

CHANGE IN TEMPERATURE UNLIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Unib, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Chittagong, Sylhet, Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions till 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy rainfall is also likely

at places over the country, Met Office said.

Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:34pm and rises tomorrow at 5:33am.

Country's highest temperature 34.6

degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Jessore and lowest 24.3 degree Celsius in Rangamati.

The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening	Max:	Min:	Morning	Evening
Dhaka 32.5	27.6	77	75	Khulna 33.2	28.2	78	86
Chittagong 30.4	24.5	97	86	Barisal 32.5	26.6	81	98
Rajshahi 34.0	25.7	90	79	Sylhet 34.4	25.9	87	90
Rangpur 31.8	27.2	87	81	Cox's Bazar 32.4	26.2	91	77



Clockwise from left, students of Samajik Shikhhakendra Government Primary School on the capital's Bailey Road form a human chain before Jatiya Press Club yesterday protesting demolition of the school by Bangladesh Girl Guides Association during the Eid-ul-Fitr vacation. At one stage, Mohsin, one of the students demonstrating even in the scorching heat, fell sick and later was taken to a hospital. Only the sign board of the school still remains standing amid the rubble of the razed structure.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

BNP plans 13 days of protests

Dhaka rally against broadcast policy Aug 19

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP chief Khaleda Zia will join a rally in the capital on August 19, protesting the "heinous and black" national broadcast policy.

The BNP-led 20-party alliance will organise it at Suhrawardy Udyan, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam.

Alamgir told the press at the party's Nayapaltan office in the capital yesterday.

The alliance yesterday announced 13 days of protests over various issues, which include countrywide black flag processions on August 16 to condemn the Israeli aggression in Gaza.

Terming the broadcast policy "anti-people", which is aimed to "gag the media", Fakhru demanded that the government scrap it immediately.

The policy, passed on August 4, imposes a set of restrictions on television and radio broadcasts over different issues including those involving the armed forces and law enforcement agencies.

The alliance will launch an 11-day mass campaign

ARSON CASE

Indictment hearing against Fakhru deferred

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday deferred till September 4 the hearing on charge framing against BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and 45 others in an arson case.

The order came after lawyers for Barrister Mahbub Uddin Khokon and four others submitted separate petitions seeking an adjournment of the hearing.

In the petitions, Advocate Sanaullah Miah told the court that their client Khokon had earlier filed a leave-to-appeal petition with Supreme Court against an order of the High Court which was now pending. So he prayed for adjournment of the hearing until adjudication of the leave-to-appeal petition, he added.

Thirty-seven leaders and activists of BNP-led 18-party alliance (now 20-party) including Fakhru were present at the court yesterday while five including Khokon and former DCC mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka were absent.

Four others including Jamaat leader Maqbul

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Govt should carry on Pinak-6 search

Says Poba

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government should carry on the search for the sunken launch Pinak-6 for a few more days and try till the end, environmental group Poribesh Bachao Andolan (Poba) said yesterday.

The search operation failed due to a lack of manpower and technology; so modern machinery should be used, said Abdus Subhan, Poba's executive general secretary, speaking at a press conference at its office in the capital.

Pinak-6 sank in the Padma river on August 4 while carrying around 200 passengers. About 46 bodies were recovered, 50 people survived, and the rest went missing. The government called off the search on Monday after eight days, considering bad weather and Padma's strong currents.

Earlier, Syed Monowar Hussain, joint general secretary of Poba, called for coordination between the shipping department and Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) to ensure accountability and transparency in the shipping sector.

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LAND ROW BETWEEN SCHOOL, GIRL GUIDES ASSOC

Students' fate hangs in balance

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The fate of 43 students of a government primary school in the capital has become uncertain due to a land dispute between the school authorities and Bangladesh Girl Guides Association.

The students of Samajik Shikhhakendra Government Primary School at Bailey Road sat for an exam outdoors for the second consecutive day yesterday, as the association demolished their tin-roof building during the Eid-ul-Fitr holidays.

Teachers and students of the school and Bangladesh Students' Union formed a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club, protesting removal of the school from the land.

Rawshan Ara Begum, the school's headmistress, said when the school opened after

the holidays on August 7, they found the building demolished.

Rawshan, one of the four teachers at the school, said the institution was given government status in 1973, eleven years after the association established it.

"The association demolished the school building without following legal procedures," she said.

However, showing an order of the primary and mass education ministry, National Commissioner of the association Syeda Rehana Imam said the land belonged to them, and that the school was directed to be merged with Nidhu Smriti Primary School in Bijoynagar of the capital.

