

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 33.2 L 20.3

CHITTAGONG
H 31.6 L 22.0

SYLHET
H 23.7 L 19.1

RAJSHAHI
H 35.6 L 21.6

KHULNA
H 35.6 L 23.5

BARISAL
H 34.0 L 22.7

RANGPUR
H 27.7 L 19.4

COX'S BAZAR
H 32.0 L 25.0

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty/squally wind is likely to occur at a few places over all the divisions in the country till 6:00pm today, said Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:15pm and rises tomorrow 5:48am.



Oblivious of the real problem that the recently constructed 24 concrete tubs have considerably narrowed down the footpaths next to the busy administrative and business hub of Fazlul Huq Avenue in Barisal city, Barisal City Corporation erected bamboo fences around the prickly palms planted there, right, in an apparent bid to safeguard pedestrians from being stung, aggravating the situation and raising doubts on the effectiveness of the "experimentation for a cleaner city". The space constraint and thorny problem was pointed out by The Daily Star through the photo on the left, taken on March 14 and published the next day. The photo on the right was taken on Wednesday. PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN

CITY CORPORATION ELECTIONS 2015

HC asks EC to accept late applications of councillor aspirants

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed the returning officers concerned to receive and scrutinise before the end of the day the nomination papers of 13 ward councillor aspirants in Dhaka city corporation elections to be held on April 28.

The HC came up with the orders following eight writ petitions filed by Mahmuda Begum, Shahnaz Habib, Nargis Begum Baby, Mahubb Foyez, Mahfuza Rina, Mollika Zaman Mukta, Lokman Hossain, AKM Nuruzzaman, Md Motiur Rahman, Md Sohrab Hossain, Hasna Begum, Setu Rahman and Aleya Khatun.

The petitioners claimed that the returning officers of Dhaka north and south city corporations have refused to receive their nomination papers for submitting those after 5:00pm on March 29, the last day for submission.

They prayed to the HC to direct the officers to receive and scrutinise their papers so that they can contest the elections.

Petitioners' counsels Manzill Murshid and AKM Ehsanur Rahman told The Daily Star that their clients went to the election offices in time on March 29 to submit their nomination papers, but they could not approach the offices by 5:00pm due to a tremendous rush of other candidates and their supporters.

Use of police uniforms, roles in films to require consent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Use of police uniforms and characters in films, dramas and visual media without prior permission from Bangladesh Police will now be considered an offence.

"Letters have already been sent to the information ministry, television channels and concerned department of the film industry," said Dhaka Metropolitan Police Additional Deputy Commissioner (media) Jahangir Alam Sarker yesterday.

Police characters with wrong badges and negative and comic roles create confusion and convey wrong messages, he said.

Film director, producer and script writer Kazi Hayat told BBC Bangla that this would be a new hassle for the film industry.

'TORTURE OF TUSHTI FOR DOWRY' DU peers, teachers want her husband punished

DU CORRESPONDENT

A few hundred students and teachers of Dhaka University gathered at Aparajeyo Bangla for the second day yesterday and demanded that Maj Nazir Uddin be terminated from the army by Sunday, for allegedly brutalising his wife, also a student of the university, for dowry.

He should be sacked by the time after a departmental inquiry, said Mosharruf Hossain, a professor at the management department, where the victim, Nusrat Jahan Tushti, is a master's student.

Addressing a rally, he threatened to organise tougher protest if the demand remains unmet.

A judicial investigation was also demanded.

Tushti is being treated in Dhaka Medical College Hospital, especially for head injuries.

Her younger brother, Muid Hassan Torit, told The Daily Star that she was beaten up on Monday following a quarrel in her in-laws' house at Kalihati in Tangail.

Nazir was clobbering her so hard that at one point, she called her father up to rescue her. "He will kill me. Come take me home," Torit quoted her sister as saying to their

father by phone.

Tushti's family travelled to Tangail from Dhaka, even though she phoned her family again and asked them not to visit her, he said. When the family reached the home of Nazir, she was seen held in a chokehold on the floor, he added.

