

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA
H 29.8 | L 25.4

CHITTAGONG
H 33.0 | L 26.6

SYLHET
H 27.8 | L 24.9

RAJSHAHI
H 30.5 | L 26.4

KHULNA
H 30.5 | L 26.0

BARISAL
H 29.6 | L 25.5

RANGPUR
H 26.6 | L 24.3

COX'S BAZAR
H 32.4 | L 27.2

Light to moderate rain or thunder showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over all the divisions with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over the country till 6:00pm today. Day and night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country, Met Office said. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:55pm and rises tomorrow at 5:48am.

Abdul Baset Majumder vice-chairman of Bar Council

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Senior counsel Abdul Baset Majumder was elected vice-chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council, the licensing and regulatory body of lawyers, for the next three years.

Attorney General Mahbubey Alam, chairman of the council, declared Majumder vice-chairman, the chief executive of the body, after its executive member Md Yahia proposed his name and another executive member, ZI Khan Panna, supported him for the post.

Thirteen of total 14 executive members, who were elected following votes cast by lawyers across the country on August 26, were present at the meeting at the Bar Council office yesterday afternoon to elect the vice-chairman, said Bar Council sources.

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Students seeking admission into public medical colleges stage a sit-in at Shahbagh of the capital yesterday demanding cancellation of the admission test held last Friday and punishment for those involved in leaking the test questions. Inset, aspirants also demonstrate in Chawkbazar Intersection in Chittagong city pressing home the same demand.

PHOTO: STAR

MEDICAL COLLEGE ADMISSION TEST Question leak protesters seek prime minister's help for retest

Give health minister four days to cancel results; three doctors, four tutors held in Rangpur for leak

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The protest against the alleged question leak of the medical college admission test continued yesterday, with candidates requesting the prime minister's intervention for a fresh exam.

Demonstrators submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), also demanding punishment for those who "leaked" the question.

They first gathered in front of the Jatiya Press Club but police forced them to leave the place.

Later, they went to the Central Shaheed Minar and headed towards the PMO but were stopped again by police, at Shahbagh.

The protesters then staged a sit-in there, and four representatives of them handed over the memorandum to a PMO official.

They demanded that the health minister cancel Friday's test by September 26 and threatened that if he did not, they would launch "tougher" programmes the next day.

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1,171 DMP constables promoted

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka Metropolitan Police recently promoted its 1,171 constables to different positions.

As many as 1,100 constables were made Assistant Sub-inspector (ASI) while 43 were promoted to the post of assistant town sub-inspector and 28 to town sub-inspector.

Deputy Commissioner (media) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police Muntasirul Islam told The Daily Star that another mass promotion inside DMP is on cards.

Armed muggers prowling capital targeting Eid

Police continue giving assurance that security measures are in place

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and JAMIL MAHMUD

With Eid-ul-Azha just around the corner, armed muggers are prowling the capital while police continue to say that adequate security measures are in place.

Some of those falling victim in the last couple of weeks say they have been targeted in dimly lit streets and alleys in the evenings and nights when "police patrolling is relaxed" and have lost valuables including cash saved up for the festival.

Mugging in broad daylight in the midst of crowds has also been reported

in this newspaper.

The Daily Star has learnt from a myriad of people that the hotspots are the Sayedabad bus terminal and adjacent areas, Jurain, some parts of Old Dhaka including Narinda and Tipu Sultan Road, Dhanmondi, Agargaon and Mirpur.

Kamal Hossain, a rickshaw-van puller, described how he lost Tk 20,000, his income of the last two months, at Rokeya Sharani near the weather office in Agargaon on September 12. He was taking some furniture from Mirpur to Mohakhali.

"It was comparatively dark...A young boy signalled me to stop. As I stopped, four others came in no time from the nearby old airport area. Brandishing weapons, they took (it) away," he said.

The loss put his family in uncertainty and he did not lodge a complaint with police thinking the chance of a recovery was slim.

On Monday, two brothers, Wazedur Rahman and Alamgir Kabir, were taking around Tk 40 lakh in two shopping bags from their Mirpur 6 residence

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7 workers drugged, robbed in Rajshahi city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Seven construction workers fell unconscious after eating food while returning home in Rajshahi city on the back of a truck yesterday.

The workers were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) after locals found them lying unconscious beside the Dhaka-Rajshahi highway in the city's Kathakhali area yesterday morning, said Iftekhair Alam, assistant commissioner of Rajshahi Metropolitan Police.

