



YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 31.2 | L 27.7

CHITTAGONG H 32.6 | L 26.5

SYLHET H 33.3 | L 25.3

RAJSHAHI H 34.8 | L 27.4

KHULNA H 33.2 | L 27.2

BARISAL H 33.1 | L 26.6

RANGPUR H 34.2 | L 27.8

COX'S BAZAR H 31.0 | L 26.5

Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:32pm and rises tomorrow at 05:34am. Country's highest temperature 35.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Dinajpur and Syedpur and lowest 25.3 in Sylhet.

BCL MAN MURDER

Another remanded

UNB, Sylhet



Abdul Alim

A Sylhet court yesterday put Bangladesh Chhatra League activist Angur Miah on a

three-day remand in a case filed over killing of a fellow at the city's Madan Mohan College two days ago.

The court passed the order when Kotwali police produced him before it seeking a 5-day remand for him.

Police arrested Angur on Thursday after getting information from another accused Pranajit, also a BCL activist.

Earlier on Thursday, the court placed Pranajit Das on a two-day remand in the case.

BCL activist Abdul Alim, 19, a second-year student of the college and son of Aklis Mia, was stabbed to death on the campus on Wednesday.



Two workers cut down a tree beside Rikabibazar-Subidbazar road in Sylhet city's Mirermoidan area yesterday. Sylhet City Corporation felled around 60 large trees in last two days after it had called for bids in October last year for cutting of a total of 151 trees out of 248 ones on the both sides of the road, prompting green activists to protest the move to save the environment. The SCC authorities said the initiative had to be taken to widen the road.

PHOTO: MINTU DESHWARA

JOYPURHAT

8 BCL men sued for 'attempting to abduct' journo

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A local journalist on Thursday night sued eight BCL men for their alleged attempt to abduct him in Joypurhat on Wednesday night.

Mostakim Farrukh, Joypurhat correspondent of Bangla daily Korotoa and Desh TV, filed the case with Joypurhat Sadar Police Station.

The accused are the district unit organising secretary Alamgir Hossain alias Fizu, its members Apu and Abdul Momin; Joypurhat Government College unit convener Abu Taher, its joint convener Rakib, and member Md Milon; the municipality unit member Sagar; and two unknown BCL men.

The case statement says, the eight gathered before the complainant's house in the town's Notunhat and hurled expletives at the journalist when he arrived.

Later, they tried to pick him up and snatch his laptop and camera after he asked them to get out of there.

Hearing his cry for help, locals rushed to the spot and rescued him.

Mostakim, who could not ascertain the reason behind the attack, said senior BCL leaders of the district unit assured him of taking organisational actions against the accused.

Termining the incident unfortunate, Zakaria Hossain Raja, president of the unit, said they might be expelled.

None of the eight BCL men was available for comments.

Officer-in-Charge Md Awnwar Hossain said they were investigating the incident.

SAVAR ADHAR CHANDRA MODEL HIGH SCHOOL

Abandonment of century-old building raises questions

RASHAD AHAMAD, Savar

The chief of the management body of Adhar Chandra Model High School in Savar has declared its century-old building abandoned without any structural test, raising questions.

The announcement particularly disturbed former students who formed a long human chain on the campus yesterday, and said they would not let the historic building be demolished.

Several thousand students joined the protest, also urging the government to preserve the 102-year-old edifice.

Md Nazrul Islam Manik Mollah, chairman of the school management committee, made the announcement at a press conference on August 4.

He did not take opinions of any expert beforehand, said sources.

Manik Mollah is the general secretary of Savar municipality unit of the Awami League.

Harun-or-Rashid, the school's

former acting headmaster, said Hindu landlord Rakhil Chandra Saha donated seven acres of land for the school but later 2.5 acres was given to Savar College.

"At least 67 decimals of land with a house of the school has already been grabbed by one Mintu Mollah beside the school. The school authorities are running a case over it," he said.

Mintu Mollah is the elder brother of the school's management committee chief Manik Mollah.

Abdul Halim, one of the 10 members of the management committee including its head, said the committee chairman declared the building abandoned as an emergency measure. "He didn't call any meeting; rather he talked to some members personally," he said.

A member of the committee, Tofazzol Hosen, told The Daily Star yesterday that he did not know anything about the decision.

Headmaster Ratan Peter Gomez

said, "We will call experts from Buet, the upazila education engineering section, and archeology department of the government immediately."

Ashraf Uddin Khan Emu, former MP and an alumnus of the school, said some musclemen under political patronage had already grabbed Rakhil Chandra's properties.

"Now the gang is planning to occupy the historic school's property," he said.

The committee chairman, Manik Mollah, said it was declared abandoned for safety. "If experts call the building safe, we will open it," he said.

Masud Rana, a student of the class of 1996 which organised the human chain, said the school committee should rather preserve the building in memory of Rakhil Chandra.

The school has three buildings including the century-old one, which accommodates 500 of the total 2,000 students, of class VI to X, of the high school. It was built in 1913.

Shimulia ghat suffers long tailback

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

The Shimulia-Kawrakandi route in Munshiganj suffered heavy traffic congestion yesterday due to absence of four ferries and rush of the public, and especially Awami League activists heading towards Gopalganj to observe the 40th death anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The large ferries, which used to take 60 percent of the traffic load, have not been plying for over a week due to the ongoing dredging in Padma to enhance navigability.

Fourteen small and medium ferries were unable to take all the traffic and about 200 vehicles were stuck till 9:00pm.

Schoolgirl raped

FROM PAGE 4 to the Sadar Hospital yesterday. Hasan went into hiding, police said.

In Bandarban Sadar upazila, a day labourer, Aman Ullah attempted to rape a 13-year-old indigenous girl while going to her tutor on Thursday afternoon, adds our Bandarban correspondent.

