STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday alleged that the government has been trying to hide news of the ongoing flood situation in the country as it has failed to stand beside the victims.

"It is a painful matter that when newspapers publish reports regarding flood and the relief and disaster management minister asks the media not to publish such reports in large number instead of taking an initiative to assist flood victims," said BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon at a press conference at the

party's Nayapaltan office. Ripon said consecutive SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

GRAFT CASES Khaleda to appear in court today STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Zia will appear before a Dhaka court today in both Zia charitable trust and Zia orphanage trust graft cases. Advocate Sanaullah Miah, one of her counsels, yesterday confirmed it to

The Daily Star over the

phone.

witnesses.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda

Earlier, Khaleda was absent from appearing before the makeshift court at Bakshibazar for three consecutive days showing

health problems. On September 3, Special Judge Court-3 of Dhaka Judge Abu Ahmed Jomadar fixed today for cross-examination of three

According to the charge sheet of Zia charitable graft SEE PAGE 5 COL 2 YESTERDAY'S **TEMPERATURES**

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SYLHET H 33.8 L 25.4 H 33.5 L 26.4

2nd Edition

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BARISAL **H** 35.0 **L** 26.0

H 33.2 L 25.8

COX'S BAZAR H 32.5 L 26.3

Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:08pm and rises tomorrow at 5:43am. Country's highest temperature 37.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 24.8 in Rangamati.



The Dhaka-Narayanganj-Demra (DND) dam area remains waterlogged throughout the monsoon season with downpours leading to ankle to waist-deep water accumulating there due to lack of a proper drainage system. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

The Baily Star

Bangladesh 10th among Man 'tortures' pregnant suicide-prone nations

Says expert citing WHO report ahead of World Suicide Prevention Day today

BSS, Dhaka

Experts on Tuesday suggested increased anti-suicide campaigns in Bangladesh as the country has been witnessing increasing number of suicides every day.

"According to the 2014 World Health Organization (WHO) report, Bangladesh scored 10th place in the list of high suicide-prone nations... the country witnesses nearly eight incidents of suicides among every 100,000 people," Joyosree Jaman, convener of anti-suicidal campaign forum Brighter Bangladesh, told a press briefing.

She said most of the people aged between 21 and 30 were led by extreme emotions due to family or social reasons.

Joyosree added, "Suicide appears to many people as a permanent solution to their temporary problems but the

experts found that most of those who survived their suicide attempts are happy as they are still living in the world," she told the briefing at Jatiya Press Club.

Joyosree, a journalist by profession, launched the anti-suicide campaign by floating the Brighter Bangladesh as her two teenage children committed suicide together in September last year in Uttara, sparking a nationwide shock.

The press briefing was organised to outline the campaign ahead of the WHO-sponsored Suicide Prevention Day today.

Dr Helal Uddin of National Mental Health Institution told the briefing that in a country of some 16 crore people, Bangladesh now has a little over 200 doctors who treat mental diseases and most of them are concentrated in the capital alone.

"However, prevention of suicide is not doctors' job alone... expert studies found if anyone can just express his or her temptation to commit suicide, in almost all the persons' desire to carry out the fatal decision dies down," he said.

Helal said counseling was crucial for people who developed an intention to kill themselves, while family members and friends could play a crucial role in the absence of trained psychiatrists or doctors.

Journalist Anwar Kabir, who earlier conducted an extensive journalistic study, called for engaging NGOs to spearhead the anti-suicide campaign to generate massive awareness in the family and community levels.

According to Police Headquarters, nearly 60,000 cases of suicides were recorded in last six years, while 1,029 such cases were recorded in 2013 alone.

wife to death in capital

Police arrest husband

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A six-month pregnant woman died of internal bleeding after alleged torture by her husband at Mugda in the capital early yesterday.

Shah Alam Shohag, husband of 27-yearold Tanjila Islam Binti, has been arrested in a case filed under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act with Mugda Police Station, police said.

A trader of garment accessories, Shohag often abused his wife over trivial matters during their seven years together, said Binti's relative Abdur Rahman. One and a half years into their marriage,

Binti left her husband and went to live at her parent's because of torture. But they were coaxed into reconciliation by their families, he added.

Shohag recently demanded Tk 5 lakh as dowry from Binti's parents who had left the country one and a half years ago and settled down in the US, said her aunt Sumaiya

yesterday in their home at Maniknagar in Mugda and at one point Shohag kicked Binti in the abdomen, said Sumaiya quoting the five-year-old son of the couple. She was rushed to Dhaka Medical

The couple engaged in an argument early

College Hospital where doctors declared her dead around 4:30am, said hospital

After an autopsy, sources at Dhaka Medical College morgue said she had died of internal bleeding caused by tor-

The arrest was made on the basis of allegations by Binty's family, said Nasir Uddin, officer-in-charge of Mugda Police Station. Binti's uncle Farhad Hossain filed the case against Shohag, his mother, a brother and a sister.









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KHULNA H 36.5 L 27.3

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