

**WEATHER FORECAST**

<b>YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES</b>	<b>DHAKA</b> H 25.8   L 14.8	<b>CHITTAGONG</b> H 26.0   L 14.4	<b>SYLHET</b> H 27.0   L 13.3	<b>RAJSHAHI</b> H 26.0   L 11.5	<b>KHULNA</b> H 26.5   L 13.5	<b>BARISAL</b> H 26.7   L 12.2	<b>RANGPUR</b> H 25.7   L 11.1	<b>COX'S BAZAR</b> H 26.2   L 15.0
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Moderate to thick fog may occur at places over the river basins. Night and day temperatures may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 05:24pm and rises tomorrow at 6:42am. Country's highest temperature 27.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Sitakunda and lowest 09.6 in Sreemangal.

**GRAFT CASE ACC challenges Tarique's acquittal at HC**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The Anti-Corruption Commission has taken a move to get a ruling from the High Court on BNP leader Tarique Rahman in a money laundering case involving Tk 20.41 crore.

ACC lawyer Khurshid Alam Khan yesterday prayed to an HC bench to fix a date for hearing its appeal challenging the acquittal of Tarique, elder son of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, in the case.

The bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice Amir Hossain is likely to set the date today for hearing the appeal, Khurshid told The Daily Star after

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# Huge playground in disuse

**HELEMUL ALAM**

When open space is a scarcity in Dhaka city, a large portion of the sprawling Dhupkhola Math has been apparently off limits to local children for the last five years.

The part does not have grass and the surface is badly damaged because construction materials for Mayor Mohammad Hanif Flyover had been piled there for four years.

Though the field was freed and handed over to the Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) last year, the corporation did not take any step to repair the surface.

"The condition of the playground is so bad that it is impossible to play there," said Mohammad Imon Hasan, a resident of Baniya Nagar.

He said the field was littered with bricks and construction materials.

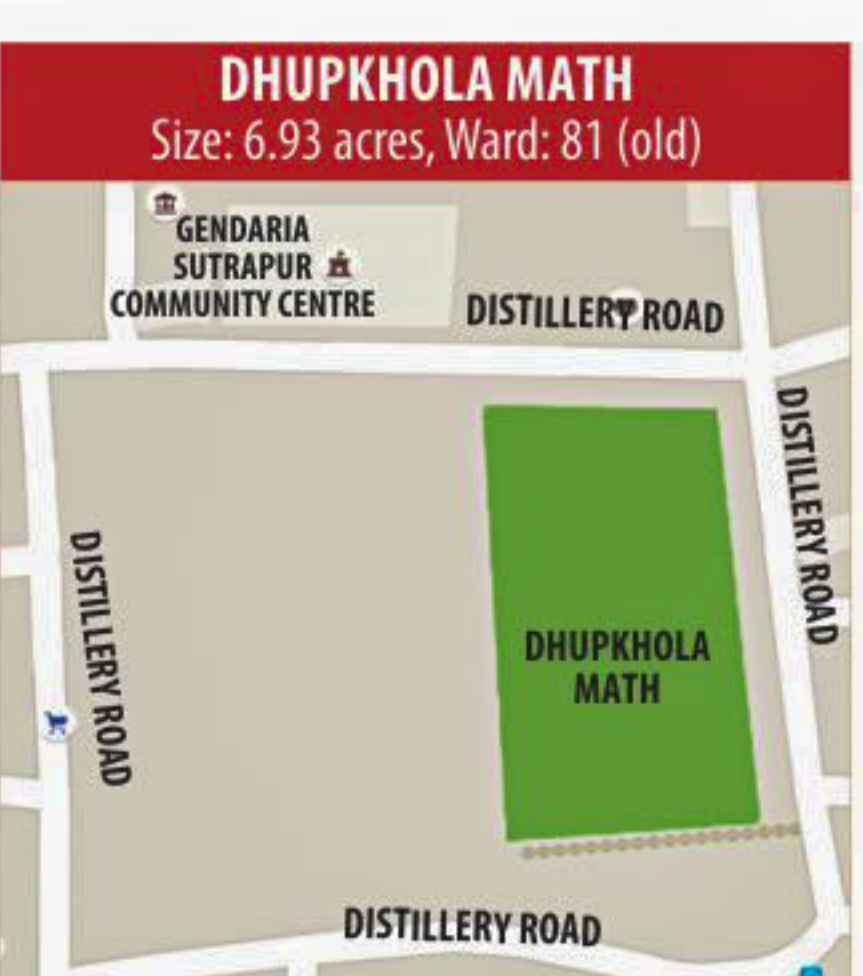
Dhupkhola is the only public playground in the area where 500 children and

youths used to play every day, he said.

Dhupkhola Math is divided into three parts -- one belongs to East-End Club, another to Jagannath University, and the other to general people.

Orion Group, which built the flyover, had piled the materials on the portion open to all.

Chief Estate Officer of DSCC Khalid Ahmed said they received a letter from Orion Group in late October last year, which mentioned that Orion left the field in September 2015.



Orion had been using it since 2010, said sources in DSCC.

Before that the playground used to be full of cheerful noises with scores of children playing.

"We want to get the field back to its previous state," said Monir Hossain, a resident of Gendaria and a member of Ucchash Krira Chakra, a local club.

He said they now played on the Jagannath University's part, but it also had been in a pitiable condition since Eid-ul-Azha when it was used as a cattle market.

The part of the field was not repaired

properly later.

