

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 33.4 L 27.2	H 32.2 L 26.4	H 33.8 L 26.7	H 34.4 L 27.5	H 34.0 L 28.0	H 33.2 L 26.4	H 34.2 L 27.8	H 31.2 L 26.0

Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:32pm and rises tomorrow at 5:34am. Country's highest temperature 35.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Tetulia and Ishwardi and the lowest 24.0 in Rangamati.

## SQ Chy son's arrest ordered

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered the arrest of Hummam Quader Chowdhury, son of executed war criminal Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, in a case filed over leaking a draft verdict of International Crimes Tribunal-1.

Judge KM Shamsul Alam of Cyber Tribunal denied him bail and issued the arrest warrant as Hummam's lawyer did not take any step for his non-appearance before the tribunal.

On August 4, the tribunal had fixed yesterday for pronouncing the verdict, but it re-fixed the date as the judge could not prepare the judgment. The case was filed against Salauddin Quader's wife Farhat Quader Chowdhury, son Hummam, manager Mahbubul Ahsan, counsel Fakhru'l Islam, Fakhru'l assistant Mehedi Hasan, the tribunal's then office assistant Faruk Hossain and peon Nayan Ali. Salauddin was executed on November 22

## Amnesty, HRW condemn 'detention' of SQ Chy, Mir Quasem's sons

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladeshi authorities should immediately end the illegal 'detentions' of Hummam Quader Chowdhury and Ahmed Bin Quasem arrested respectively on August 4 and 9, said Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.

Both were arrested without warrants or charges, have not been produced before a magistrate, and have not been allowed access to family or lawyers.

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# WHEN PEDESTRIANS DON'T MATTER



PHOTOS: AMRAN HOSSAIN, ANURUP KANTI DAS



Even though footpaths are made for ensuring pedestrians' safe passage, they are not only being used for various purposes except for the initial function they were built to serve, but also not being properly maintained. From left, a broken footpath opposite the capital's Greenway Hospital surrounded by parked rickshaws and garbage. A portion of the footpath in the capital's Green Road being blocked completely by a makeshift stage and large containers for distributing free food to the poor marking August 15. A mother and child walk amid construction materials spread over almost the entire walkway, while workers continue to work with the rods, being used in the construction work of the adjacent building in Chittagong's press club area. The photos were taken yesterday.

## DISPUTES OVER TARAPUR TEA ESTATE IN SYLHET

# Aggrieved locals declare Ragib Ali unwanted

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Businessman Ragib Ali was declared persona non grata yesterday by people living in and adjacent to a land of Tarapur Tea Estate, which is an endowment property, in Sylhet from a demonstration against a July 31 order of the district administration to cut utility service connections to the area.

They urged the authorities not to sever their utility connections, which were supposed to be cut off by August 13 as per the notice.

Denying a January 19 order of the Supreme Court that asked them to remove their houses and other struc-

tures from there, they demanded compensation from Ragib as he allegedly cheated them by selling lands of the endowment property to them.

Ragib reportedly grabbed the tea estate through forging the land ministry's official documents.

Earlier on August 7, the residents formed a human chain under the banner of "Amra Sylhetbashi" at Pathantula in the city to press home their demands.

Sithil Dey, a protester, said, "We declared Ragib persona non grata in the area. He cheated us... We demand compensation from him, as the administration ordered us to leave our

purchased properties."

Local city councillor Iliasur Rahman Ilias and former city councillor Jagadish Chandra Dash were also present in yesterday's demonstration, supporting their causes.

Asked, Ratan Kumar Biswash, chief engineer of Sylhet regional distribution centre of Bangladesh Power Development Board, said, "We have got the notice to sever the electricity connections and are waiting now for next directions from the district administration to execute the order."

Asked about gas lines, Fazlul Haque, manager of the regional

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## Health ministry to tighten hospital security

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has decided to increase security measures at all the government and non-government hospitals.

It directed the hospital authorities to set up archway, metal detector, CCTV cameras, and employ more security guards, said a press release yesterday.

The decision was taken at a meeting in the ministry with State Minister Zahid Malek in the chair.

Police and ansar personnel will also be increased at the government hospitals,

## DHAKA-CTG HIGHWAY

# Overloaded vehicles going unchecked

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Speakers at a meeting yesterday on stopping plying of overloaded vehicles on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway emphasised the need for cooperation from all stakeholders, including the Chittagong port, importers, commerce chambers and steel rerolling mills.

Overloading should be stopped at the source as doing so on the road would be tough, said Chittagong Inter-district Truck Sramik Union President Md Abdul Mannan.

Pointing out that overloading damages both vehicles and the road, Chattagram Prime Mover Owners' Association Joint Secretary Mohammad Abu Bakkar Siddique claimed without elaborating that they were forced to continue the malpractice.

He and others alleged "irregularities" and money being realised in an "unethical way" at the weighbridge at Barodaragarhat area in Chittagong's Sitakunda upazila.

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Locals of Tarapur Tea Estate area demonstrate, taking to the streets in Sylhet city, yesterday, demanding punishment for businessman Ragib Ali and urging the district administration not to sever utility service connections in the area.

PHOTO: SHEIKH NASIR

## Mourning Day to see myriad programmes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government, ruling Awami League and associated bodies, socio-cultural organisations and professional outfits will hold various programmes to observe National Mourning Day today, on the 41st death anniversary of the Father of the Nation.

The day's programmes will begin with hoisting of the national flag at half-mast and raising of black flags atop buildings.

People, wearing black badges, are expected to throng the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum to pay homage by placing wreaths. Thousands will also gather at Bangabandhu's grave in Tungipara of Gopalganj.

The president and prime minister will be the first ones to pay tribute by laying wreaths. Special contingents of Bangladesh Armed Forces will present a guard of

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## BANGABANDHU KILLING

# Now is the time to probe Zia's role

Says Liberation War affairs minister

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Time has come to form a commission to find out the role of late president Ziaur Rahman, Khandaker Mushtaq, major Rashid and Faruk and others' involvement in the killing of Bangabandhu and during the Liberation War, said Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Haque yesterday.

The incident of killing of Bangabandhu and his family is a result of national and international conspiracy, said the minister at a discussion on the 41st anniversary of martyrdom of Bangabandhu at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

He also said it is the demand of the nation to bring Ziaur Rahman to book posthumously.

Food Minister Quamrul Islam said those who were defeated during the Liberation War, killed Bangabandhu. Ziaur Rahman is the mastermind and played a role as an agent of a foreign intelligence, he said.

The killers of 1971 and 1975 and the recent militants belong to the same community, said Quamrul.

Maj Gen (ret) KM Shafiqullah, also chairman of Sector Commanders Forum, who was the army chief at that time, said he failed to protect Bangabandhu as he was helpless.

Vice President of the forum Nurul Alam, who was SDPO of Gopalganj, said they had to bury Bangabandhu in a simple way due to the pressure of the killers.

After being assassinated by some rogue army elements in

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## DMP provides 22 scooters to female traffic sergeants

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) yesterday provided 22 scooters to female sergeants of traffic department, who earlier received a two-week training in how to ride the scooters.

DMP Commissioner Asaduzzaman Mia handed over the scooters' keys to them at an event held at the capital's DMP headquarters.

This effort will bring a qualitative change to controlling traffic situation in the capital, he said.

Many women have already joined the police and many more will follow suit, added Mia.

He also directed his female colleagues to take the profession as a challenge to serve the nation well and urged commuters to abide by traffic rules to avert chaotic gridlocks.

The Daily Star

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