

Received petition for extending suspension of Khaleda’s jail term: law minister

UNB, Dhaka
The law ministry yesterday received a petition from the home ministry seeking another extension of the suspension of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia’s jail term.
“We have received a file from the home ministry regarding the extension of Khaleda Zia’s conditional release. We’ll send it back to the home ministry with our recommendations,” Law Minister Anisul Huq told UNB.
Replying to a question on whether the BNP chief would be allowed to go abroad for treatment this time, the minister said he still did not see the file. “But I can say that the previous conditions will remain in our recommendations.”
Khaleda’s younger brother Shamim Eskandar submitted a fresh application to the home ministry seeking an extension of her release period.
In the application, he asked to relax the conditions of her release and allow taking her abroad for treatment. The government extended Khaleda’s conditional release in two corruption cases several times.
The former prime minister was sent to Old Dhaka Central Jail after she was sentenced to five years imprisonment by a special court in the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case on February 8, 2018.
She was convicted in the Zia Charitable Trust corruption case later. The 77-year-old BNP chief has stayed at her Gulshan residence since her release. A special team of her personal physicians has been overseeing her treatment.



People search the rubble of a house following a Russian strike in the village of Velyka Vilshanytsia, some 50km from Lviv, Ukraine yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

PM confers National Film Awards 2021

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday handed out The National Film Awards 2021 at a star-studded event, featuring some of the biggest celebrities and artists from across Bangladesh, as they all gathered at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.
Usually, the award is given in a total of 28 categories. However, this year, 34 awards were given in a total of 27 categories.
This year, the jury board selected the winners from the eventual submissions of 21 full-fledged films, 17 short films, and 7 documentary films -- totalling 45 films. While the winners were announced by the information ministry on January 29, yesterday the awards were formally handed out to the winners.
The event was hosted by eminent actor Ferdous and Dhallywood actress Nusraat Faria.
The opening ceremony featured a dance

sequence paying tribute to Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, performed by Warda Rihab.
A special highlight from the night was when Ilias Kanchan and Dolly Zahur received the Lifetime Achievement Award for their priceless contributions to the industry.
Matia Banu Shuku’s production, “Lal Moroger Jhuti” and Rezwan Shahriar Sumit’s “Nonajoler Kabbo” jointly received the prize in the “Best Film” category.
The “Best Director” prize was taken home by Rezwan Shahriar Sumit, for his debut film “Nonajoler Kabbo”.
Adding to the list of awards that were shared, Siam Ahmed (Mridha Bonam Mridha) and Mir Sabbir (Raat Jaga Phool) jointly claimed the “Best Actor” award.
Similarly, the “Best Actress” award was jointly received by Azmeri Haque Badhan (Rehana Maryam Noor), and an overjoyed Tasnova Tamanna (Nonajoler Kabbo).
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in

her closing speech, said, “My heartiest congratulation and best wishes to the recipients of the National Film Awards 2021. We arranged for this ceremony to take place in March, a month, which holds a lot of importance for us. Our Bangladeshi film industry was able to flourish under the guidance of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He worked effectively to establish the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation, which led to the creation of movies like ‘Akash Ar Mati’, ‘Ei Desh Tomar Amar’, and many others.”
“After the Liberation War, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman donated a total of 105 acres of land in Gazipur, so that film fraternities would have a proper location where they could shoot their films. Continuing with his vision, now we are working to build Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Film City,” she continued.
“I’m grateful to everyone who created movies in the pandemic. Our cinema halls were very old and poorly facilitated.

Barguna woman hospitalised after husband’s beatings
Our Correspondent, Patuakhali
Police rescued a woman from her house and admitted her to a hospital for injuries she received after her husband allegedly beat her in North Tiakhali village of Amtali upazila in Barguna last morning.
Seema Begum said her husband Sabuj Fakir was a drug addict and after their marriage he often beat her for money. Sabuj, however, denied the allegation.
Meanwhile, Amtali Upazila Health Complex Medical Officer Dr Mehreen Ashraf Oishi said Seema had injuries on her stomach and hands.
Amtali Police Station OC AKM Mizanur Rahman said they would take legal action after the filing of a written complaint.

Man gets death penalty for killing his cousin after rape
Court Correspondent
A Dhaka tribunal yesterday sentenced a man to death for killing his cousin after rape in the capital’s Bhasantek in 2018.
Judge Begum Shamsunnahar of Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal-5 handed down the verdict.
Md Tariqul Islam Raihan was later sent to jail with a conviction warrant.
He had raped the girl, a first-year student of Dhaka’s Pallabi Shahid Zia Degree College, around 9:00am on February 24, 2018.
Raihan then strangled her to death and later dumped her body at Dhaka’s Airport Railway Station area.
Following the incident, the girl’s uncle Nurul Islam filed a case with Dhaka Railway Police Station. Police then recovered the body and arrested Raihan.

Tigers show authority in win

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dominated Mark Wood early could all be cited as singularly memorable events of the game as Bangladesh won the first T20I at Chattogram’s Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium yesterday.
However, all those things happening during the same game brought a much-needed collective effort to the forefront in a confidence-boosting victory.
Having won the toss, skipper Shakib Al Hasan elected to field, citing that they were not quite sure what total they needed. During the first few overs of the England innings, the decision appeared to backfire.
Buttler and Phil Salt started steadily and soon switched to aggressive mode, with two dropped catches in the sixth over -- one by Nasum Ahmed off his own bowling before Shakib dropped a sitter to let Buttler off on 19 -- saw England put on 51 in the Powerplay. And they were looking for more.
Salt departed in the 10th over, getting the slightest nick through to Liton Das and not even realising he had done so until umpire raised his finger. His partnership with Buttler had set the tone and, although Dawid Malan was dismissed cheaply by Shakib, Buttler kept powering through, hitting to back-to-back sixes off Hasan Mahmud

on way to his fifty. England reached 126 for two in 15 overs before Mustafizur Rahman removed Ben Duckett in the 16th.
Hasan had been expensive in his first two overs, conceding 21, but he came back remarkably, removing Buttler after a 42-ball 67 and Sam Curran. More importantly, his last two overs produced just five runs. England run-rate’s steep climb was thwarted and they managed just 156 for six.
The way Bangladesh started their chase was crucial and a surprise was in store as Rony Talukdar came in to open with Liton Das. The duo started positively, taking the attack to the England pacers.
After Rony and Liton departed to a 14-ball 21 and nine-ball 12 respectively, Shanto and debutant Towhid Hridoy took over. The Powerplay produced 54 runs as Hridoy showed he was a proper player. Then Shanto smashed Wood for four fours on the trot in the seventh over. The game was set.
Shanto smacked a 30-ball 51 while Hridoy got 24 during a 65-run stand off just 39 deliveries. Shakib came in and, along with Afif Hossain, produced a 46-run stand during an unbroken stand to take Tigers to a tremendous win.

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2020
N’ganj mosque blast killed 25, chargesheet submitted

2021
Hashem Foods fire killed 51, factory reopened

2021
Blast at Moghbazar shop killed 12, investigation ongoing

2021
Fire on launch killed 41, investigation ongoing

2022
BM Depot fire killed 48, factory reopened