

RAIN LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY
Unb, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at a few over Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places,	Met Office said. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.	Country's highest temperature 36.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 19.5 degrees at Rangpur.	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage			
	The sun sets in the capital today at 6:33pm and rises tomorrow at 5:16am.	Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening		
			Dhaka	33.6	23.8	71	65	Khulna	35.0	22.0	71	69
			Chittagong	33.6	25.5	63	79	Barisal	32.8	23.0	71	76
			Rajshahi	36.4	23.5	63	64	Sylhet	32.8	20.7	68	65
			Rangpur	31.6	19.5	78	68	Cox's Bazar	34.5	25.5	66	84

NEWS IN brief

Ward councillor of Ctg sent to jail in rape case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A Chittagong court yesterday sent the councillor of ward no-32 of the city to jail in a rape case after he surrendered before it.

Eight weeks ago, the councillor, Nurul Haq, 72, got bail from the High Court in the case.

On February 19, the victim woman in her case said Nurul raped her in her house in the city.

CHILDREN'S MALNUTRITION

Health experts urged to pay attention

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Director of Chittagong Medical College Hospital Brig Gen Khandaker Shahidul Ghani yesterday said health professionals should be more attentive when managing children with severe acute malnutrition.

He was speaking as the chief guest at a function launching a nutrition unit at the paediatric ward of CMCH.

Concern Worldwide, an international NGO, arranged the event.

Dr Syed Izaz Rasul, head of urban programme of Concern Worldwide,

Ctg samity-Dhaka to honour GPA-5 scoring children

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chattagram Samity-Dhaka will accord a reception to its lifetime members' children who achieved GPA-5 in SSC and equivalent examinations of 2013.

The students have been requested to contact the samity in the capital's Topkhana Road at 9554794 and 9568954 by May 20 for registration. They can also e-mail at ctsamitydhaka@gmail.com or ctsamitydhaka@yahoo.com.



Children show photographs of their parents who went missing in the Rana Plaza disaster. They are still to know what happened to their parents as authorities wrapped up the rescue and search operation yesterday, 20 days after the nine-storey building collapsed on April 24. The photo was taken at Adharchandra High School playground on Saturday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

END OF SAVAR RESCUE DRIVE No solace for kids of missing

HELEMUL ALAM and BELAL HOSSAIN
BIPLOB

Though the losses are irrecoverable, the families of the deceased and the injured in the Rana Plaza collapse are either getting compensated or receiving aid to start life anew. But what about the young kids whose parents are still missing after the end of the rescue drive, and therefore cannot claim any compensation, salary or seek financial help?

It is not known how many people are unaccounted for as authorities called off the rescue and search mission yesterday, 20 days after the disaster.

In most cases, these kids had single parent. So, they have become virtually orphaned and have nobody to take care of.

The father of five-year-old Sumon "disappeared" one month after his birth. Her mother took a job in the garment industry and was getting along until April 24 when the nine-storey building where her mother worked collapsed.

"Her husband did not return after

leaving home one day. We could not trace him as we did not know his village home," said Amena Begum, grandmother of Sumon.

She said her daughter was their only breadwinner as her husband could not do anything but selling milk from their domestic cows.

Sumon is a nursery student.

Amena Begum has been looking for her body for the last 20 days, during which 1,115 bodies were recovered and 2,438 people were pulled alive. A total of 3,553 had been trapped. The total death toll stands at 1,127, with 12 having died in hospital.

"What will I do with this kid now? How will I bring him up? Neither I nor my husband have the capability to work anymore," said 58-year-old Amena.

Two-and-half-year-old Sirajul has almost a similar story. His father "went missing" when he was six months old and her mother was raising him alone until she went traceless following the collapse.

His grandmother, however,

recently identified the legs of his mother Mala Akhtar by the salwar she was wearing. The upper part of her body from the waist is missing.

The guardians of both Sumon and Sirajul cannot receive the salaries of their parents and compensations which the authorities are giving on the basis of the bodies.

Their future is now in uncertainty. And so is the future of Akhi, 6, and her brother Joy, 4. Their mother Nasima Akhtar joined the garment industry after her husband abandoned her when she was carrying Joy.

There are plenty of these stories.

