

Dhaka Day by Day

A Scene on the Street

by Sabah Chowdhury

In most cities in Asia, it is fascinating to watch variations in street scenes, reflecting affluence or poverty of a particular locality.

In many ways, it is not all that different in Dhaka. After all, driving through Gulshan and Banani — or even riding a bus in that area — one gets a fair idea of the life style, not to mention the income level, of people living there. To contrast it with what one might see in say, parts of Mohammadpur or Katabon would be painful.

If you are riding a bus and going about in a rickshaw, you hardly notice these variations. The suffocating traffic congestions, the pollution caused by both noise and black fumes and the discomfort (or perhaps the hazard) of riding an overcrowded bus, leave your senses in a state of numbness. The result, you keep overlooking a few little things which add some colour to our life in Dhaka. Yet many also ignore some signs of how tiny a section of people who, once written off by society as making valiant efforts to stand on their own feet.

To this small section belongs Amena, whom I came to know when she pushed a magazine into my hand, when the 'baby-taxi' or the three wheeler I was riding on, had stopped at a traffic light at Maghbazar. Two days later, I happened to be walking past the area. When I saw Amena, once again. Clad in a colourful printed sarce, she was earnestly requesting the passengers to buy at least one copy of any of the magazine she was selling.



Trying her luck with a car rider. —Star Photo

She provided an interesting insight into the business. Replying to the question as to why she chose this particular work, her answer was, "Apa, this is more dignified than working as a maid in a household or begging."

She went on to say that about 10 women get about 10 to 15 popular Bangla weeklies each to sell in one day. They get it from a supplier at Baitul Mukarram. The time frame of the contract is between 8 am to 5 pm each day.

Each one of them has to pay Taka 9 per day to the supplier or the mahajan at the end of the day. "We get them on cash payment and not on credit," she said adding, "my earnings are Taka 30 per day after paying the daily tool."

A cheerful Amena in her mid-thirties said that she was in this trade for the last two years. A widow, she supported herself and five children with her earnings. Most of her customers were boys of young age; women generally would not spend money on magazines, Amena observed.

It is true, that after 1971, women have taken to a number of professions outside their occupation as housewives. The largest number of women, however, were in the garment industry. But with the passage of time more and more avenues are opening up, allowing women to take up other jobs too, like the Amenas of today, a one time shy village girls, braving the hazardous traffic of Dhaka, in search of a decent livelihood.



A painting of artist SM Sultan has recently been displayed in the Centre for South East Asian Studies of Kyoto University, Japan. Professor Yoshihiro Kaida and Professor Toru Yana of Kyoto University are seen in the picture.

BNP govt to patronise artists, writers: Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said on Thursday that the timeless and inspiring poems and songs of Rabindranath and Nazrul have awakened the entire nation in its struggle for independence and the Liberation War as well as achieving success against autocracy during mass upsurge of the nineties, reports BSS.

Inaugurating a two-day function on the occasion of birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam on a national level, the Prime Minister said the extraordinary creativity of these two great poets have immensely enriched Bengali language, literature, music and culture. Their great contribution has earned international recognition and glory for the nation and the entire Bengali speaking population, she said.

Begum Zia said that it was the desire of her government to see that our national literature, art and culture could flourish in totality.

The Prime Minister gave a categorical assurance that the present government would not hesitate to extend every possible cooperation and patronage to the artists and writers for total development of national literature, art and culture and for the welfare of artistes and litterateurs.

The Minister for Education and Cultural Affairs, Prof. A.Q.M. Badruddoza Chowdhury, attended the function as the special guest held at the Shilpakala Academy.

Presided over by Prof. Anisuzzaman of Dhaka University, the inaugural function was also addressed by I.U. Malik, Additional Secretary in-charge, Cultural Ministry, and Amanullah Chowdhury, MP.

Begum Khaleda Zia referred to the versatile contributions

of both Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam in our national life and said the anniversary of the two great poets was being celebrated on a national scale today in the completely changed circumstances and a new context after establishment of a democratic government elected by the people following the success of mass upsurge of the nineties and fall of autocracy.

