Downpour

to continue

this month

Says Met office; also

warns of heat waves,

After March, the country is

going to experience exces-

sive rainfall in the current

Bangladesh Meteorological

Met office also forecasted

month of April, said

one or two heat waves,

couple of tornadoes and a

in the Bay of Bengal. All the divisions had

rainfall in March, except

with thunderstorm may

occur in the northern and

fall in the upstream may

northern and northeastern

A seasonal low is lying

over the South Bay, caus-

rainfall may decrease and day temperature may rise

from tomorrow, it added.

INFLUENCING POLLS

EC asks IGP

to take action

Sharasti OC

The Election Commission

(EC) has asked inspector

general of police (IGP) to

take departmental action

against the officer-in-

Police Station of

municipality poll.

charge (OC) of Sharasti

Chandpur for influencing

Besides, the EC yesterday

also issued directives to the

IGP to take similar action

against some other cops,

election duties, for negli-

gence in their duties, said

Sharasti municipality was

The EC had found the

allegation true that the OC

influenced the polls and

the on-duty cops showed

negligence in preventing

irregularities at a polling

station, said EC officials.

of law enforcement and

Meanwhile, the EC will

hold a meeting with officials

intelligence agencies on April

13 to discuss the overall law

and order situation of the

The commission has

convened the meeting

over 1,000 injured.

against the backdrop of

widespread violence in the

last two phase of the polls

that left 33 people dead and

Union Parishad (UP) polls.

EC officials. Election to

held on February 22.

who were deployed for

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

against

However, the trend of

ing light rainfalls.

cause flash flood in the

part, the forecast added.

central part. Excessive rain-

Beside, a few tornados

experienced excessive

for Barisal, it added.

probable cyclone generated

Department.

tornadoes, cyclones

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Mild tremor

felt in some

A mild tremor was felt in Dhaka and some other parts of the country yesterday afternoon as a 4.6 magnitude earthquake occurred in Meghalaya, India.

Though the US geological survey tagged the earthquake at 5.0 in the Richter scale and timed it at 7:42 UTC -- around 1:40pm in Bangladesh time.

Bangladesh met office, however, said the earthquake was 4.6 in the Richter scale and it occurred at 212km north east of Bangladesh Meteorological Department

Anything untoward did not happen so far.

In Sherpur, many came out of their houses and started offering prayers following the earthquake,

Kulipara slum fire guts 40 rooms

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 40 rooms were gutted as a fire broke out in a three-storey tin-made house in Kulipara slum area in the capital's Tejgaon

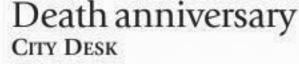
reported immediately, according to fire fighters.

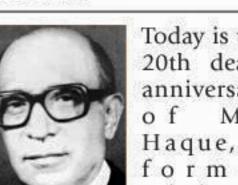
might have originated from a stove or an electric short circuit," Mozammel Hossain, deputy director of Tajgaon Fire and Civil Defense Station, told The Daily Star.

caused by the fire was

said. Eleven fire fighting units doused the fire at 7:05pm,

Mozammel said.





former minister,

president of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (Baira). On this occasion,

poor and orphans and special prayers have been arranged in mosques.



Karwan Bazar veg traders rout out Rajuk eviction team

2ND EDITION

Vandalise bulldozer, DNCC vehicles

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Rajuk bulldozer, which accompanied a mobile court to clear three commercial plots of illegal vegetable markets in the capital's Karwan Bazar, instead went back being vandalised by unruly traders yesterday.

The bulldozer was attacked near the Petrobangla office after the eviction team cleared one plot of illegal vegetable shops and moved to clear the remaining two.

Meanwhile, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) said in a press release that during the eviction drive, some "miscreants" vandalised over 10 motor vehicles in front of the city corporation's Karwan Bazar zonal office.

DNCC had no role in the Rajuk eviction drive, and still vandalising the corporation's vehicles was illmotivated and that legal action would be taken against destruction of public property, the release said.

