

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 31.6 | L 24.2

CHITTAGONG
H 33.5 | L 24.7

SYLHET
H 29.4 | L 22.8

RAJSHAHI
H 35.6 | L 24.8

KHULNA
H 36.5 | L 25.4

BARISAL
H 35.2 | L 24.2

RANGPUR
H 28.0 | L 21.6

COX'S BAZAR
H 34.0 | L 25.5

Mild heat wave sweeping over the regions of Khulna, Mongla, Jessore and Kushtia may continue. Day and night temperatures may fall slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:31pm and rises tomorrow at 5:19am. Country's highest temperature 37.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Chuadanga and lowest 21.3 in Sreemangal.

IGP should resign for failing to protect people

Says Prof Ajoy Roy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Slain blogger and writer Avijit Roy's father Prof Ajoy Roy yesterday demanded that Inspector General of Police (IGP) AKM Shahidul Hoque immediately resign on moral grounds admitting his failure to protect people's lives, even those who had not been targeted. "I resign...if possible today," he told the unveiling programme of a book "onnoto, amra chop thakbo na" (Ananta we will not remain silent) organised by weekly magazine Mot O Path (opinion and path) in the capital's Bangla Academy.

Ananta Bijoy Das of Sylhet was one of four bloggers killed last year. The book contains former Jahangirnagar University vice chancellor Prof Anwar Hossain's 17 write ups published in the media between 2012 and 2015.

Though it was his responsibility to protect people, especially those who have been threatened, the IGP stated on several occasions that it was not possible to check targeted killings, said Ajoy, who retired from Dhaka University.

Police claimed that three of Avijit's killers were under surveillance but the Dhaka Metropolitan Police commissioner stated a few days ago that they had left the country, he said, adding, "What type of vigilance did you keep?"

"You (the IGP), on several occasions, uttered a sentence that police can not take the responsibility of protecting 16 crore people. Who asked you to give security to 16 crore people? You could not protect 5-10 people, why would people give you the responsibility of protecting 16 crore people?" he questioned.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu, however, said law enforcers were at work and at least 49 people have been arrested over the blogger killings.

"That means law enforcers are not silent. However, there are some failures. We are admitting the facts," he said.

The Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal president said the government took a political decision and was combating militancy which had mushroomed with the support of previous regimes.

Shahriar Kabir, acting president of Ekatturer Ghatok Dal Nirmul Committee, said though the battle was tough, militancy and fundamentalism would not be tolerated in

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Doctors attending to ASI Anisur Rahman, in an operation theatre of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, after being stabbed by a trader on the capital's Nawabpur Road yesterday morning.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Draft citizenship law lacks natural justice

RMMRU discussion told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

No one should be made to suffer for their ancestors' actions, said speakers yesterday commenting on the draft "The Citizenship Law, 2016", which the cabinet approved on February 1.

The draft denies citizenship to descendants of those who fought against Bangladesh, denied its existence or engaged in activities against Bangladesh.

"Should not depriving children of their right to nationality constitute punishing them for an offence not committed by them?" said Prof CR Abrar of Dhaka University's international relations department.

"It is against natural justice, and unacceptable to make children liable for the misdemeanour of their parents," said Abrar, also the executive director of the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU).

Barrister Sara Hossain pointed out that "engaging in activities against Bangladesh" was a vague term and asked who would define and identify such acts in stripping someone of their citizenship.

"The draft, if enacted in its current form, may result in denying citizenship to respected national leaders from the CHT (Chittagong Hill Tracts) who

were once engaged in a struggle for self-determination," she said.

RMMRU organised the discussion on the draft in the capital's Cirdap.

Moderating the discussion, Abrar quoted the draft, saying if a Bangladeshi couple gives birth to a child in a foreign country, and they do not register the birth with the Bangladesh mission there within two years of the birth, the child will not be given citizenship.

"This is another provision which would make individuals suffer for no fault of their own," he added.

"Bangladeshi citizens are living across the world, as migrants, and many of them are very successful in their fields of work, including as members of parliament, judges, and government officials," said Sara.

"But it seems like we are preparing a law to create new difficulties for them in retaining their ties with Bangladesh as citizens, rather than strengthening those," she said.

Sara said the law was drafted and given cabinet nod with almost no discussion with the stakeholders, including migrants at home and abroad and groups working with potentially affected groups, such as adopted children, and the public.

The draft said Supreme Court

judges, lawmakers, persons holding constitutional posts, civil servants and members of the disciplined forces would not get dual citizenship.

Any foreign national obtaining Bangladeshi citizenship cannot contest the national or local polls, become president, an SC judge or a public servant or form any political party, according to the draft.

Many high officials of the civil service and the judiciary would fall in this category and have to lose their positions, said Dr Zafullah Chowdhury, founder of Gonoshasthaya Kendra.

According to the draft, a foreign national who marries a Bangladeshi can get citizenship fulfilling five conditions.

