



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAH	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
H 36.6 L 28.6	H 34.5 L 27.5	H 35.2 L 28.3	H 34.8 L 24.2	H 37.0 L 27.4	H 34.2 L 24.3	H 37.7 L 28.5	H 36.2 L 27.8	H 36.0 L 28.0

Rain accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rangpur and Mymensingh divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Kushtia and Tangail till 6:00pm today, Met Office said. Mild heat wave is sweeping over Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions and the regions of Rajshahi, Pabna, Rangamati, Chandpur, Noakhali and Cox's Bazar and it may continue. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:39pm and rises tomorrow at 5:12am.

Raudha 'quarrelled' with senior student few days before death

Claims her father at press confce



STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Maldivian medical student and model Raudha Athif had an argument with a male senior student of her college at a café in Rajshahi city few days before her death over the way she dressed, claimed her father.

Raudha's father Mohamed Athif said if the man who had a "quarrel" with her daughter was identified, it could provide clues about finding her assailant.

Athif, a physician in the Maldives, in a written statement read out at a press conference held at Rajshahi Press Club last afternoon, also claimed that Raudha received a "death threat" on the afternoon her body was found.

Inspector Asmaul Haque of Criminal Investigation Department, who is investigating the murder of Raudha, said the man, who quarrelled with her, was a former student of the college. He graduated last year.

CID interrogated another student of the college yesterday. He, however, informed them that the incident occurred within a couple of months after Raudha, a second-year

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This pitch black water is of a canal falling into the Turag river at Shreekhondia of Ashulia industrial area in Savar. It was once a source of fish, fresh water and a medium of river transport for locals. But now, all that is left of the canal is a wide sewer drain emitting gut wrenching foul odour -- thanks to indiscriminate dumping of chemical and solid waste from factories and households alike. The photo was taken on Wednesday.

RU student beaten by police constable

OUR CORRESPONDENT, RU

A police constable, serving as a security guard at Motihar Hall of Rajshahi University, yesterday beat up a resident student.

The victim, Rafiqul Islam Shuvo, a second-year student of physical education and sports science department, said Shafiqul Islam first misbehaved and later beat him with his rifle as he prevented him from smoking near his sister in front of the hall gate, where the two siblings were waiting for their guest.

Later, witnesses controlled the situation and called Proctor Moajibul Haque Azad Khan.

Shafiqul was withdrawn from the dormitory after he confessed to the incident at a meeting held with the proctor, said Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police Amir Jafar.

PHOTO: AKLAKUR RAHMAN AKASH

Build non-communal society imbued with Nazrul's spirit

President urges all

UNB, Dhaka

Noting that it was only Kazi Nazrul Islam who had realised that communalism is the biggest problem of this subcontinent, President Abdul Hamid yesterday called upon all to help build a non-communal society imbued with the rebel poet's spirit.

"As a representative of the 20th century, Nazrul was a strong voice against imperialism, colonialism, feudalism, capitalism, fanaticism, communalism, fundamentalism, localism and repression," he said.

The president was addressing a function in Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital, marking the 118th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

Hamid said Nazrul was unique as a non-communal and humanitarian poet in Bangla literature's last thousand years' history as he was the only litterateur who understood that communalism is the biggest problem of the Indian subcontinent.

So, he said, the rebel poet always struggled against communalism and wrote poems and songs seeking reconciliation of the people of all religions, including Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and Christians.

Focusing on Nazrul's creativity in Bangla literature, the president said: "Kazi Nazrul is an ageless poet in Bangla language and literature. He is well-known as a rebel poet in Bangla literature while as 'Bulbul' in the world of modern Bangla songs."

He said the poems, songs and other literary works of Nazrul had created a renaissance in Bangla literature as he introduced a new style adopting Sanskrit, Arabic and Persian words in his works.

Hamid said the revolutionary write-ups of Nazrul, a poet of equity and non-communal spirit, jolted the foundation of the British rulers while the stream-flow of his poems and lyrics won the hearts of Bangalees.

