KHULNA

H 25.0 L 17.0

RAJSHAHI

H 17.8 L 15.0

BARISAL

H 25.3 L 15.5

YESTERDAY'S

TEMPERATURES

DHAKA

H 22.8 L 16.7



Two opposing groups of Dhaka University students stage demonstrations just yards away from each other. One, left, holds a rally in front of Teacher- Student Centre, protesting construction of the proposed metro rail project route through the campus while the other, right, forms a human chain at the base of Raju Memorial , supporting the plan.

2nd Edition

SYLHET

H 18.4 L 15.8

CHITTAGONG

H 27.4 **L** 15.5

STAR, BANGLAR CHOKH

Split students stage opposing demos next to each other DU CORRESPONDENT

METRO RAIL THRU DU

The Daily Star | 3

Two groups of Dhaka University (DU) students staged demonstrations just yards away from each other yesterday, one endorsing government plans to have a section of a metro rail route go through the campus and the other opposing it.

Some 300 students of the opposing group brought out a procession and staged a solidarity rally in front of Teacher-Student Centre.

They were joined by some teachers and leaders and activists of left leaning student organisations including Bangladesh Chhatra Union,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

War babies, biranganas should be honoured

Says Mustafa Chowdhury, author of 'Ekattorer Juddhoshishu: Obidito Itihash'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

"If I ever meet my birthmother, I will thank her for not killing me through abortion. She just abandoned me with a hope that I will remain happy. She must be happy as I am now," this was the quote of a war baby who is living in Canada while expressing his reaction about her birthmother to the author of a book written on them.

Mustafa Chowdhury, a Canadian citizen of Bangladeshi origin who wrote the book titled "71' er Juddhoshishu: Obidito Itihash" shared this quote with the audience yesterday while speaking about the book at a programme organised by English and Humanities department of BRAC University in the capital.

Mustafa said among the 15 war babies, one committed suicide from depression while another died normally. The remaining 13 are happy now as they are living their lives and are sympathetic towards their birthmother.

"The war babies and biraganas of 1971 should be given honour and

compensation," he emphasised.

In his book he described the journeys of the first contingent of 15 "war babies" to Canada who were embraced by their adoptive parents as their own when they reached there back in July 1972.

He brought his readers up to speed by



describing how the war-babies bear the stigma of illegitimacy in the eyes of Bangladesh.

"My birthmother is neither a woman of disrepute nor selfish and uncaring.

There is no need to punish her for relinquishing me. She could not have offered me what I needed as a child," ; said Onil Mark Mowling, mentioned in a quote from the book.

According to historical documents, 2 to : 4 lakh Bangladeshi women and teenage girls were raped by Pakistani occupation : The International Crimes Tribunal's investiarmy and its auxiliary forces in 1971.

After the independence, the govern-: who got pregnant, could have a choice: 1971 Liberation War. regarding the war babies they were · carrying.

"Picking up the pieces: 1971 War; Dhanmondi office in the capital. Babies' Odyssey from Bangladesh to · Ekushey Boi Mela this year.

manzoorul Islam and Afsan · 22 and December 8. Chowdhury, among others, spoke at the : programme.

: WAR CRIME TRIALS

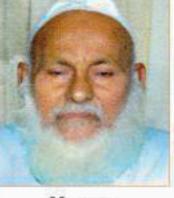
Evidence found against 5 Moulvibazar suspects



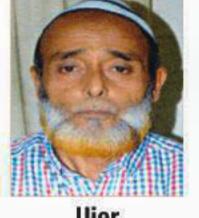
Samsul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nesar



Yunus



Mobarak

Sonatiki; Ujer Ahmed Chowdhury, 63, of

gation agency yesterday said to have found evidence of the "involvement" of five ment made abortion legal for a certain : Moulvibazar men in six incidents of crimes period so that the unfortunate women, : committed in their home district during the

"The allegations...have been preliminarily proved during investigations," the The book was published in Bangla : agency's Coordinator Abdul Hannan Khan last year. English version of the book, · told journalists at a press conference in its

He said the incidents included murders Canada" was published in the US last: and genocide leaving at least 18 people year and it will be available at the dead, abductions of 11 persons and looting · and torching of at least 22 houses under Rukhsana R Chowdhury, Prof Syed : Rajnagar Police Station between November

> Samsul Hossain Tarafder, 65, of Bagajura was an Al-Badr commander while Nesar Ali, · 75, of Jamura; Yunus Ahmed, 71, of

Goashpur village; and Mobarak Mia, 66, under Rajnagar, were involved with the Razakar Bahini, he added. Yunus and Ujer have been in jail since

ing a warrant issued by the tribunal-1. Hannan said the five were collaborators of the Pakistani occupation army working

their arrest on October 13 last year follow-

under the leaderships of now-deceased Barik Mia and Nasid Ali, the chairmen of antiliberation Peace Committee in Munshibazar and Uttarbhag unions respectively. Starting on October 12, 2014, the investigation was completed yesterday with 36

he said. The case's investigating officer Hari Devnath said he would hand over the probe reports, witnesses' statements and other documents to the prosecution today for

people being cited as prosecution witnesses,

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

Yunus Centre rebuts Hasina's claim

STAR REPORT

Yunus Centre has expressed deep dissatisfaction over Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus being implicated by the prime minister in the process of the cancellation of funds promised by the World Bank for the Padma Bridge project. The centre issued a rejoin-

der regarding the matter. Following is the full text of

"Several newspapers have reported that, while addressing a programme at Shilpakala Academy held on January 16, honorable prime minister Sheikh Hasina had said, implying Professor Muhammad Yunus, that a former MD of a bank provoked high officials of the US government to threat the Bangladeshi PM to stop financing of Padma Bridge over his removal as Managing Director of the bank.

We are saddened and frustrated by the baseless remarks made by the Honorable Prime Minister.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 2

UK's reservation about last JS polls no secret

New British High Commissioner Alison Blake tells media after presenting credentials to president

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

It is no secret that the UK had concerns over the January 5, 2014 general elections because a majority of the people was deprived of exercising their franchise, said the newly 🕽 appointed first female British high commissioner to Bangladesh yesterday.

Although the British govern-

ment does not comment on local elections, the recent municipal polls were peaceful compared to past ones due to the participation of the out-of-parliament opposition and less interference, said Alison Blake.



She, however, hoped that "future elections at all-levels will be participatory, fair and transpar- . ent" and the UK would continue to help Bangladesh bring stability: fraud and irregularities" in and prosperity.

Mentioning recent reports of · pality polls last year. abuses by law enforcers, Blake . said both countries collaborate; at BNP Chairperson on law enforcement issues but the · Khaleda Zia's Gulshan UK does not cooperate with coffice at 4:00pm, the party

alleged abusers and that there should be : investigations if there were specific allegations. The UK will continue to support Bangladesh

on its democratic path as it grows SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

BNP shows diplomats 'municipal poll : irregularities'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday played a 72minute documentary before diplomats from the United Nations and 20 countries stationed in · Dhaka, narrating "vote the December 30 munici-

Addressing the meeting leaders alleged that the · municipality polls proved that no fair election could be held by the Election · Commission and the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3





EXPERIENCE ZONE AT BANANI



- Revel in different Paint Zones
- Feel the Color Zone
- Be dazzled by wood coatings Innova Gallery
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