"He pulled her hair and slammed her head against the wall in front of us," Torit said, describing the progress of the event. Tushti then fell unconscious.

Nazir joined by his parents assaulted her family as well.

Torit said Nazir had often tortured her demanding Tk 5 crore, an apartment in Dhaka, and a private car from her family, since they got married in March 2013.

The couple have a 13-month-old son.

A four-member team of army officers led by a colonel visited Tusti at DMCH yesterday and took details about the incident through more than three hours of queries, said her brother.

The army headquarters launched an investigation on Wednesday, an official of the Inter Service Public Relations Directorate (ISPR) told The Daily Star.

Maj Nazir, a platoon commander at Bangladesh Military Academy in Chittagong, was not available on the phone for comments.

NEWS IN brief

SC upholds Humayun's bail in his wife Mahajabin murder case

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday upheld a High Court order of February 26 that granted bail to Humayun Sultan, son of former Awami League lawmaker Khan Tipu Sultan of Jessore, in the murder case of his wife Shamarukh Mahajabin.

Mahajabin, 26, was found dead in her in-laws' residence in the capital on last November 14. Humayun and his parents claimed that she committed suicide but her father filed a murder case against Tipu, his wife Jasmin Ara Begum and Humayun. Tipu, the prime accused, and Jasmin are now on bail.

Battery-run three-wheeler drivers beat traffic constable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A traffic police constable was allegedly beaten by drivers of banned battery-run three-wheelers after he detained one running the vehicle in Khilgaon's Meradia in the capital yesterday.

Ashraful Islam, 30, was shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital from Rajarbagh Police Lines Hospital for bruises, six drivers were arrested on suspicion from the locality while a case was filed with Khilgaon Police Station. A Bangladesh Ansar member, posted with Ashraful, was left unhurt while the attackers fled with the vehicle following the incident around 6:00pm, said Officer-in-Charge Mostafizur Rahman.

Indian external affairs ministry secretary to arrive on Sunday

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Sujata Mehta, secretary to Indian external affairs ministry, will pay a three-day visit to Bangladesh from Sunday to review and discuss the ongoing India-Bangladesh development partnership and economic cooperation.

According to an Indian High Commission's announcement yesterday, Mehta will be accompanied by Joint Secretary (Development Partnership Administration) Alok Kumar Sinha and Joint Secretary (Bangladesh and Myanmar Wing) Sripriya Ranganathan, and will call on different ministers and bureaucrats.

7 BNP, Jamaat-Shibir men held in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Police arrested seven BNP and Jamaat-Shibir men from different upazilas of Chittagong yesterday in connection with subversive activities.

Two Jamaat men were arrested from Satkania upazila while one BNP and one Shibir men were held from different areas of Sitakunda upazila, said police.

Meanwhile, three Jamaat-Shibir men were arrested from Amirabad area of Lohagara upazila, said Md Shahjahan, officer-in-charge of Lohagara Police Station.

Reunion of 13th BCS forum on April 24

DU CORRESPONDENT

The reunion of 13th BCS forum will be held on April 24 at BIAM auditorium in the capital to mark the organisation's 21st anniversary.

On that day, children of the cadre officers will be awarded for their outstanding academic results, says a press release.

For registration the members have been asked to contact at 01711269170, 01550151271, 01711173132 and 01924314219.

Obituary

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dr Sazzad Hossain, former professor of the geology department of Dhaka University, died of a cardiac arrest at his Mohammadpur residence in the capital yesterday, said a press release.

His body will be taken to the department on Saturday at 10:00am. He will be buried after his son's arrival from abroad.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 36th death anniversary of chief justice Syed Mahub

Murshed.

On this occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at his Gulshan residence after Asr prayers, says a press release.

Hasina Razzak Chy

CITY DESK

Today is the 1st death anniversary of Hasina Razzak Chowdhury, wife of Abdur Razzak Chowdhury, a social worker.

On this occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at her village Shahnagar of Fatikhhari in Chittagong.

