

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 34.7 L 25.8	H 32.8 L 26.8	H 32.8 L 25.5	H 36.2 L 25.7	H 34.5 L 27.0	H 33.2 L 26.3	H 32.5 L 23.5	H 31.7 L 26.0

Light to moderate rain or thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at many places over Rangpur and Sylhet divisions and at a few places over Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal and Dhaka divisions with moderately heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today, said Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:11pm and rises tomorrow at 5:42am.

BAR COUNCIL POLL HC stay on gazette sought

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A writ petition was filed with the High Court yesterday seeking its directive on the chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council not to issue a gazette notification on the results of its elections held on August 26.

Eunus Ali Akond, a Supreme Court lawyer who contested the election but failed to win, in the petition prayed to the HC to issue a rule upon the bar council chairman to explain why he should not be directed to count the ballot papers of the polls.

The petition said the bar council chairman had to count all the ballots received from various polling centres across the country after the elections as per rule 15 (2) bar council law. But Attorney General Mahbub Alam, who is the chairman of the council, declared the election result on September 3 based on the tabulations received from the presiding officers without following the rules, it said. The HC may hear the petition today, Deputy Attorney General Motaheer Hossain Sazul told The Daily Star.

According to the result, Awami League backed lawyers' panel Sammito Ainjibi Samannoy Parishad won 11 posts in the elections, while pro-BNP lawyer forum Jatiyatabadi Oikya Panel got three posts.

Correction

In yesterday's edition of The Daily Star on page 3 we unintentionally credited the lead photo of a kid dressed as Lord Krishna in the Janmashtami procession to Anurup Kanti Das. Actually Palash Khan had taken the photo. We apologise for the mistake.



Teachers under the banner of "Mohan Muktiyuddher Chetonay Udbuddho Shikkhakbrinda" bring out a silent procession on the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology campus in Sylhet yesterday, demanding removal of Sust Vice Chancellor Prof Aminul Haque Bhuiyan. Inset, Sthapatta Sangha brings out a procession on the campus to mourn the death of Shahriar Majumder, a Gonojagoron Mancha activist and an architecture student of Sust, who was found hanging at a student mess Thursday night.

PHOTO: STAR, BANGLAR CHOKH



REASONABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT FARE Have passengers' reps in decision making bodies

Demands Bangladesh Passengers' Welfare Association

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Passengers' Welfare Association yesterday demanded inclusion of representatives from passengers in the government committees which fix and revise public transport fare.

In the absence of passengers' representatives, the committees often propose "irrational fare hike" to protect the interest of owners, said Mozammel Haque Chowdhury, general secretary of the association, at a press conference at the Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

The association came up with the demand following the government's proposal to increase CNG-run auto-rickshaw fare by 37 percent as CNG price was increased to Tk 35 from Tk 30 per cubic metre on September 1.

As per government rule, a costing committee headed by Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) chairman and comprising representatives from Road Transport and Bridges Ministry and transport owners and workers formulates a draft proposal of transport fare hike and send it to the ministry for approval, said BRTA officials.

But transport operators usually charge more than the government-fixed rate which become a great burden for the

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HC orders culling of all Kadamtali lagoon fishes

Gives seven directives to stop cultivation, catching, selling, saying fishes have become toxic due to contamination of water body

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday in a verdict gave seven directives to the government for stopping cultivation of fishes in Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority's lagoon in the capital's Kadamtali, as its water and fishes are poisonous and harmful.

Following a writ petition, the court ordered the authorities concerned of the government to cull all fishes of the lagoon through using medicine in the

presence of a magistrate, law enforcers and journalists in every two months.

It asked the authorities to construct boundary walls around the 246 acres of lagoon of Sayedabad Water Treatment Plant of Wasa.

The HC bench of Justice Moeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Md Ashrafal Kamal ordered the government to appoint necessary Ansar members and security guards for monitoring so that no one can cultivate and catch fishes in the poisonous water as

well as sell those fishes.

The authorities have been directed to strengthen patrolling of night guards there.

They have to set up necessary number of signboards in the lagoon area, saying that its fishes are toxic and harmful for health and cultivation, catching and trading fish there are punishable offence.

The court asked the government to take necessary steps for reforming and

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Breakfast at Rajshahi eatery makes 30 sick

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

At least 30 people, mostly cattle traders, fell seriously ill and became unconscious after having breakfast at an eatery in City Bypass Haat area on the outskirts of Rajshahi city yesterday.

The people went there from different parts of the country including Narsingdi, Sonargaon and Comilla to buy cattle ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, Detective Branch of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner Iftekhar Alam told The Daily Star.

He, however, said no valuables were stolen from them. The victims' fellows took them to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital.

The food items, including beef and rice, were not stale, Assistant Prof Mizanur

Rahman of the medicine department quoted the patients as saying.

Something was mixed with those, which caused their illness, he said.

Kamruzzaman said he felt a bad headache and pain in the stomach immediately after having the food items. Belal Hossain, another victim, echoed him.

Prof Mizanur said the patients were now out of danger after treatment.

Detectives detained Faisal Hossain, son of the eatery owner, and three of its staff, said Iftekhar, adding that they were being interrogated to find out whether any gang were involved in the incident.

A sample of the food items of the eatery was sent to a Dhaka laboratory for test, said the police official.

WAR CRIME TRIALS

Charge framing hearing of Jamalpur, Habiganj suspects Sept 15, 16

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The International Crimes Tribunal-1 yesterday fixed September 15 and 16 to hold hearing on charge framing in two cases related to crimes committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

The three-member tribunal led by Justice M Enayetur Rahim fixed the date, two days after the cases were transferred to Tribunal-1 from Tribunal-2 on Thursday for "expeditious disposal".

One of the cases was filed against eight alleged Al-Badr men of Jamalpur, while the other against three alleged Razakars from Habiganj.

The tribunal fixed September 15 for the case against the alleged Al-Badr men, and September 16 for the other case.

Of the alleged Al-Badr men, Shamsul Haque, 75, and AKM Yusuf Ali, 83, are

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DMP gets boost in arm

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday issued an order creating 7,139 posts for Dhaka Metropolitan Police to boost up its manpower of over 25,000.

The newly created posts include one additional police commissioner (deputy inspector general), two joint police commissioners (additional DIGs), 11 deputy police commissioners (superintendent of police), 40 additional deputy commissioners (Addn SP), 35 assistant commissioners (assistant SP), 160 inspectors, 1,050 sub-inspectors, 120 sergeants, 1,215 assistant sub-inspectors, 100 nayeys, 4,328 constables and 77 other office staff.

The home ministry order said the new posts have to be filled up from among the 50,000 posts which the prime minister approved in principal on January 11.

Muntasirul Islam, deputy commissioner (public relations) of DMP, said if the Police Headquarters want to fill up the posts immediately it can transfer and bring officers from comparatively less important areas to the DMP.

Promotion Board can promote new officers while Departmental Promotion Committee can promote officers ranging from inspectors to ASIs to fill up the posts.

Police officials said there will be no problem as a good number of ASIs will pass out from Sharda Police Training Academy while a huge number of constables have already been recruited. "The DMP authorities was prompted to send a proposal for creation of the new posts to the home ministry through the Police Headquarters earlier considering increase in population in the capital city, rise in criminal activities and change in the nature of crime," said a DC of the DMP wishing anonymity.

DMP officials said now there are 14 zones under eight crime divisions in the DMP area with 49 police stations. The DMP is going to increase the number of zones to 24

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