She was admitted to the Sadar Hospital for the bruises which she suffered during the incident. Pahari Chhatra Parishad and Hill Women's Federation formed a human chain at Balaghata for arrest of the perpetrator.



The 102-year-old building of Adhar Chandra High School in Savar, outside the capital, was declared abandoned on August 4 without any consultation with experts. Fearing its demolition, several thousand ex-students formed a human chain, inset, on the campus yesterday.



PHOTO: RASHAD AHAMAD

PM to pay homage

FROM PAGE 3

Bangabandhu on August 15, 1975, in Banani Graveyard and also offer surah Fatiha.

She will then fly to Tungipara and place wreaths at the Mazar of Bangabandhu, offer surah Fatiha and attend a munajat. Another contingent of the Armed Forces will give a guard of honour to the prime minister there.

She will then attend a milad and a doa mahfil at the Mazar Complex.

After returning to Dhaka, Hasina will attend another milad mahfil to be organised by Mohila Awami League at Bangabandhu Bhaban in Dhanmondi after Asr prayers.

Khaleda's London visit

FROM PAGE 3

Meanwhile, Khaleda Zia did not cut a cake in the wee hours today at her Gulshan office to celebrate her 71st "birthday".

"She usually does not come to her Gulshan office Friday. That's why there was no arrangement from the party's leaders and activists to cut a cake last night," said an official of the Gulshan office. Party insiders said she did not come to the office and cut her birthday cake in 2009 as well because the August 14 that year was also a Friday.

Sources said the BNP chief was likely to cut her birthday cake tonight at the office.

Her birthday will be celebrated also at the Nayapalton central office today, the sources said.

Different quarters including the Awami League urge Khaleda not to celebrate her birthday on August 15 as it is the day of the

assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Meanwhile, addressing a press briefing on August 10, BNP spokesperson Asaduzzaman Ripon said the party chief might leave in a day or two for London for "treatment".

Her elder son Tarique Rahman and his family have been staying there since 2008.

Wishing anonymity, a family member of Khaleda last night alleged that a "conspiracy" was under way so that Khaleda could not meet Tarique, also BNP's senior vice-chairman.

"She has taken initiatives to bring some major reforms in the party. A discussion with Tarique on the issue is very important," added the family member.

Several AL leaders have alleged that Khaleda is going to London for "hatching a new conspiracy against the government".

VAT won't be removed

FROM PAGE 3

The minister was talking to reporters after distributing food at a government children's home in Bagbirri in Sylhet city marking the 40th death anniversary of Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Students of private universities have arranged various demonstrations demanding removal of the 7.5 percent VAT on their tuition fee fixed in the current fiscal year.

NEWS IN brief

5 jailed for arranging marriage of underage girl in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A mobile court sentenced six people to different jail terms on Thursday evening for arranging marriage of a 12-year-old girl in Akkelpur upazila of Joypurhat on Wednesday night.

Kafil Uddin, the groom's father, Ziaul Islam, the bride's father, and two witnesses -- Mukul Hossain and Afzal Hossain -- were sentenced to seven days in jail each while mosque imam Omar Ali was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

Marriage registrar Ayub Hossain was fined Tk 2,000.

Woman killed in wall collapse

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

A woman was killed in a wall collapse in Keshwabpur Dewanpara village under Akkelpur upazila of Joypurhat yesterday morning.

The deceased was Renu Bibi, 40, wife of Rafiq Uddin of Uttar Ramshala village of the upazila.

Police said the wall fell upon Renu after she sat beside it at her paternal house. She was rushed to Akkelpur Health Complex where she succumbed to her injuries.

Two 'robbers' held in Moulvibazar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Two members of an inter-district robbery gang were arrested with sharp weapons in Bhairab Bazar area of Srimangal upazila in Moulvibazar early yesterday.

Monir Hossain, 27, and Rasel Miah, 28, of Lamua village are accused in several robbery cases, said police.

On information, a team of police conducted a drive and arrested the duo while they with 15 other robbers were taking preparation to commit robbery.

Man crushed under train wheels

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A man was crushed under the wheels of an intercity train in Kulaura Railway Station in Tulapur area of Moulvibazar yesterday.

The deceased was Abdul Mannan, 55, of Dakhinvag village in the upazila.

10 Sylhet Jamaat men held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

Ten leaders and activists of Jamaat-e-Islami, including its Sylhet city unit ameer, were detained in the city on Thursday night.

Police said on information they held Sylhet city ameer Ahsanul Mahub Jubayer and others while they were plotting destructive activities during a secret meeting around 11:30pm in a mosque at Sabujbagh.

Training on journalism begins

UNB, Dhaka

A weeklong training on journalism was inaugurated at Institute of Journalism and Communication (IJC) in the capital yesterday.

Senior journalists from different media outlets exchanged views with 39 participants on different aspects of journalism at the event held at IJC's Banglamotor office, said a press release.

Seminar on medical ultrasound held

CITY DESK

A seminar on medical ultrasound was held at RAOVA convention hall in the capital's Mohakhali yesterday.

Bangladesh Japan Institute of Radiology and Imaging organised the seminar with the support of Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry of Japan. The keynote speakers were Toshiaki Kawachi, and Dr Sheikh Aleemuzzaman, two HIDA (overseas human resources and industry development association) designated from Japan. Laila Arjumand, chairman of Shaheed Monsur Ali Medical College and Shaheed Monsur Ali Trust, Maj Gen Sheikh Mamun Khaled, vice-chancellor of Bangladesh University of Professionals, Rumi Ariyoshi, head of Public Affairs and Culture, Japanese Embassy, and Hiroki Nogami, HIDA representative, were present.

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