Shimu, left by her husband, was struggling to survive with her three-year-old daughter by working in a garment factory in Rana Plaza and vanished in the tragedy.

Khadiza Begum and her six-month-old son Sohan also face bleak future with her husband, a garment worker in Rana Plaza, missing after the collapse. The distraught woman wailed, "I could console my son if we had a grave of him."

HC asks for list of missing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the government to submit a list of the names of missing Rana Plaza victims to it within a week.

The deputy commissioner of Dhaka and the chief inspector of factories and establishments under the labour ministry will have to prepare the list on the basis of identity cards, photos, appointment letters and other relevant documents to be collected from the near and dear ones of the missing victims, the court said.

The court also asked for all the papers and documents pertaining to the construction of Rana Plaza within the time.

The HC bench of Justice Mirza Hussain Haider and Justice Muhammad Khurshid Alam Sarkar will pass an order in this regard on May 21.

It passed the orders on hearing a rule issued on April 25, a day after Rana Plaza collapsed, killing at least 1,127 people.

Hearing another rule, the bench asked the government for a report on the investigation into the November 24 fire at Tazreen Fashions Ltd within two weeks. The fire left 112 dead.

Meanwhile, the court expressed dissatisfaction as National Human Rights Commission and Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association submitted two separate lists of the names of experts yesterday, more than five months after it asked the organisations for the lists within 10 days, so that it could form an independent committee to investigate the Tazreen fire incident.

Stephen J Rapp due today

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT



US Ambassador -At-Large for War Crimes Issues Stephen J Rapp arrives in the capital today for a two-day visit to discuss the rule of law in the country.

Ambassador Rapp will meet government officials and the civil society for the discussion, said a US Embassy press release yesterday.

During his previous three visits to the country, he shared ideas on war criminals trial and learned about the International Crimes Tribunal.

Ambassador Rapp heads the Office of Global Criminal Justice and advises the top US State Department officials on war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide issues.



DISCUSSION

Ten progressive left-leaning political parties will organise a discussion on "revising the Chittagong hill tracts land dispute resolution commission law".

Venue: Dhaka Reporters Unity; Time: 10:30am.

Memorial meeting

Kothashilpi Shawkat Osman Smriti Parishad will hold a memorial meeting marking Shawkat Osman's 15th death anniversary.

Venue: Bangladesh National Museum; Time: 5:00pm.

Discussion

Ministry of Social Welfare will organise a discussion on "developing the living standards of the hermaphrodite community".

Venue: Department of Social Services; Time: 10:00am.

Two hatchlings of Bulbuli in a nest on a Jarul tree on Jatiya Press Club premises Sunday.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED



SKYPE SCANDAL Ahmed Ziauddin responds to tribunal ruling

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Belgium-based Bangladeshi legal expert, whose alleged Skype talks with an international crimes tribunal chief led to the latter's resignation in December last year, has responded to a court's show-cause notice accusing him of "obstructing the fair process of the war crimes trial".

Ahmed Ziauddin made the reply through the Bangladeshi embassy in the Belgium capital, Brussels, more than four months after International Crimes Tribunal-2 (ICT) issued the notice.

The content of his reply was not made available to the media.

The tribunal-2 served the notice on Ziauddin on January 3, three weeks after Justice Nizamul Huq resigned as chairman of ICT-1 when a controversy started brewing after the alleged Skype conversations between the two regarding tribunal matters were leaked to the media.

In the rule, the tribunal-1 asked Ziauddin why legal proceedings should not be initiated against him for his "fallacious, offensive and unfounded remarks involving the judges of ICT-2 during a conversation with Justice Nizamul Huq".

ICT-1 headed by Justice Obaidul Hassan will pass an order in this regard on May 19.

Media should be discreet regarding stories on HIV

Workshop told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The media should maintain utmost discretion when broadcasting or publishing stories on people infected with HIV as they are often stigmatised by the society, participants of a daylong workshop said yesterday.

Considering the general fear in society about HIV and AIDS, journalists should not reveal the identities of the infected people, they added.

The workshop on HIV was organised by Modhumita project of Bangladesh Centre for Communication Programme in the capital's BIAM auditorium.

Morshed Noman, chief reporter of ABC Radio and one of the facilitators of the workshop, said the HIV infected people are discriminated even at home.



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