

ANOTHER RAPE ACCUSATION
Tangail town AL
exempts Boro Moni

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Tangail town unit of Awami League temporarily relieved Golam Kibria Boro Moni, vice-president of the unit, after he was accused in a rape case once again.

A recommendation has also been made to lawmaker Mirza Azam, organising secretary of AL central committee (in charge of Dhaka division), for his final release.

The action against the AL leader was announced through a letter on April 7, confirmed Tangail town AL president SM Sirajul Haque Khan Alamgir, also mayor of Tangail municipality, to The Daily Star.

A rape case has been filed with Turag Police Station in the capital against Tangail town AL vice-president Golam Kibria Boro Moni. Reports on the matter have been published in various digital and print media since March 29. The decision was taken on the advice and instructions of the central AL leaders in charge of the district, the letter states.

On March 30, the 21-year-old woman filed the case SEE PAGE 4 COL 1



A QUIET DHAKA... Taking a break from its monotonous chaos, the capital seemingly went into hibernation during the Eid holidays. The roads wore deserted looks, with a few vehicles taking to the streets. Meanwhile, most shops and eateries were closed and the footpaths remained empty. The photo was taken on Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue yesterday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

De-escalate Israel-Iran tension

Foreign minister urges relevant stakeholders

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh does not want war in the Middle East, said Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud on Sunday.

"We are for peace, not war. We want to see the relevant countries play an active role in de-escalating tensions between Iran and Israel. We also call for an end to the killings in Gaza," he said.

Hasan Mahmud made the comments when journalists, after an event at the state guest house Padma, asked him about Iran's drone and missile attacks on Israel.

He said Iran might not have launched the attacks if its consulate in Syria was not attacked first.

Meanwhile, the foreign minister yesterday left for Greece to attend the 9th "Our Ocean Conference" in Athens. Scheduled for April 16-17 at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, the conference aims to promote blue economy.

Patients with heat-related diseases on the rise in Ctg

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

A mild heat wave across Chattogram and adjoining districts has left people in the region suffering from various ailments including fever, cough, heat stroke, diarrhoea, headache and dizziness. Frequent power outages have added to the woes.

"My four-year-old baby has been suffering from fever and cough for five days. We took him to a child health specialist as the fever was not falling," said Shuvesha Ghosh, a resident of the city's Askar Dighi Par area.

"After that, my father-in-law also became sick," she said.

The maximum temperature recorded in Chattogram on Sunday was 37.5 degrees Celsius. The temperature will not drop until the rains that are expected in next week, said MHM Mosaddek, forecasting officer at Chattogram Met Office.

Shahedul Azam, a resident at Agrabad CDA Residential area, said his mother has been suffering from fever for four days.

Doctors said amid scorching heat, microorganisms - including some bacteria and viruses - find congenial atmosphere for propagation.

"Patients infected with diseases including fever, cough and diarrhoea are on the rise in my SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

2nd JS session to begin on May 2

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The second session of the 12th parliament will begin on May 2.

The sitting will start at 5:00pm, said a press release of the Parliament Secretariat yesterday.

President Mohammed Shahabuddin will convene the parliament session exercising his power bestowed upon him in line with the Constitution.

Duration of this session will be short, sources at the Parliament Secretariat told The Daily Star.

The maiden session of 12th parliament that went into sitting on January 30, was prorogued on March 5 having 22 working days.

RELEASE OF MV ABDULLAH
Eid comes three days later for families of crewmen

MIRZA SHAKIL and ANWARUL HAIDER

Eid is about homecoming and family reunion. But this year's Eid-ul-Fitr brought no such joy for the 23 crewmen of hijacked MV Abdullah.

While April 11 marked a joyous Eid for most Bangladeshis, for the families of the MV Abdullah crew, it was merely another day overshadowed by anxiety and fear for their loved ones.

But then the good news came in the early hours of Pehela Baishakh, the Bangla New Year. The ship and its crew were released, following intense negotiations between pirates and the vessel's parent company KSRM.

The pirates were paid a ransom of US \$5 million, according to Reuters.

I can't express how dreadful the past month has been for us. When my son finally called me yesterday and said he was alright, my heart became full again. Now it finally feels like Eid.

SALEHA BEGUM, mother of Sabbir Hossain

I was very worried. I was not sure if we would ever see him again.

TANYA AKHTAR, wife of Saleh Ahmed

While the nation celebrated Eid with joyous festivities, Sabbir Hossain's family in Tangail's Nagarpur upazila passed the day with anxiety.

"We could not enjoy at all during Eid," said Harun or Rashid, father of Sabbir Hossain, a deck cadet on MV Abdullah.

"Finally, I saw the news yesterday [April 14] that the crewmembers of the ship were finally released, and it brought back the joy of Eid to my family," he added.

"My son called me saying he is fine. He told me not to worry. I can't express how happy I feel now. I will be even happier when Sabbir returns home," said Harun, a tailor by profession. Sabbir's mother Saleha Begum echoed Harun. "I can't express how dreadful the past month has been for us. When my son SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

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অধিনায়কের কার্যালয়
৭ আর্মড পুলিশ ব্যাটালিয়ন, সিলেট
উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (OTM)
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ইন-সার্ভিস ট্রেনিং সেন্টার, সিলেট
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