

Did you know?

The Potala Palace is located in Lhasa, Tibet. The building measures 400 metres east to west and 350 metres north to south, with sloping stone walls averaging more than 16 ft thick at the base. Copper was poured into the foundations to help proof it against earthquakes.



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Draw up plan to check tailbacks, water-logging, JS body asks DCC

RASHIDUL HASAN

A parliamentary committee yesterday asked the top officials of Dhaka City Corporation to come up with a detailed plan to rid the capital of water logging, tailbacks and dirt.

The parliamentary standing committee on LGRD and cooperatives ministry told the DCC high-ups to submit the plan at its next meeting.

It also decided to organise an inter-ministerial meeting soon at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban to discuss issues ranging from water logging to unplanned digging of roads in the city.

The committee asked the LGRD and cooperatives ministry to take initiatives paving the way for DCC polls as early as possible to elect a new mayor.

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# Downpour worsens traffic jam in city

Many streets waterlogged

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Heavy rainfall sent many areas in the capital to ankle to knee-deep water yesterday morning, bringing immense sufferings to the dwellers.

Office-goers, students and businessmen struggled to find vehicles in the rain for most of the rush hours. Many had to wade through knee-deep through water and muck overflowing the sewers to reach destinations.

According to the Met Office, Dhaka received 79 mm of rainfall between 6:00am and noon yesterday, which is the highest in the country.

The heavy rainfall occurred due to the influence of monsoon and north-westerly wind blowing over the country, said a weather officer. A low has formed in the northwest Bay. If it turns into depression the country will experience heavy rainfall, he said.

The rainwater has submerged roads at different points including Shantinagar, Malibagh, Shyamoli, northern part of Bijoy Sarani, Mohakhali, Lalmatia, part of Dhanmondi, Pallabi bus stoppage, Mirpur section-10, Kazipara, Monipur, Shewrapara

and Sheraton Hotel intersection.

Torrential rain caused water logging at least at 20 different points in the city, which worsened the traffic jams on different roads, said the traffic control department of Dhaka metropolitan police.

Many vehicles, especially the CNG-powered auto-rickshaws, got stuck on the streets as water entered their exhaust pipes, causing jams on the arterial roads.

Abul Kalam Azad, a resident of Duaripara, said it took him around two hours to reach Shewrapara from Duaripara in the morning, which usually takes only half an hour.

The road from Mirpur Golchakkar to Kazipara went under ankle to knee-deep water. Vehicular movement on the road became very slow in the morning, he said.

Shima Talukdar, a resident of Mirpur section-10, said it took him around an hour to reach Monipur High School due to the water-logging, as it usually takes five minutes by rickshaw.

"As exams of my daughter are going on, we have to attend the school wading through filthy water," she added.



PHOTO: STAR

A school-going child stares at the waterlogged Dhanmondi-8/A street in the capital, which went under water in yesterday morning's rain.



PHOTO: STAR

## Rare slow loris rescued in CHT

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Khagrachhari

A baby monkey of a rare species has been taken to safety from a group of youths at Munigram in the district.

Officials of Khagrachhari Divisional Forest identified it as Bengal slow loris which is locally known as Lajjabati Banor. The scientific name of the species is *Nycticebus bengalensis*.

Forest officials got information about the baby monkey from Mohammad Rahed Hossen, sadar upazila nirbahi officer, said forest office sources. Then they went to the village and took the monkey to the forest office.

The youths caught it Tuesday evening at the village adjacent to Zugalchhari reserve forest in Khagrachhari

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## Appointment of ASPs at police stations not now

Decision comes in the face of resentment among inspectors

KAILASH SARKAR

The Police Headquarters yesterday postponed its decision to directly appoint BCS (Bangladesh Civil Service) cadres as officers-in-charge of police stations instead of the inspectors and sub-inspectors.

The decision was taken at a meeting at the Police Headquarters in the afternoon following resentment brewed up among the inspectors and sub-inspectors over the previous decision, sources present at the meeting said.

Contacted, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Nur Mohammad, who chaired the meeting, admitted the postponement of the decision, but declined to elaborate further.

Earlier on Tuesday, he defended the move to appoint BCS cadres as OCs saying it would improve service and quality of investigations, and lessen the workload of the field-level policemen.

"Those who are corrupt and have vested interests are opposing the changes," the IGP said.

However, the meeting yesterday also decided to expedite the process of appointing two inspectors in each police station instead of a single one.

"The meeting prioritised doubling the number of inspectors in each police station. The process of appointing the BCS cadres as the OCs will begin at a later stage," Assistant Inspector General (AIG-Recruitment and Management) Atiqul Islam told The Daily Star.

He also said the process to appoint two inspectors will begin within a month and some 550 sub-inspectors will be promoted to inspectors very soon as part of the process.

The government earlier this month decided to appoint assistant superintendents of police (ASP) and assistant commissioners (AC) as the heads of some 600 police stations in the country.

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## No rule of law in country

Says NHRC chief

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The country is devoid of the rule of law, said Prof Mizanur Rahman, the chairman of National Human Rights Commission, yesterday.

The rule of law is totally absent in the country where most people fail to get justice because of poverty and ignorance, he said at the launching ceremony of a policy note on the judiciary at TK Bhaban at Karwan Bazar in the capital.

Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), a research organisation of BRAC University, published the note with a recommendation for forming a supreme judicial commission to appoint judges to the Supreme Court.

The NHRC chairman said the court in the country is only for the rich and the hope of

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## 'Stalker' kills schoolgirl, then stabs himself

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth stabbed himself in the abdomen after stabbing to death a teenage schoolgirl storming her residence in Tongi yesterday evening.