Hamid said Nazrul continuously struggled for ensuring the rights of people and establishing an enlightened society free from repression and exploitation.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, Cultural Affairs Secretary Ibrahim Hossain Khan and Chairman of Nazrul Institute's Trustee Board Prof Emeritus Dr Rafiqul Islam, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Asaduzzaman Noor presented a set of books compiling Nazrul's write-ups to the president at the function.

Ten injured in clash over transport workers' polls

Access to Rajshahi city blocked for 8hrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Access to Rajshahi city was blocked for around eight hours till yesterday afternoon while 10 people were left injured after two groups of transport workers clashed and carried out vandalism in Rajshahi Bus Terminal over an election for a new union.

Police and witnesses said of hearing gunfire and crude bombs exploding while a journalist's videocamera and cellphone, a BRTC bus and four ticket counters were vandalised.

Of the victims, lawyers Ankur Sen, Zahrool Islam and Hossain Ali were conducting the triennial election to Rajshahi District Transport Labourers' Union and journalist of ATN Bangla Sujauddin Chhoton was covering the event.

Another four counter assistants, Parvez, Montu, Joni and Borot, were

treated at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

Transport workers said the clash was between followers of Kamal Hossain Robi and Mahtab Hossain who were seeking to be re-elected as president and secretary respectively, contesting from the same panel with alleged support from the local Awami League.

When voting began on Wednesday, word spread that Mahtab had extended his support to Kamal's rival candidate Rafikul Islam and asked followers to vote for the latter, they said.

One of the election officials, Ankur, told The Daily Star that Kamal's supporters pressed him to declare Kamal elected.

They attacked the three election officials with sticks and chairs and looted most of the 10 ballot boxes around 1:00am yesterday when vote counting was scheduled to begin, he said.

The three took shelter inside Boalia Police Station till noon and the election was postponed.

Acknowledging this, Sub-Inspector (SI) Dulal Hossain said the clash erupted before police fired shots in the air to take control of the bus station around 3:00am.

Mahtab's followers blocked the road in front of the station using buses around 4:00am, causing suffering to a number of passengers, and the vehicle owners intervened to free the road around 10:00am, he said.

The agitators vandalised the bus and two counters of Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation and another two of National Travels, leading to the suspension of bus services again from noon, he added.

The services resumed around 2:00pm with police assistance, said the SI.



President Abdul Hamid speaks at a function at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital, marking the 118th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam yesterday.

WAR CRIMES CASE IN KHULNA

Prosecution allowed to grill 7

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday allowed a prosecution's petition to interrogate seven Khulna men in connection with a case filed for allegedly committing crimes during the Liberation War in 1971.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice Anwarul Haque passed the order following a petition moved by Prosecutor Mukhlesur Rahman Badal.

As per the order, investigators will be able to interrogate the seven accused at the conference room of Dhaka Central Jail for one day each between May 28 and 31, Badal said.

The accused are Shahar Ali, Ashraf Sheikh, Amzad Hossain Hawlader, Mozahar Ali Sheikh, Atiar Sheikh, Motasim Billah, and Kamal Uddin Goldar. Nazrul Islam, another accused in the case, is yet to be arrested. All the accused are from Batiaghata upazila in

Khulna.

Earlier, the tribunal asked the prosecutor to submit on July 5 either the investigation report or a report on the progress of the investigation, which began on November 15, 2015.

Meanwhile, the tribunal rejected a bail petition for Salamat Ullah Khan, one of the 18 accused from Cox's Bazar in a case filed for allegedly committing crimes in 1971.

Defence counsels filed the petition citing Salamat's health, old age and sickness of his wife, said one of the counsels Abdus Sattar Palwan. Prosecutor Rana Dasgupta opposed the petition.

When tribunal proposed to release him on parole for a specific time so that he can see his ailing wife but defence did not accept it, Sattar said.

