

## WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 32.8 | L 25.4

CHITTAGONG H 29.8 | L 26.5

SYLHET H 34.0 | L 25.0

RAJSHAHI H 32.0 | L 25.7

KHULNA H 27.5 | L 25.5

BARISAL H 30.0 | L 25.6

RANGPUR H 34.5 | L 26.5

COX'S BAZAR H 35.4 | L 26.8

Light to moderate rain at most places over all the divisions with moderately heavy to very heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today. Day and night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the country, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:50pm and rises tomorrow at 05:17am.

## Khaleda suspends Saudi trip

*Tarique didn't get visa till yesterday*

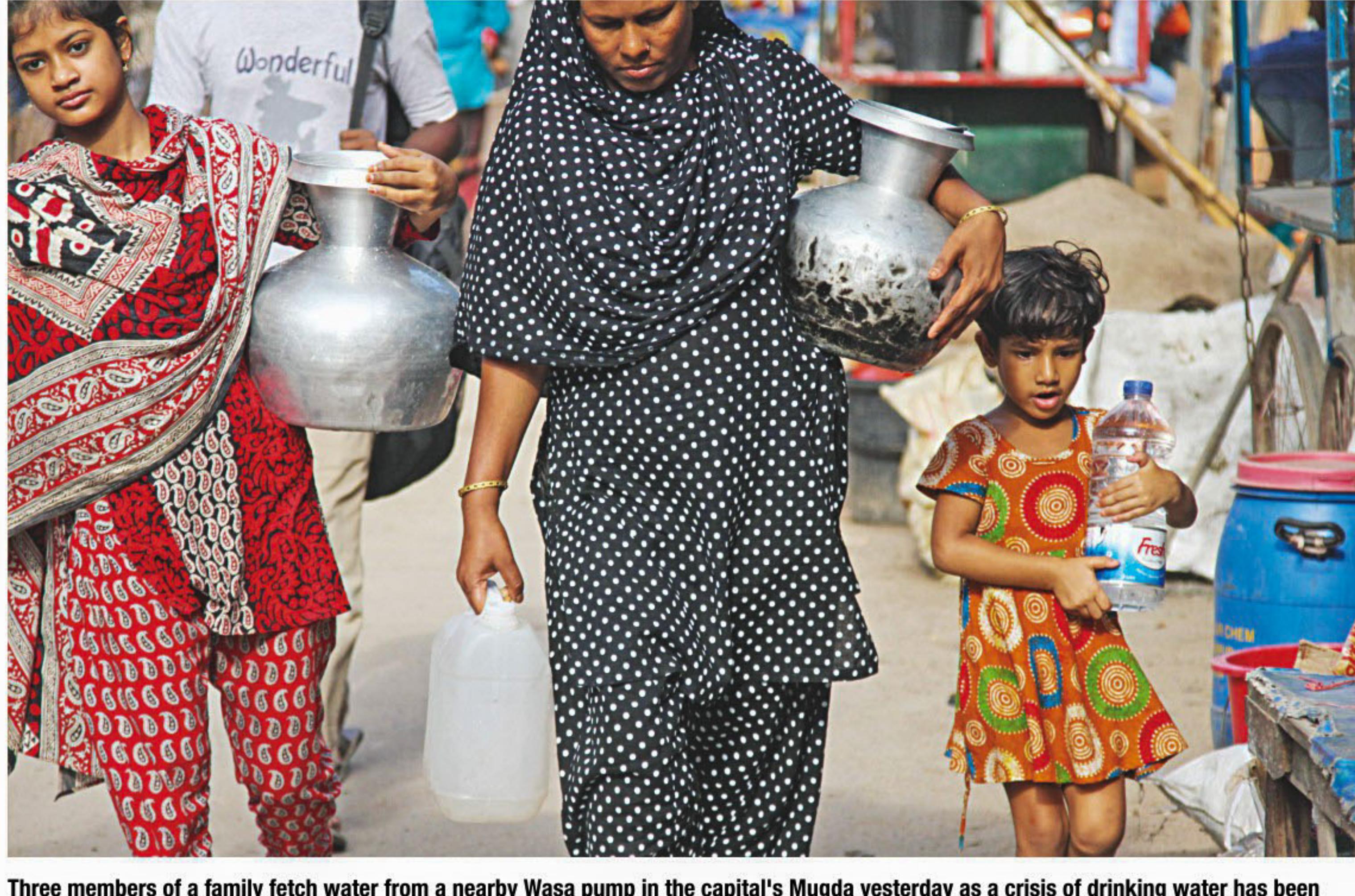
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia has postponed her visit to Saudi Arabia that was scheduled to start yesterday for performing Umrah as Saudi Embassy in London did not issue a visa to her elder son Tarique Rahman, said a senior BNP leader, who is very close to Khaleda, last night.

