



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA	MYMENSINGH	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	RANGPUR	KHULNA	BARISAL	COX'S BAZAR
H 32.8 L 23.0	H 31.4 L 23.2	H 31.0 L 23.5	H 31.1 L 22.4	H 32.7 L 23.4	H 30.7 L 22.5	H 32.6 L 23.0	H 33.3 L 22.8	H 31.8 L 23.0

Weather may remain mainly dry over the country till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. Day temperature may rise slightly and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:25pm and rises tomorrow at 6:01am.

# Check if party charter contradicts constitution

## Women leaders urge EC during talk

Women leaders, who participated in the electoral talk hosted by Election Commission (EC), yesterday urged the EC to investigate if the charter of any registered political party contradicts the constitution.

The registration of the political parties should be scrapped if their charter is contradictory to the country's constitution, they said.

A total of 14 women leaders joined the talk at Nirbachan Bhaban in the capital yesterday. This is the first time women leaders joined any such dialogue. Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda presided over the meeting.

Emerging from the meeting, Rokeya Kabir, executive director of Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS), said they came to know that many political parties had asked the commission to withdraw the clause of "33 percent female representation in the political party".

"We told the commission that it is contradictory to the country's constitution. If any party places such recommendation, the commission should check charter of that party. And if the party charter is found to be contradictory to the constitution, EC should scrap its registration."

Rokeya Kabir said they also asked the EC to create a level-playing field for all.

Aroma Dutta, executive director of PRIP Trust (Private Rural Initiatives Program), said security measures should be

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A thick layer of waste materials float on this portion of Hatirjheel lake near the Sonargaon Hotel in the capital. Apart from that, sewage is being dumped straight into the waterbody through underground sewers, spreading unbearable stench in the surrounding areas. The photo was taken recently.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

# Home boss leaves for Myanmar

UNB, Dhaka

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan left Dhaka for Myanmar yesterday to hold talks with leaders of the neighbouring country on various issues, including the Rohingya crisis, aiming to send back Myanmar nationals to their homeland through diplomatic efforts.

The minister, who left Dhaka on a Biman flight around 12:45pm, was leading a 12-member delegation.

The delegation includes two secretaries of the home ministry, director generals of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), Bangladesh Coast Guard and Department of Narcotics Control and the inspector general of police.

Sources at the home ministry said the Rohingya issue would be high on the agenda of the Bangladesh-Myanmar meeting. During talks, Bangladesh will press Myanmar to take back its nationals who were forced to flee their homeland.

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# Bangladeshi scientists find cheaper way to detect cancer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Three Bangladeshi scientists and their team in Australia have invented a new technology of cancer diagnosis, which helps to detect the deadly disease early in a cheaper and less invasive manner than the conventional methods.

They developed a new type of gold nanoparticles and a portable tool to deliver specific diagnosis results that can be easily and quickly interpreted with less reliance on laboratory equipment.

The scientists are Dr Shahriar Hossain and Mostafa Kamal Masud of the University of Wollongong (UOW) and Md Nazmul Islam of Griffith University.

Besides, five other scientists of the two Australian universities took part in the research. They are Prof Yusuke Yamauchi, Prof Gursel Alici and Shunsuke Tanaka of UOW; and Prof Nam-Trung Nguyen and Sharad Yadav of Griffith University.

The researchers will keep refining the technology with the aim of developing a portable diagnostic device for less than \$5, said the university authorities.

On October 19, the universities issued two separate statements on the topic, saying the research team recently published their papers in three science journals, including Royal Society of Chemistry, to disseminate the findings.

Most current diagnostic methods use expensive biomaterials and rely on sophisticated instrumentation, limiting their use in developing countries and other resource-poor settings, according to the statement of Griffith University.

But the researchers have developed a new class of enzyme-like nanoparticles using gold-loaded nanoporous iron oxide nanocubes for sensing body fluid, by which the process became cheap and easy as well as accurate without depending on laboratory equipment, it said.

The team's two-step diagnostic

method uses the nanocubes for magnetically isolating the cancer biomarkers, proteins, DNA or RNA in serum and tissue samples collected from cancer patients.

Then, a simple, inexpensive and non-invasive sensing device is used to provide a highly accurate result to a patient in a short time for the diagnosis of cancer, it said, adding that the test uses a very tiny amount of clinical samples -- typically five microlitres -- that change colour if the test is positive.

One of the scientists Dr Shahriar said,

*The researchers will keep refining the technology with the aim of developing a portable diagnostic device for less than \$5.*

"Early diagnosis of cancer leads to more effective and cheaper treatment, and the majority of cancers can be treated successfully if they are detected at their earliest stages."

However, current cancer diagnostic methods are relatively expensive and most people in developing countries cannot afford those and do not have easy access to the equipment needed to perform the diagnosis process, he said.

"The test we have developed is cheap, simple and portable. It can be used for rapid screening of early cancer biomarker in areas where people can't afford the high economic burden of other cancer diagnostic methods," he added.

Given that the diagnostic tool has potential applications around the world, the group is now looking for industry partners to collaborate on the project, the statement said.

# SEDITION CASE

## Tarique, ETV's Salam face arrest

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday issued arrest warrants against BNP Senior Vice-Chairman Tarique Rahman and two former journalists of private TV channel Ekushey Television (ETV) in a sedition.

Judge Kamrul Hossain Mollah of the Sessions Judge's Court passed the order after accepting the charge sheet in the case.

The court also asked police to submit a report on the execution of the arrest warrant by November 20.

Two other accused, Mahathir Farooki Khan and Kanak Sarwar, went into hiding after securing bail.

Another accused, former chairman of Ekushey TV Abdus Salam, is now on bail.

Detectives on September 6 last year pressed charges against the four.

The case was filed with Tejgaon Police Station on January last year against Tarique, Salam and several other unknown persons on charges of broadcasting a "false, fabricated, and provocative" speech given by Tarique on January 5 last year.

Different courts had earlier issued arrest warrants against Tarique, accused in over 26 cases, including August 21 grenade attack cases, in 12 other cases.

# HC stays trial of Fakhru

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday stayed the trial proceedings of a vandalism case filed against BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir in 2015.

The court also issued a rule asking the government to explain as to why the proceedings of the case against Mirza Fakhru should not be scrapped.

The stay order will continue till disposal of the rule, according to the HC order.

The bench of Justice Md Miftah Uddin Choudhury and Justice Zafar Ahmed came up with the order and rule after hearing a petition filed by the BNP secretary general for scrapping the trial proceedings of the case against him.

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# VIOLATING BAIL CONDITIONS

## Arrest warrants issued against 3 Apon owners

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Two Dhaka courts have issued arrest warrants against three owners of Apan Jewellers in three money laundering cases after they misused the bail secured from the High Court earlier.

The accused are Dildar Ahmed Selim, Gulzar Ahmed and Azad Ahmed.

Apan Jewellers owner Dildar Ahmed Selim is father of the Banani rape case accused Shafat Ahmed. The trial of the rape against Shafat and four others are going on.

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Nur Nabi yesterday issued an arrest warrant against Dildar in connection with a case filed with Ramna Police Station on August 12 while Metropolitan Magistrate Nurunnahar Yasmin on Sunday issued arrest warrants against Gulzar Ahmed and Azad Ahmed in connection with two cases filed with Gulshan Police Station on the same date.

Court sources said following the cases, all the three accused appeared before the High Court on August 22, seeking anticipatory bail in the cases. The HC after the hearing granted them bail for four weeks.

The HC ordered that time will not be extended after expiry of the period. In the meantime, the accused will have to surrender before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's

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