

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 29.2   L 21.5	H 25.0   L 21.8	H 28.1   L 18.3	H 29.8   L 18.0	H 26.6   L 23.4	H 26.8   L 21.8	H 28.0   L 19.0	H 25.7   L 21.7

Light rain is likely to occur at a few places over all the divisions till 6:00pm today. Light to moderate fog may occur during midnight till this morning, said Met Office. Night temperature may fall over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:11pm and rises tomorrow at 6:27am.



### Chief Justice Sinha for use of Bangla in apex court proceedings

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha yesterday emphasised the need for introducing Bangla in judicial proceedings of the Supreme Court to meet people's expectations. "Bangla needs to be introduced in the higher court proceedings as it is already used in the lower court functions. Some of the Supreme Court judges often write judgments in Bangla and I am also planning to write a few verdicts in Bangla," he said. Sinha was addressing, as the chief guest, a discussion on "Mother Language and Culture of the Country" organised by Deshiya Sanskritik Ainjibi Parishad in the auditorium of the Supreme Court Bar Association.

"We are the only nation to fight and sacrifice lives for the mother language," said Justice Sinha, adding that everyone should uphold the language's dignity. Attorney General Mahbubey Alam said there was no classification of people in the country in ancient period as true secularism had prevailed then.

Lalon Fakir of Kushtia and Hason Raza of Sylhet taught secularism through their songs, he added. Abdul Baset Majumder, vice chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council, said the culture of the country needs to be protected from the aggression of foreign culture. After the meeting, a cultural programme was



Hasina Dowla, administrator of Dhaka Zila Parishad, the woman in glasses, and Parvej Dewan, panel chairman of Savar Upazila Parishad, on her right, accompany Awami League's mayor candidate Abdul Goni, on her left, during a campaign for the upcoming Savar municipality election, when Goni visits the Upazila Parishad to submit the application of candidature yesterday. The two officials used government vehicles, inset, when accompanying Goni, violating the electoral code of conduct that carries a fine of Tk 50,000 or a six-month's jail term or both and can lead to the cancellation of candidacy. PHOTO: RASHAD AHAMAD



### Hindu, Buddhist, Christian unity council to hold rally today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Unity Council will hold a grand rally today in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan.

"It will be the first and hopefully the largest gathering of minority and indigenous communities to demand their political and civil rights in the country's history," said Rana Dasgupta, general secretary of the council, at a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday.

Different organisations representing minority communities would coordinate to make the event at 1:00pm a success, he added.

"The programme is organised to press home the demands to protect the existence of religious and ethnic minorities," he said.

Rana Dasgupta, also a prosecutor at the International Crimes Tribunal, slammed the state for not taking initiatives to end the persecution of minorities.

## Six charges pressed against 2 Kishoreganj 'Razakars'

Charges of war crimes, violation of Geneva Convention introduced for the first time

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prosecutors yesterday pressed six specific charges against two alleged Razakars for their alleged involvement in crimes committed in Kishoreganj during the Liberation War in 1971.

Holding a brief hearing, International Crimes Tribunal-1 fixed December 29 to decide on taking into cognisance the charges against Syed Mohammad Hussain alias Hossain, 64, younger brother of convicted war criminal Syed Hasan Ali, and

Muhammad Moslem Pradhan, 66.

The prosecution pressed charges of "war crimes" and violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention 1949 against the two and this is the first time any accused face these charges since the start of the trial. Prosecutor Tureen Afroz told The Daily Star.

They also face charges of crimes against humanity and genocide, which the prosecution used to bring against suspects previously, she said.

Tureen said this war crimes charge was over the killing of a prisoner of

war, which is a violation of the rules and customs of war.

The charge says Moslem, along with four/five Razakars and on Syed Mohammad's instructions, captured unarmed freedom fighter Abdul Malek from his house without meeting any resistance on October 19.

Malek was taken in front of one Debendra Chandra Nath's house and Moslem, again on Syed Mohammad's instructions, shot him dead.

The freedom fighter should be

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## A METHOD IN THE MADNESS

AASHA MEHREEN AMIN

It's funny how we humans adapt to all kinds of craziness. Only about a year or so we were looking over our shoulder with trepidation, expecting someone to hurl a petrol bomb at us, burning us to timber. But even the possibility of such a horrific fate did not stop us from venturing out; life, after all, had to go on. We were back in the days of rushing through the crazy, frenetic, impossible streets of Dhaka.

