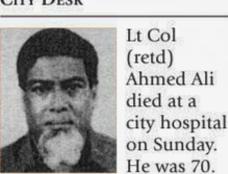


**WEATHER FORECAST**

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
	H 29.5 L 16.0	H 28.5 L 14.5	H 30.6 L 18.2	H 29.1 L 15.1	H 29.4 L 12.8	H 27.0 L 13.0	H 30.0 L 15.5	H 30.0 L 15.3	H 30.7 L 19.2

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged, says Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:07pm and rises tomorrow at 6:07am. Country's highest temperature 31.1 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sitakunda and lowest 11.4 in Dinajpur and Sreemangal.

**Obituary**  
CITY DESK



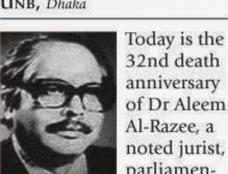
**Lt Col (ret'd) Ahmed Ali** died at a city hospital on Sunday. He was 70. He was buried in army graveyard on the day following his namaz-e-janaza after the Zohr prayers at Baridhara DOHS Central Mosque, said a press release yesterday. Members, officers and employees of the Retired Armed Forces Officers' Welfare Association (RAOWA) mourned his death.

**Krishna Dasgupta**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT



**Krishna Dasgupta**, mother of Advocate Rana Dasgupta, general secretary of Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist-Christian Unity Council; died due to old-age complications at a hospital in Chittagong on Monday night. She was 87. She left behind three sons and two daughters, said a press release. Her cremation was held at Balur Dighir Par crematorium in Chittagong yesterday. Leaders of the council, Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad and Mohanagar Sarbojanin Puja Committee mourned her death.

**Death anniversary**  
UNB, Dhaka



Today is the 32nd death anniversary of **Dr Aleem Al-Razee**, a noted jurist, parliamentarian, educationist and philanthropist. Dr Razee was in the forefront of all political struggles and social and cultural movement unleashed in the country to win democracy, human rights and people's freedom of expression, said a press release. He envisioned an egalitarian society based on rule of law, social and economic justice and fair play, it added.

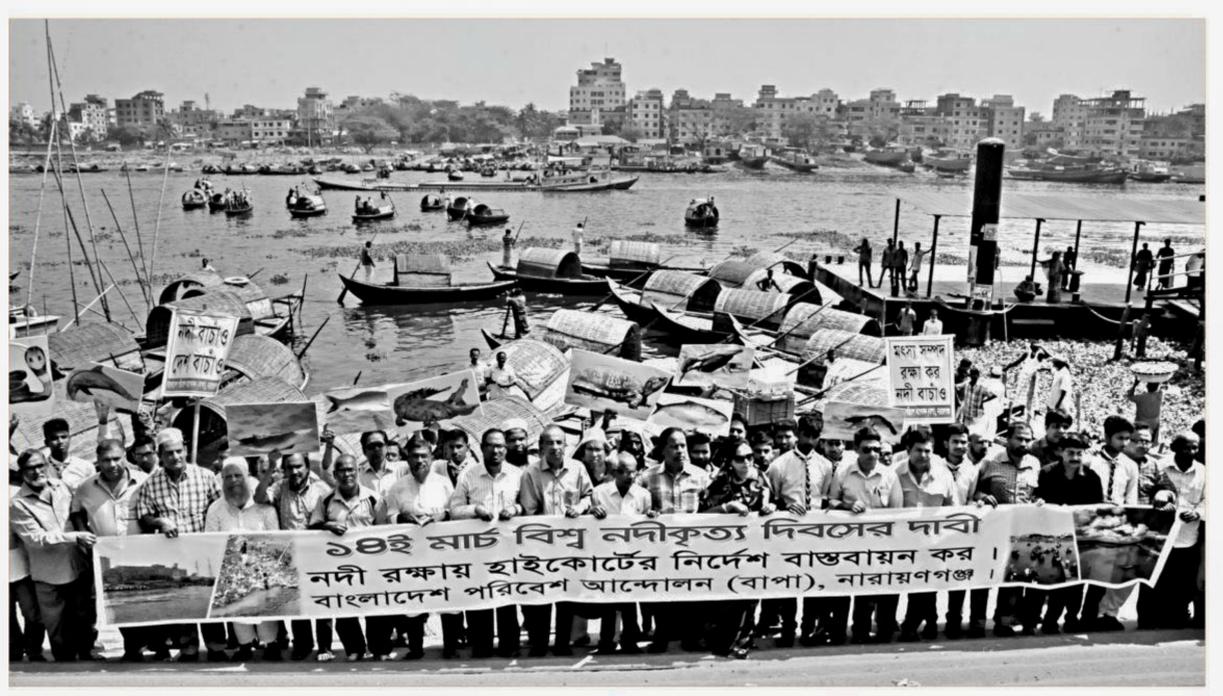
Different voluntary, socio-cultural organisations and educational institutions have chalked out separate programmes to mark the occasion. Dr Aleem Al Razee Memorial Council members will lay floral wreaths and offer fateha at Razee's graveyard in Banani in the morning and hold a milad mahfil in his village.