The Prime Minister said Rabindranath as the noblest moulder of Bengali language and literature has, through his incomparable works, enriched the store-house of Bengali literature and music. His immense and vast works have portrayed the eternal nature of Bengal, happiness and woes of the people, their pangs and sufferings, hopes and aspirations.

Spiritual thoughts, national consciousness and humanistic values, have also been reflected in his literature.

Paying tributes to Kazi Nazrul Islam as the symbol of our national hopes the Prime Minister said he was the unparalleled moulder of rebel consciousness in Bengali literature.

She said his creative genius expressed in literature, language, music and culture have enriched the Bengali language, literature, music and culture. His works are also resonant with the hopes and aspirations, struggle and longings of the people, she said.

On the other hand he has portrayed national consciousness and the yearnings of the people—their identity, history and heritage. The Prime Minister said Nazrul has championed Hindu-Muslim unity and the heritage of both the communities in a unique way in the Bengali literature.

Describing Nazrul Islam as the national poet for the awakening of the country and for pioneering Muslim renaissance she said his writings has been used by the people as weapon during anti-British independence movement and struggle against all kinds of oppressions, exploitation, deprivation, superstitions and dogmas.

The poet has boldly pronounced the message of independence and has sung for destroying fetters.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said Nazrul as a humanist and soldier for truth and justice has specially portrayed the land and the time in his works in a significant way.

She said the literature and music of Rabindranath and Nazrul constituted priceless treasures of Bengali literature. Their contribution in poetry and songs is memorable.

Begum Zia said the essence of our nationalism represented integration of our language, literature, culture, religious identity and values of the people of this land with their own distinctiveness within the geographical and territorial boundary of this country.

These two poets, she said immensely contributed towards origin, development and construction of our nationalism though they might be indirect. The Prime Minister said we must make endeavours to develop our literature and also devote ourselves in upholding the flag of our independence and sovereignty as well as remembering the inherent truth and strength of our nationalism.

The unfading memory of 1952 historic Language Movement, the consciousness of 1971 Liberation War would continue to respond to the memory of Rabindranath and Nazrul will lie in special dedication to our own literature and culture.

Call to help flourish latent talents of children

Minister for Education and Cultural Affairs Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury laid emphasis on flourishing of latent talents of the children for building a happy and prosperous society, reports BSS.

The minister was speaking as chief guest at the annual prize distribution and cultural function of Chan Krira Sangskritik and Social Welfare Sangsad at Shishu Academy in the city Thursday afternoon.

Prof B Chowdhury said, after independence, we have spent a long time for restoring democratic rights of the people and implementation of the programme for building a bright future for our next generation has been delayed. Terming children as the future

of the nation, he said proper attention should be given for making them worthy citizens of the country for a better future of the country. He opined that the children should be given proper education and easy access to arts and cultural arena for flourishing of their talents and human qualities.

Later, the Minister gave away prizes among the winners of different cultural competitions. The prize distribution ceremony was followed by cultural function presented by the children of the Sangsad.

Haj team to leave for Jeddah soon

Fake policeman arrested

By Staff Correspondent

Mirpur police Thursday arrested a fake policeman, Nurul Alam from Mirpur area.

According to a DMP press release, Alam used to realise money from various quarters identifying himself as an official of Detective Branch of police.

A case has been filed with Mirpur police in this regard.

A five-member Haj delegation led by State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M A Mannan will leave for Jeddah soon to represent the government of Bangladesh during the coming Haj period, reports BSS.

The other members of the delegation are ABM Zahidul Hoq, MP of Kishoreganj, Mashhur Rahman, MP of Jhenaidah, Mohammed Fazur Rahman, MP of Natore and Moulana S M Ruhul Amin, Khatib of Banghahati Alia Madrasa Mosque, Sreepur, Gazipur.

Pak MPs laud relief activities

The visiting 3-member Pakistan Parliamentary delegation led by Senator Kazi Hussain Ahmed Thursday called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Secretariate, reports UNB.

The delegation handed over a cheque for Taka 15 lakh to Prime Minister's Relief Fund. This amount was collected by the Jamaat-e-Islami of Pakistan.

