

WEATHER
FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAH	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 31.6 L 27.0	H 32.5 L 26.4	H 32.2 L 26.4	H 35.3 L 25.7	H 33.5 L 26.5	H 31.0 L 26.2	H 31.6 L 24.8	H 30.2 L 25.5

Day and night temperatures may rise slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:24pm and rises tomorrow at 05:37am. Country's highest temperature 35.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 24.5 in Syedpur and Dinajpur.

ADIVASI'S GANG RAPE Charges pressed against two

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) yesterday pressed charges against two drivers of a garment buying house for gang-raping a 21-year-old indigenous woman in the capital on May 21.

After being arrested on May 27, Ashraf Khan alias Tushar, 35, and Jahidul Islam Lavlu, 26, confessed before a Dhaka court that the two lured the woman with job offers, forced her into a microbus in Kuril bus stand area and gang-raped her in the running vehicle.

The duo also confessed that only two of them were involved in the crime.

But the victim initially filed the case against five people and later dropped three names, admitting that she was unstable while filing the case and said only Tushar and Lavlu raped her, investigation officer Azmila Nasrin Chowdhury said.

On March 28, three people gave judicial statements as witnesses before magistrates that the duo on May 22 had bragged to them about the crime.

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Bangladesh Nari Mukti Sangsad forms a human chain in front of the capital's Jatiya Press Club yesterday, demanding arrest of the people who have killed children and freethinkers, including blogger Niladri Chattopadhyay Neel.

PHOTO: STAR

AUG 21 GRENADE ATTACK BNP claims implication of Tarique, Khaleda by Hasina is baseless

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's remark that Khaleda Zia and her son Tarique Rahman had roles in the August 21 grenade attack is baseless and it may influence the trial, the BNP said yesterday.

"When the head of the government makes such a comment over a sub-judice matter, there's a chance the trial would be influenced. We are concerned about [it]," BNP spokesman Asaduzzaman Ripon told the press at the party's Naya Paltan headquarters.

Addressing a rally on August 21 on the capital's Bangabandhu Avenue, where an Awami League rally came under a grenade attack on that day in 2004, Sheikh Hasina said she did not have any doubt about the involvement of BNP chief Khaleda Zia and her son in the bombing.

Ripon claimed that from the very beginning his party

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DEMAND FOR SEPARATE PAYSCALE Public univ teachers strike for 3 hours for second day

CITY DESK

Teachers abstained from work for three hours at Chittagong University and Sylhet Agricultural University yesterday protesting the proposed eighth national payscale and demanding a separate one for them.

It was a part of the nationwide work stoppage on every Sunday throughout this month, which was declared by the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association on August 11.

They also demanded that the government equalise the salaries, benefits and status between university teachers and bureaucrats.

Equality should be brought between professors in selection grade and senior secretaries, and between professors and secretaries, they said, adding that the university teachers have to be included in the warrant of precedence.

Our CU correspondent reports, Chittagong University Teachers Association demonstrated on the campus to press the demands.

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JUBO LEAGUE LEADER KILLING IN GAZIPUR AL, BCL men implicated

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Twenty-two people, including 10 Awami League and Chhatra League men, have been sued for allegedly killing a Jubo League leader in Gazipur.

Abdul Motaleb Mia, brother of the victim, Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, filed the murder case with Kaliakoir Police Station early yesterday, said Sub-inspector Rajib Khan of the police station.

The accused include Kaliakoir Upazila AL Organising Secretary Akbar Ali, Kaliakoir Municipal AL Joint Convener Mosharraf Hossain Shikder and Kaliakoir Municipal Chhatra League President Riaz Uddin.

Twelve of the 22 accused are not named.

Rafiqul, a former president of Kaliakoir Jubo League, was stabbed to death on Friday. Locals said he was killed by rivals over an internal feud.

Two people, Mohammad Hossain and Sohel, were arrested on that night for their alleged involvement in the murder. Police were trying to arrest the other accused, said SI Rajib.

Meanwhile, Jubo League leaders and activists yesterday enforced a half-day strike in Kaliakoir protesting the murder, and demanding immediate arrest of the killers. Later, they brought out a procession near Kaliakoir Bus Stand area.

Both Jubo League and Chhatra League are pro-AL organisations.

Inu claims section 57 of ICT Act not contrary to HR, constitution

UNB, Dhaka

Amid concern and criticisms over section 57 of the Information and Communication Technology Act, Information Minister Hasanul Haque Inu yesterday said it was not contrary to human rights and the constitution.

