

WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 30.6 L 19.6	H 31.0 L 22.5	H 31.5 L 19.1	H 30.8 L 18.0	H 31.2 L 20.3	H 30.5 L 20.3	H 30.0 L 18.3	H 30.2 L 23.8

Light fog may occur at places over the river basins of the country during early morning. Night temperature may fall slightly and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:14pm and rises tomorrow at 6:12am. Country's highest temperature 31.9 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Patuakhali and lowest 15.9 in Sreemangal.

President inducts Air Defence Radar into Cox's Bazar unit

UNB, Cox's Bazar

An Air Defence Radar (YLC-6) was inducted into the Cox's Bazar Radar unit of Bangladesh Air Force yesterday.

President Abdul Hamid handed over the induction order to Commander Mesbah Hus Sattar, the commanding officer of the radar unit at a function.

Hamid said with the induction of the radar, Bangladesh Air Force would be able to contribute more to the country's security and advancement.

"During wars, radars give advance signals of presence of enemy fighter jets, which help in taking effective defensive steps. I hope the newly inducted radar would be able to play a special role in giving directions to planes patrolling the sea area," he said.



Day labourers wait patiently at the Sonamasjid land port in Shibganj upazila under Chapainawabganj district yesterday in hopes of being hired, primarily to load and unload goods, inset. Carrying such weights all day, which brings in around Tk 100 to Tk 150, leads to adverse effects on the body in the long run but the thought does little to dissuade the around 1,200 labourers there eking out an existence.

PHOTO: BANGLAR CHOKH



CHALLENGING MAYA'S MINISTERSHIP HC bench formed for final hearing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The acting chief justice has assigned a High Court bench for final hearing of a writ petition that challenged Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya's holding offices as a minister and a lawmaker after the Supreme Court had scrapped his acquittal in a corruption case.

Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, a senior judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, who is functioning as the chief justice in the absence of Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, has assigned the bench of Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed on Tuesday.

Justice Wahhab Miah also sent the petition along with the split orders to the HC bench for its hearing and disposal, Deputy Attorney General Motaheer Hossain Sazu told The Daily Star yesterday.

Following a writ petition filed by SC lawyer Eunos Ali Akond, Justice Moeenul Islam Chowdhury of an HC bench on August 17 issued a rule asking Maya to explain under what authority he was holding the offices, while Justice Md Ashraf Kamal summarily rejected the petition on the ground that the Jatiya Sangsad Speaker and the Election Commission can decide any dispute in this regard as per the constitution.

On February 14, 2008, a special court jailed Maya for 13

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Zillur Rahman Siddiqui's ideals recalled

DU CORRESPONDENT

Recalling times spent with revered educationist Prof Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, Prof Emeritus Anisuzzaman yesterday said they had taken part several times in the anti-autocracy movement and in demonstrations against communalism and recognition of Islam as the state religion.

"Prof Zillur was a poet, an author, a columnist and so on but he was unique because his translations of Shakespeare's sonnets are esteemed," he said, adding

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Buses to run under few companies

Plans Mayor Annisul to reduce gridlocks in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Buses plying in the capital will be brought under five to seven companies, each to be provided permits to keep to respective routes for proper public transport management and minimising gridlocks, said Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Annisul Haq yesterday.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Passengers' Welfare Association submitted a memorandum at the Prime Minister's Office demanding further scrutiny, including through public consultations and discussions with stakeholders, of the draft Bangladesh Road Transport Authority Act-2015 before it was passed in parliament.

The cabinet approved the draft on September 21 to make the organisation legally stronger.

Addressing the inauguration of a programme to clean water bodies near the capital's Karail slum, Annisul also viewed that it would be better for traffic management if all the buses could be run under a single company.

"We have elaborately discussed it with the bus owners' association. They have agreed," he said without mentioning when the system would be introduced.

Talking to The Daily Star, Dhaka Road Transport Owners Association Khandaker Enayet Ullah said they agreed to the mayor's proposals and that if the new system could be introduced, new buses would be added while decrepit ones removed.

The number of buses in the capital, around 4,000 of some 130 companies, is inadequate to meet the demand as hundreds of passengers can be seen waiting for hours at bus stops every day.

Youth killed, man robbed of Tk 11 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Miscreants stabbed a youth to death and injured another in the capital's Khilgaon last night.

The deceased was Hafiz, 25. Injured Palash, 28, is undergoing treatment at the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR).

Hafiz's father Babul Sarder claimed his son was a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver and was killed by drug peddlers for preventing their illegal business.

Anwar Hossain, inspector (investigation) of Khilgaon Police Station, however, told The Daily Star that the two themselves were drug peddlers and they were attacked by their rivals.

One Jakir was detained in this regard, he added.

Meanwhile, muggers snatched Tk 11.10 lakh from one Mostafizur Rahman soon after he along with his wife and a relative got down from a rickshaw in Madhya Badda.

Abdul Jalil, officer-in-charge of Badda Police Station, said during the incident near Bapari Tower the culprits shot the relative Shahin in the right leg.

The injured was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Woman burnt for dowry dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A woman who was set afire by her husband at their house at Purbo Chandra Dighirpar of Kaliakoir in Gazipur on Saturday died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday.

The victim is Tapati Rani Das, 22, wife of Sanjay Kumar Das of Kishoreganj. They have a 5-year-old son.

On Saturday night, when the couple was at home Tapati got a missed call on her cellphone which made Sanjay furious. Though Tapati said she did not know the caller Sanjay did not believe her and set her afire after putting kerosene on her body, neighbours quoted the victim as saying. Hearing her screams, neighbours rushed to the spot and sent her to DMCH after rescuing her.

A case was filed against seven people including Sanjay and his parents who also used to put pressure on Tapati for dowry, said police.

TEACHER RECRUITMENT UPTO HIGHER SECONDARY STOPPED

An education ministry circular was issued on non-government MPO-listed schools, colleges, madrasas and technical institutions yesterday, reports our staff correspondent. As per its directives:

- Teacher recruitments barred starting October 22 (Not applicable for ads published before date)
- Hiring only through education ministry commission's merit list (Centrally held test to prevent corruption, nepotism)
- Circular soon on procedural changes, recruitment rules-2006 amendment

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STAR WEEKEND in other news...

With a fresh new format, new writers and a new perspective, the Star Weekend has an array of interesting articles for you. This week our spotlight features the first Bangladesh Music Week. There is also an important interview with renowned Indian business leader and politician Meera Sanyal, an article on the historic Bagha Mosque and an analysis about the recruitment and selection process in Bangladesh Civil Service Exam. Don't forget your copy of Star Weekend tomorrow, Friday!

FEAR HAS GRIPPED THE CITY

ELITA KARIM

People think twice before participating at academic debates. Young professionals are now being requested not to be vocal on social media. Many writers, artists, journalists and activists are getting into the habit of censoring their own thoughts and opinions, before expressing in front of the world, or rather their own country people. What if they become the next target? What if they are murdered in the open like Asif Raza and no one comes to help? What if assassins barge into their office rooms and murder them in cold blood, the way a time when even the regular folk would raise their voice for justice. Now, people have stopped asking questions and are now behaving like robots and zombies, watching silently while the young and intelligent free thinkers and murderers, sometimes in broad daylight.

PHOTO: KAZI NATHAN AGAZ AP/REDA