

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 29.8 L 18.9	H 30.6 L 21.0	H 31.2 L 20.1	H 30.2 L 15.8	H 30.0 L 19.4	H 29.7 L 17.8	H 30.2 L 15.5	H 31.0 L 21.2

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today. Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. Met Office said, reports UNB. The sunsets in the capital today at 05:12pm and rises tomorrow at 06:15am.

ATTACK ON KHADIZA Sylhet court accepts charge against Badrul

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet



A Sylhet court yesterday accepted the charge sheet police pressed accusing Badrul Alam of attacking Khadiza Begum Nargis. Additional Judicial Magistrate Umme Sharaban Tahura accepted it and fixed November 29 for the next hearing, said public prosecutor Mofur Ali. Police submitted the charge sheet November 8. Khadiza, a second year degree (pass course) student of Sylhet Government Women's College, was hacked by Badrul Alam who was a Bangladesh Chhatra League leader of Sust unit, at Sylhet MC College on November 3 where she went to attend an exam. Khadiza is now undergoing treatment at the capital's Square Hospital.



Shahbagh, one of the busiest roundabouts in the capital, turns a vehicle-free one yesterday, with police diverting vehicles to adjoining roads as Dhaka University students blocked the intersection for nearly three hours from 11:00am, protesting the recent attacks on minorities in Brahmanbaria and Gaibandha and also demanding resignation of Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sayedul Hoque.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

BNP opposes president-formed EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday opposed the idea of President Abdul Hamid forming a search committee to constitute the Election Commission (EC) and demanded instead a "neutral" body formed through engaging all political parties. The president's committee will "be a reflection of the prime minister's order", BNP Senior Joint Secretary General Rizvi Ahmed told a press briefing at BNP's Naya Paltan central office. "Kazi Rakibuddin-led Election Commission has set an example...what could be the fate of such a search committee," he added. "The present prime minister enjoys wholesale powers like emperors...people know very well how much power the president enjoys (over the formation)," he read out from a written statement. Rizvi also said the ruling AL wants the committee to be biased towards them and hold a national election resembling the one of Rakibuddin-led EC organised in 2014.

Female war victims still face social stigma

They tell seminar in capital, seek due respect

MAHDI AL MUHTASIM

"It's been 45 years but I could never forget the brutality I had to endure. Even my 35-year-old son feels ashamed to call me mother. It would have been better if I had died in the war, rather than seeing the hatred in his eyes. Now my son lives with his in-laws at their house. Many a night I go to bed hungry, but he does not even bother to ask whether I have eaten. I have even poured kerosene on myself to commit suicide but could not do it after thinking about my grandchildren."

Birangana Honufa Begum burst into tears while sharing her life story at a seminar held in RC Mojumder auditorium of Dhaka University (DU) yesterday. Like Honufa, nine other Biranganas ("brave women") were present at the seminar on the socio-economic conditions of the women raped by the Pakistani military and their local collaborators in the Liberation War of 1971. Social organisations Samajik Sahayata Udyog and Aparajeya Bangla organised the programme. Honufa Begum lived at a rented house in

Minister's supporters say it's propaganda

BNP rejects police probe report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Supporters of Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sayedul Hoque yesterday held a rally on the Shaheed Minar premises in Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar protesting "propaganda" against him. Ruling Awami League (AL) leaders close to Sayedul lambasted Shahbagh protesters demanding his resignation for failing to protect Hindus of his constituency. Meanwhile, BNP rejected Monday's police probe report, claiming it only protected "a local ruling party MP and a minister". Pointing to the Nasirnagar attack and another on Santals at Gaibandha, the party said AL men were directly involved, for which the government was uninterested in

BRAHMANBARIA ATTACK Shahbagh blocked again in protest

DU CORRESPONDENT

Over 100 students, mostly of Dhaka University (DU), yesterday again blocked the capital's Shahbagh intersection protesting the recent attacks on Hindus and reiterating their demand for Fisheries and Livestock Minister Muhammed Sayedul Hoque's resignation for his "provocative comments". During the around two-hour protest since 11:00am which halted traffic on adjacent roads, they also announced to provide assistance by marching to Brahmanbaria's Nasirnagar from

