

RAIN LIKELY



WEATHER TODAY

Unb, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely to occur at many places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy rainfall is also likely at places over the country, Met Office said. Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. <b>The sun sets in the capital today at 6:12 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:42am.</b> Country's highest temperature 34.5	degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Chuadanga and lowest 24.4 degree Celsius in Rangamati.				Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage		Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage					
	<b>Max:</b>		<b>Min:</b>		<b>Morning</b>		<b>Evening</b>		<b>Max:</b>		<b>Min:</b>		<b>Morning</b>		<b>Evening</b>	
	Dhaka		33.0		26.7		71		65		Khulna		33.0		26.5	
	Chittagong		31.3		26.4		78		78		Barisal		31.2		25.7	
The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:	Rajshahi		33.8		26.8		83		78		Sylhet		32.8		25.0	
	Rangpur		33.0		27.4		84		76		Cox's Bazar		32.0		25.2	

TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR

School Uniforms



A sampling of Dhaka's school uniforms.

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

My first encounter with school uniforms was when I was six. A white shirt and blue shorts were mandatory at my first school, Blue Bird School in Sylhet. I wore them diligently if reluctantly for six years. When I graduated and moved to St Joseph's High School in Dhaka, the absence of school uniform was a surprise bonus.

I encountered uniforms again when my children started school. Unlike public schools in California, the private Challenger School required them. Buying uniforms every year became a ritual reminding us of the children's race towards adulthood. Only one store in the area sold the grey, maroon and white outfits, sewn from tough, child-proof fabric.

One of the delights of visiting a new country is watching flocks of school children in unexpected new uniforms.

In the West, school uniforms were introduced during the time of Henry VIII in England where the first widely-used uniforms – at Christ's Hospital school - were long coats dyed blue. However, during the height of Arab civilization, Madrasah students also wore uniforms conforming to Islamic dress code.

There is considerable debate over the benefit of uniforms. One school of research suggests children show more pride and behave better when wearing uniforms. But other findings do not agree. My sense is that it is probably better for younger children to wear uniform, but I am not convinced of the benefits for older children.

History and theories aside, uniformed children going to school in early morning is a visual treat in otherwise drab Dhaka. The city's countless private schools have diverse uniform requirements resulting in a rainbow of colours. Before school starts, uniformed children throng the alleys and smaller roads. Often they walk to school in groups, chatting away about everything under the sun. Sometimes they surround a *feriwallah* selling fruits or snacks. Neither rain nor cold nor heat can stop them. For those periods before and after school the air is filled with their sweet chatter which adds to our delight.

www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir

BNP faction attacks rivals at party meet

15 injured in Ctg party office

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

At least 15 BNP leaders were injured in an attack by a faction at a meeting of Raozan upazila unit at Chittagong city's Nasiman Bhaban party office yesterday afternoon.

The injured, including Mohammad Shafi, convener of Chittagong north district unit; MA Halim, organising secretary of pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Krishak Dal; and Sekandar Chowdhury, convener of Raozan municipality unit, were admitted to a city private hospital.

Nurul Amin, member of Chittagong north district unit BNP, said, at the end of the meeting at 5:00pm, around 50-60 people loyal to Gias Uddin Quader Chowdhury attacked them with hockey sticks and sticks.

The attackers had left within 20 minutes before the police rushed to the spot, he said.

Nezam Uddin, inspector (investigation) of Kotwali Police Station, said they heard about the incident.

No one was yet to come to the station to file a complaint till 7:20pm, he added.

Shafi, who was admitted to the hospital with leg injuries, said Hasan Chowdhury, convener of a committee of the upazila; and Anwar Hossain, joint convener, led the attack.

He said they were loyal to Aslam Chowdhury, convener of Chittagong north district unit, and the attackers supported Gias, a central committee leader former president of the unit and now a central committee leader. "Hasan and Anwar threatened us not to hold the meeting a few days ago."

As the meeting was being held, they launched the attack with some goons, he

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

SC JUDGES' IMPEACHMENT JS power to harm freedom of judiciary

Says Dr Kamal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gonoforum President Dr Kamal Hossain yesterday said the constitutional bill which will be placed tomorrow re-empowering the Jatiya Sangsad for impeachment of Supreme Court judges, would harm the independence of the judiciary, reported prothomalo.com and NTV.

"The judges have given one or two verdict, which stung them [the government]," he said, immediately making the mention of the seven murders in Narayanganj. They thought they would get scot-free after committing the

SEE PAGE 5 COL 3



People wading on what seems to be a swamp, but is actually a 20-foot wide road stretching from Dogai in Demra of the capital to Signboard area, yesterday. This road, which becomes waterlogged even in light rain, has been here for about 20 years, yet the authorities have failed to make it useable for pedestrians.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

RAPE OF ADIVASI LEADER PM urged to order action against culprits

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

President of Oikya NAP Pankaj Bhattacharya at a human chain yesterday urged the prime minister to order stern action against those who raped an indigenous woman leader in Gomostapur upazila of Chapainawabganj on August 4.

Oikya NAP, Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samiti and Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples Forum organised the programme in front of the Bangladesh National Museum in the capital.

The speakers at the human chain also demanded trial of killers of Dudu Soren. They expressed concern over all forms of violence against indigenous communities.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

KANDAPARA BROTHEL IN TANGAIL Dist admin shelters evicted sex workers

Assures them of security, rehabilitation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

The district administration yesterday temporarily sheltered some of the sex workers of 200-year-old Kandapara brothel, who have returned to their former home two months after eviction, at the training centre of a local NGO in Tangail town.