During the meeting, the Pakistan delegation lauded the relief and rehabilitation measures taken by the government to ameliorate the sufferings of the affected people.

The members also felicitated Begum Zia on assuming

the office of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

Begum Zia thanked the Pakistan government and its people for standing by the side of Bangladesh people in time of their miseries.

Begum Zia apprised them of the effects of the devastating cyclone and post-cyclone relief and rehabilitation programmes taken up by the government.

She also recalled the visit of the Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif during the devastating cyclone.

During the meeting, they also stressed on the unity and solidarity of the Islamic Ummah.

JUCSU polls schedule

SAVAR, June 6 : The Election Commission for Jahangirnagar University Central Students Union (JUCSU) and its six-hall unions today announced detailed schedule for the elections to be held on July 6, reports BSS.

According to the schedule final voter lists will be published on June 12, nomination papers will be distributed on June 13 and 15 and nomination papers will be received on June 17. Last date for withdrawal of candidature is June 20 and on the same date final lists of candidates will be published.



World famous dress designer Even Tampubolon (from left fourth) and wife of Indonesian Ambassador Hestia Soemakno (fifth) with other participants in the charity dress show held in aid of cyclone victims in Dhaka Wednesday.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- Beverly Hills —
- Intertained
- Harem room
- Fuss
- Pure
- refraining ar. colloq.
- Tear
- Father and mother
- Cherry —
- Woody plant
- Spoken
- Comely
- Negligent; heedless
- Free; unattached
- River duck
- Gold symbol
- Sea eagle
- Metal fasteners
- Content
- Spielberg alien

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | |
|---------------|-------|-------|
| APSE | ALB | ELBA |
| LEAN | LEI | MEAN |
| ANY | STAND | ACT |
| IN | SPAR | IF |
| ALTER | APARA | |
| SNOUT | HIS | ORA |
| ETON | TOD | TOAD |
| ASP | SAW | BASTE |
| | SLAB | FACTY |
| PA | ANS | SILT |
| ALA | TAPES | WOE |
| CONTAMINATION | | |
| TETE | AND | ONLY |

DOWN

- Headgear
- Harem room
- Attached part
- Solitary
- Mexican
- Indian
- Place of lettuce
- garde
- Lesson; diminish
- Pope's scari
- Underworld
- god
- Imitate
- Sins
- Meeting room
- City in Russia
- Escapes
- Chief artery
- In an inclined position
- Canonized person
- Tanned skin
- Make vigorous
- Withbound
- Favorable opportunity
- Garment
- Spare
- Former Russian rulers
- Escapes
- Periods of time
- Wine cup
- essence
- Fed. agcy.
- Timid
- Netherlands commune
- Tautonic dally

Seminar on ectopic pregnancy held

SSMCH Correspondent

A seminar on "Ectopic pregnancy" was held on Thursday at Sir Salmullah Medical College with Prof Anwara Begum in the chair.

Organised by the Club of Sir Salmullah Medical College, the seminar was also addressed by Prof. Mahmuda Khatun, Prof MA Majid, Prof Haedytul Islam and Dr Dipite.

Prof Anwara Begum said the patients who are suffering from ectopic pregnancy should be treated quickly and thus the death rate can be reduced.

Seminar on French archaeology June 9

A seminar on "French Archaeology in the World" will be held at the Alliance Francaise in Dhaka on June 9, reports BSS.

Prof. Andre Laronde of Universite De Paris-Sorbonne will present key-note paper in the seminar, which will be organised by the Centre for Scientific and Technological Information (CESTI).

Education Secretary A.N.M. Eusuf, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. M. Maniruzzaman Mia, Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Prof. Kazi Saleh Ahmed, Ambassador of France in Bangladesh Serge Degallaix and Ambassador of Egypt in Bangladesh Mohammad Mostafa Badr will address the seminar.

NBCB training course

A ten-day training course on upazila library management organised by National Book Centre of Bangladesh (NBCB) begins tomorrow (Saturday).

