

WEATHER

FORECAST



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA H 31.0 L 26.7	CHITTAGONG H 31.5 L 26.2	SYLHET H 32.2 L 25.5	RAJSHAH H 34.0 L 26.9	KHULNA H 30.4 L 26.3	BARISAL H 29.0 L 25.6	RANGPUR H 31.9 L 25.2	COX'S BAZAR H 30.0 L 24.7
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Light to moderate rain or thundershowers is likely to occur at most places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna, Barisal, Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:46pm and rises tomorrow at 05:24am.

Raise voice against India's river linking project

BNP urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP yesterday expressed its concern over India's fresh move to implement the controversial river inter-linking project as it will diminish the water flow in some Bangladeshi rivers.

BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon said it was India's internal issue but Bangladesh's rivers would be affected by the project.

Addressing a press conference at the party's Nayapaltan headquarters, he urged Bangladesh's government to raise its voice against the move.

India plans to link 30 major rivers including the trans-boundary Brahmaputra and Ganges to divert water, especially for irrigation.

Quoting Indian Water Resources Minister Sanwar Lal Jat, several Indian newspapers reported recently that his ministry would soon be taking up the planning of a very important link, Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganges, in consultation with the governments

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HC also denies Falu permission to travel to KSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday rejected a writ petition filed by BNP leader Mosaddak Ali Falu seeking its directive on the government not to prevent him from going to Saudi Arabia for performing Umrah.

The court passed the order considering that the petition was not properly placed before it.

The bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice Md Ashrafal Kamal came up with the decision after hearing arguments from the counsels for the state and the petitioner.

Additional Attorney General Murad Reza told the court that Falu was not

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Despite the Eid vacation being over officially, many of Dhaka city residents are yet to return. Aside from the roads, the largely empty kitchen markets of the capital, like the one here at Karwanbazar, testify that the holiday mood is far from over. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

More power from India unlikely before 2017

Say officials

UNB, Dhaka

The government's move to import 500MW of electricity from Indian private sector is unlikely to see any breakthrough before mid-2017.

According to official sources, the state-owned Power Development Board (PDB) will solidify the move once the construction of a separate substation which will require about two years time is completed.

"That's why the whole process of the proposed import of 500MW of electricity in addition to the existing one is getting delayed," chief engineer (planning) of PDB Mizanur Rahman told the news agency.

On several occasions in the past, New Delhi gave its consent to Dhaka's proposal to import 500MW of electricity from its private sector in addition to the import of the existing 500MW one.

India's firm consent came from Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi

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Another girl 'gang raped' in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A teenage girl was allegedly gang-raped by three youths in the capital's Lalbagh area early yesterday.

A resident of Gabtoli and class IX student at a school in Mirpur, she was attacked while going with her boyfriend to his residence at Shaheed Nagar of Lalbagh around 1:30am.

Officer-in-Charge of Lalbagh Police Station Moniruzzaman said they rescued her from the roof of an under-construction three-storey building at Shaheed Nagar around 4:30am on information from her boyfriend Sujon. She was found abandoned there, he told The Daily Star.

According to the victim, three

unidentified youths forced her into the building when Sujon went to a nearby shop to drink water keeping her alone around 1:30am.

Police arrested an alleged rapist Rana, 23, and were looking for the other two. They also detained Sujon, a bus driver of Janjabil Paribahan on Babubazar-Gabtoli route, for interrogation.

The girl was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for a medical checkup around 1:00pm.

When asked, Sujon said his house was closer than the shop where he went to drink water. He could not say why he did not go to his house instead.

The couple said they were going to Sujon's house after visiting one of his friends' uncle at Kamrangirchar.

70 rights orgs demand punishment for perps who gouged out woman's eye for dowry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Samajik Protirodh Committee, a platform of 70 women, human rights and development organisations, demanded exemplary punishment for the culprits who gouged out a woman's eye for dowry in Jinjira of Savar.

"We are concerned and aggrieved over the unprecedented, hair-raising and brutal torture of a woman. Such an incident does not reflect a good society and nation," said a press statement of the platform signed by President of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad Ayesha Khanam yesterday.

"We are also concerned that women's safety in their own homes is at risk," it read.

The committee also demanded that the woman be treated well.

On Friday, Rabiul Hossain with the help of other family members plucked out

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When cops are an inspiration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

While many criticise police for numerous reasons, there are some exceptional members in the force who go beyond their official duties to serve the country.

