

# WEATHER FORECAST

| YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES | DHAKA         | CHITTAGONG    | SYLHET        | RAJSHAHI      | KHULNA        | BARISAL       | RANGPUR       | COX'S BAZAR   |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | H 26.5 L 15.4 | H 25.5 L 14.7 | H 27.7 L 14.1 | H 26.8 L 12.3 | H 26.8 L 13.6 | H 26.7 L 12.2 | H 25.5 L 12.7 | H 26.6 L 15.4 |

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country in the next 24 hours till 6:00pm today. Moderate to thick fog may occur at places over the river basins and light to moderate fog may occur elsewhere over the country during mid night till morning. Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 05:25pm and rises tomorrow at 06:43am.

## AUG 21 GRENADE ATTACK

### Inadequate security in place

Recalls victim Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir as PW COURT CORRESPONDENT

Inadequate security measures were provided by the then government for opposition leader Sheikh Hasina at an Awami League (AL) rally on Bangabandhu Avenue which faced a grenade attack on August 21, 2004, said an AL leader yesterday.

The leader, former home minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, told Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka that 12 grenades exploded when Hasina was about to conclude her speech against terrorist activities of the then government.

Three live grenades, recovered from the scene and similar to those in the 10-truck arms haul, were destroyed without any test, said the victim and prosecution witness in the two cases, one filed over the killing and another under the explosive substances act.

Judge Shahed Nuruddin recorded the statement for over two hours before fixing January 18 for the next hearing.

The attack left 24 leaders and workers, including Ivy Rahman, dead and 300 others injured. AL President Hasina narrowly

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## First dev project for former enclaves

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecne) is likely to endorse a Tk 181 crore project today for infrastructural development of the former enclaves. The goal is to connect villages with towns to facilitate marketing of agricultural produce and create employment. The residents of the abolished enclaves have been deprived of basic amenities such as education and healthcare for the last 68 years, and it is the first time a development project is aimed at ensuring their wellbeing.

| DETAIL OF FORMER ENCLAVES             | PROJECT PARTICULARS                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Total 111 enclaves with 52,000 people | 7.3km upazila roads                                       |
| 59 in Lalmonirhat                     | 17.19km union roads                                       |
| 36 in Panchagarh                      | 170.82km village roads                                    |
| 12 in Kurigram                        | 741m bridges, culverts                                    |
| 4 in Nilphamari                       | Markets, mosques, community centres, graves, crematoriums |

## Cabinet okays jute law

BSS, Dhaka

The cabinet yesterday gave its final approval to the draft of "The Jute Law, 2015" modifying the existing "Jute Ordinance" of 1962 and including a maximum three-year imprisonment or one lakh taka fine or both for violators.

Cabinet Secretary Mohammad Shafiq Alam told journalists after the cabinet meeting that the draft was placed in Bangla as per a Supreme Court directive for translating all ordinances promulgated by military gov-

ernments. He said the draft has 32 sections on encouraging production, carrying out research, issuing licences, appointing agents and brokers, fixing values, imposing development fees and registering contracts.

He said the cabinet also endorsed the draft of an "Air Transport Agreement" with the US based on a Memorandum of Consultation signed on August 15, 2013.

He said the meeting was apprised of the commerce minister's participation in the

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## SC may fix date today to start hearing on Mir Quasem's plea

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court might fix a date today for starting hearing on the appeal of war criminal and Jamaat leader Mir Quasem Ali.

The appeal has been included as item No. 2 for an "order" in today's cause list of the four-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha.

The International Crimes Tribunal-2 on November 2, 2014 sentenced Quasem to death for crimes against humanity in 1971. He later filed an appeal with the SC challenging the tribunal's verdict.

Quasem, a member of Jamaat-e-Islami's Central Executive Council, in his appeal cited 181 reasons for his acquittal on all the charges. On December 8 last year, the Appellate Division concluded hearing the appeal of war crimes convict Motiur Rahman Nizami, ameer of Jamaat, and fixed tomorrow's date for delivering the verdict.

## Education ministry should publish Braille textbooks

Training session for visually impaired schoolteachers told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Textbooks for visually impaired school students should be published by the education ministry in 2017, not by the social welfare ministry, a training session was told yesterday.

"The day for charity has ended," said Vaskar Bhattacharjee, national consultant of web accessibility, Access to Information (a2i) Programme at Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

He said education being a universal right, study materials for persons with disabilities should be supplied by the education ministry.

A 14-day training programme started at the Teachers' Training College in the capital for 25 visually impaired teachers of government primary and secondary schools of the country. They will learn basic computing and use of multimedia like creating power point presentations.

Noting that visually impaired students often did not receive updated editions of textbooks, Prof Faruque Ahmed, senior consultant of a2i Programme, said the changes made in the textbooks of class IV and V this year were not updated in the Braille versions.

"How would the visually impaired children of these classes sit for the Primary School Certificate (PSC) exams then?" he asked.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid, chief guest at the programme, said his ministry would be able to publish those books if they got the school-wise and class-wise data

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## War crimes probe to go on for two more months

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday asked the prosecution to submit the investigation report on February 23 over three Mymensingh men, who were allegedly involved in crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

The three are Amjad Ali, Reaz Uddin Fakir and Wazuddin of Phulbari upazila in Mymensingh. Of the three, Amjad died of old age complications in September last year when he was in police custody, while Wazuddin is on the run. Only Reaz Uddin is now in jail.

The investigation report was due yesterday. But Prosecutor Hrishikesh Saha submitted a progress report on the investigation, which started in October 2014, and sought two months' time to complete it.

The tribunal led by Justice Anwarul Haque

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## 5 Chinese men beaten by 'landlord' in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Five Chinese men were hospitalised in the capital after being beaten allegedly by their landlord and some 10-12 men in Narayanganj's Araihaaz upazila last night following an altercation and scuffle over unlocking a gate.


The establishment at Baghbari area in Satgram union is of RM Group, owned by sons of former president of BNP's Narayanganj unit Rokonuddin Mollah, said Arifur Rahman, inspector (investigation), Araihaaz Police Station.

The victims had an argument with Rafiqul, a security guard posted at the establishment's main gate, around 8:00pm, he said.

Mainuddin Manu, one of Rokonuddin's sons, with 10 to 12 men armed with sticks and iron rods then carried out the attack, he added. Police detained Rafiqul and no case was filed.

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