Mahila Dal meet

A meeting of the Jatty-atabadi Mahila Dal executive committee will be held tomorrow (Saturday) at 10.30 am at the BNP central office, says a press release.

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely

By Staff Correspondent

Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind with a few moderately heavy fall at places may occur Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi divisions. Day temperature likely to remain unchanged.

South west monsoon likely to sweep over Bangladesh within next three to four days. Heavy rainfall warning: Heavy rainfall is expected at one or two places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna divisions during next 48 hours.

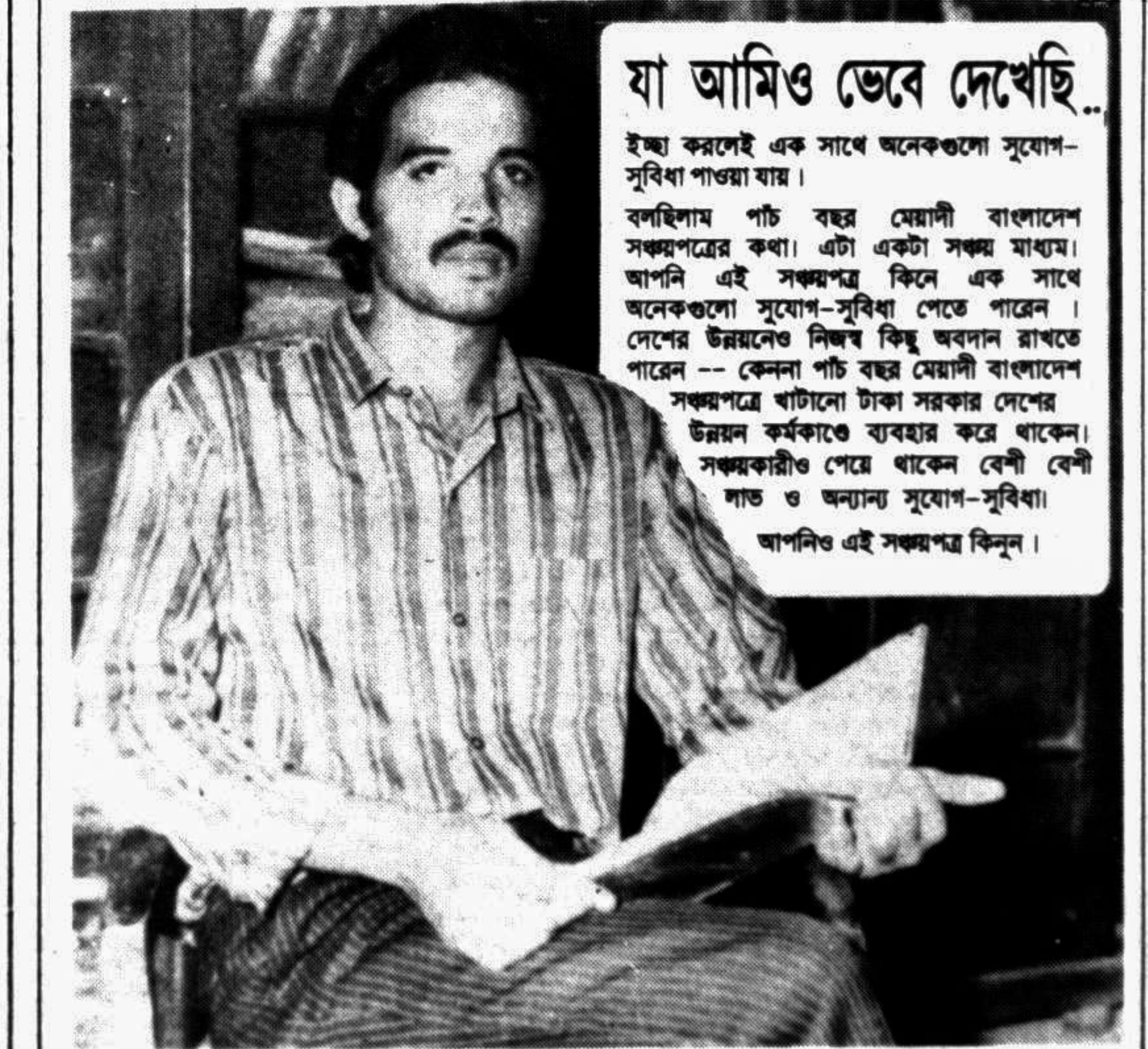
Outlook for subsequent 2 days: Little change. Extended outlook for another 5 days: No marked change.

