



THE DAILY

SECOND EDITION

# Star

ON FRIDAY



www.thedailystar.net

REGD. No. DA 781

VOL. XXIX No. 330

POUSH 5, 1426 BS

Your Right to Know

RABUI SANI 22, 1441 HIJRI

24 PAGES PLUS TOGGLE PRICE: Tk 12.00

## Mild cold wave grips the country

*Mercury may drop further in next 3 days*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mild cold wave is sweeping through the country, especially the north-western regions, since yesterday, forcing people to limit their outdoor activities in many districts.

The Bangladesh Meteorological Department yesterday recorded the lowest temperature in Chuadanga at 7.9 degrees Celsius, while Dhaka experienced 13.0 degrees Celsius.

A mild cold wave is when the temperature ranges from 10 degrees Celsius to eight degrees Celsius. It is a moderate cold when the temperate is

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**A child curled up on the ground in Kamalapur Railway Station in the capital early yesterday. As a mild cold wave sweeps across the country, people of the lower income group, especially children and the elderly, suffer the most.**

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HUQ

## Trump impeached

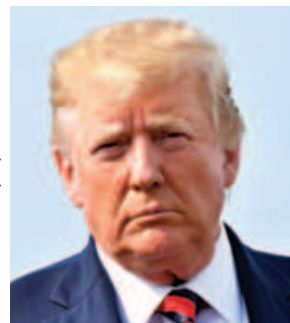
*Divided US House sets stage for Senate trial next month; Trump likely to survive it, calls vote 'suicide march' for Democrats ahead of 2020 election*

AGENCIES

Donald Trump became the third US president to be impeached as the House of Representatives formally charged him with abuse of power and obstruction of Congress in a historic step that will inflame partisan tensions across a deeply divided America.

The Democratic-led House's passage of two articles of impeachment on a mostly party-line vote sets the stage for a trial next month in the Republican-controlled Senate - friendly terrain for Trump - on whether to convict and remove him from office.

As Washington awoke yesterday to the realisation that it had impeached the 45th US president, the capital remained racked with uncertainty about what will come next in an impeachment process defined by almost total partisanship and rancor.



No president in the 243-year history of the United States has been removed from office by impeachment. That would require a two-thirds majority in the 100-member Senate, meaning at least 20 Republicans would have to join Democrats in voting against Trump - and none have indicated they will.

The Senate's top Republican, Mitch McConnell, has predicted there is "no chance" his chamber will remove Trump when it holds its trial. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said after the vote she would wait to name the House managers, or prosecutors, until she knew more about the procedures for the Senate trial. She did not specify when she would send the articles to the Senate.

"So far, we haven't seen anything that looks fair to us," Pelosi told reporters.

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## Telenor serves legal notice on the president

*Robi willing to withdraw cases for arbitration: telecoms minister*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Grameenphone's parent company Telenor recently sent a legal notice to President Abdul Hamid, demanding international arbitration to resolve the telecom regulator's "disputed" audit claim of Tk 12,580 crore, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Mustafa Jabbar said yesterday.

Grameenphone, however, distanced itself from the matter.

On the other hand, mobile operator Robi, from which Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) claimed Tk 867.23 crore, said it wanted to withdraw all the cases against the auditing process and sought arbitration to solve the matter, Jabbar said.

Robi had earlier filed two cases against the audit claims.

"Recently, Grameenphone [Telenor] has sent a legal notice from a Singapore-based legal consultant to the president of the country and there is no way to take it lightly," the minister said at a meeting with the Telecom

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AWAMI LEAGUE COUNCIL

## Hints over future leadership likely

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Beginning today, the two-day Awami League council may drop hints about the future leadership of the party.

AL insiders said three names -- Sajeeb Wazed Joy, Saima Wazed Hossain and Radwan Mujib Siddiq -- have long been in discussion among the party's rank and file, and their inclusion in the 81-member central working committee, to be formed at the council, may indicate who might be at the party helm in the future.

Joy and Saima are the children of party President Sheikh Hasina; Radwan is the son of Hasina's sister Sheikh Rehana.

Joy is prime minister's ICT affairs adviser. Last month, he was made number one member of Rangpur district AL. Currently, he is in the USA.

Saima is the chairperson of Bangladesh National Advisory Committee for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, and Radwan looks after AL's research wing Centre for Research and Information (CRI).

None of them has the party's primary membership.

Hasina will inaugurate the party's 21st triennial council at the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan at 3:00pm today. Another session of the council, to be held at The Institution of Engineers tomorrow, would elect the ruling party's new leadership.

Seventy-two-year-old Hasina, a four-time prime minister, has been leading the AL since 1981. Speaking at party forums on several occasions, she expressed her desire to go on retirement.

Besides, in an exclusive interview with Deutsche Welle (DW) in February, she said, "I don't want to continue for more [time]. I think that everybody should take a break so we can accommodate the younger generation."

AL insiders said there has been some talk within the party that incumbent AL General Secretary Obaidul Quader may get re-elected. Quader, however, was yet to get the green signal from the party president, they said.

PHOTO ON PAGE 20

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PROTESTS OVER INDIA'S CITIZENSHIP ACT

## Thousands held

*Two killed in police firing in Mangalore; clashes with police, demonstrations in major cities*

STAR REPORT

Indian police yesterday detained thousands of protesters from various venues across the country as they defied bans on assembly in growing anger at a new citizenship law seen as anti-Muslim.

Meanwhile, at least two persons were killed as police opened fire on demonstrators in the southern city of Mangalore, an official told AFP.

Abdul Jalil, 49, and Samshir Kudroli, 23 died in police firing during the protests, said Qadir Shah, a spokesman for the deputy commissioner of Mangalore, adding that a curfew had been imposed in the city with schools, restaurants and bars shut.

Four others were being treated at a hospital in Mangalore "with bullet injuries following the clashes", a district medical officer told AFP.

Besides, one person died in Lucknow from what police called "alleged firearm injury" during violent protests.

Authorities banned gatherings in the entire Uttar Pradesh state - India's most populous - as well as in parts of the country's northeast, the state of Bihar and cities such as Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Chennai.

Two major Indian telecom firms, Vodafone and Airtel,

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## BBPL to resume today

SPORTS REPORTER

After a day's break, the Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League (BBPL) resumes today at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram and hosts Chattogram Challengers will be looking to consolidate their place at the top of the table in the evening match against Cumilla Warriors.

Before that, in the day match, Mushfiqur Rahim's second-placed Khulna Tigers will take on Rangpur Rangers, who are currently languishing at the bottom of the table, having lost all

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