**SC orders 8**

FROM PAGE 4  
Appellate Division yesterday asked the lower courts to consider petitions of Tasmima, Sehzan and Shamim for exemption of the corruption charges, if they file after surrendering to those courts.

It also asked the trial courts concerned to finish trial proceedings against Shahida, Sabina, Nasima and Shamim Ara in six months, as trial proceedings against their co-accused are still pending. The Appellate Division will settle ACC's appeals against HC verdicts that acquitted M Morshed Khan and scraped the trial proceedings against his wife Nasrin Khan simultaneously.

Main accused of the cases- Anwar Hossain Manju, M Morshed Khan, Kamal Ahmed Khan, Ruhul Qudus Talukder Dulu, Nasir Uddin Ahmed Pintu, MA Kaiyum and Nurul Islam Babul earlier got acquittal from the HC in the cases, Khurshid further said.



**Clockwise from top, Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (Bapa), Narayanganj forms a human chain on the bank of the river Shitalakkhya at Narayanganj Central Kheyaghat with a demand for protection of the river from pollution and encroachment, marking International Day of Action for Rivers yesterday. Bapa does the same on the bank of the river Surma in Amalshid area of Zakiganj upazila in Sylhet. Similar programme of Riverine People, Begum Rokeya University unit, on the bank of the Ghaghot in Rangpur.**

PHOTO: STAR

**1.7pc underage girls raped each day**

**Reveals Brac study; 7,489 women, girls became victims of violence last year**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 1.7 percent of girls under 18 were found to be raped every day last year, according to a study of Brac.

The study was disclosed at a roundtable titled "Our role in preventing violence against women" organised by Community Empowerment Programme (CEP) of Brac at Brac Centre in the capital yesterday.

A total of 7,489 women and girls became number of incidents recorded in Jessore, which are 351.

A network of 12,350 ward-level and women-led institutions of Brac called "Polli Shomaj" and other representatives of different programmes of Brac collected the data.

According to the study, the highest number of incidents of violence was reported in June-August.

Of the total violence, 67 percent was physical, 14 percent mental, and 19 percent sexual. Apart from that, a total of 52 incidents of gang rape were also recorded last year.

Ayesha Khanam, president of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, said different government and non-government organisations are taking preventive measures to put to an end to the violence, but those are not sufficient given the present scenario of violence.

She emphasised the proper implementation of law. Ventilating his frustration, a father from Gazipur said his eight-month-old daughter was abused by a neighbour around six months ago. Though he approached police and other bodies concerned in this regard, he was yet to get any help, said the father.

Anna Minj, director of CEP; Dr Ruchira Tabassum Naved of International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research; Farida Yasmin, deputy commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police; Mahmuda Sharmeen Benu, additional secretary of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs; and Mozammel Babu, chief editor of Ekattor Television, were present, among others.

**Save canals from grabbers**

FROM PAGE 3  
other civic amenities in any residential neighbourhood in proportion to the population density.

While, the DAP project director said with croplands being urbanised at the eastern fringe, the canals must be widened for an adequate drainage network.

Reclamation of canals from powerful grabbers would depend on political decisions, said Islam, adding, except for the areas earmarked for urbanisation, the remaining areas would be earmarked for agriculture and flood flow zones.

The Union Parishad chairman of Beraid, Dumni, Badda, Uttarkhan, Santarkul and Nasirabad -- the areas that comprise the eastern fringe -- too said there was no need for designated water retention zones. They also demanded for narrower canals and roads than those proposed in the existing DAP. In the existing DAP, Rajuk earmarked

**Six trees felled for minister's school visit**  
**Allege locals in N'ganj**

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

At least six trees were felled yesterday by the authorities of Morgan Girls' High School in Narayanganj city to make room for a dais that is to be used for an award ceremony of the school's annual sports, alleged locals.

Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu is scheduled to attend as chief guest at the programme tomorrow. Workers preparing the dais told The Daily Star that the school authorities had asked them to chop down the trees as a large space would be required for the stage.