Some of the victims and their family members complained to police that the victims were robbed of their belongings before they were dumped on the side of the road, said Iftekhair.

He said they were waiting for the

victims to recover to learn more about the incident.

RMCH Director Brig Gen Rafiqul Islam said one of the victims, Md Arif, is still unconscious but the others regained consciousness.

He said they fell conscious as they ingested an unknown poison.

Russel, one of the victims who regained consciousness, said the last thing he remembers is two of the others falling unconscious.

He said he went to Gazipur for work and now was returning home with the money he earned to celebrate Eid.

Fitu Majhi, Russel's father, quoting his son, said there were two others on the truck beside the helper and driver.

CCC promises to clean Eid waste the same day

SHAHADAT HOSSAIN, Ctg

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) has taken measures to finish cleaning up all waste material after slaughter of sacrificial animals on the same day as the sacrifices are carried out.

CCC will start cleaning up at 9:00am on the day of Eid-ul-Azha, an hour before the usual time, and continue till 6:00pm, said sources in the city corporation.

For the first time, the city corporation has designated 270 spots for sacrificing the animals on Eid, to be celebrated this Friday.

The sources said some 208 vehicles, including four tractor wagons and 10 vehicles for moving containers, would be used to remove the waste that would result from the sacrifice of animals.

Chief Conservancy Officer of CCC Shafiqul Mannan Siddique said about 2,400 workers would work on Eid day to clean up the city.

The work will be similarly carried out

in the next two days, he added.

According to CCC sources, the 41 wards of CCC have been divided into four zones -- north, south, east and west -- for better monitoring and the clean-up work.

Besides, the waste management standing committee of CCC will monitor the waste management 24 hours.

Moreover, a medical team will be on standby to provide assistance to the workers.

Shybal Das Sumon, chairman of the waste management standing committee, said their plan is to remove the waste by 5:00pm on Eid day.

Meanwhile, Mayor AJM Nasir Uddin, in a statement, urged the city residents to slaughter animals at the designated spots.

He requested the citizens not to dump waste in drains, water bodies and on roads.

He said the waste should be dumped in designated dustbins to make it easier for the city corporation to clean the city.

INDIAN RUPEE HAUL Case filed against six

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Six persons have been accused in a case filed yesterday over the Rs 2.71 crore, allegedly in fake currency, found hidden in boxes inside a container at the Chittagong port.

The container arrived on September 16 from the United Arab Emirates via Colombo and was opened on Monday afternoon.

The accused are ASM Sayem alias Shamim, chairman of clearing and forwarding (C&F) firm Flash International Ltd; his partner Asad Ullah; Md Ahammad Ullah Talukder, director of C&F firm Nahar Trading Company; the container's consignee and UAE expatriate Shaheduzzaman; his younger brother Towhidul Alam and Sheikh Saber, a tea boy at the port.

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A batch of hogla mats arrives at the capital's Sadarghat yesterday. The mats are in high demand ahead of every Eid-ul-Azha because of their widespread use for meat processing by the general people unlike in normal times when they are a necessity only for butchers.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH



Workers of Alim Jute Mill in Khulna demonstrate on Khulna-Jessore highway yesterday, demanding arrears and bonus ahead of Eid-ul-Azha and drop of the government's plan to privatise it.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Sonadia emerges as effective sanctuary for rare species

BSS, Dhaka

Sonadia Island, a seven-square kilometer island in northeastern Bangladesh which was declared "Ecologically Critical Area" in 1999, has now become a natural sanctuary for numerous wildlife and birds with manmade mangrove and non-mangrove forests.

"As part of a massive campaign of biodiversity conservation, we have declared 3,191 acres of land as a reserve forest in 2014 to ensure ecological balance in the coastal area. A total of

1,756 acres have been developed as a mangrove forest and 884 acres as a tamarisk forest at Sonadia Island," Divisional Forest Officer of Coastal Forest Division RSM Munirul Islam told the news agency.

Visitors who will travel through waterways from Moheshkhali channel to Sonadia through canals spread like a spider web will find mangrove and non-mangrove growth on the banks where different species of wildlife use mangrove forests inside the island as their breeding ground.

The tamarisk forest, along the Bay of

Bengal, enhances beauty of the island as well as protects residents of the island from natural disasters.

The Forest Department is launching afforestation activities through the Climate Resilient Participatory Afforestation and Reforestation Project at the Sonadia Island to expand forest coverage with both mangrove and non-mangrove trees, Munirul Islam said.

"We are also implementing two sub-projects under the Strengthening Regional Co-Operation for Wildlife

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