It was a typical day, in other words, a day filled with dread of the uncertain but one in which mundane activities like going to work (especially if it was at a newspaper) were still in full force. I managed to coax a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver to take me to our office on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue from Shilpakala Academy. The Almighty had decided to be kind to me and planted an auto-rickshaw driver talking away on his cell phone in a lane outside the Academy. I had spotted him from inside the Academy premises. It was dark and three stray dogs were about to start a heated conversation -- you can tell when they do that growling

thing -- but desperation overcame fear and I called out through the openings of the wall to my knight in not so shining armour "Ayje Bhai CNG!"

After reluctantly cutting his phone call short we were off. While trying not to be squashed into a pulp by the murir tin buses that managed to sway around like drunken Hawaiian dancers, we enviously watched the line of motorcyclists zoom by the pavement bordering Ramna Park while pedestrians hopped, skipped and jumped to avoid collision.

"This is quite a jam," I exclaimed to break the ice. The auto-rickshaw driver laughed and said, "It's not just quite a jam -- it's a kotheen (roughly translated as 'terrific') jam." It was just the cue I needed; soon enough I found out that this 30ish young fellow was from Madaripur, lived in Rampura and had a five-year-old daughter called Maria who had just started school. "So aren't the schools closed these days because of the hartal?" I asked. "Well at first they had kept it closed," he said, "but we live in a mahalla (neighbourhood), so it's quite safe and they have started classes again."



Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) CEO Abrar A Anwar looks at photographs on display at a three-day exhibition in Haatkola Art Gallery in Chittagong city's Surson Road area yesterday, organised as part of The Daily Star-SCB "Celebrating Life 2015" contest's district festivals. PHOTO: STAR

### Star - Standard Chartered Celebrating Life festival begins in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A musical evening was organised while a three-day photography exhibition launched in Chittagong city yesterday as a part of The Daily Star-Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) "Celebrating Life 2015" contest's district festivals.

Eminent Tagore exponent Rezwana Choudhury Bannya kept the audience captivated with her songs and a local band, Tirondaj, also performed at the cultural programme in Theatre Institute, Chittagong.

Present as chief guest, Chittagong University Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury expressed gratitude to the

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### Doa mahfil CITY DESK

A doa mahfil for late Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury, a journalist and former managing director of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), will be held today after the Maghrib prayers at Banani Jame Mosque (adjacent to Banani Bazar).

He died on November 29 in a road accident at Karwan Bazar intersection in the capital last year.

Friends, relatives, colleagues and well-wishers are requested to attend this congregation commemorating his first death anniversary.

## Nurse faces arrest for sexually abusing patient

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed police to arrest Saiful Islam, a staff nurse of United Hospital in Dhaka, for sexually abusing a female patient.

The court also issued a suomoto (of its own) rule on the government and the hospital authorities to explain in seven days why action should not be taken against Saiful and the hospital authorities and why they should not be punished.

Saiful allegedly abused the patient when she was lying unconscious in the post-operative intensive care unit (ICU). She had been admitted since Monday.

The assault was reported by the Bangla daily Jugantor yesterday, under the headline which translates as "female patient sexually abused at United Hospital".

The HC bench of Justice Quazi Reza-Ul Hoque and Justice Abu Taher Md Saifur Rahman came up with the order and the rule following the report, Deputy Attorney General Tapas Kumar Biswas told The Daily Star.

The daily reported that when the victim called female nurses for help they arrived half an hour late and requested the woman not to disclose the matter to anyone.

The victim's husband said, "I was not allowed to meet my wife for as long as 16 hours after her operation."

"The hospital authorities did not hand the perpetrator over to police but rather advised me to file a case," he added.

An official of the hospital said Saiful was already fired, according to the report.

Police were asked to produce Saiful before the court on December 7.

## 105 women, children murdered last month

Says Mahila Parishad STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A total of 105 women and children were killed for different reasons last month, according to Bangladesh Mahila Parishad.

It prepared the statistics based on reports on 14 national dailies.

Out of 28 women tortured for dowry, 13 were killed, according to the statistics.

Twenty women and children were gang-raped and 103 rape incidents took place in the country, said

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The Daily Star

Standard Chartered

life

# CELEBRATING LIFE

## District Festivals

CONCERT . PHOTO EXHIBITION

This event is free for all. Registration is a prerequisite. visit: [www.imdhaka.com/celebratinglifebd](http://www.imdhaka.com/celebratinglifebd)

We will be at

### Shahjalal University of Science and Technology

Date : December 5, 2015  
Photography Exhibition  
Time: 10 AM to 4 PM

CONCERT  
Band Performance by **CHIRKUTT**  
Time: 4 PM to 6 PM

Partners