The school Principal Saidur Rahman, however, said the trees needed to be cut down as those had died two or three days back and building the dais was not the reason behind their felling.

"The decision was taken as we all were in agreement. We will plant more trees later on," he said, "We had cut down trees before for constructing the new school building."



**A damaged covered van that crashed into a roadside tree in Ranipur village of Sadar upazila in Pirojpur yesterday. The driver had been stuck in the vehicle before fire fighters rescued him.**

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

**Road crashes kill 3, injure 30**

CITY DESK  
Three people, including a six-year-old boy, were killed and around 30 others injured in road accidents in the capital and elsewhere yesterday.

More than 20 people were injured when the driver of a bus lost control over the steering and smashed more than five vehicles near Hotel Inter Continental in the capital last evening.

The driver finally stopped the bus in front of Walso Tower close to Bangla Motor intersection. Pedestrians caught the helper of the bus and handed him over to police, but the driver managed to flee the spot, said Abul Hasan, officer-in-charge of Shabbag police Station.

In Tangail Sadar, a six-year-old boy was killed as a truck ran him over while he was crossing the Gosai Joayir-Atapara road. The deceased was Mohammad Rahat,

son of Abdur Razzak of Gosai Joayir village. In another accident in the district, a woman was killed and five people were injured as a truck hit a battery-run rickshaw carrying them in Toildhara Bazar area of Sakhipur upazila.

The deceased was Rabeya Begum, 70, of Kazirampur village. In Chatail upazila of the district, a school teacher was killed as a truck ran him over on Sakhipur-Sagaridighee Road in Paltan area early yesterday.

The deceased Idris Ali, 40, a resident of the area was an assistant teacher of Indira Baid Government Primary School. In Dinajpur, six people were injured as a three-wheeler carrying them fell into a roadside ditch near Nimtoli of Phulbari upazila. They injured, residents of the upazila, were rushed to Phulbari Upazila Health Complex.

**NEWS IN brief**

**Appeal for help**  
CITY DESK

Both the kidneys of Al-Amin, son of Nazrul Islam and Amena Khatun, have been damaged.

Al-Amin from Thuri village in Melandah upazila of Jamalpur has to be on kidney dialysis twice a week, says a press release.

Doctors in the capital's Holy Family hospital say he needs kidney transplant that costs Tk 8 lakh to Tk 10 lakh.

As the family alone cannot afford the treatment, they requested the well-off of the society to help them financially. Aid can be sent to savings Account No-100009215, Sonali Bank Ltd, Hazrabari Branch, Melandah, Jamalpur; bKash A/C No-01721143788.



**Friendship is strength of Indo-Bangla relation: Manju**  
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Environment and Forests Minister Anwar Hossain Manju yesterday said friendship is the strength of the Bangladesh-India relationship and there is no room for negative mindset in the relation.

The minister was addressing as the chief guest a programme at the national museum marking the seventh founding anniversary of Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre.

There are many similarities between Bangladesh and India including attitude, behaviour, culture and tradition, he said.

Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Harsh Vardhan Shringla was present.

**Inner Wheel Dist 345 gets chairman**  
CITY DESK

Sharmin Hossain Lucky has been elected new chairman of Inner Wheel Dist 345 Bangladesh for the year 2017-18.

The election took place at the second Dist Committee meeting at the olives on February 4, said a press release.

Other office bearers are: Vice Chairman-I Mohsena Reza and Vice Chairman-II Tahia Khalil, Immediate Past Chairman Lovely Bayezid, Secretary Atia Parveen Banu, Treasurer Tahera Wahid, Extension Organiser Rosy Ahad, ISO Parveen Zaman, Editor Mosfaka Rahman and Web Master Dr Mollika Biswa. The new office bearers will take over their responsibilities on July 1.



**Enamul president, Nazrul GS of Gazipur Press Club**  
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Enamul Hoque, editor of the Weekly Gazipur Sangbad; and Nazrul Islam, staff reporter of the daily Bhorer Kagoj, was elected as president and general secretary (GS) of Gazipur Press club yesterday.

Other office bearers are Mahfuzul Haque, senior vice president; Alamgir Hossen, vice president; Moniruzzaman, joint secretary, and Jan-e-Alam, organising secretary.



Enamul Hoque Nazrul Islam

**RU agri project workers go on strike for wage hike**  
RU CORRESPONDENT

Workers of Rajshahi University (RU) Agriculture Project yesterday observed a six-hour work abstention from 8:00am demanding wage hike.

Workers under other departments of the university get Tk 450 for eight working hours per day but labourers under the agricultural project are getting only Tk 230 for 16 working hours a day, said a worker, Mosher Uddi.