The BNP chief took the decision on Tuesday night after discussion with Tarique and senior leaders, the BNP leader told The Daily Star.

Wishing anonymity, a top leader of the party told The Daily Star that Khaleda had a plan to hold several meetings with Tarique, also the senior vice chairmen of the party, in Saudi Arabia on different crucial issues, including the party's future plan for the next anti-government movement.

On Monday, BNP standing committee member Nazrul Islam Khan told journalists about the BNP chief's visit to Saudi Arabia.



Three members of a family fetch water from a nearby Wasa pump in the capital's Mugda yesterday as a crisis of drinking water has been going on in some parts of the capital for several years. The water they are supplied to has a bad odour. The Wasa authorities say dirty water sometimes enters the pipeline in places where there are leaks due to illegal connections.

PHOTO: STAR

## Many Dhaka areas without drinkable water supply

Situation has been such for years

HELEMUL ALAM

Residents of some parts of the capital have been facing a drinking water crisis for the last several years. The water they are supplied with has a bad odour.

Families living in parts of Mugda, Bashabo, Kadamtola, Maniknagar, Mayakanon, Tilapara and Manda have been suffering the most.

The water, however, can be used for bathing, cooking and doing other household chores.

Mohammad Delowar Hossain, a resident of Mugda Jheel Par, said every week he collects about 60 litres of water from a Wasa pump at Mugda Wapda Colony.

"When I fail to collect the water for some reason, my family drinks very little water because of the smell," he said.

"Even if we boil the water and use purifying tablets, we cannot get rid of the bad smell," said Md Shafiqul Islam, a resident of South Mugda.

He said every day hundreds of people go to different pumps to collect drinking water.

"Sometimes I have to wait for several hours in a very long queue to get water," Shafiqul added.

Khorshed Alam, a resident of South Mugda, said the smell worsens in the dry season.

Sham Baruwa, a class V student, said he and his older brother collect water from Basabo Boudhaya Mandir pump every two weeks.

SDM Kamrul Alam Chowdhury, deputy managing

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## 14th death anniversary of Mahbub Anam today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 14th death anniversary of eminent journalist and author Mahbub Anam, former editor of The Bangladesh Times.

In a distinguished career as a journalist, he also served as a senior executive of the then Pakistan Observer and senior vice president of Bangladesh Editors Council. Mahbub Anam was also actively involved with Bangladesh Sangbadpatra Parishad, Bangladesh Press Council and Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha Porichalona Board.

For his contribution to journalism, Mahbub Anam received the Swadhinata Padak, Sher-e-Bangla Gold Medal, Moulana Akram Khan Gold Medal, Kaloddhani Padak and Tribhuj Gold Medal.

He also served as general manager of Jamuna Oil Company and director of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation.

He was actively involved in politics from his student

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## BCL infighting prompts early vacation at BAU

Students vacate halls

UNB, Mymensingh

The authorities of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) asked students to vacate their dormitories by 10:00am yesterday following a clash between activists of district unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League and its university unit at Kewatkhali Wapda intersection in the town on Tuesday night.