The traders went berserk when the eviction team moved to the remaining two plots. At one stage, they suddenly went out to block the nearby Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue and later vandalised the vehicles in front of the DNCC zonal office. As police drove them away from the Avenue, they on their way back smashed all the glasses and other parts of the bulldozer, said Md Adiluzzaman, authorised officer of Rajdhani Unnyan

Kartripakkha (Rajuk).

The drive was part of Rajuk's ongoing campaign to reclaim car park spaces and remove obstacles for traffic movement.

The eviction team first cleared plot 44 unopposed but faced resistance when they moved to plot 35 and 42, owned by one AKM Joinul Abedin Khan.

As the commotion was brewing up, the driver of another bulldozer parked in front of the DNCC zonal office left the scene without any high official's permission even though the vehicle was meant for the eviction drive.

Executive Magistrate Khandker Oliur Rahman, who was conducting the mobile court, was seen frantically trying to stop the bulldozer from leaving the scene. "Who let the bulldozer leave the scene," he was heard angrily saying to the authorised officer Adiluzzaman, who replied, "I did not

allow it; the driver left on his own." Sawdagor Mustafizur Rahman, a Rajuk director for development control, accompanying the eviction team, was heard saying, "Let the bulldozer stay away." Adiluzzaman turning to Mustafizur Rahman in a clear, angry voice said, "We are not getting the necessary cooperation in carrying out the eviction

drive and no command is working here." As this correspondent asked why the bulldozer should be away, Mustafizur Rahman said, "Our aim is to dismantle the illegal structures, and

we are concentrating on it."

After a prolonged drama of confusion and inaction, the executive magistrate obtained an undertaking from Delwar Hossain Khan Bachchu, representative of AKM Joinul Abedin Khan, which stated that the owner would remove the structures on his own within the next two days.

Karwan Bazar. The protesters also vandalised a bulldozer of Rajuk and over 10 vehicles including a car,

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

4 MOULVIBAZAR WAR CRIME SUSPECTS

Tribunal wants

charges May 31

International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday directed prose-

cutors to submit formal charges, if there were any, on May 31

against four Moulvibazar men allegedly involved in crimes

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Anwarul

Haque with members Justice Md Shahinur Islam and Justice

Md Shohrowardi fixed the date following a petition moved

by prosecutor Sheikh Moshfeq Kabir seeking two more

months. He said the tribunal's investigation agency com-

pleted investigations on March 23 and handed over the

report and other documents, which they were now scruti-

Talukdar alias Lal Miah, 62; Anis Miah, 76; and Abdul

Mosabbir Miah, 64; are of Rajnagar upazila. Only Akmal is

involvement in two incidents centring the killing of 61

people, rape of six women and looting and torching of 136

local Peace Committee, an anti-liberation organisation,

while the three others were involved with the Razakar

Bahini, an auxiliary force of the Pakistani occupation army,

16 Premier University students

notice, signed by the registrar. "If any students, who were

expelled, gets acquittal from the murder accusation or gets

excluded from the charge sheet, authority may re-consider

former students, Saikul Mohammad Tarek (LLB) and Md

Nazmul Huq (BBA), would be taken after the verdict, added

the proctor. Sohel, an MBA student, was killed on March 29

in an attack allegedly by his rival faction of BCL activists

over a farewell and fresher's reception ceremony.

During the Liberation War, Akmal was a member of a

The accused Akmal Ali Talukdar, 76; Abdun Nur

The agency said to have found evidence over the four's

nising and hence needed time to submit the charges.

now in jail while the rest are on the run.

Jamaat-e-Islami's politics, it added.

their punishment upon appeal," it read.

houses in two villages.

committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

inset, in front of the nearby Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) zonal office.

Oliur Rahman said compared to a huge mob of traders, a 20-member police team was inadequate to carry out the eviction in the face of resistance. He said they gave requisition for five platoons (each containing 100 personnel) of police but got only one platoon. He said they would come back with adequate force later in case the owner did not comply with the undertaking.

