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division and the regions of Comilla, Mymensingh and Tangail till 6:00pm today. Mild heat wave is sweeping over Khulna division and the regions of Rajshahi, Pabna, Gopalganj and Faridpur and it may continue and spread to adjacent regions. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:17pm and rises tomorrow at 5:43am.

## HC clears way for trial at lower court

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday cleared the way for a lower court to continue the trial proceedings against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia in Zia Charitable Trust graft case. The HC bench of Justice Md Ruhul Quddus and Justice

Mahmudul Hoque came up with the order rejecting a petition filed by Khaleda seeking cancellation of the trial proceedings against her.

The bench passed the rejection order considering that the petition was not submitted properly.

Anti Corruption Commission's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan told The Daily Star that there was no legal bar to the

Special Judge Court-3 of Dhaka to continue the trial proceedings of the case against Khaleda following the HC order. Raghib Rauf Chowdhury, a lawyer for Khaleda, told The

Daily Star that the HC bench rejected the petition on their prayer that they will not run the petition. On March 9, Khaleda challenged the legality of appoint-

ment of Harunur Rashid, investigating officer of the case, saying that ACC had not published any gazette notice. The ACC on August 8, 2011 filed the graft case accusing

Khaleda and three others of abusing power in setting up the charity.

## Honour's academic activities at Cuet suspended for unrest

Following students' demonstrations over fellow's death in road crash

CU CORRESPONDENT

Against the backdrop of students' agitations over demands, including that for a teacher's resignation, the Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (Cuet) through an emergency meeting yesterday suspended academic activities of honour's courses for an indefinite period "fearing deterioration of the law and order situation".

Male students were to vacate halls by 3:00pm yesterday while female students by 10:00am today, as per Assistant Director (Public Relations) Fazlur Rahman.

the agitators, from April 3 when some 40 students had formed a human chain at Gol Chattar on the campus protesting the death of a student in a road accident. Md Mohaiminul Islam, a 5th year

student of architecture, died after a

motorised three-wheeler human hauler he was on was hit by a bus on the Chittagong-Kaptai road on March 29. The demonstrators claimed that Student Welfare Director Prof

Ashutose Saha harassed them and threatened to use police to charge baton and disperse them, something the accused vehemently denied.

The demonstrations, including Vice Chancellor (VC) Prof Md the demands and that this sit-ins and rallies, and class and Jahangir Alam confined to his required time.

exam boycotts were sparked, as per office for around four hours and locked classrooms and the administrative office, as per sources on the cam-The university authorities later

that day sat with 30 of the agitating students but the meeting bore no fruit, they added.

Yesterday, the demonstrators organised a press conference at Chittagong Press Club and placed a nine-point demand, including the one for the resignation, arrest of the bus driver and ensuring safe transportation facilities.

The VC said they were talking to The next day, the agitators kept all authorities concerned to meet

## FINE ARTS INSTITUTE AT CU BCL men now force suspension of entire 2nd year exam

The Baily Star

CU CORRESPONDENT

Just three days after postponing one course's exam, Chittagong University's (CU) fine arts institute yesterday suspended holding the entire second year finals after 10 of its rooms were locked allegedly by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists demanding that a suspended fellow be allowed to sit.

The first postponement came on April 4 when Mofazzal Haydar Mofa and some 30 of his fellows locked two exam rooms over the demand, said a teacher of the institute and assistant proctor, Pranab Mittra.

Mofazzal was suspended for one year on December 31, 2015 for his involvement in a BCL factional clash on November 2, 2015, the institute's director, Nasima Akhter, told The Daily Star.

Against the backdrop of clashes between the president and general secretary's followers, BCL's two-member CU unit was suspended on February 10 by the pro-ruling party SEE PAGE 5 COL 4



Activists of Progotishil Chhatra Jote and Shamrajjobadbirodhi Chhatra Oikya try to break through a police barricade in front of Shikkha Bhaban in the capital yesterday during an attempt to lay siege to the home ministry demanding arrest of the killers of Sohagi Jahan Tonu, a second-year history student of Comilla Victoria Govt College who was found dead, according to family members, inside Comilla Cantonment on March 20. PHOTO: STAR

TENANTS' INFO COLLECTION SC wants decision on legality by May 31

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday asked the High Court to deliver its decision by May 31 on a rule over the legality of collecting information from the tenants by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP).

The HC bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Iqbal Kabir has been asked to dispose of the rule by the time.

A four-member bench of Appellate Division of the SC headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha passed the order after hearing an appeal filed by the government challenging the HC rule in this regard.

On March 27, following a writ petition filed by three lawyers including

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## Book publishers, sellers protest draft education act

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Publishers and Book Sellers Association yesterday protested some of the sections and sub-sections of the draft Education Act-2016, claiming that those sections would pose a grave threat to the existence of the country's printing industry.

They told a press conference at Dhaka Reporters' Unity in the capital that they were aggrieved by the inclusion of those sections in the proposed act, and demanded the government allow them to publish reference books without securing approval from the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB).

The proposed act slaps a ban on publishing guidebooks for primary and secondary levels and states that any printer or institution or individual can print reference books or study materials only after getting approval of the manuscripts from the NCTB.

The charge for those breaching the law includes a monetary penalty of up to Tk 2 lakh or six months' imprisonment or both, according to its draft.

If the draft law is enacted, the NCTB would become a single publishing institution for all academic books and a controlling authority, causing more problems and rendering some 25 lakh people involved directly and indirectly in the SEE PAGE 5 COL 7

Govt's plan to build police quarters at DU protested

DU CORRESPONDENT

Around 300 members of Dhaka University Officers' Association (DUOA) yesterday formed a human chain at Oporajeyo Bangla protesting the government's plan to build police quarters at Babupara police outpost in the university area.

They also demanded withdrawal of all police outposts from the area and punishment of those who chopped off some centuryold trees at the outpost to

build the 22-storey building. Later, the protesters submitted a memorandum to Vice Chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique to take immediate action to save the area.

They also threatened to go for tougher agitation if the authorities concerned did not take effective steps to solve the problem.