Deceased Nasrin Sultana, 14, was a student of class VIII of Shamsuddin Memorial School at Morkun in the town, while the youth was identified as Omar Faruk, 24. He has been stalking Nasrin for one year, Nasrin's relatives alleged.

Witnesses said Faruk stormed Nasrin's house around 6:00pm in the absence of her parents and started stabbing her shutting the door. After receiving the first stab, Nasrin managed to open the door and tried to come out of the house, but Faruk continued stabbing her.

"When locals approached the house, Faruk stabbed once in his abdomen. People then caught him and gave a good beating before handing over to police," Mamun, a neighbour, said.

Later, they rushed Nasrin to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where doctors declared her dead at around 8:00pm.

Police took Faruk to DMCH. His condition was critical. Nasrin's maternal uncle Abul Hossain Bhasani alleged that

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## BNP lawmakers form human chain to protest PM's remarks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP lawmakers yesterday formed a human chain in the capital protesting Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's derogatory remarks about Khaleda Zia, leader of the opposition in parliament.

A total of 16 MPs, out of 35, including BNP standing committee member Moudud Ahmed and Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abidin Farroque attended the programme held in front of the National Press Club.

Terming the prime minister's remark "verbal terrorism", Moudud said the nation does not expect such words from a premier.

"Our nation will learn from the speech of prime minister but she (Hasina) undermined herself by making such remarks about the leader of the opposition," he added.

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## Narsingdi bus collision kills 9

A CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

At least nine people, including three women, were killed and 17 others were injured in a head-on collision between two buses on the Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Raypura upazila of Narsingdi yesterday.

The identities of six out of nine deceased could not be known immediately while the rest three were Abdul Hye Sarkar, 80, Aiba Begum, 40 and Anwar Hossain, 25 -- all hailing from different villages of Narsingdi.

Meanwhile, at least seven people were killed and 47 others were injured in separate road accidents in Comilla, Mymensingh and Dinajpur yesterday.

In the accident of Narsingdi, six people died on the spot while three more people succumbed to their injuries at Narsingdi General Hospital. The bodies were sent to Narsingdi General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

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## Matia for justified use of NGOs' foreign funds

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A section of non-government organisations (NGOs) takes up foreign funded projects without analysing the country's socio-economic and ecological realities and the need of the people, Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury said yesterday.

"We [NGOs] don't judge the pros and cons of a project if we get funding. That's our [NGOs'] attitude," she said, suggesting that this attitude needs to be changed if NGOs want real change.

The minister came down heavily on a project of planting eucalyptus and acacia in the country's northern districts saying that those trees were planted with donor money although they

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## Cops raid city Jamaat office, arrest 25

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police arrested 25 leaders and activists of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami and its student organisation Islami Chhatra Shibir from its office at Paltan in the capital early yesterday.

The detainees were then produced before a Dhaka court from where they were sent directly to jail in the afternoon.

Police raided Jamaat's office at Paltan and detained 25 persons around 5:30am after being tipped off about

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মাসে রোজারের শুভকক্ষ

ইসলামী ব্যাংক অফ বাংলাদেশ

রহমত, মাগফিরাত ও নাজাতের বরকতময় মাস রমজান। এ মাসে প্রতিটি নেক কাজের সওয়াব বহুগুণ বাড়িয়ে দেয়া হয়।

প্রত্যেক সাহল ব্যক্তি এ মাসে অন্তত ১টি অতি দরিদ্র পরিবারকে খাওয়ানোর দায়িত্ব দিন অথবা প্রতিদিন কমপক্ষে ১ জন রোযাদারকে ইফতার/সাহরী করান।

এ মাসে বেশী বেশী দান-সাদকা করুন। শামা-রোযার মতোই যাকাত ফরজ। সঠিক হিসাব করে যখনই যাকাত দিন।

যাকাত ও সাদকা দেয়ার সময় পরীবা আত্মীয়-স্বজন ও প্রতিবেশীদের অগ্রাধিকার দিন। প্রতি বছর অন্তত ১টি পরিবারকে স্বাবলম্বী করার চেষ্টা করুন।

জীবনের সকল ক্ষেত্রে অপব্যয় ও অপচয় বন্ধ করে উৎস সম্পদ দারিদ্র্য দূরীকরণে ব্যয় করুন।

এ মাসে নিত্যপ্রয়োজনীয় জিনিসপত্রের দাম কমিয়ে দেয়ার মাসের প্রতি সম্মান দেখান এবং সাধারণ মানুষের জীবনযাত্রা সহজ করুন।

খাদ্য ও নিত্যপ্রয়োজনীয় জিনিসপত্রের দাম বাড়ানোর উদ্দেশ্যে মজুদদারী হারাম।

ব্যবসার পণ্য সম্পর্কে মিথ্যা বলা, পণ্যে ভেজাল বা বিধাক্ত রসায়ন (কেমিক্যাল) মেশানো, ওজনে বা পরিমাণে কম দেয়া বড় ধরনের গুনাহের কাজ। এ জাতীয় কাজ থেকে বিরত থাকুন।

আসুন, আমরা সত্যতা, বিশ্বস্ততা ও দায়িত্বানুষ্ঠিত সাথে কাজ করে বিপুল সম্ভাবনাময় এ দেশকে দারিদ্র্যমুক্ত সমৃদ্ধশালী দেশ হিসেবে গড়ে তুলি।

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Today's Iftar 6:38 pm

Ending time for tomorrow's sehri 4:08 am

Prayer Timing August 12

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4-08	4-18
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Maghrib	6-38	6-48
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

OnlinePoll

Do you agree with BNP that the billion dollar loan deal with India is a "pact of slavery"?

Yes (43.5%) No (56.1%) No Comments (0.4%)

Total votes: 3228

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think the government's steps to keep the commodity prices stable during Ramadan are sufficient?

Please cast your vote at www.thedailystar.net

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