After their return on Tuesday, they started living in plastic shacks at the razed brothel site but they agreed to live elsewhere for now after being assured of security, permanent rehabilitation, and return of their land.

Around 100 sex workers and house owners were at the site when Deputy Commissioner Mahbub Hossain and Superintendent of Police Saleh Mohammed Tanvir, along with other officials, public representatives, and rights activists visited them yesterday.

The sex workers described their sufferings for eviction and demanded that they be allowed to live permanently in their home. An afflicted woman house owner even tried to self-immolate but the DC stopped her.

The day after their return, Islamist body Osamajik Karjokolap Protirodh Committee, which had evicted 1,500 people, including 600 sex workers, on July 12 in a bid of "some influential quarters to grab the brothel's 3.2-acre land, tried to drive out the victims again but were resisted by the administration.

The officials said there was no reason of worry because a committee was formed by the administration to hand over the brothel land to real owners within 15 days.

"We are preparing a list of the sex workers and house owners of the

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Greens want restoration of Buriganga

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Green organisations yesterday demanded restoring the Buriganga through setting up boundary pillars marking the area of the river's primary channel as per CS (Cadastral Survey) record.

The demand came at a human chain formed by different green organisations led by Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon in front of Jatiya Press Club, said a press release.

Leaders of the organisations said the original channel of the river is about to vanish from the map of Dhaka due to mindless encroachment and pollution.

Over the last 48 years, the water bodies and low-lying land of Dhaka city have been reduced by 32.50 and 52.50 percent respectively, they said.

Poba chairman Abu Naser Khan, its executive general secretary Abdus Sobhan, and Green Mind Society president Amir Hasan also spoke.

REMARKS ON AK KHANDKER'S BOOK BNP slams AL

Muhith rejects demand for censorship of book; Menon questions source of info

CITY DESK

The BNP yesterday ripped into the Awami League leaders for slating Air Vice-Marshal (ret'd) AK Khandker for his recent book, "1971: Bhetore Baire", in which he made the controversial claim that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had shouted "Joy Pakistan" at the end of his historic March 7 speech in 1971.

The book resented them because it speaks the truth, said party spokesperson Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir during a prayer event for late finance minister Saifur Rahman, at BNP's Nayapaltan office in the capital.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister AMA Muhith rejected Thursday's demand of AL and Jatiya Party lawmakers in parliament that the book be banned for "distorting historic facts".

He said one should protest a book only by writing another.

"No censorship...I strongly rejects the demand for censorship of any book... you can write another book to voice your thoughts," Muhith told the opening of a two-week book fair in the capital's public library, organised by Academic and Creative Association of Bangladesh.

Separately, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon said AK Khandker had reached the level of Tarique Rahman, the BNP senior vice chairman, by providing

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7

Man murders nephew after abduction

Body found after 6 days; the man, his friend held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A man along with his friend strangled one of his minor nephews for ransom after they had kidnapped the girl in Chapainawabganj town on August 30, said Rab.

The body of Kabita Khatun, 4, daughter of Korban Ali, was recovered from a grave at Poladanga Moholla in the town on Thursday night.

Earlier on the day, over suspicion Rapid Action Battalion held her uncle Md Shihab Reza, 24, at the victim's house where he used to live.

On his information, Rab nabbed his friend Sagar Ahmed, 24, in Rohanpur Boalia bridge area in Gomostapur.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

Three jailed for raping challenged girl

CITY DESK

A Gaibandha court on Thursday sentenced three youths to seven years' imprisonment and fined them Tk 1 lakh each in default to spend one more year in jail for raping a mentally challenged girl.

Gaibandha Women and Children Repression (Prevention) Tribunal Court Judge Arup Kumar Goshawmi gave the order against Pandit Mia, 17, Anisur Rahman, 16, and Ratan Mia, 17, all hailing from Par Baguria village under the sadar upazila, according to our Gaibandha correspondent.

The three took 14-year-old Maneka to a wheat

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4



Visitors take a look at the wide range of bonsais being displayed at the 16th Annual Bonsai Exhibition, organised by Bangladesh Bonsai Society, in WVA Auditorium in the capital's Dhanmondi till 8:00pm Monday. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Cell PHONE MISUSED IN DU ADMISSION TEST Seven held with answers

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University authorities yesterday caught seven admission seekers with answers to the admission test questions in the inbox of their mobile phones.

The detainees are Sanjana Binte Bashir, Faisal Kabir, Ahadur Rahman, Ariful Islam, Nurul Afsar, Mehedi Hasan and Ershad Haque. They appeared for the admission test of the university's C unit yesterday.

DU Proctor Prof Amzad Ali said invigilators caught the applicants in different exam centres with a SMS containing answers to a set of questions during the test.

Candidates of the admission seekers were cancelled instantly, said the professor, adding that cases would be filed with respective police stations.

However, of the seven, only Sanjana was let go after she gave a statement.

As many as 49,476 aspirants appeared in the hour-long admission test held in 21

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Keep your eyes on To Know is To Prevent on page 3 every THURSDAY & SUNDAY Get updated on advanced treatment facilities in Bangladesh

an initiative of: The Daily Star

