

WEATHER FORECAST

Table with weather forecasts for Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Rangpur, and Cox's Bazar.

Rain is likely to occur at one or two places over Rangpur division and the regions of Bogra and Mymensingh and it may remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country till 6:00pm today, said Met Office. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:27pm and rises tomorrow at 5:59am.

Khoka's health condition worsens in NY

RASHIDUL HASAN
The condition of BNP leader Sadeque Hossain Khoka, who is being treated in the US for cancer in the rib, has been deteriorating since the last couple of months.
Talking to The Daily Star over the phone recently Khoka, who is out of politics lately, said he had lost weight over six kilograms due to different complexities following the treatment.
'I suffer from diarrhoea on a regular basis. Besides, vomiting has also become a common matter,' said Khoka, also former mayor of Dhaka City Corporation.
He feels pain in the legs most of the time and the body temperature remains high, he said.
Diagnosed with a tumour in one his ribs in early 2014, Khoka went to New York in June and since then he has been receiving treatment at Manhattan's Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.
His wife and daughter have been with him at his SEE PAGE 5 COL 1



Clockwise from left, a group of drivers and pedestrians got into scuffles with cops after a traffic sergeant had beaten up a pickup truck driver, Kamal, the man in the middle in the top right photo, at Gulshan-1 intersection of the capital, just because he had failed to stop at the exact spot where the sergeant had ordered him to stop. Later, the protesters were also roughed up, beaten, and chased away by the sergeant's colleagues. Despite repeated requests from The Daily Star photojournalist, the cops did not give the name of the sergeant.



PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Three Habiganj 'Razakars' killed 2 freedom fighters

Facilitated rape of two women by Pakistani occupation army; first witness testifies at tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
The first prosecution witness yesterday testified how three Habiganj 'Razakars' killed two freedom fighters, including his elder brother, on November 11 during the 1971 Liberation War.
Mostor Ali also said 15 days before that, the accused and other Razakars took the Pakistani occupation army to the house of Col MA Rab, an Awami League candidate in the 1970's general

election, and looted it and set it on fire.
The Pakistani army, with the help of the accused, Muhibur Rahman Boromian, his brother Mujibur Rahman Angur Mian and their cousin Abdur Razzak, raped two women, he told the three-member International Crimes Tribunal-1.
The sexagenarian witness said the Pakistani army went to their village Eralia Prokash Khagaura a month after the Liberation War began on March 25, 1971 and appointed Syed Nazrul

Islam, a Nezam-e-Islami candidate during the election, leader of Peace Committee of Habiganj Mahakuma.
Later, Nazrul appointed Muhibur and his elder brother Kolomdhar Mian as leaders of Peace Committee of Khagraura Union, he said.
Mostor said after taking part in the Liberation War, his elder brother Akal Ali and neighbour Rajab Ali returned on November 11 and were staying in the former's room. 'At around

SEE PAGE 4 COL 7



Nine social organisations form a human chain in front of the National Press Club in the capital yesterday protesting fleeing of bus passengers by many transport companies despite a recent fare hike approved by the government. PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH

Another project launched to boost hilsa production

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A project 'ECOFISH' was launched in the capital yesterday in order to increase the production of hilsa in the country.
The fisheries department and WorldFish, an international NGO working for conservation of fish resources in Bangladesh, jointly will implement the five-year long ECOFISH (Enhanced Coastal Fisheries in Bangladesh) project which is being funded by USAID.

Livestock Minister Muhammed Sayedul Hoque in the launching ceremony at the capital's Sonargaon hotel.
Under the project, one lakh women and men involved in hilsa fishing and trading will be trained on different skills enabling them to adopt alternative occupations during a ban on hilsa and jatka catching, and 20,000 families will be provided with direct livelihood support.

their drives. Stakeholders' engagement in resource conservation will also be ensured.
At the event, US Ambassador Marcia Bernicat said, 'Hilsha fisheries have played an important role in the transformational growth of Bangladesh into a lower middle-income economy. The fish provides jobs to half a million artisanal fishers, and supports an additional two million jobs in its value chain.'

Besides, discussions will be held with law enforcing agencies, which monitor hilsa and jatka catching during a specific period and the use of mono filament net and other destructive gears, in order to find out and address challenges they face during

Maksudul Hasan Khan, secretary to fisheries and livestock ministry; Dr Patrick Dugan, deputy director general, WorldFish; Dr Craig Meisner, country director of Bangladesh and South Asia, WorldFish; and Dr Md Abdul Wahab, team leader of

SCHOOLGIRL KILLING Accused Bikrom suspended by Gono Bishwabidyalay

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

The Gono Bishwabidyalay authorities yesterday suspended BBA first year student Bikrom Moni Das in an allegation of stabbing a girl to death at her school gate at Boardghar in Kaliakoir upazila of Gazipur on October 13.

Bikrom stalked Kabita Das, 15, a class X student of Bijoy Sarani High School on her way to school. She was the daughter of Sagar Moni Das, a resident of Rabraban village in Dhamrai upazila. On October 13 during lunch break, Bikrom stabbed her with a knife, leaving her critically injured. She was later declared dead by Kaliakoir Upazila Health Complex doctors.

Md Delower Hosen, registrar of Gono Bishwabidyalay, said, 'If the charge against him is proved, he will be expelled.'

MEDICAL COLLEGE ADMISSION Question leak protesters to hold solidarity rally

DU CORRESPONDENT

Agitating medical college admission seekers will hold a solidarity rally at the capital's Shahbagh at 4:00pm tomorrow, renewing the demand for rerun of the entrance test.

'Though we have been demonstrating for the last 33 days for a fresh exam, the authorities concerned did not respond positively to our logical demand; so we vowed to hold a solidarity rally at Shahbagh once again,' said Ayatullah Hasnat Beheti, a representative of the protesters.

He made the announcement at a press briefing at TSC of Dhaka University yesterday.

Protests broke out against the admission test question leak since the exam was held on September 18.

On Tuesday, the agitators met the representatives of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) to form a public committee to investigate the leak but they failed to reach a consensus.

Beheti said, 'BMA representatives assured us of extending their support by scrutinising the matter if we give them our evidence. But we demanded that they form a probe committee by including some credible persons. Since they rejected our proposal, we did not give them our evidence.'

Acknowledging this, BMA's Dhaka city unit Vice-president Abdur Rauf Sarder said the body had to comprise only BMA members to remain impartial.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 1

RAMPAL POWER PLANT Gonotantrik Bam Morcha to demo Nov 5 in solidarity with other protesters

UNB, Dhaka

Gonotantrik Bam Morcha yesterday announced holding a programme on November 5 to express solidarity with others demanding cancellation of the coal-based Rampal power plant project to preserve the Sundarbans, situated some 14 kilometres away.

It takes thousands of years for a natural forest to come about, but a few years are enough to destroy it, said the morcha convener, Saiful Haque, at a protest rally in front of Jatiya Press Club organised as a part of its 'Road March to Save the Sundarbans'.

'We need electricity, but we do not want it in exchange of the Sundarbans,' he said, pointing out that there were many alternatives for the power plant's location but none for the country's largest mangrove forest.

The power plant will

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Advertisement for STAR WEEKEND in other news, featuring a photo of a religious ceremony and text about a spiritual journey to Medhashmunir Ashram.