

### Don't take BNP's Aslam on fresh remand until further order: HC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court has directed the authorities concerned not to take BNP leader Aslam Chowdhury on a fresh remand until further order.

Aslam Chowdhury, who is also the Joint Secretary General of BNP, filed the petition on Sunday with the HC seeking a directive to cancel his seven-day remand which ended today.

The HC bench of Justice AKM Asaduzzaman and Justice Ataur Rahman Khan passed the order after holding a hearing on the petition on the day.

The HC also fixed today for further hearing on the petition. Shanjid Siddique, a lawyer for Aslam, told The Daily Star.

Aslam was placed on the seven-day remand on May 16 over alleged plot with Israel to topple the Bangladesh government.

The BNP leader who had drawn controversy after meeting an Israeli political leader in India early this month, was arrested by detectives in Dhaka on May 15

### Subornogram Foundation wins South Korean award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Subornogram Foundation, a Bangladeshi organisation, won the Civil Education Award 2016 of South Korea on Saturday for their contribution to educational and social sectors.

Shahed Kayes, founder and chief executive of the foundation, received the prize at a ceremony held in Gwangju of South Korea. Subornogram

Foundation, a cultural and human rights organisation, works to build a knowledge-based society in the country.



The aftermath of Cyclone Roanu in Chittagong city's Patenga area, where not only hundreds of makeshift shops have been destroyed, but major portions of the protection embankment, inset, were also damaged. The photos were taken yesterday.

PHOTOS: MINHAJ UDDIN

# Port city hit bad by cyclone Roanu

Coastal people living in fear

MINHAJ UDDIN, Chittagong

Along with damaging Naval Academy road and hundreds of makeshift shops in Patenga beach area, cyclone Roanu has inflicted massive damage on the Chittagong city protection embankment.

People living in the coastal areas of Patenga and South Halishahar are in fear whether it will be able to stand the high tide during the rainy season when the sea condition will be rough.

"Four to five major portions were damaged in Charpara to Khejurtola areas as powerful tides washed away the boulders," said ward-40 councilor Jainal Abedin, adding, "We have informed Chittagong Development Authority to repair them."

He said if the embankment could not stand the tidal surge, then around three lakh people would suffer.

Visiting the area, this correspondent

saw several hundred feet long stretches of the embankment washed away in Khejurtola area.

"If the trees had not been cut down, it would not have happened. They were cut a few months ago for implementing the Outer Ring Road project" said Mohammed Sazzad, a local resident.

"We do not even know when it will be completed," said Mohammed Delwar of Muslimabad area.

Some CDA officials were seen repairing the most damaged parts of the embankment by filling sand around 12:00 noon.

"The Naval Academy road is completely damaged," said Saleh Ahmed Chowdhury, councilor of ward-41.

"The around four-kilometer naval road facilitates movement from airport. It's a famous tourist destination for its location along the estuary of Karnaphuli River and the Bay of Bengal," he said, adding, "It's

owned by Chittagong Port Authority. Our mayor has already informed them and they said they would start repairing soon."

Around 500 families in Lal Diar Char C block in the area are living with flood water, he added.

Around 75 shops have been destroyed by the tides in the naval area, informed locals.

"We thought the cyclone would hit after 2:00pm. The river swelled around 10:30am and gigantic tides started hitting the wall. At one point it came apart and parts of it hit the shops destroying everything inside," said Md Jalal, owner of Hotel Obodan. One of the owners who lost everything.

In Patenga beach area around 300 shops were completely washed away, said Shamsul Alam, general secretary of Patenga Sea Beach Shop Owners Co-operative Association.

Chittagong city is protected by a 21.7km embankment from Patenga to

Bhatiari of Sitakunda upazila, built between 1965 and 1970.

The embankment was massively damaged during the cyclones and water surges of 1970, 1985, 1988 and 1991. Between 1992 and 1996, Water Development Board rehabilitated the 14 feet wide embankment, which is 8.5 to 8.7 metres high from the sea level.

CDA is currently constructing an outer ring road on the embankment to increase road connectivity. According to CDA, this road will also protect the city from the sea storms.

"The project will be finished by the end of December 2018," said Kazi Hasan Bin Shams, CDA superintendent engineer and the project director.

"Around 2-3km of the total embankment has been damaged. Among that, one kilometer embankment of the Khejurtola area suffered the worst of the damage. We will repair the damaged portions from our project fund," he added.

### Politicians from all sides to end up in jail

Senior Goyeshwar tells

journalist Sadeq Khan

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP Standing Committee Member Goyeshwar Chandra Roy yesterday said with the government taking the country towards a "wrong direction", politicians from all sides would end up in jails in the near future.

"What the prime minister is doing now and how Inu (the information minister) is instigating her, I think there will be a grand get together in jail. Perhaps we will go first and clean the prison to receive them (ruling party leaders) later," he said.

"But we all have to go," he told a discussion organised by "Democratic Movement" in the capital's Jatiya Press Club in memory of Ekushey Padak winner, eminent journalist and columnist Sadeq Khan who died of old age complications on May 16.

