

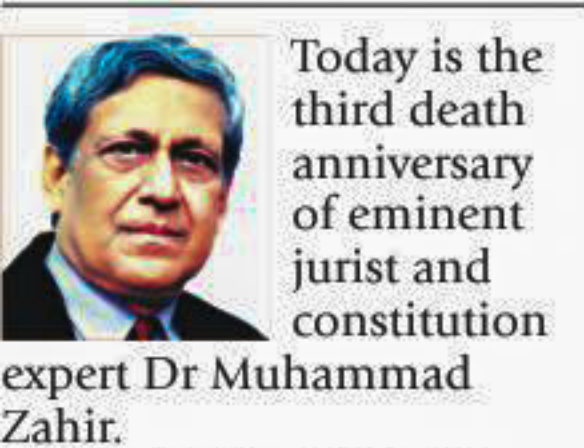
**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 33.0   L 27.3	H 32.1   L 26.4	H 34.4   L 26.3	H 34.0   L 26.8	H 33.0   L 26.5	H 31.7   L 26.8	H 33.7   L 27.0	H 29.0   L 25.0

Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:49pm and rises tomorrow at 5:19am. Country's highest temperature 34.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sylhet and the lowest 24.5 degree Celsius in Teknaf.

### Dr Zahir's anniversary of death today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the third death anniversary of eminent jurist and constitution expert Dr Muhammad Zahir.

He died in 2013. His family has arranged recitation from Quran and a doa mahfil at his Dhanmondi residence, says a press release.

Dr Zahir taught Company Law at Dhaka University and was a senior advocate of the Bangladesh Supreme Court.

He was the convener and member of several Company Law Reform committees in Bangladesh and elected a member of the Court of Arbitration at the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris, France.

Dr Zahir authored the renowned analytical legal publication, "Company and Securities Laws", which is being widely used as a book of reference in South Asia, Australia, Canada and the UK.

His colleagues and friends are requested to pray for his departed soul.



These empty chairs in Central Railway Building of the Bangladesh Railway's Eastern Zone headquarters in Chittagong city give a hint on the rate of attendance in government offices on the first workday yesterday following a nine-day holiday for public servants marking Eid-ul-Fitr. The photo was taken around noon.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

### AGARTALA-AKHAURA RAIL LINK Land acquisition to start soon in India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Acquisition of land for establishing a rail link between Agartala, capital city of northeast Indian state of Tripura, and Akhaura in Bangladesh will start soon as funds have been released by the ministry concerned, officials in India said yesterday.

Bangladesh and India had agreed to lay the tracks between Akhaura and Agartala during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to New Delhi in January 2010.

"Rs 97 crore were earmarked for land for Agartala-Akhaura rail project in the Indian side. The amount has been handed over by the federal Indian government to the Tripura state administration and we will start land acquisition in 5km area up to the border on Indian side.

"As we have to give notices to the land owners, it will take about three months to complete the process," West Tripura District Magistrate Milind Ramteke told reporters.

The process of laying the 15.054km railway tracks will be completed by 2017. A stretch of 5km would be on the Indian side and the rest in Bangladesh, he said, adding that the Department of Northeastern Region under the federal government has already sanctioned Rs 580 crore for the project.

The Agartala-Akhaura railway route would connect Indian Railways with Bangladesh Railways to improve connectivity and boost trade between the two countries, he said.

### Swechhasebak League activist killed in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

An activist of Awami Swechhasebak League of Sylhet city unit was killed by unidentified miscreants in Pathantula area of the city yesterday afternoon.

The deceased Abdullah Antar, 35, of Rajshahi was a resident of 109, Mohona Residential Area in Pathantula.

Witnesses said Antar logged into an altercation with his landlord around 1:00pm and after some time some youths stabbed him in front of the house.

Locals rushed him to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

Rahmat Ullah, additional deputy police commissioner of Sylhet Metropolitan Police, said ownership of the house might be the reason behind the killing.

Locals said Antar was a Hindu and converted to Islam a year ago.

### Investing in girls can bring multiple dividends

Says UNFPA representative on World Population Day today

PORIMOL PALMA

Investment in health and education of teenage girls can multiply the development benefits, and protect women from pervasive violence, UNFPA Representative in Bangladesh Argentina Matavel Piccin has said.

"If you let her study, she can contribute much better to the economy...she can choose when to have children, how many and if to have them at all. She can be part of that human capital that the country so much needs," she said.

Piccin recently spoke to The Daily Star and a few other journalists at the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) office in the capital on the eve of World Population Day today. This year's theme is "investing in teenage girls".

Teenage girls are particularly important because usually they are the "forgotten part of the population", she said as the day is observed in the first year of the Sustainable



Development Goals (SDG) era (2016-2030) that says none should be left behind.

"In the era of SDGs, unless we remember to bring along to invest equally in teenage girls, through which we actually invest in other parts of the population, we may not get what we want to get."

Teenage girls go through puberty in the same way boys do. However, the difference is that if the girls are not informed and educated and make a bad decision or someone makes a bad decision for them, they end up being pregnant while they are still in their teens, she said.

"By being pregnant before they are ready, before their mind and body is ready, before they attain their full education, we are curtailing their potential," Piccin said.

When they get pregnant, the child already has disadvantages because it is not mature enough. Neither can the teenage mother bloom full into her potential nor can the child.

### Two get death for killing boy in Rangpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A Rangpur court yesterday sentenced two people to death for killing a 12-year-old boy in Pargachha upazila of the district in 2011.

The convicts are Lazu Mia, 30, and Rayhan Mia, 32, of Nazarmamudpur village under Piganj upazila in the district.

The court also ordered to try another accused in the case, Sobuj Mia, of the village, under the Children Act (children court) as he is under 18 years of age.

According to the prosecution, police recovered the body of Swapan Mia, 12, son of Babu Mia on March 21 in 2011 from a banana orchard of Amir Uddin in the village.

Following the incident, father of the deceased filed a murder case. Later, police arrested Sabuj, Rayhan and Lazu in connection with the killing.



A sewer opening sans the lid right in front of the Rajarbagh Police Lines in the capital, posing the risk of an accident anytime. The photo was taken yesterday noon.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

### SHUJAN

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and based on long-term preparation. Its root is too deep. The struggle for its recovery must be an all-out and long-term effort," the statement read.

There is no other option except national unity and identifying this crisis as a national disaster, the statement said, adding that the possible attackers must be identified and barred and measures have to be taken to appease the social, economic and political reasons behind the militancy.

The strong unity among all non-communal and democratic forces beyond partisan is a must to fight militancy, the statement said.

SHUJAN will hold a human chain Saturday from 10:30am to 11:30am across the country including the capital's Shahbag.

The statement was signed by the organisation's president M Hafizuddin Khan and secretary Badiul Alam Majumder.

The Daily Star

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