

RAIN LIKELY

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

places over the country, Met Office said. Day temperature may fall slightly and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 6:17 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:40am.**

Country's highest temperature 33.5 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sylhet and Srimangal and lowest 23.9 degrees in Dinajpur. Highest and lowest temperature 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	31.0	25.2	82	74	31.5	25.8	85	88
Chittagong	29.7	25.4	83	77	29.9	25.2	90	92
Rajshahi	31.5	24.8	97	80	33.5	25.0	76	68
Rangpur	31.7	25.0	92	73	29.4	24.8	96	79

Engage in politics of sacrifice, not of indulgence

PM tells BCL at Suhrawardy rally

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked Bangladesh Chhatra League leadership and activists to get involved in the politics of sacrifice and nation building instead of the politics of indulgence.

Those who would run after money and wealth would die out in politics as in the past, she said, addressing the student body's rally in the capital's Suhrawardy Udyan.

"So, you will have to engage in politics to serve the nation inspired by the ideology of Bangabandhu. What I get is not the big thing but what I can give to the nation is," she said.

The Awami League chief said those who would give priority to personal needs could not give anything to the nation.

BCL President HM Badiuzzaman Shohag chaired the rally, which the student body organised in memories of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Fazilatunnesa Mujib.

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60pc of brick kilns eco-unfriendly

JS body asks for punishment of owners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A parliamentary body yesterday asked the forest and environment ministry to take punitive action against the owners who have failed to transform their brick factories through the use of environment-friendly zig-zag technology and are consequently contributing to pollution.

The parliamentary standing committee on forest and environment also asked the ministry to amend the environment court law, keeping the provision of filing an appeal against its order.

The Department of Environment (DoE) told the committee that around 40 percent of brick fields have been upgraded within the deadline of July in line with the government directives.

"The committee therefore asked... ministry officials to issue notices to all deputy commissioners to take action against the rest of the brick field owners who have defaulted," Hasan Mahmud, chief of the committee, told reporters after the meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban.

There are an estimated seven to eight thousand brick fields in the country, including 4,500 around the densely populated Dhaka city, causing grave concern of environmental hazards.

The brick factories have long been identified as a major source of air pollution, especially those still using outdated technology. Unfortunately, little was done in the past to eliminate or reduce the extent of pollution caused by these industrial units.

Living around brick fields may cause certain diseases induced by polluted air. These factories also cause the loss of soil fertility and damage crops.

In 2007, the DoE took an initiative to modernise the brick kilns by making mandatory the use of technologies less hostile to the environment by 2010.

The department at that time also decided not to renew the environmental clearance certificates to the brick kilns using old, conventional methods of production after 2010.

DoE made it mandatory to upgrade all brick kilns,

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CONTEMPT OF INT'L CRIMES TRIBUNAL PROCEEDINGS Prosecution misses hearing again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

None from the 19-member prosecution team turned up at the International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday to attend the scheduled hearing of a contempt of court allegation that the prosecutors themselves have brought against a Bangla daily for questioning the state lawyers' competence.

"No prosecutor is present... It's unfortunate and unexpected," said the tribunal chairman, Justice M Enayetur Rahim, at the beginning of yesterdays' proceedings at 2:00pm.

Prosecutor Mohammad Ali filed the contempt petition against a reporter, the editor, and the publisher of the Kaler Kantho for publishing a report headlined "Odokkho prosecutioner kormokando druto bichar shesh korte badha" [prosecution's inefficiencies hindrance to speedy trial] on May 11.

The petitioner, Mohammad Ali, last evening told The Daily Star that he came to the prosecution office around 1:00pm. "It was not in my memory," he said, and blamed his colleagues for the absence.

"Any other prosecutor could show up in the tribunal," he said. "It is problematic that the chief prosecutor [Golam Arief Tipoo] has been old and cannot remember things." Ali also said, "He [chief prosecutor] could have handed over his responsibility to some other prosecutor for today."

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REMARKS ON KHALEDA Fakhru takes his turn bashing Hasina