The ministry had passed the order in 2002, and revoked it in 2008. However, the

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EID CATTLE MARKETS

DSCC receives lower bids this year

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) yesterday invited bids for its 11 makeshift cattle markets in the capital and received offers adding up to a total of Tk 2.8 crore, which is Tk 3.4 crore less than last year's.

This year, the DSCC is going to set up two new markets, one stretching from Kamrangirchar Islam chairman house crossing to Buriganga embankment, and the other in Lalbagh instead of Armanitola cattle market in Nayabazar.

But offers for these two were far lower than expectations, as last year Armanitola cattle market alone fetched Tk 4 crore.

The highest Tk 1 crore was offered for Hajji Delowar Hossain market in Lalbagh, while Tk 1.1 lakh for Kamrangirchar market.

The bid for Jhigatola-Hajaribagh ground was lower too, which received only a Tk 11.1 lakh offer when it was Tk 55.3 lakh last year.

For Adarsha School field and its adjoining open spaces at

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PHOTO: STAR

Being imbued with this year's slogan "Youth and Health Matters", Free Birds Club brings out a cycle procession in the capital on International Youth Day yesterday. Starting from Katherpool in Gendaria, the cyclists pedaled through different areas before ending their procession at the Central Shaheed Minar. The photo was taken from in front of Jatiya Press Club.

OBSERVING INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

University students vow to fight corruption

Hold human chain at DU

DU CORRESPONDENT

Pledging to fight corruption at every level, a group of university students yesterday said they would launch a campaign to create general awareness about it.

Under the banner of Transparency International Bangladesh's youth engagement and support programme, the students formed a human chain at TSC on Dhaka University campus, marking International Youth Day, which is observed on August 12.

Prof Nasrin Ahmad, pro-vice chancellor of DU, who joined the programme, appreciating the youths, said they came forward with the commitment to fight corruption when question leaks in examinations, corruption in environment sector, and drug addiction were on the rise.

These youths also help the disaster affected people in the different areas of the country and raise awareness of child marriage, she said.

United efforts are needed to combat corruption as it is not possible for any individual alone, said TIB Deputy Executive Director Dr Sumaiya Khair.

Four carjackers arrested with two stolen cars in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Detectives arrested four carjackers and seized two stolen cars from their possession at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the capital on Monday.

On information, an anti-vehicle theft team arrested Nadim, 35, Jamal, 25, Kamal, 35, and Timthi Sarker, 21, police said yesterday.

In another drive, the team also seized two stolen motorcycles from a garage in Mohammadpur area.

Bangladesh needs to invest in youth

Says UNFPA rep Argentina Piccin

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

With a half of the country's population aged below 30, the importance of investing in the youth is most apparent in countries like Bangladesh, said Argentina Matavel Piccin, country representative of UNFPA yesterday.

Stating a UN research that showed 20 percent of the global young people of 15-24 years experience "mental health conditions", she urged the government and policy makers to "take special initiatives for the youth with mental health needs so that they can contribute their full potential for the development of the nation."

She was addressing a discussion organised by The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), United Nation Volunteer (UNV) and Bangladesh Protibondhi Foundation (BPF) in the BPF auditorium in the capital.

The event was organised marking International Youth Day with the theme: "Mental Health Matters".

M Moniruzzaman, officer-in-charge of UNIC, read out a message of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

"Wide-ranging efforts at all levels are needed to raise awareness about the importance of investing in and supporting young people with mental health conditions. Increased education is crucial in reducing stigma and in changing how we talk about and perceive mental health, the message read.

"Let us begin to talk about our mental-health in the same way we talk about our overall health," it added.

Anuja Begum, principal of Kalyani Inclusive School, highlighted how youngsters with mental health conditions often experience stigma and discrimination which discourage them from even seeking help.

Following the discussion, Piccin inaugurated an art exhibition by autistic children.

SUJAN'S CUSTODIAL DEATH

Magistrate visits 'places of torture'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Metropolitan Magistrate SM Ashiqur Rahman yesterday visited the places where garment-waste trader Mahbubur Rahman Sujan was allegedly tortured by Mirpur police before he died in custody.

He visited Mirpur Police Station and Sujan's residence in the capital's Sankar as a part of the judicial inquiry into Sujan's death.

During his visit at the police station, the magistrate scrutinised the CCTV footage of the station, said police sources.

The magistrate also examined rooms of the station where Sujan's widow Momtaz Sultana Lucy and their five-year-old son Rabbi were confined while Sujan was allegedly being tortured, they added.

At Sujan's house, Ashiqur Rahman visited the bathroom where Sujan was allegedly tortured by Sub-Inspector Jahidur Rahman Khan, said Lucy who accompanied the magistrate.

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Keep your eyes on

To Know is To Prevent

on page 3 every

THURSDAY & SUNDAY

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ApollOHOSPITALS

TOUCHING LIVES