation War which led to its independence.

The ceremony will be held when the present premier, Narendra Modi, pays a state visit next month.

A highly placed source told The Daily Star yesterday that an inter-ministerial meeting would be held tomorrow to finalise the award category.

Bangladesh introduced two award categories -- "Bangladesh Liberation War Honour" and "Friends of Liberation War Honour" and so far awarded several hundred foreigners.

Former premier Indira Gandhi was awarded on July 25, 2012 and President Pranab Mukherjee on March 5, 2013.



UNIV TEACHERS' DEMAND FOR EQUALITY WITH GOVT BUREAUCRATS Movement spreading

STAR REPORT

Teachers' associations at Dhaka and Chittagong universities yesterday rejected the proposed pay scale for public servants, saying it had downgraded, disgraced and discriminated against them and demanding that their scale be that recommended for government bureaucrats.

Dhaka University Teachers Association (Duta) announced an emergency meeting with representatives of fellows in 36 public universities at the DU teachers' club on June 5 at 5:00pm to fix their next plan of action.

Chittagong University Teachers Association (Cuta) declared holding a protest rally and forming a human chain in front of the CU administrative building at 11:00am today.

National Pay Commission handed over the recommendations on December 21, 2014 to Finance Minister AMA Muhith, who says it would be finalised by July or August.

Several hundred teachers joined a human

chain Duta organised at the base of Aparajeya Bangla, reports our DU correspondent.

They demanded a separate pay scale for teachers, upgrading the vice-chancellor's rank to that of principal secretary or cabinet division secretary, withdrawal of the recommendation to abolish selection grade and time-scale, provision to be provided cars like secretaries and allowance for books and research.

Duta President Farid Uddin Ahmed accused bureaucrats of only ensuring their personal benefits.

Prof Md Akhter Hossain Khan condemned a proposal on making public universities economically self-reliant, saying it was the government's duty to bear the expenses.

Cuta made similar demands at a press conference at its office around 1:00pm.

Selection grade is that offered to an employee when the time stipulated for promotion expires while time-scale is that offered for that period.

Latif Siddique denied bail again

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday again rejected bail petitions of former minister Abdul Latif Siddique in seven cases filed against him in October last year for his remarks on hajj and Tablighi Jamaat.

The court passed the order after on April 16, Siddique's lawyer Mosharruf Hossain Kajol moved his bail petitions challenging the bail rejection orders passed by seven metropolitan magistrate courts on different dates.

Additional Public Prosecutor Taposh Kumar Paul opposed the bail petitions of Latif who was posts and telecommunications and ICT minister.

Latif made controversial comments on Hajj, Ijtema and Sajeb Wazed Joy during an event in New York on September 28 last year. Amid huge criticism, he was later removed from the cabinet as well as the Awami League presidency.

On November 25 last year, Latif returned home and he was sent to jail after he surrendered to Dhanmondi Police Station.

A total of 22 cases have been filed against Latif in 18 districts in this regard.



Nandipara road in the capital's Khilgaon has been in this sorry condition for almost a month with rainwater and sewage water causing water-logging in the area and making it hard for the movement of the residents and vehicles. The situation is deteriorating with the seasonal rain and a lack of good sewerage system. The photo was taken on Saturday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Monitoring team launched for arrest

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the investigation agency of the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT).

Acting Deputy Registrar of ICT Md Aftabuzzaman said they received a letter about formation of the committee on May 21.

On May 13, the three-member tribunal-1 led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim ordered the government to form the committee in 15 days.

The tribunal gave the directive to the home secretary and the inspector general of

police as it found law enforcers' repeated failures to arrest the fugitives, especially those in four cases it had dealt with.

The court cited four cases against Abdul Jabbar, Zahid Hossain Khokon, Syed Hasan Ali and Nasir Uddin Ahmed and four others that showed little success in arresting anyone concerned.

Law enforcers have so far arrested only one among the eight accused.

Jabbar and Khokon have been convicted in absentia, while the case against fugitive Hasan Ali is now waiting for the verdict.

Union Parishads must get

FROM PAGE 3

The THP survey also shows 45 percent of households pay UP tax now compared to 26 percent two years ago.

Observing the positive impacts of the project, former caretaker government adviser M Hafizuddin Khan said the project should be replicated in other unions by the government.

Badiul Alam Majumdar, global vice president and country director of The Hunger Project, described UP governments as unarmed soldiers. "Their function is often limited through political influence of

the ruling party," he said.

Local government expert Prof Tofail Ahmed pointed out that the local government representatives were overburdened with meetings and conducting arbitrations in their area.

AYBI Siddiky, former inspector general of police, said, "Political will and respect to law are needed to make local government effective."

Abu Alam Shahid Khan, former secretary, Local Government Division (LDG), said the mindset of government employees, who serve people, needed change as well.

Tribunal questions fettering of four war crime

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They are among 19 people of Maheshkhali facing arrest warrants in a case over crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War.

Another suspect, Mohammad Shamsuddoha, 74, was arrested at his daughter's house in Maheshkhali yesterday, said Digarul Ferdous, inspector (Investigation) of Maheshkhali Police Station.

So far, police have taken into detention seven suspects in the case including an ex-lawmaker and a leader of BNP who were arrested in March.

TRIBUNAL-1

The tribunal-1 yesterday gave more time to two top leaders of Islamic Chhatra Shibir, unofficial student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami, to give explanations why they should not be punished for "making a derogatory statement" that "constitutes contempt of the tribunal".

They were asked to submit replies on June 14.

The tribunal initiated contempt proceedings against Abdul Jabbar and Atiqur Rahman, president and secretary general of Shibir, on May 4, for making

"derogatory" comments after Jamaat-e-Islami leader and war crimes accused ATM Azharul Islam was sentenced to death on December 30 last year.

In a joint statement, the two Shibir leaders, three Jamaat leaders and a lawyer of Azharul said, "...Inconsistency was everywhere in the case [against Azhar]. That judgement was not given on the basis of fair justice but on the reflection of speeches by the Awami League and their alliance, destructive agitators of Shahbagh."

On May 4, the four others were exonerated.

Stop telling lies to deny crimes

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immediately and ensure exemplary punishment for them, he added.

The committee also asked police to arrest those who have issued death threats to 10 eminent citizens includ-

ing the DU vice chancellor and ensure their security.

"Police must remain on high alert before a crime occurs.... It is no use moving after attacks happened," added Munshi.

Munshi, also an AL MP, however,

said overall performance of police was satisfactory but in some cases, they seemed to be "imperfect" and that they needed to fill the gaps.

He said the committee also asked police to arrest the killers of bloggers.



Students of department of IPE, BUET are performing on stage during the three-day IPE Carnival-2015 started on May 13 in BUET. The carnival was organised by the department along with Association of Industrial and Production Engineers (AIPE) which had Rally, a discussion on "Role of IPE in Modern Industries" and funny events like Lane Olympiad, Treasure Hunt.

PHOTO: COLLECTED