The conditions are: she/he would have to live in Bangladesh for five years; is not a citizen of any country "prohibited" by the Bangladesh government; his/her parents and grandparents are not engaged in a war against Bangladesh and are not the enemy force of a foreign country; s/he does not live in Bangladesh illegally; and is not a citizen of any country that has no diplomatic relations with Bangladesh. Other speakers opined that if passed in parliament, the law would get into trouble even those who formulated it.

Cop stabbed in Old Dhaka by trader

Motive still unknown, victim's condition critical, they are acquaintances

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An assistant sub-inspector (ASI) was hacked by a local trader of the capital's Nawabpur area yesterday morning. "A trader of plastic and rubber goods had an altercation with ASI Anisur Rahman and at one point the trader attacked him with a knife and fled the area," said Noor Alam Siddiqui, officer-in-charge of Bangshal Police Station.

He, however, did not say why the duo was having an altercation.

The critically injured ASI of Nawabpur police outpost is undergoing treatment at the Intensive Care Unit of National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, said Maruf Hossain Sarder, deputy commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police.

A source in Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where he was taken first, said Anisur's condition was critical with five stabs on his head, neck and shoulder.

Delwar, a police constable who was on a foot patrol duty with Anisur and another constable yesterday, said, they were walking through Nawabpur Road around 8:45am when Anisur said he had something to do in an alley and asked them to proceed without him.

"We walked for a few minutes, when a rickshaw-puller told us that a cop was being hacked nearby. We ran to the alley and found that locals had already rushed him (Anisur) to a hospital on a rickshaw. The attacker was already gone," said Delwar.

Shop owners at Nawabpur Road said the attacker, Shah Alam Hossain Khoka, aged about 50, was the proprietor of B Rahman Rubber and Plastic.

They said Anisur was seen visiting Khoka's shop in the last couple of months and knew each other well, adding, Khoka was just opening his shop when Anisur came by.

Within moments, Khoka was seen stabbing the ASI with a knife and fleeing. They said Khoka had been trading

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Nisha finds Dhaka visit fruitful

Says counter-terrorism cooperation advanced

UNB, Dhaka

Describing the Bangladesh tour as productive, US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Nisha Desai Biswal said the trip helped advance cooperation on countering terrorism and extremism.



"Home after a productive trip to Bangladesh where we advanced cooperation on countering terrorism and extremism," she tweeted after returning home wrapping up her two-day visit to Dhaka.

In one of her three consecutive tweets, Biswal mentioned that they share a common goal of stopping "murderers and terrorists" who seek to sow fear and undermine democracy and fundamental freedoms.

"Clear that there are a diversity of views on religion, race and sexual orientation in Bangladesh," her second tweet read.

Biswal wrapped up her two-day visit on Thursday that followed the conversation between Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and US Secretary of State John Kerry on April 28 to discuss the bilateral cooperation in counterterrorism and countering violent extremism.

Kerry proposed to send Biswal to Bangladesh to discuss this issue further.

During her stay in Dhaka, Biswal said they have no reason to doubt claims by the terrorists groups saying that they either sought to work or are trying to create connections with groups here.

While talking to the media, she said they wanted to see the "conclusion" of the government efforts and investigations into the case of Xulhaz Mannan killing.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh and the United States are likely to co-host a United Nations High Level Meeting on large scale movement of refugees and migrants during the UN General Assembly (UNGA) next September in New York.

Biswal indicated that US President Barack Obama intended to extend an invitation to Hasina to co-host the sideline event. She also indicated they were looking forward to holding the fifth partnership dialogue between the two countries in Washington in June.

During the discussion, Biswal underscored the importance of the growing bilateral cooperation between Bangladesh and the United States in counterterrorism and countering violent extremism.

Biman likely to get Bangladeshi MD this time

UNB, Dhaka

After two foreign nationals, now Biman Bangladesh Airlines is likely to get a local person as its next managing director and chief executive officer.

"I think there's no suitable foreign candidate now...the MD will be hired locally," Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon told the news agency over phone.

He said the appointment process has started and a sub-committee is working on it. "We hope the committee will finalise candidates within two weeks after interviewing the aspirants."

According to the Biman sources, about 40 Bangladeshi and foreign nationals applied for the post and a short list has been prepared.

There is a possibility of appointing a former Biman official as MD who has served as an acting MD several times, said a senior Biman official.

But he declined to mention any name.

Kevin John Steele was the first foreign national appointed as the managing director of the national flag carrier. He was appointed the CEC and MD in March 2013 for a two-year term. But he resigned on May 23, 2014 on health grounds.

Later, Kyle Haywood of South African budget carrier Fastjet took over the charge in January last year. But he quit early this year citing health reasons.

Since then, MM Asaduzzaman, director of Engineering and Material Management of the airlines, is discharging the responsibilities of the state-run carrier.

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5. Entry fee per submission is Tk. 500 (minimum 6 entries for each participating house)

Last date of submission: 19 May, 2016

For submission of products and advertisement, please contact
 Syeed Ahmed Chowdhury (01711 623 905),
 Kamal Hossain (01716 232 534).