

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 31.0 L 19.5	H 32.1 L 20.5	H 31.1 L 17.9	H 32.3 L 16.8	H 31.5 L 20.8	H 31.2 L 20.3	H 28.4 L 15.0	H 34.0 L 21.5

Night and day temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 5:55pm and rises tomorrow at 6:29am.** Country's highest temperature 34.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Cox's Bazar and lowest 13.9 in Dinajpur.



Two of the five lakes of Jahangirnagar University, which an employee, Abbas Ali Talukdar, had leased for fish farming five years ago. He neither did pay the lease money nor did hand the charge of the lakes over to the university authority yet. The lakes, the one on the left near the Old Arts Building and the other near the Al-Biruni Hall, are in disuse now.

PHOTO: SM NAJMUS SAKIB

JU authorities hostage to employee lessee

He occupies five lakes illegally, disregards official notice asking for payment of lease money

SM NAJMUS SAKIB
Five of the lakes of Jahangirnagar University (JU) are occupied by one of its employees for years while he also did not repay the lease money of Tk 43 lakh to the university despite the authorities issuing him notices 19 times, seeking dues and his response. Abbas Ali Talukdar, a grade-III employee of Shaheed Salam Barkat hall, took a three-year lease for farming fish in five lakes, which expired two years ago. An estate office paper showed that he did not pay the lease money or hand over the charge of

the lakes. A probe body was formed, which submitted a report seven months earlier but no initiative was enacted, it added. Abbas tried to use influential teachers and officials to dismiss the due, alleged an official of the estate office. Md Nurul Amin, acting officer to the estate, said the office again sent a notice asking him to repay the dues; otherwise they would start taking it from his monthly pay, and take actions against him as per the university rule. Primarily, the due was Tk 22 lakh,

which eventually increased to Tk 43 lakh after the addition of a 10pc monthly interest, he added. "Abbas is a close ally to an influential JU senate member and a pro-Awami League man, and an active follower of the former vice-chancellor Prof Shariff Enamul Kabir," an estate office employee alleged, requesting anonymity. "He was seen on the front line during the last two anti-VC movements in 2012-13, and had gathered a large number of men on the campus premises from Savar

ASK, Ruja express deep concern over case spree against Star editor

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Rights organisation Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) yesterday expressed deep concern over the filing of sedition cases and issuance of a summons against Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Aman. A total of 64 cases -- 15 of them sedition pleas and the rest defamation suits -- have been filed against the editor, for the alleged "reports against Sheikh Hasina" published in 2007-2008 during the last caretaker government. The barrage of lawsuits came days after the editor, at a talk show on February 3, made an introspective comment about a lapse in his editorial judgement in publishing a few reports, based on information given by the Task Force Interrogation Cell during the last caretaker government, without being able to verify those independently. In a press release, ASK said taking such a legal action

JESSORE WAR CRIMES FF also links Shakhawat to killing of villager

Martyr's two sons implicated him earlier
STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A freedom fighter yesterday testified that he had seen former Jamaat-e-Islami and BNP lawmaker Shakhawat Hossain shoot dead one Chadtulla Gazi of Chingra village in Jessore's Keshabpur upazila during the Liberation War in 1971. Nur Uddin Morol, the third prosecution witness in the case against nine war crimes accused from Jessore including Shakhawat, told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that Shakhawat and other Razakars had also tortured him in a Razakar camp. Apart from Shakhawat, the witness implicated four other

accused in the case -- Mujibur Rahman, Abdul Khaleq, Lutfar Morol, and Billal Hossain. He, however, did not mention names of four other accused in the case -- Kazi Ohidul Islam, Aziz Sardar, Aziz Sardar (2), and Ibrahim Hossain. Of the nine men who face five charges, Shakhawat, Billal and Lutfar are now in jail and have pleaded not guilty. The rest are on the run. Earlier, Gaziur Rahman and Fazlur Rahman Gazi, two sons of martyr Chadtulla, implicated all nine in the killing of his father, and said they heard from Nur Uddin Morol that Shakhawat shot their

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