

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 34.5 L 27.2	CHITTAGONG H 34.3 L 26.5	SYLHET H 35.5 L 26.3	RAJSHAHI H 36.2 L 25.6	KHULNA H 35.8 L 26.2	BARISAL H 34.9 L 26.4	RANGPUR H 35.8 L 28.0	COX'S BAZAR H 34.3 L 27.0
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Day and night temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. **The sun sets in the capital today at 6:00pm and rises tomorrow at 5:46am.** Country's highest temperature 36.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Syedpur and lowest 25.6 in

BOAT CAPSIZED
27 migrants rescued off Libyan coast return home tomorrow
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-seven Bangladeshis, who survived a boating accident off the Libyan coast on August 24, will return home tomorrow morning. The rescued migrants, all of who are men, will reach Dhaka from Libya by a Turkish Airlines aircraft, ASM Ashraful Islam, counsellor (labour) at the Bangladesh embassy in Libya, told The Daily Star yesterday over phone. These Bangladeshis are part of some 500 migrants from Asia, Africa and Middle East who boarded two vessels that sank after leaving the Libyan port city of Zuwara for Italy, Ashraful said. A total of 24 Bangladeshis were among those who perished in the Mediterranean Sea when the rickety boats sank off the coast of Libya, said the Bangladesh embassy.



With Eid-ul-Azha approaching, knife sharpeners see a boost in business alongside knife makers and sellers, inset, as thousands of cattle will be sacrificed on the occasion. As the demand rises, the prices of iron and steel also go up. The photos were taken at the capital's Karwan Bazar.



PHOTO: AMIRAN HOSSAIN

Train ticket rush gets madder
Ctg sees jump in sales yesterday

PANKAG KARMAKAR and SHAHADAT HOSSAIN
Although the day's advance tickets marking Eid-ul-Azha had been sold out within the morning hours, some 20 to 30 people were still sitting on the floor marking their position in queues with newspapers and clothes before the counters at Kamalapur Railway Station yesterday around 2:00pm. These people informed that they were determined to get train tickets and be home for the festival, so much that they were planning on waiting 19 hours, till 9:00am today when the advance sales begin. Most were seen dozing, reading newspapers and gossiping to pass the time. The scenario was a bit different in Chittagong Railway Station, with the rush targeting yesterday, the third day of the advance ticket sale. Some 14,000 tickets are available daily in Dhaka but railway officials believe the demand is at least for 50,000. In Chittagong, officials say they sell at least 15,000 tickets in the two or three days prior to Eid. People now prefer trains as they had to suffer long hours on the road due to traffic congestion, they add. Tickets for September 20, 21 and 22 were sold on Tuesday, Wednesday and yesterday respectively. Similarly, tickets for September 23 and 24 will be available today and tomorrow. A person can buy a maximum of four tickets. Monowar Hossain came to Kamalapur on Wednesday morning for tickets to Khulna. "I waited around five hours but tickets were sold out before my turn came. That is why, I have come today," he told The Daily Star. Others had to sacrifice important tasks in their schedule

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MOVIE RANA PLAZA
Censor board suspends certificate
SC upholds stay on ban
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Film Censor Board yesterday suspended the censor certificate of the movie Rana Plaza after the Supreme Court dismissed a review petition challenging an SC order that had cleared the way for releasing and screening the movie. The movie was made centring on the miraculous rescue of garment worker Reshma Khatun, who was pulled out from under the rubble of Rana Plaza 17 days after the building collapsed on April 23, 2013. As many as 1,135 people, mostly garment workers, were killed in the incident, which is seen as

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Gas crisis affects Ctg city power supply
Outages get more frequent

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg
The time of power outages has almost doubled in Chittagong city over the last one week, as three units of two electricity plants went out of operation for want of gas. As the city is recording high temperatures as elsewhere in the country, frequent power cuts adding up to seven to eight hours a day increased people's sufferings. Factories also brace for huge costs required to continue production with diesel-run generators. According to the officials of the Power Development Board (PDB), two units of Shikabaha Peaking Power Plant with the daily capacity of 210MW and one unit of Raozan