Teacher-Student Centre on Friday starting 8:00am. Yesterday's protest was a result of an ultimatum issued on Friday's demonstration lasting nine hours. They demanded distribution of proper compensation, identifying and bringing to justice those involved; locating six families which went missing and an independent commission to oversee issues of religious and ethnic minorities. They also urged to list the number of Hindus leaving the country

Sultana Kamal asks to exit political narrowness

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rights activists Sultana Kamal yesterday said incidents of violence cannot be contained until the two major political parties rise above their "narrow political identities". "Today we get involved in conflict in the name of BNP or Awami League because we confine ourselves in our small party's identity," she



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Iron rods protruding like this from the truck's body frame can cause fatal accidents anytime. The photo was taken in the capital's Gabtoli area yesterday.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

PVT MEDICAL COLLEGES HC questions legality of 50pc quota for foreigners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday questioned the legality of the provision for keeping 50 percent quota for foreigners to enrol in private medical colleges. In a response to a petition filed by Supreme Court lawyer Eunus Ali Akond challenging the provision, the HC issued a rule asking the authorities concerned of the government and four private colleges to explain in four weeks why the provision should not be illegal. The court also asked them to show cause why they should not be directed to keep 30 percent quota for female students at both public and private medical colleges.

ATTACK ON SANTALS IN GAIBANDHA District admin yet to form probe body

STAR REPORT

Even though 10 days have passed after the attack, looting and torching of Santals' homes, the Gaibandha district administration is yet to form a probe committee to investigate the matter. "As per government rules, an executive committee would probe the incidents. The committee might be formed next week," said Gaibandha Deputy Commissioner Abdus Samad. Meanwhile, two injured Santals were sent to the district jail yesterday after being released from Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH). The two were accused in a case filed in connection with attacking police. In another development, a Supreme Court lawyer yesterday served a legal notice on the authorities concerned, asking them to explain in 24 hours under what authority they evicted the Santals from Gaibandha's Gobindganj upazila on November 6. The ethnic minority people in several villages there have been suffering from shortage of food as they refused government relief.

Evicted from their homes, Santal families were frustrated with shortage of food and work. "There is no justice yet for police firing on innocent indigenous people, looting and arson attack. Even an investigation committee is yet to be formed to identify those responsible for the crimes," said Santal leader Rafayel Hembrom. Many Santals remained tight-lipped about their sufferings. "How many times should we repeat this? We repeatedly spoke about our sufferings, but to no effect," said Mary Soren of Madarpur village. On Monday, the victims turned down the relief offered by the upazila administration, demanding the government arrange their settlement on their land near the Rangpur Sugar Mills, remove the barbed-wire fence on the land, stop cultivation of sugarcane in Shahebganj farm and ensure justice for the killing of indigenous men. Paulus Master and Elikha Mardi of Madarpur village said "the mill authorities"

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PERFORMING AT THE EVENT

SHAYAN CHOWDHURY ARNOB

TAHSAN RAHMAN KHAN

CHIRKUTT

JOLER GAAN

The Daily Star

Standard Chartered

CELEBRATING LIFE GALA NIGHT 2016

Theme: **YOUTH IN CHANGE**

22ND NOVEMBER, 2016; ENTRY: 5:00 PM

VENUE: INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CITY BASHUNDHARA - ICCB, NOBORATTRI (HALL:4)

ENTRY IS ABSOLUTELY FREE, BUT TO ATTEND, PLEASE LOG ON TO THE SITE WWW.CELEBRATINGLIFEFD.COM, REGISTER YOURSELF ONLINE AND PRINT OUT YOUR FORM. YOU CAN ALSO COLLECT THE INVITATION CARDS FROM THE RECEPTION DESK OF THE DAILY STAR CENTRE BETWEEN 11AM AND 7PM AT 64-65 KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM AVENUE, DHAKA-1215. REGISTRATION CLOSES ON 21ST NOVEMBER, 2016

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