Goyeshwar urged BNP leaders and activists to unite vowing to restore democracy through any sacrifice necessary.

He criticised a section of the media, claiming they published "one-sided" news regarding the arrest of journalist Shafiq Rehman and BNP leader Aslam Chowdhury.

"The media now can not write about the government's misdeeds. Action is taken if any media writes anything against it. So, media now find only the faults of BNP as they do not have any courage to find that of the government," he said.

Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Dr Zafarullah Chowdhury, journalist Mahfuz Ullah, Sadeq Khan's younger sister and BNP Vice Chairman Selima Rahman and BNP chairperson's adviser Shamsuzzaman Duda also spoke.



People are taking a look at one of 51 rickshaw fare charts installed at different points in Sylhet city. The city corporation took the initiative in December 2014 to regulate charging fares. The photo was taken in Lamabazar area on Friday.

PHOTO: STAR

### SCC puts up rickshaw fare charts at 51 points

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

The Sylhet City Corporation authorities finally put up the rickshaw fare charts at the city's 51 points on Friday.

These charts are helping the passengers very much to avoid chaos, said Md Helal Uddin, licence officer of SCC.

To regulate charging fares, the SCC authorities took the project in December, 2014 and formed a committee in February 2015, said officials.

In September that year, the committee finally declared new rickshaw fares in the city.

Though the rickshaw owners and pullers were against the initiative, SCC decided to put up the charts at 51 important traffic points, said some passengers.

The corporation says that the fare charts will be helpful, but the city dwellers are not that much hopeful.

Rahul Talukdar of the city's Kajalshah said, "The city corporation took a good initiative, but the fact is that the rickshaw-pullers are reluctant to follow the fare charts, they demand as much fare as they want."

While this correspondent was going to Zindabazar from Shamimabad by a rickshaw yesterday, the rickshaw-puller told him, "Who will follow the chart? The fares have been reduced."

"I moved from Kajalshah to Zindabazar, the rickshaw fare is Tk 15 as per the rate, but the rickshaw-puller asked for Tk 25 and told me that they don't care about the corporation, the fare was fixed earlier," he said.

SCC Chief Executive Officer Enamul Habib said the chart was prepared by a committee measuring the regular fares and the living costs in the city to find the perfect rate of rickshaw fares.

"No rickshaw pullers' or owners' organisation officially opposed the initiative and this is very standard which should be followed by the city dwellers. Everyone needs to be follow it," he added.

He also said the rickshaw fares would be changed if necessary as the city living costs rose and the rickshaw-pullers demanded.



President of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) Sabar Chowdhury meets Crown Prince and Acting Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace in Kuwait City on Sunday to discuss peace, security and stability in the Gulf region and the role of national parliaments and the IPU.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

### Four pvt medical

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comply with the directives within the timeframe.

In the meeting, the health minister also asked the committee, headed by the director of medical education, to inspect activities and status of other private medical colleges and submit a report within 15 days.

The minister said the government will take necessary steps after getting the report to ensure discipline in medical education.

### Diplomatic zone under

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three hours' backup in case of power cuts and will give clear images even in foggy weather," claimed an official.

Some cameras set up at exit and entry points of the diplomatic zone will read vehicles' number plates and store the information.

"It will bring a drastic change and help police detect criminals," said AC Rafiqul. Three to four policemen will monitor the cameras round the clock.

Lawmaker AKM Rahmatullah, also chief coordinator of LOCC, told The Daily Star, "We have commitments of a total of Tk 25 crore, and it will enable us to set up 3,000 CCTV cameras."

The residents of DNCC will feel safer under the surveillance system, said Ataul Kibria, deputy commissioner of Diplomatic Security Division of DMP.

### Nurjahan Begum gone but not forgotten

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Writer and educationist, Prof Kazi Madina who wrote Nurjahan Begum's biography "Tomari Kotha Bolbo" with writer Rayhana Hossain in 2002, published from Janantik Prokashani, termed the stalwart as "a creator of writers".

"She would publish writings of novice and uneducated rural women, after editing those, to encourage women to write," she added.

"Even on May 2, three days before she fell sick, she called me and asked for a piece of writing for the Eid issue of Begum. She wanted to get everything ready before Shabe-Barat," Prof Madina reminisced.

"When I met other writers yesterday, they too said that Nurjahan Apa had called them for submitting their writings," she said.

Journalist Dil Monowara Monu who worked at Begum under Nurjahan Begum's guidance for 25 years from 1974, described

the editor as a legend.

"Besides publishing the magazine, her main intent was reaching the rural women, creating awareness among them, bringing them to the path of development and progressive thoughts," Monu told The Daily Star.

"Her work for women's emancipation is exemplary," she said, adding that Nurjahan Begum had evolved into an institution through her almost seven decades of work.

Liberation War Museum Trustee Mofidul Hoque termed the editor as a pioneer of social awakening as her magazine Begum also created awareness among the male members of the society.

Begum magazine was not only widely read, it also showed women a path towards development, said Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury.

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