Owners of at least five such commercial plots have long been running illegal wholesale vegetable markets in the plots in violation of lease terms causing a severe traffic mess in this important business hub, said Adiluzzaman. With a court injunction on plot 36 and 43, Rajuk attempted to clear the other three.

Delwar Hossain Khan Bachchu said Rajuk had never asked them to build commercial buildings there and never objected to building of kitchen markets on the plots. Adiluzzaman said these were commercial plots and the lease holders were required to go by the term of the lease deed to build approved commercial buildings there.

FROM PAGE 4 over the phone," it read. ACC requests apprehending any person demanding money impersonating ACC officials and contacting Director (Observation and Evaluation) Meer Joynul Abedin Shibli at 01711644675 and 9352552 and the nearest police station.

FROM PAGE 4 State Minister for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Zunaid Ahmed Palak, Executive Director of Bangladesh Computer Council S M Ashraful Islam, US Ambassador Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat, British envoy Alison Blake, Canadian High Commissioner Benoit-Pierre Laramee, Japanese envoy Masato Watanabe and Russian Ambassador Alexander I Ignatov spoke

ACC issues

26 foreign

on the occasion.



Many areas of Sylhet city were waterlogged due to yesterday's downpour as waterlogging has become a severe issue due to illegal occupation of the canals by influential people and incessant dumping of waste there. The photo was taken from Pathantula of Subidbazar area. PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

226 cops promoted

(Dhaka), Sanjit Kumar Roy (Dhaka), Rashida Begum (Khulna), Shehela Parvin (Dhaka), Nasiyan Wazed (Dhaka), Shamima Alhter (Dhaka), Syed Abu Sayem (Kishoreganj), Tofayel Ahmed (Rajbari), Faruk Ul Haque (Dhaka), Tanvir Momtaz (Dhaka), Hasanuzzaman (Dhaka), Alimuzzaman (Dhaka), Shahidullah (Chittagong), Mohibul Islam Khan

FROM PAGE 4

(Narayanganj), Farid Uddin (Dhaka), Babul Akhter (Chittagong), Selim Khan (Dhaka), Abdul Warish (Sherpur), Zakaria (Narayanganj), Jashim Uddin (Dhaka), SM Mostayin Hossain (Kishoreganj), Hasan Nahid Chowdhury (Dhaka), Mokhlesur Rahman (Narayanganj), AHM Abdur Rakib (Dhaka), Moinul Hasan (Dhaka), Anisur Rahman (mission), Shihab Kaisar Khan (Dhaka), Saifullah

Bin Anwar (Dhaka), Jahangir Mollik (Barisal), Shahriar Alam (Dhaka), Habibur Rahman (Netrokona), Akbar Ali Munshi (Dhaka), Mahbub Hasan (mission), Sahed Al Masud (mission), Ibrahim Khan (Dhaka), Rifat Rahman Shamim (Dhaka), and Proloy Kumar Joardar (Dhaka).

Besides them, 156 senior assistant police superintendents were made additional police superintendents.



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The Baily Star

IPHONE & ANDROID APPS

storey police residential building in the university's property.

Dhaka University Environment Society forms a human chain at the Raju sculpture,

protesting the chopping of century old trees and the government's plan to build a 22

The Baily Star Online Fresh | Bold | Fast





PHOTO: STAR

App Store

at Agargaon in Dhaka.

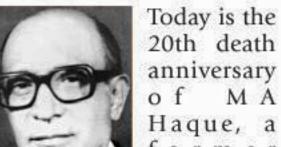
reports our correspondent.

last evening. No casualty was

"We suspect that the fire

Primarily, the damage

estimated at Tk 20 lakh, he



police officer and founder

gurankhanis have been After the Liberation War, Akmal did not get involved with arranged at Banani graveany political party and the three are now involved with yard and in the residence of his daughter Rehana Ashequr Rahman. Food will be distributed among the

A memorial programme will also be held at his birthplace in Zakiganj The decision regarding the degree cancellation of the upazila of Sylhet. MA Haque Foundation and his family requested his friends and admirers to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.