A trainer and organiser of Gendaria Sonali Otiti Football Academy, Mohiuddin Ahmed, said they recently levelled the surface of a small part of the Jagannath University portion to practise there.

He said DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon had promised to renovate and recover all playgrounds of the city but there was no sign yet.

He added that they sent a letter to DSCC around three months ago, but had not got any response.

When contacted, Chief Executive Officer of DSCC Khan Mohammad Belal said the field would be restored to its previous state, and the estate office would work on it.

He said the contractor who took the lease for the cattle market should have repaired it.

Meanwhile, defying the risks of injury, children have started coming to the field to play.

**Three Ctg 'JMB' men remanded**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg**

A Chittagong court yesterday remanded three suspected activists of JMB for four days each in two cases.

The order came when law enforcers produced them before it seeking 10 days' remand for each of them, court sources said.

Naimur Rahman Nayak, Faisal Mahmud and Shawkat Russell, also students of the physics department at Chittagong University, were arrested on December 26 last year.

Earlier on October 5, detectives had arrested five JMB men and seized hand-made grenades and ammunition from their possession. Of the arrestees, one Javed was killed in a grenade explosion when police along with him rushed to Bayezid area to search for more grenades. Later, the two cases -- one under the explosive substances act and another over a murder and attack on police -- were filed.

**Depiction of '71 rape victims discriminatory**

**Nayanika Mookherjee shows in her book "The Spectral Wound"**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The rape victims of the 1971 Liberation War are presented in literature, movies, newspapers, and photographs in a discriminatory way, a book launch was told yesterday.

Women's contribution in the war is also underrepresented, the speakers said.

The book titled "The Spectral Wound: Sexual Violence, Public Memories and the Bangladesh War of 1971" was launched at the capital's Drik Gallery.

It was written by Nayanika Mookherjee, a reader in the Department of Anthropology at Durham University, UK.

Mookherjee, who had worked on the book since 1997, demonstrated that the rape victims, also known as Birgongonas (brave women), existed in the

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The part of the enormous Dhupkhola Math, which is open to all, has not been repaired by Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) after its surface was badly damaged for storing construction materials of Mayor Mohammad Hanif Flyover. However, defying risks of injury in the field riddled with craters and littered with masonry, children have started coming to play there. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: FERAZ AHMED

**Sayedee's full verdict sent to Dhaka dist magistrate, IG of prisons**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The International Crimes Tribunal's registry yesterday sent to the Dhaka district magistrate and inspector general of prisons copies of the Supreme Court's full verdict which commuted Delawar Hossain Sayedee's death sentence to jail until death.

The registry, receiving the copies earlier in the day before passing those on, also informed the home and law ministries of the developments, Registrar Shahidul Alam Jhinuk told The Daily Star.

Delivering a short order on September 17, 2014, the SC released the full verdict on Thursday on hearing Sayedee's appeal against the death sentence

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**Strike starts at CU**

**Cuta wants removing 'discrimination' in pay scale**

**CU CORRESPONDENT**

Chittagong University Teachers' Association went on an indefinite strike yesterday demanding removal of "discriminatory provisions" from the eighth national pay scale.

As per their December 30 announcement, the teachers boycotted all the classes, examinations and administrative activities also seeking restoration of time scale and selection grade in the pay scale to uphold their status.

However, all the pre-scheduled examinations will remain out of the purview of the strike from today to January 9, said Cuta President Prof Abul Manjur, adding that inevitable administrative activities would continue.

Cuta leaders held an emergency meeting, chaired by Prof Abul Manjur, and decided to continue the strike until the demands

**Teachers unaware of benefits: Muhith**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday said university teachers were continuing their movement against "discriminatory provisions" in the eighth national pay scale without even knowing "what they are getting (from the pay scale)".

There is nothing to give as a solution to quell the movement and the teachers always take hasty decisions and might go hardline, he responded to journalists' queries at his secretariat office.

The comments came a day after the Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association (FBUTA) announced abstaining from work for an indefinite period from January 11 at all public universities.

Muhith said the finance ministry's November 1 gazette on the pay scale had nothing concerning university teachers and that the education ministry has not been able to

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**KILLING, RAPE IN HABIGANJ DURING '71 WAR**

**Another PW links 3**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The 10th prosecution witness in a war crimes case yesterday linked the three Habiganj accused to the killing of two persons, rape of two women and arson and looting, vividly describing the crimes committed in Habiganj during the 1971 Liberation War.

Muhibur Rahman Boromia, his brother Mujibur Rahman Angur Mia and their cousin Abdur Razzak pleaded not guilty to the four charges they face before International Crimes Tribunal-1.

Mohammad Abdul Mosabber, a resident of Khagaura Eralia village under Baniachang upazila in Habiganj, said he was 21 years old during the Liberation

War and ran a shop in his village.

Around 10:00am on October 26, 1971, he said to have seen from a road near his house the three accused, some Razakars and 10 to 12 men of the Pakistani occupation army entering and subsequently looting and torching houses of Col Rob.

After they left the area, Mosabber said to have gone to the residence where Rob's nephew Khasru Miah and two others told him that the three and some Razakars committed the crimes.

He said the three and other Razakars also looted his shop and the house of a freedom fighter, "Chairman Nuruzzaman".

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The program is open to all. Register at [www.imdhaka.com/celebratinglifebd](http://www.imdhaka.com/celebratinglifebd)  
Bring the print of the registration to collect your entry passes from:

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