Assistant Inspector General of Police (media) Nazrul Islam is one of those unsung heroes. He has been playing a role in the fight against child marriage, an evil practice still rampant in many places.

He came up with the idea for the first time while attending a programme on protection and enforcement of women's rights in the capital in 2013. Then, Nazrul was the superintendent of police in Jamalpur.



AIGP Nazrul Islam

Returning to work, he, on his own, formed a police team that along with locals went to several villages of the district and identified some potential child marriage female victims, who were students of class IV to X.

"I felt that the potential victims were more likely to listen to us than anyone else," he told The Daily Star, adding that they explained the danger of such marriages to them and their parents extensively.

Later, the team randomly picked seven villages and formed groups of adolescent girls there.

"We gave the girls our phone numbers and requested them to notify us whenever they see any incident of child marriage,"

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Man hacked to death in Savar

Two bodies found in Dhamrai

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

A man was hacked to death at his house in Rajshon of Savar on Tuesday night.

The deceased was Md Korban Ali, 40, a Bangladeshi expatriate living in Kuwait. Police detained his wife, Kohinoor Begum, for interrogation.

SM Kamruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Savar Model Police Station, said the victim was hacked on the head.

He said they have not yet unearthed the reason behind the murder. The body was sent for an autopsy.

Meanwhile, two bodies were found in Valum and Taltola areas of Dhamrai yesterday.

Police said the decomposed body of an unidentified man was found on the bank of Bongshi river in Valum.

In Taltola, police recovered the hanging body of Jesmin Akhter, 23, from her house.

The law enforcers are not sure whether it was a murder or a suicide.

Both the bodies were sent for autopsies and separate cases were filed.

Dhaka eyes Iran-US deal for boosting trade relation

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh is interested in enhanced trading with Iran if the landmark nuke deal can significantly limit Tehran's nuclear ability as this will facilitate lifting of international sanctions.

"Of course, our trade and commerce and communication will get a boost once the agreement is implemented," said Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque.

Talking to reporters at his office after a meeting with European envoys, the foreign secretary said Bangladesh cannot carry out business with Iran in some cases because of UN sanctions, but if the sanctions are lifted then trading will be easier.

European Union Ambassador to Bangladesh Pierre Mayaudon, France Ambassador Sophie Aubert, UK Deputy High Commissioner Mark Clayton and German embassy diplomat Mathias Keller met the foreign secretary and discussed various aspects of the accord.

After the meeting with the foreign secretary, EU envoy Pierre Mayaudon told reporters that the meeting was an

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Defying the instructions on a signboard of Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (Wasa), local residents continue dumping waste into the newly built Khilgaon/Basabo Khal, blocking its normal flow. It is very likely that torrential rain would cause the overflow of the canal and flooding of the area with filthy water. The photo was taken Tuesday.

PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ

New CU BCL leaders against shuttle train based factions

CU CORRESPONDENT

The new president and general secretary of Chittagong University unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) yesterday declared that they would not allow the student organisation's factionalism based on compartments of the university shuttle train.

There would be zero tolerance in this regard, they told a press conference at Chittagong Press Club.

There are at least 10 groups of BCL based on the shuttle train compartments, and these factions often got engaged in bloody clashes in the past.

The new president, Alamgir Tipu, also said if any BCL activist tarnished the image of the organisation through his misdeed, he would face stern action.

The CU unit of BCL had been dissolved since June 10 last year following a factional clash.

On July 20, BCL's central committee made Alamgir Tipu president of the CU unit and Fazly Rabbay Sujon general secretary. No other posts were announced.

Appearing at their first press conference, the new CU

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Climate Change Dhaka bike tour tomorrow for raising awareness

UNB, Dhaka

The United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh in collaboration with BDCyclists will organise a bicycle ride tour in Dhaka tomorrow.

The objective of the event, set to start from Manik Mia Avenue, is to raise environmental awareness as part of the "Pole to Paris" initiative supported by the UNDP.

Dr Daniel Price, a climate/polar system scientist, will lead the tour from 6:15am with BDCyclists members. Senior UNDP officials will also participate in the tour.

Possible route of the tour is Manik Mia Avenue-Banani-Mirpur DOHS-Khalshi-Manikdi-Manik Mia Avenue.

"Pole to Paris" is an initiative leading up to the most significant UN climate change negotiation (COP21) in Paris at the end of this year.

As part of this two climates/polar system scientists are

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