Locals said a group of activists of district BCL unit torched the motorbike of BAU BCL President Morsheduzzaman Babu and carried out an attack on a house on the campus.

Following the incident, the two groups

locked in the clash at the intersection around 10:00pm, leaving 10 activists injured.

Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali Model Police Station Kamrul Islam said locals handed over three activists to police after the incident.

Critically injured five students were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.

Additional police have been deployed on the campus to avoid further trouble.

Our Mymensingh correspondent adds: the students vacated the halls yesterday

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## DEMAND FOR REVISING PROPOSED GOVT PAYSCALE

## VCs threaten unrest at public universities

Nahid assures consideration, urges to refrain from movement

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh's public universities will witness unrest if the government does not immediately revise the proposed "repressive" national pay scale to ensure teachers' honour and dignity, warned some vice-chancellors (VC) yesterday.

Meeting the education minister at his secretariat office, they blamed

some bureaucrats of discriminating against university teachers and demanded that the government starts the process to formulate a separate pay scale for the university teachers.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid assured taking the demands into consideration and urged not to initiate any movement.

"I have informed the president, prime minister and top officials of the govern-

ment. The prime minister told me that the government would not do anything that dishonours teachers," he said.

Moreover, the proposed pay scale has not been finalised yet. The finance and public administration ministries are reviewing the matter, he added.

Teachers of Bangladesh's 38 public universities have been protesting the proposed pay structure after

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## LIQUID COCAINE HAUL

## Ctg court orders sending samples to 3 Dhaka labs

Make authorities seal them in front of it

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday sealed off liquid samples collected from 107 barrels seized from a container in Chittagong Port following a tip-off on cocaine smuggling and ordered sending those to three laboratories in Dhaka to identify the contents.

Chittagong Metropolitan Magistrate Farid Alam also told the investigation officer, Md Kamruzzaman, to contact the foreign ministry to see if tests could be conducted in advanced laboratories abroad.

The three Dhaka labs are that of Criminal Investigation Department, the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC) and the armed forces.

Kamruzzaman, also an assistant commissioner of Chittagong Metropolitan Police's detective branch, collected the samples.

He was accompanied by officials of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA), Chittagong Customs House, the Directorate of Customs Intelligence and Investigation, and DNC.

Khan Jahan Ali Limited, a Chittagong-based importing firm, was the consignee of the container shipped from Montevideo Port in Uruguay by Import Export El Vaiven SRL of Santa Cruz of Bolivia.

Customs intelligence on June 6 sealed off the container which arrived at Chittagong Port on May 8. The 107 barrels inside had labels claiming the contents to be sunflower oil.

On June 8, DNC's drug testing kit failed to detect anything suspicious.

On June 27, two tests at government laboratories, one at Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research in Dhaka, confirmed the presence of liquid cocaine in one barrel. A case was filed that day.



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### CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

The Chamber is deeply shocked at the sad demise of Mr. S. H. Kabir, Chairman, Renata Limited on the 7th July, 2015. Late Mr. Kabir had long been associated with the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka (MCCI) and was President of MCCI for 2 terms in 1979 and 1984.

Throughout his association, he made invaluable contributions to the Chamber's activities and was widely respected for his commitment to the Chamber, rare wisdom, high principles and amiable manners. In his death, the Chamber has lost a very dedicated member.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka



**Doa mahfil**

CITY DESK

A doa mahfil for Justice Sultan Hossain Khan, former chief election commissioner, will be held on Saturday after Asr prayers in Masjid-Al-Taqwa, Road-12/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka, says a press release.

Justice Sultan, also former chairman of ACC and Bangladesh Press Council, died on July 4, aged 90.

He was buried at his Rajapur village home in Jhalakathi.

His friends and well-wishers are requested to attend the doa mahfil to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

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