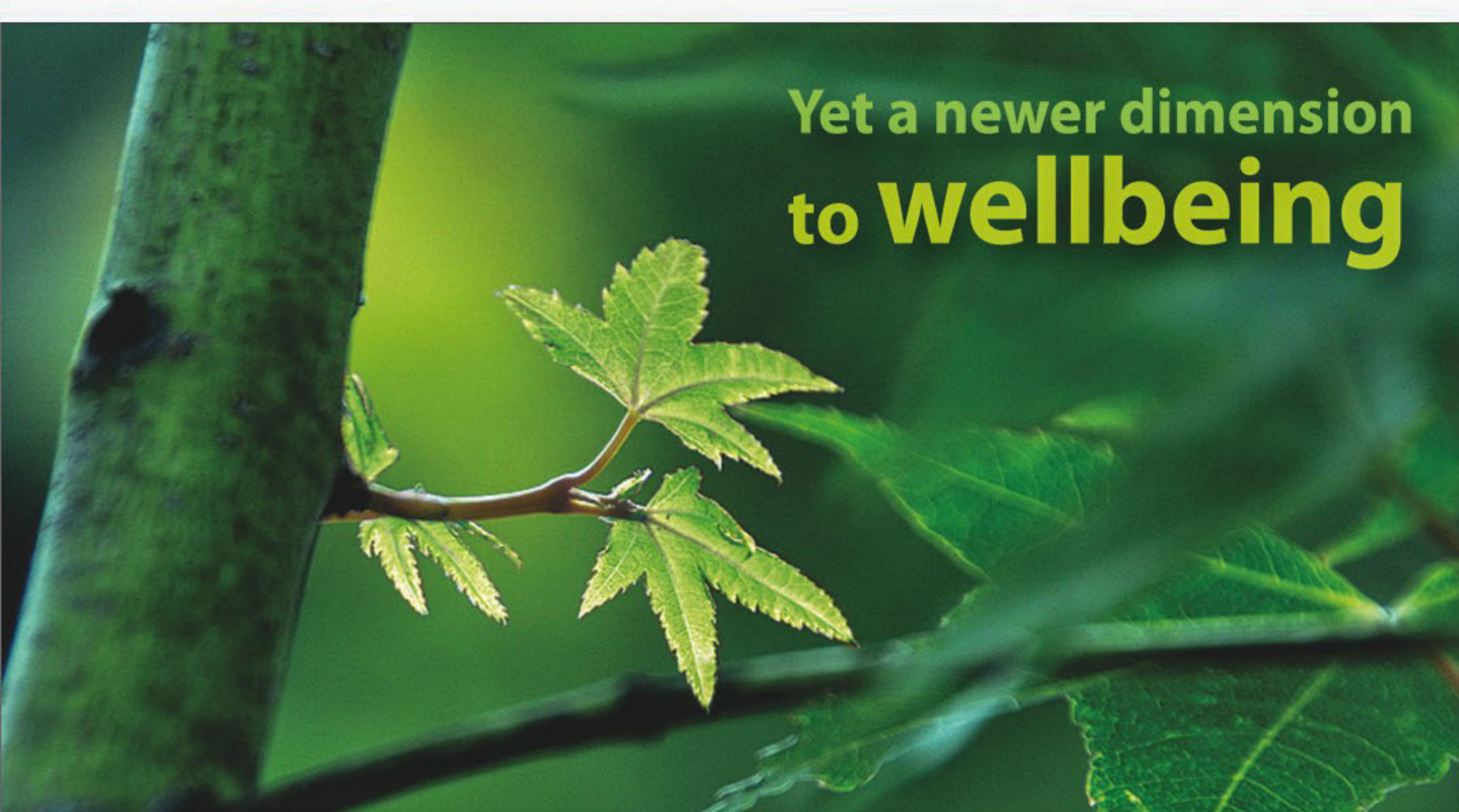
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP spokesperson Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir slammed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for terming Khaleda Zia a "killer" and "person with a sick mind".

He was speaking at the inaugural programme of a photo exhibition, organised by Jatiyatabadi Sangskritik Dal, cultural wing of BNP, at Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday, marking the 36th founding anniversary of BNP.

"Her [Hasina] remark against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is not only devoid of political decency, but also dangerous. She termed the person a killer and a person with sick mind, who was prime minister thrice," said the BNP

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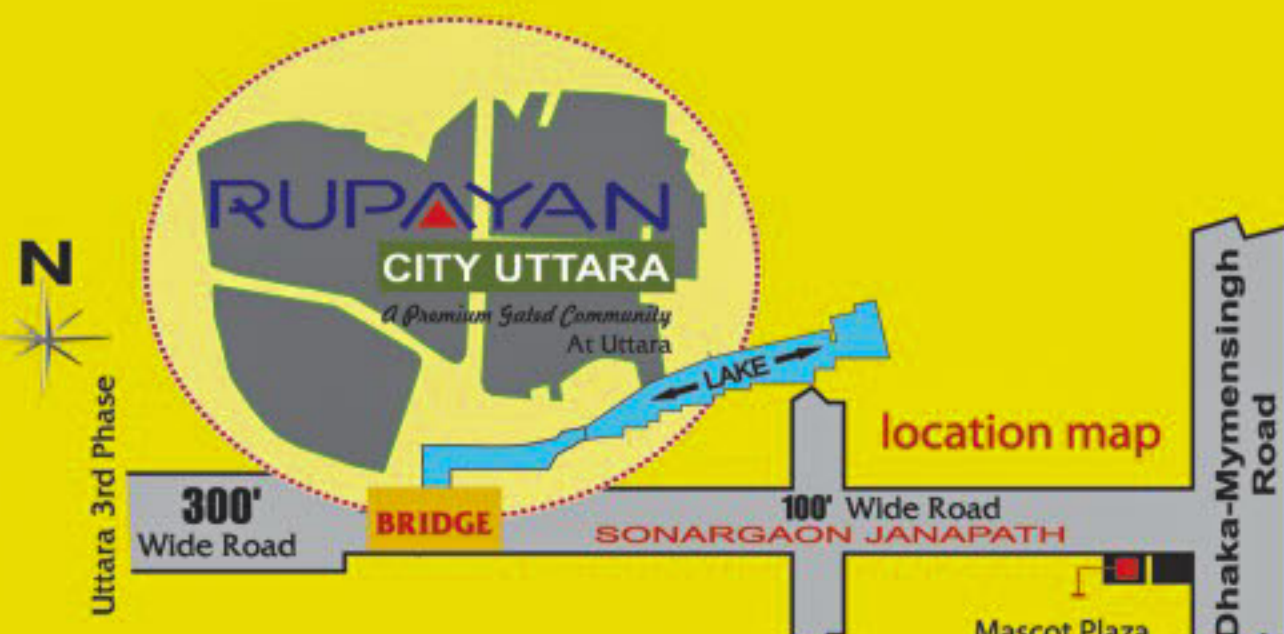


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