Thermal Power Plant with the capacity to produce 120MW daily have been shut for one week. In addition, the other unit of Raozan plant producing 160MW a day is not operating at full capacity, said officials. Situations are worse in Bakalia, Kala Miah Bazar, Chawk Bazar, DC Road, Dewan Bazar and Kapasgola areas, said residents. A week ago, load-shedding lasted for four hours at most, they said. "Once a power cut occurs, supply is not restored until one to one-and-a-half-hour later," said Shahab Uddin of Bakalia Rahattar pool area. Azizul Haque, deputy general manager (distribution), Karnaphuli

Gas Distribution Company Ltd (KGDCL), said gas supply from the national grid to Chittagong fell by 40 million cubic feet per day (mmcf), so it was affecting the power plants. Usually Chittagong city gets 270mmcf but it was dropped to 230mmcf now, he said. Moreover, Karnaphuli Fertiliser Company (Kafco) started production last week, taking a 44-55mmcf from the total 100mmcf reserved for the fertiliser factories and power plants of Chittagong, he said. According to officials, despite the halt of production at three power production units, the total production in Chittagong is still higher than the

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Appoint 10,000 as assistant teachers
HC directs govt about those who were selected in 2012

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The High Court yesterday directed the government to appoint around 10,000 people, who were selected in 2012 for posts of assistant teachers at registered non-government primary schools, in 60 days. The HC bench of Justice Farah Mahbub and Justice Kazi Md Ejarul Haque Akondo passed the order while delivering a judgment on 367 writ petitions. Around 10,000 candidates filed the writ petitions at different times with the HC saying that the government has not appointed them in around three years, although they were qualified and were selected through relevant exams and tests. Around 42,200 candidates qualified in the examinations and tests, but the govern-

ment appointed only 10,341 and the rest were deprived, the petitioners alleged. According to a circular of the primary and mass education ministry in April 2010, recruitments were supposed to be made from upazila-based panels of selected candidates, Mohammad Abul Hasnat, a lawyer for 307 petitioners, told The Daily Star. But as per the primary and mass education board's decision on 2012, around 10,341 candidates were appointed from union-based panels of selected candidates at different times. As a result, the writ petitioners were dropped from recruitment lists, he added. Deputy Attorney General Amatul Karim Swapna told this correspondent that the



Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) Coordination Committee demands restoration of time scale and selection grade in the national payscale, from a demonstration in front of Bangladesh Krishi Gobesona Council at the capital's Farmgate yesterday. The 8th payscale increased the salaries of civil servants but scrapped the two benefits enjoyed by people who deserved a promotion but did not get it for either unavailability of any more higher position or lack of vacant positions they are supposed to be promoted to.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

Formulate policies to ensure employment of the disabled
Disabled Child Foundation urges govt from seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The government has to formulate appropriate policies and take necessary measures to ensure employment of the persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors, demanded Disabled Child Foundation (DCF) yesterday. The demand was made at a DCF-organised national seminar "Promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors through appropriate policies and measures," at the capital's Probashi Kalyan Bhaban. The handicapped people can contribute to the country's development if they are given scopes to utilise their potentialities,

said Mohammad Hafizur Rahman Bullet, president of DCF working for the welfare of the disabled. "The handicapped people have also talent and they are also able to work in the public and private organisations. They only need opportunities for work and proper skills," he told The Daily Star. Hafizur Rahman, also captain of Bangladesh National Blind Cricket team, chaired the seminar. Addressing as chief guest, Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Nurul Islam said the people with disabilities could be entrepreneurs by starting small businesses. He assured them of providing

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Chandra intersection bypass inaugurated

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A 500m bypass at Chandra Intersection in Gazipur was inaugurated yesterday to ease journey on the Dhaka-Tangail highway. Inaugurating the bypass, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said the road was constructed to reduce sufferings of passengers travelling on the highway. Passengers travelling to and from north and south-western districts will be able to use the two-lane bypass to

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