Besides, yesterday was fixed for hearing charges in the case. But the

tribunal adjourned the hearing until July 13 after a defence counsel verbally informed the tribunal that one of the fugitives -- Abdul Majid -- had died.

Tribunal asked the defence counsel to inform the matter in written form.

Other 16 accused of the case are: Moulavi Zakaria Sikdar, Md Rashid Miah, Oli Ahmad, Jalal Uddin alias Jalal Ahmed, Moulavi Nurul Islam, Md Saiful alias Sabul, Momtaz Ahmed, Habibur Rahman alias Habib Munshi, Moulavi Amjad Ali, Osman Gani, Abdus Shukkur, Md Zakaria, Moulavi Jalal, Abdul Aziz, Badsha Mia, and Ramiz Hasan.

All the accused are from Moheshkhali upazila of Cox's Bazar. Salamat, Nurul Islam, Badsha and Osman Gani are behind bars while Rashid Miah, former BNP lawmaker from Cox's Bazar, is on bail for ill health. The rest are on the run.

Sunamganj flood affected families get relief

CITY DESK

Some 750 flood affected families of Birgoan village in Sunamganj received relief materials along with medical facilities yesterday.

Members of Old Cadets' Association of Sylhet (OCAS) and LankaBangla Foundation organised the relief distribution programme and medical camp, said a press release.

OCAS President Dr Shakil Ahmed, Vice President Ishtiaque Ahmad, General Secretary Md Atullah and LankaBangla Head of Alternative Delivery Channels Jahangir Hossain, among others, were present.

3 Ctg cops sued over 'attempted rape'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bringing allegation of attempted rape, a woman lodged a case against three cops including the officer-in-charge of Lohagara Police Station in Chittagong yesterday afternoon.

A police informant was also sued in the case, said court sources.

The accused are OC Md Shajahan of the police station, Sub-inspector Soliaman Patwari, Assistant Sub-inspector Fakrul Islam and police informant Jasim Uddin.

Taking the case in its cognizance, Judge Rokhsana Parveen of the Chittagong Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-2 ordered for a judicial enquiry, said the complainant's lawyer.

According to the case statement, on May 12, police went to Adhunagar area of Lohagara to arrest an accused in a sabotage case. As they were in plainclothes, his sister-in-law tried to stop them. Following that, the four physically assaulted and attempted to rape her.

Contacted, OC Shajahan said the family members attacked them while they went to the area to arrest the accused. Now, to divert the incident, the false case was lodged, he said.

Shibir cadre

FROM PAGE 4

him before me at Toukir Hat in Fatikchhari upazila," said Mosharrif, the then president of Awami League north district unit.

According to the case statement, on May 8, 1992, Jamaat-Shibir men attacked a conference of BCL Fatikchhari upazila unit where Mosharrif was present as chief guest. An AL activist Zamir Uddin was killed in the attack. Later, they attacked the vehicle carrying Mosharrif and killed Harun. However, Mosharrif managed to flee.

Mosharrif's driver Idris lodged the case accusing 31. Nasir is in jail in the case, said court sources, adding that seven witnesses had given testimonies.



HOW TO CROSS THE ROAD? In this photo taken on Tuesday, a woman and a man zigzag between buses to cross the street at Jatrabari in the capital. Only the day before, a father of a two-year-old was killed near the same spot. The man was squashed against a bus by another as he was crossing the road in a similar fashion. In absence of any effective mass awareness campaign, people seem to remain oblivious about the consequences of unsafe practices on the road.

GROOMS WANTED

Doctor grooms (Age: 30-35, Height: 5'7"-5'10") UK citizen or MRCP or PLAB completed wanted for UK citizen Doctor bride (Age: 30, Height: 5'4") and PhD bride (Age: 28, Height: 5'5") E-mail address: ffaisal0@gmail.com

US embassy closed on Sunday

CITY DESK

The US Embassy will be closed on Sunday on the occasion of Memorial Day, an American national holiday, said a press release. For emergency services, American citizens can call 5566-2000 and ask for the duty officer.