The temperature and humidity of some major-cities on Thursday were:

| Cities/Towns | Temperature in Celsius | | Humidity | |
|--------------|------------------------|------|----------|-----|
| | Max | Min | 9am | 6pm |
| Dhaka | 30.2 | 24.4 | 89 | 93 |
| Chittagong | 31.0 | 26 | 74 | 80 |
| Khulna | 30.6 | 26 | 85 | 100 |
| Rajshahi | 28.8 | 23.5 | 95 | 95 |
| Sylhet | 32 | 22.3 | 85 | 71 |
| Rangpur | 32.1 | 25.2 | 86 | 82 |
| Jessore | 30.2 | 25.1 | X | X |

Friday

- Morning session**
- 8-00 Opening and recitation from Al-Quran
 - 8-10 News in Bangla
 - 8-15 Documentary: ZOO-2000
 - 8-40 Natun Kuri
 - 10-00 News in English
 - 10-05 Documentary: Voice of the Planet
 - 11-15 Moner Mukure
- Evening session**
- 3-00 Opening and recitation from Al-Quran
 - 3-15 Recitation from the Tripitaka
 - 3-20 Alor Dishari: Children's programme on religion Shikshangon
 - 3-40 News in English
 - 4-10 Film: The Chronicles of Narnia
 - 4-40 Jibon-o-Projukt: Introducing technology
 - 5-20 News in Bangla
 - 5-30 BTC Cup Football Final
 - 8-00 News in Bangla
 - 8-40 E Shaptasher Natok: Drama of the Week
 - 10-00 News in English
 - 10-30 Film: L A Law
 - 11-30 Khabar/The News
 - 11-45 Close Down.



যা আমিও ভেবে দেখেছি

ইচ্ছা করলেই এক সাথে অনেকগুলো সুযোগ-সুবিধা পাওয়া যায়।

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় পাঁচ বছর মেয়াদী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের ক্যা। এটা একটা সফল মাধ্যম। আপনি এই সফলপত্র কিনে এক সাথে অনেকগুলো সুযোগ-সুবিধা পেতে পারেন। দেশের উন্নয়নে নিজস্ব কিছু অবদান রাখতে পারেন — কেননা পাঁচ বছর মেয়াদী বাংলাদেশ সরকারের বাটিনো টাকা সরকার দেশের উন্নয়ন কর্মকাণ্ডে ব্যবহার করে থাকেন। সফলকারীও পেয়ে থাকেন বেশী বেশী লাভ ও অন্যান্য সুযোগ-সুবিধা। আপনিও এই সফলপত্র কিনুন।

পাঁচ বছর মেয়াদী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

লাভ ১৮। ১০০ টাকা মেয়াদান্তে কৃষিপেরে ১৯০ টাকা হয়। মেয়াদপূর্তি আগেও আনুপাতিক হারে লাভসহ ভানানো যায়।

অন্যান্য সুবিধা:

- লাভ সম্পূর্ণ আয়করমুক্ত।
- আয়কর রেয়াত পাওয়া যায়।
- নগদ জামানত হিসাবেও পুঁজি হয়ে থাকে।
- ক্রেতা দোমিনী নিয়োগ করতে পারেন।

সর্বোচ্চ একনামে ২ লক্ষ এবং দু'নামে ৪ লক্ষ টাকা এই সফলপত্রে বাটিনো যায়।

বিভিন্ন শৃঙ্খানবর এই সফলপত্র জাতীয় সরকার ঘুরে, ব্যাংক ও ডাকঘর থেকে কেনা ও ভানানো যায়।

জাতীয় পরিদপ্তর

সফল পরিদপ্তর

• আমারা সবাই সফলকরী হতে পারি যদি আমরা ইচ্ছা করি।