StanChart

FROM PAGE 3

SHOWCASES past awardees of the contest, and is aired every Monday at 9:30pm," informed Mirza Shabnam Ferdousi, programme editor of the private channel.

Eminent lyricist Mohammad Rafiquzzaman, who heads the lyrics category's jury board, and Shahidul Alam Sacchu from Channel i also spoke.



Teachers and students of Dhaka University form a human chain before Aparajeyo Bangla yesterday protesting the torture of Nusrat Jahan Tushti, a master's student of the university's management department, allegedly by her husband Maj Nazir Uddin, and demanding he be terminated from the army.

PHOTO: STAR

Manage Langalbandh bathing

FROM PAGE 3
group Poribesh Bachao Andolon (Poba) at its office in the capital.

Pointing out negligence in duty by the local administration, Prof Mizanur quoted the minutes of a meeting at the upazila nirbahi officer's office, in which a decision to repair the bailey bridge and road that led to the pilgrimage site was taken on March 23, four days before the event, and the deadline was mistakenly written as May 25 in place of March 25.

"I am promising you that the National Human Rights

Commission will not leave the local administration in peace if any acts of negligence come out in our investigation," he said.

Chairing the programme, Pankaj Bhattacharya, leader of Samillito Samajik Andolan, called on the government to form a national pilgrimage management committee to oversee the festivals.

Poba's report, based on a visit to the site on March 30, presented the conditions and problems of the 16 ghats used by Hindus, and the condition of the Brahmaputra River where they take the holy dip.

It showed how river grabbing, existence of illegal structures, a lack of dredging, dumping of solid and chemical waste, and negligence of the local administration in removing the water hyacinths have made the river unfit for navigation.

"So pilgrims are forced to use a one-way narrow road near Dhaka-Chittagong highway to reach the ghats," said Md Abdus Sobhan, Poba's executive general secretary.

M Shah Alam, member of the Law Commission, said the commission would prepare a report and

recommend enforcement of laws to stop grabbing of endowment (debottor) property.

Bangladesh Puja Udjapon Parishad President Kajal Debnath said only about 2.5 acres out of the 46 acres of endowment property in Langalbandh was free now. "All other structures [on the rest of the land] are illegal."

Debnath also alleged that the rumour of a bridge collapse which triggered the stampede was initiated by land grabbers who wanted to stop this event so that they could grab the entire area.

NBR to investigate Bodi's income

FROM PAGE 4
in his wealth statement.

On March 20, the lawmaker informed the ACC that he, his wife Shahin Akter and children, Samia

Rahman Sunny and Abdullah Arman Shaon, own movable and immovable property worth Tk 5.2 crore.

However, his income tax returns showed that they owned property

worth Tk 16.06 crore till June 30, 2013.

Five years back his yearly income was Tk 2 lakh that rose to Tk 15 crore in 2013, according to his wealth statements submitted

to the Election Commission before the 2008 and the January 5 national elections respectively.

Bodi is also in the list of Yaba smugglers prepared by the home ministry.

HC allows ACC to place

FROM PAGE 3
issued on April 8, 2008, asking the government to explain why the case proceedings against Zubaida, a doctor, should not be

scrapped.

Following a petition filed by Zubaida, now in London along with Traique, the HC on that day also stayed the case proceedings.

ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan said the ACC can now place arguments in Zubaida's case. "We will pray to the High Court to start the hearing next week", he

said, adding that the case proceedings against Tarique and his mother-in-law also had been halted following the 2008 HC order.

Khaleda's no-trust

FROM PAGE 3

Bodroddoza hoped that Justice Sinha will take a decision before the verdict delivery.

Hearing arguments from ACC's lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan on March 5, the HC bench had fixed March 10 for the judgment.

That day the date was deferred to March 15, following Khaleda's lawyer Zainul Abedin's prayer stating that they would place arguments.

The date was again deferred to April 5 after Khaleda's lawyer Bodroddoza Badal stated that her senior counsel Khandaker Mahub Hossain and her another lawyer AM Mahub Uddin Khokon had failed to appear due to personal difficulties.