"Those who raised questions about the section 57 of ICT Act did not say anything about its ambiguity," he told a press briefing at the PID conference room.

He said work for enacting a new law to prevent cybercrimes was going on and a decision would be

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Cox's Bazar war crimes suspect gets conditional bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

International Crimes Tribunal-2 yesterday granted conditional bail to a war crimes accused hailing from Cox's Bazar's Maheshkhali taking into consideration his health and age.

As part of the conditions, Md Rashid Miah, also a former BNP lawmaker, has to stay in a relative's Mirpur residence and cannot leave Dhaka without the tribunal's permission.

Moreover, the tribunal made one of his lawyers, Rezaul Karim, and Rashid's grandson, Kamramul Haque, liable for the bail amounting to Tk 50,000.

This is the third time a war crimes accused has been granted bail. War criminals Abdul Alim and Syed Mohammad Qaisar were granted bail by the same court.

The two-member tribunal, led by Justice Md Mozibur Rahman Miah and with member Justice Md Shahinur Islam, asked the prosecution to submit a probe report, if any, by October 11 over allegations that 19 persons, including Rashid, were involved in crimes committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

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Prof Khaleda Ekram, vice chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet), speaking as chief guest at a seminar on "Research on Disaster Prevention/Mitigation Measures Against Floods and Storm Surges in Bangladesh", at the Council Bhavan of Buet. The Institute of Water and Flood Management, Buet organised it.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

BNP's Aman admitted to DMCH

After BSMMU sent him to Birdem Hospital which denied him admission

UNB, Dhaka

Denied admission to Birdem Hospital where he had been referred to by BSMMU doctors, a sick BNP Joint Secretary General Amanullah Aman finally got the scope for treatment at DMCH last night.

He arrived around 10:45pm and got admitted to Unit-1 of the medicine department, said in-charge of Dhaka Medical College

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'BARAPUKURIA COALMINE CORRUPTION' Khaleda's request for case files rejected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected BNP chief Khaleda Zia's two petitions seeking the final report and relevant documents of the Barapukuria coalmine corruption case.

She wanted the documents to know about the legal procedure under which the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) appointed a second investigation officer to probe into the case while the first IO dropped her from the case in June 2008.

She filed the petitions on August 18 praying that the HC orders the relevant authorities to supply the documents to her.

The bench of Justice Md Nuruzzaman and Justice Abdur Rob came up with the order on grounds that the final report and

relevant papers have already been produced before it, ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star.

The bench also fixed August 30 for resuming the final hearing on the petition she filed in 2008 seeking quashing of the case proceedings, he said.

Khaleda's lawyer Raghib Rauf Chowdhury said they would decide whether to appeal to the Supreme Court against the HC order after getting its certified copy.

ACC filed the case on February 26, 2008 accusing Khaleda and 15 others of causing a loss of Tk 159 crore to the state exchequer by awarding a contract to a Chinese company for operation of Barapukuria coalmine through abuse of power.

UK minister lauds Bangladesh's role in climate awareness

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Lauding Bangladesh's contribution in raising awareness about the impacts of climate change, a visiting British minister yesterday said the UK would support Bangladesh to help it play a critical role in the global arena to ensure positive outcomes from the Paris conference.

"Bangladesh has played a critical role raising awareness of the impacts of climate change on the poorest people and has provided a strong voice to encourage developing countries to argue their corner," said UK Minister of State for International Development Desmond Swayne, who arrived yesterday on a three-day visit.

He made the remarks during his meeting with Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali at the foreign ministry.

The British minister looks forward to seeing Bangladesh further demonstrate its leadership on this issue by publish-



Desmond Swayne

ing its national plan to reduce carbon emissions soon, according to a British High Commission press release.

The two ministers discussed ways of strengthening commercial ties between the two countries as well as the importance of working together globally in the lead up to events such as December's conference on climate change in Paris.

Later, the UK minister called on Finance Minister AMA Muhith and discussed development and UK-funded projects.

Earlier in the day, Swayne visited a garment factory in Dhaka and the Korail slum in Banani.

He is scheduled to visit UK-funded projects in char areas of Rangpur and Kurigram districts today.

On Tuesday, the British official is expected to call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and talk to the press before leaving the country.

HAVE A
NICE DAY

DR. RUBAIUL MURSHED'S health advice 1999-2011

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