

**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 32.2   L 25.1	H 33.0   L 26.7	H 31.8   L 27.3	H 35.3   L 28.2	H 32.5   L 27.2	H 31.8   L 27.2	H 35.2   L 28.5	H 32.5   L 26.4

Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may fall slightly over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:19pm and rises tomorrow at 5:39am. Country's highest temperature...

**Khulna Medical College bans student politics**  
A CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Authorities of Khulna Medical College (KMC) yesterday have imposed a ban on students' politics on its campus following a factional clash of Bangladesh Chhatra League that left at least 35 people injured on Saturday. They have also suspended four students in this regard. The authorities took the decision at an academic council meeting, said Dr Abdullah Al Mamun, principal of KMC. A probe committee has also been formed, who will submit a report within a week or two, he added. Dr Mamun said the four suspended students were former president of KMC unit of BCL Saifullah Mansur and activists Shafiqul Islam, Aninda Sundar and Russell. Saifullah and the unit's general secretary Saidur Rahman Titu had a long-standing dispute and a clash...



Traffic congestion reached a new height around the city yesterday with students of Willes Little Flower School and College blocking the road in front of their school in Kakrail after one of their fellows Suraya Akhter Risha, an eighth grader, died from injuries she suffered after being stabbed allegedly by a stalker Wednesday. Vehicular movements also came to a halt on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue for facilitating the passage of the VIPs, blockades put up by Jagannath University students and procession of Sramik-Karmachari-Peshajibi-Muktijoddha Somonnoy Parishad.



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ, AMRAN HOSSAIN

**ISQ CHY VERDICT LEAK**  
Judgement delivery deferred to Sept 15

A Dhaka court yesterday again deferred to September 15 delivering judgement in a case against executed war criminal Salauddin Quader Chowdhury's wife and son and five others for allegedly leaking the International Crimes Tribunal-1's draft verdict sentencing the BNP leader to death. Judge KM Shamsul Alam of Cyber Tribunal went for the rescheduling as he was yet to complete preparing the judgment. The first deferment came for the same reason on August 14, the date the tribunal fixed on August 4 to announce the verdict. Salauddin's wife Farhat Quader Chowdhury is on bail while his son Hummam...

**WAR CRIMES CASE**  
**First witness links six men of Gaibandha to killing of 14**

The first prosecution witness in a war crimes case against six Gaibandha men, including a former Jamaat-e-Islami lawmaker, yesterday linked them to the abduction and killing of his father and 13 others during the Liberation War in 1971. Liakat Ali Sarker, son of martyred Munsur Ali Sarker of Panchagachi Shantiram village under Sundarganj upazila, told International Crimes Tribunal-1 that he had seen the killing hiding inside a bush on October 13. Facing three charges, the accused are Abu Saleh Md Abdul Aziz Mia, a former Jamaat lawmaker, Ruhul Amin alias Manju, Abdul Latif, Abu Muslim Md Ali, Najmul Huda, and Abdur Rahim Mia. Latif is now in jail while the rest are on the run. Liakat said Saleh was the Sundarganj Razakar Bahini commander and the remaining five were among over 100 of his associate Razakars. The 60-year-old said he and his father used to provide freedom fighters information about Razakars and the Pakistani occupation army.

On October 9, the six and several other Razakars detained Chhatra League activist Boyez Uddin, son of the village's Alam Uddin Sarker, and took him to a Razakar camp at Dharmapur Hat, he said. People near Majumder Hat attempted to snatch him while he was being taken to a Sundarganj army camp the next day and Saleh, Ruhul and Latif dispersed them firing shots, he added. Liakat said he and some others followed them and saw Boyez being taken inside the camp. Arriving at his house around 4:00pm that day, Saleh, Ruhul, Latif, Ali and Najmul told his father, a member of Shantiram Union Parishad, to attend a meeting in the army camp the next day, threatening to otherwise kill all family members and burn down their houses, he said. His father complied, as did 15 other members and chairmen of Shreepur, Shantiram, Chaparhati, Ramjiban and Sarbanandha unions, he said, adding, "In the evening, I learnt that they had been detained." On October 12, Liakat said to have gone to the army camp and seen family members of other detainees...



Md Abdul Aziz Mia

**JHALAKATHI JUDGES KILLING**  
SC upholds death for JMB man

The Supreme Court yesterday cleared the way for executing Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) leader Asadul Islam alias Arif for killing two judges of Jhalakathi in 2005. A five-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha dismissed a petition filed by Asadul seeking review of its earlier judgement that upheld his death penalty. The jail authorities can execute Asadul after finishing relevant procedures, Attorney General Mahbub Alam told reporters at his office. Senior assistant judges Jagannath Pandey and Sohel Ahmed were killed in a suicide bomb attack at Purba Chadkati in Jhalakathi town on November 14, 2005 in the wake of a series of violent militant attacks across the country. The Appellate Division had upheld death penalty of seven JMB leaders including JMB chief Abdur Rahman, his second-in-command Siddiqui Islam alias Bangla Bhai, Asadul and four other militants in the case. All except Asadul were executed on March 29, 2007. Asadul, arrested on July 10, 2007, filed the review petition this year.

**NEWS IN brief**

**BNP plans anti-Rampal street protest**

BNP leader ASM Hannan Shah yesterday said the party with the masses will take to the streets demanding a stop to the coal-based Rampal power plant that will ruin the Sundarbans. Hannan was addressing a discussion Jatiyatabadi Projonmo 71 held at Dhaka Reporters Unity, marking the pro-BNP platform's founding anniversary. On the move to revoke the Swadhinata Padak given to party's founder Ziaur Rahman, Hannan said the ruling Awami League did not like him as he "had established democracy" in the country.

**RU student fatally hit by train while talking over phone**

A female student of Rajshahi University died after a train hit her from behind at the university railway station near fine arts faculty yesterday afternoon. Santana Bosak, daughter of Narendranath Bosak of Sirajganj district, was a third year student of social work department. Witnesses said Santana was on the phone while walking on the rail tracks when the incident occurred. She died at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

**UK dev minister meets FM**

Visiting UK Minister of State for International Development Rory Stewart praised the significant progress Bangladesh has made in socio-economic sector particularly, in alleviating poverty, attaining food security, education, health and sanitation. Rory Stewart, who arrived on Saturday for a three-day official visit, said this when he met Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali at the State Guest House Padma yesterday, said a foreign ministry press release. The two ministers discussed bilateral cooperation and potential for strengthening the partnership.

**Two Indian ships arrive today**

As part of the ongoing bilateral maritime exchanges between Bangladesh and India, two ships from Indian Coast Guard will arrive in Chittagong today for a four-day visit. The ships, Vishwast and Anmol, are on a goodwill tour to Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand, said an Indian High Commission press release yesterday.

**Alauddin reappointed DUET VC**

Dr Mohammed Alauddin, a mechanical engineering professor, was reappointed vice chancellor of Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology, Gazipur for the tenure of four years, said Public Relations Officer Kamrunnahar of the university yesterday.



One of the Jagannath University students injured after their demonstration demanding halls of residence on the land formerly housing Dhaka Central Jail came under attack allegedly by Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists near Bahadur Shah Park, formerly known as Victoria Park, in the capital yesterday.

**Seed, loan crises dog jute industry**  
CARE Bangladesh workshop told

A shortage of seeds, difficulties in availing loans and unavailability of quality raw materials are the main barriers to the jute industry's development, a group of farmers, traders and experts told a workshop yesterday. They recommended training farmers on collecting seeds from harvests, ensuring availability of flexible loans, maintaining quality during the manufacture of products to attract foreign buyers and forming a regularity authority to monitor market prices. Around 60 farmers, manufacturers of jute products and traders of Jessore, Satkhira, Rangpur and Kurigram participated at the workshop arranged by CARE Bangladesh in the capital's The Daily Star Centre to share experiences and outcomes of a project, "SWITCH Asia Jute Value Chain Project". Terming the seed shortage "a big crisis", farmer Abdul Karim from Jessore believes the difficulty in getting loans resulted from a lack of trust. The project's learning and advocacy specialist, Arshad Siddiqui, said approximately 66 percent of the demand for seeds were met with imports. The project's team leader Sekhar Bhattacharjee recommended manufacturers to be more professional and stay updated with market trends. CARE Bangladesh introduced the European Union funded project in 2013 at the four districts to modernise jute cultivation, processing and marketing.

**Indo-Bangla Friendship Building deal signed**

India and Bangladesh yesterday signed an agreement, under which India will give Tk 10.86 crore for constructing India-Bangladesh Friendship Building at the National Police Academy at Sardah in Rajshahi. Officials of the two governments signed the deal at Police Academy. The project includes laboratories, mock crime scenes and a mock crime station, IT Centre, data centre, and academy management information system, said an Indian High Commission press release.

**Keep religion off state affairs**

FROM PAGE 3 were instances where religion was used in politics to perpetrate genocide. Often, religion-based politics becomes a threat to security and propagates a culture of hatred, he added. He said religion itself is not the problem and that the problem arises when politicians use it as their element for power. Extreme ideologies like Salafism, preached in countries like Saudi Arabia, are radicalising people in Bangladesh, he said. "We should have our identity out of our civilisation, our tradition, not from somewhere else," he said. Prof Ratan Khasnabish of the University of Calcutta said Pakistan was a glaring example of how militancy spreads rapidly because of the use of religion and if Hindus or other minorities leave, Pakistan would lose its multicultural character. "Religion must not be allowed in state affairs. You can exercise religion in personal life, there is no problem," he said. Prof Hitendra Patel said it was important to look at the source of terrorism. There is a common tendency of pointing fingers at neo-liberalism and the USA, which is not right, he said, adding that the community, including the intellectuals, also have a role to play. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam said some local and international quarters were out to destabilise Bangladesh and foil its advancement through acts like the recent attacks. Bangladesh has zero tolerance for terrorism and is acting accordingly, he said. In the inaugural session, Indian High Commissioner Harsh Vardhan Shringla said secularism and democracy have been the guiding philosophies to ensure just, equal and equitable societies in the subcontinent. He suggested collaboration among neighbours to promote these ideas for peace and coexistence of people of all cultures and religions. Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury said democracy has to be given an institutional shape to ensure equal rights and dignity for all. Vice-Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique and Prof Mesbah Kamal of DU, Prof Rizwan Kaiser of Jamia Millia Islamia, Syed Irfan Habib of National University of Educational Planning and Administration and Prof Syed Tanveer Nasreen of Burdwan University also spoke.



**Fazilatun Nesa passes away**

Fazilatun Nesa, wife of late MM Farazi and daughter of late Shamsul Huda, died of kidney ailments at the capital's Apollo Hospitals yesterday, aged 65. Fazila, mother of Muneera Parveen, who works for The Daily Star, left behind two other daughters and a son. She will be buried after Zohr prayers in her ancestral home at Chandanbari in Narsingdi's Monohordi tomorrow.

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